



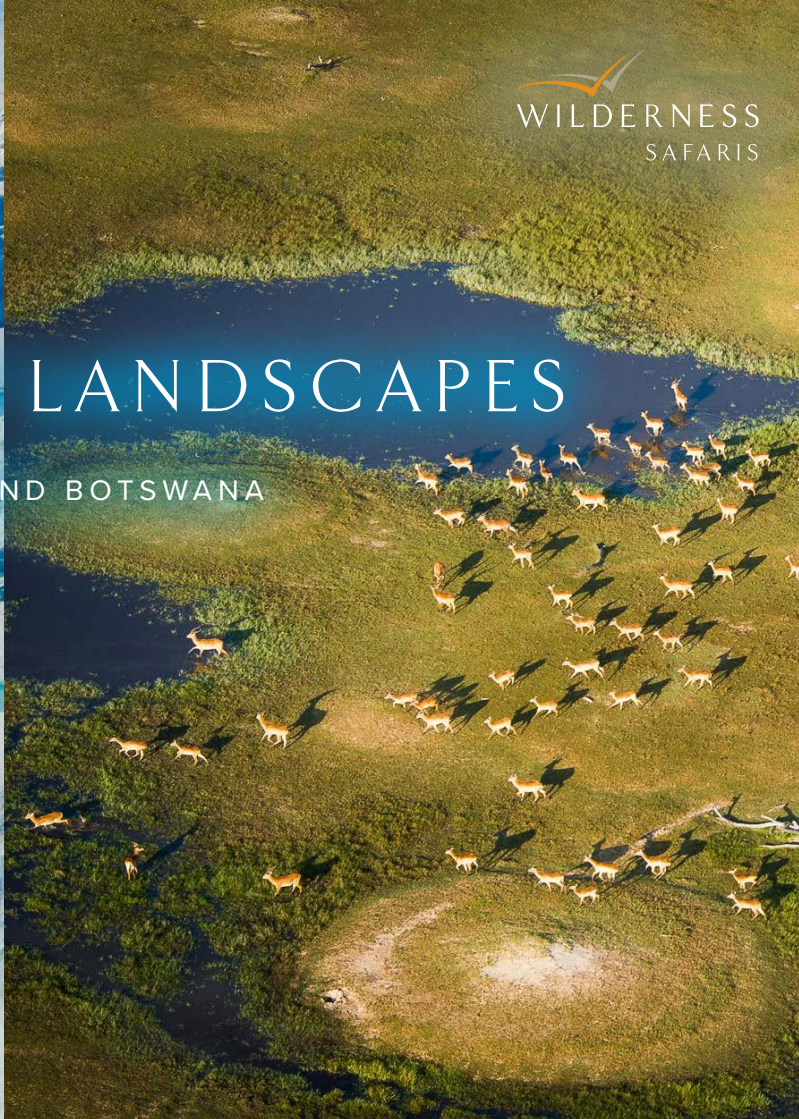
WHITE DESERT
ANTARCTICA

LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES

ANTARCTICA AND BOTSWANA



WILDERNESS
SAFARIS



14 nights (Cape Town, Antarctica, Botswana)

For two unforgettable weeks, explore the breath-taking beauty of Antarctica, Cape Town's vibrant culture and city, and Botswana's awe-inspiring Okavango Delta. Witness one of nature's rarest sights: a colony of 14 000 emperor penguins during a four-night stay at the brand-new Echo Camp. White Desert offers access to the colony early in the season, just as the chicks step off their parents' feet. After a few days of rest and reset in Cape Town, embark on a four-night luxury photographic safari at Wilderness Vumbura Plains in the Okavango Delta. Enjoy exclusive sightings of Africa's iconic predators and mega herds of elephant by land safari, and the water-loving creatures by mokoro or boat through the channels of the Delta.





VIDEO ITINERARY

LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES

ANTARCTICA AND BOTSWANA



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MORE ABOUT WILDERNESS SAFARIS and WHITE DESERT

As leaders in responsible tourism and conservation, Wilderness Safaris offers unforgettable luxury adventures that help preserve biodiversity, conserve wildlife and uplift local communities. Since their founding in Botswana in 1983, Wilderness Safaris has shared their passion for Africa, as well as their custodial sense of protection, and the urgency to protect these ecosystems and the life they support, with thousands of guests. Operating in seven countries across 58 diverse camps, and protecting 2.3 million hectares (5.6 M acres) of Africa's wilderness, Wilderness Safaris is the world's largest conservation tourism platform.



Founded by world-record polar explorers, White Desert has transformed the isolated beauty of Antarctica into an exclusive playground, offering luxury accommodations and a host of adventurous experiences, including ice climbing, abseiling, rock climbing, and rope walking, as well as the rare highlight of visiting the South Pole. Protecting Antarctica's future is fundamental to White Desert's mission. In addition to supporting scientists performing ground-breaking research on the Antarctic ice shelf, White Desert's operations leave no waste on the continent and their camps are built with the lightest environmental footprint, similar to those of Wilderness Safaris, where all elements can be disassembled, leaving no trace.



As pioneers in sustainable ecotourism in Africa and Antarctica, Wilderness Safaris and White Desert have a shared desire to conserve and protect the pristine wilderness areas in which they operate. Through these life-changing journeys, highlighting the best of Africa and Antarctica, guests will not only be exposed to new landscapes, cultures and ecosystems, but also to new ways of viewing the world, our place in it and, ultimately, its sustainability.



AFRICA

INDIAN OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Vumbura Plains

BOTSWANA

SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town

ANTARCTICA

Echo

ITINERARY

Days 1-2: Cape Grace, Cape Town, South Africa

Days 3-7: Echo, Antarctica

Days 8-10: Cape Grace, Cape Town, South Africa

Days 11-14: Vumbura Plains, Okavango Delta, Botswana

Day 15: Departure

Arrive in Cape Town, South Africa where you will be met by a Wilderness Private Journeys Guide. Consistently lauded as one of the world's top destinations, Cape Town offers the ideal starting point for this unforgettable journey. Explore the Cape's remarkable ocean vistas and world-renowned winelands. During your stay here, White Desert will conduct a comprehensive safety briefing for your adventure to Antarctica on Day 3.

Board a private jet for a 5-hour flight to White Desert's newest camp, Echo. Inspired by the seminal age of space exploration and built from composite fibreglass, each of Echo's six cutting-edge Sky Pods features floor-to-ceiling windows, offering uninterrupted views of the dramatic Antarctic landscape. Three wilderness guides and a personal chef make this experience as luxurious and bespoke as it is adventurous.

During your five-night stay, take a 2-hour flight to Atka Bay where you will have exclusive access to one of nature's most spectacular and least-viewed wildlife events: the birth of emperor penguin chicks. During the long, dark winter months, the male penguin carries a single egg on his feet until it hatches, while the female hunts out at sea. To keep warm, adult males shelter from the wind in a constantly shifting huddle, until the females return in the spring.

Return to Cape Town aboard the same private jet for two days at the Cape Grace Hotel, and explore the city with a Wilderness Private Journeys Guide.



ITINERARY

On Day 11, fly to the wildlife-rich paradise of Botswana's Okavango Delta (commercial flights available to Maun, private flight options available upon request, followed by a private flight with Wilderness Air to Wilderness Vumbura Plains).

Vumbura Plains is a contemporary, luxury safari camp. Guest suites feature private plunge pools and sunken living rooms with panoramic vistas of the passing parade of wildlife. Ideally located for both land and water safari activities, it offers multiple perspectives and game-viewing opportunities, for an unparalleled Okavango Delta experience. Summer in the Delta brings the land to life, heralding lush vegetation and calving season for several antelope species.

Your onward travel to a port of international departure can be arranged with your Wilderness Travel Designer.



ABOUT ANTARCTICA

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Temperatures: -10°C to -1°C (14°F to 27°F).
- 24 hours of daylight.
- Best chance for calmer seas.
- Glaciers are actively calving.
- Long, drawn-out dawn and dusks creating seemingly everlasting late-night sunsets and sunrises.



Strong conservation ideals.



Remote and exclusive.



An integrated ecotourism and conservation model.



Antarctica is larger than China and India combined and is the coldest, windiest, driest and highest-altitude continent on Earth.



It is the only continent with no native human population.



The continent is almost entirely covered by ice averaging 1.9 km (1.2 miles) in thickness, reaching a maximum depth of 4.5 km (2.7 miles).



It is home to 80% of the world's fresh water, yet no rain has fallen in Antarctica for more than two million years; on average, less than 10 mm p.a. of snow falls in Antarctica.



Nobody owns, or can claim sovereignty over, Antarctica, which is governed by an international treaty signed by 54 nations.



Antarctica is the only continent with no official time zone; White Desert uses UTC throughout its Antarctic operations.

Some of the effects of White Desert's ecotourism presence in Antarctica.

Carbon-neutral since 2007, White Desert is the only air operator on the entire continent to be fully carbon neutral. All solid waste is transported out of Antarctica at the end of the season, and we are working to remove single-use plastic from all our operations. We use photovoltaic panels and solar air heaters. Only biodegradable soaps, shampoo and washing-up liquids are used in camp. We are the first Antarctic operator to utilise Sustainable Aviation Fuel in our operations. Founder Robyn Woodhead sits as Chair of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) Executive Committee. We believe that by showing people this incredible place, we are creating 'Antarctic Ambassadors' who will share the importance of conserving Antarctica for future generations. In addition to providing logistics support, we use our tourist infrastructure to support vital climate-change research.



ABOUT ECHO, ANTARCTICA

Venture into the heart of Queen Maud Land and you'll discover Echo, White Desert Antarctica's brand-new luxury adventure camp. Just a 5-hour private jet flight from Cape Town, the camp is situated amongst pillars of rock, known as nunataks, rising 1 000 m vertically from the icecap. You'll find yourself quickly welcomed into this warm and inviting property, whose accommodation includes six state-of-the-art heated Sky Pods with en-suite washrooms and toilets. Uninterrupted views from the floor-to-ceiling windows are a feature of this ultra-modern camp.

Unwind in the communal lounge as you anticipate bespoke menus prepared by your personal chef. Expect hearty breakfasts, wholesome lunches and warming family-style dinners, with wines from Western Cape vineyards, freshly-baked bread and hot coffee. And enjoy a refreshing cocktail or two at the Ice Bar, made with 100 000-year-old ice.

Using Echo as a base, your adventure guide will introduce you to the stunning Antarctic wilderness where you can spend time hiking, climbing, ice-climbing, abseiling, fat biking and more.





ABOUT THE OKAVANGO DELTA

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Temperatures: 19°C to 30°C (66°F to 89°F).
- Floodplains exposed by the receding waters are transformed by the rains into a tapestry of green.
- Game with young, feeding in these open areas, offer excellent photographic opportunities with rich landscapes and dramatic summer skies.
- Specialised mammal species such as sitatunga and red lechwe thrive at this time of year.
- Access to permanent shallow floodplains and channels offer mokoro experiences quietly gliding through the waterways.
- Migrant birds arrive in numbers.

WILDLIFE TO BE SEEN

-  Lion, leopard & cheetah
-  Wild dog & hyaena
-  Elephant & buffalo
-  Sable
-  Birds
-  Common wildlife such as giraffe, roan antelope, zebra, impala, kudu, warthogs and much more...

Some of the impact of Wilderness Safaris' conservation tourism presence in the Okavango

- Vumbura Plains is situated in a Wildlife Management Area, which is leased from five villages comprising the Okavango Community Trust, a partnership that ensures that the benefits of ecotourism are shared with our neighbouring rural stakeholders.
- A Wilderness Wildlife Trust-funded project has developed a comprehensive understanding of the past and present genetic structure of the lion population centred on Botswana's Okavango Delta.
- Light camp footprint to limit environmental impact, to ensure the continued protection of this pristine wilderness area.



VUMBURA PLAINS

Luxurious Vumbura Plains lies in an area that is a mix of water and dry land. The wildlife is diverse, so that both land and water activities on vehicles, mokoro and boats deliver an all-round African safari experience.

Vumbura Plains comprises two separate but linked camps, consisting of a total of 14 raised, spacious rooms, unique and contemporary in design with indoor and outdoor showers and an en-suite bathroom. Additional features include a private plunge pool and 'sala' – from where you can watch the passing parade of wildlife or even enjoy a relaxing massage.

The annually flooded grasslands of the Okavango Delta surrounding Vumbura Plains are locally referred to as 'melapo' and offer impressive seasonal viewing of elephant, giraffe, impala, sable antelope, kudu, zebra, common waterbuck, and reedbuck, tsessebe, wildebeest, red lechwe and Cape buffalo. Hippo and crocodile are common in the waterways. Predators include the African wild dog, resident prides of lion, as well as leopard, cheetah, and African wildcat. Birding is exceptional all year round.







RATES

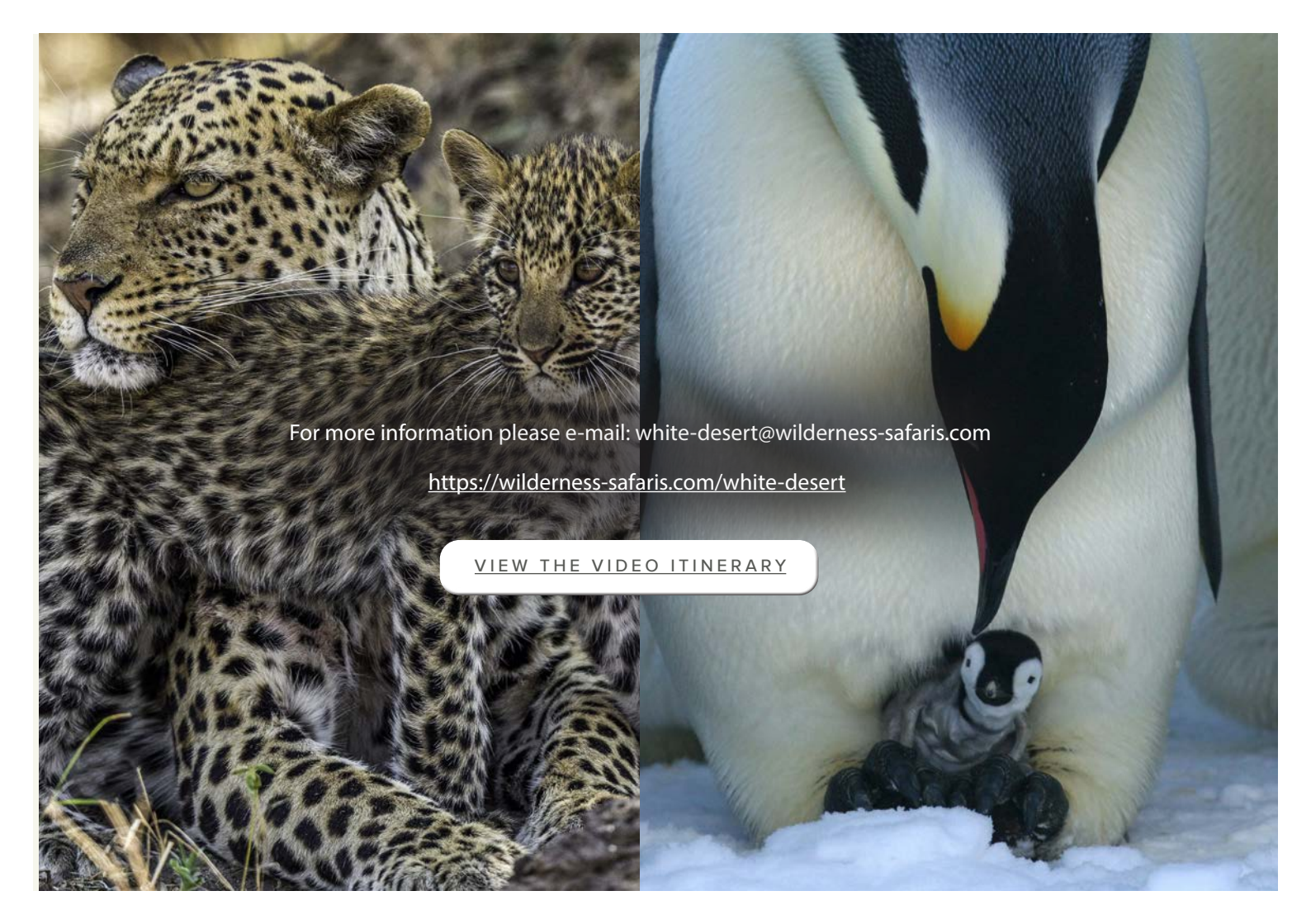
Per person Sharing Rate (min 2) - USD 73 720.00

Single Traveller rate - USD 109 935.00

Single Supplement - USD 35 155.00

[Inclusions and exclusions](#)

Full booking terms and conditions available upon enquiry.



For more information please e-mail: white-desert@wilderness-safaris.com

<https://wilderness-safaris.com/white-desert>

[VIEW THE VIDEO ITINERARY](#)

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Our journeys change lives