



PennAlumni
travel

BOTSWANA

Desert Sunset, Delta Dawn

Featuring Penn Professor Michael Weisberg

JULY 19 TO 30, 2018

Adventure is wrapped in luxury in Botswana, where you wing your way from camp to camp on small planes. No lines, no check-in, just the cheerful hello of the pilot as he tosses your duffel in the back of your ‘taxi in the sky.’ Visit the Kalahari Desert and the otherworldly Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, where a glowing, white expanse of natural salt deposits create glittering mirages that seem to reach out into the horizon endlessly. Nearby the Nxai Pans are home to an array of animal and plant life, including the giant “upside down” Baobab trees that make the African skyline so spectacular. Then, take in the spectacular view over the Okavango; a wetland wilderness of looping channels, islands forested with palms and wide grassy floodplains.

Penn Alumni Travel is proud to offer valuable trips and programs to alumni and friends through a number of partnerships. Any revenue that may be generated from Penn Alumni Travel above our program expenses supports other Penn Alumni programming.



YOUR ITINERARY

DAYS 1/2 ~ USA/JOHANNESBURG

[FAIRLAWNS SANDTON HOTEL \(Meals Aloft,D\)](#)

Get set for your adventure as you board your overnight flight to Johannesburg, where you will be met and escorted to your hotel. Welcome to Jo'burg, as the locals say. The vitality of South Africa's largest city is reflected in the gleaming facades of abstract modernist skyscrapers and the mercurial flow of its financial center. Gold was discovered in the adjacent Witwatersrand area in 1886. Its nickname, "the Rand" later became the name of South Africa's official currency. You will be staying at The Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa situated in the heart of Sandton, the exclusive residential and business area north of Johannesburg.

DAY 3 ~ CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

[FAIRLAWNS SANDTON HOTEL \(B,L\)](#)

Today's drive takes you to the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site, where research has been carried out at 13 fossil sites, 7 of which have yielded hominid remains. The Sterkfontein Caves, which have produced the most complete skeleton of a 3.3 million year old Australopithecine, is a tour highlight.

DAYS 4/5/6 ~ MUAN/MAKGADIKGADI/NXAI

[PANS/KHUMAGA VILLAGE](#)

[LEROO LA TAU \(B,L,D Daily\)](#)

Fly to Maun and board a light aircraft to Leroo La Tau at the edge of Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, named for ancient Lake Makgadikadi, which disappeared thousands of years ago. What remains is a collection of salt pans that cover approximately 6,200 square miles due south of the Okavango Delta. The camp is situated on the banks of the Boteti River and commands superb views. Next day, drive to Nxai Pan National Park. These pans transform during the rainy season between July and October, when they fill with water and their stark whiteness becomes lush greenery. Year round, small populations of springbok, giraffe, and gemsbok can be found, but during the wet season, their numbers increase significantly, and herds of zebra and wildebeest arrive bringing with them opportunistic predators such as hyena and lion. Visit Baines Baobabs, an oasis of venerable baobab trees. These "upside down" giants are now part of a protected national monument, providing a shady vantage point from which to view the desolate beauty of the Kudiakam Pan. On your last day, drive to the nearby Khumaga Village for an enlightening cultural experience. An open-air dinner with traditional storytelling will bookend your day.

DAYS 7/8 ~ OKAVANGO DELTA

[CAMP OKAVANGO \(B,L,D Daily\)](#)

Fly to one of the world's most distinctive regions and largest inland water systems, the Okavango Delta and to the exceptional Camp Okavango

on the remote Nxaragha Island. Activities here center around mokoro (dugout canoe) rides, boat excursions, and walking safaris. See the delta from water level and relax as you glide through quiet, reed-lined channels. Pels Fishing Owl and Wattered Crane are observed regularly in the area. In all, more than 600 species reside within the 7000 square miles of islands, marshes, flood plains, and channels of which the Okavango is comprised. Feel the beat of Africa beneath your feet on a walking safari, and take a boat through the reeds to spot elephant, red lechwe, zebra, wildebeest, giraffe, baboon, monkey, warthog, and buffalo, along with major predators such as lion, leopard, and hyena. If you are lucky, spot the elusive sitatunga antelope which have been known to sleep in the water, with only their nostrils resting above the water's surface.

DAYS 9/10 ~ OKAVANGO DELTA

[CAMP MOREMI \(B,L,D Daily\)](#)

Fly to the elegant Camp Moremi, shaded from the African sun by a forest of ancient ebony trees. You'll be thrilled by the excitement of tracking animals in open 4X4 vehicles and boating up channels and across lagoons, all the while viewing the goings on of the delta residents. Moremi Game Reserve supports the most diverse habitat and animal populations in Botswana, with possible sightings of wild dog, cheetah, and leopard being highlights. Resident species include lion, elephant, buffalo, hippo, giraffe, hyena, zebra, kudu, lechwe, tsessebe, and Sable and Roan antelope.

DAYS 11/12 ~ MAUN/JOHANNESBURG/USA

[\(B, Meals Aloft\)](#)

Enjoy a last wildlife run this morning and a hearty breakfast before flying back to Johannesburg via Maun where you connect with your overnight flight to the U.S.A., bringing home with you the memories of all the wonderful sights of Southern Africa.



Caves Of Cradle Of Humankind

Did you know ...

Batswana is the plural term for people who live in Botswana. The singular term is Motswana.



Lechwe in the wetlands.



Gliding through the Okavango Delta in a mokoro canoe.

OPTIONAL PRE-EXTENSION TO CAPE TOWN



Your adventure begins with a delightful retreat in Cape Town, one of the loveliest cities in the world. View Table Mountain and take the coastal route to the Cape of Good Hope to discover charming seaside towns, spectacular wildlife, and the comical African penguins at Boulders Beach. Tour the brilliant Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, and spend a day in the famed Boland Valley wine region. Visit the settlement of Khayelitsha with a township guide, and get an eye-opening historical tour of Robben Island.

OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO CHOBE NATIONAL PARK & VICTORIA FALLS



Continue your adventure to Chobe National Park in Botswana, home to some of the largest elephant herds on the continent. Stay at Chobe Game Lodge in the heart of the park and be pampered with superb service and cuisine. Then, head to Zimbabwe for the idyllic experience of Victoria Falls. This incredible spectacle — “The Smoke That Thunders,” as it is known to locals — is the world’s largest waterfall. Enjoy a sundowner cruise on the Zambezi River and visit a rural village to experience age-old traditions.

YOUR JOURNEY COSTS

**JULY 19 TO 30, 2018
PRICES PER PERSON**

- \$8,695 land and air between camps in Africa, double occupancy.
- \$2,995 single supplement.
- \$2,690 estimated international airfare from Philadelphia, including airline taxes and fuel surcharges. Other departure cities available upon request; prices quoted at time of request.

YOUR EXTENSIONS COSTS

**CAPE TOWN – DEPARTS JULY 15, 2018
PRICES PER PERSON**

- \$2,795 double occupancy.
- \$995 single supplement.

**VICTORIA FALLS – RETURNS AUGUST 3, 2018
PRICES PER PERSON**

- \$3,695 land only.
- \$1,395 single supplement.

YOUR JOURNEY INCLUDES

- Roundtrip flight between Johannesburg and Maun.
- All flights between the camps.
- Flights between Cape Town and Johannesburg on the pre-extension.
- Flight between Victoria Falls and Johannesburg on the post-extension.
- Superior accommodations throughout as indicated or similar.
- All meals while on safari. Other meals as specified in itinerary.
- All wildlife viewing by private 4X4 open vehicles, driven by professional driver/guides.
- Professional guide will accompany the group with a minimum of 10 travelers.

- Laundry and all local beverages during safari in Botswana except for Champagne and imported spirits.
- Complimentary bottled water in vehicles throughout.
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.
- All park entry fees and sightseeing as specified.
- Gratuities to drivers and other conveyance attendants.
- Complimentary baggage tags and passport wallet.
- Complimentary Emergency Evacuation Insurance.



In awe of the sunrise at Leroo La Tau, the view from your room.

“Sub-Saharan Africa is a tremendously beautiful part of the world. There’s a spirituality to it — there must be few people who visit the area and don’t feel moved by it. Once you have experienced that, it makes great emotional claims on you.”

— Alexander McCall Smith
Author of *The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency*

YOUR FACULTY HOST



Michael Weisberg
Professor and Chair of
Philosophy, University of
Pennsylvania & Co-director
of the Penn Laboratory for
Understanding Science

Dr. Weisberg is a philosopher of science whose work focuses on methodological issues in biology, chemistry, and the social sciences, and also the public understanding of science. Much of Dr. Weisberg's recent work has focused on biological education beyond the classroom from alumni travel to working with indigenous children in the Galápagos archipelago. He believes that the best way to learn about conservation, ecology, and evolution is to get up close and personal with diverse wildlife and ecosystems be it in Philadelphia, South America, or Africa.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS

Kathy Plusas at Classic Escapes
800.627.1244
kathyp@classicescapes.com

CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL

HOW TO BOOK: Fill out the reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit as shown, to: Classic Escapes, 58-25 Queens Blvd. Woodside, NY 11377. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

RATES: Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs and other factors and are subject to change. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners.

INSURANCE: It is a condition of booking, that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip. Classic Escapes and the University of Pennsylvania, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Neither Classic Escapes (the Company), the University of Pennsylvania, nor any person or agent acting for, through, or on behalf of the Company shall be liable for any loss or damage

whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the foregoing shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury, or death. In addition the Company shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any trip or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any trip being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest's booking and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to April 18, 2018, \$300 handling fee, plus \$250 non-refundable deposits given to overseas suppliers.
 - April 19 to May 5, 2018, deposit is forfeited.
 - May 6 to May 20, 2018, less 75% of tour cost on both the main trip and the extension.
 - After May 20, 2018, no refund is possible.
- These cancellation fees are also in addition to any imposed by airlines.



Observing the bounty of African wildlife on the water.



The jewel-toned Malachite Kingfisher enjoying breakfast.



Enclosed is my deposit for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person for the main trip and \$250 for each extension) to hold _____ place(s) on the Wildlife Safari to Botswana departing on July 19, 2018. Cost is \$8,695 per person, double occupancy, land and all air within Southern Africa. Sample international air from Philadelphia is \$2,690 including departure taxes and fuel surcharges (subject to change).

Final payment due date is April 18, 2018. All final payments are required to be made by check or money order only.

Please charge my deposit to my credit card: MasterCard Visa Discover American Express

Name on Card _____ Card Number _____ EXP _____ CVN _____

NAME (as it appears on passport): Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

NAME (as it appears on passport): Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

NAME FOR NAME BADGE IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1) _____

2) _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBERS: HOME: () _____ OFFICE: () _____

MOBILE: () _____ FAX: () _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

- The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with:
 - One Bed
 - Two Beds
- I am sharing with _____ (form sent separately)
- I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association or the tour operator cannot locate one for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single. I prefer to share with: Smoker Nonsmoker
- I/we wish to participate on the optional extensions:
 - \$3,695 for the Chobe NP & Victoria Falls post-extension
 - \$2,795 for the pre-extension to Cape Town
- I/we desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost of:
 - \$2,995 for the main trip
 - \$1,395 for the Chobe National Park & Victoria Falls post extension
 - \$995 for the pre-extension to Cape Town
- Please make my/our round-trip air reservations on the group flights from Philadelphia via Delta Air Lines. (Other departure cities available upon request; prices quoted at time of request.)
- Please make domestic round-trip air reservations for me from my home city: _____ to connect with the group flights and let me know the additional cost.
- I/We will make own air arrangements and will provide you with an itinerary before trip departure.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).

I/WE HAVE READ THE CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL ON THIS BROCHURE AND UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED HEREIN:

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND SEND TO:
CLASSIC ESCAPES
58-25 QUEENS BOULEVARD
WOODSIDE, NY 11377



Penn Alumni Travel
E. Sweeten Alumni House
3533 Locust Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6226

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