

Don't miss this special opportunity to view big cats and other amazing wildlife with two experts in their fields: renowned big cat biologist Jeff Sikich and conservation leader Beth Pratt.



Big Cats of Botswana Luxury Safari

14 - 24 November 2025 \$18,850 p/p/sharing*



Itinerary Overview

Africa's savannas are famous for the incredible abundance of wildlife they support. Jeff and Beth, together with exceptional local African guides, will take you on a visceral and enlightening journey through the African Bush. Absorb the beauty and exciting wilderness, while delving into the ecology and biology of big cats and other wildlife, their behavior and the complexities associated with human coexistence. One of the privileges of visiting these vast protected areas is that animals are relaxed around game-drive vehicles. This allows one the wonderful opportunity to observe even the most elusive cats at close quarters.

November is the beginning of the rainy season where the parched land flushes with green, flowers appear, animals have their babies and migratory birds have arrived. The weather is dramatic, with gorgeous cloudscapes and breathtaking sunsets. If it rains it is usually in short bursts which adds to the excitement.

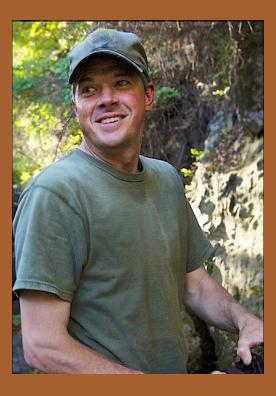
All the safari camps are intimate and luxurious, with excellent service, and have exclusive use of huge conserved areas so your sightings are not shared with large crowds of people.

Qorokwe, 4 nights: From Maun, Botswana, you will board your bush plane taking to your first safari camp in the Okavango Delta, a remarkable World Heritage Site. The luxurious Qorokwe Camp is in the best game area in Botswana. It has an incredibly diverse ecosystem which is home to a great diversity of animal life. This will be a spectacular introduction to the wildlife Africa has to offer.

Mokete Camp, 3 nights: Your safari continues here by a unique helicopter flight to an extraordinary wildlife region of Botswana only recently opened up to photographic tourism. Mokete, which means 'celebration' in the local language, is truly a unique area for wildlife. Water filters from the Okavango into an area known as the Mababe Depression, a grassland area that attracts vast herds of buffalo and other large African ungulates, as well as elephants. As a result, predators are never far off, and several prides of lions reside in this area. Apart from the big and bold creatures, the Mababe region is also great for special sightings of cryptic species such as servals, aardwolf, and aardvark. By this stage of the safari there will be more of a focus on interpreting animal behavior and you should have excellent photographic opportunities for those interested in wildlife photography.

Little Vumbura, 3 nights: A helicopter flight takes you into the heart of the Okavango Delta. Little Vumbura is a gorgeous Wilderness Destinations camp set on an island in a diverse ecosystem with permanent water channels, floodplains and wooded 'islands' which you will explore through game drives, boating and mokoros (traditional dug-out canoes). This area has excellent game viewing and birding! As well as enjoying the wildlife sightings, you will start looking more closely at some of the conservation issues people and wildlife are faced with, both in Africa and back home in America. This peaceful water environment is the ideal place to contemplate the wonders of nature and the challenges we and our natural world face together. Fly back to Maun.

Click here for more on the safari camps and an itinerary video!





Jeff Sikich

Jeff Sikich is a wildlife biologist researching the impacts of urbanization and habitat fragmentation on mountain lions in Southern California. Jeff manages the field work for this study, one of the longest running of its kind, which informs mountain lion conservation, as well as outreach, education, and habitat conservation efforts locally and around the world. Over the last 26 years Jeff has captured and handled over 16 carnivore species for wildlife research and he has advised and trained many professionals around the world on humane capture methods. In addition to his work in California, Jeff has contributed to mountain lion research in Montana, Arizona, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru. He has worked with gray wolves, black bears, lynx, coyotes, bobcats, desert tortoise, sea lions, and deer, as well as studies focused on tigers in Sumatra, jaguars in North, Central, and South America, and leopards in South Africa. His worked has centered on conservation, including habitat connectivity, corridors, toxicants, and human-wildlife conflict resolution. Jeff has contributed to many scientific papers and popular articles on carnivore ecology and conservation, and his work has been featured on numerous television programs, news outlets, and documentary films.

Beth Pratt

A lifelong advocate for wildlife, Beth Pratt has worked in environmental leadership roles for over thirty years, and in two of the country's largest national parks: Yosemite and Yellowstone. As the California Regional Executive Director for the National Wildlife Federation, Pratt leads the #SaveLACougars campaign to build the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing, which broke ground on Earth Day in 2022. Her innovative conservation work has been featured by The New Yorker, The Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, BBC World Service, CNN, CBS This Morning, the Los Angeles Times, Men's Journal, The Guardian, NPR, AP News, and more. Her books include When Mountain Lions are Neighbors, published by Heyday in 2024, and I Heart Wildlife, by Di Angelo Publications in 2020. Her new book, Yosemite Wildlife: The Wonder of Animal Life in California's Sierra Nevada, will be published in 2025. Beth has also given a TEDx talk about coexisting with wildlife called, "How a Lonely Cougar in Los Angeles Inspired the World," is featured in the documentary, "The Cat that Changed America," on CNN's Heroes in Conservation series, and the new reboot of Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom. The Western Section of the Wildlife Society named her "Conservationist of the Year" in 2023, and in 2024, she received the Alan Rabinowitz Conservation award from the Explorers Club.

This special safari for wildlife lovers is handcrafted by True Wild in support of the National Wildlife Federation's wildlife crossing connectivity work and wildlife conservation in Africa.



True Wild LLC is a conservation and safari company based in San Francisco's North Bay. Our mission is to connect people strongly to nature through experiences and encourage individual action to conserve our planet. We do mountain lion research and conservation, and work with communities on how to co-exist with wildlife. We also design personalized safaris, specializing in authentic journeys to Africa. In all we do, we strive for conservation impact.



For this journey we have chosen <u>Wilderness</u> safari camps. Wilderness is Africa's leading ecotourism operator, renowned for their excellent camps and service. It actively conserves millions of acres of wilderness in the areas in which it operates. They are deeply committed to creating a positive impact on the communities of people and animals that live within and adjascent to these extraordinary wild ecosystems.

Logistics

Group size: 6 - 10 people. Price of \$18,850/person/sharing* is all inclusive (accommodation, food, drinks, activities, transfers between camps, group leaders) but excludes international travel (to and from Maun, Botswana), insurance and gratuities. *Singles in their own room will be charged \$19,350.

