



XIGERA

Xigera Safari Lodge is our family's love letter to the magic of the African bush. The culmination of a lifelong dream, this extraordinary lodge draws on almost seven decades of devotion to unparalleled luxury in service.

It is an honour to be the custodians of this remarkable, untouched paradise. Everything about the lodge is founded on our cornerstone philosophy of protecting the land and its wildlife, while empowering and uplifting local communities.

Every aspect is handcrafted to beguile our guests' senses and stir their souls – from the evocative interiors to one-of-a-kind encounters. We have reimagined the luxury safari, blending African design with superlative comfort, outstanding cuisine with extraordinary wilderness experiences.

Our respect for the natural rhythms of life impels us to touch the earth lightly here, but it is our sincere hope that Xigera has an indelible impact on your soul.

*The Tollman Family*







# African Luxury, Redefined

Xigera Safari Lodge is deeply rooted in the Okavango Delta, a breathtaking landscape of seasonal floodplains and riverine forests, tawny grasslands and verdant papyrus wetlands. Drawing inspiration from its ancient setting, Xigera rests effortlessly within the wilderness of this World Heritage Site.

All but hidden amid a canopy of magnificent indigenous trees, Xigera Safari Lodge offers 12 spacious suites, each individually designed. For multi-generational guests, there is the impressive two-bedroom Family Suite.

All the guest suites are air-conditioned and include a separate lounge, bedroom and dressing room area. Positioned to offer complete privacy and uninterrupted views, each has its own wooden deck with outdoor gazebo for daytime lounging.

Built with sustainability in mind – Xigera is solar-powered – the lodge is equally a unique celebration of African art, culture and creativity.











### *A Living Gallery*

Xigera showcases an extraordinary collection of art and design, created by more than 80 of Africa's most globally acclaimed designers. It is a collection that is bold in vision and ground-breaking in its scope, the first of its kind on the continent.

The Okavango Delta provides the palette of inspiration for the interiors of Xigera Safari Lodge, with even the smallest details reflecting the natural world beyond the lodge. Meticulously crafted, in every sense the décor pays homage to both the human and natural heritage of this remarkable corner of Africa.

Conceptualised by Toni Tollman, Philip Fourie and Anton de Kock – in collaboration with award-winning South African gallery Southern Guild – the Xigera art and design collection features bespoke works made exclusively for the lodge by artists such as Porky Hefer, Andile Dyalvane, Dokter and Misses, and Botswana's own Peter Mabeo.



# A Wilderness Wonderland

Our guests can expect incredible wildlife sightings from the moment they fly into camp, with our beautiful leopards and lions a regular sight in and around the lodge. As the seasons change, so too does the wildlife, with the floods bringing even more giraffes, elephants, wild dogs and buffalo.

Situated on the western fringes of the Moremi Game Reserve, the surrounding islands and grassland promise some of the finest wildlife viewing opportunities Botswana has to offer.

Elephants are arguably the stars of the show. Northern Botswana is home to the world's largest population of *Loxodonta Africana*, and at last count more than 130 000 wild elephant still roamed free here.

On mokoro and motorboat excursions look out for the area's smaller inhabitants, like the tiny mottled frogs that cling to delicate papyrus reeds. Stealthy crocodiles and large pods of hippo shy away from attention in the deeper channels and lagoons.

The lush grasslands also support large herds of antelope, including kudu, wildebeest and the semi-aquatic red lechwe. Packs of endangered African wild dog are found here too, as are the ever-resourceful spotted hyena.

Xigera's exceptional location delivers some of the best birding Botswana has to offer. From the coppery-tailed coucal to the western-banded snake eagle, wattled crane to lesser jacana, there are 500 species recorded in the Okavango Delta.









# A Culinary Adventure

Dining at Xigera offers guests a unique culinary safari, seamlessly blending fresh local ingredients and African inspiration, with the tradition of refined cuisine that has long been a hallmark of The Red Carnation Hotel Collection.

The ever-changing menus at Xigera have been created by some of The Red Carnation Hotel Collection's most talented chefs. Provenance of produce is a key focus in the kitchens, where our Executive Chef creates memorable cuisine that embodies the very essence of dining in the

bush. Incorporating the flavours of southern Africa, the freshest ingredients from our own local growers, the menu at Xigera offers a stunning epicurean exploration of the region.

Alongside these deliciously seasonal dishes created especially for Xigera, guests can look forward to a selection of signature plates inspired by the legendary dishes of Bea Tollman, founder of The Red Carnation Hotel Collection.







### *Dine Beneath the Stars*

At night, guests have the option of dining under the African sky in the boma, the heart of Xigera Safari Lodge. Blacksmith Conrad Hicks' totemic sculpture *Structure of Self*, is the dramatic focal point of the enclosure, with a crackling campfire at its centre. After a sumptuous dinner, gather with other guests to trade safari stories fireside.



### *Fine Wines*

To complement the cuisine, our climate-controlled wine cellar showcases a selection of fine wine and champagnes from across the globe, including handcrafted wines and special vintages from our sister vineyard in South Africa's Hemel-en-Aarde valley, Bouchard Finlayson. Our expert bartenders are also on hand to mix perfectly crafted cocktails, healthy and non-alcoholic beverages, and signature drinks.



# Unforgettable Experiences

We are proud to showcase a collection of once-in-a-lifetime experiences that reflect our exceptional lodge and offer unique opportunities to explore this breathtaking location.

Daily land excursions allow guests to immerse themselves in the wonders of the Okavango Delta, a region as famous for its tawny grasslands and verdant riverine forests as the flood plains that fill with crystal clear waters each year.







### *Game Drives at Your Leisure*

Enjoyed in the comfort of our custom-built 4x4 safari vehicles, daily game drives are built around flexibility, allowing guests to choose when they set off on their overland adventure. With decades of experience between them, our local safari guides are each experts in their field, uniquely passionate about sharing the wonders of the Okavango Delta with guests. From bucket-list birds to unforgettable sightings, our wilderness experts will bring the delta to life.



### *Private Game Drive*

Embark on a private drive across the wilderness with Mike Myers, our Managing Director. With more than 40 years' experience as a specialist guide and a deep and personal knowledge of the area that surrounds Xigera, it would be Mike's pleasure to share this with you on a private experience, together with one of our Xigera guides. (Advance booking and additional cost.)



### *Walking Safari*

Walking safaris – led by our expert guides – are an opportunity to truly connect with nature, and feel your senses sharpen. Learn about animal tracks, revel in some of the best bird-watching in Africa, smell and taste wild herbs – this is a once-in-a-lifetime encounter you will never forget.



### *Helicopter Safari*

Take to the skies to view Xigera from an aerial perspective – the only way to get a true sense of space and place. A helicopter game flight is a wonderful way to view and photograph the flora, fauna and wildlife that surrounds Xigera. (Additional cost.)



### *The Baobab Treehouse*

Sleep beneath the stars, enveloped by the calls of nature and the magic of the wilderness in the Baobab Treehouse. Situated one kilometre away from the lodge, the striking steel structure – built in the evocative shape of a baobab tree – ascends nearly 10 metres above the floodplain, offering guests panoramic views from each of its three levels.

The spacious bathroom and beautifully appointed bedroom have canvas walls that can open up entirely or be zipped closed, while the open-air deck is a serene, hidden – and entirely safe – eyrie from which to witness the magic of the Okavango Delta at dusk. Spend the night, if you choose, in the open-air king-size bed and marvel at the jet-black sky punctured by the stars of the Southern Hemisphere. (Additional cost.)



### *Boat Excursions*

Spend a morning gliding along flooded channels by mokoro, the dugout canoe used by generations for transport in a region where there are many more rivers than roads. Though traditionally carved from a single tree trunk, at Xigera Safari Lodge our innovative glass-bottomed mokoro – constructed from sturdy fibre-glass – allow for incredible views of the Delta both above and below.

While mokoro are perfect for discovering the filigree of smaller channels, catching fleeting glimpses of African pike or bright-green nembwe fish, motorboat excursions allow for exploration of the deeper rivers and lagoons that are home to crocodile and large pods of hippo.







### *Spa and Wellness*

Discrete from the Main Lodge with expansive views of the flood plains, Xigera's spectacular spa provides a tranquil haven for travellers. Our signature B | Africa spa treatments are complemented by an exclusive collection of Tata Harper products, creating holistic spa rituals that offer a multi-sensory escape for guests. Rejuvenate with a sunset yoga class, work out in our state-of-the-art fitness centre or take a dip in our swimming pool with a stunning deck gazing over the river.



### *The Art & Design Tour*

Take a tour of the incredible Xigera Art and Design Collection with our specially created map and audio guide. Starting at reception and ending at the Xigera Shop, this tour of the lodge's public spaces will provide a fascinating insight into the lives and work of the eminent artists and craftspeople behind Xigera's living art gallery.



### *Dining in the Bush*

Allow us to surprise you with a memorable meal served in the bush. Our talented chefs will create a unique menu, setting the scene for a dining experience like no other.



### *Stargazing*

With little or no light pollution, the skies above the Okavango Delta make for sensational viewing of the stars from our lookout deck. Our guides are equipped with laser pointers and will point out interesting features, from unique stars to the Milky Way, constellations and planets.



# Touching the Earth Lightly

We are committed to ensuring that this UNESCO World Heritage Site and the unique wildlife it is home to survive and thrive – this is a priority in every aspect of lodge operations.

Xigera relies mainly on solar energy supplied by a state-of-the-art Tesla system, while hot water is provided via thermodynamic geysers. The reduction of single-use plastics and an on-site composter minimise waste. All water used in the lodge is purified using reverse osmosis and then re-mineralised, ensuring guests can safely drink the tap water throughout the lodge.

We cannot do this alone. The lodge works closely with Botswana's Department of Wildlife and National Parks to monitor the area's fauna and flora and has partnered with Wild Entrust Africa, a local NPO that focuses on conservation through applied science, education and sustainable development.







## Unparalleled Service

Nearly 70 years of passion, care and attention to detail have been dedicated to Xigera. This pioneering camp is the dream and vision of the Tollman family, the pinnacle of a life's work creating extraordinary hospitality for both Xigera and The Red Carnation Hotel Collection.

With exceptional staff members and just 24 guests, Xigera offers a truly personal, unique and memorable safari experience. Red Carnation is renowned for its thoughtful service and generous hospitality and the team, led by Mike and Marian Myers, is empowered to ensure that all our guests feel special, cared for and welcome.

The golden thread of hospitality that binds each hotel in The Red Carnation Hotel Collection shimmers especially brightly at Xigera. Blending authentic African hospitality with Red Carnation's flair for excellence

results in a safari lodge offering world-class service in an unmatched wilderness.

Inspired by a deep love and understanding of the African bush, our Xigera guides are led by Mike, a legendary wildlife and conservation expert. With over 40 years of experience, he has brought together a team with great experience and knowledge, revealing a truly authentic safari experience and allowing guests an enriching and educational way of discovering this majestic corner of the Okavango.

A dedicated safari guide will accompany you throughout your stay at Xigera, sharing their passion and knowledge for the wilderness, and assisting you to curate your own Okavango experience.



# Xigera Safari Lodge at a Glance

## Lodge Facilities

- A choice of elegant lounges and bar spaces for convivial gatherings or quiet reflection
- First-of-its-kind collection of bespoke African art and design
- Array of outdoor dining venues, including the signature boma and spacious deck
- Locally inspired menus complemented by flexible ‘Anything, Anytime’ approach to dining
- Secluded spa with two beautifully designed treatment rooms, featuring products by Tata Harper and B | Africa.
- The Xigera Shop is stocked with design, fashion and décor from leading African artists
- Exceptional cellar stocked with fine wines and champagnes, including vintage selection from award-winning Bouchard Finlayson estate in South Africa, sister-property in The Red Carnation Hotel Collection
- Gym with state-of-the-art equipment and outdoor yoga deck
- Pool pavilion with panoramic views over the Okavango Delta
- Air-conditioned library with Wi-Fi, for hours of quiet reflection amid art, books and wildlife material
- Extensive photovoltaic solar-farm powered by Tesla technology ensures Xigera is entirely solar-powered
- Built on a philosophy of sustainability, including local procurement, waste-disposal and eliminating single-use plastics

## Experiences

- Flexible approach to 4x4 safari drives so guests can curate their own safari experience
- Unique glass-bottomed mokoros, led by expert local guides
- Motorboats with elevated game-viewing deck
- Bespoke wilderness experiences, including focused photographic safaris and bush walks
- Memorable dining, from bush breakfasts and wild picnics to spectacular sundowners
- Sleep out under the stars - in perfect safety - atop the remarkable 10-metre Baobab Treehouse (additional cost)
- Catch-and-release angling for endemic species (in-season only)
- Unforgettable helicopter excursions (additional cost)
- Sunrise yoga, meditation and mindfulness sessions on the spa deck, or in the privacy of a suite

## Accommodation

- 12 luxurious air-conditioned suites, including one two-bedroomed Family Suite, offering perfect privacy and expansive Okavango views
- Magnificent suites offer 184 square-metres (1980-square-feet) of living space, including airy bedrooms, dressing room area, separate lounge and private outdoor terrace
- Secluded outdoor decks feature gazebos and king-size daybeds
- Spacious bathrooms offer both indoor and outdoor showers, with freestanding baths overlooking the Okavango wilderness
- Modern amenities include flat-screen TV, Wi-Fi access and in-room safe

## Location

- Situated on the western edge of the Moremi Game Reserve in Botswana’s Okavango Delta
- Spanning 15 000-square kilometres, the Okavango Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Arrive by chartered plane from Maun (25-minute flight) and short vehicle/boat transfer to the lodge
- Suspended on stilts and connected by elevated walkways, the lodge rests effortlessly across two islands, set beneath a canopy of ancient forests to offer remarkable views of the floodplains



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