



A Distinctive Legacy of Luxury, Conservation, and Vision in the Okavango Delta

Nestled on the western edge of the Moremi Game Reserve in the Okavango Delta, Xigera Safari Lodge redefines the safari experience, where immersion in nature meets luxury hospitality and a deep commitment to conservation. Every aspect of the lodge's design and experience has been carefully considered to honour Botswana's land, its heritage, its wildlife, its people, and their future.

The Tollman family, with over a century in global hospitality, has invested in Botswana's tourism for more than 30 years. Their journey began in 1995 as the largest shareholder in Wilderness Safaris, actively shaping the company's growth until 2008. From 2008 the family were less involved and influential in the operational experience of the Company. In 2018, they decided to part ways and embark on a new chapter, transforming one camp, Xigera, from a modest three-star stay into an extraordinary five-star lodge, lovingly crafted to embody the family's vision of service excellence, sustainability, and artistry.

A Tribute to Botswana's Natural Majesty and Culture

Every architectural detail at Xigera reflects a deep reverence for the Okavango Delta. The fluidity of its rooflines mirrors the flight of indigenous birds, the rich textures of dark cladding echo ancient trees, the ethereal Water Lily Pavilion symbolises the resilience and beauty of the Delta's aquatic renowned flora.

Art and design are woven into the fabric of Xigera's identity. The lodge possesses the world's largest privately owned collection of contemporary African art, with over 80 renowned designers and artisans lending their creative mastery. From the intricate craftsmanship of Botswana's own Mabeo pieces to sculptural installations that honour the region's heritage, every element handcrafted, ensuring that the spirit of Africa is woven into each guest's journey. The influence of the artists and craftspeople ensures that Xigera is both in Botswana, and a reflection of Botswana.

A Global Standard for Responsible Tourism

Xigera is a beacon of sustainable tourism, demonstrating that luxury and environmental stewardship can be indivisibly linked. Its pioneering initiatives include:

- A state-of-the-art solar power plant supplying 92% of the lodge's energy, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and eliminating 175,000 litres of diesel consumption annually.
- A zero-waste philosophy, where all organic materials are composted to sustain Habu Village's thriving vegetable gardens.
- A steadfast commitment to a plastic-free operation, eliminating single-use plastics entirely.
- Cutting-edge conservation technology, leveraging AI-driven research and non-invasive wildlife tracking, monitoring predator populations.
- Partnerships with the Giraffe Conservation Foundation to study genetic hybridization in the Okavango Delta.
- Direct funding for Raptors Botswana, protecting endangered birds of prey, as well as assisting in wattle crane conservation, one of Africa's most vulnerable bird species.
- Actively reporting and assisting with anti-poaching efforts alongside Botswana's wildlife authorities.

By embracing a low-volume, high-value tourism model, Xigera ensures that the Okavango Delta remains a sanctuary for generations to come, reinforcing Botswana's global reputation for conservation excellence.

Empowering People, Enriching Communities

At Xigera, people are at the heart of everything we do. The Xigera Citizen Employee Trust is a pioneering initiative that afforded 16% of the lodge being owned by its local Botswanan team members, allowing them to directly share in its success. The lodge employs a permanent team of over 120, supporting more than 1,000 people through extended families. Salaries exceed industry standards, complemented by pension contributions, medical aid, and individual en-suite staff housing of the highest standard in the region.

Xigera's commitment to skills development is shaping the future of Botswana's hospitality industry:

- Over P1 million invested in staff training over the past three years, including leadership development and global hospitality exchanges.
- Chef apprenticeships in collaboration with Boswa Culinary School, offering young talent invaluable world-class experience.
- An annual guiding academy ensuring that Xigera's guides are among the finest in Africa.
- International exchange programmes, providing team members with specialised training in London and South Africa.

Through these commitments, Xigera not only elevates service excellence but also preserves Botswana's cultural identity by ensuring that the next generation of hospitality leaders is homegrown, empowered, and celebrated.

Tourism as a Force For Good

Xigera's influence extends beyond its borders, ensuring that tourism serves as a catalyst for community upliftment.

Key initiatives include:

- **Habu Village Partnership:** Investing \$80,000 over four years to support sustainable farming, education, and development.
- **Education & Scholarships:** Sponsoring a University of Botswana student in Natural Resource Management and supporting local schools.
- **Polokong Centre for the Elderly:** Providing essential financial aid, volunteer support, and much-needed donations.
- **Women & Children Empowerment:** Championing initiatives such as Bana Ba Letsatsi, Women Against Rape, and Mummy's Angels.
- **Family Wellness:** Raising over P350,000 for local wellness programmes in partnership with leading tourism entities.

Xigera's unwavering commitment has further raised over \$50,000 for community projects and conservation efforts, reinforcing its role as a responsible tourism leader.

Elevating Botswana's Global Profile

Xigera is today a narrator of Botswana's wilderness and culture, capturing the imagination of global travellers and esteemed publications. It has been featured in award-winning documentaries and recognised by the world's leading travel authorities, recently including:

- Condé Nast Traveler & Travel + Leisure: World's Best Awards
- World Spa Awards: Botswana's Best Safari Spa
- Skift IDEA Award: Sustainability Excellence
- Elite Traveller: Top 100 Suites

Beyond accolades, the lodge's wildlife stories are legendary; leopards raising their cubs in a guest suite during construction, the resighting of cheetah in the Delta, and the iconic tree-climbing lion pride birthing nine cubs nearby. Such extraordinary moments have captivated international audiences, leading to an upcoming BBC wildlife documentary that will further showcase Botswana's conservation leadership on the world stage.

An Invitation to Shape the Future

Xigera stands as a living blueprint for sustainable tourism and a celebration of Botswana's heritage and people. As the Nation continues to define its legacy as a global leader in responsible travel, deeper collaboration between the private sector and government presents unparalleled opportunities for innovation, heritage preservation, and economic transformation.

His Excellency is warmly welcomed to experience Xigera first-hand - to witness its impact, to celebrate Botswana's stewardship of its natural and cultural treasures, and to explore new possibilities for advancing the nation's vision of high-value, conservation-led tourism.

At Xigera, the future awaits.