



*Double Africa - Namibia & Botswana  
Photography Safari  
June 11 - June 23, 2016*

*This is a double adventure, Namibia alone, Botswana alone or both.*

The Namib Desert may well be the world's oldest desert. The Namib-Naukluft Park includes five main regions: Namib, Sandvis, Naukluft, Sesriem and Sossusvlei. The apricot-colored dunes at Sossusvlei are beautiful and photographic opportunities for landscapes abound. Herds of mountain zebra, gemsbok and springbok roam the area.

Botswana is undoubtedly Southern Africa's most prestigious safari destination where the landscape has an abundance of wildlife. From islands of and waterways of the Okavango Delta to the open savanna and woodlands of the Chobe National Park, Botswana is a nature and wildlife photographers heaven.

During this exclusive photo safari we will explore and photograph the stunning African wildlife of Botswana. From the endangered Wild Dogs to Lions, Leopards, Cheetahs,

Giraffes, Elephants and many deer, antelope, and birds we will have opportunities like no other.



Our camps and lodges have been picked to maximize your experience where you will ride in vehicles with a single row assigned to each photographer.

In-field photography instruction will be provided and during our down time we will conduct photo-critique sessions.

### *June 10* *USA/Johannesburg, South Africa*

Depart this morning on your overnight flight to Johannesburg, South Africa (\*international flights will be arranged if requested).

### *June 11 -13* *Johannesburg to Windhoek to Etosha*

On arrival we will connect with our scheduled inter-Africa flight Flight SA 074 with South African Airways from Johannesburg

departing at 09:30 to Windhoek arriving at 10:25. From there we will be on a light aircraft transfer to Etosha (Mokuti airstrip) and transferred to the Onguma Tented Lodge.



Etosha is a 22 750km<sup>2</sup> wildlife sanctuary in Namibia – one of Africa's most stable and accessible countries. Etosha, meaning 'place of dry water', and refers to a flat calcrete depression (or pan) of about 5 000km<sup>2</sup>. The 'Pan' (overlooked by the Onguma Reserve) provides a great, parched, silver-white backdrop of shimmering

mirages to an area of semi-arid savanna grassland and thorn scrub. The pan itself contains water only after very good rains and sometimes for only a few days each year, but is enough to stimulate the growth of a blue-green algae which lures thousands of flamingos.

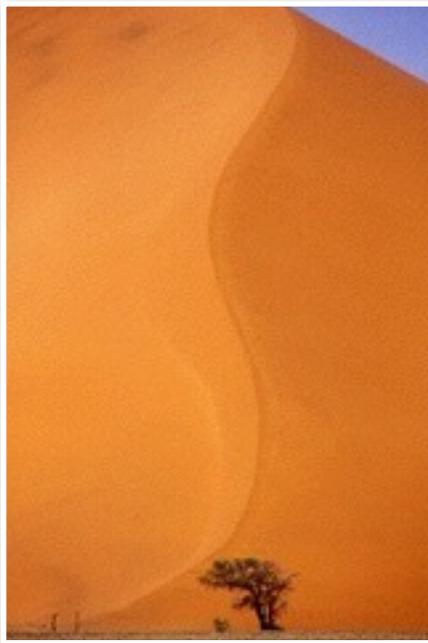
There are 114 species of mammals in Etosha. They include the black-faced impala – there are no southern impala in the park – and the threatened black and white rhino. We will be doing morning and afternoon/evening game drives into the Etosha National Park.

## *June 13 - 15 Sossusvlei*

After breakfast we will fly to our lodge in Sossusvlei, the Kuala Desert Lodge

Sossusvlei, in the southern region, has the highest sand dunes in the world, exceeding 1,000 feet. The base of the second highest sand dune in the world can be closely approached by vehicle.

We will stay at the Kuala Desert Lodge that sits on the boundary of Sossusvlei. Each of the 15 "Kulala" offers en suite facilities and a private veranda with stunning views of the famous Sossusvlei dunes. In addition, your own rooftop sleeping area allows you a unique opportunity to enjoy a night under the spectacular desert sky and photograph star trails.



Activities include morning visits to the Sossusvlei dunes, desert breakfasts under the camel-thorn acacia trees, and a visit to the Sesriem Canyon. Afternoon activities are taken on the private reserve, adjacent to Sossusvlei, taking in the desert scenery, the flora and to see the animals like springbok, gemsbok and ostrich that survive in this harsh environment.

## *June 16 Sossusvlei/Windhoek/Johannesburg*

After a morning game drive we will transfer to the airstrip for our scheduled charter flight to Windhoek and connect to our flight to Johannesburg.

Participants doing just the Namibia trip will transfer to their respective international departure airlines.

Participants arriving and those continuing on the Botswana leg will spend 1 night at City Lodge - O.R. Tambo Airport on a Bed & Breakfast basis. During the day you are welcome to use the spa and/or take a game drive in the Rhino and Lion Park. The option to explore Johannesburg is another choice.

Johannesburg is the largest and most cosmopolitan city in South Africa and is the center of the gold and diamond industry. Johannesburg began as a mining town when the largest deposits of gold in the world were discovered in the Witwatersrand in 1886. This "City of

Gold” (locally known as “Egoli,”) is now the country’s largest commercial center and the country’s main gateway for overseas visitors. The city itself has a population of approximately 2 million, while the total urban area including Soweto (SOuth WEstern TOWnships) has a population of approximately 4 million.

*June 17 20*  
*Johannesburg to Maun to Moremi*

We will leave via Flight SA 8300 with South African Airways from Johannesburg, departing 11:45 to Maun arriving 13:15. The we will be on a Light aircraft transfer from Maun to Khwai 40 mins flying time. On arrival we will be transferred to our first Botswana camp the Khwai Tented Camp.



Khwai Tented Camp has recently been relocated to a semi-permanent site within this community-run concession on the eastern border of the Moremi Game Reserve. The new exclusive location of the Khwai Tented Camp, on the banks of a lagoon flowing into the Khwai River, acts as a boundary between the reserve and the community area, offering visitors staying here several unique ways to experience Africa. Besides the day-time drives which can feature Africa’s big attractions – lion, cheetah,



leopard, wild dog, elephant, buffalo, hippo and giraffe. Here we will also be able to nature after sunset with a night drive. This activity, along with the guided walking safaris, is not usually permitted in the National Parks or Game Reserves, and will allow us to get an up close and personal experience with some of Africa’s nocturnal and / or more elusive animals. The camp also provides the opportunity to explore the great stands of leadwood and mopane woodlands as well as open grasslands and banks of the Khwai River on foot.

The camp preserves the romance of the wilderness, a simpler life in harmony with nature. There are no permanent structures; everything can be removed to leave the wilderness exactly as we found it, minimizing our impact on the environment. Guests can enjoy spacious and comfortable tented accommodation, beds and private en-suite bathrooms.

## *June 20 Moremi to Linyanti*

After a morning game drive we will fly in light aircrafts to Linyanti.

## *June 20 - 23, 2016 - Linyanti*

Linyanti Bush Camp is an exclusive private tented camp on the banks of the Linyanti marshes in a private reserve, which borders the western boundary of Chobe in the Chobe Enclave. The camp is limited to small exclusive groups away from the main tourist's routes. Here we will do game drives and walking and night time spotlight safaris that will give us unique photo opportunities.

The area is best known for its large populations of Elephant and buffalo that congregate in vast numbers especially during the dry season. Lion, sable, roan, leopard, wild dog, and a number of the plains game can be enjoyed at Linyanti. The rare and elusive sitatunga antelope, red lechwe, hippo and crocodile can be found in the surrounding marshes. The Linyanti Swamps are one of the most attractive areas in the park as it is the only source of water in the dry months where a lot of the wildlife moves to, boasting a great diversity of game and a restful atmosphere. The area also offers spectacular birding all year round.



## *June 23, 2016 - Linyanti to Kabane and return to Johannesburg*

Light aircraft transfer from Linyanti to Kasane Airport (50 mins flying time) then we will board Flight SA 8301 with South African Airways from Kasane Airport leaving at 13:55 to Johannesburg arriving at 15:45.

You will then take you return flights home.

## *RECOMMENDED GEAR*

For mammals, a fast lens 300mm is recommended - 400mm and/or 500mm would be ideal. Zoom lenses like a 100 - 400 or 200-400 are versatile. A wide angle is an excellent choice for landscapes. Do bring a macro lens if you have one however, this is not essential.

As most of the photography will be from open vehicles, a light tripod lashed to the roll-bars of the vehicle, Beanbags or vehicle clamp devices are all good camera and lens support

devices. Beanbags should be carried empty and can be filled with rice or any of the local beans.

A complete list of equipment will be provided well in advance of the safari.

## *WORKSHOP SESSIONS*

During some of our down time, the program will include sessions devoted to teaching exposure theory, composition and field techniques on how to photograph wildlife and birds including birds in flight.

You will gain a better understanding of both the technical side of wildlife photography, and most importantly the subject.

In the field you will be provided instruction based upon your needs. We will cover:

- Light Quality and Quantity and Temperature
- Light direction, side and backlighting
- Exposure
- Metering for the best exposure
- Focus Modes - Auto and Manual
- Flight shot Techniques – hand held and using a tripod with an appropriate lens mount
- Panning technique
- Subject isolation

## *Clothing*

November temperatures in the parks range from a low of mid 60s to a high of upper 80s in degrees Fahrenheit. Hats and sunscreen are essential.

Dress informal. Neutral colors recommended. Please leave your bright colors and whites behind. Windbreaker or warm jacket for early mornings and night photography is a must. We will not be hiking so comfortable walking shoes and sneakers are ideal. Swimwear is nice to bring along as some of the lodges have swimming pools.

## *Health precautions*

Please note that the photo safari requires travel within a malarial area. It is recommended that you consult their physician or travel clinic regarding the latest, easily administered

malaria prophylaxis. Additional immunization may be recommended by your physician or travel clinic.

### *Registration*

#### **Namibia:**

Registration is limited to a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 photographers and the trip fee is \$ 5,750 per person.

#### **Botswana:**

Registration is limited to a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 photographers and the trip fee is \$ 6150 per person.

A \$2,000 retainer is required to confirm your reservation for each segment no later than March 11, 2016. The balance is due by April 15th, 2016. Payments by check can be made to Shiv Verma and mailed to 652 Dedham Street, Wrentham, MA 02093-1149 .

Paypal and credit card payments are accepted (4% surcharge applies) - please call 617.759.0010

### *What is included*

- Accommodations
- All meals and game activities on safari (Full Board)
- Breakfast only (B) in Johannesburg
- All airport and road transfers
- Park and guiding fees
- Scheduled charter flights between camps
- Laundry in the camps where provided

### *What is not included*

- Extra meals in Johannesburg
- Tips to staff and drivers - these will be collected and given to the camp manager for distribution.
- Departure and Airport taxes (payable directly)
- Travel insurance
- International air fare

- Increases in VAT, park or reserve fees, scheduled air charter rates or fuel surcharges

**Special Terms & Conditions for the Photo Safari (these terms supersede any terms on the registration and enrollment forms):**

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY: Cancellations are only effective upon receipt of written notification signed by the participant/s. The initial deposit is used to secure your accommodations, transportation and guides and therefore non-refundable, unless the safari/tour is sold out at the time of departure. Shiv Verma | Photography hereafter SVP, will do their best to resell your spot and/or return as much of your non-refundable deposit as possible. If the final balance has not been received 90 days prior to trip commencement, SVP shall be entitled, at their discretion, to treat your reservation as cancelled; the deposit shall be forfeited.

We understand that conflicts arise, if you need to cancel prior to the final payment, all efforts will be made to fill your spot. If SVP fills your spot, a refund of your non-refundable deposit, less a 30% administration fee and less any non-returnable air tickets purchased will be issued; there are no guarantees.

If written cancellation is received:

**The initial retainer is due by March 11 and is non refundable unless the trip is cancelled.**

**60 to 31 days the cancellation fee is 50% of tour/safari/workshop fee**

**30 days or less the cancellation fee is 100% of the tour/safari/workshop fee**

In the event you do not join the trip/safari/workshop, join it after departure or leave before its completion, no refunds will be made with the exception of any airfare rebounds provided by the carrier when applicable.

CANCELLATION OR CHANGE IN TOUR/WORKSHOP: SVP will make every attempt to operate a tour/safari/workshop once confirmed, but will reserve the right to cancel or change a trip at any time, due to insufficient bookings, and/or reasons beyond its control, such as; strikes, war, acts of God, acts of government, civil unrest or any other cause whatsoever, that may make operation of the tour impossible, illegal or inadvisable. All tour payments received will be promptly refunded, and this refund will be the limit of SVP's liability. SVP is not responsible for any expenses incurred by tour members in preparing for the tour including non-refundable or airline tickets, airline penalties, special clothing, visa or passport fees, or other tour-related expenses. SVP highly recommends purchasing travel insurance to cover these events and expenses.

*Information*

Contact us at 617.759.0010 or email [info@shivverma.com](mailto:info@shivverma.com)