

# Why Rwanda?

## Why ecotourism in Rwanda is meaningful

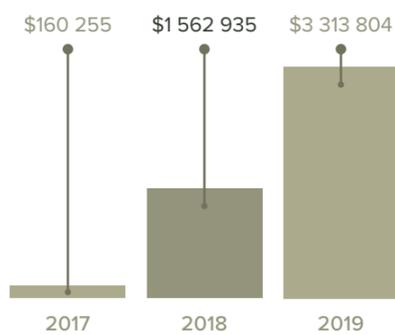
Since the launch of Bisate in 2017, Wilderness Safaris' first lodge in Rwanda at Volcanoes National Park (VNP), the company's visionary ecotourism presence in the region has aided the conservation, and return, of numerous endemic species, as well as the empowerment of local communities. Now, with Magashi Camp in Akagera National Park operational, and an exciting conservation agreement in place for Gishwati-Mukura National Park, Wilderness Safaris continues to offer guests life-changing journeys that have a significant and meaningful impact on Rwanda's local and national economies.

## Our Conservation Impact

**\$5 036 994**

spent from 2017 – 2019

**\$3 514 540** spent for FY2020 YTD, including Akagera National Park fees for Magashi



**10 430**

Hectares Wilderness helps conserve



**2**

Exclusive safari camps



**5**

Vulnerable and Endangered species protected

## RESEARCH AND REFORESTATION

Alongside our non-profit partner, Wilderness Wildlife Trust (WWT), in partnership with the Rwanda Development Board (RDB)

**\$34 568** spent in FY2020 YTD. This has contributed to conservation projects like the reforestation of Bisate, leopard tracking and habituation programme at Magashi, and radio collars for lion research at Magashi



**27 000 Trees** planted at Bisate as part of our visionary reforestation project, resulting in the return of numerous endemic animal and bird species to the area



**200 000 Litres** of rainwater harvested annually for use in Bisate Lodge



Magashi is **100%** solar-powered



**25-Year Concession agreement** signed with RDB for the development of a multi-phased conservation and tourism management programme in Gishwati-Mukura National Park



**6 Trackers** permanently employed in partnership with Forest of Hope Association, to help habituate the chimpanzees in Gishwati for a sustainable ecotourism offering in the future. Wilderness safaris is responsible for their salaries, uniforms and tracking equipment. In October 2019, the chance of a chimp sighting increased to 50% a day.

## Our Community Impact

### INTERNAL COMMUNITY

Local economic impact



**101**

Staff members employed, more than 50% of whom come from the local communities surrounding Bisate and Akagera



**174**

Employees, including spouses and children, received medical aid support from Wilderness Safaris as of November 2019



**\$219 217**

Salaries paid to Rwandan staff in FY2020 YTD



**800+**

Hospitality certificates awarded to staff since the opening of Bisate Lodge and Magashi

### EXTERNAL COMMUNITY

Our non-profit partner, Children in the Wilderness (CITW), also supported by tour operators and guests, facilitates sustainable conservation through leadership development



**\$21 632** Contributed to CITW Rwanda's Eco-Clubs, learning improvement projects and Conservation Camp



In 2019, 2 environmental Eco-Clubs positively impacted **60** children, with more to come in 2020



**24 Teachers** received Eco-Club mentor training in 2019



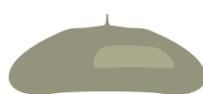
**\$80 654** Spent on the procurement of local food and supplies for Bisate and Magashi in FY2020 YTD



**8 Scholarships** awarded in 2019; in 2020, 70+ children will receive scholarships to complete secondary school



**5 000 Community members** have received improved access to clean water due to a Bisate water project, implemented in partnership with The Fossey Fund, RDB and Wilderness Safaris guests



**\$580 000**

Financial injection into the local economy as a result of the land purchase of Bisate Lodge



**\$41 783**

Financial injection into the local economy as a result of the land purchase at Gishwati

*Our journeys change lives*