

Conservation *Coalitions*

Track Critically Endangered black rhino on foot in the desert landscape of Damaraland and meet remote rural communities in this world-leading Namibian community-run conservancy



WILDERNESS
SAFARIS



A Life-Changing *Journey...*

Brought to you by


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.

On this purposeful journey we invite you to join us in Namibia’s untamed Damaraland region to participate in the conservation initiatives that we support here. All funds raised from this itinerary go directly to the Save the Rhino Trust (SRT) NGO.



A rhinoceros is standing in the lower-left foreground of a vast, dry landscape. The ground is a mix of reddish-brown soil and sparse, dry vegetation. In the background, a range of mountains stretches across the horizon under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

16 – 21 June 2019

NAMIBIA

Damaraland's Palmwag
Concession

Trip guaranteed to travel
with minimum 4 guests

Conservation Coalitions



June 2019 – Damaraland in Namibia’s remote north-west

- Gain first-hand exposure to the remote rural communities of this world-leading Namibian community conservancy system
- Track Critically Endangered black rhino on foot across the parched rocky desert of north-western Namibia accompanied by community and rhino conservation experts
- Witness the impact of community-based conservation and see how it has saved the black rhino and many other desert-adapted species



About the Purpose

Together with our partners Save the Rhino Trust (SRT), we have managed to dramatically and sustainably increase the range of desert-adapted black rhino in Namibia, as well as the overall population, such that the Namibian north-west is now indisputably home to Africa’s most important population of black rhino to have survived outside a formally-protected park.



Itinerary



16 June: Fly to Damaraland Camp from Windhoek; afternoon game drive; evening presentation on Wilderness Safaris' and our partners' north-west Namibia conservancy system. Overnight Damaraland Camp.

17 June: Morning game drive to the Huab River; interaction with community members at De Riet – discussion on Riemvasmakers, water and elephants; lunch in camp; afternoon with Oom Jantjie Rhyh; sundowners at Lovebird Roost. Overnight Damaraland Camp.

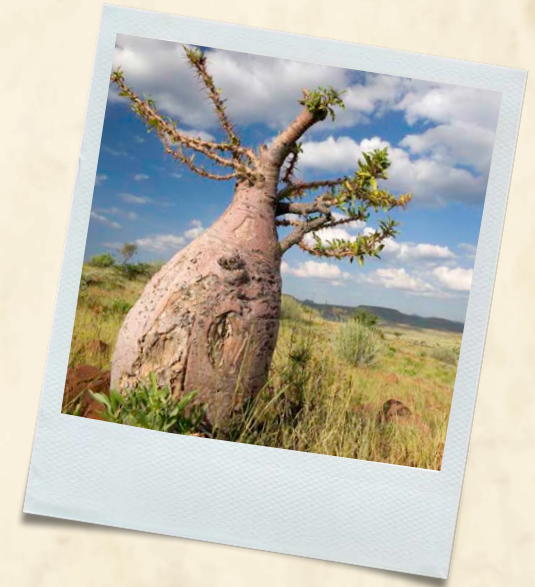
18 June: Day trip to Desert Rhino Camp via Bergsig, Dopsteek and Wêreldsend. Camp set up at Wêreldsend. Overnight Damaraland Camp.

19 June: Day trip rhino tracking from Wêreldsend; picnic with SRT. Overnight Desert Rhino Camp.

20 June: Day trip rhino tracking; picnic with SRT. Overnight Desert Rhino Camp.

21 June: Morning game drive before return flight to Windhoek and onward travel arrangements.

Ts & Cs apply





Namibia



ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK





SKELTON COAST NATIONAL PARK

KAOKOVELD

DAMARALAND

ATLANTIC OCEAN

KEY

-  Wilderness Safaris – Classic Camp
-  Wilderness Safaris – Adventures Camp
-  Point of Interest
-  Rock Art

Serra Cafema

KUNENE RIVER

OTJINJANGE RIVER

HOARUSEB RIVER

Möwe Bay seal colony

HOANIB RIVER

UNIAB RIVER

KOIGAB RIVER

HUAB RIVER

Twyfelfontein

Desert Rhino Camp

Damaraland Camp

Doro Nawas

KAOKOVELD



Meet your Hosts

Alexandra Margull – Wilderness Safaris Namibia CEO

Wilderness Safaris Namibia CEO Alexandra Margull has been with the company since July 2005, fulfilling a role in driving service delivery, training and staff welfare in this region. In addition to talent management and people development across the Wilderness Group, Alexandra set up the Wilderness Safaris Business School in 2011, with the first intake of 29 participants starting in November 2011. She has now taken the Wilderness Business School to the next level, with the recent launch of the Wilderness Leadership Academy. Alexandra continues to drive this important initiative and oversee the Group's HR strategies.

"I love Wilderness Safaris, and growing and developing people to help them realise their full potential is one of my main priorities. I know that with my experience I can continue to positively influence the Namibian operation, and I will strive to retain Wilderness' high standards of operation and service delivery."



Jermain Ketji – Wilderness Safaris Namibia Community Liaison Manager

Jermain Ketji has been in community-based conservation and tourism for over 12 years, starting as a research assistant in the Kavango and Caprivi regions of Namibia before piloting cultural tourism concepts in the Omaheke region. He served as a business advisor for the Namibian community-based Tourism Association and its Rural Development Project before venturing into business as a tour operator specialising in cultural tours. He joined Wilderness Safaris as a freelance guide in 2005 before taking on a full-time role in 2006 as a community liaison officer. He has since served as a guide and moved up the ranks to Relief Manager and Concession Manager, to his current position as Community Liaison Manager, focusing amongst others, on managing joint venture agreements with conservancies well as liaising with key stakeholders in conservation, tourism, and grassroots community development with a focus on education.

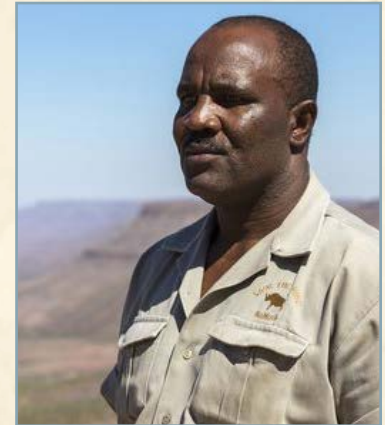


Meet your Expert

Simson Uri-Khob, CEO Save the Rhino Trust

Simson is a son of Damaraland with vast experience in all aspects of SRT, beginning his career here in 1991. Since then he has held several positions within the organisation, including leader of the camel team and Director of Field Operations. After achieving his MSc with Merit from the University of Kent, Simson became SRT's Director of Research. In 2014, he was appointed Chief Executive Officer of SRT.

Simson is a member of the African Rhino Specialist Group and winner of the Namibia Nature Foundation Environmental Award. Like all the best conservationists, Simson looks towards to the future, with respect for the past.



"I strongly believe that my success is due to the late Blythe Loutit and Mike Hearn, who both helped me and encouraged me all along. Now it is my turn to help make a difference. Through education and communication, I am able to pass on my knowledge to the next generation, and I know that my work will carry on. That's why I love it."



Meet your Expert

Jeff Muntifering, Science Advisor – Save the Rhino Trust

Born in Minnesota in the United States of America, Jeff has called north-western Namibia home since 2003, when he was introduced to SRT by the late Mike Hearn. This was shortly after completing his MSc in Conservation Biology from the University of Cape Town.

In 2006 he accepted an invitation to serve as SRT's Science Adviser and continues to hold this post under his employment with the Minnesota Zoo. Jeff brings scientific leadership to SRT by managing and analysing SRT's rhino-monitoring data and conducting applied research on rhino ecology and tourism that supports decision-making. He also coordinates the Conservancy Rhino Ranger Support Group. He completed his PhD through Stellenbosch University on tourism as a rhino conservation tool in 2016.

Jeff is continuously inspired by SRT's commitment to saving rhino and quotes Edward Abbey's famous line, *Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul*, adding "And there is certainly no shortage of soul in SRT."

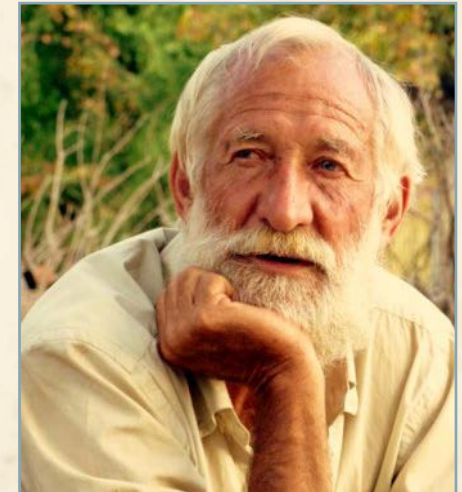


Garth Owen-Smith, Award-Winning Namibian Conservationist

Garth Owen-Smith is the 2015 winner of the Prince William Lifetime Conservation Award, having spent more than 40 years pioneering community-based conservation in the Kaokoveld and Zambezi (formerly Caprivi) region.

Garth's best-selling book, *An Arid Eden* (Jonathan Ball Publishers, 2010) is a personal account of his life's work in the Kaokoveld. He is internationally recognised as a founder of community-based natural resource management in southern Africa, and he and his partner, Dr Margaret Jacobsohn, have won some of the world's top conservation awards for their work in Namibia's two most remote corners – the north-western Kunene Region and Zambezi in the north-east.

Garth trained as a forester in the 1960s but chose to start working in the arid Kunene. He is well-known and highly respected in numerous communities across Namibia.



Meet your guide

Gerhard Thirion

Growing up on a game farm just north of Namibia's world-famous Etosha Game Reserve, Gerhard developed his lifelong passion for wildlife, nature and indigenous culture at an early age. His holidays were spent horse-riding, walking in the African bush, sleeping under the stars, fishing, conducting game capture operations and helping his father repair fences destroyed by elephants. After several years languishing in a city-based operational capacity, Gerhard made a decision to return to the bush where his love for sharing nature with visitors could be realised. After qualifying as a guide, Gerhard spent the next two years running safaris throughout Namibia on a freelance basis. His big break finally came at the start of the new millennium when he was offered a permanent position with Wilderness Safaris as a mobile safari guide. He believes that he has the best job in the world as it permits him to combine his profound love for Namibia with its diverse wildlife, cultures and landscapes.





Partner and Beneficiary

Save the Rhino Trust (SRT)

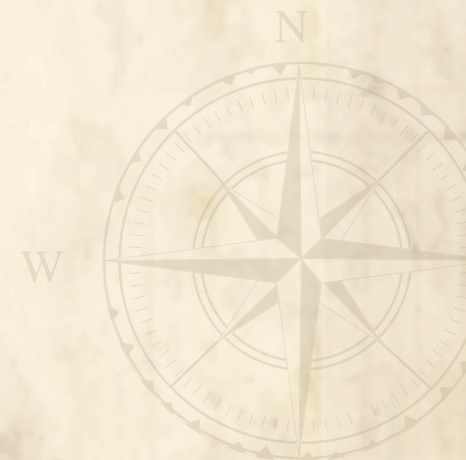
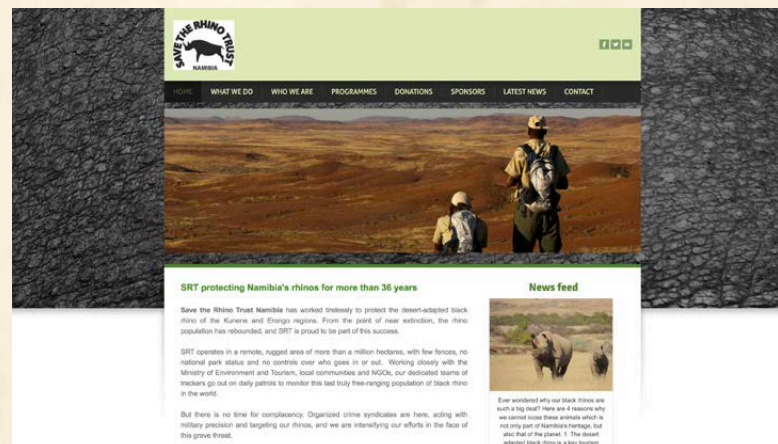
For almost four decades Save the Rhino Trust Namibia has worked tirelessly to protect the desert-adapted black rhino of the Kunene and Erongo regions, and from a point of near-extinction the rhino population has rebounded, a remarkable success SRT is proud to be part of.

SRT operates in a remote, rugged area of more than a million hectares, with few fences, no national park status and no controls over who goes in or out. Working closely with Namibia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), local communities, ecotourism entities like Wilderness Safaris, and NGOs, dedicated teams of trackers go out on daily patrols to monitor this last truly free-ranging population of black rhino in the world.

Thanks to ongoing and generous support of donor organisations and individuals, SRT has proved its sustainability over a period of 36 years. SRT's formal Memorandum of Understanding with MET serves as recognition of the value of the work done by the Trust in assisting the Ministry in the protection of black rhino over three decades.



<http://www.savetherhinotrust.org/>





Seychelles

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