

# KWEENE TRAILS

## ABU PRIVATE RESERVE

### TREADING LIGHTLY

- Our mobile camps are **temporary** and as such, these wilderness sites where camps are erected revert back in their entirety to their natural wilderness state at the end of every safari. Our operation therefore, has an **extremely light footprint**.
- All **power requirements** of the camp is provided by a carefully designed “energy trailer” wholly reliant on **solar**. This energy trailer provides us with enough energy to run an array of camping fridges and freezers to keep our fresh food deliciously fresh and wholesome, and to minimise wastage; as well as providing a charging station to electrical equipment such as cameras, batteries and other necessary, electrical equipment.
- Each tent also has a solar unit that provides light and charging options in the tent.
- Water is provided by **well points** to avoid the need to transport water in by road.
- **Water consumption** of the camp is **minimal** as we utilise bucket showers, which limits one shower to approximately 20 litres of water; stand basins at each tent provide water required for face washing and other personal ablutions, and we have compost loos that require no water other than when cleaned and serviced.
- All **drinking water** is provided by the well points, which is filtered by a **reverse osmosis machine**, and each guest is handed an aluminium bottle for the duration of their stay which is returned and sterilised after each safari. Therefore, we do not have a need for plastic or disposable aluminium bottles to individual guests.
- Our **compost loos** are totally eco-friendly in every way.
- We focus on a **healthy, wholesome menu** that is designed to provide **quality food** as opposed to large quantities in excess which is often wasted.
- We **source all of our produce** as well as other necessary items locally from **Maun** as much as possible, **sustaining the local economy and supporting local businesses**. This is crucial as tourism is the lifeblood of Maun and ensures protection of the Okavango Delta.
- **Road network** has been **sensitively developed** to minimise the need for seasonal roads that become unusable during the flood season or result in scarring of the terrain if used. Also, approximately half of our concession area has been set aside for walking only, and therefore has no roads, allowing it to remain a **pristine, functioning ecosystem**.
- Many of our activities are **non-motorised** as there is a real focus on walking and mokoro excursions.
- We have an active initiative to **protect trees** in the Okavango, particularly those targeted by elephants, which involves filling recycled tins with creosote and attaching them to tree trunks. This has been ongoing for approximately 1 year and so far we have found it to be an effective deterrent.
- In addition, we are also **repairing damaged trees** with the use of linseed oil and we are seeing the regeneration of bark in some cases.
- We have a **fire plan** in place to combat bush fires and aim to protect our area from unnaturally started fires, which often occur several months before the rain season and therefore has detrimental effects on the larger ecosystem.
- Beagle Expeditions supports the **Beagle Education Trust**, and pre-covid we were contributing **US \$ 20 per bedight** to the Trust; this will resume as soon as tourism revenues start to increase and stabilise again. Through the Trust, we have **provided bursaries** for several children of our staff to attend school, we have supported some **anti-poaching efforts** in the concession area, and we implemented a **sanitisation initiative** with the onset of Covid-19 in the village of Tsutsubega which is adjacent to the Okavango Delta.
- The focus of the Beagle Education Trust going forward will be to provide and support **anti-poaching efforts** within our concession area; as well as partner with the **Habu School** located adjacent to our concession area, to assist where needed in areas such as maintenance, providing equipment and teaching aids, and ultimately to provide assistance to teachers in order to provide better grassroots education to young Batswana children.

