



FACT SHEET



SUNDESTINATIONS™



INTRODUCTION

The charming Mankwe Tented Retreat is situated in a private concession on the doorstep of the game-rich Moremi Game Reserve. Tucked away in a grove of mopane trees and mysterious woodlands, this safari lodge sanctuary offers its visitors an unbeatable location close to both land and water-based safari activities.

In 2016, after a devastating fire destroyed Mankwe, the entire lodge was rebuilt from the ground up. The retreat is constructed from natural light wood, ensuring a sense of harmony with its forested surrounds. Architects have successfully merged the structure of the main area with the surrounding environment, carefully integrating natural materials with modern design elements such as clean lines, neutral colours, and soft lighting. The tented suites exude a similar Scandinavian style with their sophisticated log cabin feel combined with canvas.

In total, there are 10 tented suites. Tents are built on raised wooden platforms, each with their own private viewing deck. Expansive bedrooms offer a configuration of two twins or a king-sized bed. Bathrooms are ensuite with a shower, and offer breathtaking views of the surrounding wilderness through the canvas windows.

Guests can relax in the knowledge that each suite has a fan for cooling off during the sizzling summer months. The main area comprises a small swimming pool surrounded by wooden decking that flows through to various sheltered sections for relaxing and also has a dining section. Adjacent to this area is the boma.

From here, a meandering wooden walkway winds its way to a second swimming pool section complete with wooden decking, sun loungers and an intimate pool bar.

Another enclave breaks away from the central and pool area, and leads to a small relaxation lounge and games/reading area.

Eager safari-goers can tailor-make their own activity schedule. Most guests opt for full-day excursion into the Khwai River section of Moremi, and boat cruises through the Okavango Delta's reed lined channels.

Visitors wanting something a little closer to home can join game drives and sundowner sessions on Mankwe's concession.

AT A GLANCE

- The name Mankwe means "mother leopard"
- Located on a 365 000 hectare private concession on the border of Moremi Game Reserve
- A 2-hour drive from Maun
- The lodge is unfenced, which means wildlife is free to roam throughout
- Sophisticated yet simple interiors that enhance the beauty of the natural surrounds
- Atmosphere of a wooded sanctuary retreat
- Sleeps 20 people in total
- Tented suites have a shower with a view
- Professional staff and warm hospitality make guests feel at home
- Each night, a campfire is lit in the open air boma under the stars
- Sublime sundowner sessions at various waterholes around the lodge
- Two swimming pools, one in the main area and the other with its own pool bar, sun loungers and chill area.
- Spa treatment room and various enclaves for relaxation



- Morning and evening game drives take place in the concession if no full day safari takes place
- Guests can tailor-make their safari experience
- A multitude of both land and water based safari activities are available
- Ideal spot for safari circuit travelling through Botswana, either starting or ending with Mankwe

FACILITIES

- 10 tented suites built on an elevated wooden platform, sleeping 20 people in total
- King-sized bed or twin bed configurations available
- Plug points and stand-alone fans in each suite
- Ensuite bathroom with a shower and twin basins
- Bathrooms have a view of the wilderness and come with all amenities
- There is a small work desk in each suite
- Beds have mosquito nets
- High-end linen and ultra-comfortable mattresses
- Main area is connected to suites by raised wooden walkways
- Small spa treatment room. Treatment sessions must be booked in advance.
- There are two swimming pools. The one in the main area is surrounded by decking and flows through to the dining area, boma, and various small relaxation nooks.
- The second pool is connected via a wooden walkway and has sun loungers on an expansive deck, chill areas, and a pool bar
- Branching off from the walkway is yet another enclave of relaxation: a lounge/reading area kitted out with games and books
- All of the main areas of the lodge are open plan
- There is WiFi throughout in the main area
- Central boma/fireplace on the main lodge deck



- Meals are served around the main pool area or in the dining area, just up from the pool
- Mankwe Tented Retreat is solar powered

ACTIVITIES

There are a multitude of activities available within Mankwe's concession and further afield. Below is a list of the most popular safari activities that can be arranged while at the lodge, or prior to arrival.

- Sunset game drive in Mankwe's private concession on day of arrival
- Morning and afternoon game drives, as well as night drives in the concession
- Full day safaris - with packed lunches - to Khwai River in Moremi Game Reserve
- On-site birdwatching
- Sundowners at various waterholes in the concession
- Boat cruises and mokoro excursions through the Okavango Delta's channels (dependent on water levels) can be added to the full day safari



A TYPICAL DAY AT MANKWE TENTED RETREAT

The timing of the daily schedule changes according to the season, and is flexible. Mankwe Tented Retreat works according to guests' excursion requests. The below is an example of a daily schedule.

FULL DAY SAFARIS

- 06h00 Wake-up call
- 06h30 Coffee and breakfast at the lodge
- 07h00-07h30 Depart Mankwe for a full-day safari in Moremi Game Reserve
- 15h00 Return to the lodge
- 17h00 Optional sunset drive ending with night drive in Mankwe's private concession
- 19h30 Dinner served at the lodge

SAFARIS IN THE CONCESSION

- Morning and afternoon game drives, as well as night drives by spotlight take place on the concession in

the event that no full-day safari takes place.

- 05h00 Wake up call
- 05h30 Coffee and rusks at the lodge
- 06h00 Depart for game drive in the concession
- 09h00 Return to the lodge
- 09h30 Breakfast is served in the dining tent followed by leisure time
- 14h30 Lunch is served
- 16h00 Depart for an afternoon game drive ending in a night drive
- 19h30 Dinner is served at the lodge, followed by campfire chatter
- * The full day safari into the Moremi includes refreshments and a packed lunch. Upon request, and water level dependent, a mokoro or boat cruise can be added to the safari day trip.

LOCATION

Mankwe Tented Retreat is located on the eastern edge of the Okavango Delta, a renowned World Heritage Site in Botswana. The border of the Moremi Game Reserve





lies to the west of Mankwe (about 2 – 3 hours by road), while Chobe National Park is slightly north, and Maun is barely two hours south, by road. The lodge is nestled in a prime location in its own 365 000 hectare concession.

This is a prestigious territory in the wild wonderland of Botswana, where the lack of fences allows for free-roaming wildlife, resident lions, an abundance of elephants, and incomprehensible room to explore.

HOW TO GET THERE

Mankwe Tented Retreat is located only 85km from Maun, and is easily and affordably accessed by self-drivers from Maun Airport. Alternatively, a road transfer from the airport to the lodge can be arranged. Self-drivers travelling from Maun Airport will exit Maun in the direction of Mababe on the Seretse Khama road, cross the vet fence and eventually keep right at the fork, continuing towards Savute. Mankwe Tented Retreat is sign-posted on the left, where visitors will arrive at their destination.

CHILD POLICY

Children of all ages are welcome. Children under the age of 12 pay 50% of the adult rate. Parents are reminded Mankwe is an unfenced lodge, and children are to be supervised at all times.

GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Weather

The climate in Botswana brings very hot, dry periods (September, October), and also very wet seasons (December-February). Winter (June, July, August)

packs cold nights and mild, dry days, while November to February is hot and wet. Temperatures in summer soar as high as 40°C bringing warm nights and humidity levels fluctuating between 50% and 80%.

The average annual rainfall is 450mm and most of it falls between December and March in the form of heavy afternoon thunderstorms. In contrast, the winter nights can drop to barely above freezing in the Delta and the desert, although daytime temperatures at this time of year are mild to warm.

Wildlife

Botswana is a wildlife paradise, with elephants roaming in high numbers, hippos occupying every waterway, buffalo gathering en masse to drink from the waterholes, zebra migrations, red lechwe bounding through rivers, giraffe touching the tree tops, and warthogs shovelling the earth. Moremi is a known wildlife hotspot, and is a





protected area of the Okavango Delta. Lion, leopard, cheetah, wild dog, and spotted and brown hyena, are some of the top predator species that are frequently seen. The birdlife in Botswana is no exception to the fantastic collection of wild creatures that call this country home.

The many waterways of the Okavango Delta and Moremi create a habitat for many water birds, while raptors soar overhead, and melodious larks disguise themselves in the scrub.

Malaria

Before travelling, guests are encouraged to consult their local doctors about anti-malarial medication and preparation, however a repellent stick or spray is effective and should be utilised.

WHAT TO PACK

The climate in Botswana brings very hot, dry periods and also very wet seasons. Winter (June, July, August) packs cold nights and mild, dry days.

- Throughout the year, we recommend packing lightweight, neutral-coloured clothing with short sleeves.
- Bring sun protection in the form of sunblock, sun hats, and glasses.
- Scarfs, jackets and gloves are needed for early mornings, especially in winter.
- Comfortable walking shoes are essential.
- Pack casual clothes for around the lodge.
- Bring along cameras, binoculars and recording gadgets to keep a record of the many wildlife sightings.

