

Wilderness Safaris
EST. 1983

30
YEARS

30 YEARS OF WILDERNESS: A REMARKABLE JOURNEY

Thirty years! Hard to believe sometimes, but in retrospect it has been a fantastic adventure filled with short shorts, bad hairstyles, dodgy vehicles, camps still being built as they opened, embarrassing scenarios and plenty more. It has also included some amazing relationships and experiences, hard-won achievements, success, passion, conservation and community commitment and (thankfully) more good decisions than bad.



We started in 1983 with two superb guides, a Land Rover and \$2 500. Thirty years later we are proud to say that our size, and our ability to positively impact Africa, has grown substantially. A huge thank you to the travel trade for your support.

NEW: WILDERNESS SAFARIS BROCHURE SUITE

Wilderness has just completed an all-new Wilderness Safaris brochure suite roll-out, which offers a whole new way of presenting our wide range of camps and safaris and the diversity of wildlife to your clients.

Wilderness Safaris – Africa: introduces the concept of an African safari and what to expect as a first-time traveller.

Then we have developed individual country brochures that go into more detail on the particular camps, safaris and all-round life-changing experiences that we offer in each country.

Wilderness Safaris – Botswana

Wilderness Safaris – Namibia

Wilderness Safaris – Zimbabwe/Zambia/Malawi



ALL-NEW: WILDERNESS SAFARIS ONLINE CATALOGUE

Our new online catalogue is now hosted by **Wetu.com**. This allows you to make use of our images and content by sharing these with your potential travellers, either as an online brochure, or as a virtual itinerary.

As a tour operator, you may view and use our brochures both branded Wilderness Safaris, or – by registering as a user on Wetu – you can even create your own branded brochure! Ask your Journey Specialist for more information.

NEW: INTRODUCTION OF THE WILDERNESS WINDOW

Wilderness Safaris has spent the last year developing a new **online reservations** system, a web-based platform with 24/7 availability: the Wilderness Window. Using the Window, a trade partner can create a real-time quote, as well as either provisionally hold or confirm the bednights required for the journey.

How it works: Creating a profile with your preferences helps to turn a once 48-hour process into a five-minute affair. All travel connections and meet and greet requirements are auto-populated into the bookings. You will have the ability to request space with a selection of our preferred partner products, as well as indicate your requirements for regional flights. The Window is currently in the testing (beta) phase with the expected release within the next two months.



NAMIBIA



UPDATED: DESERT RHINO CAMP

Recent renovations have included a new pool and a soft refurbishment of rooms and main area. So when not out tracking and viewing the rare desert-adapted black rhino, guests can cool off under the African sun.

GATHERING MOMENTUM: DESERT LION PROJECT



Satellite collars help researchers to better understand lion behaviour and play a role as an early warning system for farmers and herdsmen in areas prone to human-predator conflict.



Accordingly, Wilderness Wildlife Trust has funded the purchase of a new satellite collar as well as pre-paid airtime for two years. Dr Stander identified an appropriate lioness near **Damaraland Camp** that posed a potential threat to the livelihood of the farmers. By attaching this collar, livestock losses and subsequent killing of the desert-adapted lions will hopefully be averted. The satellite collar was fitted on 17 February 2013.

CITW NAMIBIA: FOR CAMPERS BY EX-CAMPERS

The 2012 Children in the Wilderness (CITW) camps were the first in CITW Namibia's history to have a large number of ex-campers joining the camp – which took place at **Andersson's Camp** – as CITW staff, to serve as mentors.

Of the 22 camp staff participating, seven were ex-campers, who had attended CITW camps at different times, from as early as 2002 to some who attended Follow-up Camp only last year. Hailing from different parts of the country, they bring cultural and socio-economic diversity to the programme, which helps greatly in relating and tailoring the experience to the young campers.



OPENING POSTPONED: HOANIB SKELETON COAST



The construction and opening of our exciting new camp, **Hoanib Skeleton Coast** has been postponed. Rather than open as advertised in July 2013, we will now only open the camp sometime in 2014. We are determined to establish a unique and iconic camp on this location (as befits the stunning natural riches of the area) and not being able to achieve this by the advertised date prompted the difficult decision to postpone this to 2014.



BOTSWANA

OKAVANGO DELTA

LINYANTI

CENTRAL KALAHARI

EXCITING ADDITIONS: LITTLE TUBU & TUBU TREE

A new, smaller camp is being built adjacent to Tubu Tree. Little Tubu (opening June 2013) will have three tents, its own main area and pool and offer the same activities as Tubu Tree. The main area will have a deck overlooking the seasonal riverbed, just right for private dinners or relaxing and taking in the view.



From June 2013, Tubu Tree will be increasing in size to eight tents, including a family unit. The family unit will have a small lounge area linking the two-tent unit – each with its own bathroom. In addition, walkways are being built and all existing units are being upgraded - new tents, more space and revamped interiors.

NEW POOL: DUMATAU CAMP

Situated on the edge of camp, the new pool has a large deck area plus self-service bar - where a variety of drinks and snacks will be provided throughout the day.



OWN AIRSTRIP: BANOKA BUSH CAMP

Banoka Bush Camp now has its own dedicated airstrip making visiting this dynamic area much easier and the transfer to camp itself quicker – stopping only for the fantastic sightings that this area is becoming known for.



NEW ADVENTURER TENTS: WILDERNESS EXPLORATIONS BOTSWANA



Used for the exciting **Migration Routes**, these newly-designed tents are in keeping with the authenticity of the

Explorations journey while offering more space and comfort. New 4m x 4m Meru tents will be used, with two metres of inside height and two windows on each side, plus additional storage space, wooden-frame beds, a hammock and an extended shade area at the entrance with safari chairs.

CAMP SOLAR RETROFITTING CONTINUES: KINGS POOL CAMP THE LATEST

Kings Pool is the most recent camp in the Botswana portfolio to go 100% solar. Previously using on average 4 996L of diesel a month, we can expect at least an 85% reduction in fuel use. This means we will reduce our annual CO₂ emissions by 11 tonnes – the equivalent of 14 one-way flights from Johannesburg to London in a commercial airliner!





ZIMBABWE & ZAMBIA

VICTORIA FALLS
HWANGE
MANA POOLS
KAFUE

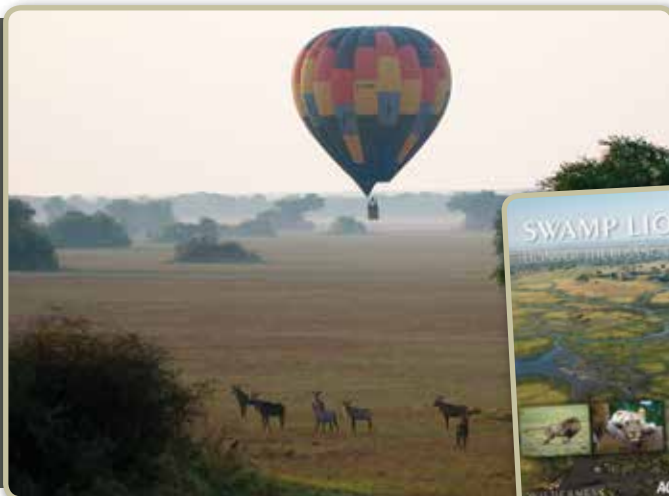
ALL NEW BOOKINGS IN 2013: FANTASTIC FLYING DEAL ON TRAVEL IN ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE

For stays of 3 nights or more, the relevant flying costs to access the following camps will be discounted by 50%: **Shumba Camp** and **Busanga Bush Camp** – Kafue National Park, Zambia; **Little Makalolo Camp** and **Davidson's Camp** – Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe; **Ruckomechi Camp** – Mana Pools National Park.



NEW: 2013 ZIMBABWE-ZAMBIA PACKAGES

We have packaged four great safaris to this fascinating part of the world for the 2013 season that cater for a variety of budgets and interests! Contact your Journey Specialist for the details. Flyers that you can share with your clients are also available.



COMPLIMENTARY: KAFUE BALLOONING EXCURSION AND SWAMP LIONS DVD

Kafue National Park is one of the largest in the world, and our private camps on its iconic Busanga Plains are intimate and luxurious, offering incredible scenery and wildlife experiences. The 2013 season is filled with good news and amazing incentives such as **free hot-air ballooning** during August, September and October for all guests on a three-night stay. **Courtesy copies of Swamp Lions**, an amazing documentary DVD on the Busanga Pride, are presented to all guests as well.

UPDATE: MANA CANOE TRAIL

Our **Mana Canoe Trail** offering for the 2013 and 2014 seasons has been outsourced to a good friend of Wilderness Safaris, Nick Murray, who owns and runs Bushlife Safaris. This will allow us to devote all our staff resources at Mana Pools to our operation at **Ruckomechi** and enhance guest experience there. Nick's team will operate all our Mana Canoe Trails this year with no compromise on the high standard of canoes, accommodation, food, service and guiding.

MALAWI & SOUTH AFRICA

NYIKA PLATEAU
LAKE MALAWI
LIWONDE

MALAWI RHINO PROJECT: LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK

As part of the overall aim of the project to continually monitor black rhino in Liwonde National Park, tracking devices were fitted to most of the animals in late November 2012. The ambitious project of fitting these devices was conducted by wildlife veterinarian Dr Pete Morkel and scouts from the Malawi National Parks Department. Tracking and darting these animals on foot in dense mopane woodland in 40° Celsius heat was a feat on its own! Rhino monitoring patrols have been set up to observe the rhinos and record data.

This has led to the exciting “Rhino Tracking Experience” that guests at **Mvuu Lodge** and **Mvuu Camp** can partake in. This unique activity comprises a three-hour guided walk, ending with a bush breakfast or dinner. In this way, guests have the opportunity of tracking black rhino and seeing them on foot, whilst also getting involved in monitoring – and contributing to conservation, as 90% of the fee paid goes to rhino conservation projects in Liwonde.



NEW FLIGHT SERVICES: STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH NYASSA AIR

Wilderness Safaris has teamed up with **Nyassa Air**, an operator with over 20 years aviation experience to offer direct flights to all our camps in Malawi.

NEW: MALAWI COMBINATION FLY-IN PACKAGES

On the back of the new flying alliance with Nyassa Air, four new packages have been introduced:

7-Day Nyika & Lake Malawi Fly-In Package takes in the splendour of Nyika National Park at Chelinda Lodge

and idyllic Nkwichi Lodge – set in the remote Manda Wilderness Area on the Mozambican shores of Lake Malawi.

7-Day Chelinda & Likoma Fly-In Package combines the majesty of Nyika National Park at Chelinda Lodge with Lake Malawi’s Kaya Mawa Lodge, Likoma Island.

7-Day South Luangwa & Nyika Package is a journey through the prime eco-offerings of Zambia’s South Luangwa National Park and Malawi’s mountainous wonderland of Nyika.

10-Day Nyika, Lake Malawi & South Luangwa Fly-In Package blends the prime, action-packed wildlife area of Zambia’s South Luangwa National Park with the montane landscapes of Nyika and blissful relaxation of Lake Malawi’s Likoma Island.



SOUTH AFRICA: PAFURI WALKING TRAILS 2013 ... BETTER THAN EVER

Pafuri Walking Trail is operational as usual for the 2013 season. Following the plentiful rains that the northern Kruger National Park received, the Pafuri Region is perfect for walking safaris.

Pafuri Walking Trail is a three-night, four-day walking trail in perhaps the best area for walking in the entire Park and is blessed not only with exceptional biodiversity but also spectacular scenery and seasonally high densities of many large mammal species.



WILDERNESS COLLECTION



BOTSWANA
CONGO
KENYA
SEYCHELLES



OPENING: SEGERA RETREAT

Segera Retreat has officially opened, amid great excitement about a spectacular award announcement! The first guests arrived at this Wilderness Collection property on the Laikipia Plateau in March and celebrated the opening with owner, management team, art curator and other VIPs. Beautiful green landscapes, African sun and

the atmosphere of Kenya turned a holiday into an unforgettable journey of magic.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR AWARD: SEGERA RETREAT

Segera Retreat was named as Newcomer of the Year by exclusive travel magazine Hideaways.



SOLAR ECLIPSE PACKAGE: SEGERA

A fascinating natural phenomenon is happening on the 3rd of November 2013 over Kenya: a total solar eclipse. **Segera Retreat** has put together a once-in-a-lifetime package around this at Lake Turkana – one of the best sites along the whole 2013 eclipse path. Guests will have the benefit of an expert – an on-hand astronomer will be guiding guests through this amazing sight.



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NORTH ISLAND: 10 YEARS ON

The **North Island** offering has evolved into something utterly unique and will remain so while being true to the 4Cs ethos. This will be a focus of the upgrade to components of the existing interior design, plus the showcasing of conservation principles through the environmental centre and the island activities offered. Far greater emphasis is also being placed on efficient alternative-energy solutions. The end goal of a phased energy management strategy will be to install either solar, wind or other forms of green energy production – or a combination of them all.





ODZALA: AMAZING WILDLIFE CONTINUES TO ASTOUND

The early part of 2013 saw the Odzala team continuing the wildlife habituation process and exploring new activities for the upcoming season. Recently we extended our efforts to two new areas: the area south of **Ngaga Camp** known as Lossi, and a series of small bais up the Mambili River. The highlight was the discovery of a picathartes nest near the potholes at Lossi. Even though the bird itself was not seen, this was hugely exciting since this Congo forest endemic is highly sought-after in the birding world. Other birding highlights included Vermiculated fishing owl, Latham's francolin and Nkulengu rail near Lango Camp.



A camera trap survey near **Lango Camp** by African Parks during January and February yielded fascinating discoveries of some of Odzala's more secretive creatures. The camera traps were positioned primarily on well-worn forest pathways en route to bais. Interesting species recorded were black guineafowl, Peters' duiker, western lowland gorilla, chimpanzee, golden cat, honey badger, leopard and water chevrotain!



The Neptuno family also had an exciting new addition to the group recently, when Cuba gave birth to a baby that is as yet unsexed and unnamed.

ABU: WILD DOGS, EVER-IMPROVING GAME VIEWING AND THE ABU HERD

The arrival of a pack of 16 wild dogs, in an area that has not traditionally seen wild dogs for many years, has thrilled everyone. It is hoped that they remain, becoming a regular featured sighting for guests and possibly even den somewhere on the **Abu** Concession this season. Other sightings have been leopard, the resident lion pride and abundant plains game.



Latest update from the **Abu Herd**

is that little Warona is becoming more and more daring as she ventures further from the herd under the watchful eyes of Cathy and Shireni. Kitimetse (Kitty) is now roughly 14 months pregnant and the prediction is for her new calf to be joining the herd around the end of November or early December.



FAMILY SAFARIS & WILDERNESS TOURING



FAMILY TIME AT WILDERNESS SAFARIS

In today's busy world, there is no doubt that time out with your family is precious, for young and old alike.



The beauty of our "family friendly" camps is that guests are able to spend quality time with their children as well as take time to pursue their own interests and relax while in camp. At many of our camps, we have family rooms so that parents can sleep near their children without being cramped in one room. We also have dedicated staff who provide creative entertainment and special activities just for children.

IMPROVED CHILD RATES: MAKING FAMILY TRAVEL MORE AFFORDABLE AND FLEXIBLE

Wilderness Safaris has revised its Child Travel Policy in order to make family travel more affordable and infinitely more flexible. In a nutshell:

- 35% discount in high season and a 65% discount in low season
- This reduced child rate can also be extended up to and including age 16.



WILDERNESS TOURING NEWS

There are some fabulous new and improved tours by Wilderness Touring in the Cape.

GASTRONOMY IN THE CAPE

Contemporary: Join a leading Cape chef in her home for a cooking lesson and lunch.

Cape Malay Traditional: Visit the vibrant Cape Malay Quarter with a longstanding resident. Visit a spice dealer and enjoy an introduction to Cape Malay cuisine in the warmth of a small family home.

Wine Blending: Blend your own wine and enjoy a long, lazy lunch on a leading wine estate whilst soaking in the exquisite Cape Winelands scenery.

ACTIVE EXPERIENCES

Cycling: Wilderness Touring continues to offer incredibly scenic and diverse cycling routes suited to all fitness levels. We incorporate all 'must-see' attractions into these routes – the Winelands and Cape Point National Park are best experienced from the seat of a bike!

Hiking and Abseiling: Experience the exhilaration of ascending to the highest point of Table Mountain or simply amble through the kaleidoscopic vegetation that is the Cape Floral Kingdom. Abseil from sheer cliff-faces of Table Mountain or glide gracefully through a cascading waterfall – whatever gets your pulse racing.

Marine: Explore one of the most species-rich coastlines on Earth either by boat or kayak - home to the great white shark, migrating whales, dolphins and seals.

