



## WILDERNESS QOROKWE GUIDE JACOB SAOBE

Jacob is a Professional Guide at Wilderness Qorokwe with 25 years of experience in the field-guiding industry. He holds a Level 2 Guide Licence with the Botswana Qualifications Authority and is committed to ongoing learning and professional development, with plans to achieve Level 3 certification in the near future.

Enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and deeply passionate about connecting guests to nature, Jacob tailors each safari to his guests' interests and preferences, ensuring that everyone feels valued and engaged. His safaris are informative, entertaining, and often enhanced by fun facts and a touch of humour.

Raised in the Okavango Delta, Jacob's special interests include birding, botany, nature interpretation, and astronomy. His expertise covers a wide range of activities, including in-depth wildlife interpretation on game drives, guided bush walks with a rifle, night-sky and astronomy experiences featuring African stories and star names, and the tracking and

Jacob loves sharing the beauty and wonder of the African wilderness with guests from around the world and treasures the opportunity to connect people with nature.

"Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of sharing unforgettable experiences with guests and colleagues alike. One notable encounter that stands out was a dramatic elephant charge during an evening game drive. Thanks to my training and instincts, we safely navigated the situation, and the experience reinforced my deep respect for these magnificent creatures. As a member of the Bayei tribe, elephants hold a special significance as my spirit animal."

When he's not guiding, Jacob enjoys sharing his knowledge and stories with friends and guests, inspiring a deeper appreciation for the natural world. His advice for guests going on safari is to come prepared with suitable gear, sunscreen, binoculars, and patience. Above all, he reminds guests to listen to their guide and remember that safety is paramount.

### About Wilderness:

Founded over 40 years ago, Wilderness is a world-leading conservation and hospitality company, offering immersive journeys to a range of environments in Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Wilderness is part of a global collective working to conserve the world's iconic unfenced, untamed and unpredictable wilderness areas. With more than 60 exceptional camps and lodges, Wilderness helps protect some 2.3 million hectares (6 million acres) of land across its eight African destinations. Its goal – to double that by 2030. Four decades on, the company's purpose is stronger than ever: To increase the world's wilderness, together.

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## WILDERNESS SAVUTI GUIDE

### THABANG ELVIS KANEWENDO

Thabang is a Professional Safari Guide at Wilderness Savuti in Botswana's Linyanti Wildlife Reserve. A Maun native, he began guiding in 2020 and joined Wilderness in 2022. Passionate about storytelling, conservation, and cultural education, he thrives on connecting guests to nature's magic.

Born and raised in Maun, Botswana, Thabang has always felt a deep connection to the wild landscapes of his homeland. He began his guiding journey in 2020, starting as a General Assistant and quickly advancing to Trainee Guide. Since then, he has gained valuable experience across several Wilderness camps, including Vumbura Plains in the Okavango Delta and now Savuti in the Linyanti Wildlife Reserve. Here, he has meticulously honed his skills, gaining invaluable experience and cultivating strong guest connections through captivating storytelling, precise tracking, and insightful interpretation.

A certified Professional Guide with added training in wildlife photography, he brings both technical skill and creative storytelling to his role. "Watching guests experience Africa's magic – from their first lion sighting to a breathtaking sunset – never gets old," he says.

Now in his third year with Wilderness, he is focused on enhancing guest experiences through deeper interpretation and cultural education. He hopes to complete Advanced Field Training in the coming year to qualify as a Trails Guide – a step that reflects his ongoing commitment to growth and conservation.

If he could be any animal for a day, Thabang would be a honey badger. "They're graceful and elusive, fearless and they get what they want. It would be amazing to see the wilderness through their eyes," he says.

Thabang's encounters with nature often unfold with unique charm. He advises first-time safari-goers to "come with an open mind and all your senses ready – nature doesn't follow a script, but every day offers something magical."

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