



SELINDA-OKAVANGO

Expedition



Expedition Overview

The Okavango River, originating in southeast Angola, enters Botswana and fans out into the Okavango Delta covering an area of nearly 20 000km². This wildlife eden comprising rivers, floodplains, countless small channels, lagoons and palm-filled islands is a recently declared world heritage site and one of Africa's premier wildlife viewing destinations.

From the far northern reaches of the Delta a desperate ribbon of water, the Selinda Spillway, pushes it's way through deep Kalahari sand, bisecting near-waterless woodlands, before connecting with the perennial Kwando-Linyanti-Chobe river system. The spillway forms the focus of this expedition as we'll follow the course of the river from the Okavango Delta to where it meets the backflow from the Zibadianja lagoon, before retracing our route (from the air this time) back into the heart of the Delta at Duba Plains.

The expedition will draw on differing perspectives from which we'll explore the natural systems and wildlife – we'll adventure and journey in a light fixed wing aircraft, on horseback, traditional mokoro, on foot, by canoe, motorized boat, open safari vehicle and helicopter. Along the way we'll use permanent tented expedition-style camps and a mobile fly-camp, allowing access to remote reaches of northern Botswana wilderness. This will be an epic expedition tailor-made for the adventure traveler who likes to tread on African soil and paddler her wild waters.

Itinerary Overview

Day 1 - Maun to Motswiri Camp

- Arrive in Maun, transfer by light aircraft to Motswiri Camp
- Explore Motswiri area by boat, safari vehicle or mokoro
- Overnight Motswiri Camp

Day 2 - Motswiri Camp to Selinda spillway

- Horseback ride at the source of the Selinda spillway
- Drive or heli flight to canoe put in point, afternoon canoe
- Overnight mobile tented camp

Days 3,4,5 - Selinda spillway

- Canoe and walk the Selinda spillway
- Overnight mobile tented camp

Day 6 - Selinda spillway to Okavango Delta

- Canoe to take out point
- Helicopter flight over the spillway to the Okavango Delta
- Overnight at Duba Expedition Camp

Day 7: Okavango Delta

- Explore the Okavango Delta from Duba
- Overnight at Duba Expedition Camp

Day 8: Okavango Delta to Maun

- Light aircraft flight to Maun
- Departure



Day 1 - Maun to Motswiri

Your Anderson Expeditions guide and ground team will meet you on arrival in Maun. You'll be escorted to your aircraft, an executive Cessna Grand Caravan, for your flight to the northern Okavango Delta. Once settled in to Motswiri Camp you will have the option to explore the area by boat, mokoro, safari vehicle or on horse back. Overnight at Motswiri Camp.

Motswiri Camp is a luxury tented on the Western third of the Selinda Spillway. Motswiri offers comfortable and stylish accommodation, a swimming pool, a dining and sitting area overlooking the Spillway and superb cuisine.





Day 2 - Motswiri to Selinda Mobile Camp

This morning you'll explore – on horseback - the area where the Okavango Delta narrows and forms the Selinda Spillway. Depending on our mobile camp location for the first night on the spillway you'll either horseride, drive or helicopter to the start of the trail. Enjoy a late afternoon paddle on the spillway before reaching camp 1.

Selinda Trail Mobile Camp

All of the mobile camp equipment will be transported daily on canoes, ahead of the paddlers, and camp will be set as we arrive each day in the late afternoons. Camp locations are chosen depending on animal movements and water levels and the camp sites are rustic yet comfortable. Comfortable bow tents, large enough for two people, will be used for accommodation and they are furnished with bedrolls and quality linen. The mess area will include a bar, a well appointed dinner table and camp chairs to sit around the fire at night. Our delicious meals will be prepared on the fire by the cook each evening.

Ablution facilities will be bucket showers with hot and cold water and a "long drop" toilet bush toilet which will be prepared by the camp staff.

Day 3 - Selinda Mobile Camp

After an early wake-up call, tea or coffee and light breakfast, while the camp is being dismantled, we head out on the canoes for a full day of paddling, with walking opportunities when something of note appears. Lunch is served en route. Tonight we camp in another suitable location as we gradually make our way down the Selinda Spillway.





Day 4 – Selinda Mobile Camp

Today is spent on foot exploring the maze of back channels and smaller islands in this area. There are antelope aplenty and large herds of elephant and buffalo, a humbling experience to have on foot. The length of day is tailored to the group, and either way a cold refreshment is waiting, followed by memorable stories around the camp fire later.



Day 5 - Selinda Mobile Camp

Up again for early breakfast before we continue along the water course by canoe for another full-day excursion before arriving in camp for the last night of on the Selinda spillway.



Day 6 - Selinda to Okavango Delta at Duba Expedition Camp

Back on to the canoes after breakfast, aiming to finish around mid-morning at the take-out point for a celebratory drink. Here we are met by a vehicle and transferred by road to the Selinda Airstrip. It's back into the air as we fly back over the spillway on a spectacular 35 minute helicopter flight into the heart of the Okavango Delta.

We'll be met on the ground by our safari game viewing vehicles and transferred to Duba Expeditions Camp.





Duba Expedition Camp

The brand new Duba Expedition Camp sits in the heart of classic Okavango Delta habitat. A matrix of palm-dotted islands, flood plains and woodland, the 77,000-acre private concession typifies the region's unique landscape. Located here, exclusively, is the Duba Expedition Camp, a wildlife connoisseur's getaway. Each tent has a small desk and private verandah plus en-suite facilities consisting of flush loo, double basins and indoor shower. Fans and careful open-air design maintain comfortable climate for rest and relaxation. In the evenings, the fire pit is always a popular spot to enjoy an Amarula and recount the day's events. Duba Expedition Camp prides itself on its extraordinary wildlife experiences, it is renowned for it's Delta-adapted lions who prey largely on the giant buffalo herds in the area. Large herds of Red lechwe, Greater kudu, tsessebe, giraffe, elephant and hippo as well as a host of Okavango fauna are common here and birdlife is prolific.





Day 7 - Okavango Delta at Duba Expedition Camp

We'll explore the Okavango Delta and Duba area by open safari game vehicles. Duba Expedition Camp prides itself on its extraordinary wildlife experiences, it is renowned for its Delta-adapted lions who prey largely on the giant buffalo herds in the area. Large herds of Red lechwe, Greater kudu, tsessebe, giraffe, elephant and hippo as well as a host of Okavango fauna are common here and birdlife is prolific.



Okavango
River

Zibadianja
Lagoon

DUBA PLAINS CAMP
NIGHT 6&7

MOTSWIRI CAMP
NIGHT 1

SELINDA MOBILE CAMP
NIGHT 2

S.M.C
NIGHT 3

S.M.C
NIGHT 4

S.M.C
NIGHT 5

Okavango
Delta

BOTSWANA



Your Expedition Guide – Richard Anderson

Starting out in the safari industry soon after university, Richard was trained and subsequently guided in the Kruger National Park and in Northern Zululand in South Africa where his naturalist passions, including animal behaviour and birdwatching were developed. He spent time leading leopard research safaris and as a specialist private guide on various South African reserves. Pursuing his passion for exploring the bush on foot, Richard then trained and qualified as a walking trails guide and led multi-day walking safaris in the northern Pafuri region of the Kruger National Park.

After an exploration of South America's natural areas in Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and Chile, Richard was subsequently employed by a leading lodge operator in Peru to head up their guide training and guest experience division at their Amazon rainforest, Machu Picchu and Cusco lodges.

On returning to Africa Richard established himself as a pan-African safari guide, leading specialist trips throughout southern and east Africa and as far afield as the Horn of Africa and the central, west region of the continent. He has led kayaking expeditions in Madagascar, walking trails in the Kruger Park, cultural expeditions to the Omo Valley, canoe trails on the Zambezi river and flying safaris on the Skeleton Coast. He regularly guides trips to Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya and has recently added Ethiopia and Chad to his repertoire.

This template for tailor-made expeditions fitted perfectly with Richard's knowledge and experience of the South American continent. He has led expeditions in search of jaguars and tapirs in the Brazilian Pantanal, trekking adventures through the Andes in Peru, yacht-based explorations of the Galapagos Islands and journeys to the "end of the world" in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego.

Guests on a safari led by Richard described their experience with the following:

"Richard... it was by far the best travel experience we have ever had. Much of this was due to your expertise, vast and intricate knowledge, wonderful humour and your personal capacity to manage people, and create an exhilaratingly fun space in which we all felt safe and confident. Thank you for being our friend, such good company and for guiding us safely through areas where we could not go ourselves".



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Photo credits:

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RAW Botswana - Motswiri Camp

Great Plains Conservation

Helicopter Horizons