




new
PARADISE
with purpose
2019

A Vulnerable white-eye species
and the largest tortoise in the world – on an ultra-luxe private tropical island



WILDERNESS
SAFARIS

An aerial photograph of a tropical island, likely in the Philippines, showing a mix of green forest and grey rocky terrain. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and a large mountain range is visible in the distance under a cloudy sky. The entire image has a semi-transparent teal overlay.

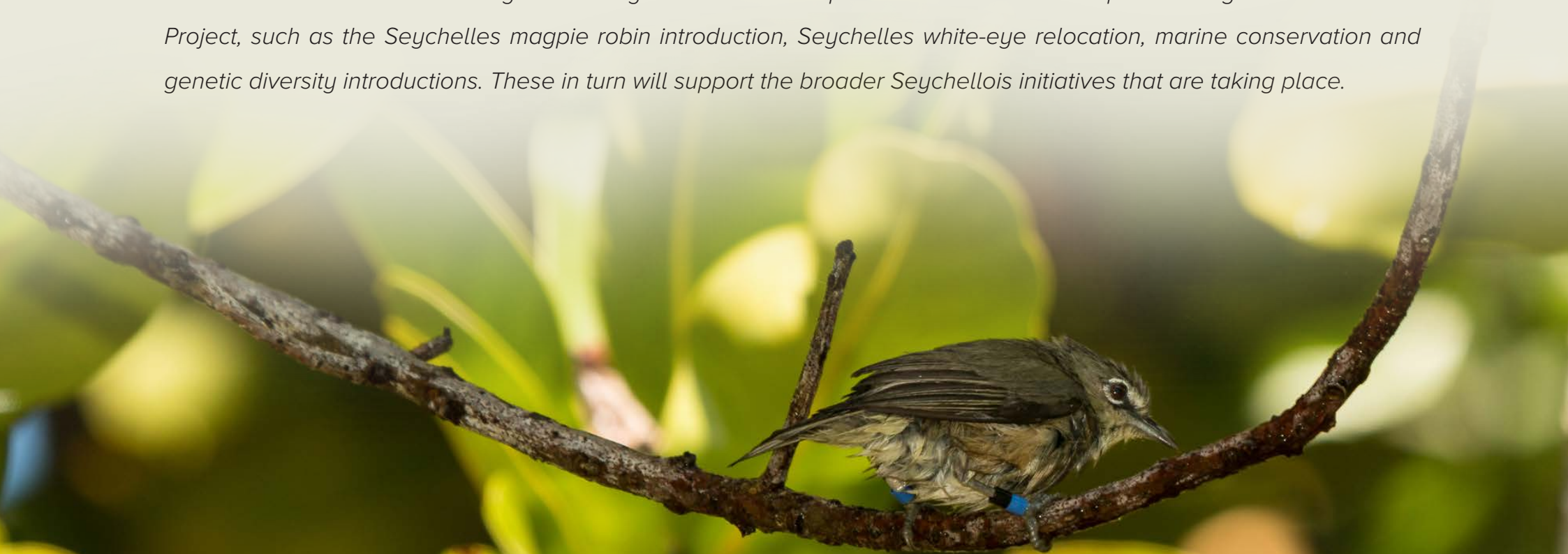
“There is a purpose that drives everything we do – a shared passion and love for the natural world and wildlife, and an urgent need to conserve some of the most remote and pristine places on Earth.”

THE LUXURY OF PURPOSE

Introducing Paradise with Purpose, one of a portfolio of eight life-changing, ‘purposeful’ journeys crafted to offer guests access to unique and privileged, behind-the-scenes conservation and community projects run by ourselves and our partners.

This itinerary introduces guests to North Island, Seychelles’ endemic plants and reptiles, a Vulnerable white-eye species, and the largest land tortoise in the world – all on one ultra-luxe tropical island.

All funds raised from this itinerary are directly channelled into specific initiatives that form part of the greater Noah’s Ark Project, such as the Seychelles magpie robin introduction, Seychelles white-eye relocation, marine conservation and genetic diversity introductions. These in turn will support the broader Seychellois initiatives that are taking place.





08 – 12 June 2019

Seychelles
North Island

Trip guaranteed to travel with
minimum 4 guests.

PARADISE WITH PURPOSE



On this journey...

- Actively participate in a survey and ringing of the Seychelles white-eye population.
- Take part in translocating some of the North Island population to other islands to further protect the species.
- Explore one of the most beautiful islands on Earth.
- Learn how one of the rarest birds in the world was saved from extinction.
- Observe the various initiatives that make up the Island's Noah's Ark Project and that are still underway: removal of alien plants and planting of thousands of indigenous species.
- Meet some of the animals that call the island home, from terrapins to charismatic giant Aldabra tortoises.



About the Species: One of North Island and Wilderness' conservation highlights has been the introduction of the Seychelles white-eye in 2007 when its global population was just 350 birds and it was classified as Critically Endangered by the IUCN. From our founder population of 25 birds we now have over 100 – part of the reason why the species has been downlisted to 'just' Vulnerable by the IUCN, and why we are now able to use our population as a source from which to populate other islands in Seychelles.

Itinerary

- 8 June Arrive on North Island; Evening talk by Bruce Simpson on Noah's Ark project and rehabilitation of North Island.
- 9 June Forest walk (new path being created from Plateau, past marsh, through Saddle Road area to West Beach, finishing at Sunset Bar), showing the different stages of rehabilitation; hopefully see tortoises, birds, lizards etc. Picnic Lunch. Afternoon presentation by white-eye expert on survey and tagging – what to expect and each person's roles and responsibilities.
- 10 June White-eye survey and collection of data on ring combinations etc. using call-back technique. Plateau, Tree Nursery, Forest showcasing the success of the introduction. Evening Presentation by CJ and Tarryn Havemann on other projects on the island.
- 11 June White-eye survey and collection of data on ring combinations etc. using call-back technique. Diving and/or snorkelling with fish slates – data collection for marine monitoring.
- 12 June Depart North Island for onward arrangements.

Ts & Cs apply



Rates

4 Guests €17,725.00 per person sharing

Single Supplement €17,115.00

Exclusions:

- International long-haul flights to and from Mahé.
- Meals not specified.
- Items of a personal nature i.e. telephone calls, laundry, mini-bar etc.
- Cancellation, baggage and medical insurance.
- Staff gratuities.
- Any new government taxes, levies, fuel or industry increases which are beyond our control.
- Visa fees – where relevant.
- Departure taxes, unless specified.



Meet your Host



Bruce Simpson, Managing Director, North Island

Bruce Simpson began his ecotourism career in 1990 as a guide in South Africa, working his way through a variety of industry roles, from guiding to lodge management and more, before joining Wilderness Safaris. After a couple of years of Okavango Delta experience, he and his wife Cate moved to North Island, Seychelles, where their background and experience in high-end ecotourism and attention to detail laid the foundation for this exceptional destination to be recognised by a number of high-profile awards, including Best Hotel in the World by Condé Nast in 2006. Over the next few years, Bruce and Cate worked for Wilderness in Namibia (as Managing Director there) and then back in Johannesburg managing a small suite of high-end properties in Seychelles, Botswana, Kenya and Congo for Wilderness. In 2013, his portfolio was expanded to include business development for the Wilderness Group with a mandate to investigate and develop new opportunities for the company in Africa.

'My most proud and special moment has been when we successfully reintroduced the Seychelles white-eye, a species that was Critically Endangered and near extinction before our part in its rescue was considered. Not the fact that we have been called the best private island in the world or No.1 destination by some of the leading luxury brands and associations in our industry, but an amazing story of commitment to a single dream; one that continues 21 years later and is only starting to show real results and potential for success of all the efforts.'

Meet your experts



Tarryn Havemann, Conservation Coordinator

Tarryn was exposed at an early age to travelling and to different natural environments, which was the starting point for her love of nature and all things in it. She obtained her BSc, BSc (Hons) and MSc in the field of Zoology at University of Pretoria, where the fieldwork component – focusing on the structuring of ant communities in the vicinity of perennial water sources – was conducted in a Wilderness Safaris concession in northern Botswana's Linyanti Reserve. During those two years of fieldwork, she came to understand and respect Wilderness Safaris' ideology and commitment to low-impact ecotourism, encouraging her to become a part of the company. Tarryn now works as the Conservation Coordinator of North Island.



Carl Havemann (CJ), Environmental Manager, North Island

CJ's love for the bush started at a young age, which resulted in him choosing ecology as his career path. He obtained an undergraduate degree in Environmental Sciences, a BSc (Hons) and MSc in Zoology. He has worked on a range of projects, from coastal dune forest restoration to studying the nocturnal habits of aardwolf. He spent two years studying the ecology of roan antelope in the Linyanti Concession (managed by Wilderness Safaris), which illustrated how committed Wilderness Safaris was to conserving and maintaining the natural beauty of the areas it operates in; he was keen to be part of the company. After spending many years in the African bush, he decided to try something new and in April 2014 CJ joined the North Island team as Environmental Manager.

Beneficiary

Noah's Ark Project

In one of the most ambitious island rehabilitation programmes ever undertaken by a private company and a handful of NGO partners, the Noah's Ark Project has taken an entire island ecosystem that was degraded and overrun with invasive plant and animal species, and has aimed at restoring it to its original natural abundance and diversity. In an ongoing project lasting nearly 20 years to date, alien plants and animals are being removed, over 100 000 indigenous seedlings have been planted, and indigenous fauna such as the Aldabra giant tortoise reintroduced. The introduction of the Vulnerable Seychelles white-eye has been successful – so much so that individuals can be relocated to other islands to repopulate them, and there are plans to extend the same initiative to other bird species.



<https://www.north-island.com/noahs-ark/>

PARADISE WITH PURPOSE 2019

ENQUIRE NOW

Our journeys change lives





*Travel
with Purpose*

