



WHITE DESERT
ANTARCTICA



WILDERNESS
SAFARIS

WILD DESERT ADVENTURE

ANTARCTICA AND NAMIBIA



18 days (Johannesburg, Namibia, Cape Town, Antarctica)

07 Jan 2023 – 24 January 2023

This 18-day journey offers two of the most remarkably remote, luxury travel experiences in the world, taking you from the ancient and remote Namib Desert to the southernmost point on Earth. Embark on an eight-night journey through Namibia, starting at the idyllic desert retreat of Little Kulala and the dramatic landscapes of Sossusvlei, followed by photogenic Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp and the amazing desert wildlife of the Hoanib Valley, and ending at Serra Cafema to visit with a unique Himba community. After two nights in Cape Town to regroup and explore the best of South Africa's Mother City with a Wilderness Private Journeys guide, fly on a private jet to the South Pole. During a six-night stay at Echo, White Desert's new camp, you will fly seven hours at 10 000 feet above the ice to the South Pole and circumnavigate the globe in just a few steps. Witness a colony of 14 000+ emperor penguins and their young chicks, and go abseiling, ice picking, fat biking and more, all while enjoying the best in Antarctic luxury.



VIDEO ITINERARY

WILD DESERT ADVENTURE

ANTARCTICA AND NAMIBIA



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WHITE DESERT
TRAVEL



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 its founding in Botswana in 1983, Wilderness Safaris has shared its passion for Africa, as well as its 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 of impactful, yet luxurious expeditions to 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 adventure-filled journeys, 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

Serra Cafema
Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp
Little Kulala
NAMIBIA
SOUTH AFRICA
Cape Town

ANTARCTICA

Echo

ITINERARY

07 – 08 January 2023: Saxon Hotel, Johannesburg
08 – 10 January 2023: Little Kulala, Namibia
10 – 13 January 2023: Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp, Namibia
13 – 16 January 2023: Serra Cafema, Namibia
16 – 18 January 2023: One&Only, Cape Town
18 – 24 January 2023: Echo, Antarctica

After overnighting at Johannesburg's exquisite Saxon Hotel, you fly to Namibia to experience Wilderness Safaris' exceptional offering across three of the country's most remote regions, encompassing dramatic landscapes, unique cultures, and rare wildlife. Starting at the elegant desert retreat, Little Kulala, marvel at the splendour and solitude of Sossusvlei. Activities include excursions through the Sossusvlei dunefield, nature walks and eco-sensitive quad biking. A hot air balloon safari offers an awe-inspiring experience soaring above the otherworldly scenery.

Next, you fly to Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp where desert-adapted wildlife flocks to the dry riverbeds' narrow ribbon of vegetation. In this stark environment, enormous elephant co-exist alongside giraffe, lion and brown hyaena. The Skeleton Coast hosts Cape fur seals in their thousands, along with scavenging black-backed jackals and brown hyaena.

Set under trees along the Kunene River, your last stop, Serra Cafema, is one of the most remote camps in southern Africa. Here you can truly disconnect, unwind and relax, watching the mesmerising river as it flows past, and explore one of the oldest deserts in the world. Respectful interaction with a semi-nomadic Himba community, fascinating nature walks, boating (water levels permitting), and low-impact guided quad-bike excursions complete a defining experience. A private Wilderness Safaris specialist photographic guide will accompany you from your arrival in Namibia.

From Namibia, you fly to Cape Town, South Africa. Unquestionably one of the most beautiful cities in the world, Cape Town is home to remarkable ocean vistas and world-renowned winelands. During a two-night stay at the One&Only, you will participate in a comprehensive safety briefing by White Desert and will be looked after by a Wilderness Private Journeys guide.



ITINERARY

You then board a private jet bound for Antarctica and fly to Echo, White Desert's brand-new camp. 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 personal chefs make this experience as luxurious and bespoke as it is adventurous.

During your six-night stay, you will enjoy the rare opportunity to travel to the South Pole. A five-hour flight takes you to FD83, White Desert's expedition camp, flying 10 000 feet above the ice over the High Polar Plateau. After refuelling, the adventure continues with a two-hour flight to the South Pole, the southernmost point on Earth. From there you fly back to overnight at FD83 before returning to Echo the following morning. This is one of only 10 charters White Desert takes to the South Pole each year.

A thrilling activity is a flight to Atka Bay, where you will have exclusive access to an enormous colony of emperor penguins and their weeks-old 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 to feed the newly hatched chicks. Curious and unafraid of humans, the chicks offer an unparalleled wildlife experience and photographic opportunities. Around camp, the surrounding nunataks offer an ideal canvas for ice and mountain activities. Explore windswept peaks, scale ice walls, or hike to a remote overnight camp on a glacier. Other activities include abseiling, rope walking, and fat biking.

Return to Cape Town aboard the same private jet. Your onward travel to a port of international departure can be arranged with your Wilderness Travel Designer.



ABOUT SOSSUSVLEI

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Temperatures: 17°C to 31°C (63°F to 88°F).
- Namibia averages 300 days of sunshine a year.
- Clearer skies with brighter stars.
- Many of the specialist dune fauna are most active at this time of year.
- Depending on the amount of rainfall, the desert plains may be transformed into lush grassland.
- All forms of life are instantly drawn to brief pools of water.
- Fewer tourists at this time of year affording a far more intimate experience.
- As the day warms, the likes of tenebrionid beetles and shovel-snouted lizards come out.

WILDLIFE TO BE SEEN



Oryx



Springbok



Ostrich



Web-footed geckos 'dancing'



Desert birds



Endemic dune lark

Some of the effects of Wilderness Safaris' conservation tourism presence in Sossusvlei...

- 27 000-hectare Kulala Wilderness Reserve was once subsistence farmland, with very little wildlife.
- In 1996, Wilderness Safaris began an ambitious programme to remove internal fences and livestock.
- As the ecosystem regained its health, wildlife began to come back of its own accord.
- Light camp footprint limits our environmental impact, to ensure the continued protection of this pristine wilderness area.



ABOUT LITTLE KULALA

The décor of the 11 climate-controlled rooms – each with private plunge pool – pays homage to the area’s geology and the Living Desert experience, reflecting the grey and pink limestone in colour and texture. Each villa’s private rooftop is ideal for sundowners and rooftop dinners, while the room’s shaded sala has a roll-out bed for siestas during the day or sleep-outs under the stars. The camp is a welcome oasis along the dry Auab riverbed in the Kulala Wilderness Reserve, celebrating the splendour and solitude of the world’s oldest desert. Explore the dunes on a quad bike, or a guided walking trail where you can immerse yourself in the details of this incredible landscape. Visit Sossusvlei or Dead Vlei, or learn about the geographical processes that led to the formation of the breathtaking Sesriem Canyon. Here, in the clear desert sky, the stargazing is unmatched.






WILDERNESS
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ABOUT THE SKELETON COAST

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Temperatures: 11°C to 27°C (52°F to 81°F).
- A verdant landscape due to copious rainfall.
- Birding enthusiasts are sure to enjoy the diverse avifauna.
- Arid-adapted species like gemsbok and springbok are easily seen.
- At this time, desert-adapted elephant move from the sanctuary of the ephemeral river systems into the surrounding hilly regions.

Some of the effects of Wilderness Safaris' conservation tourism presence on the Skeleton Coast...

- Wilderness Safaris supports a number of conservation and research initiatives on the Skeleton Coast, focusing on desert-adapted species, including lion and brown hyaena, aimed at reducing human-wildlife conflict.
- For over 20 years, Wilderness Safaris has supported the Desert Lion Project, and has built a research centre and secondary home base for the project at Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp.
- Light camp footprint limits our environmental impact, to ensure the continued protection of this pristine wilderness area.

WILDLIFE TO BE SEEN



Elephant



Lion



Brown hyaena



Birds



Oryx



Common wildlife
such as giraffe



ABOUT HOANIB SKELETON COAST CAMP

Bordering the Skeleton Coast National Park and surrounded by rugged mountains and endless dunes, eight large, luxury en-suite tents (including one family tent) peek out over the craggy valley that slopes down to the almost-always dry Hoanib River. At face value, not much could possibly survive in this terrain. But, in amongst the gravel-strewn plains and dry riverbeds, is a wealth of desert-adapted life. Fully solar powered, Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp is a joint venture with the neighbouring conservancies of Anabeb, Torra and Sesfontein, and hosts researchers committed to conserving desert-adapted lion, brown hyaena and more. Discover the desert-adapted species on a game drive, or take a trip to see the shipwreck remains and Cape fur seal colonies at the Skeleton Coast. Other activities include interacting with the researchers, or exploring the nearby dunes.





ABOUT KAOKOLAND

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Temperatures: 12°C - 29°C (54°F - 84°F).
- Depending on the rainfall received, the landscape may be a tapestry of green grass.
- Arid-adapted species like gemsbok and springbok are easily seen.
- The Kunene River will likely be at its highest, making it the best time for boating and birdlife.

Some of the effects of Wilderness Safaris' conservation tourism presence in Kaokoland...

- Serra Cafema has a mutually beneficial partnership with the Marienfluss Conservancy, which is owned primarily by the Himba people, the benefits of which include lease fees, employment and skills transfer.
- Serra Cafema is driving sustainable conservation by helping rehabilitate the island on which the camp is built, replanting indigenous trees and shrubs, while eradicating invasive plants.
- Wilderness Safaris provides logistical support, working with the parks authorities, to strengthen cross-border ecosystem management and wildlife protection in the Iona-Skeleton Coast Transfrontier Park, as part of the SCIONA project.

WILDLIFE TO BE SEEN



Oryx



Desert and water birds



Hartmann's mountain zebra



Nile crocodile



SERRA CAFEMA

Embracing its setting of infinite space and rolling dunes, in one of the most remote and seemingly inhospitable locations on earth, lies Serra Cafema. Under a canopy of ana trees, on the banks of the perennial Kunene River, is an oasis, full of life. Serra Cafema's eight suites are set on elevated decks and crafted in wood, canvas and thatch to create a unique camp that is at one with its surroundings, celebrating the culture of the area's Himba people. The main area offers spectacular views of the river, and, as Wilderness Safaris Namibia's most northerly camp, the Angolan wilderness on the opposite banks. Explore the dunes, or go birding along the river; Serra Cafema's habitat means it has both water and desert birds. There are nature walks and quad biking excursions, though meeting the Himba people will, no doubt, be an unforgettable experience.





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.





WHITE DESERT
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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 1000 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 state-of-the-art, 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.





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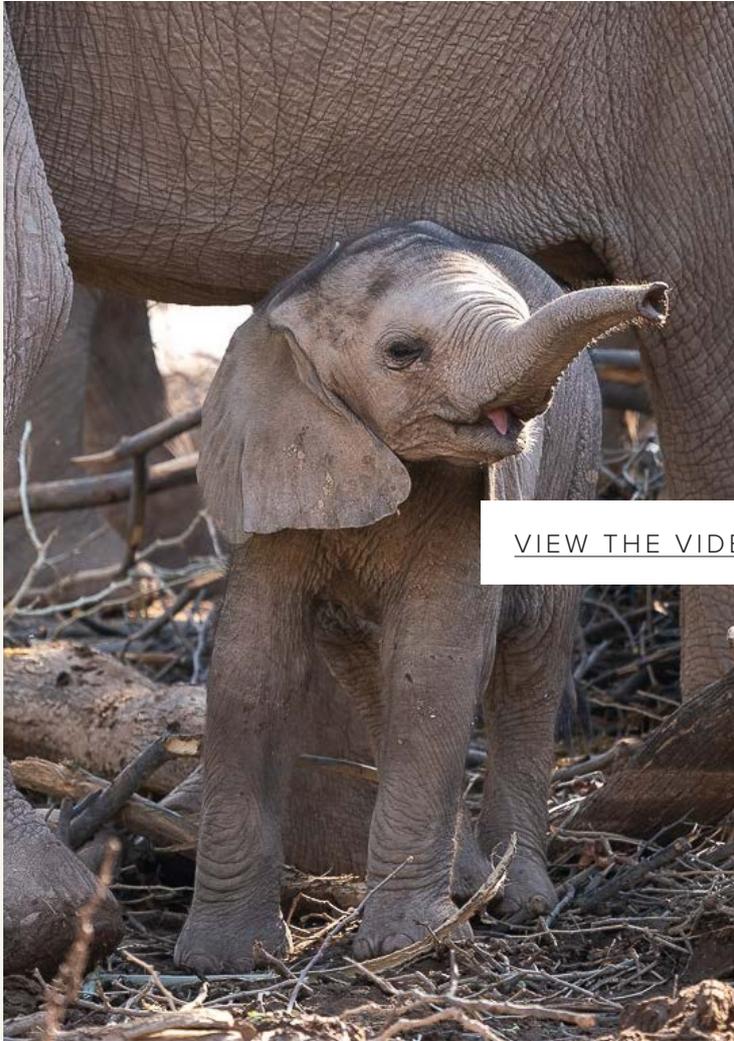
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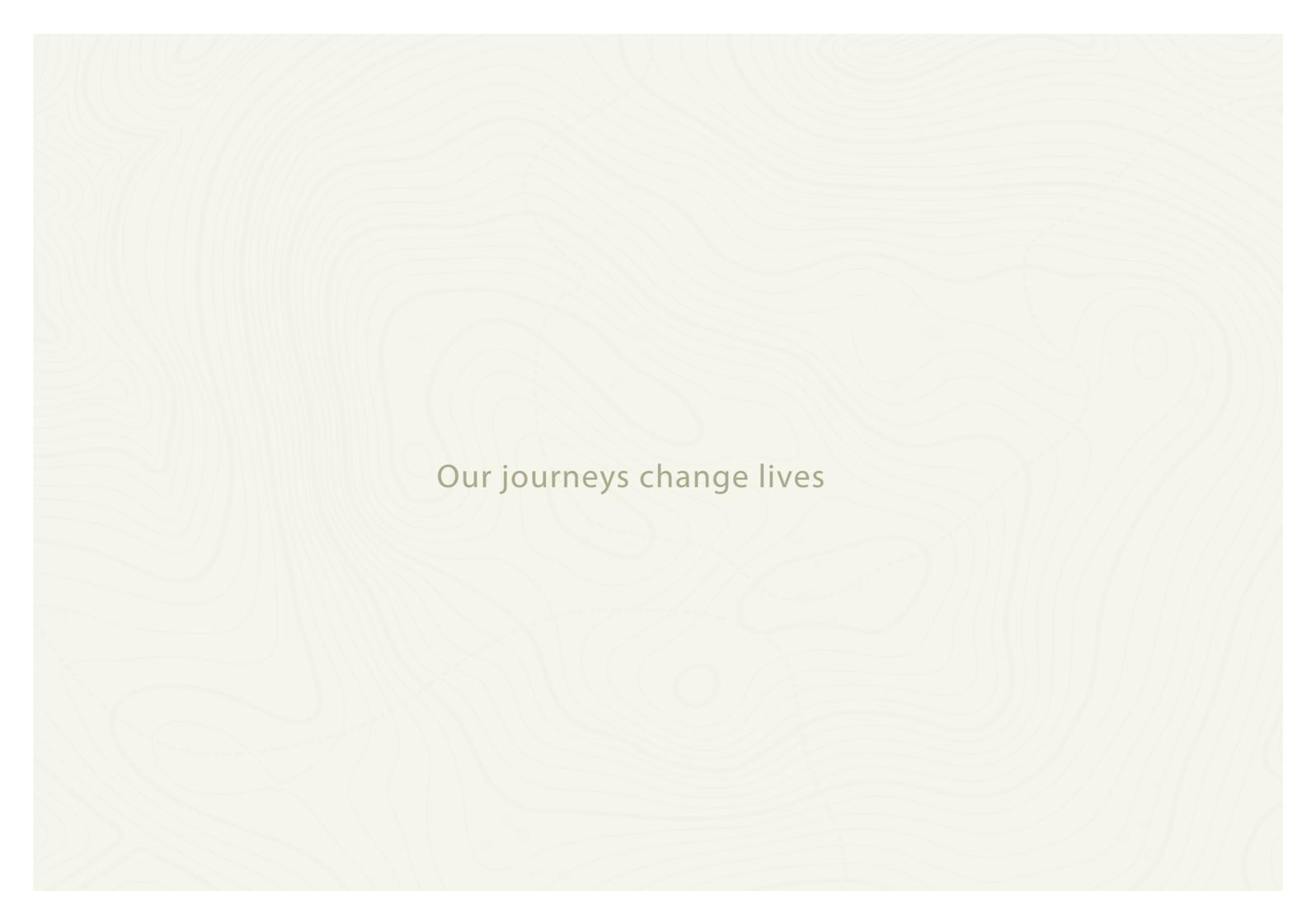
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The background of the image is a light green topographic map with intricate contour lines and a dashed grid. The text is centered on this background.

Our journeys change lives