

XIGERA
SAFARI LODGE ~ BOTSWANA



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The Red Carnation Hotel Collection is returning to its roots: Africa, where it all began. Launching in December 2020 in Botswana's most unspoilt wilderness, Xigera ("Kee-jera") is, quite simply, a pioneer. This extraordinary new safari lodge, located in the Moremi Game Reserve in the heart of the Okavango Delta, is a bold new statement, reinventing what it means to experience the African bush. Inspired by a deep love of the Delta and its wildlife, Xigera offers just 24 guests a remarkable opportunity to explore the richness of this UNESCO World Heritage Site - at their own pace, in their own time, however they wish.

Meticulously designed to frame the breathtaking floodplains and riverine forests, the lodge is in complete synergy with its surroundings. Spacious suites clad in flame-torched timber look out onto lily-filled lagoons, providing a front-row seat to the theatre of the African bush. The interiors are filled with exceptional one-off works of art and design created by Africa's most globally recognised names, in collaboration with award-winning gallery Southern Guild, from gleaming hand-forged copper and steel consoles by Conrad Hicks, to Adam Birch's tactile creations carved right on-site.

Quietly surprising touches are everywhere, from the lily-inspired spa to the remarkable three-storey baobab sculpture overlooking the floodplain, offering the chance of a life-changing sleep-out beneath the velvet night sky.

This groundbreaking project is the first purpose-built safari lodge developed by The Red Carnation Collection, the pinnacle of a life's work creating extraordinary hospitality experiences. Founders Beatrice and Stanley Tollman and their family have spent the last 66 years creating and steering some of the world's finest luxury boutique hotels in exceptional locations. The Tollmans' devotion to detail lies at the core of everything; the effortless service, the deep human connection and the personal touches in every destination are what make the hotels so special. Xigera is no exception.

With exceptional staff attending to our guests, the lodge offers an exclusive experience of unrivalled flexibility - there are no set times, no itineraries, just the unique chance of exploring the bush at a personalised pace. A transformative journey awaits, defined by Red Carnation's passion and art of hospitality.



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OPENING DATE: DECEMBER 2020

RATE BASIS

Fully Inclusive (FI) - includes accommodation, all meals, all activities (including game drives, boating, seasonal catch-and-release fishing, mekoro excursions, walking and scheduled yoga classes), use of the gym, pool and library, park fees, accommodation taxes, applicable tourism levies and all relevant Value Added Tax (VAT), all non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages (with the exception of wines, spirits and champagnes on the Premium List), daily laundry and in-suite Wi-Fi. Discretionary gratuities, all purchases from the Xigera Shop, private yoga classes, all spa treatments and spa products, and Premium List drinks and the Baobab Treehouse Sleepout are excluded from this rate and must be settled directly in camp.

LOCATION

Central-west Okavango Delta, Botswana

Private lodge site and traversing area within the Moremi Game Reserve

ACCESS

Fly-In Basis

Airstrip Name	Xigera Airstrip (XIG)
Duration to Camp	Approximately 20-minute vehicle transfer (depending on wildlife sightings, scenery and photographic opportunities on the way)
Airstrip Coordinates	Latitude: 22°44' 32.91" Longitude: 19°23' 9.16"

These GPS coordinates are for the purposes of locating and plotting our airstrips on Google Earth only.

Altitude/Elevation	3 100 feet ASL
Runway Length	1000 metres
Runway Heading	12/30
Airstrip Surface	Calcrete
Airstrip Services	Xigera
Aircraft Type	Our airstrip is restricted to "At Owner/Operator/Pilot in Command discretion" to operations for aircraft types having maximum certified take-off weight (MTOW) of 5700kg or less. For detailed information, please contact res@redcarnationafrica.com

The Owner/Operator/Pilot in Command needs to sign our Indemnity, Waiver and Disclaimer policy for authorisation to land at our airstrip. In addition, the Owner/Operator/Pilot in Command is required to acknowledge the preferred supplier and self-fly-in information notice. Please check with your travel consultant as all procedures need to be finalised in advance.



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HABITAT AND WILDLIFE Xigera Concession

Xigera Safari Lodge is located in the Moremi Game Reserve with private access to a 4,500-hectare (11,120-acre) wetland paradise in the heart of the Delta. Situated on one of the Okavango's key waterways, Xigera Safari Lodge is surrounded by picturesque papyrus swamps and wooded islands and is renowned for its very high density of sitatunga antelope. The area is known for remarkable mammal sightings including red lechwe, spotted-necked otter, elephant, buffalo, reedbuck and tsessebe. Predators include lions, spotted hyenas and leopards. Guests are sometimes treated to close-up views of lions or leopards using the footbridge connecting Xigera to the next island! This concession lies in an International Birding Area (IBA) with many 'Okavango specials' being present, including Pel's Fishing-Owl, African Skimmer, Brown Firefinch, Greater Swamp Warbler, Wattled Crane, African Pygmy Goose and Lesser Jacana.

ECOSYSTEM

- A dynamic, fragile eco-system of 15 000 square kilometres, the Okavango Delta fans out over the Kalahari sand system
- The Okavango Delta was the 1 000th UNESCO World Heritage Site to be gazetted
- Approximately a third of the continent's elephant population roams northern Botswana each year
- Other species include buffalo, crocodile, hippopotamus, black and white rhinoceros, lions, cheetahs, leopards, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest, antelope, lechwe and warthogs
- There are over 550 bird species in Botswana of which some 444 are found in the Okavango Delta

GAME VIEWING

Xigera is a water- and land-based lodge offering guests the opportunity to experience both aspects of the Okavango Delta. During the annual flood, guests can boat across floodplains and along channels to reach islands where there are regular sightings of buffalo, elephants, zebras, giraffes, lechwe and sitatunga as well as numerous other Delta species. Hippos can be spotted on mekoro and boating excursions, along with an abundance of birds.



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EXPERIENCES

- Breakfast, lunch or an intimate picnic in the bush
- Explorations by traditional mokoro boat with a glass-bottom and motorboats with an elevated deck for wildlife spotting
- 'Feet-in-the-water' sundowners cocktails
- Morning and afternoon game drives
- Walking safaris with expert guides (outside of Moremi Game Reserve)
- Seasonal catch-and-release fishing (outside of Moremi Game Reserve)
- Photographic safaris
- Private yoga sessions; Spa treatments; a 1-night Baobab Treehouse Sleepout for 2 adult guests at a surcharge, subject to availability and weather permitting and scenic helicopter flights (at additional cost)

ACTIVITIES

- While the emphasis at Xigera is on water activities, game drives are offered year round
- No night drives due to Moremi Game Reserve National Park regulations
- Day game drives in open 4x4 vehicles (four vehicles will be 4-seaters and two vehicles will be 6-seaters)
- Private activities on offer (subject to vehicle availability, and need to be booked and paid for)
- During colder or wetter weather, hot water bottles, blankets and lined ponchos are provided
- Water-based activities;
 - in 2-seater glass-bottom mekoro; and
 - 6-seater motorboats, 2 of which have a glass-bottom and 2 have a super structure with roof seating available (seasonal water levels permitting).

THE LODGE

Xigera Safari Lodge is nestled beneath an impressive canopy of ancient jackalberry, mangosteen and leadwood trees. All 12 air-conditioned suites have been carefully sited to give endless floodplain views and the chance to watch passing wildlife.

- Situated on a large island, surrounded by deep channels and lush vegetation
- Stunning views of the Xigera channel
- Lounge and dining room with open fireplace
- African-inspired cuisine
- Bar and wine cellar
- Air-conditioned library
- Traditional boma and outdoor fire-pit
- Star deck
- Swimming pool
- Well-equipped gym and Wellness Centre
- Spa
- African art



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ACCOMMODATION

Xigera Safari Lodge can accommodate up to 24 guests plus 4 guides/pilots/tour leaders (subject to concession numbers and/or availability).

12 luxurious fully air-conditioned suites comprising:

- 11 standard suites of which:
 - Nine have king-size beds (which cannot be split)
 - Two have twin beds (which can be converted into king-size beds using mattress convertors)
 - Each suite has 184 sqm (1,980 sq ft) of indoor and outdoor space including a separate lounge, bedroom and dressing room area.
- The Xigera Family Suite, comprising:
 - Two en-suite bedrooms (one of which has a fixed king-size bed while the other has twin beds which can be converted into a king-size bed using a mattress converter), each with dressing room and outdoor shower
 - interleading lounge
 - private deck with outdoor gazebo

Plus, guide/pilot/tour leader accommodation comprising:

- Four tented rooms each with two three quarter beds and shared en-suite facilities (not of the same standard as a guest room)

SUITE DESCRIPTION

- Each suite has full en-suite facilities with separate toilet, shower, bath and outdoor shower; separate lounge, bedroom and dressing room area, mosquito net, coffee and tea making facilities and mini bar
- Private deck with outdoor gazebo
- Stretched canvas tented roofs and wooden decks, reached by elevated wooden walkways
- Tinted glass windows to keep the room at even temperatures (can be opened to allow the breeze and birdsong to enter)
- Fully air-conditioned
- TV and Wi-Fi
- Ecologically sensitive amenities, and all creature comforts

THE XIGERA FAMILY SUITE DESCRIPTION

- The Xigera Family Suite consists of two complete full bedrooms each with their own full bathroom, dressing area and outdoor shower and all the offerings found in a normal suite, joined by an interleading lounge area that opens up onto a deck with a gazebo

CHILDREN AT XIGERA

- Children aged 12 and over are welcome at Xigera Safari Lodge and the full adult rate is charged
- Children aged between 12 and 16 must share a suite with one adult
- Children partaking in boating or mekoro excursions must wear life vests at all times
- For safety reasons, children aged under 13 years may not participate in walking or mekoro activities



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ELECTRICITY

- Electricity and hot water provided by solar power, with a back-up generator
- 220V multi-plug adaptor charging facilities for mobile devices. Additional charging facilities (available on request) for the use of guests' own sleep apnea machines

LAUNDRY FACILITIES

Daily laundry services (weather and water supply permitting) are included in the Fully Inclusive rate. A mesh laundry bag is supplied for underwear which will be machine-washed and returned in same mesh bag. Environmentally friendly detergent for optional handwashing is available in the rooms or can be provided on request.

SMOKING POLICY (CIGARETTES AND E-CIGARETTES)

Smoking is only permitted on the private outside deck area of your Suite. Please note that we have a strict non-smoking policy in our main area, vehicles, boats, mekoro and guest suites (except on the outside decks). On activities a stop will be made for refreshments, at which time smokers may have a cigarette. We ask smokers to be conscious at all times of the risk of causing a fire, and of the impact of both cigarettes and e-cigarettes on their fellow guests.

PAYMENT FOR EXTRAS

We can accept cash payments for Xigera Shop purchases, spa treatments, spa products, private yoga classes or gratuities to guides or staff in Botswana Pula (BWP), Pounds Sterling (GBP), Euros, South African Rand (ZAR) and US Dollars (but only notes dated later than 2007). We accept MasterCard, Visa and American Express credit cards, but we are unable to accept payments by Diners Club credit cards, or any form of debit card.

GRATUITY GUIDELINES

Tipping is of course entirely at the discretion of guests. As a guide, we suggest the following amounts:

- Guides and/or Specialist Guides – US\$ 10.00 per guest per day, paid directly to the guide as a once-off payment at the end of the stay
- Mekoro Polers and Trackers – US\$ 5.00 per poler/tracker per guest per day.
- General Camp Staff – US\$ 10.00 per guest per day, placed in the communal tip box to be distributed equally amongst all the staff
- Massage Therapists – US\$5.00 per treatment



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MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Xigera is dedicated to guarding this precious jewel that belongs to Botswana, and to empowering local communities, alongside environmentally conscious hospitality and sustainable conservation. Working together with The TreadRight Foundation (treadright.org), we are committed to ensuring that the unique wildlife surrounding Xigera survives and thrives.

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