



Biography: Attorney Vasco
Sales Manager: Wilderness Safaris Botswana

Attorney Vasco joined Wilderness Safaris in May 2006 after completing a degree in Tourism Management in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Born and bred in Botswana, Vasco (as he is popularly known) is proud to have been flying the Wilderness Safaris flag for over 11 years. His recent appointment as Sales Manager for Wilderness Safaris Botswana is testament to his immense knowledge of the company from the foundations up and his vast experience in driving sustainable luxury ecotourism in the country.

Whilst growing up in Maun, Vasco was fortunate enough to spend a lot of time on the family farm in northern Botswana which is where his love of wildlife began. He was also exposed to Wilderness Safaris from a young age, accompanying his father to several of its camps during school holidays to deliver goods and building materials. He thus decided on his career path at a young age, and after meeting the then GM, Grant Woodrow at the 'old' Mombo Camp, was inspired to begin his life-changing journey with Wilderness Safaris.

Vasco has never looked back, starting out as an Assistant Manager in the Baobab Lodge business before moving on to DumaTau Camp as Maintenance and Guest Experience Manager. During this time, he worked closely with the environmental department, assisting with surveys and predator identification research in the Linyanti Concession and developing new road networks to allow for an enhanced game experience.

In 2008, Vasco was promoted to General Manager of DumaTau together with his then fiancé, Miriam Tichapondwa. Their focus was to drive the guest experience to new levels through unique and innovative activities. During this time, DumaTau was listed as one of Africa's Top Lodges in the prestigious Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards. Vasco and Miriam then moved to General Management for the prestigious Wilderness Safaris Premier camp, Vumbura Plains in the Okavango Delta.

At the end of 2010, Vasco was again promoted to General Manager of the company's flagship camp, Mombo. He ran a tight ship there for the next two years, taking the camp and its world-renowned offering to even higher levels, garnering numerous awards for the camp including being listed in Condé Nast's Top Five Lodges in Africa for two consecutive years. At the end of 2012, Vasco moved to Maun to join Wilderness Safaris Botswana as Field Operations Manager.

With his immense knowledge and passion for both Botswana and Wilderness Safaris, Vasco is well placed to drive sales for the region and promote the country as a world-class tourist destination. "I am privileged to have been part of such an ecotourism powerhouse for so many years and to have learnt from the best in the industry. I am really looking forward to driving the Wilderness Safaris experience in Botswana and showing the world what truly sets us apart from the rest", Vasco said.

Ends

Notes to Editor

About Wilderness Safaris: www.wilderness-safaris.com

- Wilderness Safaris is Africa's leading authentic and sustainable ecotourism operator, specialising in memorable wildlife experiences in some of the most remote and pristine areas in Africa. In this way it offers its guests private access to almost

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three million hectares of Africa's finest wildlife reserves, while remaining fiercely committed to protecting our planet's precious natural and cultural resources.

- Wilderness Safaris operates camps and safaris in some of Africa's best wildlife and wilderness reserves across eight countries: Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- Wilderness Safaris is deeply committed to its 4Cs sustainability ethos of Commerce, Community, Culture and Conservation. It firmly believes that its single most important achievement to date is to have built a sustainable business model that does not compromise environmental principles and which provides jobs, training, skills, careers, adjusted horizons, hope and a realistic alternative to less sustainable development.
- Recognising that conservation is as much about people as about the environment, the company has pursued important goals through its [Children in the Wilderness](#) programme, as well as through the [Wilderness Wildlife Trust](#), which have helped change the face of nature-based tourism in Africa.
- Wilderness Safaris is part of [Wilderness Holdings](#), a group of responsible ecotourism companies that together endeavour to use responsible tourism to build sustainable conservation economies in Africa.