



KWANDO
SAFARIS

February 2008

fast facts

Game Sightings

Lagoon

- Who knows? The pride of four males are still separated for the past few weeks and still have been roaring throughout the night, a large black maimed lion has been seen recently, is he the reason the pride has split up?
- Two mature female Leopards have been sighted recently towards the old Lebala camp, an amazing sighting by some guests who spent a good hour with her, hopefully we can get too see a “leap of Leopards.”
- The three brother cheetah have been at worked preying on an ostrich this month out towards the matlotse area, they seem to have a slight problem catching zebra as witnessed last week, another two males have been sighted in the area but seem to be scarce due to the dominant three, properly this is the reason for the strange behaviour last week.
- Dogs Dogs! The usual game they play, we have been seeing some phenomenal hunts this month with the lagoon pack taking a full grown male impala right in front of the game drive vehicle, other days it’s a game of hide and seek but they have been seen weekly, let’s hope we can find the den this year, its about time.
- The Elephants are returning in the numbers moving back up north for the sweet riverine forest vegetation. As we move out of our long rainy season which has been impressive this year the temperature will cool and rain will subside increasing the herds in the north.
- Night sightings are excellent, with the small predators roaming throughout the night, wild cat have been seen on numerous occasions stalking small prey such as mice and large insects.
- The Lagoon region has been keeping status as a great general game area with our herd of 50 plus Eland seen weekly up on the Mosheshe road.
- “Sebatane” the setswana name for predators have continued to be sighted in the Lagoon area with the mongoose, Dwarf and Selous seen on daily game drives. Honey Badgers were sighted on the roads during the morning game drives but what shy creatures they are.

Lebala

- She is still around, the female lioness and her cub's are still on the lurk around camp hoping for easy prey,
- Leopards everywhere.. That is their tracks of course. The big male out at twin pools has still been seen on numerous occasions looking after his territory and hope he can find the two ladies out at Lagoon.
- The elephants are still enjoying their traditional “magobe” (setswana for rain pan) baths out in the mopane forest's, wallowing and doing what they love to do best.
- What a bee eaters paradise, the blue cheeked, carmine and golden backed are still one of our most spectacular sites driving into camp and out onto the flood plains of Lebala.
- Hyena are still doing what they good at, scavenging and bothering the other predators for the tit bits they love to chew on, a nightly assurance our guests have been seeing
- Right behind the hyena the black back Jackal have been seen with their intent of scraping up the left overs after the main feast has finished, Side striped are still a common site on the Lebala flood plains.

Kwara and Little Kwara

- Lions galore, there are as has constantly been great for the prides, our coalition of seven have been seen feasting on giraffe, the Splash four have kept our guests on edge hunting tsesebe and wildebeest but failing on the zebra. The tsum tsum pride have taken it easy the past few weeks found snoozing in the flood plains around camp.
- The female Cheetah with her two female cubs and a single male cub have well indulged as they were found with full bellies relaxing under a jackal berry tree. The three brothers have been elusive in the long grass but their tracks have been seen walking to the west of Kwara.
- The pack of twenty two had an excellent hunt one morning across the Delta and succeeding on an Impala, The dogs finished their kill and were belly up for the rest of the day, retuning to their grounds for the night.
- “Kwatale” buffalo bulls have been sighted in between the islands of the Okavango, large herds are still enjoying the sweet lush grasses in the mopane forests to the north.
- Frogs and more frogs, due to the great rains the frogs are definitely the species to be out there in the wet weather. The distinct calls of the bell frogs at night have increased dramatically giving us the true sounds of the Okavango at night. Bull frogs in the rain pans are a true site too see out in the mopane forests, Foam nest frogs are seen almost at every rain pan.
- General game sightings were great throughout the month. The newborn game has been a pleasure seeing them grow day by day, a Hippo in Kwara at night has mistaken one of mekoros as a foot path and now has a huge crack in it. Hippo are still a sight out of the tents at Kwara with their snorting and moaning its equivalent to watching the ocean waves sitting on the beach.