

# WILDLIFE

## WORLDWIDE

TRAVEL  
EXPERIENCE  
CONSERVE

Autumn | 2016

**Biggest Five Safaris**  
**AFRICA**

**Discover**  
**LATIN AMERICA**

**A Whale of a Time**  
**NORWAY**

**Kangaroo Island**  
**AUSTRALIA**

**Insider View**  
**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**Polar Bear**  
**FIESTA**





# India's

# WESTERN OUTBACK

Product Manager Brian Wood reflects on a recent short trip to Gujarat...

**M**y week-long trip through Gujarat in February took me to Gir National Park, the last abode of the magnificent Asiatic lion, Velavadar National Park, home to large herds of black buck and a variety of bird species, and finally to the beautiful yet little visited Little Rann of Kutch, which plays sanctuary to around 3,000 endangered Asiatic wild ass.

In Gir National Park, the deciduous forest which cloaks the rolling hills has shed most of its foliage, and the ground is a carpet of crackly teak leaves that merge with the brown earth, desiccated by months of sun. The relative absence of vegetation makes it easier to see birds and animals and the forest is full of spotted chital deer, large sambar deer, and nilgai, the largest of India's antelopes.

Against the dun background, two honey-coloured female lions and five adorable cubs made a splash of colour. Gir is the last home of the Asiatic lion, and they did what lions do best: lazing, displaying obvious signs of mutual affection, and playing. The park's birdlife is exceptional too, so even when there were no lions, there was still plenty to see.

The flat savannah of Velavadar National Park is home to numerous blackbuck. Natural predators are few here, so numbers are rising and, although nervous of any approach, these graceful antelopes are easy to see. The few acacia-like trees provide perches for a surprising mélange of birdlife, including a variety of raptors; India's largest harrier roost is here. And the lodge, constructed with style, flair and attention to detail, with impeccable service to match, has to be one of the best in the sub-continent.

The Little Rann of Kutch was a dustbowl. It was impossible to move without throwing up clouds of billowing dust - hardly surprising as, for half the year, this is the bed of a shallow saline lake. When this dries out, a fine sediment remains with a consistency like talcum powder. However, not even this could spoil the beauty of the remarkably clean and kempt wild asses whose last stronghold is here.

With three equally remarkable species all undergoing various degrees of revival, the success of conservation efforts here is encouraging. Contact our expert wildlife team to start planning your wildlife adventure to vibrant Gujarat.

## Wilds of Gujarat

On this superb itinerary view some of north-west India's lesser known wildlife including Asiatic lion, endemic blackbuck and nilgai, together with the endangered Asiatic wild ass.

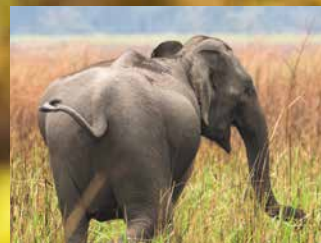
*Tailor-made, Oct - Apr 14 days, from £4,095*



### Tiger, Tiger

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

*Tailor-made, Oct - Apr  
16 days, from £3,145*



### India's Big Five

See all five of India's big mammal species - Asiatic lion, leopard, tiger, elephant and one-horned rhino in a trip to Gujarat, Kanha in Madhya Pradesh, and Kaziranga in Assam.

*Tailor-made, Oct - Apr  
15 days, from £3,645*



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





# WELCOME

Welcome to the autumn issue of our seasonal brochure. 2016 has been a busy year for staff travel, with colleagues heading off around the globe to India, Bhutan, Papua New Guinea, Brazil, New Zealand, the Falkland Islands, and - somewhat closer to home - Germany, Norway and Northern Spain. Meanwhile I've been off to Baja California, Mexico with our Festival of Whales (again!), Borneo, to research our Festival of Wildlife, and Baffin Island in search of narwhals, bowhead whales and polar bears!

As a consequence we're brimful of ideas and excited – as always – by the prospect of developing new itineraries and trips. You'll see some of the fruits of our labours herein, but there's lots more to come!

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.

We are very excited that our annual visit to Birdfair at Rutland Water Nature Reserve is just around the corner. You can meet our experts from 19-21 August on stands 25, 26 and 27 in Marquee 6. If you haven't been before, you should try it. With wall-to-wall exhibitors and back-to-back talks and lectures, it's a full weekend of everything relating to birdlife – from artworks to optics – as well as general wildlife.

We look forward to welcoming you on your next wildlife holiday.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Breen'.

Chris Breen, Founder

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# VISIT US

We are based in the charming and historic city of Winchester and invite you to visit us in our central offices. We are open from 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday and on Saturday morning from 9am to 1pm during January, February and March.



# AFRICA

## The Biggest Five Safaris



Africa has been at the heart of Wildlife Worldwide since the early days. A land that leaves a lasting legacy upon one's soul, a continent that inspires and leaves us in awe of its natural wonders, a cultural mixing pot like no other and a place full of some of the world's finest wildlife encounters. To celebrate our forthcoming 25th anniversary we have created a unique collection of what we consider to be the biggest and the best five small group safaris led by Africa's finest wildlife guides.



Grant Reed



Paul Kirui



Peter Lindstrom



Harriet Kemigisha



Robin Pope





### **The Best of Botswana with Grant Reed NEW**

This exclusive small group tour guided by Grant Reed - one of Botswana's most acclaimed wildlife guides - visits prime locations in Northern Botswana. Travel from the Okavango Delta to Chobe National Park, visiting locations where exquisite birdlife and iconic mammals that include lion, leopard, elephant and wild dog are present in abundance.

*Group tour, 14 Jun 17*  
**13 days, from £5,795**



### **Kenya – Masai Mara Migration with Paul Kirui NEW**

Led by one of Kenya's leading safari guides, Paul Kirui, this tour offers an unforgettable experience in Kenya's premier wildlife reserve. Coinciding with the Great Migration, observe large herds of zebra and wildebeest in the Masai Mara, while keeping an eye out for opportunistic predators such as lion, leopard and cheetah. Why not combine with Uganda (see below)?

*Group tour, 2 Oct 17*  
**12 days, from £7,195**



### **Tanzania's Northern Highlights with Peter Lindstrom (& Rupert Finch Hatton) NEW**

On this classic safari accompanied by naturalist guide Peter Lindstrom, you visit Lake Manyara National Park, the fabled Ngorongoro Crater, and the spectacular short-grass plains of wildlife-rich Serengeti National Park, inhabited by immense herds of wildebeest that go there to calve.

*Group tour, 16 Feb 18*  
**12 days, from £7,295**



### **Uganda's Great Apes with Harriet Kemigisha NEW**

Get to know Uganda's primates - man's closest relatives - in the company of renowned guide Harriet Kemigisha. Trek the mountainous slopes of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park to encounter mountain gorillas face-to-face, see a great silverback, and watch the playful chimpanzees in Kibale Forest National Park. Why not combine with Kenya (see above)?

*Group tour, 21 Sep 17*  
**13 days, from £6,295**



### **Zambia – Liuwa Plains & Kasanka with Robin Pope NEW**

Led by renowned wildlife guide and expert birder Robin Pope, this 12-day tour to Zambia explores the remote and little-visited wilderness of Liuwa Plains National Park on the western border with Angola for an exclusive safari experience, and Kasanka National Park in the north of the country to see the phenomenal migration of millions of fruit bats.

*Group tour, 2 Nov 17*  
**12 days, from £9,295**



# ULTIMATE WILDLIFE JOURNEYS

## Southern Africa & South America



### Classic African Explorer

This comprehensive itinerary, which visits no less than seven countries, delivers a wealth of contrasts for the ultimate African safari experience.

Starting in the Masai Mara, enjoy a series of game drives in Kenya's premier wildlife sanctuary to see its famed prides of lion, before heading to Rwanda for an unforgettable encounter with Africa's gentle giants, the mountain gorillas. Here you have an option to spend a second day gorilla trekking in Parc National de Volcans, or trek to see golden monkey in the dense equatorial forest.

Continuing south to Malawi, visit wildlife-rich Liwonde National Park for a range of wildlife activities in the park and on the picturesque Shire River.

Next stop is Zambia's South Luangwa, renowned for its classic walking safaris and abundance of leopard. Five nights in a luxury tented camp gives plenty of wildlife opportunities before you head south to Livingstone to marvel at the spectacular Victoria Falls. From here, it is only a short distance into Botswana to visit Chobe National Park, Savuti-Linyanti and the Okavango Delta for their profusion of birds and mammals.

You then fly to Damaraland in Namibia, a remote mountainous area jointly known for its interesting birdlife and cultural heritage, before taking in Etosha National Park to encounter its large herds of plains game.

Fly via Windhoek to the final stop - Cape Town - to enjoy a relaxing grand finale to your African adventure before returning home.

### Outline Itinerary **NEW**

**Day 1** Fly to Nairobi

**Days 2-4** Explore Masai Mara National Reserve - Porini Mara Camp

**Day 5** Fly to Nairobi and overnight

**Day 6** Fly to Kigali and transfer to Mountain Gorilla View Lodge

**Days 7-8** Visit Parc National de Volcans in search of gorillas

**Day 9** Fly to Nairobi and overnight

**Days 10-12** Fly to Lilongwe and transfer to Liwonde National Park - Mvuu Lodge

**Days 13-17** Fly to South Luangwa National Park and enjoy a programme of game activities - Flatdogs Camp

**Days 18-19** Fly to Livingstone and visit the Victoria Falls - Waterberry Lodge

**Days 20-21** Drive to Chobe National Park to observe the largest concentrations of wildlife on the continent - Muchenje Camp

**Days 22-23** Fly to Savuti-Linyanti - Ghoha Hills Savuti Lodge

**Days 24-25** Fly to Okavango Delta/ Moremi Wildlife Reserve for excursions by mokoro - Machaba Camp

**Day 26** Fly to Windhoek - Olive Grove Guesthouse

**Days 27-28** Explore Damaraland and Twyfelfontein - Doro Nawas Camp

**Days 29-31** Look for wildlife in Etosha National Park - Andersson's Camp

**Day 32** Fly to Windhoek - Olive Grove Guesthouse

**Days 33-35** Fly to Cape Town - Radisson Waterfront Hotel

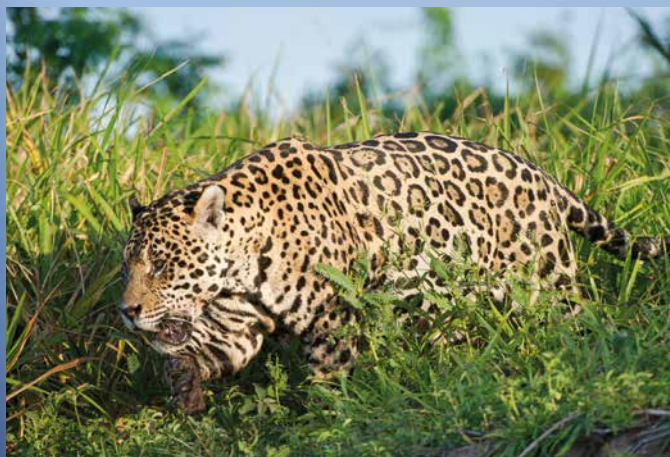
**Day 36** Depart Cape Town

**Day 37** Arrive UK

*Tailor-made Apr - Dec  
37 days, from £16,495*



We specialise in tailor-making wildlife holidays around the world to meet your requirements. You may want to see certain species or visit particular parks, reserves or lodges. You may prefer a particular airline or class of travel, or need to travel at a certain time of year. Here we showcase two exceptional trip suggestions to whet your appetite. These journeys are flexible and our expert wildlife team is on hand to tailor each itinerary to suit your preferences.



## South American Natural Highlights

This classic itinerary offers an unmissable opportunity to combine the finest wildlife and other natural highlights of the New World, in a visit to two of South America's most fascinating countries.

Starting in Brazil with a visit to the legendary city of Rio de Janeiro, in a stunning location on Guanabara Bay, you continue south by air to the renowned Iguazu Falls on Brazil's border with Argentina, where - depending on the water level - anything from 150 to 300 separate cataracts tumble over the edge of a great natural fault surrounded by tropical rainforest.

After exploring this majestic natural highlight you head north into the Pantanal, a vast area of tropical wetland that extends from Brazil across the border into neighbouring Paraguay and Bolivia. Its open marshes and waterways present a fantastic opportunity to see the region's rich wildlife, and a short stay

on a liveaboard boat in a backwater tributary offers a unique chance of seeing elusive jaguar in the wild.

After a long flight north to Ecuador you enjoy a short stay in Quito, one of South America's most fascinating and architecturally intact capital cities, with many buildings dating from colonial times. Next on the agenda is a trip down to the Napo River and the rainforests of the Amazon, to see something of life in this immense repository of wildlife.

What better way could there be to round off this extraordinary trip with a visit to the remarkable Galapagos archipelago? A voyage aboard a comfortable, purpose-built small motor cruiser (capacity 16 passengers) takes in the wildlife of the islands that inspired Charles Darwin's seminal work: *The Origin of Species* – *A Theory of Evolution*. Finally, you head back to the Ecuadorian mainland to catch a return flight to the UK at the end of this unforgettable trip to see South America's amazing natural highlights.

### Outline Itinerary **NEW**

**Day 1** Fly to Rio de Janeiro

**Days 2-3** In Rio de Janeiro

**Day 4** Fly to Foz do Iguazu; explore Iguazu National Park (Brazilian side) - Belmond Hotel

**Day 5** Visit Iguazu National Park (Argentine side)

**Day 6** Fly via São Paulo to Cuiabá & drive into the Pantanal - Pousada Araras

**Days 7-8** Enjoy the wildlife of the northern Pantanal

**Day 9** Transfer to Taiama Reserve & board Jaguar Houseboat

**Days 10-12** Explore Taiama Reserve in search of jaguar

**Day 13** Transfer to Cuiabá & fly via São Paulo and Panama City to Quito - Hotel Patio Andaluz

**Day 14** Explore Quito

**Day 15** Fly to Coca, then boat to lodge on Rio Napo, an Amazon tributary - Sacha Lodge

**Days 16-17** Explore Amazonian rainforest

**Day 18** Boat back to Coca, then fly to Quito - Hotel Patio Andaluz

**Day 19** Fly to Galapagos Islands & board ship - Beluga

**Days 20-22** Wildlife cruising in the Galapagos

**Day 23** Fly back to mainland & overnight flight

**Day 24** Arrive UK

*Tailor-made Jul - Nov*  
**24 days from, £14,995**



# Discover LATIN AMERICA



## Mexico - Festival of Whales

Visit Baja California's Pacific Coast to celebrate the annual gathering of grey whales in their breeding grounds.

*Group tour, Feb - Apr  
10 days, from £5,295*



## Costa Rica - Natural Highlights

An exceptional trip to discover Costa Rica's abundant birds and wildlife amid forests, lagoons and beaches.

*Tailor-made, Jan - Dec  
14 days, from £2,695*



## Galapagos Highlights

Explore the islands to see Galapagos penguins, green turtles, land iguanas and magnificent frigatebirds.

*Tailor-made, Jan - Dec  
8 days, from £2,995  
(voyage only)*

Mexico

Costa Rica

Trinidad  
Tobago

Galapagos Islands

Ecuador

Chile



## Ecuador - Ecuadorian Odyssey

Immerse yourself in the cloud forests to see hummingbirds and explore the astonishing Amazon jungle.

*Tailor-made, Jan - Dec  
14 days, from £3,945*



## Puma-tracking in Southern Chile

Track and photograph pumas and other wildlife in the breathtaking Torres del Paine National Park.

*Tailor-made, Oct - Mar  
11 days, from £4,495*



It's a common fallacy to think of Latin America as a single entity, however each country is highly distinct. Stretching from the tropical waters of the Caribbean to the icy waves of Cape Horn, its habitats encompass coastal desert, rainforest, low-lying wetland and high mountain. Small wonder, then, that the continent's wildlife (more than 1,300 species) and birdlife (more than 3,000 species) are equally rich. The Amazon rainforest alone is home to over 1,000 species of birds, each of which has found a particular niche in this vast ecosystem. And scattered over the continent, a diverse assemblage of birds and animals inspires interest. Here, we present a selection of wildlife trips that demonstrate the region's richness and diversity.



#### **Trinidad & Tobago - A Carnival of Wildlife**

Witness a diversity of wildlife including Trinidad's national bird - the iconic scarlet ibis - and the cave-dwelling oilbird.

*Tailor-made, Sep - Apr  
10 days, from £2,845*



#### **Guyana - Lost Land of the Jaguar**

Discover rich and colourful birdlife and search for jaguar in the densely forested interior of Guyana.

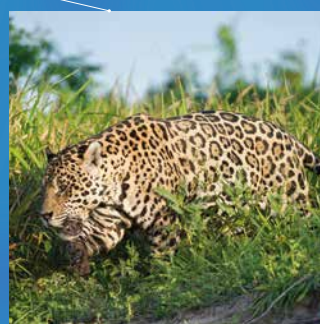
*Tailor-made, Sep - Apr  
13 days, from £4,795*



#### **Argentina - Patagonia's Marine Life**

Visit the shores of Argentina's Valdes Peninsula, home to sealions, orca, elephant seals and Magellanic penguins.

*Tailor-made, Sep - Apr  
13 days, from £3,745*



#### **Brazil - Jaguars of the Pantanal**

Explore the maze of channels in Taiama Reserve, part of Brazil's Pantanal wetland, to seek out jaguars.

*Tailor-made, Jun - Oct  
9 days, from £5,795*



#### **Highlights of The Falkland Islands**

In this wild and remote location you will find beaches filled with seals, penguins and over 200 bird species.

*Tailor-made, Oct - Mar  
19 days, from £5,995*



# ANTARCTIC WILDLIFE CRUISING

## The Best of Polar Wildlife

The optimum time to visit the stunning landscapes, unique flora and abundant fauna of the Antarctic is during the austral summer from mid-October until early April. Even then, each voyage is governed by the weather, sea and ice conditions, meaning that the best time to travel ultimately depends on what you want to see. What is certain is that you will have a magical, enriching experience, and whatever month you travel, you are guaranteed to return with tales to tell and images to match.

To make the choice easier, here are our recommended Antarctic trips selected on the wildlife you can encounter...



### Seals

With six species of seal found in Antarctic waters, the peak time to see these enormous mammals is early in the season. At around mid-November, bull elephant seals – the largest of all seals – fight along the beaches of South Georgia for the control of harems. Once territories are established, seal pups begin to arrive in early December. Further south on the Antarctic Peninsula, you will find leopard seal, which also give birth to pups during the austral summer and can often be spotted hunting penguins on the ice floes.

### Great Antarctic Voyage

The ultimate Antarctic experience marries the phenomenal wildlife of the sub-Antarctic Islands of the Falklands & South Georgia to the pristine beauty of the Antarctic Peninsula.

*29 Nov 2017 on board MV Plancius  
20 days, from £10,420 (voyage only)*



### Emperor Penguins

You don't have a huge choice if you want to see the largest and most attractive of penguins, as their range is confined to the icy waters of Antarctica's Weddell Sea. This means few people ever have a chance of a face-to-face encounter with these magnificent birds, which can reach an impressive 122 centimetres in height. A major emperor penguin rookery is situated south of Snow Hill Island, however weather and ice conditions in this isolated region ensure a narrow window of opportunity, so the season of sailings is short.

### Emperor Penguins of the Weddell Sea

The highlight of this voyage is the chance to take a helicopter trip to visit a colony of emperor penguins that lies to the south of Snow Hill Island.

*27 Nov 2016 & 26 Nov 2017 on board  
MV Ortelius  
11 days, from £6,460 (voyage only)*



### Whales

During the austral summer the southern oceans are populated by an impressive list of cetaceans. The Antarctic is home to 70% of the world's killer whales, while along the Antarctic Peninsula humpback whales are regularly seen. You are more likely to see minke whales near pack ice, whereas you may spot an occasional fin or sei whale in open sea. The best time to see whales is generally in February and March and prime areas are the Antarctic Peninsula, South Shetland Islands, South Georgia, the Falkland Islands, the Ross Sea and sub-Antarctic Islands.

### Classic Antarctica

This incredible voyage visits prime wildlife sites along the Antarctic Peninsula and in the nearby South Shetland islands.

*17 Mar 2017 & 19 Mar 2018 on board  
MV Plancius  
10 days, from £4,585 (voyage only)*





### Penguins

It is estimated that there are 20 million breeding pairs of penguins in the Antarctic region, usually concentrated in coastal areas. Early in the season, when there is more sea ice around, Adélie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins and seabirds start coming ashore to their breeding sites. Early in the austral summer, they perform their courtship rituals and build nests, before laying and incubating their eggs. During February and March, penguin chicks start to arrive, and soon after the fledglings begin their moult and shed their fuzzy down.

### Classic Antarctic Fly-Sail

This trip takes the easiest way to Antarctica and flies from Punta Arenas in southern Chile, over Cape Horn, to save time and enjoy an aerial view of the Drake Passage.

*27 Jan 2017/18 on board Ocean Nova  
8 days, from £10,305 (voyage only)*



### Wildlife Photography Voyage

Huge numbers of seabirds and marine mammals breed along the shores of South Georgia, making it the perfect location for a photography tour. Covered by snow-capped mountains, which reach to heights of almost 3,000 metres, and with more than 160 glaciers running to the sea, South Georgia not only offers exceptional wildlife, but also boasts spectacular scenery. A highlight of any trip to South Georgia is a visit to St Andrew's Bay, which teems with wildlife, from leopard seals and elephant seals to huge colonies of colourful king penguins.

### South Georgia In Depth

A superb photography voyage - the October departure coincides with spring while the January trip takes in the wildlife spectacles of the summer.

*15 Oct 2016 & 28 Jan 2017 on board  
Akademik Sergey Vavilov  
15-17 days, from £9,465 (voyage only)*



**FURTHER DEPARTURE DATES AVAILABLE**  
CONTACT THE WILDLIFE TEAM FOR DETAILS.



# POLAR BEAR FIESTA

## The Big Freeze in Hudson Bay

**F**rom late October onward through November, winter really starts to take hold in Canada, and this is no different for the tiny settlement of Churchill on the shore of the Hudson Bay in northern Manitoba.

However, this is also one of the best times of year to visit this secluded corner of the country. At this time, hungry polar bears converge on the town and surrounding area from far and wide, as they wait for the Hudson Bay to freeze over so they can make their way out on to the sea ice to hunt seals, their preferred prey.

There are a number of ways you can experience Churchill's polar bears. Of these, the Tundra Lodge Adventure is a unique and particularly special experience. On arrival in Churchill, you board a robust Polar Rover and leave the town behind as you drive out to the Tundra Lodge in the middle of the wintry wilderness. The Tundra Lodge is effectively a movable road train of portacabins on giant wheels that contain simple but comfortable, heated accommodation, a restaurant car, a living area and shared bathrooms. From the window of your own private sleeping compartment or one of the elevated open-air viewing platforms, you can observe polar bears at any time of day.

On occasion, the bears even approach the lodge and stand erect on their back legs to peer through the windows or the

mesh. This is probably as close as you would ever wish to get to a polar bear - separated by only one inch of barred steel. From the lodge you embark on daily excursions by Polar Rover to explore the dramatic bleak landscape in search of bears and other wildlife. Watching bears can be hypnotic - you can observe them for hours on end, and take hundreds of photos - almost without realising.

Alternatively, if you wish to stay closer to civilisation, you can choose one of the small hotels in the town of Churchill - see our Classic Polar Bears itinerary. You still enjoy daily outings by Polar Rover to see bears, and your guide will know the prime spots to locate these enigmatic creatures. The number of people aboard the Polar Rover is limited to ensure that everyone has a window seat with a clear view. There is also an outdoor viewing area at the rear from which you can watch bears just a few feet below you.

Whichever way you choose to experience Churchill, it is a 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 extremely resilient, so - with luck - future generations too will be able to experience polar bears in their Arctic tundra home.



### Classic Polar Bears

Seeing polar bears in the wild is an awe-inspiring wildlife encounter. Accompanied by expert local guides, excursions from a specially designed Polar Rover provide opportunities to get close to these magnificent creatures.

*Group tour, Oct - Nov  
7 days, from £5,295*



### Beluga Whales & Polar Bears

Join this small group to explore the Seal River estuary on the shores of the Hudson Bay on foot, by boat, and on a tundra tracker to view polar bears and beluga whales which congregate over the summer months.

*Group tour, Jul - Aug  
9 days, from £8,295*



### Tundra Lodge Adventure

Embark on an extraordinary adventure into the realm of the polar bear. Accompanied by expert guides, and staying at a mobile tundra lodge this trip offers unparalleled opportunities to watch polar bears.

*Group tour, Oct - Nov  
7 days, from £6,295*





#### **Polar Bear Mothers & Cubs**

This small group trip travels to a remote lodge near Hudson Bay, the feeding grounds of polar bears during the summer. This is a wonderful time to view and photograph the intimacy between mothers and cubs!

*Group tour, Aug - Sep  
8 days, from £7,795*



#### **Caribou Migration & Great Bear Adventure**

An incredible trip to remote Schmok Lake to witness the migration of the Canadian 'central barren ground' caribou, and observe black and polar bears from one of the finest Arctic eco-lodges.

*Group tour, Sep  
10 days, from £9,145*



# CANADA ADVENTURES

## Kayaking with Whales & Bears



Senior Travel Consultant Amanda DeSimone takes to the waters of British Columbia in search of whales...

**M**y heart was pounding as I paddled through the narrow channel that led into the choppy waters of a staggeringly beautiful stretch of coastal scenery - Blackfish Sound. Ignoring the distant mountains of the Great Bear Rainforest, over the slap of water against the fibreglass hulls of our sea-kayaks I heard the sudden exhalation of air and water that indicated we were close to a whale.

Our guide, Andrew, requested silence as we scoured the surface, then a dorsal fin broke the water just metres in front of us. Andrew calmly motioned to us to back-paddle to the lee of the nearest islet, as the bus-sized behemoth could, at this very moment, have been passing silently beneath us at this very moment.

I felt a surge of adrenalin at knowing I was just metres away from a humpback whale, one of the largest, and most powerful creatures on earth. The whale, however, was seemingly unconcerned by our presence, and intent on fishing in the maze of narrow channels in the myriad of emerald-green islands that lie between mainland British Columbia (BC) and Vancouver Island.

Andrew explained how humpbacks use powerful currents as walls, against which they trap huge shoals of herring, or employ a technique known as bait-balling, which involves herding the fish into a large ball that they bring to the surface - although some researchers now think that the whales may rely on diving seabirds to concentrate the herring for them. Whatever the

method, I have often watched humpbacks here, and time and again have witnessed whales bursting up through the bait balls.

Although we couldn't see the action below the surface, even from a distance it was easy to tell once it had begun, as seabirds gathered en masse to feast on the vast fishy buffet - a sure sign that whales would appear before long. Sometimes this happened in three or four different spots simultaneously: the birds scattering into the air, as the whales lunged upward, mouths agape, baleen on show, to gulp down the herring.

Thrilled by our encounter, we paddled back to our secluded island camp for a tasty home-cooked supper. As we sat around the campfire, surrounded by ancient redwood trees with waves splashing on the shoreline, Andrew recounted that he had seen and heard many whales pass through the narrow channel where we launched our sea-kayaks. Many land animals also swim between the islands of the archipelago, and black bear are regularly spotted foraging for clams along the foreshore.

I've always loved being on water, but the kayaking here was amazing. I was privileged to see not only humpback whales and a pod of orcas cruising past, but also porpoises, dolphins, seals, sealions and deer in the camp itself, and more bald eagles than ever before - as well as enjoying a day trip to Glendale Cove for some of the world's best grizzly bear watching. Whether you're a novice or an experienced paddler, as long as you're reasonably fit, love wildlife and have a sense of adventure, you can't fail to enjoy it!



### Kayaking with Whales & Grizzlies **NEW**

Explore the wilderness of Vancouver Island on this guided trip, with hikes, sea kayaking and boat excursions to watch grey whales, orcas and black bears.

*Tailor-made, Jul - Sep*  
**15 days, from £3,195**



### Bears & Orcas Up Close

Enjoy a visit to British Columbia to see grizzly bears at eye level, follow bald eagles as they soar through the skies, and spot pods of orcas.

*Tailor-made, Jul - Aug*  
**14 days, from £7,995**



### Canada's Big Five

Combine the serene expanse of Riding Mountain National Park, home to moose, grizzlies, black bear, and wolf, with the tundra of Churchill, realm of the polar bear.

*Group tour, Aug*  
**9 days, from £5,645**





#### Quebec's Bears, Whales & Moose

Discover unspoilt wilderness on this superb self-drive trip. Observe black bear, beaver and moose in the Reserve des Laurentides and view whales by Zodiac in Tadoussac.

*Tailor-made, Jun - Sep*  
**9 days, from £2,195**



#### Orcas, Bears & Totems

This trip visits a stunning archipelago in British Columbia. Watch orca from a yacht as they gather to forage for salmon, then continue to Knight Inlet to see brown bears as they come to feed.

*Group tour, Jul - Aug*  
**10 days, from £4,795**



#### Whales of the Bay of Fundy Self-drive **NEW**

This trip to the heart of New Brunswick visits the Bay of Fundy, a haven for whales - with fin, humpback, minke, and the rare North Atlantic right whale.

*Tailor-made, Jun - Aug*  
**9 days, from £2,245**





# WILDLIFE CALENDAR

Looking for inspiration for your next wildlife adventure? We have put together a month by month guide to help you select the optimum times to visit some of the world's most impressive destinations and enable you to enjoy incredible wildlife at its very best. Many of these trips are also available at other times of the year – contact our expert Wildlife team for further details.

## JANUARY



### Cloud Forests & Mountains - Costa Rica

Enjoy the beauty of Costa Rica's flora and fauna on this fantastic trip encompassing the best of the country. Exploring rainforests and coastlines, the itinerary is designed to introduce you to the incredible variety of birds, wildlife and plant species. The birdlife is particularly prolific at the start of the year due to drier weather conditions.

**14 days, from £3,045**

## FEBRUARY



### Green Season Secrets - Botswana

The arrival of the summer rains (December to March) transforms the dry land into verdant pastures dotted with wild flowers, all beneath dramatic skies. At this time of plenty, there is no shortage of food, so many species choose to bring their young into the world, attracting the unwanted attention of various predators.

**16 days, from £6,795**

## MARCH



### Elephants, Blue Whales & Leopards - Sri Lanka

This wildlife itinerary takes you to see Sri Lanka's big three. See herds of elephant in Udawalawe National Park and some of the world's largest leopards at Yala, before continuing to Mirissa on the south coast to see the charismatic blue whales, which can only be seen between November and March.

**10 days, from £2,545**

## APRIL



### Lost Land of the Jaguar - Guyana

This exceptional adventure penetrates the densely forested interior of Guyana. Staying in Amerindian villages and former cattle ranches, you will travel by light aircraft, four-wheel-drive vehicle, dugout canoe, and on foot, discovering the rich diversity of this remote country. The best time to see wildlife in Guyana is during the driest months from February to April.

**13 days, from £4,795**

## MAY



### Wildlife of Ecuador & the Galapagos

Combine two of South America's finest wildlife destinations – the Amazon rainforest and the Galapagos Islands. View the outstanding variety of wildlife on walking trails and by boat in the Amazon jungle, and cruise the Galapagos for close-up wildlife encounters. May is a particularly good time to visit these islands as turtles are hatching and waved albatross are nesting.

**12 days, from £5,495**

## JUNE



### Spirit of the North - Tanzania

Experience the major wildlife highlights and contrasting locations of northern Tanzania on this classic safari. Late May, early June is the ideal time to witness the Great Migration in the Serengeti. Combined with the spectacular Ngorongoro Crater, and Tarangire's outstanding birdlife, this is the perfect introduction to Tanzania and its plentiful wildlife.

**10 days, from £5,195**



“The tranquillity and serenity, diverse and exceptional wildlife of the Okavango Delta exceeded all my expectations. A fabulous safari holiday.”

*Raymond E travelled to Botswana in December 2015*

## WE CREATE OUTSTANDING WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

Our website features a choice of over **40 countries** and **300 locations** throughout the world that we can use to tailor-make your wildlife holiday

### JULY



#### Brown Bears in Finland

This short break takes you to a wonderful spot for sighting brown bears in the Finnish wilderness. The long summer evenings are perfect for watching, not just bears, but other wildlife as well. Staying at Martinselkonen Wilderness Lodge, enjoy fascinating bear watching from hides located deep in the forest.

**4 days, from £995**

### AUGUST



#### Classic Luangwa Walking - Zambia

Zambia is the home of the walking safari, and this trip offers the quintessential bush experience. Visiting during the dry season (July to October) only increases the wildlife sightings. Staying in well-equipped tents and accompanied by expert guides, the trip covers three camps to experience each location's unique wildlife and habitats.

**14 days, from £5,895**

### SEPTEMBER



#### Great Bear Rainforest - Canada

This small ship adventure takes you in search of the legendary spirit bear and humpback whales in the Great Bear Rainforest's maze of islands and waterways. September is the peak of the salmon run when the bears are gorging themselves on fish. Daily shore excursions will reveal black bears and grizzlies.

**12 days, from £5,195**

### OCTOBER



#### Whales, Dolphins & Mantas in the Indian Ocean - The Maldives

The Maldives, a tiny nation of 1,200 islands and colourful coral reefs, lies 650 kilometres south-west of India's southern tip. Seek out whales, dolphins, manta rays and other marine life on an exclusive chartered voyage, led by cetacean expert Dr Charles Anderson. This time of year is also excellent for seeing manta rays and whale sharks.

**10 days, from £3,495**

### NOVEMBER



#### Gorillas & Chimps - Uganda & Rwanda

Take a unique two week primate safari to Rwanda and Uganda. Highlights include gorilla trekking in Rwanda's Parc Nacional des Volcans and Bwindi National Park in Uganda, as well as tracking the equally fascinating chimpanzee in Uganda's Kibale Forest. Observing these magnificent apes in their natural habitat is a wildlife experience of a lifetime.

**14 days, from £6,545**

### DECEMBER



#### Penguins, Koalas & Great Ocean Road - Australia

This itinerary combines self-drive, a small group tour, and excursions around Melbourne. Visiting the contrasting areas of Great Ocean Road, Phillip Island, East Gippsland and the Wilderness Coast, you'll see the best of Victoria's wildlife. December is the crossover between spring and summer, so perfect weather for watching wildlife.

**13 days, from £3,995**



# KANGAROO ISLAND

## Australia's Wildlife Haven



Travel Consultant Chris Smith heads to the South Australia Coast to experience (arguably) the most captivating destination in the country.

**E**xposed to the elements out in the Great Australian Bight and separated from the Fleurieu Peninsula on the mainland by 11 kilometres of open ocean, Kangaroo Island is one of Australia's true wildlife destinations.

More than one third of Kangaroo Island is dedicated to national parks, conservation and wilderness protection areas, including Flinders Chase National Park which is the largest area of preserved bushland in South Australia. And with a population of just 4,500 on an island of 4,400 square kilometres, there's plenty of space for animals.

For many visitors the first port of call is Seal Bay on the south coast to meet some of the island's locals. The beach and the dunes behind it are a sanctuary for the world's third largest colony of endangered Australian sealions. You can observe these personable animals at close quarters and informative guides will ensure a memorable encounter.

However, Australian sealions are not the only playful marine mammal on Kangaroo Island's shores - New Zealand fur seals are also native to the island. Huge numbers of these gather at Kangaroo Island's most southwesterly point, Cape du Couedic, where you can see them frolicking in the crashing waves.

Away from the coast, much of Kangaroo Island is covered in pristine bushland. Within the variety of vegetation, there are several species of eucalyptus tree whose leaves are the snack of choice for one of Australia's most endearing

animals, the koala bear. You can spend many an hour wandering between the eucalypts, peering upwards into the branches to catch a glimpse of their fuzzy grey coat. Once located, however, you can spend as much time as you wish watching and photographing them, as koalas are not exactly known for their active lifestyle! You can see koalas across much of the island, but Hanson Bay Sanctuary regularly offers excellent sightings.

Kangaroo Island also has a fantastic diversity of birdlife; 267 species to be exact. Wedge-tailed eagle, little penguin, glossy black cockatoo and brown pelican are just a few of the avian highlights. However, no trip to Kangaroo Island is complete without seeing the animal after which the island is named. Each afternoon kangaroos emerge from the undergrowth and lollop onto the grassy clearings. Usually seen in small groups, they spend much of their time grazing or lounging in the sunshine. In a few places, such as Kelly Hill Conservation Park, you can even watch them while enjoying tea and cake – a very Australian take on a British tradition!

Kangaroo Island is one of the few places in Australia where watching wildlife can be as prolific and reliable as in Africa and South America - which certainly says a lot. With rugged coastal landscapes, hospitable people and a host of remarkable species ranging from echidnas to southern right whales, Kangaroo Island is a treat to behold, and a must-see for anyone who enjoys nature.



### South Australia in Style **NEW**

Staying in luxury properties on Kangaroo Island and the Flinders Ranges, explore the picturesque landscapes of South Australia in search of its wildlife, including red kangaroo, western grey kangaroo, fur seal colonies and prolific birdlife.

*Tailor-made, Jan - Dec*  
**12 days, from £6,095**



### Kangaroos, Sealions & the Gawler Ranges **NEW**

Explore two of South Australia's finest wildlife locations: Gawler Ranges and Kangaroo Island, travelling from the Outback to the sea. Visit a koala colony, swim with sealions, and seek out rare species such as echidna and the elusive platypus.

*Tailor-made, Jan - Dec*  
**11 days, from £7,145**



## WE CREATE OUTSTANDING WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

Our website features a choice of over **40 countries** and **300 locations** throughout the world that we can use to tailor-make your wildlife holiday

“Thank you so much for putting together a wonderful trip. It was a truly amazing holiday, possibly our best trip so far, and given we have visited over 60 different countries, that demonstrates how highly we rate the tour you put together for us. We saw a platypus, a tree kangaroo, a musky rat kangaroo, umpteen possums, koalas, grey kangaroos, emus, wallabies, echidna and over 130 species of bird.”

*Mr and Mrs Fletcher travelled to Australia  
December 2015*





# WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Takes Off

With the growing success of our photography trips, we have responded to popular demand and introduced various new trips with photographic leaders. On each of these you will have an opportunity to hone your photography skills with the help of an expert leader, whilst also enjoying excellent wildlife viewing.

### MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHERS

#### Alex Hyde



An award-winning nature photographer and university lecturer in photography. Alex is widely known and highly acclaimed for his spectacular and innovative macro-photography images that provide an entirely different perspective on the realm of plants, insects and other subject matter.

#### Nick Garbutt



Nick has worked closely with Wildlife Worldwide to develop a series of wildlife photography trips that has expanded to what it is today. A two-time category winner of the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition, Nick is the backbone of our photography programme.

#### Ashley Grove



Ashley developed an interest in nature - and birds in particular - while growing up in the Warwickshire countryside, before setting up as a wildlife photographer in 2005. He now lectures widely and leads regular photographic and birding trips to The Gambia - his favourite destination.

#### Chris Mattison



A widely published, award-winning wildlife writer and photographer, Chris specialises in reptiles and amphibians. He has led photographic trips to many locations including the Galapagos, the Falklands and South East Asia, and has co-run a photographic workshop on Mull for over a decade.

#### Mike Read



A stalwart who has been leading trips (and not just photography tours!) with our sister company, The Travelling Naturalist for many years. Mike has a varied portfolio of photo trips that extend from the various regions of France to Hungary and, further afield, the Falklands.

#### Warren Samuels



Warren started as a wildlife cameraman in the Masai Mara, working with big cats, the wildebeest migration, and the Masai, before going on to film major documentary series such as the BBC's Big Cat Diary and Planet Earth Live. He has run film and photographic safaris in the Mara since 2002.

#### Mark Carwardine



Mark is an award-winning writer, magazine columnist, widely published wildlife photographer, TV and radio broadcaster, zoologist and lecturer. He has an extensive collection of wildlife, nature and landscape photographs taken on all seven continents and in more than a 100 countries.





# EXPERT LED

## Small Group Photography Tours

For our full collection of photography tours view our website or request a copy of our new dedicated wildlife Photography Tours brochure.



### Close-up on Alpine Nature - Austria with **Alex Hyde & Nick Garbutt**

Led by wildlife photographers Alex Hyde and Nick Garbutt, this trip visits the Tyrol in June when the alpine meadows are in their full glory. With a spectacular show of wild flowers and an array of butterflies and insects, this is the perfect time for wildlife and macro photography.

*Group tour, 17 Jun 2017  
8 days, from £1,595 (land only)*



### Big Cat Photography - Kenya with **Warren Samuels**

Based at Governors' Private Camp, renowned for its comfort and key location in the Masai Mara, this photographic tour will give you the opportunity to capture Kenya's incredible wildlife in the company of world-renowned photographer, film-maker and wildlife guide Warren Samuels.

*Group tour, 1 Oct, 25 Nov & 10 Dec 2016  
10 days, from £4,945*



### Flower Photography in Namaqualand - South Africa with **Chris Mattison**

Join award-winning photographer Chris Mattison to capture the magnificent bloom of spring flowers from the Cape Floristic and Succulent Karoo regions. Visit the fascinating Cederberg Wilderness Area, known not only for its floral beauty but also for its ancient San rock art.

*Group tour, 20 Aug 2017  
16 days, from £4,395*



### Wrangel Island Exclusive - Russia 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 right to the top of the world between Russia and Alaska in the company of renowned explorer Mark Carwardine.

*Group tour, 22 Jul 2017 & 2018  
18 days from £11,495*



### Falklands Islands Photography - with **Mike Read**

This trip has been specially designed to maximise the photographic potential - with visits to penguin colonies, and to see sealions and elephant seals hauled out on beaches. An ideal tour if you want to get up close to penguins and many of the islands' other birds and wildlife.

*Group tour, 24 Nov 2016  
19 days, from £7,295*



### Bird Photography Safari - Gambia with **Ashley Grove**

The Gambia has long been a top destination for birdwatchers, attracted by its huge variety of colourful birdlife. For photographers this tour delivers two weeks of almost guaranteed sunshine, with a wide range of photogenic subjects most of which are oblivious to your presence.

*Group tour, 13 Dec 2016  
11 days, from £2,895*



# WILDLIFE IN FOCUS

## Yellowstone in Winter

Photographer Nick Garbutt reveals his affection for winter photography and Yellowstone National Park in particular.

**T**here is something magical about photography in winter. When the land is blanketed with snow and the palette of colour is largely monochrome, the senses are honed, distilling the creative process. Low-slung watery sunlight casts shadows and sculpts shapes in ways that inspire, while cloudy conditions often reveal a soft creamy light that allows us to record detail and subtlety of form to best effect.

Few places epitomise the splendour of winter more than Yellowstone. The grandeur of the world's first national park is unquestionable at any time of the year, but in the grip of winter the landscape takes on a harsh but ethereal beauty, in which fairy-tale frosts, ice and snow are juxtaposed with swirling mists and rising steam from hot springs and geysers. It is a place laden with photographic inspiration and opportunity.

I have now been to Yellowstone five times during winter. Of course, no two trips are ever the same: different conditions, different encounters and sightings, and different opportunities. However, no trip has ever disappointed, and my most recent visit (January 2016) proved extra special.

From start to finish there were great wildlife encounters that got our camera shutters rattling. In the Lamar Valley we saw bison sparring, coyotes hunting, bighorn sheep grazing, and even a pack of wolves, but it was once we re-entered the park at the East Entrance that things really began to hot up.

Bobcats are normally elusive, but in winter the area along the Madison River has gained a reputation for reliable sightings. Incredibly, we encountered

one bobcat crossing the road on its way down to the river's edge, and after moving we were able to wait for its approach along the bank. It rounded the bend and picked its way along the water's edge, moving from boulder to boulder and occasionally pushing through deep snow. It was completely unperturbed, but finally stopped close by as if taking note of the photographers that were paying it such close attention.

Later in the trip, after a clear and bitterly cold night, we headed to a viewpoint overlooking the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. When the temperature drops below -20° Celsius and there is little wind, spray from the Yellowstone Falls freezes instantly into tiny crystals of ice that hang suspended in the air. On occasion, light from the rising sun catches these crystals, creating an amazing beam or 'sun pillar'. As we arrived at the viewpoint, the sun forced its way through and in an instant the beam appeared - a remarkable shaft of spangled golden light spearing down from the sky to illuminate a particular statuesque tree on the rim of the canyon. It was magical!

Our next departure to Yellowstone is in January 2018, however we also offer other winter photography tours, most notably to Ladakh for snow leopards and other Himalayan wildlife in February 2017.

### Wild West Winter Wonderland

Enjoy thrilling encounters with bison, elk, big horn sheep, and possibly wolves amidst stunning winter scenery, as you experience one of North America's finest wildlife habitats.

*Group Tour, 18 Jan 2018  
17 days, from £5,995*



## Photography Tours with Nick Garbutt and leading experts

Country	Tour Name	Departure Date	Duration	Price From
Madagascar	Madagascar's South & West Delights - <b>NEW</b>	22 Sep 2016	19 days	£4,995
Madagascar	An Island Apart	11 Oct 2016	21 days	£6,495
Zambia	South Luangwa Art & Photo Workshop with <b>Nick Mackman</b>	19 Nov 2016	10 days	£5,295
UK	Bugs 'n' Beasts Indoors - Photography Workshop with <b>Alex Hyde &amp; Jonathan Cleverly NEW</b>	20 Jan 2017	3 days	£595 (land only)
India	Snow Leopard in Focus (Extra Departure)	5 Feb 2017	15 days	£4,945
India	Snow Leopard in Focus	18 Feb 2017	17 days	£5,445
India	India's Wild Cats	5 Mar 2017	14 days	£4,995
Tanzania	Serengeti Migration	22 Mar 2017	19 days	£7,995
UK	Dorset's Spring Treasures - Photography workshop with <b>Alex Hyde NEW</b>	12 May 2017	3 days	£495 (land only)
Borneo	Festival of Wildlife with <b>Nick Baker, Nigel Marven, Alex Hyde &amp; Nick Mackman</b>	2 Jun 2017	10 days	£5,195
Austria	Close-up on Alpine Nature with <b>Alex Hyde</b>	17 Jun 2017	8 days	£1,595 (land only)
Canada	Grizzly Bears on the Taku River	25 Jul 2017	12 days	£7,895
Brazil	The Pantanal - Brazil's Wetland Wonder	25 Aug 2017	18 days	£8,295
Brazil	Jaguar Fiesta	9 Sep 2017	17 days	£8,395
Madagascar	An Island Apart	10 Oct 2017	21 days	£6,595
Peru	Amazon's Secrets - A Photography Workshop with <b>Alex Hyde NEW</b>	9 Nov 2017	17 days	£5,595
USA	Wild West Winter Wonderland	18 Jan 2018	17 days	£6,295

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





# A WHALE OF A TIME

## Closer to Home



Member of the product team Alice Nicholson explores the coast of northern Norway...

**O**f the world's 86 species of cetaceans, did you know that you can see an astonishing 36 of them in European waters? With incredible whale watching experiences possible right on our doorstep - from the remote shores of Iceland and northern Norway, to the warmer climate of the Azores - you need to look no further than Europe for your next whale watching holiday.

Considered to be one of the most beautiful countries on earth due to its rugged coastline, glaciers, mountains and coastal fjords, Norway is very much an up-and-coming whale watching destination. On a recent all-too-brief trip, I was captivated by the picturesque scenery, the friendliness of the people, and the spectacular Northern Lights - which I was lucky enough to see every night of my stay! I visited tiny Andenes, a quaint fishing village that lies north of the Arctic Circle, on the island of Andøya, where each winter large numbers of herring migrate to Andfjorden.

This abundance of food attracts large pods of orca, together with fin, minke, sperm and humpback whales, to the waters off the coast for a truly spectacular whale watching experience. Our new tailor-made itinerary visits this remote location for a unique safari to see massive elk roaming in the forest and incredible whale watching. Then, as darkness falls, we focus our attention on the skies in the hope of seeing the magnificent Northern Lights.

Another popular destination in northern Europe that offers excellent whale watching is Iceland, where cetaceans can be

combined with the island's extraordinary volcanic geology and an abundance of fantastic birdlife. In winter, you can travel to the stunning Snæfellsnes Peninsula on the west coast to see orca and white-beaked dolphins, and once again look out for the seasonal lightshow of the Northern Lights. And in the summer months, we now offer a trip to Húsavík on the shores of Skjálfandi Bay on the north coast - a charming and little-visited area of remote fjords and peninsulas, where we look for humpback whale.

The mid-Atlantic archipelago of the Azores - a sort of marine crossroads - is a whale watching hotspot, where each summer migrating sperm whales breach in the open expanses of ocean, and short-finned pilot whales gather in pods in the nutrient-rich waters. Other species that are frequently seen include beaked, fin, sei, humpback, minke and false killer whales, as well as bottlenose, common, spotted, Risso's and striped dolphins, making this one of Europe's best locations for cetaceans. In recent years 20 species have been identified in the Azores - nearly 25% of the world's species!

### Norway - Whales & Northern Lights **NEW**

Travel to the north of Norway to see the spectacular Northern Lights and an abundance of cetaceans including sperm, humpback, minke and fin whales, as well as orca. Enjoy a range of boat trips, take an elk safari in the early hours and learn about the Northern Lights on a guided walk at Andenes harbour.

*Tailor-made, Nov - Mar*  
**5 days, from £1,595**





### Azores - Sperm Whales & Bottlenose Dolphins

Meet scientists and learn about their research into the migration of mysterious sperm whales, and the intelligent behaviour of bottlenose dolphin, with a chance to dive with blue sharks.

*Group tour, Mar - Sep*

**7 days, from £1,445 and 11 days, from £2,145**

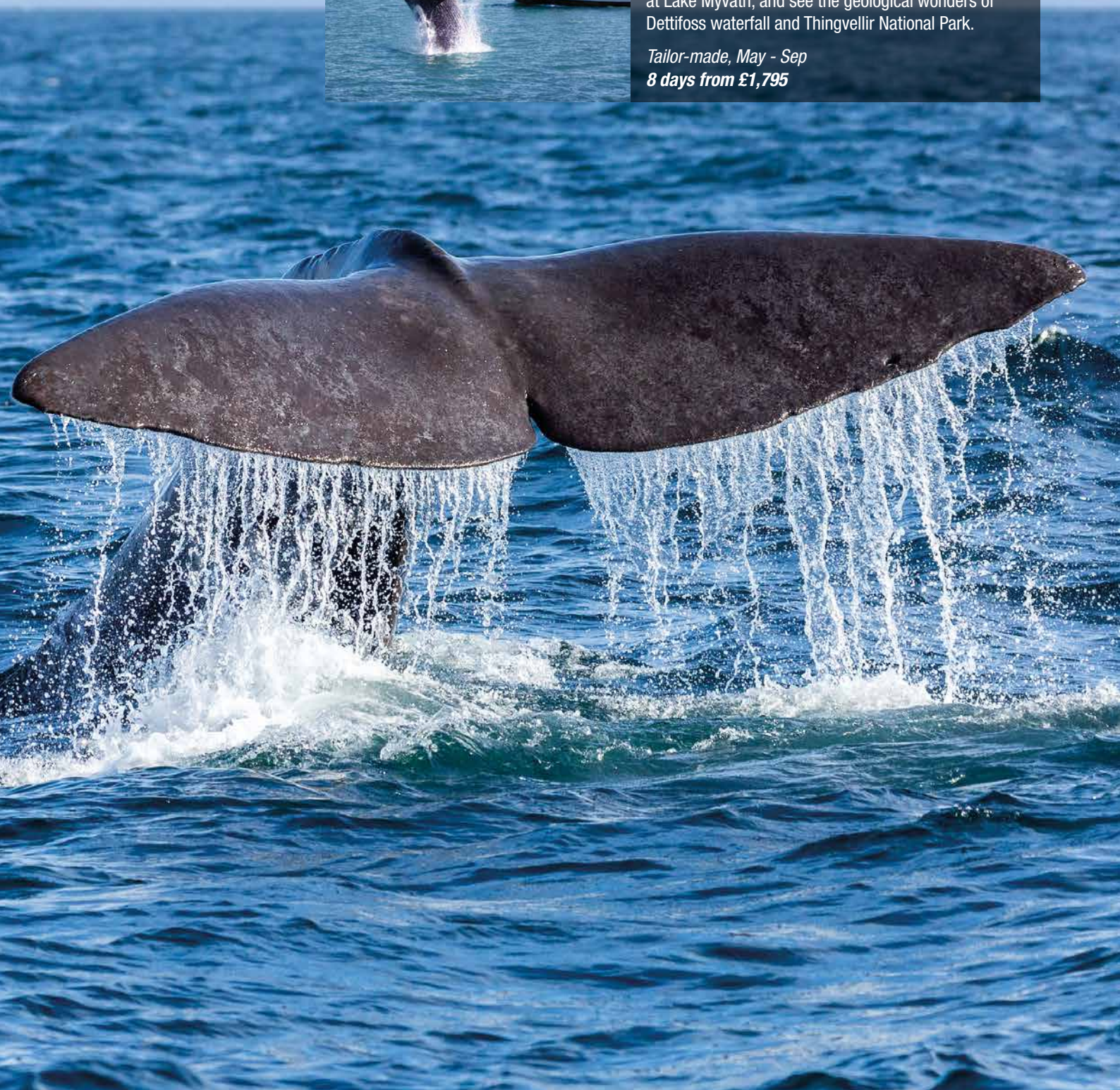


### Iceland – Humpback Whales in Summer **NEW**

This self-drive trip explores the remote fjords along the north coast of Iceland. Discover Húsavík - Europe's whale watching capital, look for cetaceans in Eyjafjörður and Olafsvík, take a dip in geothermal pools at Lake Myvatn, and see the geological wonders of Dettifoss waterfall and Thingvellir National Park.

*Tailor-made, May - Sep*

**8 days from £1,795**





# Join one of our SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCES

Country	Tour Name	Departure Date	Duration	Group Size	Price From	
Alaska	<b>Brown Bears of Kodiak</b>	Jun - Sep 2017	10	8	£9,295	North America
Alaska	<b>Bears &amp; Whales in South East Alaska</b>	Jul 2017	15	15	£5,995	
USA	<b>Yellowstone Ultimate Wolf &amp; Wildlife Safari</b>	Jan - Feb 2017	8	14	£5,395	
Canada	<b>Classic Polar Bears</b>	Oct - Nov 2016 & 2017	7/8	15	£5,295	
Canada	<b>Festival of Bears with Mark Carwardine &amp; Chris Breen</b>	19 Sep 2016	9	24	£5,795	
Canada	<b>Caribou Migration &amp; Great Bear Adventure</b>	Sep 2017	10	15	£9,145	
Canada	<b>Whales &amp; Dolphins in the Haida Gwaii</b>	May - Aug 2017	11	16	£4,795	
Canada	<b>Beluga Whales &amp; Polar Bears</b>	Jul - Aug 2017	9	12	£8,295	
Chile	<b>Puma-tracking in Southern Chile</b>	Oct - Mar 2016 & 2017	11	4	£4,495	Latin America
Guyana	<b>Rainforests, Savannas &amp; Wetlands</b>	12 Nov 2016	13	10	£5,695	
Trinidad & Tobago	<b>The Asa Wright Experience</b>	9 Feb 2017	13	12	£4,395	
Mexico	<b>Festival of Whales with Chris Breen</b>	25 Mar 2017	10	24	£5,295	
Mexico	<b>Ocean Giants of Baja California</b>	7 Apr 2017	14	24	£5,195	
Azores	<b>Sperm Whales &amp; Bottlenose Dolphins</b>	Mar - Sep 2017	7/11	12	£1,445 £2,145	Europe
Finland	<b>Brown Bear Explorer</b>	Jun - Jul 2017	8	12	£1,595	
France	<b>Camargue &amp; Pyrenees in Autumn</b>	26 Aug 2017	8	7	£1,995	
Iceland	<b>Orcas &amp; Northern Lights</b>	Jan - Mar 2017	5	25	£1,121	
Italy	<b>Sardinia: Mediterranean Wildlife</b>	Sep 2016 & 2017	8	12	£2,095	
Scotland	<b>The Shetland Islands</b>	May - Jul 2017	8	10	£1,195 Land only	
Spain	<b>Iberian Lynx Quest</b>	22 Oct 2016, 28 Jan, 21 Oct 2017	8	12	£1,345	
Borneo	<b>Festival of Wildlife with Nick Baker, Nigel Marven, Nick Garbutt, Alex Hyde, Nick Mackman</b>	2 Jun 2017	10	46	£5,195	Asia
Sri Lanka	<b>Blue Whales &amp; Dolphins</b>	26 Nov 2016, 4 Mar 2017, 25 Nov 17	14	12	£2,795	
Maldives	<b>Whales, Dolphins &amp; Mantas in the Indian Ocean</b>	6 Oct 2017	10	16	£3,495	
Russia	<b>Wrangel Island Exclusive with Mark Carwardine</b>	22 Jul 2017 & 2018	17	44	£11,495	
Botswana	<b>From the Kalahari to the Falls - NEW</b>	Nov - Apr 2016 & 2017	13	7	£6,795	Africa
Namibia	<b>Namibia's Desert &amp; Coast</b>	May - Nov 2016	12	7	£4,395	
South Africa	<b>Birds &amp; Big Cats of Kruger</b>	28 Aug 2017	13	10	£3,995	
Zambia	<b>Sacred Combe Safari with Simon Barnes &amp; Chris Breen</b>	23 Oct 2016	12	10	£6,395	
Zambia	<b>Classic Luangwa Walking</b>	Jun - Sep 2017	14	6	£5,895	
Zambia	<b>Carnivores of South Luangwa</b>	10 Nov 2016	11	8	£4,395	





# FESTIVAL OF WILDLIFE

## Borneo 2017



A once in a lifetime chance to travel with a team of experts including celebrity naturalists Nick Baker and Nigel Marven.

**J**oin us for a unique series of talks, presentations, photography, sculpture and art masterclasses and daily wildlife and bird watching in the pristine rainforest of Borneo's Danum Valley.

The unrivalled line-up of experts includes Nick Baker (TV presenter, naturalist and self-styled 'bug-boy') and Nigel Marven (TV presenter, naturalist and keen herpetologist), acclaimed wildlife photographers Nick Garbutt and Alex Hyde, award-winning sculptor Nick Mackman, as well as local wildlife artist YeeTing Wong and Borneo's leading forest entomologist Arthur Chung.

Each expert has been chosen for their unique skills and will accompany guests on daily wildlife activities, imparting their knowledge and enhancing each experience.

Wildlife abounds in the pristine 43,800-hectare conservation area of the Danum Valley - more than 340 bird species have been recorded here, along with 124 species of mammals, 72 species of reptiles, 56 species of amphibians, and there is a staggering 200 plant species per hectare.

Based at the wonderful Borneo Rainforest Lodge in the heart of the Danum Valley, you are perfectly situated for morning, afternoon and evening walks, night-time safaris and exploring the rainforest.

**Don't miss this once in a lifetime Festival!**

**Festival of Wildlife - Borneo 2017**

*Group tour, 2 Jun 2017*  
**10 days, from £5,195**

The holiday price includes a contribution of £50 per person towards Hutan, World Land Trust's conservation partner in Malaysia.





# PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Travel Consultant Chris Smith reports from a far-flung corner of Melanesia – but how remote is it really?

**W**hen I was offered the opportunity to go to Papua New Guinea (or PNG as it's known), I started reading straight away. I soon realised that there are a lot of stories out there about this captivating, yet mysterious destination but you're never quite sure which to believe. With this in mind, it was with great anticipation that I set off for this intriguing corner of Melanesia.

Even though its south coast lies only 150 kilometres north of the Australian mainland, PNG is well off the established tourist trail. However it's not as hard to reach as many would like to think, and connections to the outside world are improving all the time. Nevertheless, despite its proximity to Australia (and to Indonesia), PNG remains utterly unique.

Birds are a major draw, as with the combination of permanent residents and migrants, PNG is home to just over 700 different species, and you certainly don't have to be a fervent birder to enjoy all its avian wonders. Any visitor can spot a variety of birdlife that ranges from the Victoria crowned pigeon to the flame bowerbird, however the birds that everyone wants to see are the birds-of-paradise, famed for their vibrant colours, lovely feathers and intricate mating rituals.

PNG is home to 38 of the 43 identified bird-of-paradise species, some of which are seen only in the country's remotest

corners. Yet, contrary to popular belief, there are also a number of accessible sites where they can be seen with ease. Just outside Mount Hagen, you can see up to ten species in the grounds of Rondon Ridge Lodge alone. And arguably the best place of all to see the iconic Raggiana bird-of-paradise is Varirata National Park, only 40 minutes' drive from Port Moresby, the capital city.

Birdlife isn't the only thing with a high level of diversity. Although English is PNG's official language, another 800 local dialects are spoken, which gives you some idea of the cultural diversity that exists here. It is thought that there are around 1,000 tribes in PNG, but no-one seems to know exactly! And traditions, rituals and beliefs - as well as language - vary considerably between different regions, just like the birds! From the Asaro Mud Men in the highlands to the shell-wearing Korafe close to Tufi on the eastern coast, culture is always a significant ingredient of any trip. Few other countries have been able to maintain this level of cultural diversity.

PNG will undoubtedly continue to captivate visitors with its birding and cultural diversity, which offer such a unique and authentic experience. However, it should no longer be seen as a distant land that is too far away. In fact, it has never been more straightforward to visit. It may still be an adventure once you get there, but you may be surprised how much you can see and do in this bewitching destination.



## Life in the Forest

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# Meet THE WILDLIFE TEAM



In this issue Senior Travel Consultant, Isabel Ashworth shares her finest wildlife experiences and reveals her top tips.

## What got you into this job?

I've always loved both wildlife and travelling, and when I got back from a backpacking trip around the world, I saw a newspaper advert for a job with a tour operator. The only qualifications needed were a degree and travel experience. At first I specialised in tailor-making holidays to Australasia, but then escaped from office life and worked as an overland driver/leader in Africa for a couple of years before joining Wildlife Worldwide. I celebrated my tenth year here last Christmas!

## Top three wildlife experiences?

Having worked in travel for around 18 years, I am lucky to have travelled to some pretty amazing places! It's difficult to narrow it down to just three, but they have to be:

**Botswana** - the extraordinary variety of animals, the many ways you can enjoy watching them (game drives, night drives, walking and water-based activities), the different habitats and ecosystems, the sounds and smells of the bush, the clarity of the light, the highest standards of guiding, and the various camps at which I stayed all blew me away. If you go to Africa just once, Botswana has to be top of the list - it has everything!

**Canada** - I was lucky enough to attend our Festival of Wildlife in 2007, when we stayed in a floating lodge off the

coast of British Columbia in the middle of nowhere. The scenery was stunning, with snow-capped mountains tumbling into the ocean and massive fjords - all totally wild. We took a floatplane to the lodge, where we were surrounded by the Great Bear Rainforest - home to grizzly, black and spirit bears, and even wolves - on one side, and the Pacific Ocean - with humpbacks breaching, orcas hunting and Stellers sealions basking - on the other. It was an experience I will never forget!

**Galápagos Islands** - The Galápagos had been on my list of places to visit for a while, and when the opportunity arose I jumped at the chance. The islands are all very different - both scenically and in terms of wildlife. What surprised me most was just how nonchalant the wildlife is: having never been faced with predators, blue-footed boobies, marine iguanas and frigatebirds were not at all phased as we walked past - in places we literally had to step over them!

## Your favourite wildlife location?

Africa. I've spent most time there and it's a place that gets under your skin and is utterly addictive.

## What is your favourite species?

I love all cats, but cheetahs are my all-time favourites.

## The best piece of advice you give your clients?

Travel with an open mind. With wildlife nothing is ever guaranteed and an unexpected sighting of a less well-known animal can sometimes be every bit as rewarding as one of the iconic species you set out to see.

## Which three items do you never travel without?

Camera, kikoy and shades.

## Where next?

Scotland. I am hoping that pine martens will come and visit the place where we are going to stay, and am going armed with grapes and peanuts. Fingers crossed!



# BIRDWATCHING AND WILDLIFE

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# MEET OUR EXPERTS



## 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 travel and nature lovers.

You can expect to see beautiful imagery and hear stirring stories about stunning 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.

Our programme for 2016/17 will be visiting even more locations around the UK and will feature exciting new talks from iconic wildlife destinations worldwide including Alaska, Arctic Canada and Madagascar.

The evenings are completely free of charge. To register your interest email our Wildlife team at [events@wildlifeworldwide.com](mailto:events@wildlifeworldwide.com) and we will update you with more information as soon as it is available, or keep a look out on our website. [www.wildlifeworldwide.com/events](http://www.wildlifeworldwide.com/events)

## Visit us at the following exhibitions and immerse yourself in a world of unlimited travel inspiration.

### The Luxury Travel Fair

London Olympia 3 - 6 Nov 2016 - stand F20

### Destinations, the holiday & travel show

Manchester 19 - 22 Jan 2017 at EventCity, Manchester - stand E38

London 2 - 5 Feb 2017 at Olympia London - stand AF12

### Photography Show

Birmingham NEC 19 - 22 Mar 2017



Swarovski will be joining us at some of the events, so you will have a chance to talk about the best optics for your wildlife holiday.

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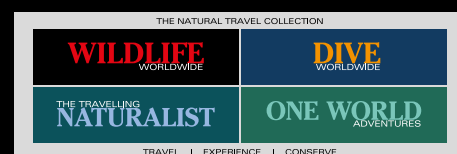
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