



KWANDO  
SAFARIS

15 March 2007 – 30 March 2007

fast facts

Game Sightings

## Lagoon

- A single male lion was heard calling for a couple of nights. He was eventually tracked down and was found feeding on a Kudu kill. Another two males were also seen, moving South through the area.
- An excellent sighting of an unknown 2 year old male Leopard was reported. He was found sleeping on a termite mound and was very nervous at first but relaxed after a while. He allowed the game drive vehicle to get close enough for very good viewing.
- One female cheetah was seen hunting, and she was later seen moving South, towards the Lebala area.
- The Lagoon pack of 6 dogs were seen hunting in the area but no kills were seen. The pack of 16 dogs came over from the Lebala area and the Lagoon pack disappeared whilst they were around.
- Hyena, both species of Jackal, African wild cat, small spotted genet, civet, bat-eared fox and caracal was seen during the night drives.
- Small groups of elephants, breeding herds as well as bachelor groups, continue to be seen on the floodplains and on the riverbanks.
- General game is very good with Tsetsebee, warthog, wildebeest, steenbok, lechwe, zebra seen on most drives. Some guests were lucky and managed to get a good look at some roan antelope.
- A group of 36 banded mongoose were seen, as well as 3 porcupine, a civet and a honey badger.
- Birding continues to be good, especially the birds of prey, with Martial eagle, Black breasted snake eagle, Giant eagle owl, barn owl and pearl spotted owls being seen. Spoon bill storks and wattled cranes were also seen a single lioness was reported north of Lagoon camp.

## Lebala

- A very relaxed male leopard was located on a morning drive. He was demarcating his territory whilst also trying to hunt. Another leopard was seen by guests whilst walking near Springhare link. They could not identify the leopard as it was very skittish when they approached on foot. A female leopard was seen hunting North of Motswiri pan. She was followed by some hyena and jackal and disappeared into the mopane forest after a while.
- A female cheetah was seen around the white plains area. She was very relaxed and spent a lot of time relaxing on termite mounds.

- The pack of 16 wild dogs are still hunting in the Lebala area, and they created lots of excitement as always. They were followed on two hunts and they managed to kill an Kudu and Impala. They were seen feeding on two more Impala kills and their fights with the Hyena, who were trying to steal their kills, were as spectacular as ever. The guides have now established that it is the Alpha female that is pregnant. The Beta female is still acting very dominant, but that might be because of the Alpha female being very old.
- Herds of elephant continue to be seen, some of them coming very close to camp. Bull elephants are a common sighting on the flood plains and also having mud baths in the pans.
- Hyena have been following the wild dogs and raiding their kills. Their strategy being that they rest with the wild dogs at the water holes and they then follow the dogs when they start hunting. At one of the wild dog kills, two different clans clashed over the bounty. Jackals of both species are a common sighting.
- Excellent general game with many large journeys of giraffe, impala, waterbuck, Tsessebe, Wildebeest, Steenbok zebra, red lechwe and kudu. A herd of Sable antelope was also seen.
- African wild cats are a common sighting in the trees at night. A striped polecat and both species of Genet were also seen. Two sightings of Caracal was reported, one was a female and her cub hunting during the night drives. The other was of a solitary female also hunting.
- Birdlife continue to be excellent. African skimmers, ostriches, wattled cranes and lots of ducks and geese were seen, as well as many birds of prey. Secretary birds, pythons and leopard tortoises have also been seen.

## **Kwara and Little Kwara**

- Two prides of lions were very active in the area. A pride of 5 lions, consisting of 2 females, with the three one year cubs were seen feeding on a tsessebe kill. The pride with the two big males, 4 females and 1 sub adult male were seen feeding on a big male giraffe. No one knows how the giraffe died, but it is quite possible that they made the kill.
- The now famous leopard cub, created lots of entertainment when she was left on her own, while mom went out to hunt. Firstly she decided to stalk some cattle egret, which were walking next to an elephant. The egrets flew away when she charged and she was left with the elephant, which was a bit out of her league! She then went on to hop around in a marula tree, trying to catch a tree squirrel, which also did not go according to plan.
- A female cheetah, with her litter of 3 one year old cubs were seen relaxing in the four rivers area. The three brothers were found almost on the same spot, 2 days later. They stalked an impala and then went in for the kill, in front of the game drive vehicles. Some of the guests managed to capture the whole hunt on film.
- Very good sightings of bull elephants have been reported. They moved in to the area to feed on the marula fruits, which is now ripening up and falling from the trees. One of these bulls was made the joke of the day, when a hippo calf charged him and scared him away, whilst he was trying to get a drink from the water hole in front of camp.
- Guests on one of the boat cruises had a fantastic sighting when they came across two old buffalo bulls swimming through the river in front of the boat.
- Night drives provided sightings of hyena and, both jackal species. Hyena were also seen and heard in camp every night. Two flap necked chameleons were spotted in the light, on the night drives.
- General game sightings continue to be very good. Giraffe, zebra, tsessebe, kudu and some sable antelope were seen. Good sightings of hippo coming out of the water to graze in front of the camp were also reported.

- A serval created lots of excitement when it managed to leap one and a half meters in to the air to catch a bird. Two honey badgers were seen running across the plains and an African wild cat was unexpectedly seen on a morning game drive.
- Birding continues to be good. A pair of wattleed cranes, saddle billed storks, yellow billed storks, marabou storks and some ground hornbills were also seen.