

Children in the *Wilderness*

Be part of creating the next generation of Africa's conservationists and environmental leaders.



CHILDREN IN THE
WILDERNESS



WILDERNESS
SAFARIS



Travel with Purpose

Celebrate 35 years of travelling with purpose

For the last 35 years – even when we started out in 1983 with just one old Land Rover – there has always been one overriding purpose to our ecotourism activities: to conserve and restore Africa’s wilderness and wildlife.

This is something enshrined in our internal charter and vision statement and which undoubtedly beats in the heart of every single Wilderness Safaris employee.

So ... what better way to celebrate our 35th birthday than to indulge in 12 months of adventurous and impactful journeys to exciting destinations, accompanied by local experts and with unique, privileged behind-the-scenes access to conservation and community processes of Wilderness Safaris and our partners.

We considered the places we’d choose to be, when we’d choose to be there and with whom we would travel and came up with 12 itineraries with limited guest capacity that take in some truly spectacular destinations. The trips are fun, enlightening expeditions to interesting places that make a real difference to those same interesting places. All proceeds will of course be channelled back to the conservation and community projects that we’ll be exposed to.

We invite you to join one of Children in the Wilderness’ renowned annual camp programmes – something never before open to the public. All funds raised from this itinerary are directly channelled into Children in the Wilderness



Purpose itinerary

15-18 Dec 2018

Zimbabwe
6 spaces

Ages 17 years and older only.



“ In the end, we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, we will understand only what we are taught. ”

- Baba Dioum

Children in the *Wilderness*



December 2018 – Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park and surrounds

- Volunteer as an Activity Leader at a Children in the Wilderness camp, led by a Children in the Wilderness Zambezi Programme Coordinator.
- Spend three days with the participants as they are introduced to their natural heritage and learn life skills, environmental education, team building, art and games.
- Learn about bugs and other creatures with the children.



About the project – Children in the Wilderness is our non-profit organisation that aims to facilitate sustainable conservation through leadership development and education of rural children in Africa.

Insight, care and commitment are required to conserve Africa's pristine wilderness and wildlife areas. If we are to ensure that these places continue to exist – in this generation and those to come – we need the rural children of Africa to understand the importance of conservation and its relevance in their lives. Hence, our Children in the Wilderness programme: an environmental and life skills educational programme for children, focusing on the next generation of decision-makers; inspiring them to care for their natural heritage and to become the custodians of these areas in the future.



Itinerary



- **15 Dec:** Fly into Hwange and meet the children as they come into camp; take part in teambuilding and other games; end with “burning the fears” and a story around the campfire. Overnight Davison’s Camp.
- **16 Dec:** Participate in full-day programme including life skills, environmental education, teambuilding, art and games. Overnight Davison’s Camp.
- **17 Dec:** Take part in full-day programme. Overnight Davison’s Camp.
- **18 Dec:** Say farewell to children and fly out.

Ts & Cs apply

Additional activities:

A visit to Ngamo village, where the CITW campers will showcase their school and homes, meet the Headman Mr Johnson Ncube and his wife Dorothy who will host everyone at their homestead and introduce them to their Ndebele traditions.





Meet your Hosts

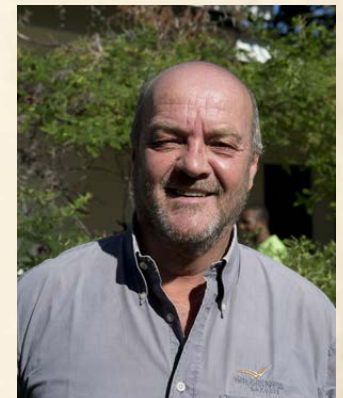
Sue Goatley, Children in the Wilderness Programme Coordinator – Zambezi Region (Zambia and Zimbabwe)

Sue is a born and bred second-generation Zimbabwean and spent her early childhood growing up in the rural farming communities. She trained at Zimbabwe Teachers College and had 25 years' primary school teaching experience in both South African and Zimbabwean Schools prior to joining Wilderness Safaris in 2008, where she initiated the Children in the Wilderness programme for Zimbabwe. Today, she is the Children in the Wilderness Programme Coordinator for the Zambezi Region which incorporates both Zimbabwe and Zambia, as well as being responsible for Wilderness Safaris Community Programmes.



Ron Goatley, MD Wilderness Safaris Zambezi

Ron Goatley is the Managing Director of Wilderness Safaris in the Zambezi Region, running the company's operations in both Zambia and Zimbabwe. He joined Wilderness Safaris in the Zimbabwean operations in 1996, and was tasked with building Makalolo Plains, Little Makalolo and Linkwasha camps in Hwange. In 1998, Ron became a Director of Operations before taking the reins from Keith Vincent (now Wilderness CEO) as Managing Director, Wilderness Safaris Zimbabwe, in 2000. In 2012, Ron moved into his current position as Managing Director Zambezi Region overseeing the operations in both Zimbabwe and Zambia.



“Working for Wilderness Safaris gives me the opportunity to do something I truly believe in, which is strongly aligned to the company’s philosophy that the world’s wilderness areas will save humankind.”

- Ron Goatley

Meet your Programme Directors

James Mwanza, Children in the Wilderness; CITW Programme Coordinator

James is an environmentalist who previously worked for African Wildlife Foundation as well as for the Lupande Game Management Area (GMAs) as a Community Coordinator spearheading Park Conservation and Environmental Planning programmes. James grew up in the Lupande area, where wildlife roamed abundantly and was a source of protein for the people. James came to realise that poaching was depleting the wildlife, which invoked a passion in him to bring about change in the way communities, particularly the younger generation, viewed their resources. He joined Children in the Wilderness Zambezi in 2014 to make a difference, striving to create a generation of young people that manages their environment, earns a living from it and uses all the resources in a way that allows future generations to enjoy similar benefits. Recently, James was honoured to be voted President of Southern Tourism, Agriculture and Commercial Societies (2017-2021) by the Community of Southern Zambia.



Mxolisi Sibanda, Children in the Wilderness; community liaison

Growing up under the guardianship of his grandparents in a rural village, Mxolisi was inspired to study hard at school as he saw the vital need to improve the lives of his family and the community around him. He underwent training for primary health care under the Zimbabwe Red Cross and St Johns Society, a career he pursued diligently, becoming one of the first male community healthworkers under the Zimbabwe Red Cross HIV / AIDS programme. He joined Wilderness Safaris where he worked in various departments including the HIV / AIDS Programme. More recently he has spearheaded a number of projects within CITW as the organisation's Field Projects Coordinator. Here he has worked tirelessly in making a difference in children's lives and the communities in which they live.



Meet your Programme Directors

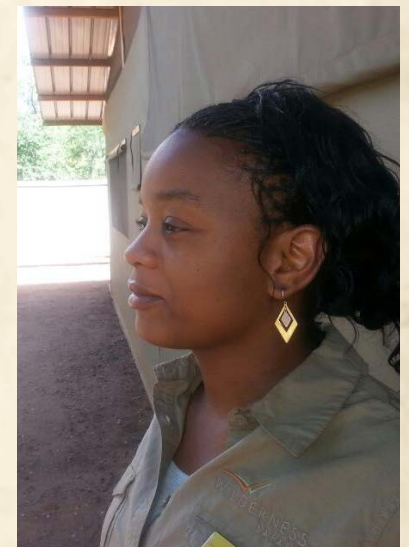
Shuvanayi Taruvinga, Children in the Wilderness Camp Coordinator

Having grown up in a big family with parents that were pastors, Shuvanayi became interested in people from a tender age. This 35-year-old mother of one loves children and has been involved with Children in the Wilderness for three years now, assisting with the scholarship programme. Her passion for making a difference in rural children's lives has been fed year after year as she draws her inspiration from seeing the children receiving education opportunities and a chance of becoming great leaders in the future. Shuvanayi studied Tourism & Environmental Education and this has helped shape the direction of her career, with the future of Zimbabwe's wildlife heritage at the core. She is an outstanding mentor and role model for the secondary and tertiary school students.



Cynthia Ndiweni

Cynthia was raised in the small mining town of Gwanda where her enjoyment of the wild and interacting with the fauna and flora of the area led her to get a degree in Forest Resources and Wildlife Management, while her love of being involved in community development meant she pursued another degree in Disaster Management! She is driven to work with rural communities, helping them to improve their living standards through benefiting from local resources and resolving issues such as conflict with wildlife that lives on their doorsteps. She previously worked for Wilderness Safaris Zimbabwe in the Camp Operations team where she co-managed the operations of lodges in Hwange National Park; this stands her in good stead as she takes up her role in CITW. Here she seeks to improve the lives of the communities around Hwange, ensuring that they can benefit from ecotourism.

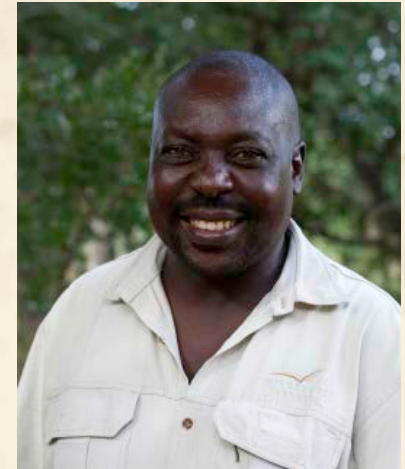


Meet your Guide

Charles Ndlovu

Charles started out in 1986 by joining Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority as a National Parks Scout. Here, his love for sharing and interpreting the natural world grew and he resolved to become a professional guide. With this achieved, he finally joined Wilderness Safaris in 2006 and has spent the past 12 years getting to know every nook and cranny of the company's two private concessions in Hwange's south-east. It is here where his passion for walking in big game country and his interest in birding really came to the fore, not to mention his larger-than-life personality and good humour.

Charles is regarded as a 'dagga boy' by the rest of the guides – a term of respect usually used to describe older buffalo bulls and quite fitting given that the translation of his Ndebele surname means "elephant." When not guiding guests, Charles can be found at home on the shores of Lake Kariba with his wife and four children, where he indulges his other passion – fishing.



About the Children in the Wilderness Programme

Children in the Wilderness runs Camp Programmes in six southern African countries (Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe). For these, Wilderness Safaris and other partner companies close some of their camps for several weeks each year, allowing Children in the Wilderness to host groups of selected rural children instead. Groups of 16 to 30 children between the ages of 10 and 17, pre-selected from Eco-Clubs in the surrounding areas, are invited to spend three nights in camp and participate in the programme.

The Camps themselves are run by the regional Children in the Wilderness Coordinator and a Camp Leader, assisted by a full staff complement of volunteers and Eco-Mentors. Eco-Mentors are assigned to the children, interacting with them as counsellors, friends and, most importantly, role models. Since many Eco-Mentors come from the same communities or villages as the camp participants, by their example they restore a sense of hope to the children, allowing them to see a future for themselves – “if I can do it, so can you” is the subtle encouragement of the Eco-Mentor.

<https://www.childreninthewilderness.com/>





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with Purpose*



Seychelles