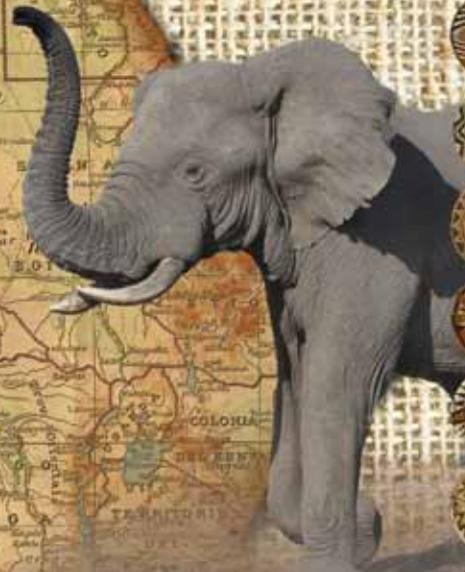
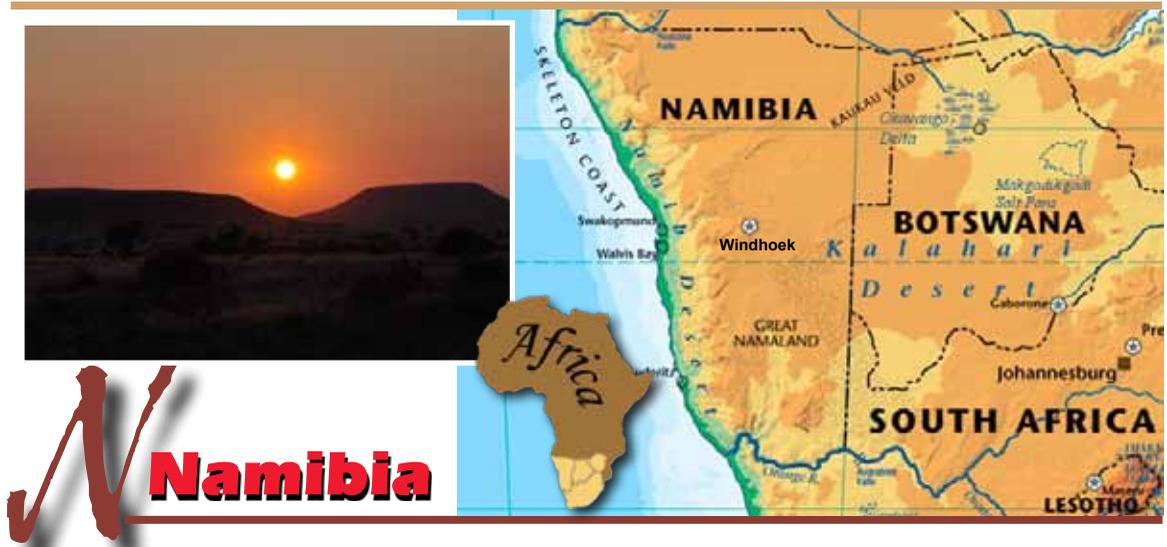


Namibia - Botswana Safari 2017



**July 15
thru
August 8**
**Trich Zaitoon
Tour Leader**



Namibia

The story of Namibia is from start to finish one about wildlife. And it is best told in Namibia's many National Parks, reserves, and conservancies. Hundreds of mammal species roam freely here, thanks to the variety of habitats across Namibia.

In **Etosha National Park**, huge herds of Springbok, Gemsbok, Zebra, and Blue Wildebeest, as well as smaller numbers of Red Hartebeest, Mountain Zebra, lion, cheetah and the elusive leopard gather at waterholes spotted easily against the stark white background immense salt pans. **Waterberg Plateau** was proclaimed to nurture the small numbers of endangered animals – different species of antelope, buffalo, white rhino and many more. These parks represent the most popular wildlife attractions in Namibia, but others dot the entire country – all experiencing a renaissance of sorts, thanks to a massive internationally recognized conservation effort.

Damaraland and **Kaokoveld** demand a certain level of respect. Beautiful, but arid and unforgiving, attractions near this area have names like Burnt Mountain, the Petrified Forest, the Skeleton Coast – all aptly named and an indication of the drama found here. Occupying a huge, harsh stretch of landscape to the northwest of the country, even the people and wildlife have adapted accordingly.

The Himba, a tall, slender and statuesque people, rub their bodies with red ochre and fat to protect their skins against the climate. Desert adapted elephants have special behavioral characteristics, large annual and seasonal ranges, a social structure, and daily activities to cope with the environment.

ITINERARY

Days 1 & 2 – July 15 -16

Depart from originating US city with connections to our international flight to Windhoek, Namibia.

Day 3 – July 17

Arrive in Windhoek, Namibia. This will be our opportunity to exchange U.S. dollars into Namibia currency. We will meet our driver guide, and travel to the Frans Indongo Lodge with lunch enroute. Afternoon game drive and sundowner.



Day 4 – July 18

After a early breakfast, we will visit the Cheetah Conservation Fund where we will enjoy a cheetah safari and visit the education center in the morning. We will continue our tour via Tsumeb towards Etosha National Park. Enroute there is an optional visit to Tsumeb Museum and Lake Otjikoto. We will arrive in the late afternoon at the Mokuti Etosha Lodge.

Day 5 – July 19

The entire day is devoted to exploring and enjoying the Northern Etosha Park. What a great day for adventure.

Day 6 – July 20

After breakfast, we are off for Etosha National Park. We have a full day game drive ahead of us discovering different waterholes along the way to Halali Resort within the park.

Day 7 – July 21

The day is spent on a full day game drive of Etosha National Park before returning to Halali Resort for our last night in the park.





Day 8 – July 22

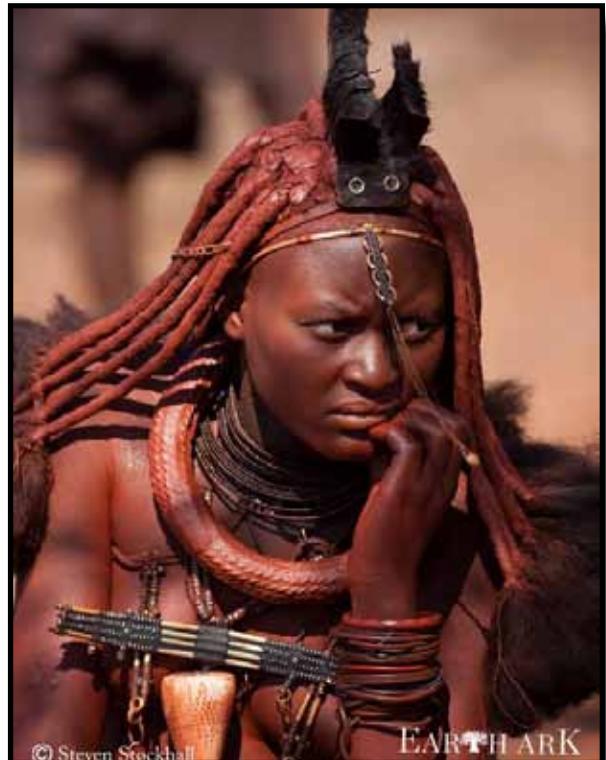
After a relaxed breakfast we continue on our safari to Outjo and Kamanjab towards the Western Etosha Park border. We will have the opportunity to take a guided tour around an authentic Himba village which will not only give us an in-depth insight into the life and ways of the last traditional tribe in Namibia, but an amazing photographic opportunity as well. We will experience the milking ceremony, the smoke bath, be informed on the beliefs around the holy fire, ancestors, and herbal medicine. The tour of the village will cost \$23 and is not included in the safari cost. We will continue on to the well known Hobatere Lodge where we will have the afternoon to relax and watch the game at the waterhole.

Day 9 – July 23

We will spend the day on a game drive of the Hobatere Lodge property. If we are lucky we will observe the elephants drinking at the lodge pool while we enjoy a sundowner drink.

Day 10 – July 24

In the morning we will depart for the well known Okonjima Plains Camp where we arrive in early afternoon. There will be an opportunity to hike on a marked trail on the Okonjima property in the afternoon before returning to the camp for sunset.



© Steven Stockhall

EARTHARK

Day 11 – July 25

In the morning after a great breakfast, we will visit the the AfriCat Foundation Centre before we make our way back to Windhoek. There will be a opportunity to visit the Namibia Craft Centre before we make our way to the Naankuse Lodge.



Day 12 – July 26

The day is spent at Naankuse Wildlife Sanctuary. Originating as a small wildlife sanctuary nestled in the Namibian bush, Naankuse has grown into a world famous conservation organization. The sanctuary provides a haven and second chance for countless injured, orphaned, and conflict animals. Here we have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities including a behind the scenes tour.

Day 13 – July 27

After breakfast we will transfer to Windhoek International Airport for our flight to Johannesburg. Those of us continuing on to Botswana will spend the night at the Safari Club where we will meet the guests who will be joining us for our Botswana adventure. Anyone returning home will make their connecting flights back home.



A AREA DESCRIPTIONS



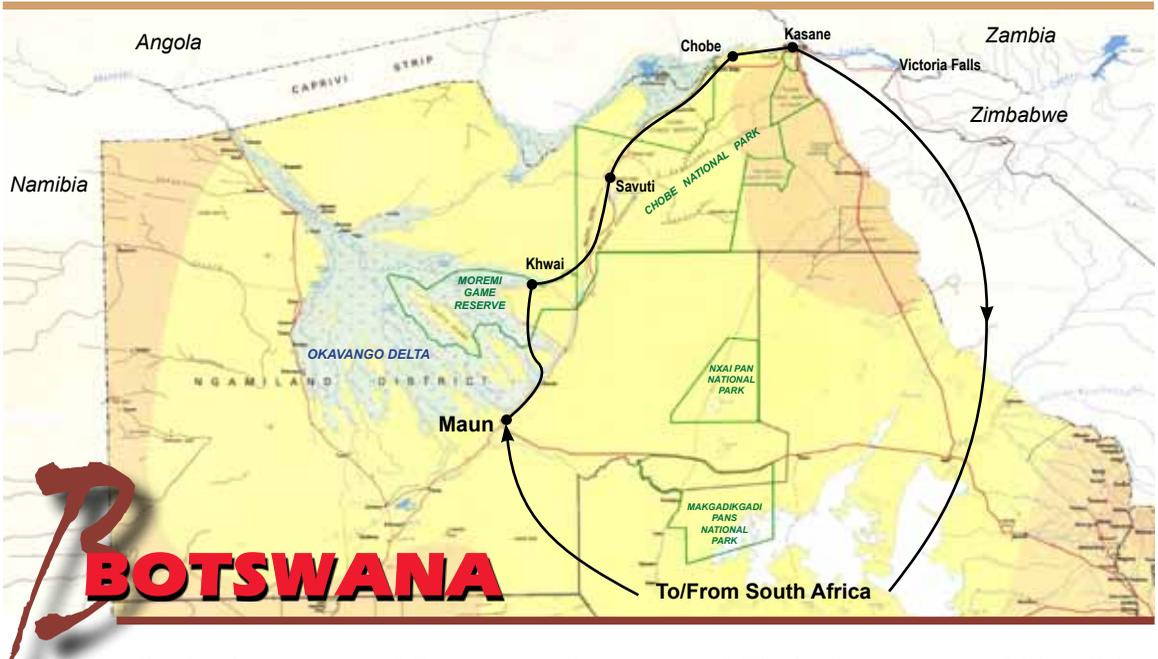
Windhoek and central Namibia: The capital and heart of Namibia, Windhoek, possesses a unique charm due to its harmonious blend of African and European cultures and the friendliness of its people. The central Namibian highlands are much cooler and less harsh than the arid lowlands that make up the majority of the country. This is great cattle ranching country and most tourism facilities have their origins in cattle and more recently game ranching.

Waterberg Region: Situated halfway between Windhoek and Etosha National Park, the Waterberg region incorporates Waterberg Plateau National Park and is home to internationally recognized wildlife conservation facilities, the AfriCat Foundation and the Cheetah Conservation Fund.

Etosha National Park: Etosha National Park is Namibia's premiere game viewing experience, situated in the northwest of Namibia and is an area well known for its wildlife. Vegetation ranges from dense bush to open plains attracting a diversity of wildlife. In the heart of the Park is The Etosha Pan - a shallow depression that covers an area of 5000sq kilometres. Dry and shimmering for most of the year, the pans fill up with water after good rains to a depth which is seldom deeper than 1m. In the dry season wildlife is attracted to perennial springs and waterholes that makes for excellent game viewing.

Damaraland and Kaokoveld: Damaraland is one of the most scenic areas in Namibia, a huge, untamed, ruggedly beautiful region that offers the traveller a more adventurous challenge. Here there are prehistoric water courses with open plains and grassland, massive granite koppies and deep gorges. Towards the west, the geography changes dramatically with endless sandy wastes, that incredibly are able to sustain small, but wide-ranging, populations of desert-adapted elephant, black rhino, giraffe, ostrich and springbok. The Kaokoveld is a dry, mountainous and relatively undeveloped region that takes in the harsh beauty of the Skeleton Coast and the coppery sands of the northern Namib Desert. The area is inhabited by three main ethnic groups – the Damara, Herero and Himba people – each with their unique customs, traditions and rituals..





The landlocked country of Botswana lies west of Zimbabwe, east of Namibia in the Southern African region and is about the size of Texas. When it gained independence from the British in 1966, it was one of the ten poorest countries in the world. Botswana, in a rags to riches tale, is now one of the fastest growing countries in Africa. Driving its growth is the discovery of large diamond deposits and the tourism based on its abundant wildlife. Botswana protects its animals and habitats through game reserves, national parks, forest reserves, and private concessions which encompass an incredible 35% of its territory.



ITINERARY

Day 1 – July 26

Depart from originating US city with connections to our international flight to Johannesburg, South Africa.

Day 2 – July 27

Arrive in Johannesburg and overnight at the lovely Safari Club with dinner. Those joining us on the Namibian Safari will be flying in from Windhoek.



Day 3 – July 28

After a hearty breakfast at the Safari Club, we return to the airport for our flight to Maun, the safari capital of Botswana. We will overnight in Maun with dinner at the home of our guide, Steven Stockhall.

Day 4 – July 29

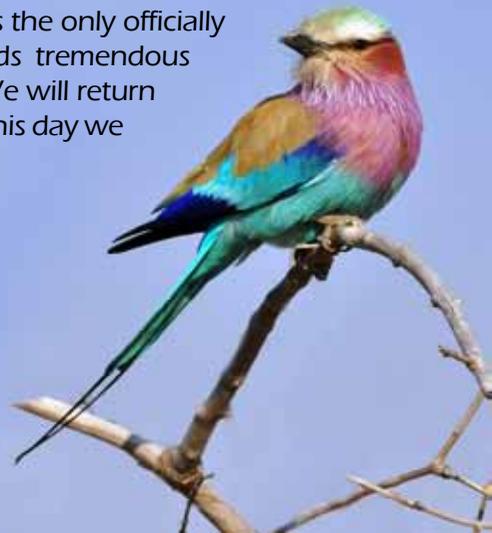
After breakfast we depart for the Khwai River where we begin our safari in the Okavango Delta. The journey to the Khwai River campsite will take most of the day. We will have a picnic lunch in route, and game drive to arrive at our private campsite by 6 pm.

Day 5 – July 30

This entire day is dedicated to exploring the game rich Khwai area. It is the first reserve in Africa that was established by local residents. It is the only officially protected area of the Okavango Delta and as such holds tremendous scientific, environmental and conservational importance. We will return to camp for lunch and a short siesta in between drives. On this day we have the opportunity to have laundry done.

Day 6 – July 31

After breakfast, we are off for a morning game drive with the option of lunch in camp or a picnic lunch as we continue to explore the Khwai River area of the Okavango Delta. This area affords us the opportunity to experience the excitement of a night game drive.





Day 7 – August 1

Early morning wake up is at 5:30 am to begin our journey to Chobe National Park. On this day we will travel through one of the least traveled areas in Botswana. Rugged terrain and a sense of wilderness will leave us with a perception of space and timelessness. After a picnic lunch, we enter the Savuti Channel area of Chobe National Park. We will game drive to arrive in our campsite by 6 pm.

Day 8 – August 2

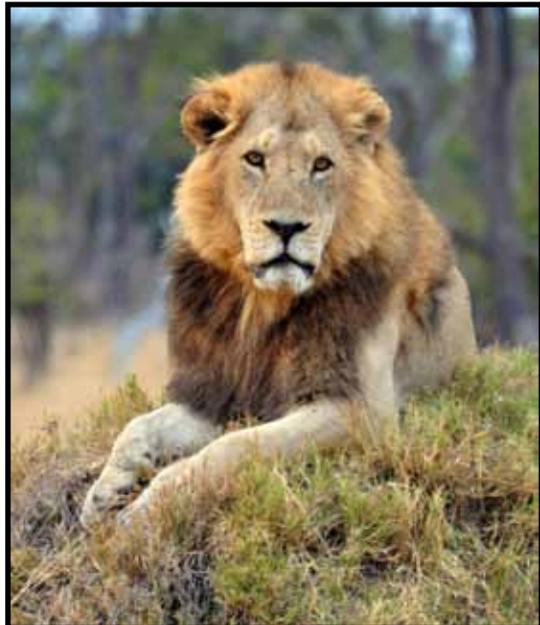
Savuti is a once-dry river channel situated at the center of the Chobe National Park. It began flowing for the first time in thirty years in 2010, and is known for its exciting game viewing and birding. This area also presents us with a rare opportunity to view ancient rock paintings by the early Bushmen. The day will be spent game driving around the Gubatsa Hills of Savuti, home to leopards and the elusive klipspringer, with lunch in camp. This is a laundry day.

Day 9 – August 3

After breakfast, we are off for a morning game drive with lunch in camp as we continue to explore the Savuti area. The return of water to the channel has made the Savuti Marsh a premier wildlife viewing area with one of the highest concentrations of wildlife in Africa.

Day 10 – August 4

5:30 am wake up as we break camp and head further into the Chobe National Park where we continue our safari along the Chobe River. We will game drive, with a picnic lunch and arrive at our private campsite by 6 pm.



Day 11 – August 5

5:30 am wake up as we start out on a morning game drive. We will enjoy a picnic lunch as we game drive into the town of Kasane to meet our boat guides. For this afternoon we will explore the game rich Chobe River by boat. We will get up close and personal with hippos, crocodiles, watch elephants swim and observe a mind-boggling array of water birds.. This is a laundry day.



Day 12 – August 6

This entire day is dedicated to exploring the Chobe River area. We will return to camp for lunch and a short siesta in between drives. The Chobe riverfront is most famous for its large herds of elephants and cape buffalo. On an afternoon game drive, it is possible to see dozens of elephants at one time. We could see up to 15 different species of animals on any one game drive, including waterbuck, lechwe, puku (this is the only part of Botswana where they can be seen), giraffe, kudu, roan and sable, impala, warthog, bushbuck, monkeys and baboons, along with the accompanying predators, lion, leopard, hyena, and the endangered African wild dog. There will be an optional opportunity to visit Victoria Falls, one of the seven wonders of the world. There will be a fee of \$80 for the transportation/tour, \$35 visa to enter Zimbabwe, and \$40 for entry to Victoria Falls which is not included in the safari cost.

Day 13 – August 7

After breakfast we will game drive out of Chobe to the Kasane airport for our flight to Johannesburg. There will be a layover in Johannesburg as you wait to board your flight home.

Day 14 – August 8

Arrive Home.



A AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Maun: The small “village”, Maun, is Botswana’s safari capital. This is the launch base for most safaris into the Okavango Delta. We will get insight into daily life along the Thamalakane River - the end of the Delta.

Khwai River: Situated on the eastern-most fringe of the Okavango Delta, the Khwai River boasts great concentrations of wildlife. Bull elephants arrive from the dry lands to quench their thirsts. Photographic opportunities abound as life is played out along this magnificent theater.

Savuti Marsh: At the heart of the Chobe National Park lies the Savuti Channel. Having dried up four times in the last 150 years, the channel sets the stage for predators like lions, cheetahs, leopards, and painted dogs. In 2010 water reached the marsh for the first time in decades, bringing with it new game viewing opportunities as the wildlife adapts to the changing environment.

Chobe River: The Chobe River offers us the highest concentration of elephants in the world. This area of Botswana offers us insight into the amazing life of an animal that has roamed Earth for 50 million years. By using both vehicles and boats, we explore this amazing water system just before it flows into the mighty Zambezi.



TOUR LEADER



Trich: Trich was docent at the Fort Worth Zoo for 15 years, and is currently a docent at Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, and has been since 1984. I have had the most amazing opportunity of leading tours to Africa since 2008. My goal is not only invite you to share my love of the “Jewel of Africa”, Botswana, but to have the awe inspiring and memorable experience in all areas of Africa. It is paramount for us to support the national parks of Africa so that their native animal species continue to survive and thrive. My goal is for you to understand you have the opportunity to make a difference in the world.



GUIDES

Steve: Steve has been guiding safaris and photographing in Botswana for 18 years and is a Director of Earth Ark Safaris. He has published two books – ‘Earth Ark – A photographic safari through northern Botswana’ and ‘Wildlife Photography in Botswana – a practical guide’. He brings a photographic and recording experience to the safari. Based on the behavior of the wildlife, he has the ability to predict movements of the game, striving to get us into the right position to achieve good quality images.

Gerry: Gerry will be your assistant tour leader. He has been a docent at Fossil Rim Wildlife Center for eight years, and is an avid amateur photographer. He has had the privilege of accompanying Trich on her last six African safaris.



EARTH ARK

Wildlife, Photographic & Adventure
Safaris in Africa



a message from **STEVE & Robyn**

Steve is passionate about the safaris he conducts into the last wild spaces in Africa. Knowledge sharing about wildlife and photography go hand in hand as we travel to some of the most spectacular places in Botswana and Africa. Many people who undertake these safaris are left with a sense of awe of the natural world and often come back again and again to see and experience more of what Africa has to offer.

Photographer's Notes: Keeping a record on our journey through one of the last remaining wildernesses in Africa is important. There is a variety of equipment available and the following are some guidelines to enhance your photographic experience. Zoom ability is critical. A minimum of 300mm is required, 400mm being preferred. A digital SLR camera with detachable lens for zoom and landscape is ideal. Memory is important, either extra memory cards or a photo storage device will help. As we travel, I will be able to advise on composition and light. Photography is a very individual experience and should you wish to contact me for advice, please email steve@eartharksafaris.com.

What to bring: The evenings will be cool, so a good fleece is important. We recommend you bring a beanie and gloves. During the day, it can be hot so layers are recommended. A good wide brimmed hat and sunblock will help protect you from the elements. Long sleeved shirts help protect your arms. We will be travelling in the African winter. Insects are at their absolute low. Be sure to bring good binoculars. The most important item to bring is an open mind. Trich will furnish you a more inclusive list as part of your pretrip package that will be mailed to you.

Liability: Earth Ark Safaris and/or their Agents, assumes no liability for injury, damage to property, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by any circumstance whatsoever. Earth Ark Safaris accepts no responsibility for additional expenses due to any circumstances whatsoever. Earth Ark Safaris reserves the right to:

- Substitute accommodation of a similar standard to that advertised.
- Change the itinerary or mode of transport as a result of changes to airline schedules.
- Cancel or curtail any tour. A full or pro rata refund of only received payments will be given.
- Substitute your tour leader / guide. This cannot be held as grounds for participant cancellation or refund.
- Cancel the participation of any tour member based on unacceptable or disruptive conduct.
- Adjust the price of any safari based on the final number of participants (due to cancellations etc).

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Reservations: Upon receipt of \$2,500 deposit per person, your reservation will be secured. Your deposit is refundable up to May 1, 2017, less a \$250 administration fee. After June 1, 2017, deposit is forfeited. Cancellation deadline: June 1, 2017.

Information: Upon receipt of deposit, you will receive information regarding passports, visas, health requirements and suggested reading material that will include information on clothing, shot and medication requirements and behavior. Taxes and gratuities: Hotel taxes as imposed by governments are included as well as all entrance fees to places of interest and group meals while in Africa.

Not included: Costs of obtaining passports, visas, excess baggage cost, items of purely personal nature, such as alcohol/drinks, laundry (except provided while camping), telephone, souvenirs, trip insurance, tipping for drivers/guides, safari staff and any foreign departure taxes (if required). Price for the extension excludes entry into parks or museums as well as any beverages and gratuities along the way.

Baggage: You are encouraged to pack light with one piece of soft luggage and one small carry-on bag per person, such as a backpack.

Disclaimer of Warranties and Acknowledgment of Waiver: Tour Participant acknowledges that A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. is acting as a team leader and tour coordinator only in connection with the tour, and that A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. is receiving consideration from Botswana Safaris & Tours for acting as a tour leader and tour coordinator and will accept deposits and process payments from tour participants on behalf of Botswana Safaris and Tours.

For valuable consideration received, Tour Participant waives any and all claims it might otherwise have against A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. for any act or omission whatsoever by A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. in connection with the tour and its performance of services as tour leader, coordinator and, processor of deposits and payments, including, but not limited to, any liability for defects in any vehicle or any other mode of transportation or any act or omission of any person or entity involved with or engaged in transporting housing, or providing entertainment or other activities for Tour Participant, or for any delays prior to departure or during the course of the tour for any reason.

A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. and Botswana Safaris & Tours make no warranties whatsoever, express or implied, and specifically disclaim any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Tour Participant further acknowledges that A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. is not providing trip insurance or any other type of insurance, and A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. has advised Tour Participant to obtain his or her own trip insurance, emergency evacuation, and health insurance valid in the country or countries visited along with any other type of insurance Tour Participant deems appropriate.

A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. and Botswana Safaris & Tours reserves the right to refuse any person as a member of the tour, removing person from the tour, or make changes in the published itinerary, when, in their judgment, conditions warrant or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, safety and convenience of Tour Participants. If Botswana Safaris & Tours cancels prior to departure, Botswana Safaris & Tours will make a full refund to Tour Participant. A to Z Girls Production, L.L.C. is not responsible for any refunds. Botswana Safari & Tours will make no refunds for any portions of the tours unused by Tour Participant unless arrangements are made in advance of the tour. All prices are subject to change without prior notice and include any increases or tariff adjustments which may be imposed by persons or entities providing services in connection with the tour or imposed by governmental entities. Payment of any portion of the deposit or tour costs shall constitute tour participant's consent and agreement to all provisions contained herein and the agreement to abide by all rules and regulations described in the Safari Terms and Conditions issued by Botswana Safaris & Tours.



SAFARI PRICING

25 Day Safari

July 15 – August 8

Namibia & Botswana

\$ 11,150, price includes airfare

Contact Trich Zaitoon for quotes on Namibia or Botswana only trips or safari only pricing

trim and return with payment

RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve space for me/us on your **Botswana 2017 Safari**

Departing date July 15, 2017 from DFW Airport, Dallas, Texas. Enclosed is my/our deposit of \$_____ (\$2,500 per person) made payable to A to Z Girls Productions, LLC. I understand that the total land and air cost is based on the 25 Day Safari.

All monies are refundable up to May 1, 2017 less a \$250 administration fee.

Mail to: 7458 Bent Trail, Mansfield, TX 76063.

Send email to hold your reservation: trich@atozgirlsproductions.com.

Prices based on double occupancy. Single occupancy (when and where available) is \$325.

Name: _____ Birthdate _____

Name: _____ Birthdate _____
(As it appears on your passport.) (Required by Airline)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

All participants must sign that they have read and accept the Terms and Conditions.

X _____

X _____



The Gang From Our 2016 Safari



A to Z Girls Productions

Travel
LLC

Travel for the Adventurous

817-366-6551

www.atozgirlsproductions.com

Trich Zaitoon

trich.zaitoon@sbcglobal.net

7458 Bent Trail • Mansfield, TX 76063
trich.zaitoon@sbcglobal.net

Graphic Design by Gerry Burgess