

HELICOPTER EXPERIENCES with Helicopter Horizons



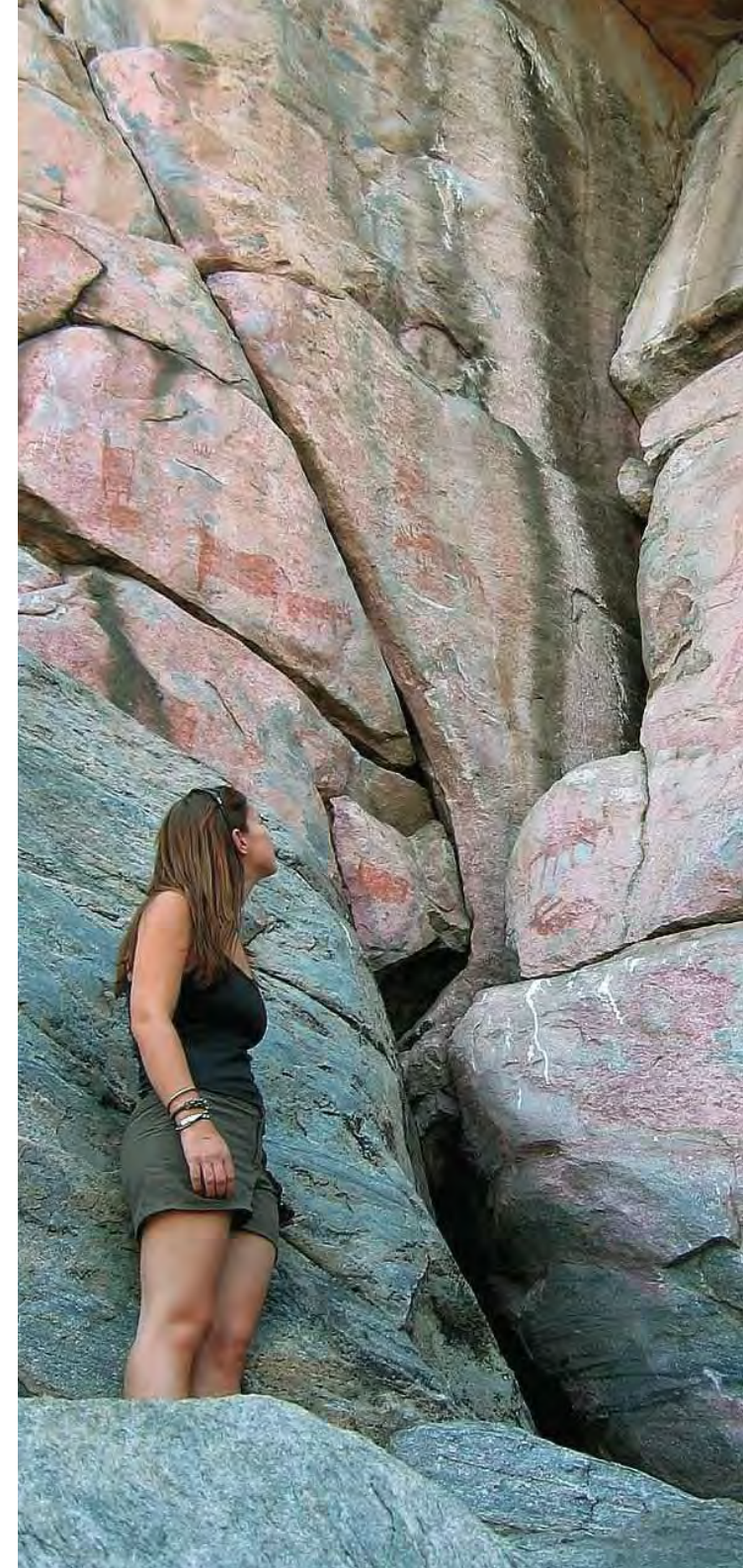


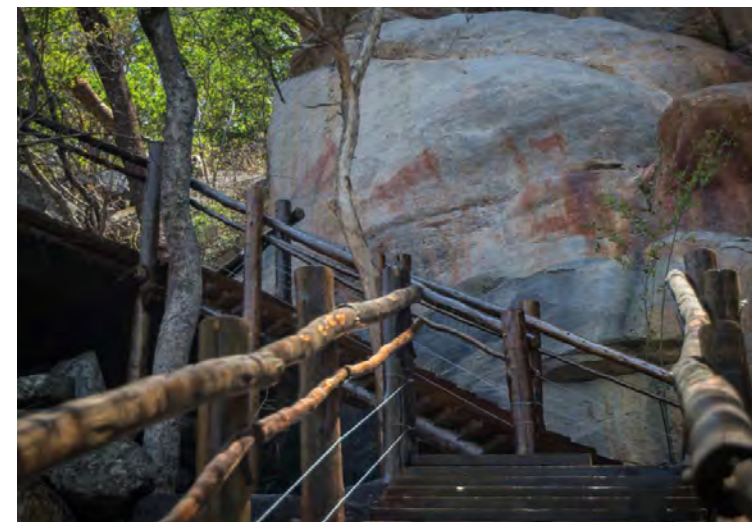
TSODILO HILLS EXPERIENCE

Four rocky hills, including Botswana's highest point, jut strikingly out of the surrounding Kalahari Desert plains to form Tsodilo, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the remote north-west of the country; a definite must-see for those seeking more than wildlife from their time in Botswana. Over 4 500 rock paintings, some dating back an estimated 26 000 years, adorn the marshmallow-coloured quartzite rocks. The hills are sacred to the San who utilised the caves and spring here until the late 20th century, while there is evidence of human activity here dating back some 100 000 years.

Arriving by helicopter saves a lengthy drive from Maun, allowing Tsodilo to become a fantastic half-day trip, giving guests time to fully appreciate the significance of the hills from the air, and enjoy the game viewing on the flights to and from the Delta or Linyanti.

Guests are accompanied by an unassuming and ever-smiling San guide who will explain the fascinating artwork, presenting a side to Botswana few tourists get to experience. The hike can be demanding, but the hills have an allure that is difficult to describe; perhaps they possess a draw that appeals to something within us all.







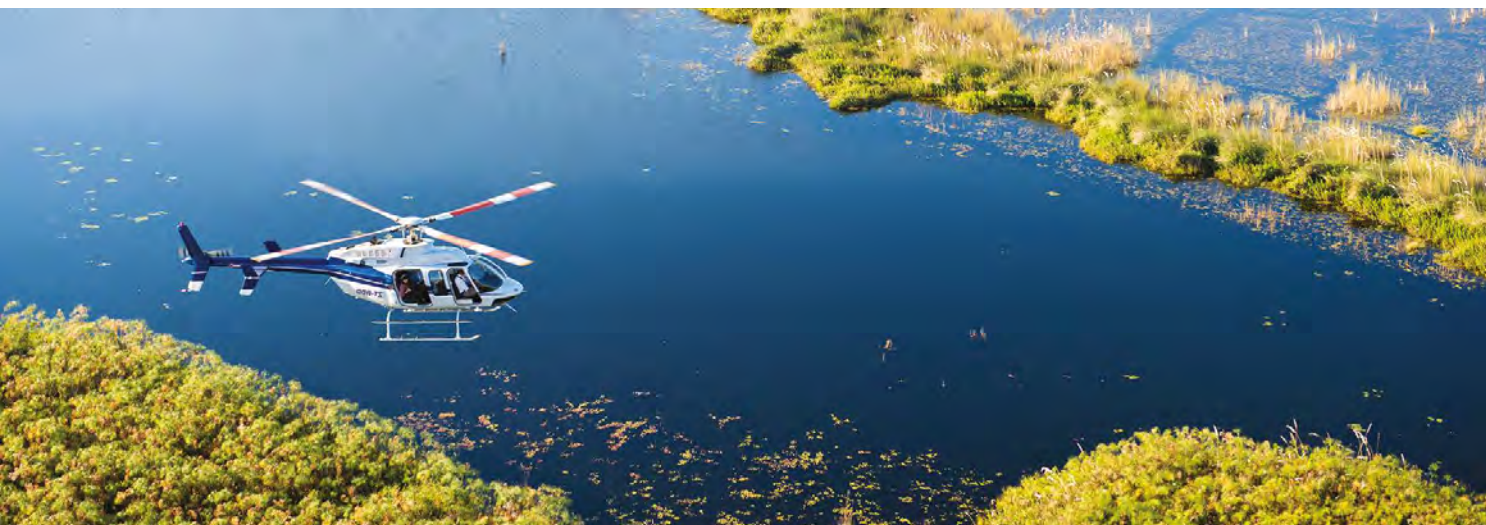
LIFE WITH ELEPHANTS EXPERIENCE

Lifting from camp we journey through the Delta where guests are exposed to permanent waterways, lagoons and game sightings over sweeping views of the Okavango Floodplains for a scenic transfer en-route to Eretsha Village, located in the beautiful Panhandle Area of the Delta.

- On arrival guests are met by their knowledgeable Ecoexist Guide who will introduce the itinerary for the next few hours.
- We begin by discussing with the village elders, the day to day challenges of living amongst elephants, including safety and procedures to protect village crops. There are some incredibly innovative and interesting processes that guests will get to experience and also participate in.
- After traditional singing and dancing guests will then be taken on a walk to experience all aspects of village life, including visiting the local school, housing, transportation by donkey drawn cart, access to water, local arts & crafts and a visit with the local blacksmith. This unique excursion offers a rare insight into remote village life in Botswana.
- After the village tour is complete our pilots will fly over the crops and elephant corridors so that guests have a greater understanding from the air, before returning to camp with more opportunity for game sightings en-route.

The Ecoexist Project seeks to reduce conflict and foster coexistence between elephants and people, empowering farmers with practical, affordable, and effective tools to deter crop-raiding. The mission is to support the lives and livelihoods of people who share space with elephants. By booking this excursion Ecoexist are able to carry on supporting such an important issue for both villagers & elephants in Botswana. Helicopter Horizons is delighted to be able to help with such an important project.







ELEPHANT HAVENS EXPERIENCE

Elephant Havens is a non-profit organization working on the ground in Botswana to protect and preserve the African elephant. The orphanage rescues and hand-rears orphaned and abandoned baby elephants, with the goal of eventually releasing them back into the wild alongside other elephants. The organisation over and above works with communities to reduce conflict between villagers and elephants. Through education Elephant Havens hopes to instill an understanding of the importance of conservation and habitat protection in future generations.

Helicopter Horizons aim is to support Elephant Havens in a sustainable, non-evasive and ethical manner. As aerial specialists in the tourism industry, our goal is to offer clients the leisure they would expect from their safari experience but to also help support the environmental initiative to protect local species through conservation efforts. Helping remote sanctuaries and animal rehabilitation centres, by using tourism as a platform to educate travellers on the importance of putting every animal's protection first.

Our operations encompass the idea of nurturing an intimate relationship between travellers and wildlife in a way that every animal is respected.

In an ideal world there would be no animals in captivity, Helicopter Horizons is delighted to be supporting a genuine conservation organisation that's main goal is rehabilitation and the total interest of animal welfare.

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. Guests are more than welcome to donate further in person.







TRADITIONAL VILLAGE EXPERIENCE

Helicopter Horizons make some of the most remote villages in the Okavango Delta accessible to those looking for a cultural side to complement its amazing wildlife, providing an unforgettable insight into a way of life that has changed very little for many generations.

The excursion, which lasts approximately 2 hours, begins with guests being picked up from their camp for a scenic flight to the village to which we have been invited. This journey and the return flight provide amazing photographic opportunities of the landscape and wildlife en route.

The tour is led by a local guide who explains aspects of village life such as architecture, religious beliefs, hunting and fishing, and there is also the opportunity to meet local craftspeople.







MOKORO EXPERIENCE

A mokoro is a traditional dugout canoe, unique to Botswana, which is propelled through the shallow waters of the Delta by standing in the stern and pushing with an Ngashe (pole).

This excursion includes return helicopter transfers to the Mokoro Station where experienced guides from the Boro Community will share stories, folk-tales and first-hand knowledge of the area's wildlife as they pole along the unspoiled waterways.

A visit to Botswana is not complete without experiencing this unique way to safari through the reeds and channels of the Okavango Delta only accessible by Mokoro.







MOKORO & BOAT EXPERIENCE

Mopiri island is surrounded by crystal clear Delta water on all sides and has permanent water all year around.

This excursion includes return helicopter transfers to Mopiri Island where experienced guides from camp will share stories, folk tales and first-hand knowledge of the area's wildlife as they cruise along the unspoiled waterways both by motorboat and Mokoro. This excursion also breaks for lunch on a Palm Island in the middle of the Delta.

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FLOODPLAINS TO PANHANDLE

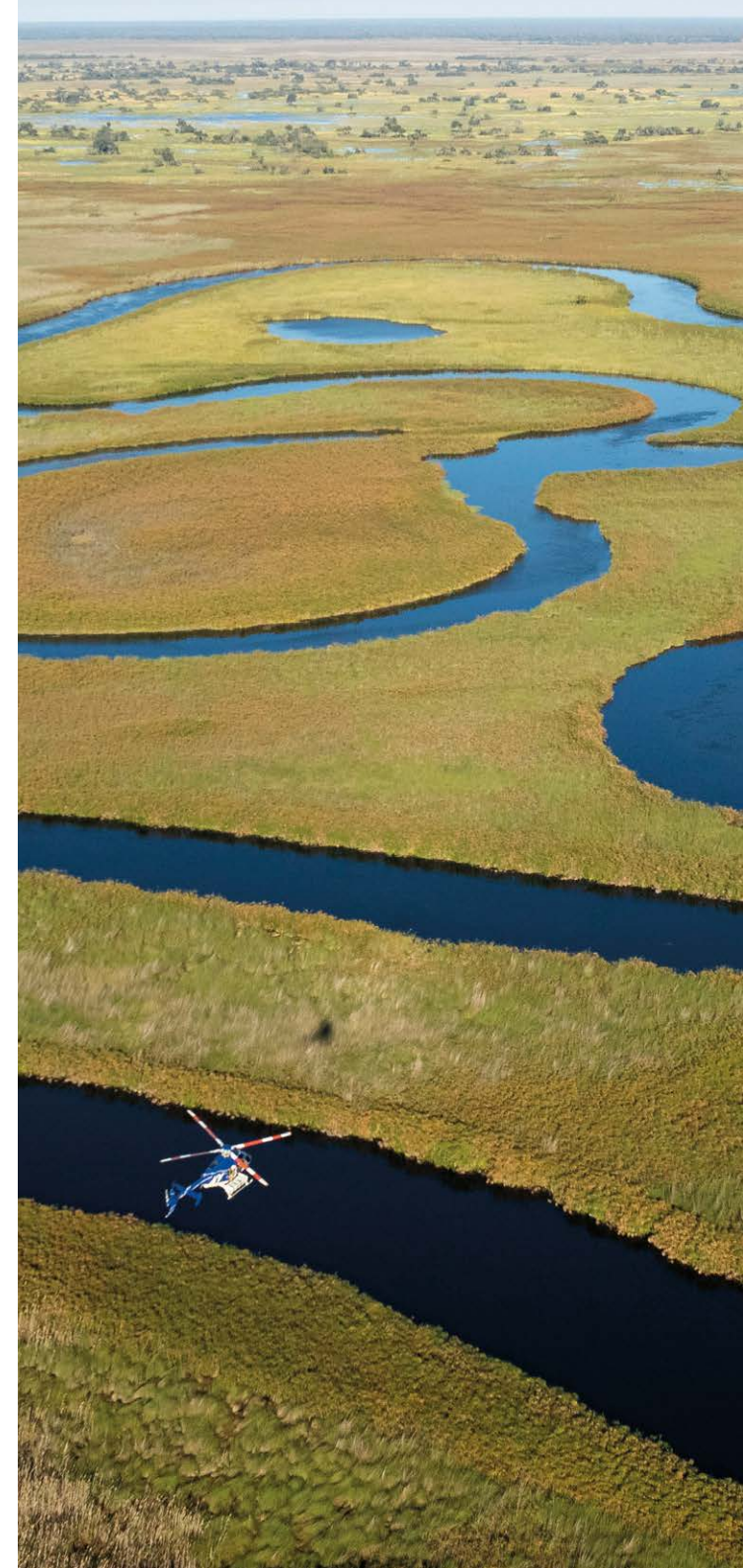
Adventurers, wildlife enthusiasts, photographers and film-makers have come to the Delta to experience the true wonder of this oasis for generations. But very few get to appreciate this World Heritage Site in all of its inundated glory: vast open floodplains with a galaxy of termite mounds, island hideaways, and channels sliced through by mighty meandering rivers exploding with life.

This helicopter scenic flight is unbeatable for its scale of possibilities allowing guests to experience one of the world's greatest natural phenomena - from seasonal floodplains to permanent waterways, viewing the total extent of this incredible inland delta before it disperses over the Kalahari Desert. The objective of your private scenic is to find as many thrilling animals as this ancient landscape allows across its sweeping vistas of the full Okavango Delta, responsible for sustaining life in this part of Africa.

Heading north from camp towards Namibia and Angola, where the water originates, you are taken on a journey over every type of wilderness the Delta has to offer: lush savannah, towering palm tree-filled islands surrounded by meandering hippo, and crocodile-infested channels lined by sandy white banks, until you reach rivers transformed into inland seas by herds of navigating elephants, wary of the swimming hunters.

Time is on your side on this flight - enough time, in fact, to feel the waters yourself. During the scenic you can assist in choosing a spot to land on your very own private island, to take in the same views as the marvellous creatures seen from the air. Enjoy a drink and picnic while absorbing the sounds and remoteness, with your pilot on hand to inform you about this unique wilderness. The second half of your flight will follow vast waterways on the other side of Chief's Island, offering the opportunity to explore more unique landscapes and a different selection of wildlife.

This scenic flight is bespoke to suit the interests of those on board. No two flights are the same, offering a once-in-a-lifetime experience for those seeking true adventure.







CHAMPAGNE EXPERIENCE

A champagne stop is possible on any scenic flight, your pilot will find a deserted palm island halfway through the flight. Once on the ground, champagne is popped for the guests to enjoy as they take in the views from the ground along with further information about the delta from the engaging pilot, an unforgettable experience mid-flight.





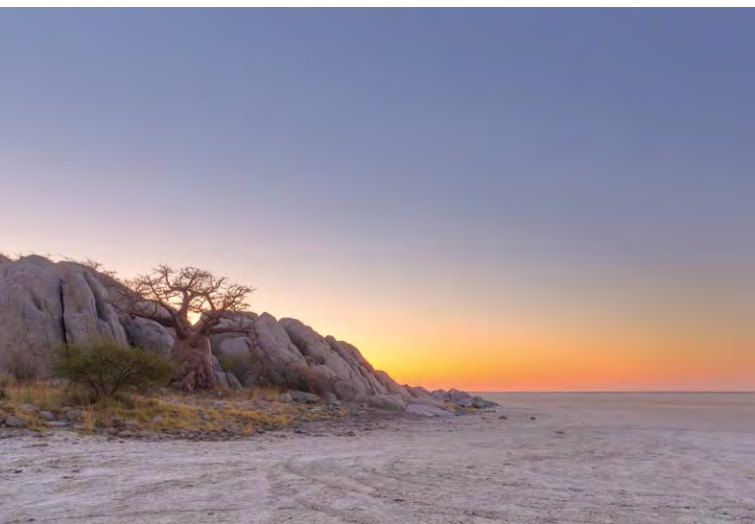
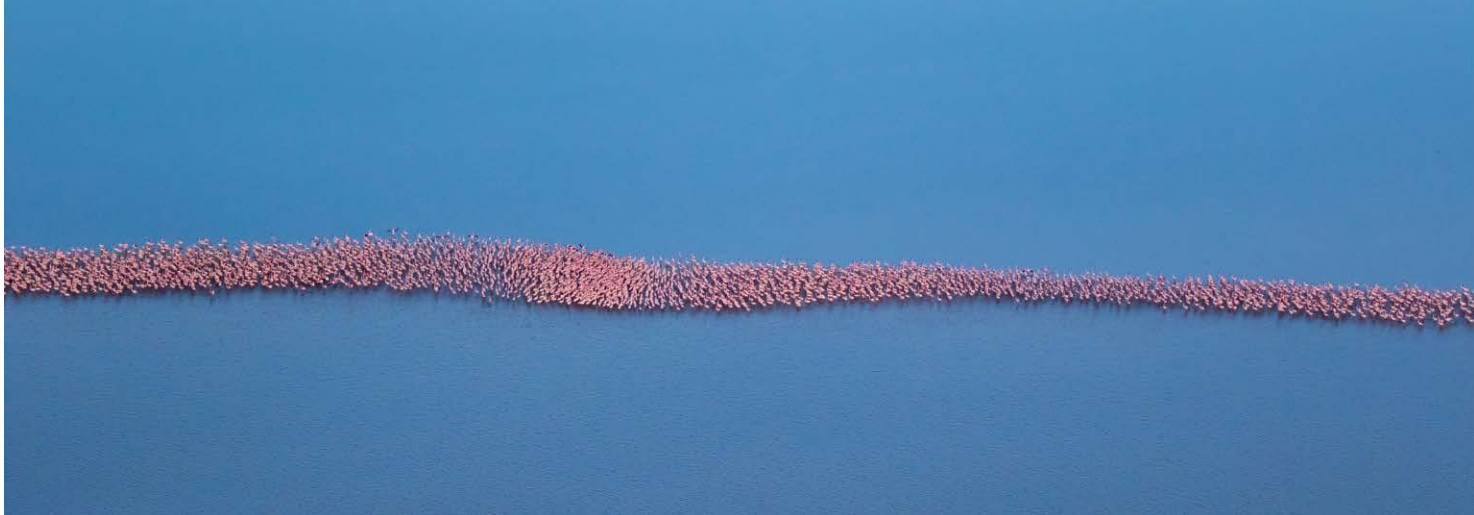


MAKGADIKGADI EXPERIENCE

One of the largest Salt Pans in the world this dramatic landscape offers incredible scenes over the endless horizons. Makgadikgadi is home to the famous Kubu Island which hosts a collection of Baobab Trees formed on a granite island jutting out from this great expanse. From approximately January through to April tens of thousands of Wildebeest and Zebra can be spotted during their annual migration. From March until June a sea of Greater Flamingos can be spotted on the southern edge of the pans.

(Solely available from pans properties)







COMMUNITIES LIVING AMONGST WILDLIFE SUSTAINABLY

CLAWS Conservancy & Helicopter Horizons offer a unique way to experience conservation.

Human wildlife conflict is a daily concern for many living in the remote villages of the Okavango Delta.

Through communal herding this project strives to be financially and environmentally sustainable for local farmers managing conflict with predators and their livestock.

This remote project is accessible by helicopter whilst showcasing some of the most picturesque scenes of the panhandle enroute.

Together we pride ourselves in offering an integrated, sustainable and people driven approach to empowering communities in Northern Botswana.

