

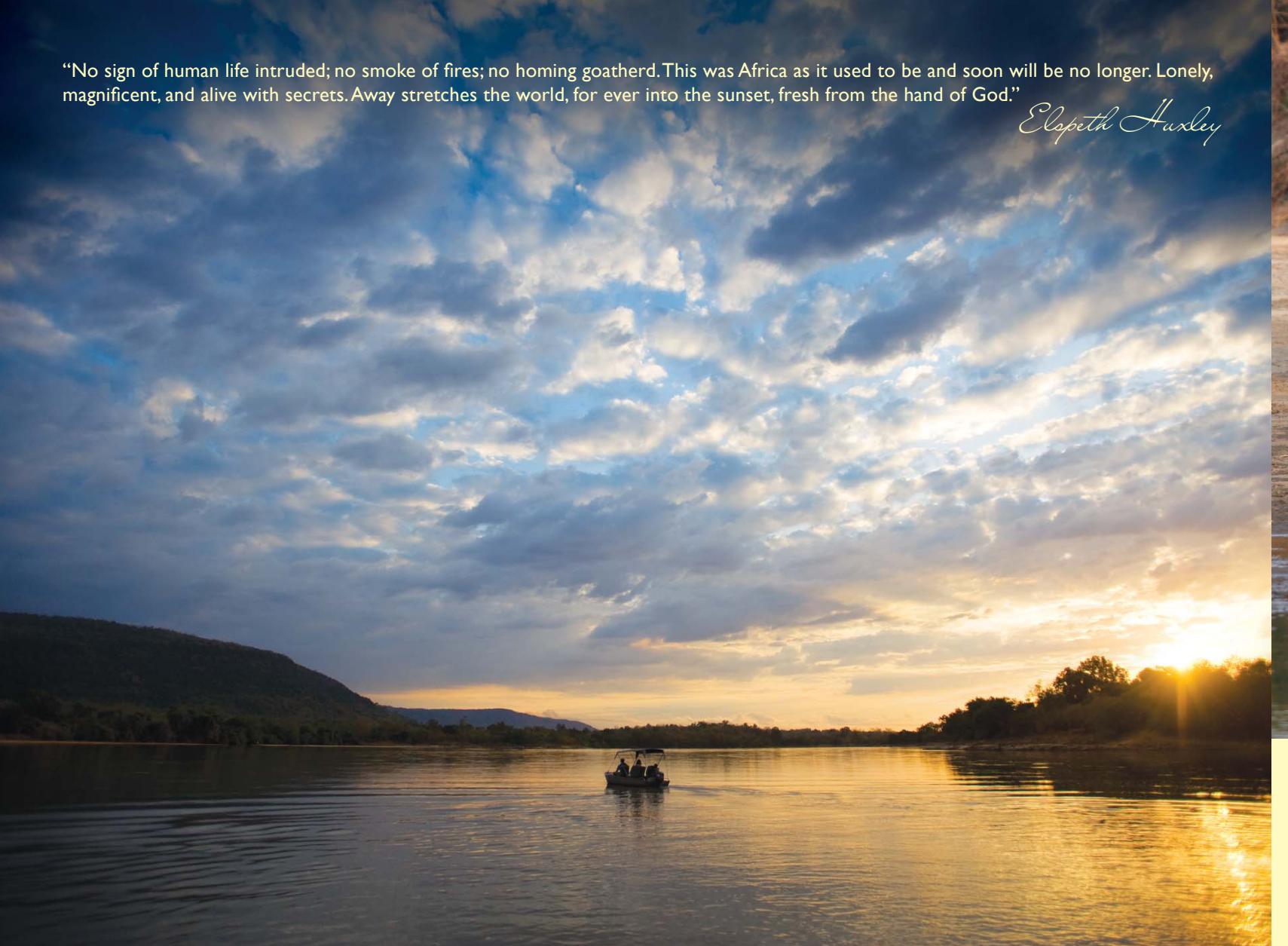
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SERENA HOTELS

“No sign of human life intruded; no smoke of fires; no homing goatherd. This was Africa as it used to be and soon will be no longer. Lonely, magnificent, and alive with secrets. Away stretches the world, for ever into the sunset, fresh from the hand of God.”

Elophilus Huxley

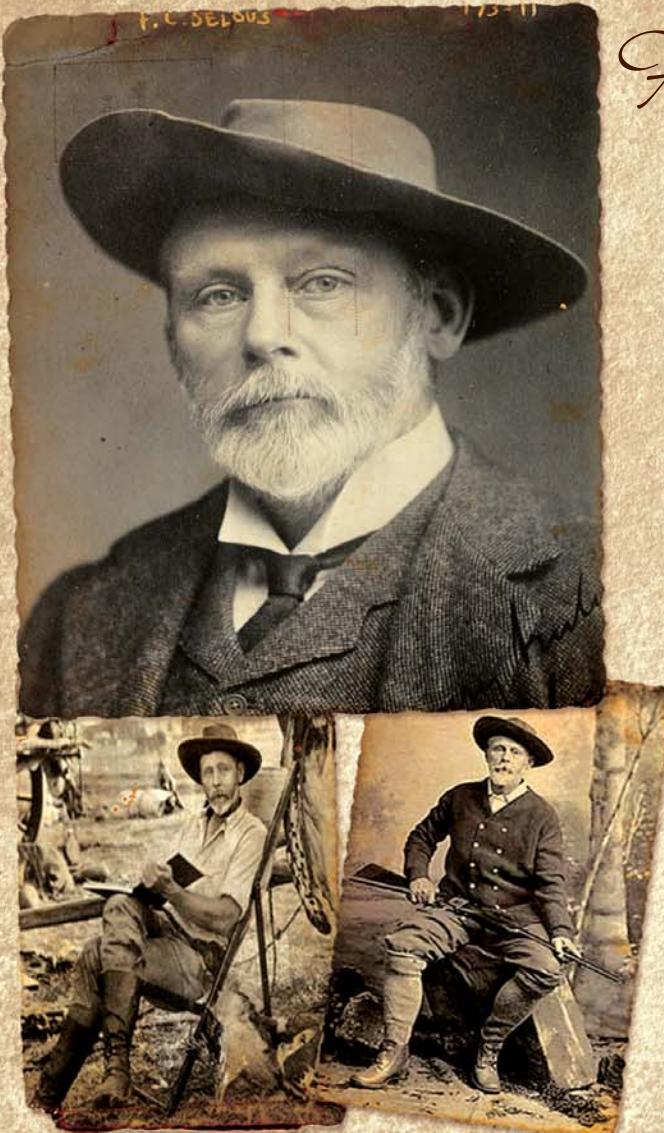




The Selous

The last wilderness, Africa how it used to be...

The spectacular Selous is the largest expanse of game reserve in Africa. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is four times the size of the Serengeti, home to one third of Tanzania's wildlife and provides sanctuary for the largest concentration of elephants in the world. And yet, despite its unique collection of hippo, buffalo, crocodile and lion, this magnificent ecosystem remains virtually untouched by man. Largely undiscovered, utterly pristine and virtually unvisited, it remains the last wilderness frontier.



Frederick Courteney Selous

"Mr. Selous is the last of the mighty hunters whose experience lies in the greatest hunting ground which this world has seen since civilized man has appeared herein."

Theodore Roosevelt

The Selous Game Reserve was named in honour of Frederick Courteney Selous DSO, who was shot there in 1917. British explorer, officer, hunter, gentleman, sportsman and conservationist, Selous was famous for his African exploits and inspired Sir H. Rider Haggard to create the fictional character of Allan Quatermain.

A close friend of Cecil Rhodes, in 1909-1910 Selous accompanied American ex-president Teddy Roosevelt on his famous African safari. At the outbreak of World War I, though 64, Selous rejoined the British Army. While fighting on the banks of the Rufiji River, where he was outnumbered five-to-one by German colonial troops, he was shot in the head by a German sniper. Upon hearing of his death, General von Lettow-Vorbeck, commander of the German colonial army and an admirer of Selous, apologized for his 'ungentlemanly death'.

Selous was buried where he fell and his simple grave, which bears a bronze plaque reading Captain F.C. Selous D.S.O 25th Royal Fusiliers, killed in action 4.1.17, stands on a ridge a short drive from the lodge and tented camp.

The Selous Game Reserve...





The Selous Game Reserve

Lying in a remote and little-visited area of south-eastern Tanzania, the Selous Game Reserve rolls over 55,000 sqkm of dense bush and savannah. Occupying 5% of the country's total area, it is one the last untouched gems of the nation's parks.

The Selous protects over one million large animals and 400 animal species. It is home to the largest buffalo concentration in Africa (more than 110,000); over half of Tanzania's elephants (57,000); Africa's largest population of Lichtenstein's hartebeest, common waterbuck and Roosevelt's sable; and one third of Africa's entire population of the rare and endangered wild dog.

Declared a hunting preserve in 1905, the lure of the Selous' magnificent trophy hunting attracted hundreds of game hunters from Europe and America during the 1900s, perhaps the most famous of whom was American ex-president, Teddy Roosevelt.

In 1982 the reserve was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today it offers the visitor the chance to see Africa the way the early explorers found it: pristine, alive with game and utterly awe inspiring.

Wildlife highlights

Include: Lion, leopard, cheetah, African wild cat, genet cat, caracal, civet cat, African hunting dog, jackal, hyena, mongoose, elephant, buffalo, zebra, giraffe, waterbuck, reedbuck, kudu, impala, hartebeest, wildebeest, eland, duiker, warthog, hyrax, yellow baboon, black-and-white colobus monkey, vervet monkey, aardvark, spring hare, crested porcupine, hippopotamus, Nile crocodile.

**Pristine, alive with game...
and utterly awe inspiring.**





Mivumo River Lodge

Built on timbered decks above the banks of the mighty Rufiji River with long views down the plunging torrents of Stiegler's Gorge, Mivumo River Lodge offers just twelve luxurious chalets, each of which stands on its own river-view deck, with rain shower and private plunge pool. Traditionally thatched, with high vaulted ceilings and picture windows, each room features an engaging mix of classic safari antiques and ultra-modern leather and rattan styled furniture.

Above a triple-tier deck, with infinity swimming pool, cascade, viewing deck, spa and sun deck, the spacious central dining room leads down to an open-sided lounge and bar, whose leather sofas look out over the river. Softly lit by baronial wrought-iron chandeliers, the lounge also features an outdoor evening cocktail deck, where a fire burns and the river is illuminated by glowing flares.

About the Lodge

The 12 spacious chalets are widely-spaced along the river bank, each with its own private viewing deck, sun loungers, plunge pool and rain shower. The central area features a king-sized bed, writing desk, river-view lounge with LCD TV, double bathroom with dressing area and Victorian claw-foot bath.

The Suite

The lodge also features the exclusive Rufiji Royal Suite, which is housed in three stand-alone scenic cliff top chalets and offers - three double bedrooms, dining room, lounge, private swimming pool and dedicated sundeck.

Rufiji dining

Overlooking the river, infinity pool and sundecks, the traditionally thatched dining room offers an exclusive dining experience, which features client-tailored menus and the option of taking lunch at a scenic spot along the river.

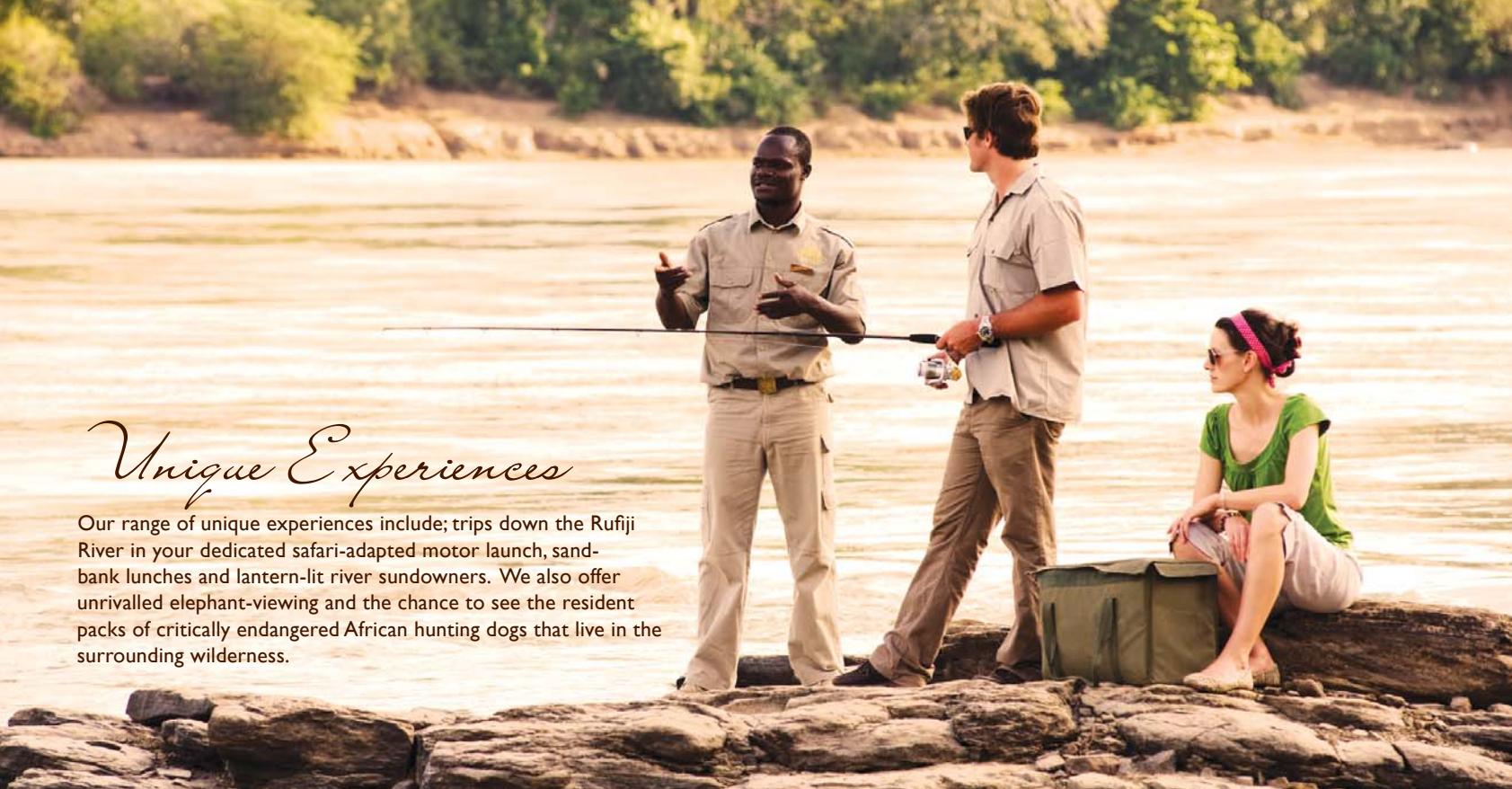
As the sun goes down

Evening cocktails can be served in the lounge, on the flame-lit fire-pit deck, or on the sandbanks of the river.



Unique Experiences

Our range of unique experiences include; trips down the Rufiji River in your dedicated safari-adapted motor launch, sand-bank lunches and lantern-lit river sundowners. We also offer unrivalled elephant-viewing and the chance to see the resident packs of critically endangered African hunting dogs that live in the surrounding wilderness.





“Man can find beauty and peace among the denizens of the bush, and in the bush itself. And a satisfaction that is beyond the comprehension of those who only dwell in cities.”

L. F. Lipscomb



Selous Luxury Camp

Hidden deep within rolling woodland, Selous Luxury Camp features a half circle of twelve khaki tents raised on wildwood platforms with thickly-thatched traditional roofs. Embraced by the eroded cliffs of a dry river bed, is a high-vaulted, open-sided space, which houses an Edwardian-styled lounge, library, bar and dining room. Granite steps lead down into a crescent of blue pool, which laps into a gentle cascade. Lit by chandeliers and low brass lamps, the graciously presented lounge widens into a timbered deck, where an evening fire pit blazes and lanterns glow.

About the camp

A triumph of opulence against the raw beauty of the last true African wilderness, the twelve tents echo the lavish luxury of the hunting camps of such legendary hunters as Frederick Selous, Baron Bror Blixen and Denys Finch Hatton, whose guests enjoyed only the finest linen, cut crystal and silver service. Carpeted in cream, with rich rugs, ornate chandeliers and gorgeously net-swathed four-poster beds, each tent features an Edwardian bathroom, complete with hip bath and twin gilt-garlanded bow-fronted washstands.

Classic safari elegance

Presented in traditional colonial style, the lounge, library and bar space features sprung-floors, leather sofas, wing-back chairs and safari antiques, while the open-sided dining room looks out over the pool and features an outdoor dining and relaxation deck. Menus are tailored to the guests' preferences and can be interspersed with bush lunches and river-gorge sundowners.

Unique experiences

Your own dedicated safari guide and vehicle, who will lead your choice of game drives, bush walks, hippo-pool walk, bird-walks and fishing trips. Resident packs of endangered African hunting dogs nearby, elephant-viewing along the river and access to some of the finest wildlife viewing in Africa.





The Selous Safari experience

Whilst you are with us, you may wish to experience some of our special safari experiences, all of which have been designed to offer you a uniquely memorable experience; one that is guaranteed not only to enhance your visit, but to also deliver some unforgettable photographic opportunities.

Bush Breakfast

One of the highlights of the tailor-made safari experience, the bush breakfast is an experience not to be missed. Typically, guests are awakened by an early morning cup of tea in their tent before setting off on a game drive, which is timed to offer the very best chance of spotting 'The Big Five'. After breakfast, our professional guides will be on hand to offer an exclusive game drive back to the camp. Breakfast can also be set up on the river bank, sandbanks or island sites.



Sundowners

An essential part of traditional safari life, the concept of having drinks whilst watching the sun go down dates back to the time of the great safaris of the 1920's, all of which featured the serving of elegant 'bush' cocktails against the unforgettable backdrop of the African sunset.



Rufiji River boat safaris

Our custom-built river boats are built for comfort, safety and panoramic viewing. Piloted by dedicated safari guides, they also feature on-board refreshments and radio-links to the camp. Utterly unique, the Rufiji River game-viewing experience promises abundant sightings of hippos (both in and out of the water), basking crocodiles and elephants. It also offers the rare chance of seeing a lion come down to the river to drink.



Exploring the Selous

Our custom-built open-sided four-person safari vehicles offer comfort, panoramic viewing, dedicated safari guides, refreshments on-board, and radio-links for fast location of game. Game viewing experiences, meanwhile are guaranteed to be unique: the Selous is home to some of Africa's largest populations of elephants, buffaloes, hartebeests, sables and rare African hunting dogs. Other easily-spotted animals include; lions, giraffes and antelopes.



Walking wild

To really appreciate the wonders of the African bush, you have to leave the safari vehicle behind; and take a walk. Slow in pace and wide-ranging in scenery, the Selous nature walk is designed to offer gentle exercise and a fascinating insight into the world of African trees, flowers, insects, reptiles, birds and animals.

Guided bird walks

Your guide will be happy to tailor a guided bird walk to suit both your interest and your schedule. More than 400 species of birds have been recorded in the Selous (350 of which are water fowl), particularly along the banks of the Rufiji River.

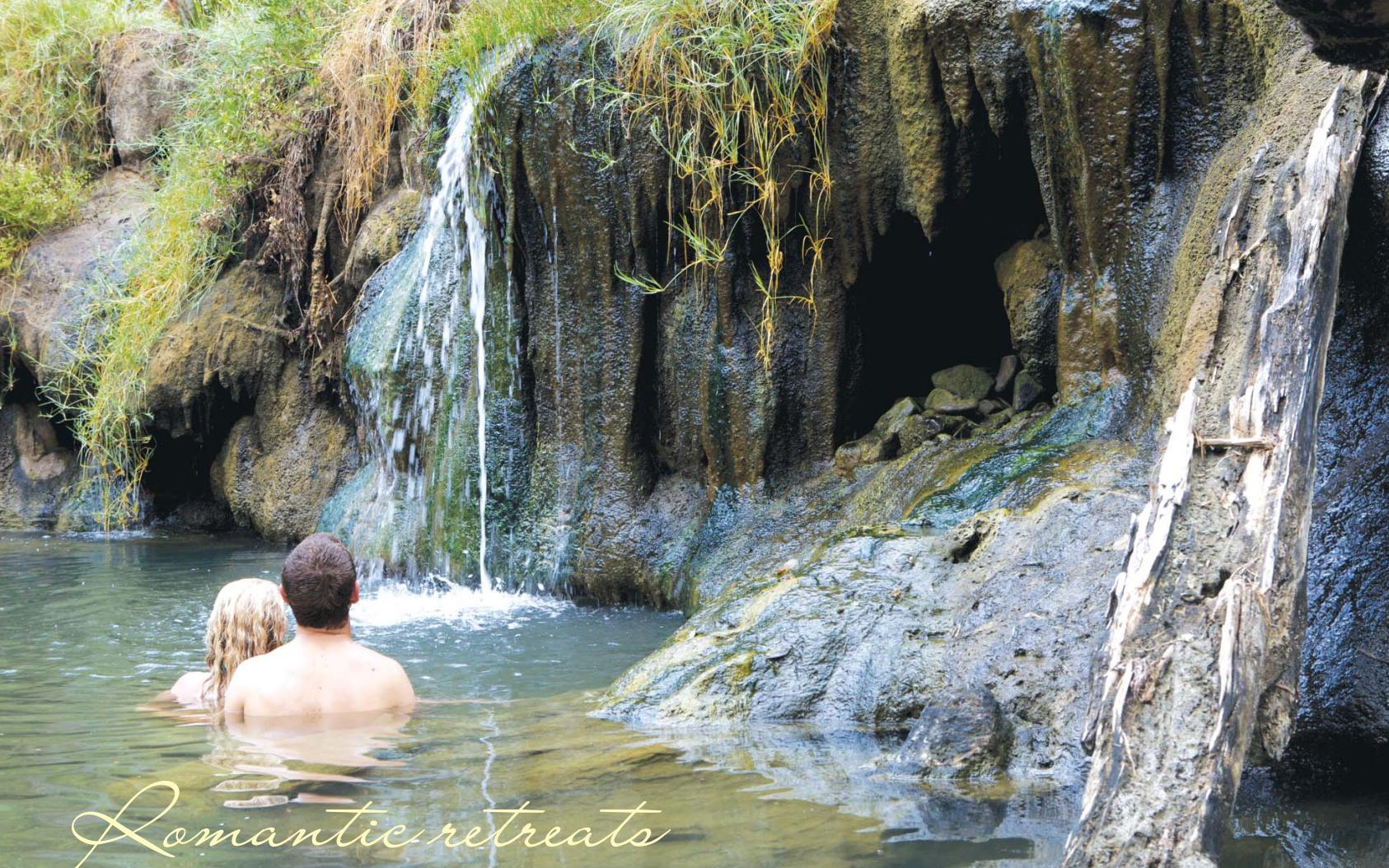
Fishing trips

Cat fish and tiger fish are prolific in the river. Considered by many fishermen to be the finest freshwater fighting fish, the tiger fish's Latin name, *Hydrocyon*, means 'water dog' and aptly describes this voracious predator which is armed with ferocious blade-like teeth. If you'd like to try fishing, your dedicated guide will provide rods, boat and a choice of sites. Our chef will also be happy to cook your catch whenever and however you wish.

Visit to the hot springs

Within a short drive of the camp lie the Maji Moto hot springs, which can be easily reached via a short walk into a hidden ravine surrounded by lush vegetation. Here hot sulphurous water pours from the rock and forms little streams, which gather into a series of picturesque pools, which are just cool enough to swim in.





Romantic retreats

The Selous makes the ideal romantic retreat. Pristine, undiscovered and the last of the great safari frontiers, it offers a multitude of unique experiences ranging from river safaris to wilderness picnics. As for accommodation, our supremely private tents and spacious rooms are specifically designed to deliver the ultimate 'getaway from it all' experience.

The Selous...



simply sublime serenity



www.selousluxury.com



Contact us

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