



ICONIC IMAGES



PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION & CHECKLISTS FOR PARTICIPANTS

in

ICONIC IMAGES INTERNATIONAL'S

EXCLUSIVE SMALL GROUP PHOTO SAFARI

"OKAVANGO DELTA 2013"

10 - 27 NOVEMBER 2013

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The Okavango Delta is one of the most sought after places in the world for wildlife and nature photographers. It is a shimmering, matchless watery jewel in the midst of inhospitable surroundings. It's flat, wildlife-packed expanses are awash with African colours and vistas. For most photographers wishing to experience one of nature's "untouched" jewels, this part of Africa is unsurpassed.

This is a photo safari, custom-made for photographers and spouses/partners having interests in wildlife, nature, and breath-taking landscapes and who wish to experience, in one trip, extraordinary, untamed parts of Africa that are difficult to access for many, in their lifetime.

Thank you for choosing *Iconic Images International* and I hope you enjoy yourself as you travel with Jay Collier, Shem Compion and myself to photograph and come to know the special spirit of this precious piece of Africa.

These notes provide helpful information on:

1. Travelling with and looking after photographic equipment in Africa.
2. Downloading and backing-up images every day.
3. Power supply in Botswana and South Africa for charging batteries, laptop, mobile phone, etc
4. Vehicle etiquette and consideration for fellow passengers and photographers.
5. Keeping healthy in Africa.
6. Money Matters in Botswana and South Africa.
7. Immigration and Customs at Johannesburg International Airport, South Africa.
8. Arrangements to meet you on arrival at Johannesburg International Airport.
9. Travel documents, personal items & clothing checklist
10. Personal medical items checklist.
11. Camera equipment checklist – this is a comprehensive list and you should not be overwhelmed.
12. Summary itinerary.
13. Your Tour Leaders/Assistants
14. Guide to paying gratuities on this photo safari.
15. Denis' choice of lenses and other camera equipment for this photo safari.
16. Special considerations for transfers between lodges on this photo safari; all transfers will be by small plane.

Perusing the information in this document will undoubtedly enrich your photo safari and help you to return with iconic images, and some magnificent memories.

1. Travelling with and looking after photographic equipment in Africa

As you will frequently be walking and carrying your camera gear, pack the minimum amount of equipment necessary to photograph the subjects which interest you. Pack to avoid placing sensitive camera equipment in your airline check-in luggage. I pack so that if my check-in luggage (clothes, tripod, etc.,) for some reason, is delayed or does not arrive, I can still commence photographing, download and store images, and keep all camera batteries fully charged, from the first photo shoot.



The easiest and safest way to transport camera/computer equipment is in soft-sided, well padded, dedicated camera bags whether they are backpack or roll-on types. These come in many shapes and sizes, but I only purchase bags that will fit (without too much squashing) into aircraft overhead lockers. [This is important for the Okavango Delta as we will be using small planes to transfer from lodge to lodge. Also see #16 below].

Packing like this increases my chances greatly of carrying all my essential camera and computer equipment on-board. Depending on who is on duty at the airport check-in counter I may be “put through the gauntlet” if I try to carry too many or large-looking bags on-board. I keep it to a maximum of two bags, unless I am travelling Business Class, where the allowance is a little more generous.

In the event my check-in bag does not arrive, I can always purchase some temporary clothes and a toothbrush! Trying to replace expensive camera gear, or a laptop, at short notice, in a strange place (especially in the more remote parts of the Okavango Delta), is a nightmare and is guaranteed to spoil the start of the photo safari.

You might like to read the article *“Flying & Travelling with Camera Gear”* which outlines the experience I have accumulated over years of travel within Australia and internationally. To download and print a copy, click on: [Flying & Travelling with Camera Gear](#).

Currently, I travel with my camera equipment in a Kiboko 30L backpack and a Think Tank Airport Security Roll-on bag. These two bags are brought onto the plane with me and stored in the overhead locker. My tripod goes in the hold, either in my clothes duffel bag or in its own tripod bag. You do NOT have to travel with the amount of camera equipment shown in the images here. The camera bodies and lenses are included in the photos simply to show the amount of equipment you can fit into specially designed photography backpacks and roll-ons.



Kiboko 30L & typical gear capacity Bag



Canon 800mm Lens in Kiboko 30L



Think Tank Roll-on

When travelling in vehicles I always keep my cameras and lenses on a nearby seat or in a light-weight backpack (sometimes hanging over the back of a seat) but **never on the floor of the vehicle**. Some of the roads we will travel on are bumpy, pot-holed or poorly maintained, so hold onto your equipment whenever the vehicle is moving. [Last year I had a brand new Canon 300mm f/2.8 MkII lens and a Canon 1DMkIV camera bounce from the seat of an open Landrover onto the metal side of the



vehicle and then onto the ground, because I was not holding it. Luckily we were travelling in sand at the time and no harm was done. A quick dust off and I was up and running again. I may not be so lucky next time!].

At the end of each day I clean my camera gear, using a soft bristle brush (e.g. a shaving or artist's brush) and *dry* soft cloth, to remove the inevitable dust that finds its way into the areas around controls buttons, viewfinder, LCD screen and on carrying straps. I do **not** clean with a damp cloth as the African dust, leaves white unsightly "smears" on black coloured equipment.

Having clean gear available each morning means I can start shooting as soon as first light arrives. We will generally be departing the lodges/camps for the early morning shoots, whilst it is *still dark*. This is not the best time to think about cleaning lenses or cameras, or looking for your gear! Pack it before you retire.

2. Downloading, backing up images at the end of each day's shooting, is a MUST.

On safari, one thing is certain. When photographing in Africa, far away from my home base; laptop hard drives fail. Solid-state drives help somewhat in this regard. Murphy's Axe invariably strikes when the laptop hard drive is just about full of the best images and no back-up copies have been made!

To avoid the disappointment of losing even one image whilst on a photo safari, I use the following simple, fool-proof (if followed) 6-step backup strategy. I,

1. Download my images to a laptop at the end of **every** day's shooting.
2. Delete all 'out-of-focus' and all 'less worthy' images; I am ruthless with this first cull; also see #6 below.
3. Back up the retained images to **two** external hard drives on the same day and before I commence dinner.
4. Do not delete images from a memory card or format a card until I have checked there really are two copies of the images I intend to take home, on the two external hard drives, as well as a copy on my laptop hard drive. This gives me three copies of every image I have decided to retain. External hard drives are compact, easy to pack, come in sizes up to 1.5TB and are quite inexpensive to purchase.
5. Don't move or delete any of the retained images from my laptop hard drive until it becomes absolutely necessary.
6. However, a time may come, usually towards the end of a very fruitful photo safari, when the number of images on my laptop starts to affect its operating speed and I am forced to remove some of them. To help avoid getting to this stage it helps if I am quite ruthless in my first cull. I hate removing images from my laptop hard drive, in the field, but if I have to, I am consoled by having the two copies of everything I have decided to retain, on my two external hard drives.

If you use this fast and easy method, you are essentially guaranteed not to lose any of your images. You may also like to read the article, I recently published: [Getting Those Prized Travel Images Home](#). There is some additional information in it.

Some photographers use extra memory cards as their sole form of back up. As long as you don't mix up the cards, do not try to reuse cards with images, and do not format any cards during the entire trip, this method is reasonably fool proof, if you shoot few images. However, in the middle of some exciting action photography or when photographing in low light and your in-camera card shows full, it is easy to mistakenly format a card on which you have forgotten you have stored images. It is extremely difficult, but not impossible, to recover images from a formatted card! It is not uncommon for tour participants on Iconic Images photo safaris, to return home with over 250BG of images – this means you will have to carry lots of cards. *I do not use or recommend this method of back-up.*

Please note the recommendations in steps 1 – 6 above, are how I do things and are only my suggestions. ***You are free to choose your own method, but BACK UP you must, every evening.***

3. Power supply in Botswana and South Africa and charging batteries, laptop, mobile phone, etc

Recharging of camera batteries becomes an unavoidable part of daily life on all Iconic Images photo safaris in Africa and elsewhere. If the accommodation we use has 240 volt power in our rooms/tents, life is easy and you can recharge batteries overnight or whilst enjoying dinner. Where power is unavailable in the room/tent you will experience one of the “delights of Africa” – the *ubiquitous central charging station*. Here is where everybody's batteries, laptops, notebooks, mobile phones, iPads, electric shavers, and anything else that requires a recharge, become bedfellows!

Your first sight of this jumble of cables, power boards, battery chargers of all makes and types, and more batteries, iPads, iPhones, and laptops than you can imagine - all seeking new life, will take your breath away! The image below shows one of these notorious charging stations, at an up-market lodge in the Okavango Delta. Be warned!



A Typical Central Charging Station!



Battery Clearly Marked



Charger Clearly Marked

Most of these central charging stations are located in poorly lit locations and it is easy to make a mistake, when retrieving gear. Items are sometimes inadvertently taken by others (hopefully in your group) and you may not know who this is until you make enquires early the next morning. This just happens!



To help minimise the possibility of your equipment being mistakenly taken by another person on the photo safari please ensure, before you depart from home, you mark, with an indelible, brightly coloured marker or other reliable method, each piece of your equipment.

See above how I labelled a camera battery and charger that I know I will likely be leaving at such a central charging station. Larger labels with your name clearly visible help others avoid picking up the wrong item.

I always travel with an international plug adaptor that fits into the wall outlet in the country I am visiting together an Australian surge-protected power board with six outlets. This allows me to simultaneously charge camera batteries, laptop, mobile phone, iPad and the like. Your power board will of course suit the plugs on your own equipment.

The power supply in both Botswana and South Africa is 230 Volts/50Hz.

The type of electrical plug used in Botswana, is the same as that used in South Africa and is known internationally as Type M. Fig 1 shows the plug type. Fig 2 shows the kind of power adaptor you will need to pack and Fig 3 shows the 6-outlet power board I take with me (with Australian sockets).



Fig 1: Plug Type M



Fig. 2 Type M Adaptor



Fig. 3 6-Outlet Power Board

4. Vehicle etiquette and consideration for fellow passengers and photographers.

To ensure no one is perceived to have any advantage whilst photographing on game drives, all participants will be required to rotate seats in the vehicles (unless we have been informed otherwise). I regret that anyone failing to advise us, beforehand, of any limitations to rotation of seats, will be required to participate in the rotation.

A respectful adherence to the additional requirements outlined below, will ensure you and your companions in the vehicle will enjoy participating in this photo safari.

1. Please keep noise levels low at animal sightings. This allows people to enjoy some wonderful scenes of 'nature at play' and listen to sounds that the animals may be making. Often these sounds will alert you to some behaviour and allow you to anticipate any action that may occur.



2. If you are seated in the front of the vehicle, please have consideration for the people behind you. At the start of each photo shoot we will work out how you will be photographing and working around each other. This approach provides a helpful environment and allows everyone to photograph happily in the vehicle. We will speak further about this when we meet at the commencement of the photo safari.
3. When photographing, keep movement to a minimum. If you are going to shift places, then alert others in the vehicle of your intention and then move as swiftly, smoothly and directly as possible.
4. Please do not do anything to effect the behaviour of the animals.
5. Your driver/guide has to adhere to certain park/reserve requirements and etiquette at sightings that you may not be fully aware of. The driver/guide's behaviour is frequently monitored by park rangers and a breach of protocol (forced by a tour participant) can result in the loss of the driver/guide's licence and livelihood. This may mean, on the odd occasion, you cannot stop exactly where you would like. Please bear this in mind at sightings, especially when there are vehicles from other camps around.
6. We have some of the best driver/guides who have worked with and understand the specific needs of photographers. They play a very important part in getting you to the best locations and their ability to find and anticipate animal behaviour will amaze you. Please treat them as you would your good friends and with respect. You will be rewarded many times over.

5. Keeping healthy in Africa

I am not medically qualified and thus refrain from giving specific medical advice or recommendations. The following comments are based on my accumulated experience from many years of international travel, especially in third world countries.

The illness that affects most western people visiting Africa (or Asia) is what I call 'traveller's diarrhea' and is usually caused by bacteria or parasites entering the body via contaminated food or water. In the majority of cases the diarrhea will disappear within a few days, but if I get it, it is guaranteed to spoil my photo safari. There are no 'public toilets' when on game drives in Africa!

Should the dreaded diarrhea visit me, I do the following:

1. *Drink plenty of fluids* - diarrhea carries a risk of dehydration, particularly if it includes vomiting. I ensure I drink plenty of fluids, especially those containing electrolytes such as fruit juices and sports drinks. I avoid alcohol until I am feeling better, perhaps with the exception of a small "G & T", (for the quinine, of course).
2. *Eat as soon as I feel up to it* - mainly foods such as pasta, bread, rice or potatoes, i.e. foods high in carbohydrates and I avoid foods that are high in fat.
3. *Medications* - 'over-the-counter' medicines such as Loperamide, Imodium, Buscopan, Lomotil or Valoid sometimes help to slow down bowel movements.

Please check with your own doctor before you leave for Africa.

As the temperatures during the day are high (circa 30°C) in both Botswana & South Africa, it is important to remain hydrated at all times.



When in Africa, ***I drink only bottled water.*** I also use only bottled water when brushing my teeth. I avoid salads where I think the ingredients may have been washed with local untreated water. This will not be the case in the lodges/camps we have selected.

Although yellow fever is not a disease risk in Botswana or South Africa, officials at the entry point to Botswana sometimes require travelers arriving from or transiting through countries with risk of yellow fever virus transmission, to present proof of yellow fever vaccination. As a precaution, I carry a yellow fever vaccination certificate when visiting Africa. On occasions it is requested by immigration officials upon arrival back in Australia. Please check with the requirements in your home country.

Malaria exists in Botswana and in certain parts of South Africa. There are many types of anti-malaria medicines available and it is recommended you consult your own doctor, or health clinic specialising in travel medicine, as to which brand you should take, if you do decide to do so.

On this photo safari, I will be taking prophylaxis against malaria. I will also take measures to avoid mosquito bites, including use of insect repellent, and wearing long, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing.

If you are on specific medication ensure you *carry it in your hand luggage*. Certain drugs/prescriptions will not be available in the remote areas we will be visiting.

For details on the need for vaccines recommended for Botswana and South Africa, please consult your own doctor, or visit a specialist travel doctor in your home country.

6. Money Matters in Botswana and South Africa

The currency in Botswana is the Botswana Pula (BWP). Exchange rates are AUD\$1 = 8.5 BWP and US\$1 = 8.1 BWP approximately. Check the latest rates before you leave home.

The currency in South Africa is the South African Rand (ZAR). Exchange rates are AUD\$1 = 9.4 ZAR and US\$1 = 9.0 ZAR approximately. Check the latest rates before you leave home.

Both US\$ and South African Rands are readily acceptable throughout both countries.

As you are on a prepaid photo safari it is not necessary to exchange money immediately upon arrival at Johannesburg International Airport. I suggest waiting until you arrive in Waterkloof Guesthouse and we will provide details of the nearest ATMs and banks.

It is a very good idea to bring only newer-dated foreign currency that has no rips, marks, folds, ink marks or holes; notes printed pre-2000 are frequently refused in Africa. I have witnessed this occurring many times and you will never win the debate!

Credit cards and traveller's checks are accepted in most major establishments. You will be able to use your credit cards at the lodges/camps should you wish to purchase gifts, items of clothing, etc.



Store your credit cards on person and *do not let them out of your sight at any time*. ON EVERY OCCASION, INSIST THAT YOU PERSONALLY SWIPE YOUR CREDIT CARD WHEN MAKING A PURCHASE. This is common practice in Africa and such a request will not offend.

Inform your bank of the countries you will be visiting; cancelled cards on an overseas trip are a nuisance.

7. Immigration and Customs on arrival at Johannesburg International Airport

Before your plane arrives in Johannesburg, you may receive a Passenger Declaration Form, which must be completed and presented to immigration officials at the airport.

If you are asked for an address where you will be staying in South Africa, you may use the address of the guesthouse we have reserved in Pretoria, namely, **Waterkloof Guest House, 445 Albert Street, Waterkloof 0181, Pretoria, South Africa. Tel: +27 (0)12 460-2014 or +27 (0)72 773-4162.**

Cameras, video cameras, laptops, mobile phones, etc., can be brought into the country for your personal use. I have never declared my camera equipment when entering South Africa. The customs officials appear to be used to passengers arriving with large lenses and lots of cameras!

8. Arrangements to meet you on arrival at Johannesburg International Airport

The following arrangements have been made for your arrival at Johannesburg International Airport.

All participants will be met on arrival at the airport.

Following immigration/customs and collection of your luggage, as you exit into the public area of the airport keep an eye out for a person holding a placard with your name on it. This person will transport you to the Waterkloof Guest House, close to the centre of Pretoria. Depending on traffic, the journey to the guesthouse will take 30-35 minutes.

Please ensure you provide complete written details of your flights from and to your home country to Mrs Khush Suntok, Flightworld, 200 St. George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia 6000.

Khush can be contacted by email: khush@flightworld.com.au or by phone +61 8 9322 2914.

This is particularly important if you have not used Flightworld to book your international flights and/or you have arranged to arrive in South Africa a day or so early. Khush will be liaising with our on-ground operators in South Africa to ensure they are provided with details of your arrival flight.

Provision of these details by each participant is essential to ensure you will be met upon arrival.

If you fail to provide these details we CANNOT guarantee you will be met at Johannesburg International Airport on your arrival!



9. Travel Documents, Personal Items & Clothing Checklists

I have compiled the check list below and it is a “work-in-progress”. I find it helpful as I prepare for each overseas trip. Experienced travellers who have their own checklist(s) should continue to use those and perhaps take whatever is thought helpful from my “work-in-progress” list. I am always open to suggestions on how to improve this list and this document.

Important Note: *You are not expected to carry a similar amount of camera equipment as I have listed here and there is no need to go out and buy any special camera equipment for this photographic tour.*

9.1 Travel Documents

1. Passport – make a copy of the ID pages and carry separate to the passport. You will be asked to show your passport at airports and hotels in Botswana and South Africa.
2. Visa – Australian, US & German passport holders do NOT require a visa for entry to Botswana or South Africa. For helpful information on whether you need a visa for Botswana or South Africa, please click on these links:
 - [Visa Requirements for Botswana](#)
 - [Visa Requirements for South Africa](#)
3. ID Documents – e.g. driver’s licence or similar.
4. Flight ticket/s and any vouchers arranged for private pre or post photo safari extensions.
5. Itinerary – leave a copy with a friend/relative at home.
6. Travel Insurance Documentation – ensure you have readily available the relevant emergency contact telephone numbers and email and physical addresses of both the insurance company and next of kin nominated in your application for insurance cover.
7. Vaccination Certificates – as needed.

9.2 Personal Items and Clothing

1. Hat – wide brimmed.
2. Sunscreen, lip balm, moisturizer, sun block.
3. Sunglasses – plus spare pair.
4. Cotton shirts, long sleeved – laundry facilities available in all lodges/camps and inexpensive.
5. Cotton shirts, short sleeved.
6. Cotton long pants.
7. Cotton shorts.
8. Warm top/s and jumpers – for early morning and late evening shoots.
9. Wind breaker/lightweight rain jacket; we may get a shower or two.
10. Thin gloves – if you have previously found you require them when photographing in colder weather.
11. A light poncho-style plastic rain cover. Warm ponchos will be supplied by the lodges/camps as needed.
12. Walking or hiking shoes.
13. A ‘Beanie’ – can be cold on early morning shoots or on star shoots.
14. Toiletries.
15. Small alarm clock - if your mobile phone does not have an alarm.
16. Noise cancelling headphones - for use on long haul flights.



17. Journal & pens (or iPad).
18. Mobile phone – coverage is excellent throughout most of South Africa. This is not the case in Mashatu Main Camp, where reception is “patchy”. If you intend to use mobile phone overseas it must be set to “International Roaming” before leaving your home country. However be aware, data usage costs overseas are horrendously expensive. *As a general rule I turn off “International Data Roaming” on my iPhone, before I leave Australia.*

10. Personal Medical Items Checklist

1. Copy of medical prescriptions.
2. Sufficient quantity of personal medicines to last the entire trip.
3. Spare pair of prescription/reading glasses (if normally used).
4. Details of any allergies to any medication.
5. Anti diarrhea tablets.
6. Aspirin/Paracetamol.
7. Antihistamine – for insect bites.
8. Multipurpose antiseptic.
9. Painkillers.
10. Insect repellent – preferably not containing DEET (will damage camera bodies).
11. Malaria prophylactics.

11. Camera Equipment Checklist – do not be overwhelmed; it is just my checklist.

1. Camera bodies – I always take two and frequently three.
2. Camera manuals – also place electronic copies on your laptop.
3. Spare batteries for cameras.
4. Battery charger(s) and power leads for same, including some spare power leads.
5. Power adaptor. See #3 above for details of type.
6. Australian/home country power board with at least 4 outlets.
7. Memory cards – I use 32GB size and carry at least 4 cards, which I format at the end of each day.
8. Wallet for holding memory cards; handy but not essential.
9. Lens cleaning cloth/s – take along plenty.
10. Lenses – wide angle and telephoto; see Sec. 15 below re possible choice of lenses for photography in Namibia.
11. Wimberley Head – for very large (>400mm) telephoto lenses.
12. Filters - polariser and neutral density filter for all lenses.
13. Graduated ND filters and holder.
14. Tele-converter(s).
15. Spare camera body and lens caps – to replace those lost on tour.
16. Flash – if you generally use it, but it is not essential for wildlife photography.
17. Spare batteries for flash.
18. Cable or electronic remote shutter release.
19. Large blower brush – the extent of the dust will surprise you.
20. Sensor cleaning set & fluid – you will get dust on the sensor, if you change lenses in vehicles or open spaces!
21. Laptop & power cables – lightest laptop possible.



22. Rechargeable batteries and charger – if you normally use these.
23. External hard drives – I travel with three, the smallest of which is 750 GB.
24. Power/transfer cables for external hard drives.
25. Monopod – can be useful and easy to pack with clothes.
26. Tripod – essential for landscape photography and necessary for low light/star photography.
27. Tripod head and quick release plate.
28. Beanbag – I always travel with my own. We will arrange to get beans or rice in South Africa.
29. Camera vest – with greatest number of large pockets.
30. Soft sided duffle bag with wheels – for all the non-camera stuff that goes into the aircraft hold.
31. Camera bag – a light backpack is good for using on short walks and/or in vehicles.
32. Plastic zip lock bags – useful for protecting spare memory cards or lens caps.
33. Cable ties – useful for locking backpacks that you might wish to leave alone.
34. Binoculars, especially for non-photographing spouses/partners.
35. Torch (& spare batteries) and LED headlamp, preferably with a red light incorporated in it.
36. A few strips of old bicycle tube cut approx. 25mm wide and 500mm long – not essential, but handy for tying/securing a monopod if you decide to rest it in the outside step of the vehicle for shooting wildlife or shooting video when driving between locations.
37. Jeweller's screwdrivers – *always packed in check-in luggage.*
38. Swiss army knife – *always packed in check-in luggage.*
39. Leatherman multitool with pliers – *always packed in check-in luggage*

12. Summary Itinerary for Photo Safari

DATE	TRANSFER	ACCOMMODATION
10 Nov	Arrive Johannesburg – start of photo safari	Waterkloof Guest House
11-16 Nov	Transfer to Kwara Lodge	Kwara Lodge – 5 nights
16-23 Nov	Transfer to Stanley's Camp	Stanley's Camp – 5 nights
19-23 Nov	Transfer to Lagoon Camp	Lagoon Camp – 4 nights
23-27 Nov	Transfer to Lebala Camp	Lebala Camp – 4 nights
27 Nov	Transfer to J'burg international Airport	N/A

You can visit the website of each of the lodges/camps we are using on the photo safari by clicking on the individual links in the table above. I encourage you to visit the websites, lingering on each one and appreciate the standard of accommodation and special locations we have selected for you on this photo safari.

The map of the Okavango Delta gives you an idea of where each camp is located within the Delta.

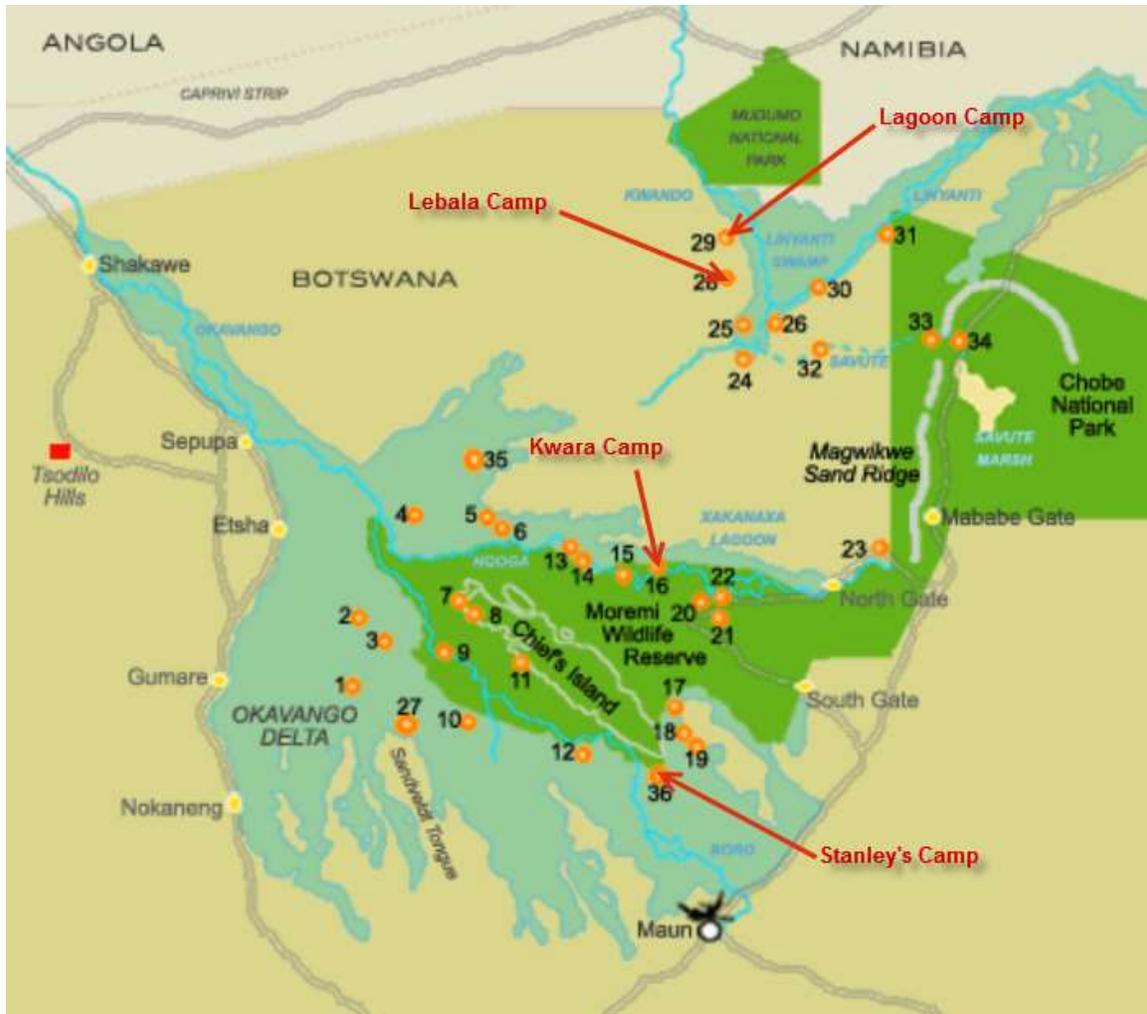


Fig. 4 Map of Okavango Delta Showing the Four Lodges Reserved For This Photo Safari

13. Tour Leaders

You will be assisted throughout the tour by Jay Collier, Shem Compion and Denis Glennon AO.

13.1 Jay Collier

Jay Collier: Jay has been photographing African wildlife professionally since 2004. Having travelled to destinations including Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana and South Africa, Jay has built a strong portfolio of images as well as a deep knowledge of the diverse species and behaviours of Africa's wildlife.



Working in the professional photographic industry for over eleven years, Jay currently works for Canon Australia running Canon Professional Services (CPS) and is responsible for supporting many of Australia's leading professional photographers.

His technical understanding of photographic theory and the technologies, features and functions of today's cameras and lenses is second to none. This expertise has been accumulated from working with both Canon and Nikon, in the professional photographic divisions of both companies.

Participants will be able to avail of it during the safari.

Jay is also employed by Taronga Zoo, Sydney, and has developed and runs short courses in photography for Taronga Training Institute.

His images and articles have been published in magazines, including *Africa Geographic* and *Better Photography*, and in commercial advertising campaigns in Australia. In 2007, several of Jay's images made it through to the semi-final stage of judging with the BBC World Wildlife Photo competition.

13.2 Shem Compion

Shem Compion is the founder and owner of *C4 Images and Safaris*. He uses his knowledge of travel in Africa, its wildlife and the best photographic locations to help you experience the best photographic safari experience possible.

Shem grew up roaming the wilds and this interest in nature led to him studying a National Diploma in Nature Conservation and Wildlife Management. With over 20 years of bush experience it was quite logical he was going to end up working in the natural world.

A self-taught wildlife photographer, Shem quickly established himself as one of the best wildlife photographers in South Africa. His work is regularly published worldwide in magazines, calendars and books. In 2010, he supplied all 72 images to the extremely popular *Africa Geographic* calendar. It sold out within 4 months - the first time ever.

He published his first book "A Landscape of Insects" in 2009 and his second book, "Insider's Guide" was released in December 2010. He has since publishing two further editions of "Insider's Guide" to both Namibia and Botswana. Shem is a regular speaker at photo events and has presented photo workshops for organisations such as National Geographic and has been a keynote speaker at international photographic conventions. He is releasing his latest book "The Truth about Trees" in April 2013.

13.3 Denis Glennon AO

Denis is the owner of Iconic Images International and one of the 70+ million Irish diaspora scattered around the planet. Married to Una for 45 years, together they have travelled the globe since leaving Ireland in the late sixties to reside and work in Africa. A seven year stint in Zambia ignited a passion for Africa's wildlife, landscapes and cultures that has stayed with him ever since.

He has made Western Australia his new home place. His greatest pleasure now is introducing others to the magic of Africa, particularly through the lens of a camera. Photographing in Africa is unpredictable. Perhaps that's why he enjoys it so much.

His message to newcomers on Iconic Images' photo safaris is to find their own rhythm and come to know Africa's beat, because how they show curiosity and patience, kindness and respect, to Africa's wildlife and people, needs to be authentic. On safari, above all, he constantly tells participants to look



for a moment, as in the best images of animals or people it is the moment itself that reveals the soul of the piece of Africa they are photographing.

He believes the sincerity of our interaction with Africa's subjects can nurture these moments or it can inhibit them and prevent them from happening, especially when photographing people. When pushed for an answer on how best to do this, he simply says *"There is no technique, just concentrate on honing the ability to connect with the beauty of what Africa is telling you and you will be rewarded with many iconic photographs"*.

He firmly believes the Iconic Images team he has assembled is as good as you will find on any photo safari. All are passionate and respected photographers. All are generous with their knowledge. It is a sheer pleasure travelling and working with them.

For a further insight to Denis' values on photography you might like to visit: [About](#) and view the videos at [Balm for Soul](#) and [Iconic Namibia](#).

14. Guide to paying gratuities in Botswana and South Africa

Payments of tips/gratuities are not required on this tour as an amount has been included in your photo safari cost and Iconic Images will pay an appropriate amount to all drivers and guides.

However, if you believe you have received extra levels of service from lodge/camp staff you are free to tip them, at the end of your stay at each lodge/camp; there is no obligation to do so.

15. Denis' Choice of Lenses & Camera Equipment for Okavango Delta.

I will pack my camera gear for flying from one location to the next. This discipline forces me to pack my individual pieces of equipment in the spaces allocated to them in my backpack and/or roll-on bag. From the first day we will be moving around pretty much continuously, carrying our own camera gear, everywhere.

I cannot over emphasize the need to ensure secure packing of each piece of camera equipment, after every shoot. This applies particularly to telephoto lens. If one of your cameras or lenses gets damaged on this tour there is absolutely no facility readily available to repair or replace it. The same precaution applies to your laptop.

I emphasise you can capture the beauty of Africa's culture, wildlife, people and surprisingly beautiful landscapes with lesser equipment and Art and I look forward to showing how to do this.

My choice of lenses in particular is dictated by my focus on specific images I hope to capture on this trip. The focus will be on watery landscapes in some of the most magical sunrises/sunsets on earth, the animals of the Delta in hopefully fresh green grass settings, packs of wild dogs preferably playing in water pools for great reflection and action shots, bird photography, especially in The Panhandle and aerial photography over Victoria Falls.

I plan to pack the following equipment.



1. Two camera bodies – 2 x Canon 1DX.
2. A Canon C100 video camera to augment the still photography. In the past I have found it too difficult to keep changing settings on the DSLR when I wish to capture some video footage, hence the dedicated video camera.
3. Three Wide Angle Lenses – Canon 16-35mm, f/2.8, Canon 24-105mm, f/4 and a Zeiss Distagon T 21mm, f/2.8.
4. Telephoto – Canon 70-200mm, f/2.8, Mk II - for landscapes, portraits of people and vehicle work.
5. Telephoto – Canon 300mm, f/2.8, Mk II - for wildlife.
6. 1.4 X Converter, in case I require a longer focal than 300mm; normally I travel with a 800mm lens in Africa but I will not take it along on this trip.
7. If the new Canon 200-400mm f/4, with the built-in 1.4 X converter is available in Sept, I will take it instead of the 300mm lens.
8. Gitzo tripod – for landscapes and a must for the internal low light photography in monasteries.
9. Monopod, especially for use with the video camera.
10. Tripod ball head – will use this all the time on the tripod.
11. Fluid head for use on tripod/monopod with video camera.
12. Polariser filters for all the lenses – I leave the polariser filter on the lens most of the time.
13. Graduated Neutral Density filters – for landscapes.
14. Remote control cable – essential for capturing sharp images especially in weaker light.

If you have any queries on equipment choice I would be happy to give you whatever advice and suggestions I can and I may be contacted at denis@denisglennon.com

15. Transfers Between Lodges in the Delta

As we will be flying between camps/lodges in the Okavango Delta it is very important that you read the following information carefully.

In the Okavango Delta we are likely to be using a "Cessna Caravan" plane solely for our group; hence we confine the number of participants in the photo safari to a maximum of twelve. This

plane can take extra luggage as it has additional cargo space in the hold as well as in a space behind the passenger seats. This is in contrast to the much smaller "Cessna 206" planes that are normally used in the Delta, although on occasions we may fly in Cessnas.

We will not be confined to the usual low weight of 15 kgs per person, inclusive of camera gear as your hand luggage (i.e. your cameras, lenses, etc) can be carried with you onto the plane and are not part of the usual weight consideration/restrictions. If using smaller planes we will purchase extra seats to accommodate your camera gear.

To assist in this regard we **request** that you:

1. Keep your personal effects (in-hold) luggage as close to 15kg per person as possible.



2. DO NOT travel with HARD suitcases, only hold-all/duffle bag for your in-hold personal gear.
3. Pack you camera gear in bags such as those manufactured by Lowepro, Think Tank etc.
4. Ensure you have your long lenses (>300mm) well packed in protective packs designed for such lenses as they may have to go under the seat in front of you.

Note: We need to do our bit to keep the pilots in the Okavango Delta happy and in-hold luggage, especially hard suitcases weighing 25kgs or so tend to upset some of them more than a little. We do not wish to experience any luggage left behind on the air strip!!

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