



FACT SHEET

SAPI EXPLORERS

SAPI CONCESSION

The 118,000-hectare private Sapi Concession was awarded to Great Plains Conservation to manage and look after in 2016. Immediately the concession was converted to operating as a private photographic reserve. A myriad of steps were implemented to minimise the various impacts humans had had on the area prior to this conversion.

This amazing wildlife sanctuary, along with the neighbouring Mana Pools National Park, now comprise over 337,000 hectares of prime protected wilderness estate, with the Sapi Reserve, today being recognised as one of the finest destinations in Africa. Collectively they form part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site as well as a core area of the middle-Zambezi biosphere reserve.

Our Sapi Explorers Camp, located along the Zambezi River, creates a safari experience reminiscent of the old African explorers with a romance of yester-year, whilst ensuring that adventure and discovery are essentially part of the journey.

The camp is perfectly located along the Zambezi River ensuring an excellent base from which to explore the Sapi Reserve, Mana Pools and the Zambezi River. With only 5 Explorers-styled tents, each with en-suite bathroom facilities including a shower and flush toilet, this is the Africa of old.

Enjoy moments where wildlife congregate along the Zambezi River to drink and marvel at the setting of the African sun through the trees. The safari experiences on offer will certainly appeal to any safari guest who is looking to truly enjoy and partake in the excitement of wildlife viewing game drives, boating and canoeing or tracking and exploring the interior of the private reserve, being one of Africa's remote wilderness areas.

Whilst you traverse the diverse terrain of the Sapi Reserve, discover the legendary Mtawatawa pan, encounter some of Africa's largest wildlife species by vehicle or on foot whilst continually learning more about this incredible ecosystem. The opportunity to view Africa's animals and birdlife with the water activities on offer including canoeing or boating is special indeed.

The reserve has a large array of baobab trees, one of which is believed to be the final resting place for an eclectic mix of personal paraphernalia of Chief Chikwenya including bows, arrows, and spears. The tree itself is estimated to be twelve hundred odd years old and has rotted within providing a voluminous hollow inside the bark walls.





SAPI EXPLORERS CAMP

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For guests staying 3 nights or more, the opportunity to visit the Mana Pools National Park is included in the nightly rates. The Sapi Reserve is recognised as a member of the region's designated Ramsar Wetland Status and is therefore of international importance. The Ramsar convention provides for national action and international co-operation regarding the conservation of wetlands and the wise sustainable use of their resources, especially those providing waterfowl habitat.

ACTIVITIES

The focus of your stay is centered around exploration and adventure. As such a large portion of the activities involve wildlife viewing game drives and walking with some canoeing and boating opportunities on the Zambezi River. Your wildlife viewing vehicle is available to conduct safari drives for those who prefer to cover greater distances on land and who do not wish to venture out into the wilds on foot.

We use custom built, open Toyota Landcruisers which are specially designed for our conditions and photography including fold-down windscreens, raised roofs, photographic bars and multi-plug inverters. Each of the Landcruisers are fully stocked with reference books, drinks and snacks. Guests have the opportunity to experience up close encounters with elephant, lion, leopard, hyena, wild dog, buffalo, eland, zebra and other ungulate species. This is prime bird watching country and opportunities abound for guests to spot resident and migrant species especially in the early morning and late afternoons.

Telephone and After-Hours emergency number:	+27 (0) 87 354 6591
Email:	reservations@greatplainsconservation.com
Website:	www.greatplainsconservation.com
Total Number of Bedrooms:	4 double or twin configuration tents, 1 x 2 bedroom family tent & 1 guide tent
Type of Lodge:	Explorers-styled Safari Camp
Lodge Season & Opening:	1 April to 30 November





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GEOGRAPHY

The African Rift is a geological zone where continental plates in Eastern Africa have developed a tectonic plate boundary. The African Plate is in the process of dividing into new tectonic plates, resulting in the Zambezi escarpment. The geology of the Middle Zambezi Valley and by association, the Sapi Reserve, correlates with the Jurassic and Triassic periods in the region of 190 to 200 million years old. Along the boundary of the Sapi Reserve, and within Chewore South, lies a number of dinosaur footprints, and on the south eastern side of the Sapi Reserve are petrified wood forests.

This complex and yet magnificent landscape has special significance for its landscape and wildlife photographic tourism. The Zambezi river itself is wide and meandering, streaked with smaller water channels between the islands and dappled with the shapes of hippo, elephants, crocodiles and other wildlife wading in the shallows. From the Zimbabwean side, the high escarpment mountains of Zambia form a dramatic backdrop to the idyllic river scenery.

Extending for an estimated 50 kilometres from the Zambezi escarpment, through the flat floor of the Zambezi Valley and down to the river itself, the terrain transforms from rocky mountainous outcrops, to thick jesse bush vegetation. Amidst large dry river beds, year-round as well as seasonal natural springs and waterholes are found along with a system of alluvial river terraces which flank the river frontage. This narrow strip of fertile land supports mature indigenous woodlands of winter thorn and apple ring acacia, mahogany, ebony and fig trees. The Jesse scrub and dry deciduous lowland forest, botanically classified as *Xylia torreana* dry forest, are habitats which have been identified as a conservation priority owing to their small areas and high biodiversity.

Renowned for its unique "blue hue" lighting as sunlight filters through the shady glades, large concentrations of wildlife, particularly in the dry season, rest and feed beneath the trees. It is for these reasons that the area has become a photographer's delight. In addition, the middle Zambezi is listed as an important staging post for migratory birds and an estimated 380 bird species have been recorded making this an exceptional option for birding safaris. Specialties include Shelly's sunbird, Shelly's francolin, rock pratincole, African skimmer, racket-tail roller, Arnott's chat, white breasted sunbird, broad-tailed paradise-wyidah, and Pel's fishing owl amongst others.

GP
GREAT PLAINS
EXPLORERS



SAPI EXPLORERS CAMP



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Most large mammals synonymous with an African safari occur in the region. Elephant are numerous and the majority shelter in the jesse during daylight hours and tend to wander down to the river during late afternoons and overnight. The Sapi Reserve is rich in wild ungulates, with the most notable being buffalo, eland, kudu, zebra, waterbuck, impala, duiker, bushbuck and nyala. Specialties and rarely seen species include the Sharpes grysbok and Suni.

All the apex predators are well represented. Lion populations are ever increasing and there is a plethora of Spotted hyena. Painted Dogs (wild dog) are seen on the alluvial jesse bush ecotone. Cheetah are rare but have been periodically recorded to date.

Interestingly, the Large Slit Faced Bat (*Nycteris Grandis*) occurs along the Zambezi and is the only bat in Africa that eats fish and frogs. These bats have excellent eyesight and drop down on their prey from overhanging branches.

ACCESS DIRECTIONS

- Light aircraft transfers from Harare International Airport and Victoria Falls International Airport available;
- Victoria Falls International Airport (2 hours);
- Private Air charters are available;
- Transfer time from a Sapi Reserve airstrip to camp is approximately 45 mins - 1 hours with wildlife viewing opportunities en-route;
- Please note that in order to fly from Sapi to Victoria Falls or Harare and then connect to some same day International departure flights, guests may be required to book a private charter. We can confirm this at the time of enquiry.

TENT DETAILS

BEDROOM

- Large canvas tents with outdoor sitting area;
- Either twin or double bed configuration;
- Canvas is light sand coloured, with netted windows;
- Each bed has a mosquito net;
- Fans in bedrooms, and electrical lights;
- No charging facilities or hairdryers.





ZIMBABWE GREAT PLAINS

SAPI EXPLORERS CAMP

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FAMILY TENT

- 2 Large canvas tents with common outdoor sitting area;
- Either twin or double bed configuration;
- Canvas is light sand coloured, with netted windows;
- Each bed has a mosquito net;
- Fans in bedrooms, and electrical lights;
- No charging facilities or hairdryers.

BATHROOM

- Each tent has en-suite bathroom with a shower, flush loo, and a basin;
- Soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion provided.

CONSTRUCTION

- Canvas.

TEMPERATURE CONTROL

- None.

DINING STYLE

- Group meals.

FOOD & BEVERAGES

- All meals included;
- All drinks and beverages are included, including imported spirits and sparkling wines;
- Excellent three delicious meals a day are provided;
- We are extremely flexible on timings;
- Picnic breakfasts or lunch (or both) are the norm due to wildlife viewing activities;
- All dietary requirements are catered for from regular to vegan to children, prior warning requested.

USUAL BOARD BASIS

- Full board including all meals, scheduled wildlife viewing activities, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages including imported spirits and champagne.

DINING LOCATIONS

- Outdoor and under canvas.

ROOM SERVICE

- No.

EXTRAS

POSSIBILITY OF DISABLED ACCESS

- The camp layout and experiences are not conducive to wheelchair bound guests due to the terrain.

LAUNDRY

- Laundry can be collected and will be returned within 24 hours (weather permitting).

CENTRAL FACILITIES/ COMMON AREAS

- Tented safari main area which includes the lounge and dining area;
- Coffee/tea station;
- Charging facilities in the main area, with USB charging opportunities on the wildlife viewing vehicles.

PRIVATE VEHICLE

- Not available.

PRIVATE GUIDES

- Private guides are encouraged and welcomed.



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CHILDREN

- We look forward to having children stay with us who are 6 years and older;
- Families with children (6-15) will never be accommodated in the same vehicle as other guests;
- Young children must be supervised as the lodge is open;
- Age restrictions on activities may apply, specifically walking, canoeing and boating;
- Kid's program – thoughtfully designed to explore a range of experiences and topics from birding to cooking to art to tracking wildlife;
- There is a dedicated 2-bedroom family tent available at this camp;
- Triples are not possible.

POWER & COMMUNICATIONS SOURCE

- The camp is run by portable solar power;
- The system produces 220V, 24-hour electricity;
- No power supplies in guest tents; other than for electrical lighting;
- Fans in bedrooms;
- No charging facilities or hairdryers.

INTERNET & MOBILE

- No reliable Wi-Fi or mobile signal.

HEALTH & SAFETY

MALARIA & TSETSE FLY

- Medium – Malaria prophylaxis are recommended.

MEDICAL CARE

- Guests must hold comprehensive medical insurance and emergency evacuation insurance;
- Senior staff all have first aid training;
- Nearest decent medical facility is in Harare or Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and then Johannesburg in South Africa.

RISK OF DANGEROUS ANIMALS

- Moderate – high predator density area with potential for lion, leopard, hyena, buffalo and elephant to walk through the camps.

SECURITY MEASURES

- None required;
- There are no human populations nearby and no uninvited guests can access the camps.

FIRE SAFETY

- Fire extinguishers in the main camp areas and every tent.

MONEY MATTERS

SAFES

- Safes are provided in the guest tents.

ACCEPTED PAYMENT ON LOCATION

- All-inclusive;
- Staff gratuities can be paid in US Dollars (2004 bills or later only) Euro or GB Pounds;
- Visa and MasterCard credit cards are not accepted.

THE TEAM

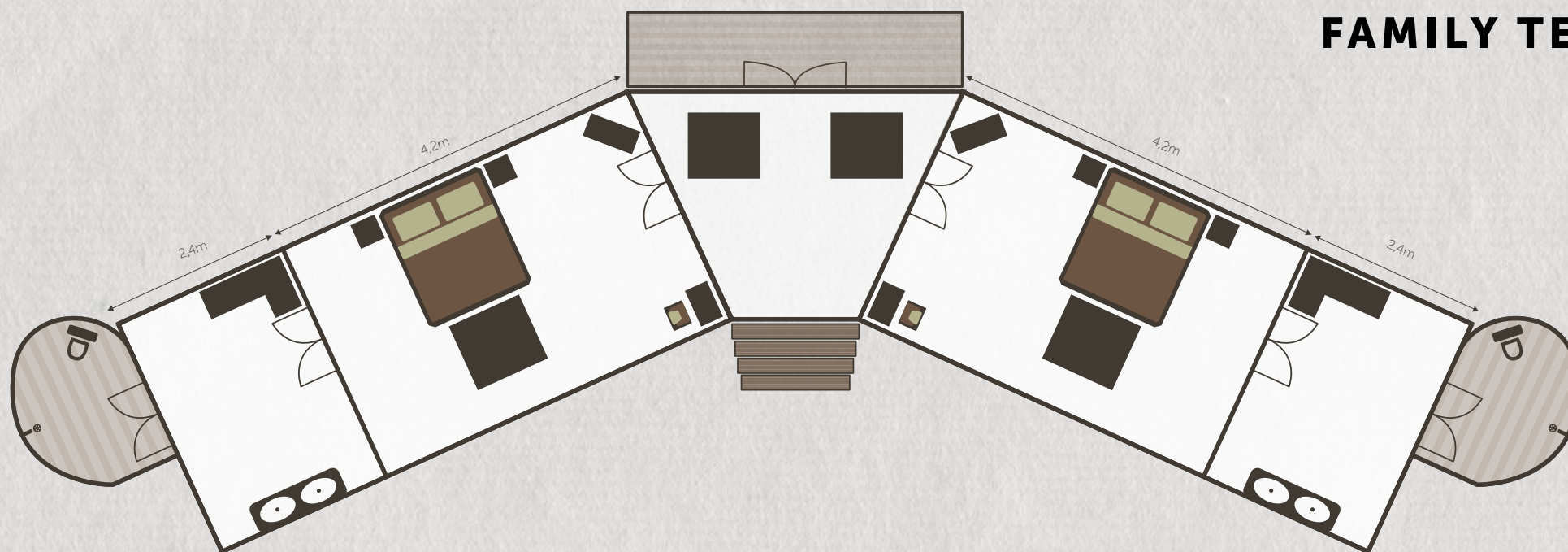
LODGE OWNERS

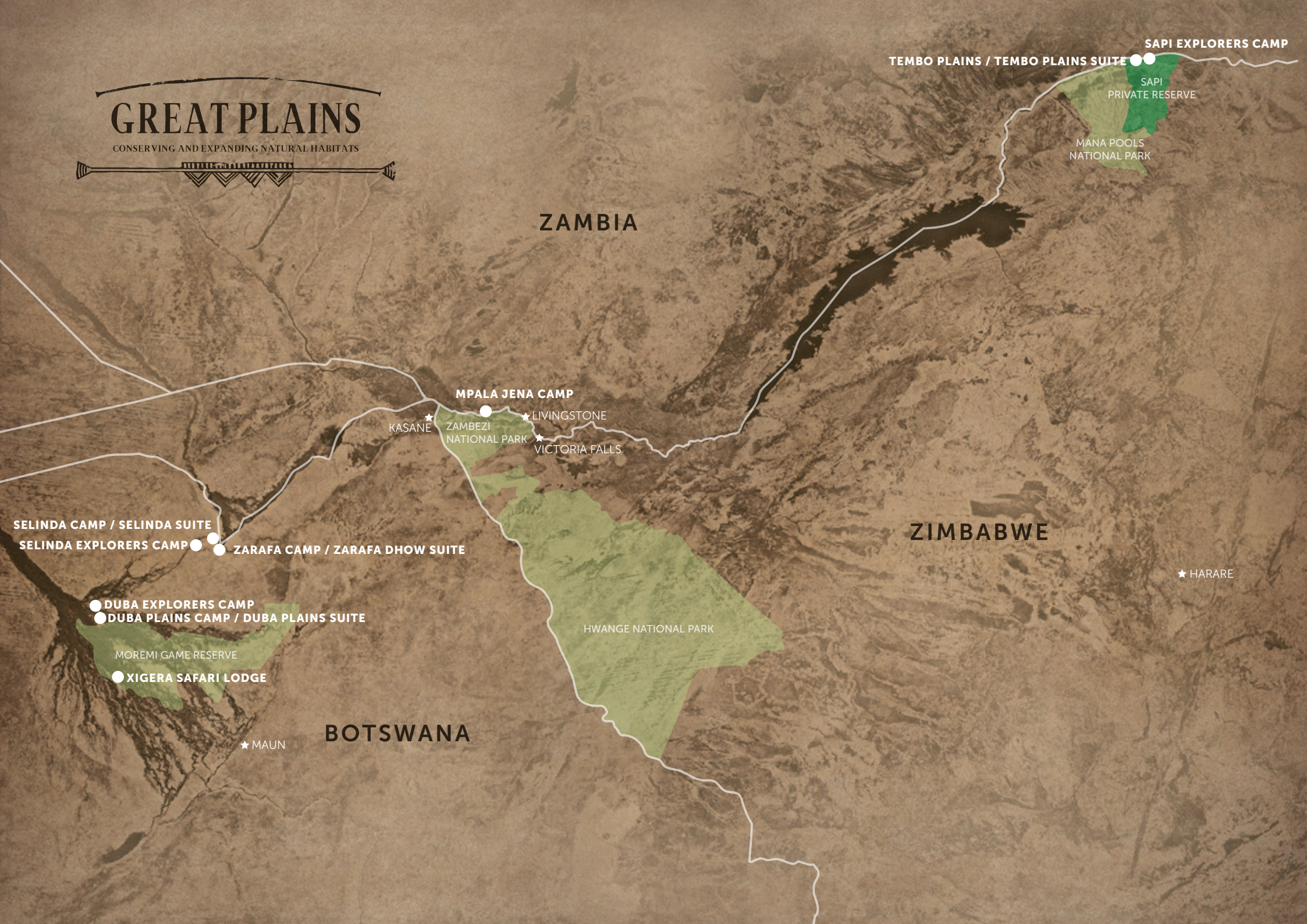
Great Plains Conservation.

GUEST TENT



2-BEDROOMED FAMILY TENT





GREAT PLAINS

CONSERVING AND EXPANDING NATURAL HABITATS

ZAMBIA

TEMBO PLAINS / TEMBO PLAINS SUITE ●● SAPI EXPLORERS CAMP

SAPI PRIVATE RESERVE
MANA POOLS NATIONAL PARK

MPALA JENA CAMP

KASANE ★ ZAMBEZI NATIONAL PARK ★ LIVINGSTONE ★ VICTORIA FALLS

ZIMBABWE

★ HARARE

SELINDA CAMP / SELINDA SUITE ●●
SELINDA EXPLORERS CAMP ●●

ZARAFI CAMP / ZARAFI DHOW SUITE

● DUBA EXPLORERS CAMP
● DUBA PLAINS CAMP / DUBA PLAINS SUITE

HWANGE NATIONAL PARK

MOREMI GAME RESERVE

● XIGERA SAFARI LODGE

BOTSWANA

★ MAUN

GREAT PLAINS CONSERVATION

QUICK CAMP FACTS

	ZIMBABWE CAMPS			
ACTIVITY	TEMBO PLAINS CAMP	TEMBO PLAINS SUITE	SAPI EXPLORERS CAMP	MPALA JENA CAMP
Day Drives	•	•	•	•
Night Drives	•	•	•	
Guided Walks	•	•	•	•
Boating	•	•	•	•
Mekoro				
Canoeing	•	•	•	*
Main Swimming Pool				•
Private Plunge Pools				
Horseback Riding				
Cultural Interaction				
Hot-Air Ballooning				
Spa/Massage				
Gym				
Fishing (Seasonal)	•	•	•	•
Mountain Biking				
Hide				

(*) This activity is available for an additional fee | (#) This activity is water level dependent