

WILDLIFE

WORLDWIDE

TRAVEL
EXPERIENCE
CONSERVE

Winter/Spring | 2018

POLAR BEARS
of Wrangel Island

SILVER ELEPHANTS
Simon Barnes

BOTSWANA
Under Canvas

THE PANTANAL
Brazil's Wildlife Kingdom

SEARCHING FOR SNOW LEOPARDS
A softer option!

JAPAN'S WINTER WILDLIFE
New Small Group Tour



BAJA CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'



Wildlife consultant Helen Bryon is lost in reverie about her trip to Baja California aboard the m.v. Searcher...

While we were in the land of nod, dreaming of the numerous blue whale sightings we'd enjoyed the day before, our crew had seamlessly steered us around the tip of the Baja Peninsula and into the Sea of Cortez. Awaking to calm seas, a glorious sunrise and hot coffee, we were eagerly anticipating a day of whale watching on the renowned Gorda Banks, as well as the prospect of getting into the water to snorkel later on.

As we pondered whether to indulge in yet another wonderful cooked breakfast or the fresh fruit option, our dilemma rapidly changed to one of breakfast or orca? The announcement of activity over the tannoy had us racing outside onto deck, to be greeted by the unmistakable sight of a tall pectoral fin slicing through the water at close quarters. One member of the crew had never seen an orca before – testament to how rarely they are seen in these waters. Half an hour and three orcas later, the day had barely begun, but we knew the wildlife gods were smiling down on us!

Shortly thereafter humpbacks were spotted heading south at a leisurely pace. As the Searcher turned through 180 degrees, they were soon just off our starboard beam and we watched

enthralled as a female displayed all manner of behaviour, while her calf seemingly tried to replicate her moves.

Glued to our binoculars and cameras, we were then enchanted to see a Bryde's whale. Every time it blew, we tried to capture the rainbows refracted in its spray. Meanwhile distant splashes gave away mobula rays as they leapt from the water, and numerous sealions swam right up to us, their curiosity evident.

A short while later we were treated to the most fabulous display of aerial gymnastics as two sub-adult humpbacks illustrated exactly why they are known as the whale-watcher's whale. Putting on quite an extraordinary show, these two exhibitionists launched themselves out of the water again and again, sometimes perfectly synchronised – which resulted in one of our party exclaiming "I've got RSI in my camera finger!" Breaching photo? Mission accomplished – 20 times over!

As a setting sun turned the sky a kaleidoscope of pinks, oranges and purples, we sat – cold beer in hand – reflecting on the day and watching magnificent frigatebirds jostling for position on the rigging. Wonderful aromas wafted out of the galley, and the stars were beginning to twinkle. Another perfect day in Mexico, on this, the holiday of a lifetime...

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our latest seasonal brochure packed with inspirational articles and new exciting destinations.

We've always thought of ourselves as innovators and are by no means short of ideas. Our plan for the year ahead – as you will see from the pages that follow – involves a collection of new small group tours to Botswana, Japan and the Pantanal, a trip of a lifetime to Wrangel Island with Mark Carwardine and much more...

Photography trips continue to garner great interest, and as the diaries of our stalwart lensmen – wildlife photographer Nick Garbutt and macro specialist Alex Hyde – are already very full, we have introduced new photographers such as James Shooter to the portfolio to offer trips closer to home as well as further afield.

So that you can stay up to date with all our new tours, events and offers, make sure that you visit our website and sign up to receive our regular e-newsletter.

Wishing you happy travels in 2018.

Chris Breen, Founder

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Great Whales of Mexico's Pacific Coast

Come face to face and interact with grey whales in San Ignacio Lagoon and see a plethora of exceptional marine life on this trip of a lifetime aboard the Searcher.

Group, 7 Apr 2018 & 7 Apr 2019
10 days, from £4,995



All holiday prices in this brochure are based on two people sharing, including flights from the UK, accommodation and transfers (except where specified). Prices are correct at time of going to print. For full details contact our expert wildlife team.

Opening Hours

We are open from 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday and on Saturday morning from 9am to 1pm during January, February and March.

The best of CANADA'S WILDLIFE

Canada contains some of the world's greatest untamed lands. This vast wilderness is the final stronghold of black, brown (or grizzly), and polar bears, while the nutrient-rich waters off Canada's coasts – east, west and Arctic – attract whales and dolphins aplenty. We offer a wide selection of itineraries that illustrate the best of the country's wildlife; here are a few of our favourite trips.



Product Executive Chris Smith gets his bear watching fix and reveals how it was every bit as good as

the first time!

Seeing a bear in the wild for the very first time is an event you'll never forget, and one that you'll treasure forever! Yet curiously enough, you get that same feeling every time you see a bear! For many of us at Wildlife Worldwide, the first place we ever saw a bear in its natural habitat – and the place we continue to visit to get our fix of bears – is across the Atlantic in Canada. This special destination really is one of the best places on Earth to see these majestic mammals.

You can see bears right across the entire breadth of Canada. Whether its black bears in the forests of Nova Scotia in the east, or grizzly bears in

the temperate coastal climes of British Columbia in the west, there's always somewhere to see bears in the world's second-largest country.

Of course, it's perfectly feasible to come across both black and brown bears at the roadside while you explore the Canadian wilderness on a self-drive trip. However, the best sightings occur in more remote locations. And depending on how remote you are willing to go – specifically in British Columbia – you may even have a chance to spot the elusive, but enchanting spirit bear.

All over Canada there are wonderful secluded lodges that specialise in bear watching and sightings of other wildlife. We work with those that offer the finest sightings of all. Ranging from Spirit Bear Lodge in the Great Bear Rainforest, to the remote property at Bear Cave Mountain which caters for

a maximum of just four guests and is where you'll find the Yukon's unique Ice Bears, these lodges offer some of the most exclusive wildlife experiences in the Americas.

Our annual Festival of Bears is all about celebrating these endearing beasts, and you can join conservationist Mark Carwardine and company founder Chris Breen at the iconic Knight Inlet Lodge in British Columbia at the prime time of year to see grizzlies feeding on migrating salmon.

Regardless of how many times you've seen a bear in the wild or, indeed which species of bear you've seen, the experience is every bit as remarkable, fulfilling and mesmerising as the first time. You can never see too many bears – their personable character and photogenic nature are sure to keep you coming back for more!



The Bear Essentials

Enjoy daily bear watching from either a boat, kayak or hide, affording remarkable close up encounters with grizzly bears.

Trip idea, May-Oct
8 days, from £4,595

Vancouver Island Self-drive

Discover Vancouver Island and its wilderness interior by watching grey whales, orcas and black bears at your own pace with this self-drive itinerary.

Trip idea, May-Oct
15 days, from £3,695

Newfoundland Adventure

Experience an extraordinary range of marine wildlife, including up to 22 species of cetacean, and the world's largest gathering of humpback whales amidst giant landscapes.

Group, Jun-Jul
9 days, from £3,395

Festival of Bears

Join renowned conservationist Mark Carwardine and Wildlife Worldwide founder Chris Breen at Knight Inlet Lodge in British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest during the prime season to view grizzly bears.

Group, 6 Oct 18
9 days, from £6,495

To view our full collection of holidays to Canada view our website.

Discover Eastern Canada's WILDERNESS & WHALES

Québec, along with Atlantic Canada's provinces of New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador, offer opportunities to view more than 20 species of cetacean, including the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale...

Following the Saint Lawrence River in Québec offers a variety of whale watching excursions, while exploring the area's national parks offers opportunities to spot moose, caribou and black bear. At Tadoussac, the Saint Lawrence and Saguenay rivers meet, creating a marine playground for blue, beluga, minke and fin whales, along with grey seals. Even a short stay in this area allows time for three distinct types of whale watching trip: for the more active, the sheltered waters of Saguenay Fjord are perfect for sea kayaking, while Tadoussac offers options to join trips by Zodiac inflatable or scenic cruises in larger covered vessels.

Lying between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the Bay of Fundy is home to an extraordinary natural phenomenon. Its shape amplifies the

movement of the ocean to create the highest tides on earth, which provide the perfect feeding conditions for hungry cetaceans, with humpback, minke and fin whales regularly visiting in search of food. The Bay of Fundy is also an excellent area to see other marine creatures including Atlantic white-sided dolphins, although the real highlight here is the rare North Atlantic right whale, whose population is believed to number no more than 400-450 individuals.

The northernmost of Atlantic Canada's provinces, Newfoundland and Labrador, offer a very different setting compared to the relatively sheltered waters of Québec and the Bay of Fundy's dramatic tidal range. Lying at the crossroads of two summer migration routes, it affords sightings of whales and seabirds as they migrate north, while towering icebergs that

have carved from glacier-mouths in Greenland float south along the famed 'Iceberg Alley', creating a unique experience. The period from late June to early August sees the arrival of numerous whales in the waters that surround Newfoundland, including the world's largest gathering of humpbacks. Birders and nature lovers will be delighted by the sheer size of the vast seabird colonies along the coastline, which include North America's largest colony of Atlantic puffins.

Festival of Whales

Our 2018 Festival of Whales takes place in Canada's Bay of Fundy, where the world's highest tides create a phenomenon that attracts a fabulous variety of marine life.

Group, 1 Sep 18
9 days, £5,295

Image by Chris Breen

THE BIG FREEZE

Weighing in at as much as 700kg and standing three metres tall, the polar bear is the largest terrestrial predator on the planet and the undisputed king of the Arctic. Seeing a polar bear in its natural habitat is a heart-stopping experience that will remain with you forever...

In Canada winter well and truly takes hold well and truly from October onwards, and this is no different for the northern province of Manitoba. At this time, the small town of Churchill, on the southern shore of the Hudson Bay, steels itself for the long winter months ahead. Yet this is the season to visit this unique part of Arctic Canada. As the cold sets in and the temperature plummets, after spending the summer on the tundra, hungry polar bears converge on the town and surrounding area from far and wide, waiting for the bay to freeze so they can make their way out on to the sea ice to hunt for seals.

By late October, the bears become increasingly active in anticipation of the sea ice starting to form and this congregation of polar bears brings with it a whole variety of behaviour. With so many bears around, social structure becomes very important, and even though polar bears are not usually territorial, males (young and old) are often seen sparring in spirited bouts. Furthermore, cubs can often be seen playing, learning essential survival skills from their mothers.

A trip to Churchill is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and it is a real privilege to witness these magnificent creatures in their natural habitat. Polar bears face an increasingly uncertain future and, in order to survive, will have to adapt quickly to the changing world. However, they are resilient beasts, so – with any luck – future generations too will be able to experience polar bears in their Arctic tundra home.

Tundra Lodge Adventure

Embark on an extraordinary adventure to view polar bears by staying in the unique setting of a hotel-on-wheels, the Tundra Lodge, which is positioned in an area of high bear density to provide unparalleled viewing opportunities.

Group, Oct-Nov
7 days, from £7,945

Classic Polar Bears

Seeing polar bears in the wild is awe-inspiring - an intense and unforgettable wildlife encounter. Day and night excursions led by expert local guides provide opportunities to get close to these magnificent creatures.

Group, Oct-Nov
7 days, from £6,545



WRANGEL ISLAND



Founder Chris Breen describes his arrival at Wrangel Island - a mythical place known to have the highest number of denning polar bears on earth.

A still day with the sun at a low level. Wispy clouds partially covering the massive range of mysterious looking hills. Patchy chunks of sea ice that the ship needed to break through in order to pass, and a mother polar bear with two young cubs at rest on a piece of ice about the size of a small house.

...that was our arrival at Wrangel Island at 0700hrs on 29 July – it simply couldn't have been more dramatic.

Our captain manoeuvred the ship skillfully to within a few metres of the bears (putting them on our port side) without even waking the cubs, but mother bear decided it was time to move on, and the cubs followed... but not before we had spent the best part of an hour with them, watching and photographing this scene of extraordinary beauty.

There was a fourth bear on the starboard side which swam away, and then scouring the landscape ahead with binoculars we saw another bear just up from the beach, then another and another... In fact, a further seven bears were dotted around the tundra making a staggering total of 11 in all. Not at all bad for before breakfast!

We landed at Doubtful Harbour – Wrangel's small 'village' – to have a look around and meet the armed rangers who were joining us for the voyage and our shore landings around the island. This was a wet landing, and

once ashore we explored the many derelict buildings and rusting steels that oozed with history, before taking off for a walk. It was difficult to move anywhere quickly as there was so much to see and photograph: Arctic fox, snowy owl, snow bunting, some wonderful flowers, and a lone male musk ox.

Later in the day as we left Doubtful we saw even more bears – another six in fact – including one on a kill, and another inquisitive one that came right up to the boat. A staggering total of no fewer than 17 in a day – unbelievable! But now it was time to pause and reflect over a glass of wine and dinner - smoked salmon linguine, followed by roasted pork loin, and finished off with a delicious lemon posset with spiced fruit.

Wrangel's beauty is stark – a vast, tawny, tundra plain that was once inhabited by woolly mammoths, framed by low mountain ranges inland – but is only one of the treasures in this extraordinary region. In addition to a staggering number of polar bears (82!), we recorded many wonderful natural sightings on our voyage, including grey and humpback whales, walrus, Arctic fox, ringed and bearded seals, northern pika, Arctic ground squirrel and, on our final morning, scores of belugas playing and feeding in the harbour.

We still have a couple of spaces left for 2018, and space in 2019, so why not join Mark and me on the voyage of a lifetime?



“Fancy somewhere seriously off the beaten track and packed with spectacular wildlife? Look no further than Wrangel Island. This is a rare opportunity for a comfortable adventure exploring one of the jewels in the Arctic crown. I can't wait to go back!”

Mark Carwardine

Images by Chris Breen



Wrangel Island Exclusive with Mark Carwardine

Explore the remote wilderness of Wrangel Island in the Bering Strait, with its prehistoric landscapes and phenomenal wildlife. This 14-night cruise aboard the Spirit of Enderby takes you to the top of the world between Russia and Alaska in the company of Mark Carwardine and other leading wildlife experts.

Exclusive Group

21 Jul 2018, 18 days, from £13,725 (Limited space)

22 Jul 2019, 18 days, from £13,395

SILVER ELEPHANTS

of Zambia's Luangwa Valley



Author and travel journalist Simon Barnes recently returned from co-leading a trip to South Luangwa in Zambia with Wildlife Worldwide founder, Chris Breen.

The walls of my hut were grass, you could punch clean through them if you wished. The windows were air and through them the Luangwa Valley was positively gleaming: a full moon bright enough to read by. Not that I thought of reading, because the hut was being surrounded.

Slowly, silently, on vast bedroom-slippered feet, they came across the dry riverbed and mounted the banks on my side, in the quiet family-centred manner of their kind. This was the night of the silver elephants and I was right in the middle of them.

I could have leant out through the pane-free window to stroke the wrinkled silver skin, but did nothing of the kind: there's such a thing as respect round here, not to mention common sense. And the four of them – one big old matriarch, another female a size smaller, a three-quarter-grown female and a young male yet to get into double-digits – found a coffee-bush right outside my hut and started to eat it.

I heard the matriarch offer a deep rumble of assurance to the little one:

a sound like the deepest note of an organ. It seemed likely to shake the hut to bits. It was an hour before they had gone... and I don't suppose the spell of that hour will ever leave me.

The Luangwa Valley will do things like that. Along with all the spectacular stuff with the carnivores and big herds and the impossible birds, there will be the odd special moment that's for you alone. It's not something you can take out and show people, hard even to tell people – but it's an intense and perfect moment of intimacy between you and the Valley: between you and the wild world.

Every trip out here will bring you a hundred marvellous moments in a single day, a thousand occasions on a single trip, every one of which you might call the best moment of your life. But along with these marvels there will also be times of quiet wonder and a sudden gorgeous realisation that you are at one with the place.

It's not that you suddenly feel that the Valley belongs to you. It's the fact that you now know that you belong to the Valley. And always will.

Leopards of Luangwa

Our single most popular safari, based in South Luangwa National Park, home to the world's highest naturally occurring population of leopard.

Trip idea, May-Nov
10 days, from £5,395

Classic Luangwa Walking

Visit the home of the walking safari by joining a small group to walk along the banks of the Mupamadzi River for the quintessential bush experience.

Group, Jun-Sep
14 days, from £6,545

Conservation South Luangwa



Everywhere in the world, wherever you get people and wildlife together you have problems.

The brilliant success of the Luangwa Valley as a place for international visitors has created a

thriving local community – and with it, a few difficulties. People bother the wildlife with poaching and other illegal activities; wildlife bothers people by coming into the villages.

Conservation South Luangwa was established 15 years ago to help this human-wildlife clash on both fronts: reducing poaching, rescuing snared animals, protecting villages from elephants and many other essential tasks. CSL backs up official forces with its own highly-motivated staff, a spotter-plane, intelligence gathering and trained dogs.

Wildlife Worldwide's founder, Chris Breen, recently became a trustee of CSL. He said: "I am constantly amazed by what these people do for the people and the wildlife of the Valley. Thanks to our generous clients, we are delighted to continue to support this fantastic charity."



Botswana

UNDER CANVAS



Botswana is an unspoilt wilderness and one of Africa's greatest safari destinations. The country has a tiny population: just over two million inhabitants occupying an area the size of France and Germany combined, leaving much of this beautiful land in the hands of nature...



Images by Dani Free

In September, I was fortunate to travel to Botswana on a mobile camping safari, following an itinerary that combined three nights in each of Moremi Game Reserve, Khwai Concession and the Savuti area of Chobe National Park. It was a route that I had followed before and, with any luck, will do again. Quite simply, in my opinion it is one of the best trips out there and I would recommend it to anyone.

With over half of Botswana's land area now protected and the government having adopted a policy of quality over quantity, the country is widely regarded as one of the finest safari destinations on the African continent. With such prestige comes a hefty price tag, and it is not uncommon to find luxury lodges charging over £1,000 per person per night. Nevertheless, if you can forgo some of the comfort and luxury of a lodge, a mobile camping safari provides a more budget-friendly option for visiting this incredible country.

Accompanied by a chef and support team who do all the hard work for you, and staying in comfortable walk-in tents with a double bed and private bathroom facilities, this can hardly be considered as roughing it, and with such a set-up you can employ a far more flexible approach to your safaris, enjoying longer in the field and so increasing your chances of experiencing that once-in-a-lifetime sighting.

Travelling with Gabatsholwe Disho, a guide who I rate amongst the very best in the industry, we were fortunate enough to enjoy some incredible sightings, often in the absence of any other vehicles. In Moremi a large male leopard conveniently stashed a fresh impala kill in the fork of an old sausage tree not 400 metres from our campsite, remaining with the kill for the duration of our stay. A few kilometres further east, a pride of lions 23-strong fought savagely amongst themselves for the remains of an elephant carcass.

In the stunningly beautiful Khwai Concession, enormous bull elephants feasted on the lush riverine vegetation under the watchful eye of a Pel's fishing owl, while the area's resident wild dog pack, with eight young pups to feed, ran amok amongst the herds of ungulates. The vast grasslands of the now dry Savuti Marsh were alive with predators, with lions, leopards, wild dogs and cheetah all enjoying a share of the spoils, including a young lioness who chanced upon an unfortunate warthog.

While I enjoyed all these sightings and feel privileged to have witnessed them, for me it was the experience of sleeping under canvas in the bush that made the trip so special. Waking in the night to the primeval sound of lions roaring, or the slow whoop of a hyena calling, filled me with a sense of vulnerability and set my adrenaline racing in a way that few wildlife experiences ever do. It's a feeling that left me wanting more, and I can't wait to go back!



New Small Group Tour

Best of Botswana

Centred around the spectacular Okavango Delta, this 13-day small group mobile-camping safari offers outstanding wildlife viewing in three of Northern Botswana's finest wildlife reserves.

Group, 9 Jun & 4 Oct 2018
13 days, £3,995



TANZANIA

Déjà Vu



Senior travel consultant Chris Osborn hits Tanzania for the first time in a while...

Having not travelled to Africa for some time, I was eager to get back, so when I was offered the opportunity to visit northern Tanzania, I jumped at the chance. The great thing about the northern circuit is that it includes four very different national parks: Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti, which are all within comfortable driving distance of one another.

Tarangire is a very scenic place with panoramic views of savannah grasslands, landscapes of open acacia woodland lined with baobab trees, and fantastic wildlife. From June to October it has the highest concentration of wildlife outside the Serengeti and offers fantastic sightings – yet without the accompaniment of too many other people. The biggest surprise was the number of elephants I saw there – it wasn't uncommon to see huge herds of up to 200 at a time!

I continued past Lake Manyara to the Ngorongoro Crater. Before you descend into the crater there is a viewpoint from where you can enjoy this iconic location. The vast cauldron is home to the highest density of big game in Africa, including plenty of predators. I was lucky enough to see a couple of black rhino, but I think my personal highlight was watching a clan of hyenas working together to drive a lion off a kill.

My visit to the Serengeti started in the south, which between January and April is home to millions of wildebeest, one of nature's greatest sights. On the way north, the scenery changes from wide open plains, with only the occasional rocky outcrop, to a more wooded environment. The central area has the most reliable concentration of wildlife throughout the year. I saw plenty of lions, some sleeping under a tree or in the bushes, and a few snoozing in the trees themselves. There is so much prey in evidence – antelopes, zebra, wildebeest, buffalo and warthog – that lion do extremely well here.

The sheer abundance of wildlife in Tanzania is astounding, I don't think I've ever seen so many elephant, giraffe, hyena, lion, cheetah and leopard – to list just a few species – in a single trip. I returned full of fantastic memories and with several full memory cards packed with wildlife action shots.



Spirit of the North

Encompassing the contrasting locations of northern Tanzania and its major wildlife highlights, this classic African safari provides excellent value for first-time visitors and more experienced safari-goers alike.

Trip idea, Jan-Dec
10 days, from £4,845

NAMIBIA'S

Ultimate Self-drive Trip?



Nick Joynes explains why a self-drive itinerary is the

ultimate way to experience this awe-inspiring country.

A self-drive trip in Africa is not something I'd necessarily recommend to everyone, but Namibia is one of the very few places that I would; the road maps are excellent, the signage is extremely good, traffic is sparse, the main tourist roads (despite some being gravel) are well-maintained, and you can always find utter solitude.

Self-drive holidays provide a freedom to discover that only adds to the feeling of complete liberation. And, in a land of such incredible scenery – where entire landscapes stretch to the horizon, unhindered or unbroken by human development – being able to detour and explore is paramount.

Namibia is vast: Etosha National Park lies several hundred kilometres north of Sossusvlei in the heart of the Namib Desert, but there is plenty to see and do in between. The town of Swakopmund is a great place to experience coastal wildlife such as flamingos, dolphins, seals and even whales, while just two or three hours drive away Spitzkoppe and Twyfelfontein provide a fascinating insight into ancient bushman culture (as does all of the Damaraland region) amidst breathtaking scenery.

By strategically including lodge accommodation throughout

your itinerary, you can base yourself in one location for a few days, take part in the lodge's guided safaris and nature walks, then move on to your next chosen base, taking your acquired knowledge with you on the road. The conservancies of Palmwag and Etendeka, where desert elephant roam ephemeral rivers are good examples, and by joining a lodge's three to four-day group safaris, you can explore an area that would otherwise be inaccessible. The same is also true of including a fly-in safari to one of the camps on the Skeleton Coast.

There are no compromises with Namibia – it is an unforgivingly and unapologetically beautiful country that demands your full attention. The scenery is mightily impressive in every possible way – yet incomprehensible at times – and to observe wildlife

at close quarters in such surroundings is exhilarating. You simply won't find a better self-drive destination on the continent.



NEW Namibia Self-drive Safari

Trip idea, Jan-Dec
14 days, from £2,975

AFRICA

Best of the Rest

Africa has been at the heart of Wildlife Worldwide since our beginning and our wildlife experts have extensive first-hand knowledge of the fascinating range of options available. The itineraries below are just a few of our favourites:



Uganda

Uganda harbours a fabulous variety of mammals and birds which are simply not found elsewhere in either East or Southern Africa. Major tracts of forest are easily accessible, providing unmatched opportunities to see primates such as chimpanzee, golden monkey and mountain gorilla, with the option to combine with traditional vehicle safaris. Our seven-day 'Gorillas in Uganda' itinerary immerses you in one of the country's most amazing wildlife experiences – tracking gorillas in the depths of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

Gorillas in Uganda – Trip idea, Jan-Dec – 7 days from £2,895



Madagascar

An island country unlike any other! Madagascar blends together a bizarre and intoxicating mix of extraordinary landscapes, whose diverse rainforest, deciduous forest, high mountain and desert provide habitats for an extraordinary array of endemic wildlife that leaves wildlife enthusiasts brimming with excitement. To view the country's most charismatic resident animals, our 'Madagascar Lemurs' itinerary provides the perfect opportunity to search for mouse, dwarf, woolly, black and white ruffed, common brown, and red-bellied lemurs along with indri and aye aye.

Madagascar Lemurs – Trip idea, Jan-Dec – 15 days from £4,295



Ethiopia

Ethiopia combines spectacular scenery and history, with outstanding wildlife. The breathtaking Simien Mountains provide refuge to huge troops of gelada baboons, whilst the Bale Mountains are a stronghold for the rare Ethiopian wolf. With over 900 species of bird, including many endemics, Ethiopia also offers some of the finest bird watching in Africa. Our 'Ethiopian Wildlife Extravaganza', a 12-day journey of cultural highlights and wildlife viewing, takes you to Ethiopia's key wildlife areas, offering an excellent chance to see Ethiopia's most iconic wildlife.

Ethiopian Wildlife Extravaganza – Trip idea, Oct-Mar – 12 days from £3,195



Kenya

Kenya is renowned as one of the best locations in Africa for wildlife, and rightfully so! Its diversity, endless beauty and world-class facilities guarantee its enduring popularity. As well as the legendary Masai Mara and Great Rift Valley, it is blessed with rich marine life, as well as the little-known northern desert, and the temperate highlands around Mount Kenya. Our 'Ultimate Kenya Safari' combines three of Kenya's top wildlife locations – Lake Naivasha, Laikipia Plateau and the Masai Mara – to create a memorable trip as you travel by vehicle, boat and on foot. Visit between July and October to witness the spectacle of the Great Migration.

Ultimate Kenya Safari – Trip idea, Jul-Mar – 13 days from £7,795

Join one of our group EXPERIENCES

Country	Tour Name	Departure Date(s)	Duration	Group Size	Price From	
Botswana	NEW Best of Botswana	9 Jun, 4 Oct 2018	13	6	£3,995	Africa
Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe	African Adventure: Zimbabwe, Botswana & Namibia	Mar & Jun-Dec 2018	17	12	£5,095	
Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe	On the Trail of Elephants	Mar-Nov 2018	18	12	£4,595	
Namibia	Faces of Namibia	Jan-Dec 2018	12	7	£3,975	
Namibia	Namibia's Desert & Coast	May-Nov 2018	12	7	£6,895	
Zambia	Classic Luangwa Walking	Jun-Sep 2018	14	6	£6,545	
Zambia	Sacred Combe Safari	25 Sep 2018	12	10	£7,375	
Alaska	Brown Bears of Kodiak	Jun-Aug 2018	11	8	£9,945	North America
Alaska	Bears & Whales in South East Alaska	Jul-Aug 2018	15	15	£6,795	
Canada	Festival of Whales with Mark Carwardine	1 Sep 2018	9	18	£5,295	
Canada	Orcas, Bears & Totems	Jul-Aug 2018	10	16	£4,745	
Canada	Polar Bears Mother & Cubs	Jul-Aug 2018	8	12	£8,145	
Canada	Newfoundland Adventure	Jun-Jul 2018	9	18	£3,395	
Canada	Classic Polar Bears	Oct-Nov 2018	7	15	£6,545	
Canada	Great Bear Rainforest	Aug-Oct 2018	12	13	£5,495	
Canada	Festival of Bears with Mark Carwardine	6 Oct 2018	9	26	£6,495	
Canada	Tundra Lodge Adventure	Oct-Nov 2018	7	28	£7,945	
Canada	Beluga Whales & Polar Bears	Jul-Aug 2018	9	12	£8,895	
USA	Yellowstone Ultimate Wolf & Wildlife Safari	Jan-Feb 2018	8	14	£5,795	
Brazil	NEW Wildlife of the Pantanal	9 Jun, 12 Aug 19 Sep 2018	12	12	£4,295	Latin America
Chile	Puma-tracking in Southern Chile	Jan-Mar 2018	10	4	£5,595	
Guyana	Ultimate Guyana Nature Experience	Jan-May & Aug-Dec 2018	16	10	£5,425	
Mexico	Great Whales of Mexico's Pacific Coast	7 Apr 2018, 7 Apr 2019	10	25	£4,995	
Japan	NEW Japan's Winter Wildlife	7 & 14 Feb 2019	11	12	£5,495	Asia & Australasia
New Zealand	NEW Zealand's Wild West Coast	Oct-Apr	13	10	£6,245	
Russia	NEW Kamchatka's Whale-watching with Mark Carwardine	7 Jun 2019	20	45	£12,995 (Triple cabin)	
Russia	Wrangel Island Exclusive with Mark Carwardine	21 Jul 2018, 22 Jul 2019	18	45	£13,395 (Twin cabin)	
Sri Lanka	Blue Whales & Dolphins	24 Nov 2018	14	12	£2,995	
Azores	Sperm Whales & Bottlenose Dolphins	May-Sep 2018	6	12	£1,495	Europe
Finland	Brown Bear Explorer	17 Jun 2018, 8 Jul 2018, 29 Jul 2018	8	12	£1,845	
Iceland	Orcas & Northern Lights	Feb-Mar 2018	5	25	£1,306	
Slovenia	Brown Bear Weekend with BBC Wildlife Magazine	25 May 2018	4	9	£1,145	
Spain	Iberian Lynx Quest	27 Jan 2018, 20 Oct 2018, 26 Jan 2019	8	12	£1,495	
UK: Scotland	The Shetland Islands	May-Jul 2018	8	10	£1,345 (Land only)	

Image by Nick Garbutt



WILD EUROPE

Europe's coastal waters and areas of protected wilderness offer a wealth of natural delights to the discerning wildlife enthusiast. With many of Europe's mammal populations having recovered in recent years, and a rich and varied range of bird species, a trip closer to home can provide a memorable and unique wildlife experience to rival long-haul destinations, providing exciting options for even the most time-limited of travellers.



“ Success is an understatement, on Sunday night we had over FIVE HOURS of continuous bears - lost count of how many different ones! ”

Phil G travelled to Finland in Jul 2017

Image by Bret Charman



Iberian Lynx Quest

Explore some of Andalucía's most wild and wonderful corners - rugged Andújar Natural Park and the vast Doñana National Park - the last two refuges of the critically endangered Iberian lynx, the rarest cat in the world. Other wildlife such as red and fallow deer, wild boar, mouflon and otter thrive in these relatively unpopulated and quiet regions, alongside such avian delights as the rare black vulture. Staying in truly beautiful and typical local villages adds an extra magical experience to this journey.

Group, 27 Jan 2018 (limited space), 20 Oct 2018 & 26 Jan 2019
8 days, from £1,495



Norway - Whales & Northern Lights

This exciting short break to the picturesque village of Andenes focusses on the abundance of cetaceans found in the coastal waters of northern Norway. During the winter months large numbers of herring migrate to Andfjorden, which in turn attract orca, fin, minke, sperm and humpback whales - making it one of the best times of year for whale watching. Back on land, watch out for the Northern Lights as they dance across the night sky as you take a guided walk around the harbour in Andenes.

Trip idea, Nov-Mar
5 days, from £1,295



Bears in the Carpathian Mountains

This tailor-made itinerary to Romania allows you to discover some of Europe's finest unexplored scenery - the intact virgin forest that covers the Carpathians, Europe's second longest mountain chain. These unspoilt forests provide a perfect habitat for more than one third of Europe's wolves, brown bears and lynx. Staying in Piatra Craiului National Park, you have opportunities to visit hides to view brown bears as well as birdwatching excursions to areas that offer over 100 species.

Group, 17 Jun, 8 Jul & 29 Jul 2018
4 days, from £1,175



NEW Iceland's Natural Wonders Self-drive

Our new self-drive itinerary in Iceland reveals a geological wonderland of volcanoes, waterfalls and fjords, along with a plethora of marine life and birds. Whale watching cruises offer chances to see humpback and minke whales, orcas and other cetaceans, while time to explore Vatnes and Snaefellsnes Peninsulas gives opportunities to view seal colonies and plentiful birdlife. At certain times of year you may even be lucky enough to witness the Northern Lights!

Trip idea, Apr-Oct
8 days, from £2,745



Brown Bear Explorer

Long evenings and early dawns allow incomparable opportunities to watch and photograph the wildlife of the forest on this small group trip to Finland. During a one week stay in the height of summer, you'll stay at purpose-built hides in two carefully selected locations, where night vigils with a naturalist guide reward you with close-up views of brown bears, wolverines and occasionally wolves. During the day there are nature walks in the vicinity or an optional trip further afield.

Group, Jun-Jul
8 days, from £1,845

THE PANTANAL

Brazil's Wildlife Kingdom



Product executive Chris Smith fulfils a lifelong ambition to get to Brazil...

I only remember feeling excited about travelling to Brazil. It was somewhere I had always wanted to go and had heard such good things about. The name alone sounded vibrant, exuberant, even exotic; images of carnival, capoeira and football sprang to mind. It was time to see just how good Brazil really was...

Arriving into Rio de Janeiro by air, I started to appreciate just how vast this incredible country was. I checked the figures – Brazil really is two and a half times the size of India! Rio itself was everything I was expecting it to be: a city full of diversity, colour, energy, vistas and iconic sights. Any trip to South America's largest nation should include a stay in Rio. However, I was soon to discover that Brazil's real treasures lie further inland, in the wetland wilderness of the Pantanal.

The Amazon, in the north of Brazil, attracts most attention from the outside world. This is completely understandable as the Amazon Basin is, of course, the world's largest rainforest. Yet, if you're looking for birds and animals, the Pantanal is where you have to go. The planet's biggest wetland, it supports an exceptional array of wildlife.

It was hot when I arrived in Cuiabá in the middle of the dry season, which typically runs from June through until early November. Driving south to the small town of Pocone, we joined the infamous Transpantaneira, a raised dusty track that penetrates deep into the heart of the Pantanal.

Along its 147-kilometre length, the Transpantaneira crosses no fewer than 122 wooden bridges, and each one brought a new wealth of flora and fauna into view: caiman in their dozens, alongside a wonderful variety of birds that included jabiru storks, scarlet ibises and all five species of South American kingfisher. The further I travelled into this watery wilderness, the better the wildlife became.

The Transpantaneira comes to abrupt end at the locality known as Porto Jofre, which lies on the banks of the Cuiabá River, one of the Pantanal's main waterways. From here the best way to explore

is by boat, and taking to the water, we began our search for the region's famous wildlife. Cruising slowly along a meandering river, we scanned the riverside vegetation intently and with every bend, I was filled with a tremendous sense of anticipation, never knowing what awaited us.

Flocks of hyacinth macaws squawked noisily overhead, capybaras relaxed on the riverbank, a tapir waded through a stream at dusk and a family of giant river otters marauded through the water – all of this in less than a week in the Pantanal. Yet one animal completely stole the show: the jaguar! I couldn't believe the sheer number that I came across. In five days travelling on the rivers, I was lucky enough to see eight different individuals across ten sightings. This abundance of jaguars – let alone all the other wildlife – was something I had simply never expected from Brazil.

On returning to Rio, I treated myself to a caipirinha overlooking the legendary Copacabana beach and tried to get my head around what I had just seen. Brazil is home to many things, but the Pantanal showed me a different side of this great country – its incredible diversity of wildlife. And this wildlife was vibrant, exuberant and exotic – like much of the rest of Brazil!



Jaguars of the Pantanal

Explore Brazil's Pantanal region to enjoy some of the finest wildlife viewing imaginable. Accompanied by expert local guides, you'll search for that most elusive of felines, the jaguar, in the world's most spectacular wetland.

Trip idea, Jun-Oct, 15 days, from £6,895

“ Absolutely superb experience - all the co-ordination worked extremely well. We saw 14 different jaguars altogether for extended viewings and over 150 birds. The two guides were excellent and the accommodation and transport beyond expectations. ”

Bruce L travelled to Brazil in Sep 2017



Images by Nick Garbutt



New Small Group Tour

Wildlife of the Pantanal

This small group trip focuses on the abundant wildlife of Brazil's North Pantanal, combining two well established wildlife lodges with an exciting new lodge in a remote area, offering excellent chances of encountering jaguars, giant rivers otters and a wealth of other mammals and birds.

Group, 9 Jun, 12 Aug & 19 Sep 2018
12 days, £4,295

Expect the unexpected in GUYANA...

It had been an early start, so I had to pinch myself. Wasn't I in Guyana? A country totally covered in rainforest in my mind's eye? Well, yes and no. The view before me was undoubtedly East African. A lone tree set against rolling grassland, an endless blue sky dotted with cotton wool clouds, a shimmering lake in the distance at the foot of haze-shrouded mountains. This was glorious, glorious savannah, and I loved it!

Not particularly African, however, was the sudden appearance of a loping, long-haired creature trotting straight towards us! As it turned, we recognised the distinctive profile of a giant anteater! Utterly spellbound, we watched this magnificent creature for probably no more than a few minutes, though it felt like hours – and all before breakfast!

Late afternoon and it was time to explore the Rupununi, which teemed with life: we saw giant river otter, giant river turtle, and both black and spectacled caiman, but it was a pleasure simply to sit back and enjoy the novelty of river travel. The wall of vegetation on either side of us held a cacophony of birdsong, and our sightings were many and varied: kingfishers aplenty plus jabiru and numerous species of heron.

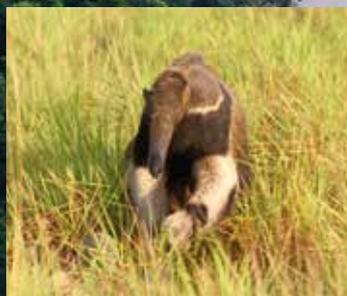
Leaving the main river, we negotiated mangroves, noticing long-nosed bats clinging to a tree just above the waterline as well as squirrel monkeys. After sundowners on an oxbow lake, we were accompanied by low-flying fish-eating bats, and spotted an Amazonian tree boa and a boat-billed heron (similar to a shoebill) as we made our way home. High above us the stars were astounding and the Milky Way was clearly visible. A cold beer and dinner al fresco under a lantern-strewn tree rounded off a truly marvellous day!

From the northernmost reach of the mighty Amazon we travelled to spectacular Kaieteur Falls, which can only be reached by light aircraft. Imagine soaring over pristine rainforest – broccoli florets stretching as far as the eye can see!

Grinning like Cheshire cats after our first aerial sighting, on the walk from the airstrip to the falls we came across a cock-of-the-rock and various carnivorous plants. White-collared swifts swirled above us, evading their falcon predators as they darted beneath the curtain of water to their roost. Jaw-dropping and awe-inspiring, this lost world has no crowds, no hotels and no railings. Quite simply, the most impressive waterfall in the world!



Wildlife consultant Helen Bryon didn't know what to expect in South America's only English-speaking country



Guyana: A Land of Giants

Discover the rich and colourful birdlife of Guyana's densely forested interior on this exceptional adventure, with the chance of encountering such mammals as giant anteater, giant river otter and a variety of primates.

Trip idea, Sep-Apr, 13 days, from £5,395

Costa Rica

PURA VIDA!

By Brian Wood

The Costa Rican cover-all expression that translates as 'Pure Life!' sums up the intense activity with which this tiny Central American nation is positively bursting. On a clear day you can look down on Caribbean and Pacific coasts simultaneously from a volcanic peak in the mountainous spine that runs its length. And you cannot but admire a nation that eschews an army in favour of its national parks!

I had always been interested in birds, but it wasn't until I went to Costa Rica that I bought my first field guide – a veritable doorstep of a book. I was excited by the country's exotic birdlife – all 850 of them if you include migrants – and I wanted to know more, so it was an obvious step. That started something, as I now own three books about Costa Rica's avifauna alone (plus all the others from around the world!).

Not that Costa Rica is just about birds. I could have done the same with frogs, as its jungles possess some of the world's most colourful amphibians – though many are critically endangered. Or, indeed, turtles: hawksbill, loggerhead, green and leatherbacks all lay their eggs on the dark volcanic sand beaches of Tortuguero on the Caribbean coast, so for much of the year you can witness these extraordinary prehistoric creatures by night as they establish a new generation. And if you miss them there, you have another chance on the Pacific coast.

Bang in the centre, the cloud forest of Monteverde and adjacent Santa Elena Reserve is one of Central America's foremost protected areas. Straddling the continental divide at up to 1,440 metres altitude, this is where Caribbean and Pacific weather systems collide, creating a diverse ecosystem that is home to more than 100 mammal species, over 400 birds (including 30 different hummingbirds), tens of thousands of insects (over 5,000 species of moths alone) and 2,500 plants (including 420 types of orchid)! What's not to like about that? Oh, and it's a great place to see resplendent quetzal – the country's most iconic bird.

On the Pacific coast, stunning beaches offer opportunities to wind down and relax. You can explore rainforest, mangroves, estuaries, rivers and volcanoes for wildlife, while howler monkeys swing through trees, parakeets screech from the canopy, and giant iguanas wander the town centre! Life doesn't get much purer than this!



Image by Nick Garbutt

Natural Highlights

Wildlife and colourful birdlife abounds on this coast-to-coast trip to see Costa Rica's flora and fauna amidst an ever-changing landscape of rainforests, lagoons, mountains and beaches.

Trip idea, Jan-Dec, 14 days, from £2,995

WILDLIFE

Through the Lens

By Bret Charman



 photography
tours

I can't help feeling that, as a leader of photographic tours, I'm in a very privileged position. After all, I have wonderful opportunities to enjoy the world's most incredible wildlife. After working in the world of safari and wildlife travel for five years, in 2014 I took the decision to pack in my desk job and head to Australia. However, this was no ordinary gap year. Instead of the usual backpacking experience, I went out in search of the country's magical wildlife.

I spent ten months exploring the rich forests, plains and spectacular coastline of this antipodean wonderland. Species such as platypus, dingo and the red-eyed tree frog were my photographic quarry, and I couldn't help but fall in love with just about everything I saw.

On my return to the UK, I joined the growing marketing team at Wildlife Worldwide, with the additional role of helping to expand the collection of dedicated photography tours. In 2016 I was delighted to be named as a winner in the prestigious Australian Nature Photographer of the Year competition with my image of a dingo. My success continued in 2017, when I was extremely proud to win a category (Birds in Flight) in the Bird Photographer of the Year competition. You may have seen my image of an Australian pelican, entitled 'A Perfect Landing', on the BBC's One Show or in the national press.

So, if you are looking toward your next photographic journey, why not join me in 2018 on one of my trips in Europe, or further afield in the stunning surroundings of Zimbabwe's Mana Pools in the quest for images of the stunning African wild dog?



Brown Bear Photography

Visit the Dinaric Alps in the tiny yet wildlife-rich country of Slovenia, home to a population of over 400 brown bears, which we observe and photograph from dedicated photographic hides.

Group, 4 & 9 May 2018 & 19 May 2019
6 days, from £1,845



Skomer's Perfect Puffins

Spend two nights on the island of Skomer - home to one of the UK's largest puffin colonies - off the stunning Pembrokeshire coast, escaping the crowds to make the most of countless photographic opportunities.

Group, 24 May & 28 Jun 2018
3 days, from £495



Mana Pools: Wild Dogs & Elephants Photography

This unique photographic safari is designed to provide unrivalled opportunities to capture images of African wild dogs and bull elephants in Zimbabwe's Mana Pools National Park.

Group, 1 Nov 2018
11 days, from £7,945

SMALL SURPRISES

With Alex Hyde

We are delighted to offer several opportunities to join Alex Hyde, winner of the 'Hidden Britain' category in the prestigious British Wildlife Photography Awards, to learn all about the world of macro photography. You don't even need to get on a plane!

"For me," says Alex "photography is a means of getting closer to the natural world, to observe it at close quarters and marvel at its every detail. I firmly believe that all of us are born with an inherent fascination with nature. Over time, this interest may get pushed aside by other priorities: work, or perhaps a busy family life, but we never lose it completely. Given the right opportunity, any of us can reawaken that inner child and once more find ourselves on our hands and knees peering into the long grass.

Over the years I have found myself drawn to those smaller subjects, the insects, spiders and other critters that are so often overlooked. It is a world full of surprise and colour, tiny scenes being played out with all the drama of an African savannah. With a simple macro lens, a whole world opens up to us.

Photography can, of course, be a frustrating business with pictures not capturing the magic we remembered, out-of-focus action shots, and of course we never seem to have quite enough light. With the addition of relatively few easy-to-understand techniques such as controlling your depth of field, using an off-camera flash, and observing a good tripod technique, you can capture close-up images of the natural world in exquisite clarity and detail. I'd like to think that reading an inch-thick manual never compares to spending time in the field with working professionals who know their stuff."

Alex and wildlife photographer, Nick Garbutt also join forces to run rainforest workshops on a regular basis. Plans are afoot for a workshop in Borneo, so keep your eyes peeled for details to be revealed.



Images by Alex Hyde



Bugs 'n' Beasts: Photography Workshop

The aim of this informative and enjoyable weekend is to leave you with a selection of pleasing images of captive-bred tropical invertebrates and, learn new skills that you can put into practice on your next trip.

Group, 27 Jan 18, 2 days, from £395



Dorset's Spring Treasures

The Dorset countryside reveals a wealth of exciting subjects to explore with your macro lens. With demonstrations in the field by Alex and wildlife photographer Nick Garbutt, learn how to photograph insects and plants.

Group, 18 May 2018, 3 days, from £595



Close-up on Alpine Nature

If you fancy a real macro indulgence, this trip with Alex and Nick Garbutt visits the Tyrol when the alpine meadows are in their full glory with a show of wild flowers, an array of butterflies and other insects.

*Group, 15 Jun 2019 (2018 Full)
8 days, from £1,995*



SNOW LEOPARDS

A softer option



Wildlife photographer Nick Garbutt eulogises the snow leopard...



Big cats are always a draw, and are usually the most sought-after animals of all in the wildlife destinations where they occur. Seeing Africa's three big cats in the wild has been the core of safari tourism for decades.

Similarly, tiger tourism in India has been well-established for more than a quarter of a century, and even though the threats that tigers face have not diminished (if anything, they are on the increase!) it is still relatively straightforward to see them in the right parks.

Over the past decade, it has become much easier to see the two big cats that inhabit South America: jaguars in the Brazilian Pantanal, and pumas in Chilean Patagonia. A well-organised specialist tour to these locations (such as the trips we organise) offers an excellent chance of success, not just to see, but also to photograph these cats.

However one big cat remains missing. A creature that lives unseen among the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas and Central Asia, and has for long been regarded as a mythical ghost of the mountains. If ever an animal epitomised remote and rugged wilderness it is the snow leopard, and until recently seeing one has been the stuff of dreams.

Until now that is. The past few years have seen the emergence of locations in the Himalayas that offer regular and reasonably reliable sightings, and provide an opportunity to see what must be one of the most mysterious and beautiful animals on earth.

Rumbak Valley in Hemis National Park, in Ladakh, is perhaps the best known of these, and has increased dramatically in popularity. However, as visitor numbers have increased, facilities have lagged behind, and reaching this remote valley requires a strenuous trek and involves staying at a campsite that offers only very basic living conditions.

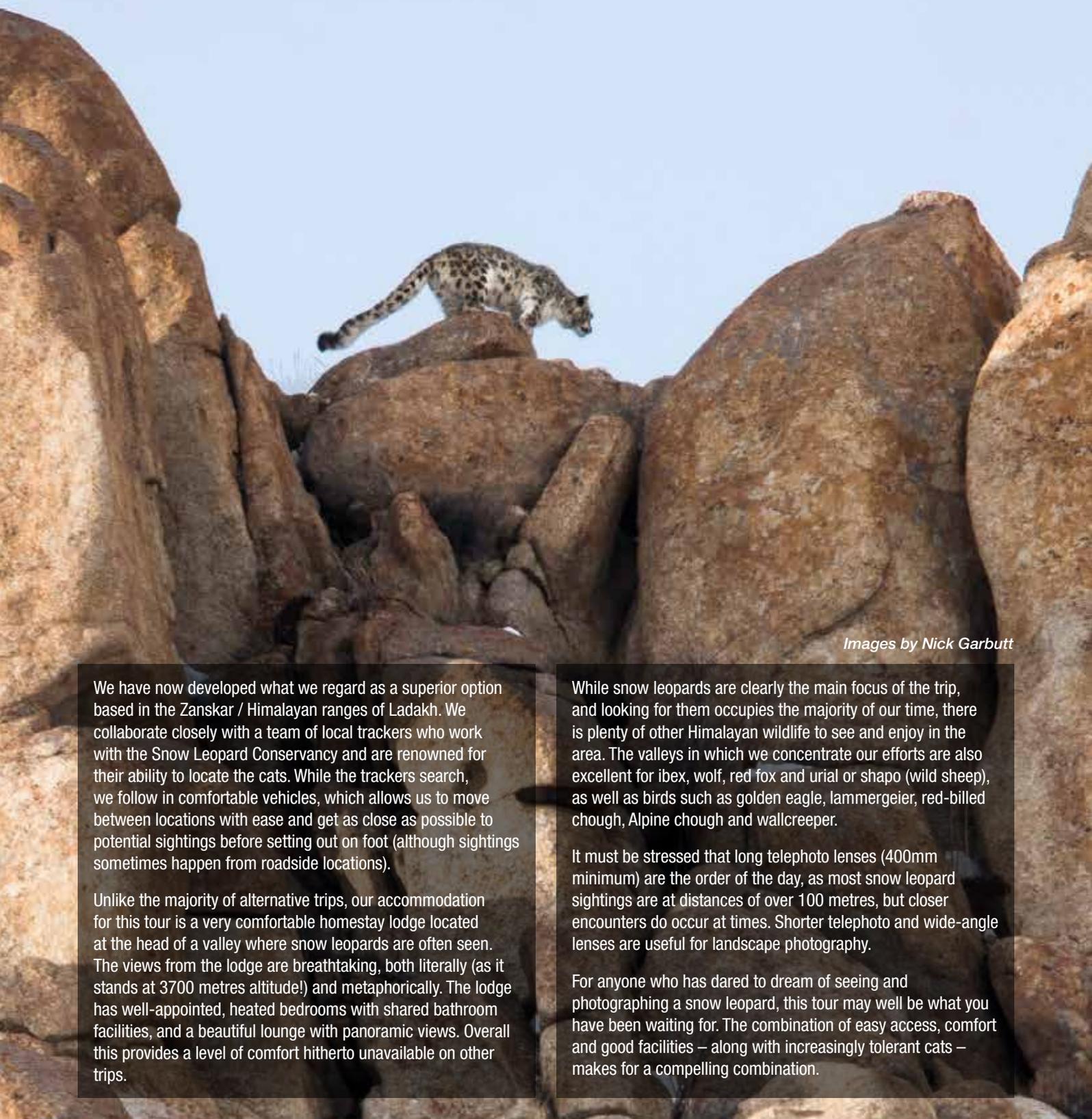


Searching for Snow Leopards

Join this unique and exclusive trip to the Ulley Valley in Ladakh. Based at a delightful homestay lodge, offering significantly greater comfort than camping, you follow the area's foremost naturalist guides by jeep and on foot in search of the elusive snow leopard.

Group, 4 Apr 2018 & 23 Feb 2019

18 days, from £6,495



Images by Nick Garbutt

We have now developed what we regard as a superior option based in the Zaskar / Himalayan ranges of Ladakh. We collaborate closely with a team of local trackers who work with the Snow Leopard Conservancy and are renowned for their ability to locate the cats. While the trackers search, we follow in comfortable vehicles, which allows us to move between locations with ease and get as close as possible to potential sightings before setting out on foot (although sightings sometimes happen from roadside locations).

Unlike the majority of alternative trips, our accommodation for this tour is a very comfortable homestay lodge located at the head of a valley where snow leopards are often seen. The views from the lodge are breathtaking, both literally (as it stands at 3700 metres altitude!) and metaphorically. The lodge has well-appointed, heated bedrooms with shared bathroom facilities, and a beautiful lounge with panoramic views. Overall this provides a level of comfort hitherto unavailable on other trips.

While snow leopards are clearly the main focus of the trip, and looking for them occupies the majority of our time, there is plenty of other Himalayan wildlife to see and enjoy in the area. The valleys in which we concentrate our efforts are also excellent for ibex, wolf, red fox and urial or shapo (wild sheep), as well as birds such as golden eagle, lammergeier, red-billed chough, Alpine chough and wallcreeper.

It must be stressed that long telephoto lenses (400mm minimum) are the order of the day, as most snow leopard sightings are at distances of over 100 metres, but closer encounters do occur at times. Shorter telephoto and wide-angle lenses are useful for landscape photography.

For anyone who has dared to dream of seeing and photographing a snow leopard, this tour may well be what you have been waiting for. The combination of easy access, comfort and good facilities – along with increasingly tolerant cats – makes for a compelling combination.

Red Squirrel

PHOTOGRAPHY



With James Shooter



Image by James Shooter



Wildlife photography is becoming increasingly popular and our range of photography tours continues to expand, reaching more corners of the world and providing further opportunities to photograph wildlife. However, while there is a swathe of exotic destinations to visit, there is also excellent wildlife to be seen much closer to home.

We have a number of tours that take place right here in the UK to spot and snap the very best of British wildlife. This includes a brand new tour to Cairngorms National Park in Scotland where the focus is on red squirrels.

The red squirrel is one of most endearing and charismatic animals in the British Isles. With their bright bushy tails, red fur and little tufted ears, red squirrels make extremely appealing photographic subjects too. Our departure is planned for February to coincide with winter, which will hopefully (weather depending) provide a snowy backdrop for the furry stars of our show. The weather conditions at this time of year are some of the most interesting for photographing wildlife in Scotland.

Using a number of purpose-built hides, we hope to capture compelling and personable in-depth images of these captivating little mammals, as well as other resident wildlife such as crested tits and a variety of woodland birds. From the

hides you will be able to see the squirrels running and jumping, creating a range of image opportunities. Even portrait shots are possible on our five-day itinerary as squirrels pause for thought on their foraging mission.

Led by award-winning photographer James Shooter, there will be on-hand, experienced tuition to help you learn new skills and make the most of your images. James has worked in the Cairngorms National Park for the last six years capturing images of its wildlife and leading photographic groups. He has a particular interest in winter photography, and red squirrels are among his favourite subjects!

Join us in Scotland in February 2019 to see the red squirrels, and receive first-class tuition in wildlife photography. To ensure that James can provide the best tuition possible, the group size is limited to just nine people, so places will go quickly – that's if the red squirrels hadn't swayed you already!

NEW Red Squirrel Photography

Staying in a comfortable rural lodge and accompanied by award-winning photographer James Shooter, you will have excellent opportunities to photograph endearing red squirrels and other fantastic British wildlife.

Group, 16 Feb 2019, 5 days, from £795

Small group photography tours with our leading experts

Country	Tour Name	Photographer(s)	Departure Date(s)	Duration	Price From
USA	Wild West Winter Wonderland	Nick Garbutt	18 Jan 2018 (Limited space) 17 Jan & 1 Feb 2019 (Full)	17	£7,295
UK	Bugs 'n' Beasts Indoors: Photography Workshop	Alex Hyde & Bret Charman	27 Jan 2018	2	£395 (Land only)
India	Tiger Photo & Art Safari	Nick Garbutt & Nick Mackman	9 Mar 2018	13	£5,995
India	Searching for Snow Leopards	Nick Garbutt	4 Apr 2018 (Limited space), 23 Feb 2019	18	£6,495
Spain	Bird Photography in Extremadura	Ashley Grove	20 Apr 2018, 5 Apr 2019	5	£1,595
Borneo	Rainforests & Rivers	Nick Garbutt	26 Apr, 4 May, 9 May 2018	19	£7,195
Slovenia	Brown Bear Photography	Bret Charman	4 May 2018 (Limited space), 9 May 2018 (5 days!), 19 May 2019	6	£1,645 (5 days)
Romania	Focus on the Danube Delta	Ashley Grove	5 May 2018, 4 May 2019	8	£2,295
UK	Dorset's Spring Treasures Photography Workshop	Nick Garbutt & Alex Hyde	18 May 2018	3	£595 (Land only)
UK	Skomer's Perfect Puffins	Bret Charman	24 May 2018, 28 Jun 2018 (Limited space)	3	£495 (Land only)
Austria	Close-up on Alpine Nature	Nick Garbutt & Alex Hyde	16 Jun 2018 (Full), 15 Jun 2019	8	£1,895
Finland	Boreal Predators Photography	Bret Charman	16 Jun 2018	6	£2,395
Papua New Guinea	Birds of Paradise Photography	Nick Garbutt	29 Jun 2018 (Full)	19	£10,595
Hungary	Spring Photography of the Steppe & Forests	Ashley Grove	12 Jul 2018, 19 May 2019	7	£1,945
France	Flower Photography in the Pyrenees	Alice Hunter	14 Jul 2018	8	£1,895
Russia	Wrangel Island Exclusive with Mark Carwardine	Mark Carwardine & Joe Cornish	21 Jul 2018 22 Jul 2019	18	£13,395 (Twin cabin)
Brazil	The Pantanal: Brazil's Wetland Wonder	Nick Garbutt	24 Aug 2018	18	£9,895
Canada	Festival of Whales	Mark Carwardine	1 Sep 2018	9	£5,295
Canada	Spirit Bear Quest	Nick Garbutt	18 Sep 2018 (Full)	16	£8,795
Madagascar	Madagascar's South & West Photography	Chris Mattison	21 Sep 2018	20	£5,495
Canada	Festival of Bears	Mark Carwardine	6 Oct 2018	9	£6,495
South Georgia	Festival of Wildlife Photography	Nick Garbutt & Alex Hyde	1 Nov 2018	19	£8,895 (Voyage only)
Zimbabwe	Mana Pools: Wild Dogs & Elephants Photography	Bret Charman	1 Nov 2018	11	£7,945
Chile	Puma & Patagonian Wildlife Photography	Nick Garbutt	20 Nov 2018 (Limited space)	18	£11,295
USA	Wild West Winter Wonderland	Nick Garbutt	18 Jan 2018 (Limited space) 17 Jan & 1 Feb 2019 (Full)	17	£7,295
UK: Scotland	NEW Red Squirrel Photography	James Shooter	16 Feb 2019	5	£795 (Land only)
Costa Rica	NEW Wildlife Photography in Costa Rica's Rainforests	Nick Garbutt	6 Apr & 27 Apr 2019	19	£6,995
Russia	NEW Kamchatka Whale Watching with Mark Carwardine	Mark Carwardine	7 Jun 2019	20	£12,995 (Triple cabin)
Tanzania	NEW Northern Tanzania: The Great Migration	Nick Garbutt	21 Aug 2019	18	£11,195

All prices are per person, include flights from the UK (except where specified), accommodation, transfers and the services of an expert photographer.

OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Mark Carwardine



Nick Garbutt



Alex Hyde



Bret Charman



Ashley Grove



Alice Hunter



Chris Mattison



James Shooter



Travelling to Japan in the depths of winter is a unique and fascinating experience. At the forefront of technological advances and home to an estimated 127 million people, Japan's credentials as a wildlife destination are often overlooked, but, away from the glitzy neon lights and high-rise buildings of the cities it is possible to experience a wildlife spectacle that rivals anything you may have witnessed elsewhere.

Spanning over 3,000 kilometres from north to south and comprising an incredible 7,000 islands, Japan encompasses a wonderful variety of landscapes. However, it is the northernmost island of Hokkaido that is of greatest interest to the wildlife enthusiast at this time of year, and here – amidst a frozen landscape of snow-covered fields, icy rivers and smouldering volcanoes – it is possible to find some of Japan's most iconic wildlife.

Shrouded in the early morning mist of the Setsuri-gawa River, majestic Japanese cranes – once thought extinct – wade tentatively through frozen shallows, before taking to the wing and flying to nearby fields where they gather in small flocks to feed on a canvas of pure white snow. Standing close to 1.5 metres tall with a wing span approaching 2.5 metres, these graceful creatures often engage in elaborate courtship displays, piercing the morning air with their haunting calls.

In Akan National Park, thermal springs feed the frozen waters of beautiful caldera lakes, melting the surface ice and providing welcome pockets of clear water for migratory whooper swans. Congregating on the lakeshore against a backdrop of forest-clad mountains, the swans offer incredible photographic opportunities. Although

hibernating at this time, these forests provide refuge to a very healthy population of brown bear, alongside smaller mammals such as sika deer, red fox and sable which all remain active through the winter months.

To the north of the island on the Shiretoko Peninsula, the modest fishing town of Rausu plays host to one of the most magnificent gatherings of eagles found anywhere on earth. Attracted by the rich waters of the Okhotsk Sea, every winter up to 1,000 Steller's sea eagles and smaller numbers of white-tailed eagles descend on the town. Roosting in trees made bare by the icy bite of winter, with the breaking of dawn, the eagles take to the skies in great streams, following the fishing vessels out to sea, intent on obtaining a share of the spoils. The eagles are accustomed to taking discarded fish from alongside a boat, and it is possible to enjoy incredible views as they swoop down to snatch the fish from the surface of the sea.

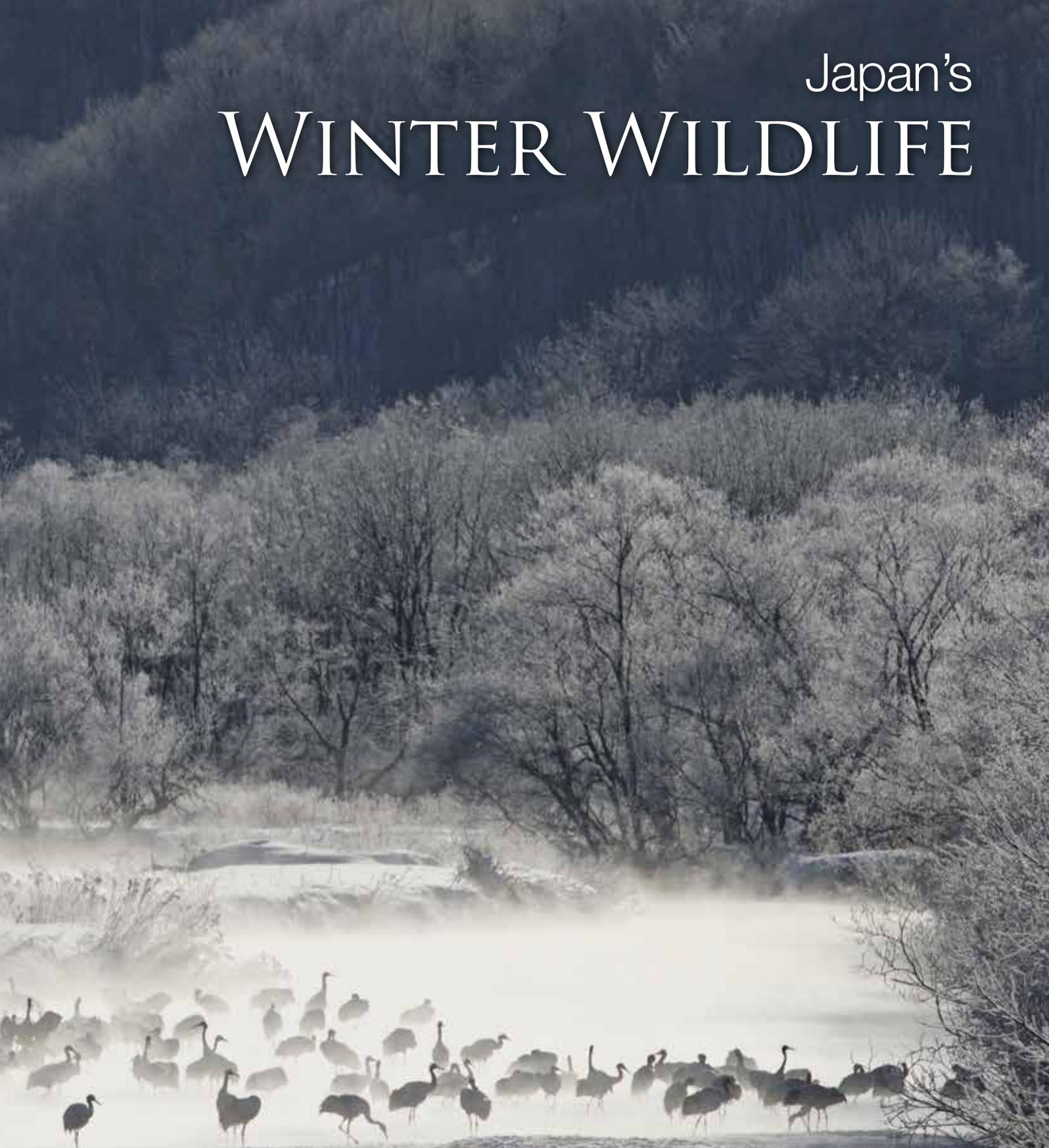
As the sun sets and the temperature plummets, another avian heavyweight awakens from its slumbers and ventures out in search of prey. The magnificent Blakiston's fish owl, one of the largest and rarest owls in the world, frequents the forests of Hokkaido and there are several sites where you can reliably watch these incredible birds as they fish.

Of all Japan's wild creatures, undoubtedly the best-known are the Japanese macaques, or 'snow monkeys'. Residing in a picturesque valley of the Yokoyu River in the Japanese Alps, up to 100 at a time can often be found bathing in the steaming hot springs and foraging in the surrounding coniferous forest. With temperatures as low as -20° Celsius, the pleasure they get from bathing in the warm waters is only too evident on their faces.



Images by Dani Free

Japan's WINTER WILDLIFE



New Small Group Tour

Japan's Winter Wildlife

An exciting 11-day holiday to Japan in search of wintering Steller's sea eagles, flocks of 'dancing' Japanese cranes, fish-catching Blakiston's fish owls and bathing Japanese macaques

Group, 7 & 14 Feb 2019
11 days, £ 5,495



SRI LANKA

Connoisseur's Blend



Wildlife consultant Sarah Malcolm takes time out on the Serendipity Isle...

My journey through Sri Lanka took me from pristine white sand beaches, where tropical waters teem with cetaceans, up into the cool highland regions in the centre of the island, where tea plantations cling to the misty hillsides. Amazing wildlife thrives in the country's many national parks along with wonderful birdlife that includes the Sri Lankan hanging parrot and crested hawk eagle, and are a prelude to the inspiring ancient temples of the so-called 'cultural triangle'.

My first wildlife encounter was with a parading peacock, whose eerie striking call cut through the forest and surrounding grassland, a sound only overshadowed by the sight of these avian exhibitionists. Their iridescent plumage is not exclusive, however, as Sri Lanka is home to an exquisite collection of colourful endemic and migratory birds.

The ease of getting around this small island makes it possible to visit many different ecosystems during a trip, and encounter the wildlife that thrives in each national park. Yala, for instance,

is the must-visit park to seek out leopard, and is widely reputed to have the world's highest density of this secretive creature. And while there, keep your eyes peeled for sloth bears taking advantage of the palu trees that fruit in June and July, or rummaging for termites.

Sri Lanka boasts a population of over 4,500 roaming elephants. Around 500 of these are found in Uda Walawe, which is consequently one of the best parks in the continent to see Asian elephant in the wild. Other great places to see wild elephants are Minneriya and Kadulla, which attract vast herds each year that congregate on the dried lake-bed in August and September in a breathtaking event known as 'the gathering'.

Sri Lanka is a nature lover's paradise which offers an opportunity to delve into its fascinating culture, laze on the white sand beaches after a morning with blue whales, and relish the mouth-watering food throughout! The island lends itself to a tailor-made holiday, which we can design, to get the perfect blend of wildlife, culture and relaxation to fit your wishes.



Elephants, Blue Whales & Leopards

This superb itinerary introduces you to Sri Lanka's big three: huge herds of elephant in Udawalawe National Park, some of the world's largest leopards at Yala, and the largest mammal of all - the blue whale - at Mirissa.

Trip idea, Nov-Apr, 10 days, from £2,795

PANGTASTIC INDIA...



Dan Free remembers getting antsy in India as if it were yesterday...

During our four days in Kanha National Park we'd enjoyed one of those rare purple patches, where our every request seemed to be answered with a sighting, enjoying fantastic views of tiger, sloth bear, dhole and even a fleeting glimpse of a leopard. Exhausting the list of possible mammals, we'd challenged our guide to find a pangolin – which proved to be a request too far in this instance.

On arrival at our lodge in Bandhavgarh National Park we were introduced to our new guide, who set about quizzing us on what we'd already seen and what we still hoped to see. As we reeled off the list of species we'd enjoyed in the previous days, the poor chap became ever more despondent. When we jokingly mentioned pangolin, he practically broke down in tears, explaining almost apologetically that he hadn't seen one in over four years and – even then – that had been at night.

Venturing into the park the following morning we soon picked up the tracks of a tigress and her three adolescent cubs, locating the young family in a small clearing a short distance on. As we approached, we could see the cubs darting around frantically, rolling what appeared to be a rock between them. Only it wasn't a rock at all, but the tightly rolled-up form of a pangolin. We couldn't believe what we were seeing, and neither could our guide. He turned and stared at us, completely speechless, before shaking his head and breaking into the

biggest grin I've ever seen.

Over the next few hours we were able to observe the cubs as first they played, and then, growing tired, nestled up next to the pangolin and fell asleep. With the exception of being in the presence of four tigers, the heavily-armoured pangolin was otherwise unhurt, and on the rare occasion when it was left unattended, it would slowly unfurl and start creeping to safety. At first, its attempts at escape were thwarted by the young tigers, but as time passed, they lost interest and eventually the pangolin slipped away to the safety of a burrow.

It was undoubtedly one of the luckiest sightings I have ever had and, even though it was over ten years ago, I can still recall the shocked expression of our guide as if it was only yesterday!

Tiger Tiger



Our most popular trip in the subcontinent visits India's finest national parks to see tigers at little-known Pench, famed Kanha, and classic Bandhavgarh, culminating in a visit to the majestic Taj Mahal.

*Trip idea, Oct-Apr
16 days, from £3,695*



Images by Dani Free

New Zealand's South Island is one of those places you really have to experience first-hand to truly appreciate not only just how beautiful and diverse its landscape is, but also how its unique flora and fauna has evolved in such a remote environment. It wasn't until I landed in Queenstown – after a breathtaking flight that followed the spine of the Southern Alps south – that I realised just how awe-inspiring New Zealand is.

Like many other people, I had never thought of New Zealand as a wildlife destination due to the absence of large land mammals – in fact, the only native land mammals are bats! Due to the fact no predators were present during the evolution of the islands' flora and fauna, many native birds evolved to become flightless – including New Zealand's most iconic bird family, the kiwis.



New Zealand is a birders' paradise that is often referred to as the 'seabird capital of the world', and its lush green rainforests provide homes to native forest birds, including the very cheeky kea! One of my first encounters

with the kea, the world's only alpine parrot, was on the Milford Highway. A kea flew down and started entertaining the crowd with its search for scraps of food, and showing a keen interest in any loose fittings on the parked vehicles. Being one of the most intelligent bird species in the world leads to it being a very curious and playful creature. Its cheeky behaviour and beautiful dark olive-green feathers concealing brighter orange and yellow plumage on the underside of its wings made me realise that it's not just the kiwi that makes the country's birdlife so special.

What New Zealand may lack in terrestrial mammals, it more than makes up for with its marine mammals. Kaikoura's unique scenic location – where snow-capped mountains meet the Pacific Ocean – not only provides photo opportunities galore, but makes it THE place for whale watching. The nutrient-rich seas of the Kaikoura Canyon mean that sperm whales are seen all year round and, depending on when you visit, it is also possible to see orcas, humpback, pilot, blue and southern right whales. The wealth of other marine mammals in these coastal waters includes New Zealand fur seals, dusky dolphins, and Hector's dolphins – the world's smallest and rarest dolphin, which is found only in New Zealand waters.

It may have been the dramatic mountain landscape that I saw while flying over the Southern Alps that initially made me realise just how unique the country's natural landscape is, but it wasn't until I came across an inquisitive kea and witnessed the magnificent marine life offshore that I fully understood just what a hidden treasure trove of wildlife New Zealand is.

NEW ZEALAND

South Island



Product executive Ellen Cross is amazed by the nature in the Antipodes...



New Small Group Tour

New Zealand's Wild West Coast

Discover the untouched, untamed and unforgettable wilderness landscapes and abundant nature of South Island's west coast on this guided small-group trip.

Group, Oct-Apr, 13 days, from £6,245

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Tufi – No Small Experience

Ellen Cross recalls a flying visit to PNG...



Images by Nick Garbutt

As the world becomes better connected and it gets easier to travel further afield, there are ever fewer places that still have an air of mystery about them. Or so I thought until I travelled to Papua New Guinea.

PNG, as it is affectionately known, is a land of intrigue and surprises. Travelling around it may not be as daunting as you might expect, but it is nevertheless advisable to pack a sense of adventure! With regions as diverse as the Highlands with the Huli tribe and their elaborate ceremonial wigs, the mighty Sepik River snaking its way through the country to the sea, East New Britain with its eerie volcanic ash-covered town of Rabaul, dolphins galore playing in its harbour, and Milne Bay – which is rich in World War II history and whose wrecks provide spectacular diving – it can be difficult to choose where to go if you're short on time. However, the area around Tufi makes a great introduction to the country and is often referred to as 'PNG in miniature'.

After a short flight from PNG's capital, Port Moresby, the approach to Tufi's airstrip shows how unique PNG's landscape is, with fingers of lush green forest creating a fjord-like coastline reaching out in to coral-rich, turquoise waters. The landscape is a mosaic of habitats which in turn provides refuge to a wonderful variety of flora and fauna. PNG is renowned for its birdlife – and rightly so, with over 700 species recorded to date. In Tufi alone, it is possible to find over 120 species, including PNG's national bird, the Raggiana bird-of-paradise,

and the turkey-sized, Victoria crowned pigeon, a ground dwelling bird with a delicate lace-like crest.

In addition to its avifauna, Tufi is also home to the world's largest butterfly, the Queen Alexandra birdwing, whose wingspan can reach 28 centimetres, while the surrounding tropical seas are rich in coral reefs that offer a myriad of opportunities for the keen snorkeler.

No visit to PNG would be complete without experiencing its rich and fascinating culture. A short boat trip to McLaren Harbour, followed by a ride on an outrigger canoe, transported me to a village deep in the jungle where I enjoyed a fascinating insight into traditional tribal life, concluding with a traditional sing-sing, a PNG favourite!

With its landscape, wildlife and rich cultural experiences, Tufi really did whet my appetite with its taste of PNG in miniature.



Discover Papua New Guinea

A perfect introduction to PNG, this trip explores the reefs of the Solomon Sea with their colourful marine life, the highlands of Mount Hagen and the biodiversity of Varirata National Park.

Trip idea, Mar-Nov
11 days, from £4,345

ANTARCTICA

Aboard the RCGS Resolute

Discover the pristine beauty of the Antarctic Peninsular, phenomenal wildlife of the sub-Antarctic islands or The Ross Sea – the planet's most pristine marine ecosystem and home to an extraordinary array of marine life.



In 2018 One Ocean Expeditions celebrates its tenth anniversary, and to mark this special occasion welcomes the RCGS Resolute, a purpose-built polar expedition vessel, to its fleet.

Staying true to One Ocean Expeditions Antarctic beginnings, the RCGS Resolute's maiden voyage will see her set sail on a classic itinerary around the Antarctic Peninsula, with subsequent departures scheduled for both South Georgia and the Falkland Islands (see opposite).

The ship, built in 1993 as the first purpose-built expedition cruise vessel for the polar regions, offers anyone looking for an Antarctic adventure, the opportunity to go sea kayaking, join Zodiac cruises and shore excursions, or even camp overnight on the Antarctic continent! Back on board, the RCGS Resolute has all the creature comforts of a modern, well-appointed expedition ship with 74 ensuite cabins and public areas where you can relax – including the observation lounge with its well-stocked library – search for wildlife from the indoor and outdoor viewing platforms accompanied by the on-board naturalists, or revitalise yourself in the wellness centre. With a high staff to passenger ratio of 1:4, RCGS Resolute's crew of expert expedition leaders, marine biologists, naturalists and photographers are on hand to enhance your polar experience.

Much like her namesake, the HMS Resolute, the British Royal Navy's Arctic exploration vessel that was launched in 1850, the RCGS Resolute looks set to bring in a new era of polar expeditions for travellers looking for an exceptional once-in-a-lifetime experience.





Seals

With six species of seals resident in Antarctica, any trip that ventures below the Arctic Circle brings opportunities to see an abundance of crabeater, elephant (the largest of all the seal species) and Weddell seals – the most southerly breeding mammal in the world. The voyage back north along the Antarctic Peninsula may afford sightings of Antarctic fur seals and that most aggressive of predators – solitary leopard seals. Ross seals on the other hand are entirely confined to pack ice, so are more difficult to see.

Crossing the Polar Circle - 17 Jan 2019
14 days, from £12,645 (voyage only)

Whales

A 'Classic Antarctic' voyage during the months of February and March is an ideal time to watch whales around the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands, as humpback and minke whales are present in numbers for much of that time. It is not uncommon to also see orca, as the waters of the Antarctic are home to some 70% of the world population of this species.

Classic Antarctica - 10 Dec 2018 & Mar 2019
11 days, from £9,795 (voyage only)



Penguins

The Antarctic region is home to an estimated 20 million breeding pairs of penguins, and by taking a voyage that combines the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula you will be in penguin paradise. Rockhopper, gentoo, king, macaroni and Magellanic penguins are found in the Falkland Islands, while in South Georgia up to 100,000 king penguins can be found at some locations and the island is also home to macaroni, chinstrap and gentoo penguins. Further south on the Antarctic Peninsula you can see rookeries of Adélie penguins.

Great Antarctic Voyage - 30 Dec 2018 & 30 Jan 2019
19 days, from £17,445 (voyage only)



OPTIMUM VIEWING

with Swarovski Optik



Chris Breen, our founder, reviews Swarovski's latest addition to their CL binocular range



Well, they've done it again - Swarovski Optik have brought out another absolutely fantastic pair of binoculars! The new 8 x 30 CL Companions are an excellent addition to Swarovski's armoury especially as they are smaller and more compact than most.

They feel as good to hold as the EL's (their top-of-the-range bino's) but they are infinitely lighter. Being only 500gms and just short of 12cms long they are as light as a feather - good news for those of us who lug substantial amounts of camera equipment around but can't bear to be without binoculars.

Their short focussing distance, three metres, is a perfectly respectable distance from which to look at lions, leopards and wild dogs, enjoying every whisker in intimate detail, and I would be just as comfortable using them on a whale watching holiday (they are water resistant to four metres). I'd also be just as happy carrying them with me when I am out with my dogs... after all there is plenty of wonderful wildlife to look at in the British countryside and it can always be enhanced with great optics.

These really are the complete package!



SWAROVSKI
OPTIK



New CL Companion – Optimum viewing experience.
New focus mechanism, slim compact design, good field of view.
Choose from three accessory packages.

www.swarovskioptik.com

Image by Nick Garbutt

Where in the world is your favourite wildlife location?

I'd love to say somewhere really obscure and original, but for me an African safari represents the ultimate wildlife experience, and if I had to choose one location it would be Botswana's Okavango Delta. I was there in September and would return in an instant.

Top three bucket list wildlife experiences.

While working in the travel industry I've been lucky enough to tick off a fair few from my bucket list, but the top three remaining experiences would have to be:

- 1) Witness the wildebeest migration in full swing, particularly the crossing of the Mara River.
- 2) I'd love to see a polar bear in the wild – Wrangel Island looks incredible!
- 3) I'm also desperate to see a snow leopard. I spent two weeks searching for snow leopards in Mongolia earlier this year, without any luck. I realise that Ladakh is the most reliable place to see them, but I'm not sure I could handle camping in the freezing cold. The Snow Leopard Homestay in Ulley Valley could change all of that!

What's been your favourite wildlife discovery?

The Pantanal in Brazil. It's very well known these days, but when I first visited in 2007, it was relatively unheard of. I remember being blown away by the ease with which you could see an incredible variety of wildlife, and I've been back several times since.

What is your favourite species?

I'd have to say tiger. I've had some fantastic sightings of tigers over the years, but I had to work very hard for my first sighting in Ranthambore National Park, back in 2000. I spent a week bumbling around in an old truck before I saw a magnificent male strolling through the dry deciduous forest, oblivious to the cacophony of chital and langur alarm calls that rang out all around. It's obviously a stunning animal to see, but it's the drama that accompanies a tiger sighting that makes it so special.

Meet the WILDLIFE TEAM



In this issue we put our questions to the Manager of Wildlife Worldwide, Dan Free

Which wildlife destination has most surprised you?

Ethiopia, without a doubt! Due to the terrible famines of the 80s, I grew up thinking that the country was a dry and barren landscape. It was with some trepidation that I accompanied a small group of clients to Ethiopia on a three week trip back in 2011. However, my preconceptions could not have been more misplaced, and I found the country to be absolutely beautiful with some incredible wildlife. Sitting amongst several hundred gelada baboons in the Simien Mountains and watching Ethiopian wolves hunting giant mole rats in the Bale Mountains are among my favourite wildlife experiences.

What's the best piece of advice you give to your clients?

Location, location, location! It's a cliché, but it's true. I'll always recommend staying in the very best place for the wildlife, even if it means compromising a little on comfort.

What's the hottest wildlife destination for 2018?

Japan! I visited in February 2017 and absolutely loved it. The winter wildlife is incredible, and when combined with the fantastic food and culture, I think it makes for an incredible and very unique wildlife holiday.

Although much of your week is spent arranging holidays, what do you do in your spare time?

I've got two dogs, Willow and Daisy, who keep my wife and me very busy with lots of walks, often combined with a bit of birding. I also play squash several times a week and enjoy watching most sports.



SAVE THE DATES



Discover Wildlife - Evenings to inspire

Featuring presentations by our own wildlife experts, together with guest speakers from around the world, our Discover Wildlife evenings appeal to all nature and travel lovers.

You can expect to see wonderful imagery and hear stirring stories about remarkable destinations. If you would like some inspiration for your next wildlife holiday, you will have the opportunity to meet our team and share your experiences with like-minded travellers.

The evenings are completely free of charge. To book your place complete the registration form online or contact our expert Wildlife team.

www.wildlifeworldwide.com/events

2018 Dates	Discover Wildlife Presentations	Location
Wed 17 Jan	Discover Brazil & whales in Baja Mexico	Chester
Thu 25 Jan	Discover Africa – Namibia, Ethiopia & South Africa	Alresford, Winchester
Wed 7 Feb	An evening with award-winning wildlife photographers	London
Wed 21 Feb	Discover Brazil & whales in Baja Mexico	Harrogate
Thu 22 Feb	Discover Brazil & whales in Baja Mexico	Peterborough
Wed 28 Feb	Wildlife Photography & Discover Ethiopia	Dorchester
Wed 7 Mar	Wildlife photography with Nick Garbutt	Alresford, Winchester
Tue 13 Mar	Wildlife in Canada & Discover Sri Lanka	Bristol
Thu 15 Mar	Wildlife in Canada & Discover Sri Lanka	Guildford
Tue 19 Mar	Wildlife photography	Solihull

Further dates to follow.

Visit us at the following exhibitions in 2018

Destinations, Manchester 18-21 January
EventCity Manchester – Stand E38

Adventure Travel Show 20-21 January
Olympia, London – Stand C18

Destinations, London 1-4 February
Olympia, London – Stand AF35

The Photography Show 17-20 March
NEC, Birmingham – Stand F65

For further details visit www.wildlifeworldwide.com

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Wildlife Worldwide is part of The Natural Travel Collection Ltd, a small independent travel company that places a special emphasis on sustainable tailor-made and small group holidays.



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Apologies for any omissions.

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