

ROCK N ROARS PHOTOGRAPHY
PHOTOS AND WRITING BY JEN KUCHERAWY

AFRICA

SAFARI FOR THE ADVENTUROUS SOUL

SOLO SISTER SAFARI

7 women - 10 days - All inclusive, wildlife focused game drives and nature walks photo safari.

ROCK N ROARS TAILOR MADE SAFARI

Custom designed itineraries for groups or families.

ROCK N ROARS GUIDED SAFARI

Private Game Reserve, treehouses, a luxury lodge, scenic drives and hot air balloon ride.

C O N T E N T S

ROCK N ROARS PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTO TOURS

Adventure with Solo Sister Safari, have a customer built itinerary, or join a Rock n Roars Guided Tour. Learn why South Africa is the perfect destination.

TRAVEL

CHOOSING A SAFARI

Things to consider when you are ready to plan your first safari.

EXPERIENCE

A DAY ON SAFARI

Imagine what it would be like to wake up in Africa starting your very first day in the wild. Read as I walk you through your first South African safari experience.

STORYTELLING

STORIES AND ANECDOTES

When you live in the bush anything can happen. The random events are not even in the realm of regular comprehension.

ROCK N ROARS PHOTOGRAPHY

SOLO SISTER SAFARI



SPRING 2022
FEMALE
PHOTO SAFARI
EXPERIENCE

UMKUMBE SAFARI LODGE
Private safaris in the Sabi Sands

MARLOTH PARK
Wildlife Sanctuary Accommodations

ELEPHANT POINT LODGE
Luxury Lodge and Kruger Safaris



SOLO SISTER SAFARI



Join a group of like minded, adventurous spirited female travellers. This safari is build for the animal, bird, and wildlife lover who is ready for a life changing experience.

Starting April 27, 2022, for 10 nights you will be immersed in nature, in 3 separate accommodations. Amidst the game drives we will take one day to see the Panoramic Route highlights and epic view points.

You will be privately hosted by 2 international solo females.

Jen is a Canadian Award Winning Wildlife Photographer who followed a dream and moved to South Africa to train as a Safari Guide. She has also acquired her Level III Tracks and Signs. She will be your instructor for photography.

Stephanie is a German Award Winning Public Speaker, Mentor and Workshop instructor specializing in Natural Leadership.

Stephanie too followed a dream and moved to South Africa where she became a Level II Field Guide, tracker, and Trails Guide Leader.

She has held positions such as Field Guide, Manager at NJ More Field Guide College, and was a GM of a private camp in Tanzania. She will be your primary lead of Nature walks as well as some insightful and motivating perspective discussions.

This adventure was developed with a few primary priorities:

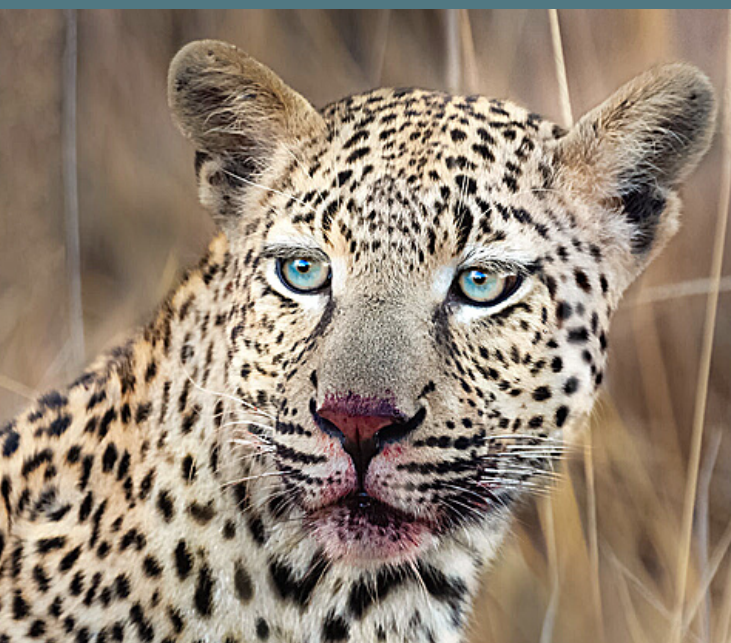
SAFETY - Female travellers may be targeted when they appear vulnerable travelling alone. Now you're not alone.

AFFORDABLE - Everyone deserves the chance to experience Africa - especially women just like us! You will not receive this value anywhere else.

WILDLIFE - Game drive focused.

FRIENDSHIP - Aiming to build lifelong connections and create memories that are invaluable.





ROCK N ROARS PHOTOGRAPHY

SOLO SISTER SAFARI

Your journey begins when you land in Johannesburg, South Africa. You will be shuttled to your overnight accommodation, which is included in your price.

You will meet your Guides and the other guests. Get a good night's sleep because time change is about to set in.

First thing in the morning we depart to our first accommodation location, Umkumbe Safari Lodge. Here you will experience the full safari journey. We will have use of our own Safari Guide and Tracker to enjoy 2 game drives per day.

A chef will prepare all our meals and your every need will be taken care of.

This camp is located in the renowned Sabi Sands where the wildlife sightings are incredible. Being on a private reserve we will be privy to off-roading where necessary to gain sightings up close of the Big 5.

After 3 nights we will disembark to Marloth Park.

Marloth Park is a Wildlife Sanctuary which borders Kruger National Park. It is fenced to keep predators out, but the properties and wilderness within are not. You will enjoy nature walks in this area with Stephanie where you will learn to approach animals on foot to get eye level photography. You will also learn fun facts about the African bush.

Animals such as zebra, giraffe, kudu, warthog, bush babies, impala, and monkeys inhabit this area and are free to roam the property.

One day will be spent on a road trip to see some of the best viewing locations on the Panoramic Route. Waterfalls and outstanding, breathtaking views await.

Game drives in Kruger will occur daily from this point with our own private guide and vehicle. The area of Kruger National Park where we will concentrate on is my personal favourite. The predator sightings are in the highest concentration with the best chance of seeing Cheetah. We will experience the Crocodile River as well as the Sabi River which always attracts birds and animals.

After 4 nights we will move to our final accommodation in Elephant Point. Here we end in the most exquisite lodge where we are the only ones on site.

This is truly a treat for those who enjoy the mix of high end feel with affordable prices.

Mentorship and lessons in Wildlife Photography will be prominent throughout the entire experience to ensure everyone is pleased with their results.

Our final 2 locations are self-catering so menu planning will be done as a group and dinners prepared by Jen & Steph.

CUSTOM SAFARI



South Africa is one of the top safari destinations and there is no question why. The array of wildlife species is undoubtedly one of the most vast in all of Africa. It is a very diverse country with its landscapes and has over 800 bird species including migratory birds.

One of the most notable things when travelling across South Africa is the remarkable change in biodiversity as you make your way through the different provinces of the country.

There are 9 different biomes based on climate, rain, and terrain. This makes South Africa the most diverse country on the planet.

Whether you want a scenic adventure or a game drive focused experience, I am able to build an itinerary that will ensure a smooth transition of experiences that will not feel like you are hopping from one thing to another.

Discover our enchanting world your way. I will completely customise your private tour to match your interests and preferences through my comprehensive knowledge of South Africa.

Sharing a safari experience with your friends and family is a fantastic idea for a holiday.

Tell me your travel dream and I will create an itinerary packed with the best experiences your destination has to offer.

Itineraries may include private game reserves, self drive safaris, Cape Town exploration and activities, Victoria Falls excursions, or travelling on the Garden Route.

Set up a meeting to discuss your interests and help build a plan for your dream vacation.

ROCK N ROARS PHOTOGRAPHY

GUIDED SAFARI



FALL 2022
EXCLUSIVE
SAFARI
EXPERIENCE

UMLANI BUSH CAMP

Experience an eco-hut in the Timbavati Nature Reserve

TREEHOUSE EXPERIENCE

Enjoy the Panormaic Route & a hot air balloon ride

MHISI LODGE @ ELEPHANT POINT

Luxury accomodation with Kruger Safaris

GUIDED SAFARI

By Jen Kucherawy

Photography by Jen Kucherawy



The planning for the trip of a lifetime is an exciting, yet daunting task. You can have an idea of what you want, but may lack the information needed to obtain it. Or perhaps you are limited in your own imagination due to a lack of exposure to the possibilities.

That is where Rock n Roars Guided Safari comes in. My work in South Africa, and my personal experiences in every type of camp and accommodation, has provided me first hand knowledge of what is available, what budget it suits, and what kind of profound effect it can have based on the experience it provides.

I take the guess work out of it. I have constructed an itinerary that explores wildlife in some of the best species rich areas of Africa in a private and personal way.

There is also a focus on exploration and seeing some of South Africa's most beautiful landscapes.

Accommodations vary providing unique and impactful escapes from life as you have known it so far.

With game drives on two separate National Parks – the first in the Timbavati Nature Reserve, and the next in Kruger National Park. Combined, these areas will properly represent the gifts and treasures South Africa contains.

It is our responsibility to preserve and cherish these so they will persevere for generations to come.

You will spend 3 nights in your own private treehouse, again, surrounded by nature. You will enjoy a hot air balloon ride, a scenic tour on the Panoramic Route, and explore the Blyde River Canyon.

It is 9 nights of soul feeding escapades which can easily be paired with an extension into Cape Town adventures or further travel abroad. This adventure departs on Sept 27, 2022.

So leave the planning to me, and the packing to you. Have confidence that I will tend to your needs every step of the way and make this a memorable and cherished event in your life.

SOUTH AFRICA

WHY THIS DESTINATION RANKS AS ONE OF THE TOP IN THE WHOLE OF AFRICA

South Africa is one of the continent's best safari destinations, offering the Big Five (lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant and rhino) and more in accessible parks and reserves. You can drive right into the epic wilderness at Kruger, Kgalagadi and other parks, or join khaki-clad rangers on guided drives and walks. But it's not all about big-game sightings – wildlife watching here also teaches you to enjoy the little things: a leopard tortoise ambling alongside the road, a go-away bird chirping its distinctive chant in the trees, or an encounter with seals, whales or a great white shark along the coast.

The landscape is on a grand scale, stretching over 19,485 sq km, and though less in your face than the wildlife, it certainly has the power to charm. Beautiful granite kopjes (hills) pepper the bushveld in the south, the Lebombo Mountains rise from the savannah in the east and tropical forests cut across the far north.

In terms of wildlife alone, Kruger is one of the world's greatest national parks. The diversity, density and sheer numbers of animals is almost unparalleled, and all of Africa's iconic safari species – elephant, lion, leopard, cheetah, rhino, buffalo, giraffe, hippo and zebra – live out their dramatic days here, along with a supporting cast of 137 other mammal species and more than 500 varieties of bird (which increases to over 800 in the whole of South Africa).

But what makes Kruger truly special is the access and opportunities it provides the visitor. A vast network of roads is there to explore on your own (incredibly), guided wildlife activities are everywhere and accommodation is both plentiful and great value.

South Africa's landscapes are stunning, from the burning Karoo and Kalahari semideserts to the misty heights of the Drakensberg range and the massive Blyde River Canyon.

CHOOSING A SAFARI

Where in Africa do you want to travel? It is important to remember that Africa is a rather large continent composed of more than 50 different countries! Before booking your safari, consider which country it is that you want to visit. The main safari destinations for wildlife viewing and photography are in Southern Africa (Botswana, Namibia, South Africa), Eastern Africa (Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda) and Central Africa (Zambia, Zimbabwe).

How long should you plan to stay? How much time can you dedicate for your trip to Africa? Ideally, you need to give yourself at least a week to truly appreciate the safari experience, but if you can get away even longer, you'll be so glad you did. I find 8 days makes me fulfilled, but I always stay at least 14 - which is where South Africa self drive is very handy.

Make sure you allow enough time at each camp so that you can go on several game drives to see the area and its wildlife.

This is why Rock n Roars Safaris are minimum 3 nights at anyone spot, and it is all game drive focused. Its the best part!

Avoid the temptation to try and cram in many different parks, staying just one or two nights in each place, as this will increase travel time between the parks and decrease the amount of time you'll have for wildlife viewing. Each camp has its own itinerary so you can get a good feel for what you will be doing if you stay there. Choose two or three camps to stay at for a 6-10 day safari experience.

Next, what type of lodging best suits you? When it comes to choosing where you want to stay on safari, there are lots of considerations. Of course, the first is usually budget. Keep in mind that when you plan to stay can affect the cost as well. Prices will be higher in the more popular months such as July and August.

Another point to consider—some of the camps and lodges can be booked on a “game package rate” (to include game drives, meals, drinks, and transportation as a part of their price per night). And some camps and lodges are based on a Full Board basis only – with optional game drives and extras payable when you are there. So do be sure to check carefully what is included before you confirm your arrangements!





CHOOSING A SAFARI P.2

Whichever park or conservancy you decide to visit you can normally guarantee that you will see the more common grazing animals in Kenya; such as buffalo, zebra, wildebeest, eland, giraffe, gazelles, impala and waterbuck. Although common, don't underestimate the pleasure you will get from seeing them in their natural habitat.

In addition lions and leopards are present in most parks, but it is essential to research this information. Elephants for instance, are not found in the Kgalagadi in South Africa. You will not find Rhino or Buffalo there either. But in the desert like landscape you will find more populations of cheetah, brown hyena, African Wild Cat and Caracal. So make your list and check it against your destination.

Africa has some special species that are location specific. When considering safari locations, you must consider these if they are on your must do list.

Mountain Gorillas - an unforgettable experience with these endangered animals.. You will need to travel to Rwanda, Uganda or the Congo to see these iconic species for one hour of pure bliss.

Chimpanzees - Almost human like, you will need to travel to Uganda, Rwanda, or Tanzania for this extraordinary hour.

If your heart is calling for shark dives then Cape Town in South Africa is the place to be.

Or do you love flamingos, penguins, or birds in general?

There are some places you will need to go, and some that will be more rewarding than others to meet that request.

And its not just wildlife. If you want to experience Victoria Falls, trek Mount Kilimanjaro, or float in a hot air balloon, these will redirect your trip.

As you can see, there are so many species and activities, and generally speaking, most are in all locations with a few exceptions. Be clear on what you are seeking and narrow down from there.

If you are like me, Africa is not a once in a lifetime. It is a must in a lifetime. My first experience took me to Mountain Gorillas and it was truly inspiring.

Chimps are still on the list and will be seen one of these days! My main must see every time is Cheetah and this I will not waiver on! Identify your wildlife bucket list!

So, now you know where you need to go, what you want to see, where to stay, and how long to go for.

If any of the Rock n Roars packages are what you are looking for, we look forward to discussing this further. If you have any questions about anything you have read here, please reach out. We are happy to help make dreams come true!





PREPARING A SAFARI

What should I pack? Light packing is required for your safari, if possible, as there are weight limits on planes, especially if smaller aircraft will be booked. However, if you are travelling elsewhere after your safari – many tour operators offer the ability to leave your main luggage in storage and you can travel lighter to the wildlife areas.

Keep colours to neutral and earthy tones. Simple shirts and shorts, and light jackets are great to bring. Sturdy walking shoes or sneakers are a must as well as a pair of flip flops or sandals for wearing around camp (being alert to thorns). And you can't forget a good safari sun hat!

It can get chilly on early morning or evening game drives, so I recommend taking some warm items of clothing, such as fleeces or sweaters, which can be peeled off, when it gets hotter later in the day.

Don't forget important documents (passport, health cards, airline tickets), medicines (prescriptions, malaria prophylaxis), and other necessities like toiletries, but don't bring any fine jewellery or other valuable items.

Of course you will need your camera to capture the sights and scenes of safari. Finally, if you have access to binoculars, a magnification of between 8x and 10x is ideal for most safaris.

What do I need to do to prepare?

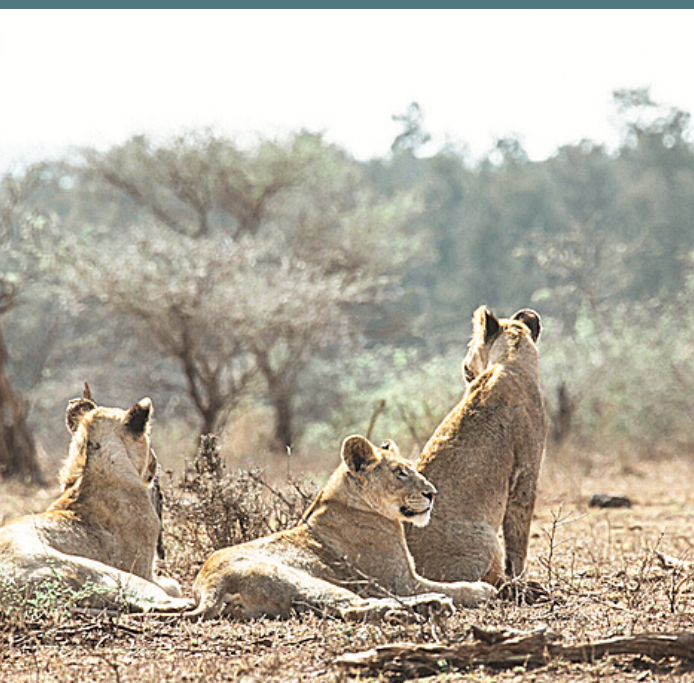
Before you head to Africa, there are some essential preparations that can take a little time.

First, you'll need a passport with at least six months' validity from your departure date, as well as two open pages for your visas (requirements are different in different destinations - Canada & USA do not require visas for South Africa tourism).

Secondly, most health professionals recommend immunisations depending on destination. I think Twin Rex and Dukerol should be standard in any travellers immunisation records. Antimalarial medication is also recommended in different areas, with higher risk at certain times of year. Most antimalarials need a little lead time to be effective before you travel, so be sure to get instructions from your doctor.

Some other considerations include travel insurance, international phone plans, and currency.

For more information on camera equipment to pack, you can find this list on Rock N Roars website Solo Sister Safari packing list.





YOUR GUIDES

JEN & STEPH

A Canadian living in Alberta, Jen is at the heart of Rock n Roars. With a beginning in photography dating back to 2008, Jen has explored wedding, portrait, and family photography. But it was in Nature and Wildlife that she found the true connection to the lens.

With a bucket list consisting of African Safari her entire life, it was no surprise to anyone that in 2014 she travelled to South Africa and trained for her dream job - Field Guide. She completed her training, as well as received a level III Tracker certification while there. It was here she met Stephanie.

Stephanie is a German woman whose career was in corporate, until one day, she too took the African journey and also became a Field guide. After years living and working in Africa, she is now back in Germany and exploring her passion for public speaking and mentoring the corporate world on Natural Leadership. Her time in the African wild has allowed her the unique experience to translate the instinct and adaptability of the wild into the business world.

Together these ladies create a unique partnership of leadership, knowledge, and passion that are sure to inspire anyone who joins them on safari.

A DAY ON SAFARI

SAFARI DAY 1 ON A PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

You open your eyes in the darkness filled room. It only takes a second for you to remember where you are. In the silence your senses are heightened. You hear a sound, similar to a rumble. It has almost a vibration texture about it. That's when you realise it is lions roaring in the distance. You are too excited to sleep, so you figure 3:30am isn't too early to get up and brew a cup of coffee. You peek out the window and wonder if there are creatures lurking about, but you are too afraid to open the door, because you have been told there might be! You get ready for the day, dressing in light layers as the temperature will increase with the sun. You clean your camera lens, double check the battery charge, and make sure you have everything in order. Its 5am and the light is starting to hit the dark sky. You make your way to the common area for coffee with the group before departure. The sound of a Franklin Spurfowl startles you as you walk the path to the group. The sound of cicadas screech and fill the still air. There is a mist hovering making a very surreal atmosphere.

Its 5:30am and time to depart. All the rules of the vehicle are recited to you - like keep your arms in the vehicle, do not stand up, keep voices lower at animal sightings, and don't grab the branches, as tempting as it will be. As the vehicle pulls out, you set your camera for the lighting conditions. You never know - there could be a leopard 20 meters away.

The next 2-3 hours are spent tracking and spotting animals. In the earlier hours the hunt is on for the predators, who have been active through the night. Their tracks lead them into certain blocks of land, so driving the perimeter will allow the tracker to zone in on where the animals entered without exit. This is the benefit to staying on a private

reserve. The guide and tracker take the rifle and leave the vehicle to go looking for indications as to where the animal is. Anxiously the group waits, so in anticipation, you double check the settings in your camera because you know that you need to be ready for conditions as they are changing. It's much lighter now since you last checked. Suddenly the guide returns with a grin on his face, his tracker following closely behind.

The tracker directs the guide through an alternate opening in the bush. With a few bounces and bumps, and bending a few trees over temporarily, you stop. Everyone is looking around and not sure what they are looking to see. Just then movement catches your attention. It is a tail swinging high up in a tree just in front of you. The sounds of shutters fill the air, while the guide just smiles at the obvious joy he has delivered. After about 10 minutes, this leopard so comfortably hanging in the tree decides she needs to come down. You watch her stretch her long body down the side of the trunk right before the leap to the ground. You hope you got the shot! She strolls past the vehicle, almost brushing against the trackers leg. She then ducks under low bushes and is gone like a flash of light in a night sky. You smile and know it was worth it. It was all worth it and its only the first day!

After a few more sightings with guide interpretation of interesting animal behaviors, a few bird identifications, and some environmental observations, its coffee time. A spot is carefully selected for the astonishing view overlooking the landscape. Hot coffee with amarula is the recommendation when in South Africa. Everyone visits and relives the moment when they first seen 'HER' - their first leopard in a tree. A slow journey back to camp leads to a few more animal sightings and more interpretations. Breakfast is served back at camp, followed by leisure time. You choose to journal your experience, which is good

A DAY ON SAFARI

because the details are likely to escape you over time. You log all the animals you seen and some fun facts that you learned so you can share them with the folks at home.

You spend some time reviewing your images. You skip ahead to that leopard because you just have to know - 'did I get the jump shot?' And there it is. An almost vertical leopard with its front paws reaching forward as if gravity was no match for her. You know exactly where this image is going on your wall at home.

The guide has offered to take the group on a Nature Walk departing soon, so you lather up your sunscreen, tie up your shoes, and grab a hat. You walk single file behind the guide as he stops to explain what the bush teaches us. You see how he burns a dried clump of elephant dung and it smolders creating a smoke used in medicinal medicine to relive headaches. The guide directs you to look down a road, almost like it's a 3D picture, shifting your focus in a different way. Only then can you see the shiny lines criss crossing the road. Its ant highways. You never would have noticed before, but now they stand out like painted lines.

He shows you what appears to be water drops that have dried in the sand on the same road and ask if anyone knows what that is. Bewildered and confused you can't imagine its only a single rain drop. Again, he has you look in that 3D vision down the road. Sure enough, the drips create a trail on the road. He explains how a bull elephant in musth walked down the road, dribbling urine as he travelled. The bush is always teaching us and telling stories. We just need to learn how to read its language.

There is always a need for a nap when your day starts so early and you are fighting jet lag, but throw a bush walk in the heat into the mix and it's a must have. And it was

the best nap you ever had. There is something about no phone, email, tv, or social media that allows your mind to empty and like an overused muscle, it can finally relax. Mid afternoon the group reconvenes for afternoon tea before departing on afternoon game drive. Again, you get your camera setting ready. You continue to do as the morning drive has, tracking and finding animals. As the sun begins to make her way to the horizon, a great spot is located for a 'sundowners', where you will enjoy a beverage in the bush as the sun sets. The location allows for a great view of this, so you try your hand at creating a cool silhouette against the colorful sky. There is nothing like an African sunset. Just then, a hyena is spotted about 15 meters away. How exciting. The predators are on the move.

When the vehicle is packed up, you start to add a couple layers as the cool in the evening is setting in quickly. The tracker turns on his spotlight to start scanning for animals. The diurnal animals will be overlooked and the search for nocturnal creatures and predators continues. The tracker holds up his hand and shines the light in the canopy of a tree. Everyone struggles to understand what they are looking at. Then it moves. It's a bush baby!!! With its big round eyes and long fluffy tail, its not something you came to Africa to see, but now that you have you are stoked! You struggle with camera settings and focus because a spotlight on a tree trunk with a bush baby hanging on to it is not ideal shooting conditions. You know you won't win an award with it, but it's a memory so you are pleased.

You arrive back at camp. After a little clean up, the group gathers for a visit and dinner. You are having a Braai, which is like a South African BBQ. Everyone is gathered around a fire and you couldn't imagine a more perfect day. You will have the exact same sentiments tomorrow. You just don't know it yet.

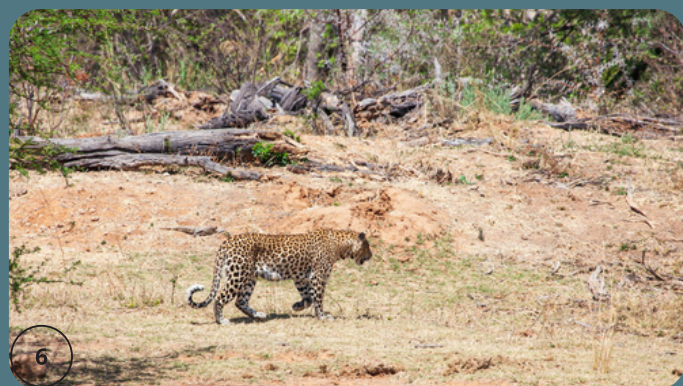
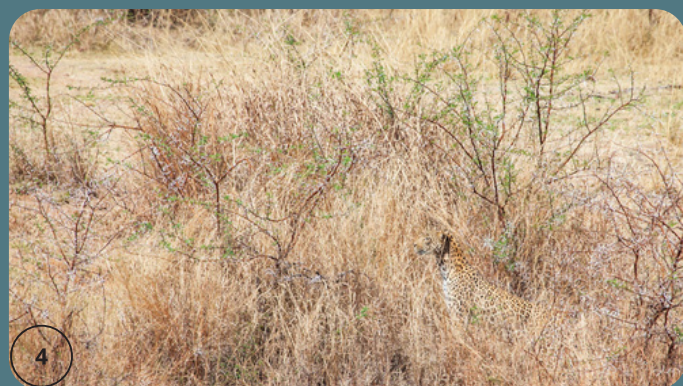


STORIES FROM THE BUSH

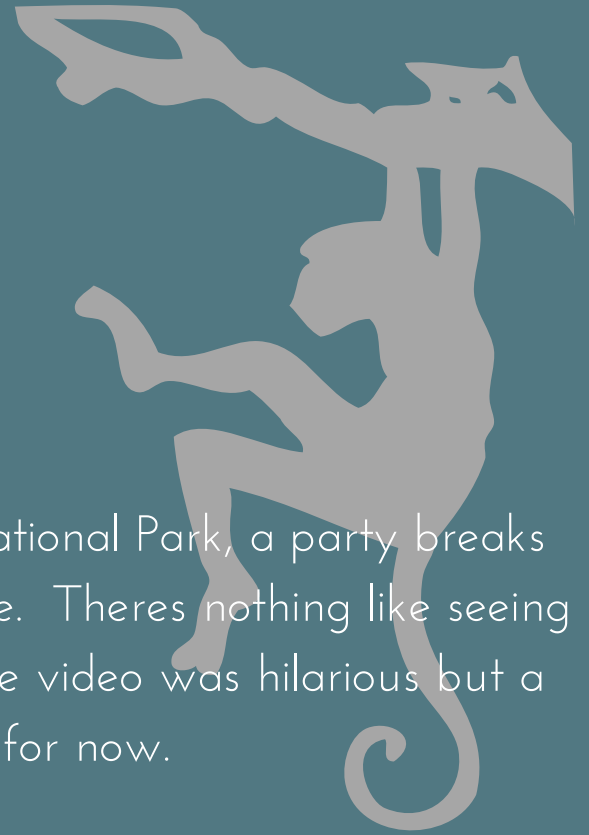
LIGHTENING DOESN'T ALWAYS STRIKE

It was midday at NJ More Camp, and all the students were on a 2 week leave. Remaining at camp was myself, one other international student, and the cook. I was doing homework alone on my deck when I noticed a young Waterbuck on the dam of the river in front of my yard. As I approached to photograph it, I realized I wasn't the only one who spotted it.

The female leopard known as 'Lightening' was on the prowl and these images show you the sequence of events I had playing out right in front of me. Fortunately for me she was not that concerned with seeing a person just standing there in the wide open, which is not a typical reaction. She had her priorities straight. She was spotted by the Waterbuck, however, and her advantage lost.



MONKEY AROUND



At Crocodile Bridge Rest Camp in Kruger National Park, a party breaks out while the housekeeping staff are out of site. There's nothing like seeing a family of monkeys jumping on the bed! The video was hilarious but a screen shot will have to do for now.

As I sit on my bed in my room, my legs are bent at the knee and my laptop rests in my lap. The screen opened obscures the view from my window. My window is opened because there is no air con in my room. As I sit there focused on the screen, something catches my eye in my peripheral vision. I look to my side when I see a long fuzzy arm stretched up on my nightstand with my apple firmly in its fingers grip. The moment I see her, this vermet monkey turns her head and locks eyes with me. For a moment the world stood still and the monkey did also. When she snapped back into reality, she shoved the apple in her mouth and made a run for it. So much for not feeding the animals! Oops.





BUSH BABY CROSSING

At camp, my tent was situated along the river. There were trees randomly leading a trail to my tent from the bush, with more on the other side heading through the property. This was something I never noticed until I realised that those trees were the freeway for the Bush Babies.

Every day at sunset, they would make their way through the trees at camp. But when they reached my tent, they had to hop across my deck to reach their next available tree. So, I waited with my camera in my lap, and sure enough, right on time, the little critter appeared. It stayed lingering in that tree by my tent for a few minutes while I took its photo. I then moved inside to give it space to cross, which it did.



On a separate occasion, after dark, I seen the silhouette of the bush baby hopping through the trees, but there was something in its mouth. I raced to my tent to grab my camera.

Focusing in the dark is impossible, so I did the best I could, flash on, and fired my shot. Low and behold, it was a bush baby *baby* in its mothers mouth. Out of focus, but a once in a lifetime moment.





AFRICA

WHERE YOUR
JOURNEY BEGINS

OUR COMMITMENT

VALUE EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Rock n Roars is committed to bringing you life altering experiences, mind blowing wildlife sightings, and an overall sense of fulfilment.

It is our mission to provide you the outlets to connect in ways you never knew possible. We aim to provide affordable packages, beautiful accommodations, and endless opportunities to discover nature's magnificence. We are committed to working with you every step of the way whether in your photography, planning and preparations, or trip extensions. Together let's make memories and put one more breathe back in the lungs of Africa.

Escape to Africa

