



Winter has arrived in Southern Africa. With it comes the excitement of heading out on early morning adventures with the chill of the air firmly on one's face. The days are filled with excitement as the predators take advantage of the cooler conditions and remain active later into the day. It is a time of hot chocolate, warm blankets, the noticeable smells of the Potato Bush and Wild Sage and star-filled nights.

In this newsletter we announce the **release of our 2016 dates**, we give you some feedback on the **Desert Dune Safari** which started operating in May, we remind you that there are still some seats available on the unique **Photographic Great Wilderness Journey** departure in November and we reflect on some great feedback that **our guides**, the key element on our Explorations, have received.

RELEASE OF 2016 EXPLORATION DATES

We are pleased to announce the release of our 2016 departures and rates for our 3 Explorations – The Great Wilderness Journey, The Desert Dune Safari and The Diverse Namibia. The departure dates and rates are available to see either on the Wilderness Window or in your rates manual.

A reminder that the Great Wilderness Journey includes Gomoti Tented Camp in the itinerary. Gomoti has consistently been producing incredible wildlife sightings throughout the year, this has enormously enhanced the game viewing experience on this Exploration. *(The lion images below were both captured at Gomoti).*



THE DESERT DUNE SAFARI

At the end of May we ran the first Desert Dune Safari. This Exploration explores some of the most remote desert areas of Namibia; areas which have been rarely explored by others, making this a journey of discovery. The Exploration takes in the red dunes of Sossusvlei, the secluded and dramatic coastline of the Skeleton Coast littered with historic remnants of shipwrecks, and the rugged and rocky landscape in the Hoanib area where the last free-roaming black rhino rove. The range of activities make for contrasting experiences, from a dolphin cruise with a private beach lunch to tracking rhino and walking in the Namib's great dunes. This Exploration also offers one the opportunity of staying at our unique Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp. This is a unique safari that encompasses the key elements of Namibia. You don't have to take our word for it though, this is what one of our guests had to say:

"Absolutely spectacular !!! ... The lodges are out of this world from every angle - amenities, locale, staff, food and drink, comfort - world class ! ... There is scenery that is out of this world, wildlife that is out of this world, adventure (Swakopmund) that is out of this world, travel by Land Rover and Cessna that is out of this world, dining that is out of this world !!!"



PHOTOGRAPHIC GREAT WILDERNESS JOURNEY

There are still some seats available on the photographic Great Wilderness Journey which will be led by Ona Basimane. This trip departs from Maun on 8 November 2015 and visits Jacana, Gomoti, the Linyanti and Victoria Falls. The combination of these areas will make for some great photographic opportunities - iconic Delta shots at Jacana, the great game viewing that both Gomoti and the Linyanti are known for as well as a range of opportunities at the world-renowned Victoria Falls. Ona will ensure that each guest receives hands-on tuition on the safari so that they can walk away with prized images at the end of what promises to be a memorable safari.

[Click here](#) for more information on the Exploration and [click here](#) to view Ona's interview with Safaritalk.

OUR GUIDES

One of the things that sets our Explorations apart is our guides. The passion and enthusiasm that they have for the magnificent areas we operate in rubs off on all travellers. Having one of these guides on a safari from start to finish ensures that guests get the most of every moment on safari. From the wildlife to the scenery, the history to the culture, our guides will ensure that you experience our wilderness areas in full. As an additional bonus, you are sure to walk away from your safari having made a new friend. Our guests seem to feel the same way. Here are a few comments we have received from recent trips in Namibia.

"Our guide, Jeremia Mwapopi, was incredible. We simply could not have had a better guide."

"Festus was outstanding. He was friendly, knowledgeable and willing to please. He made our trip most memorable."

"In my opinion, visiting Namibia for the first time can't be better than doing it with Jimmy. We can't pin point 1 or 2 highlights, with all excellent explanations from Jimmy, each of the places visited became very special. This journey doubtlessly changed our lives and we will never forget the breath-taking moments. Thank you Jimmy."



Festus educating his guests on the geography of Namibia

Until next time

The Explorations Team

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