

XIGERA
SAFARI LODGE ~ BOTSWANA



THE
RED CARNATION
HOTEL COLLECTION
AFRICA

WELCOME TO XIGERA SAFARI LODGE

Having been born on the western edge of the Okavango Delta, the safari bug bit me at an early age. I have always been passionate about the bush and the animals we are privileged to view on our doorstep in Botswana. Xigera Safari Lodge was one of the very first lodges built many decades ago, and I have had the pleasure of a front-row seat to watch it transform over the years.

Xigera has always been known as a "wet" camp. However, in the last four to five years, some changes occurred in the landscape, both from a flora and a geological perspective. These had an immense impact on this part of the Okavango Delta, turning Xigera into a combination lodge with up to five daily activities for our guests to enjoy.

The game is prolific and hugely varied. We might have heard about wild dogs in

the past, but we now have them denning on our land. Our leopard and lion are regular visitors to the lodge, with two prides that have their main territories on Xigera's land. Cheetahs, elephants, and buffalo are also regular sightings for our guests.

The new Xigera has been a rebirth not only from an animal sightings perspective but the lodge itself, and the incredible food and service we proudly deliver sets us apart from everyone else.

I am proud to work at Xigera with a team that shares the same passion as I do – to showcase beautiful Botswana and ensure that our clients arrive as guests and leave as friends to return and see us again.

QUEST MAUNDO
LODGE MANAGER









THE STORY OF XIGERA SAFARI LODGE IS ONE OF RENEWAL, REBIRTH AND FAMILY LEGACY AND ONE OF THE PIONEERING SPIRIT THAT DRIVES US TO SEEK OUT AFRICA'S WILD SPACES.

The same spirit inspired this remarkable reimagining, perhaps a complete reinvention, of an Okavango Delta safari.

This is Xigera (pronounced 'kee-jera'), named for the Pied Kingfisher that makes its home amid the watery channels of Botswana's Moremi Game Reserve. Every aspect is handcrafted to beguile our guests' senses and stir their souls – from the evocative interiors to one-of-a-kind encounters.

But Xigera is equally a line in the sand—a raising of the bar—a bold statement in the realm of luxury safaris in Botswana, and an Okavango Delta safari experience like no other.



OKAVANGO DELTA

TUBU TREE

KWETSANI

JACANA

JAO CAMP

ABU CAMP

SEBA CAMP



SANDVELD
TONGUE

NXABEGA

KANANA

POMPOM

XIGERA
SAFARI LODGE ~ BOTSWANA



LITTLE
MOMBO

MOMBO

CHIEFS
CAMP

MOREMI WILDLIFE RESERVE

CHIEFS
ISLAND

BAINES
CAMP

EAGLE
ISLAND
ODDBALLS

DELTA CAMP
GUNNS
CAMP

GUNNS BUSH CAMP

STANLEYS

XUGANA
ISLAND LODGE

CAMP OKAVANGO

SHINDE
CAMP



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 an 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 vertical photograph on the left side of the page shows a leopard with its distinctive spotted coat climbing a thick, textured tree trunk. The leopard is positioned vertically, with its front paws gripping the bark and its body angled upwards. The background is a clear, pale blue sky.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

TRAVEL & LEISURE 'WORLDS BEST' AWARDS

Red Carnation Hotels named 4th best hotel brand in the world - 2024

WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS

Botswana's Leading Luxury Safari Lodge – 2021, 2022 & 2023

WORLD SPA AWARDS

Botswana's Best Safari Spa – 2021 & 2022

CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

No. 6 in the Top 20 Resorts in the Rest of Africa – 2022

LES NOUVELLES ESTHÉTIQUES

Best Safari Spa in Africa – 2022

THE GOOD WEB GUIDE

Winner in the 'Travel' category – 2021

SKIFT IDEA AWARDS

Winner for Sustainability – 2021

ELITE TRAVELLER AWARDS

Top 100 Suites – 2021

ROBB REPORT FOR NEW HOTEL OPENINGS IN 2021

Named 'Best of the Best' in Africa – 2021

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELLER HOTEL AWARDS

'Good Egg' category winner – 2021

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

Great Design Hotel Award winner – 2021

TRAVEL + LEISURE 2021'S 'HIT LIST'

Named one of the 'Best New Hotels' – 2021

CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER

Hot List - 2021



COLLABORATION

AN EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION OF PAN-AFRICAN ART AND DESIGN

CREATED BY A ROSTER OF 80 OF AFRICA'S MOST
GLOBALLY ACCLAIMED DESIGNERS.

- It is a collection that is bold in vision and groundbreaking in its scope, the first of its kind on the continent.
- Set beneath a canopy of ancient trees and affording unforgettable views over the floodplains.
- A boma with a difference. Storytelling and stargazing take place around a totemic fire-pit sculpture by artist-blacksmith Conrad Hicks.
- Human-sized woven 'nests', created by renowned South African artist Porky Hefer, rest on the outdoor decks.
- An interactive culinary experience with an open kitchen-dining room.
- Convivial waterside lounge area featuring a massive copper-clad fireplace in the form of a lily, the emblem of Xigera.







TESTIMONIALS

"XIGERA SAFARI LODGE IN THE OKAVANGO DELTA HAS STAKED ITS CLAIM AS A REPOSITORY OF AFRICAN CREATIVITY."

- ROBB REPORT

"AN UNFORGETTABLE AFRICAN SAFARI IN BOTSWANA WHICH BLENDS LUXURY WITH SUSTAINABILITY."

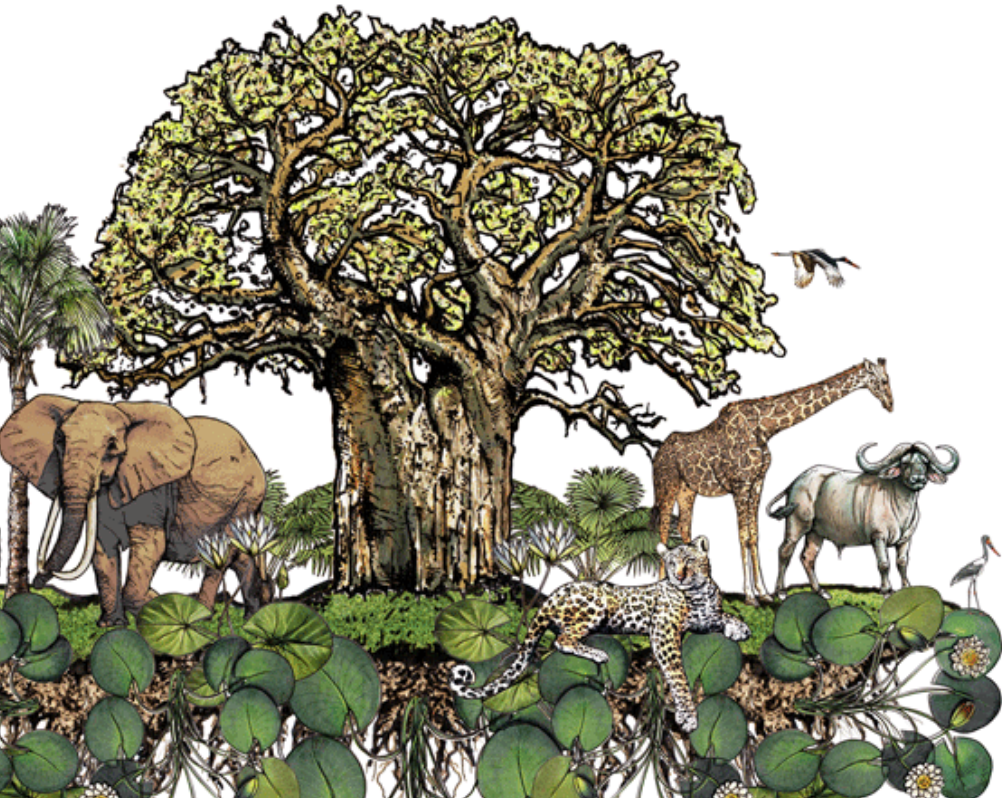
- CONDE NAST TRAVELLER

"AS HONEYMOON PREFERENCES EVOLVE AND COUPLES INCREASINGLY SEEK UNIQUE EXPERIENCES, XIGERA STANDS OUT AS THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION, OFFERING A PERFECT BLEND OF ROMANCE AND TRAVEL EXTRAVAGANCE."

- THE TELEGRAPH



MEET THE TEAM



QUEST
MAUNDO
LODGE MANAGER

In my career, I have risen through the ranks, and I believe that passion, vision and self-drive explain my successful path. I've been given the rare opportunity to work at Xigera Safari Lodge, and this has truly opened my eyes to international standards of travel, accommodation and food services of an unmatched standard. Seeing the new lodge built from scratch under my watch is a great honour, and I am grateful to be managing it.



IKALAHENG
MOGALAKWE
HEAD SAFARI GUIDE

I was born in Maun, on the edge of the Okavango Delta. After completing my studies, I began my career in the tourism industry, working my way through the ranks to reach Assistant Camp Manager. I am excited to join Xigera Safari Lodge as Head Guide and to take on the challenge of building a team and delivering the very best safari experience for all our guests.



MALAKI QUESTION- MAUNDO

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER

Having been born in Maun and grown up in Khwai in the heart of the Delta, my connections with the Moremi Game Reserve run deep. I first realised my passion for the safari industry in 2015 and redirected my career after working for the Botswana Government for five years. I furthered my knowledge by studying Hospitality & Tourism Management and have loved every moment since. Hosting and interacting with people from all walks of life is my passion, and I can't wait to welcome you to Xigera.



ZIYAAD BROWN

EXECUTIVE CHEF

In my career, I have been fortunate to have worked in a number of Africa's finest boutique hotels and safari lodges. From the Garden Route to Cape Town and the Greater Kruger National Park, I have experienced the best of African hospitality. Being a part of Xigera and Red Carnation Hotels has given me the opportunity to take my career to new heights.





CONSERVATION

OUR LOVE LETTER TO THE MAGIC OF THE AFRICAN BUSH

Xigera Safari Lodge is the fourth and latest African property to join The Red Carnation Hotel Collection, which celebrates 40 years of hospitality in 2024.

Protecting the land and its wildlife while empowering and uplifting local communities is a cornerstone of the philosophy underpinning this remarkable new safari lodge.

**XIGERA'S PIONEERING CONCEPT
IS REINVENTING THE ART OF AN
AFRICAN SAFARI.**

Blending African design with unique luxury, outstanding cuisine with extraordinary wilderness experiences.





CONSERVATION

A WILDERNESS WONDERLAND

OUR GUESTS CAN EXPECT INCREDIBLE WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS FROM THE MOMENT THEY ARRIVE AT THE CAMP.

Our beautiful leopards and lions are 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 best 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 elephants 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 hippos 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 dogs 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.



CONSERVATION

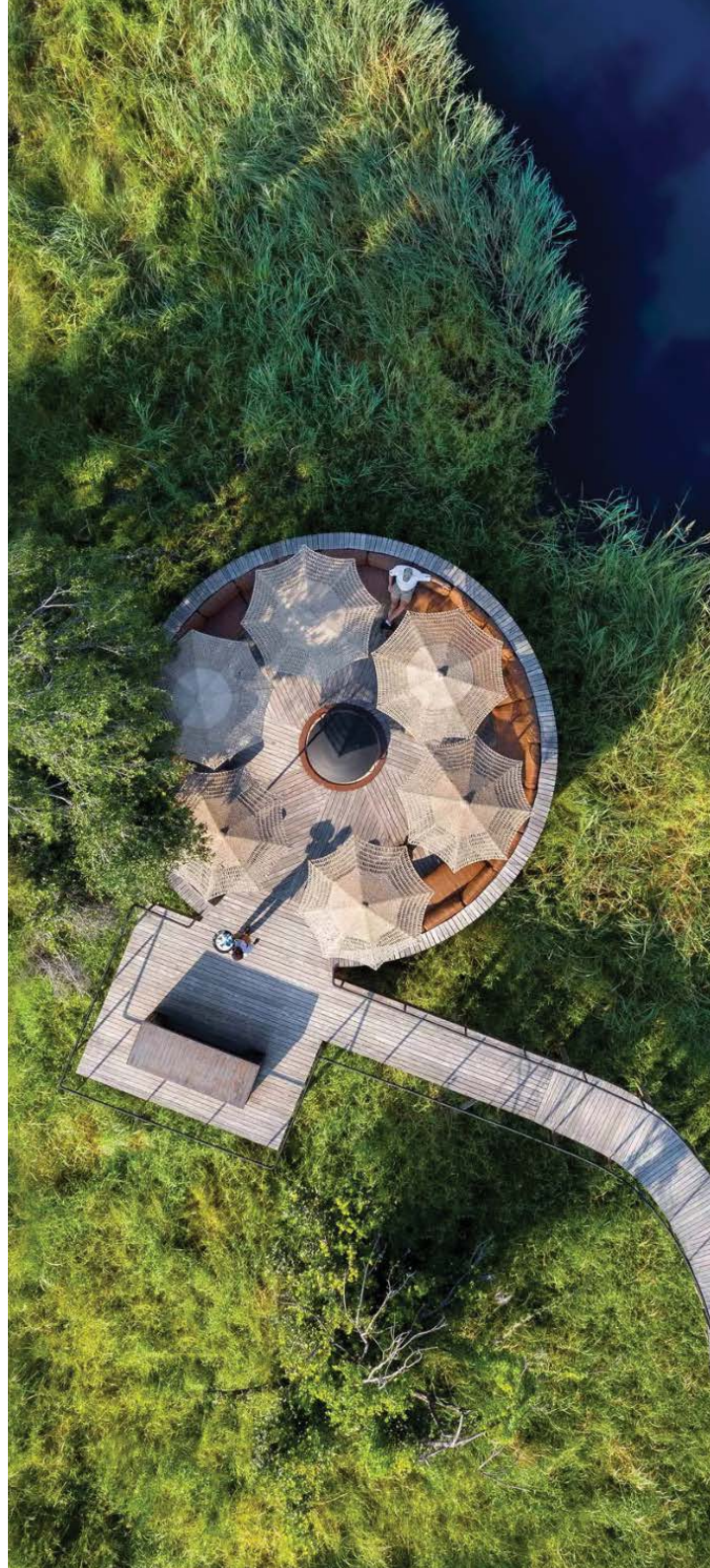
TOUCHING THE EARTH LIGHTLY

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 minimises 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.

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.





CONSERVATION

XIGERA AND WILD ENTRUST AFRICA PARTNERSHIP

AT RED CARNATION HOTELS, WE BELIEVE WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES, AND WE STRIVE TO POSITIVELY IMPACT THE COMMUNITIES THAT OUR HOTELS INHABIT.

For this reason, we have partnered with **Wild Entrust Africa**, a Botswana-registered not-for-profit organisation that focuses on the conservation and management of wildlife and wildlife habitats through applied science, education, and sustainable development.





ELEPHANT HAVENS EXPERIENCE

AS BOTSWANA'S ONLY ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE,

Elephant Havens is a not-for-profit organisation which promotes habitat protection, community outreach and the rescue and hand-rearing of young elephant orphans. This orphanage rescues orphaned and abandoned baby elephants, with the goal of eventually releasing them back into the wild alongside the other elephants. Helicopter Horizons' aim is to support Elephant Havens in a sustainable, non-evasive and ethical manner by using tourism as a platform to educate travellers on the importance of putting every animal's protection first.

A visit to Elephant Havens with Helicopter Horizons includes return helicopter transfers, interaction with orphaned elephants, guided by informed and knowledgeable handlers, and a donation to the organisation.

COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY UPLIFTMENT, LOCAL EMPLOYMENT, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

HABU VILLAGE EXCURSION

The Habu Village Excursion provides insight into a village based 70km from Xigera in the Okavango Delta, showcasing how **we are driving positive, sustainable change with the help of trusted charities, including Wild Entrust.**

The Habu community is one of the closest villages to Xigera Safari Lodge, situated on the Delta's westernmost distributary, the Thaoge River. Wild Entrust has been successfully working with the community since 2014, running an integrated community development and conservation programme that aims to mitigate human-wildlife conflict and reduce bushmeat hunting in the area.

XIGERA ART TOUR

The Xigera Art Tour showcases the breadth of creativity from the 80 commissioned artists who created pieces specifically for Xigera.

Discover the stories behind the artwork within Xigera and learn more about the 80 remarkable artists commissioned to create pieces for the lodge.

You'll also **learn more about our passion for sustainability, where a number of pieces were created with a sustainability focus;** these include Adam Birch's work (crafted from wood from fallen trees around Xigera) and the Further In & Further Out piece (made entirely from beer bottle caps).





THE POLOKONG CENTRE

Polokong Centre for Elderly Care, a community project founded in 2010 in Maun, Botswana, aims to restore dignity to human life. The centre provides cooked meals, food baskets, clothing, and assistance with bathing for the elderly.

They also offer emotional and spiritual support, conduct home visits, and help with laundry and house cleaning. The centre relies on volunteers to carry out these essential services. Polokong's major needs include food, clothing, blankets, shelter, house cleaning, help with cooking, and volunteers.

Inspired by the humanitarian aid provided by Polokong, **the Xigera team has been actively involved in various volunteer activities and has contributed food baskets, primarily consisting of vegetables, to support the elderly.**

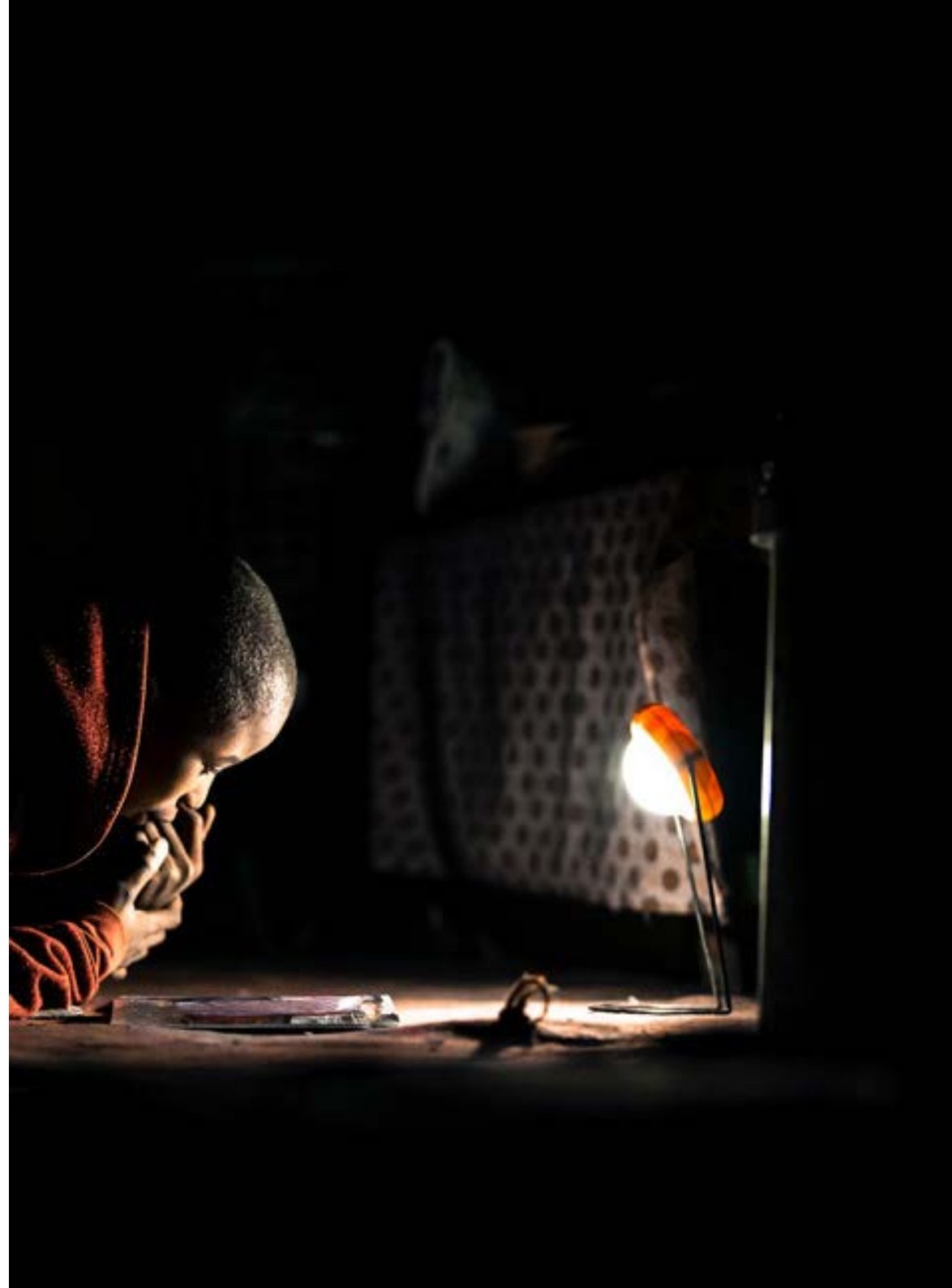
VILLAGE LIGHTS

At Xigera, we believe in the power of education and the importance of providing resources to those who need them most. This belief drove our collaboration with Coaching Conservation, part of Wild Entrust Africa, to support the Village Lights project.

The aim of the Village Lights project was to address domestic energy insecurity by providing solar lights and supporting conservation-related learning material for primary school children to study at night. Few homes in Habu have electricity for light to enable children to read after dark.

A simple contribution of a solar-powered reading light in the home and relevant reading materials have a far-reaching impact in improving learning for Habu's 350+ primary school students.

In this project, 150 silicon solar lights were provided to students as well as supplementary learning materials curated for primary students by Coaching Conservation, a part of Wild Entrust Africa. **Guests were also able to purchase lanterns in the Xigera Shop, where a donation was made to the trust.**





COACHING CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

To engage primary school children in understanding the value of conservation through play and sport for their future well-being, Wild Entrust facilitated a Coaching Conservation programme at the Habu primary school.

Coaching Conservation's unique "learning from wildlife" curricula was entirely delivered through games and activities rather than classroom learning and proved to be a very effective way of exploring critical conservation issues with students.

All of the programmes were based on play and capitalised on the inherent value of sport. In 2021, an abridged, single-day version of the programme took place, called a BushRAP (Rapid Awareness Programme). The Animal RAP was Coaching Conservation's activity-based programme designed to focus students on an animal mentor that they had a lot to learn from in terms of respecting themselves, others, and the environment.

The BushRAP combined this animal mentor activity with an exciting day in a wildlife area for students to feel the full benefit of a personal experience with wildlife in a positive environment.

In 2021, Coaching Conservation **partnered with Xigera Safari Lodge to take the Habu village grade six class on this BushRAP as a community outreach programme.** It was hoped that in the future, the full programme would be able to be delivered to students.

COLLABORATION

XIGERA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL FARMERS

AT XIGERA, WE WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH LOCAL FARMERS AND SUPPLIERS TO BE AS SUSTAINABLE AS POSSIBLE.

Most of our products are organically farmed, including our beef, lamb, and eggs, with 90% of our food sourced from Maun, which is 60 miles away from the lodge.

We work with a small family who run their own egg farm. Slebtech Farms employs just a few people from the community and supplies us with eggs for our staff canteen. We support them through our business, and in turn their business is thriving.

We also work with Bellfrog Farms, which has a hydroponic farm in Maun. They supply us with tomatoes, herbs, lettuce, spring onions, and more. Vertical farming is suited to the harsh conditions of the outer delta areas, as water is scarce and soil quality is not great.



Elliewood Farms supplies our lamb; Chef Ziyaad personally selects our sheep and helps prepare them for consumption. We handle the lambs in our kitchen and do in-house butchery. They also supply us with certain seasonal vegetables and eggs for our guest kitchen. **It is a sustainable farm that uses a full-circle philosophy.**

Our beef is single-source, grass-fed and hormone-free. We use only the highest grade; we take the entire carcass, then butcher and dry age in-house.

We support a small farm called Grow Wild Organics, which supplies us with certain fresh produce and fresh quail eggs.

We also support a local cooperative comprised of **women who own small stalls that supply local traditional ingredients.**

We buy amazing free-range chicken from a small local farmer; they are on a natural diet and are hormone and antibiotic-free.

We support a local seafood supplier who sources the freshest seafood from our nearest coastline in Namibia weekly. We only use sustainable and seasonal catches on our menus.



XIGERA SAFARI LODGE AT A GLANCE

Xigera prioritises quality operations with a focus on high standards of guiding, service, and management, offering an exemplary overall guest experience where guest safety is a key priority.



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**



Locally inspired menus complemented by a flexible 'anything, anytime' approach to dining



Secluded spa with two beautifully designed treatment rooms featuring products by Tata Harper and B|Africa





An array of outdoor dining venues, including the signature boma and spacious deck



The Xigera Shop is **stocked with design, fashion and decor from leading African artists**

Exceptional cellar stocked with fine wines and champagnes, including winning Bouchard Finlayson estate in South Africa, sister property in The Red Carnation Hotel Collection

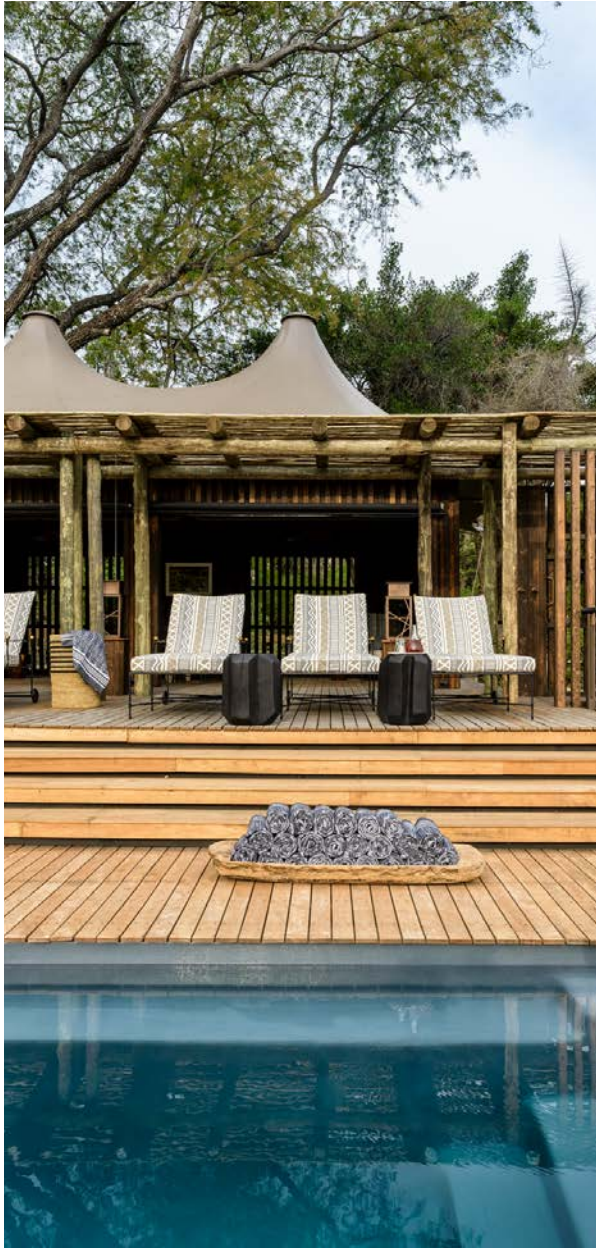


A modern, air-conditioned fitness center with state-of-the-art equipment, alongside a swimming pool and relaxation deck overlooking the river.



Air-conditioned library with Wi-Fi for hours of quiet reflection amid art, books and wildlife material

Pool pavilion with panoramic views over the Okavango Delta



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 & eliminating single-use plastics**



EXPERIENCES

Flexible approach to 4x4 safari drives so guests can curate their own safari experience

Unique mokoros led by expert local guides

Motorboats with elevated game-viewing deck

Bespoke wilderness experiences, including focused photographic safaris and seasonal 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)

Yoga and pilates deck available at the fitness centre and spa

Sunrise yoga, meditation and mindfulness sessions on the spa deck or in the privacy of a suite



12 LUXURIOUS AIR-CONDITIONED SUITES

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, a dressing room area, a separate lounge and a private outdoor terrace.

Secluded outdoor decks feature gazebos and king-size daybeds.

Spacious bedrooms offer both indoor and outdoor showers, with freestanding baths overlooking the Okavango wilderness.

Modern amenities include a flat-screen TV, Wi-Fi access and in-room safe.



CONSERVATION

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.



WILDLIFE

INSPIRED BY AFRICA'S WILDLIFE

We are privileged that many species of animals call the Delta their home. With each visit to Xigera, guests are transformed by encounters with some of Africa's most magnificent creatures, including the Hero Five.

