

DAVID SKILLAN'S WORLD OF TRAVEL . . .

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2014

Travelling the World Since 1951 → Leading Tours Since 1970 → Publishing Newsletters Since 1978

Dear Fellow Traveller:

Happy new year! It's January 31 and I'm sitting on my patio in Vancouver. The sun is shining, it's nine degrees, birds are singing, and it's like spring here on the West Coast. I'm back from my latest tour of Botswana and Zambia, where we had so many exciting photo ops—from small fry such as ground squirrels and a tiny tortoise to a herd of 30 elephants fording a river at sunset and a pack of 18 African wild dogs on the hunt in the early morning.

Like a musician who is only as good as his last performance and a movie star who is only as good as her last film, as a tour leader I'm only as good as my last tour. Fortunately, my last three trips—to Botswana and Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania, and Morocco—were hugely successful. Curiosity, a spirit of adventure, and a desire to help others achieve their dreams have kept me on top of my game. I was the first in Canada to introduce personally escorted tours to Africa, and regular clients tell me my tours just keep getting better. I believe in providing the personal touch. I also owe a great deal of thanks to my work partners, those hard-working drivers and local tour guides who take us from one exotic place to another and bring all those magical sights to life.

FAMILY MATTERS—Many people ask about my family, so here's the latest news. Our daughter Jane and her husband John the Mountie still live in Port Moody with their two daughters. Emily is now six and Kenzie just turned three. When I'm home I get to see quite a lot of their pug, Daisy, who often comes to stay with me and Yuriko. Our other daughter, Julie, and her husband George moved back to Vancouver a few months ago after two and a half years in Laguna Beach, because George got an offer from a BC company that he couldn't refuse. Their daughter Natalie is now also six, their blind-since-birth mini-dachshund Joffre is eleven, and the newest addition to the family, a blue-eyed boy named Ewan, is a chubby eight months old. We couldn't be happier now that everyone is on home turf, though I for one will greatly miss those occasional excursions to the California coast.



ADOPT A BABY ELEPHANT—You may have seen a recent episode of CBC's *The Nature of Things* about the David Sheldrick elephant and rhino orphanage in Nairobi National Park (www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/episodes/how-to-be-a-wild-elephant). We always visit the facility on our tours to Kenya. David Sheldrick, a former game warden in Tsavo National park, died many years ago, and his wife Daphne took over the operation. She has since been knighted by Queen Elizabeth for her work. Dame Daphne and her adult daughter work with a team of dedicated African helpers to care for the babies around the clock, seven days a week, even sleeping with them at night. Most have been orphaned as a result of poaching, sometimes at just two or three weeks of age. Those who survive are returned to the wild as soon as they can survive on their own.

You can adopt one of these lovable creatures for just \$50. It's a tiny sum considering the enormous good it does. You'll get a photo of your baby elephant or rhino and periodic progress reports. For details, please visit the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust (www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/asp/fostering.asp). And if you're in Nairobi, be sure to see these magnificent animals in person. There's a showing every day from 11 am to noon.



EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS—The City of Vancouver recently held earthquake drills for first responders. It reminded me that more than thirty years ago, when my daughters were small, I wrote to the superintendent of schools asking that all schools hold regular earthquake drills. I never got a reply, and no action was taken for a very long time. I'm glad to say the situation has finally changed, and it's good to know all schools in BC now include this exercise. It could save many young lives.

But it's not only children who need training—adults also need to be prepared for the Big One. You can find out what to do and what to include in an earthquake kit by googling “earthquake preparedness” and visiting http://embc.gov.bc.ca/em/hazard_preparedness/earthquake_preparedness.html. Your actions could save your own life as well as those of your family members and neighbours.

PERSONAL SECURITY—Some years ago, as I was checking in at YVR with a group bound for South America, the airline agent handed my Canadian passport back to me with the words, “I hope you have another passport, because this one has expired.” I was seized with a moment of panic before I remembered that I was carrying my British passport as a backup. I always carry both passports, not only as identification, but in case I or my clients need help. Ever since that incident, I've made a point of regularly checking the expiry dates of both passports.

*My passport
slipped out of my back pocket
and onto the washroom floor.*

On another occasion, while on a road trip through Namibia, I carelessly put my passport in my back pocket—something I never do. No, it wasn't stolen. But when our bus made a rest stop, my passport slipped out of my back pocket and onto the washroom floor. As I was about to re-board the bus, a sixth sense told me to check my back pocket. Imagine my horror! Heart in mouth, I hurriedly retraced my steps through the rest stop. When I finally found my passport on the loo floor, staring up at me, I almost fainted with relief.

I've learned from these unnerving experiences to take extra care of my passport, driver's license, and credit cards when travelling. I advise my tour members to do the same. Carry these valuables in a neck or waist pouch, a fanny pack, or another secure place on your body, or leave them in a hotel safe deposit box. A lost passport can be extremely stressful and time-consuming, and it may be difficult to replace. Always carry a copy of your passport identification page, and keep another copy at home. Having the details of where and when your passport was issued will greatly speed up the process of getting a new one. And never leave valuables exposed in your hotel room. Lock them up!

PICTURE PERFECT—Most people on a two-week foreign trip shoot 500 to 1,000 pictures. On an action-packed safari, they often shoot many more. If you're a keen photographer, you'll take at least twice as many as the average person. If you're a professional, of course, you'll probably shoot several thousand, which is easy to do in this digital age when you don't have to worry about the cost of film and developing.

No matter how many photos you take, you can get by nicely with an inexpensive camera. A point-and-shoot is fine, if that's what you're comfortable with. There's no point in taking a complicated piece of equipment that you don't know how to use! If you've bought a new camera for your trip, practice with it a few times beforehand.

Don't wait until you're on safari to learn how to use it, or you may be greatly disappointed. You don't want to be



fiddling with a jammed or unfamiliar camera when a *National Geographic* moment suddenly pops up. Keep the camera primed and ready in your lap. You want to take home as many good photos as you can.

FUTURE TOURS—I've postponed my **Egypt** tour from February of 2014 to February of 2015 because of the civil unrest there. I'm in close touch with Egyptologist **Fouad Berto**, who accompanies all of my Egypt tours. Like most of his countrymen, he wants the political crisis to end. The Egyptian government, worried about the tremendous unemployment rate and the massive loss of tourist dollars, is preparing a full-out tourism promotion. Things should settle down by this time next year, if not before. Let's hope they do, for the sake of the Egyptian people.

My upcoming safaris in Uganda (April) and Kenya and Tanzania (October) will be the last tours I'll lead to these destinations. If these life-enriching safaris are on your bucket list, sign up right away, to be sure you don't miss out.

Uganda isn't as well known as some African countries, but it's been the site of some of my most exhilarating tours, featuring numerous exotic birds and animals. There's nothing like seeing mountain gorillas, chimpanzees, and other primates in their natural habitat. Add spectacular boat rides, fine accommodations, and welcoming people, and you have one of the most interesting places on the continent.

On my latest tour to **Kenya** and **Tanzania**, we hit the jackpot. We saw 34 lions, including playful cubs and a mating pair, three leopards, three cheetahs, sixteen rhinos (both black and white), and scores of elephants, giraffes, and plains game such as buffalo, zebras, wildebeests, hartebeests, warthogs, and topis. We may see even more this October. Call **Safari Studio** at 800-565-6670 for the itinerary. If you've always wanted to see both of these famous safari countries at the same time, this is the trip for you. It's expected to sell out, so the sooner you book, the better.

In November I'll go back to extraordinary **Ethiopia**. Famous for its history, scenery, and colourful inhabitants, this country is a must-see for people who love people. Philip Briggs, the well known author of nearly a dozen Bradt travel guides, calls it his favourite African country. If you're interested in history, remarkable scenery, and the lifestyles, customs, and traditions of many different peoples, don't miss this tour! Check out my slide show (www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-slide-show.html) to see some of the sights we'll enjoy in November. **Melissa Kooiman** (pictured at the bottom of page 4) of Safari Studio took the slide show pictures when she visited Ethiopia last year. Melissa handles the files for Ethiopia, Egypt, and Uganda.

It's been nearly three years since the tsunami swept through Fukushima and other coastal towns in northern **Japan**. Thanks to the can-do Japanese spirit, things have returned to normal. I'm planning another tour there in April of 2015—cherry blossom time, one of the best times to visit. If you'd like to join me and Yuriko, who was born and raised in Tokyo and speaks fluent Japanese, watch for details. Meanwhile, enjoy my slide show at www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-slide-show.html and read my articles about Japan at www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-newsletter.html.

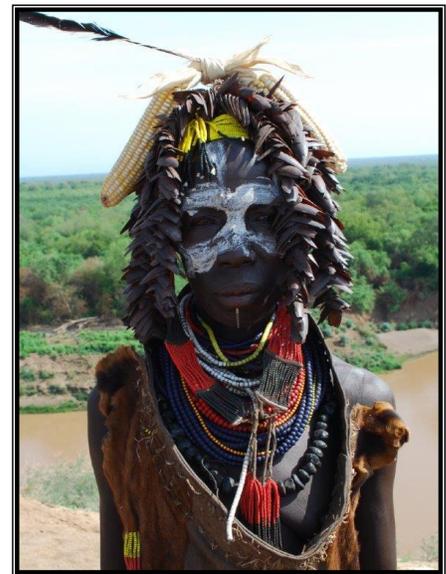
My tour to **Morocco** in November was wonderful. Everyone enjoyed it so much that we all agreed we'd go back in a heartbeat. I hope to visit again in November of 2015. You can read what some of our tour members thought on page 9 of this newsletter. If Morocco isn't on your bucket list, it should be. Blue skies, temperatures of 26 to 28 degrees Celsius, gorgeous hotels, fascinating cities such as Marrakesh, camel-riding in the Sahara Desert—it's magical. And its people are friendly and gracious. We advertise this trip as a photographer's paradise because there are photo ops around every bend. Watch for my latest photos in the Morocco slide show at www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-slide-show.html. I'll send out an email alert when they're available for your viewing pleasure.

In addition to two newsletters a year, I send out tour updates by email every month. Make sure I have your email address, and you won't miss anything. I hope my newsletters, emails, articles, and slide shows will provide ideas, insights, and inspiration to travel and make the most of your life. It's not the things we did that we regret at the end of life, it's the things we didn't do. So join me and other adventurers, and travel in style and comfort on one of my journeys of a lifetime. You'll be so glad you did! I guarantee it.



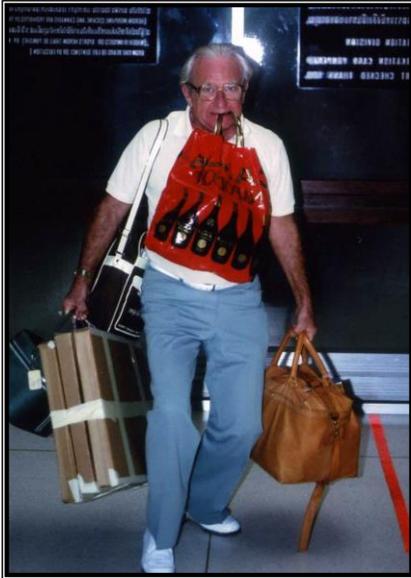
David (Around the World in Eighty Months) Skillan

Incurable romantic, nomad by nature, happy wanderer, and free spirit . . . ➔



David Skillan's Travel Tips

I've published most of these tips before, and they bear repeating. They're valid whether you're going on safari in Africa or just overnighing in the next town. Please share them with friends and family members who like to travel.



- ➔ Before travelling, ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after your planned return, and that you have all the necessary visas.
 - ➔ Travel insurance provides peace of mind and vital coverage. Buy it!
 - ➔ Always carry a photocopy of your passport details separately, in case your passport is mislaid or stolen.
 - ➔ Have a dental check-up and get any necessary vaccinations well before departure.
 - ➔ Never wear expensive or flashy jewellery. You could be robbed!
 - ➔ Don't bring expensive luggage. All luggage takes a beating and gets thrown around a lot.
 - ➔ Pack as lightly as possible. Never wear new or best clothing when travelling. Wear casual, loosely fitting garments. Dress for comfort, not to impress.
 - ➔ Keep valuables such as your passport, tickets, medication, and spectacles in your carry-on flight bag. Do not lock them in your suitcase.
- ➔ Remember to carry an extra battery and memory card for your camera.
 - ➔ Use a money belt, small backpack, or waist pouch to store valuables such as your passport, airline tickets, and travellers' cheques. This will leave your hands free.
 - ➔ Bring liquids and gels only in approved sizes, and carry them through airport security in a clear plastic bag. Better yet, place all restricted items in your checked luggage.
 - ➔ Always carry a book, to pass the time when flying and hanging around airports and to help you nod off at night.
 - ➔ Wear a small Canadian flag pin. It makes for easy identification and is often a conversation opener.
 - ➔ Always wear sunglasses and a hat in the tropical sun! This will reduce your risk of heatstroke by 75 percent. Sunscreen is also a must!
 - ➔ Carry a small folding umbrella in your day pack. You never know when you may be caught in a shower.
 - ➔ Carry a fold-up weekend bag in your suitcase. It's useful for short excursions and for shopping.
 - ➔ Never leave valuables exposed in a hotel room. Lock them up!



- ➔ Make a point of learning how to say "please" and thank you" in the local language wherever you go. The locals appreciate it.
- ➔ When filling out immigration forms, answer "Tourism" to the question "Purpose of visit?"
- ➔ On long flights, a mild sleeping pill helps you relax, cope with jet lag, and adjust your sleeping pattern. There's no need to tough it out!
- ➔ And remember, we're all ambassadors when we're abroad!

Travel is seductive and intoxicating. It should always be enormous fun . . . and a great adventure! ➔

DAVID SKILLAN'S WORLD
An Overview of Upcoming Tours and Safaris
Presented in Cooperation with Safari Studio

“Once you fall in love with Africa, it haunts you until the day you die.”

~Beryl Markham, author of *West With the Night*

“Africa grabs hold of a piece of your heart and never quite lets go.”

~Robert Ruark, author of *Uhuru*, *The Honey Badger*, and *Poor No More*

“On safari . . . each breath you draw gives pleasure, [and] you wake with a new sense of wonder”

~Elspeth Huxley, author of *The Mottled Lizard* and *The Flame Trees of Thika*

UGANDA WILDLIFE SAFARI

Departs April 5, 2014 → 13 days → \$8,322 per person (sharing), plus taxes

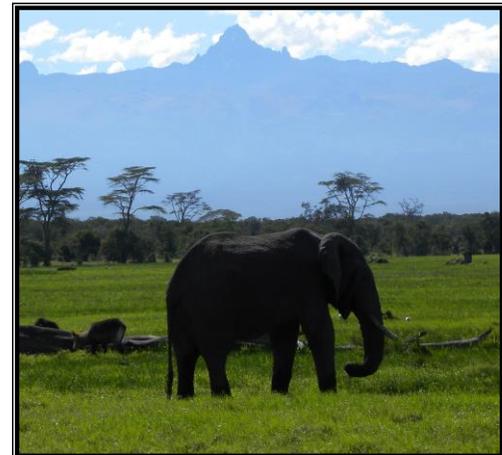
Often referred to as “the Pearl of Africa,” Uganda is a lush, green, tropical land with some of Africa’s friendliest people and a safari circuit that encompasses breathtaking landscapes. The boat trips through the Kazinga Channel that links Lake Edward to Lake George and up the Victoria Nile River to Murchison Falls are among the most exhilarating in Africa! See the Big Five (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and buffalo) and hundreds of other animals, including four different species of jackal, pygmy antelope, Nile crocodile, bush pig, giant forest hog, the Uganda cob (Uganda’s national antelope), several species of monkey, and of course the endangered mountain gorilla. Uganda is a birdwatchers’ paradise, boasting the largest concentration of birds in all of Africa—more than 1,000 species. Our tour includes Lake Victoria (the largest lake in Africa), the Ruwenzoris (the Mountains of the Moon), and the acclaimed national parks of Murchison Falls, Queen Elizabeth, Kibale and Bwindi (home to chimpanzees and mountain gorillas, respectively), and Ngamba Island (a sanctuary for chimpanzees). If you’ve always wanted to see mountain gorillas and other primates in their natural habitat, put this tour at the top of your bucket list. ***Call now to join this life-enriching tour!***



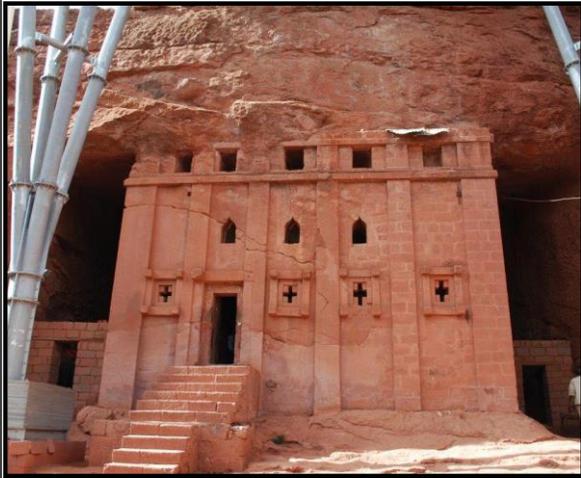
KENYA & TANZANIA SAFARI

Departs October 2, 2014 → 16 days → \$9,820 per person (sharing), plus taxes

The ultimate adventure . . . the two most famous safari destinations in Africa . . . a romantic journey that many dream about, but few experience. This tour includes the finest game lodges and tented camps, splendid game-rich wilderness, and the magical Maasai Mara Game Reserve, Serengeti Plains, Ngorongoro Crater, Mounts Kenya and Kilimanjaro (the two highest mountains in Africa), Aberdares, Lakes Nakuru, Naivasha, and Manyara (home to extensive flamingo flocks), and the Olduvai Gorge (the Cradle of Mankind). Take a balloon ride over the East African plains. Visit a Maasai village. Tour Giraffe Manor, with its resident herd of the endangered Rothschild giraffe, and the elephant and rhino orphanage operated by the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Nairobi National Park. See the land where Hemingway hunted and Karen Blixen (Isak Dinesen) was inspired to write *Out of Africa*. If you yearn to see an unrivalled wildlife spectacle, this is the tour for you! October coincides with the great migration of wildebeest and zebra—often called the greatest show on earth. Imagine warm, sunny days, spectacular scenery, and amazing experiences. This tour can be extended to include the exotic island of Zanzibar or Kenya’s sun-drenched Coral Coast. ***This will be our last safari to include both Kenya and Tanzania, so sign up now!***



EXTRAORDINARY ETHIOPIA



Departs November 1, 2014 → 18 days → \$7,330 per person (sharing), plus taxes

Ethiopia, land of the ancient Abyssinians, is a country of contrasts. Here you'll find both bustling cities and archaeological sites yielding four-million-year-old hominid remains. Attractions include walled cities, coastal Arabian architecture, medieval castles, mosques, Coptic churches, extensive natural cave complexes, lakes, volcanoes, grasslands, jungles, the River Nile, towering waterfalls, and nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Our cultural tour takes us to Addis Ababa (the capital city), Axum, Bahir Dar, Lalileba (where you'll see churches carved from solid rock), and the colourful market towns of Turmi and Jinka, Awasa, and Gonda. This ever-changing land is where Christianity and Islam intersect. ***If you love history and people, don't miss this trip to one of the world's most intriguing places!***

BOTSWANA & ZAMBIA SAFARI

Departs January 6, 2015 → 14 days → Price to be announced

Adventure in style and comfort on this exclusive connoisseur's tour, which is limited to just twelve participants. Described by aficionados as "Africa's Gem," Botswana has become a favoured destination among seasoned travellers. Masses of wildlife roam the woodlands, savannahs, plains, and wetlands of this sparsely populated, landlocked country, including many species of antelope (nyala, waterbuck, kudu, sable, eland, tsessebe, lechwe, impala, and sitatunga), hyena, jackal, bat-eared fox, wild dog, wild cat, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, hippo, and of course all of Africa's Big Five (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and buffalo). In this remote, peaceful region of Africa, we stay at the finest places, where food and service are second to none. Accommodations are in luxurious

tented camps . . . travel is by specially chartered light aircraft . . . game viewing is by boat and open safari vehicle. Visit the Moremi Game Reserve, Kalahari Desert, Linyanti, the world-famous Okavango Delta, and the breathtaking Victoria Falls. Ask about the five-day extension to lovely Cape Town and the wineries of Stellenbosch. ***Start planning now for January 2015!***



WONDERS OF EGYPT

Departs February 3, 2015 → 12 days → Price to be announced

Join us in the land of pharaohs, mystery, and enchantment! This exciting tour with Lufthansa (a member of Star Alliance, so if you're a member you can collect points) includes Cairo, Memphis, Aswan, Luxor, the Pyramids of Giza, the Valley of the Kings, a four-night Nile cruise, and the famous temples of Abu Simbel, Philae, Edfu, Kom-Ombo, and Karnak. Visit the renowned Egyptian Museum, ride a camel, watch a belly-dance display, haggle for souvenirs, take a horse-and-buggy ride, sail in a felucca, and descend into King Tut's tomb. Shop for exquisite jewellery, beautiful hand-woven carpets, and the latest styles in leather jackets and handbags. ***If you've always wanted to see one of the world's greatest ancient civilizations, this is the trip for you!***

JAPANESE JOURNEY

Departs April 4, 2015 → 15 days →

Price to be announced

This journey through rich history and traditional culture is like no other tour you've ever taken! Visit

Japan's ancient first capital at Nara and the vibrant metropolis of Tokyo, as well as Hiroshima, Hakone, Nagano, Takayama, Kanazawa, Otsu, and Kyoto. Stroll along the Ginza, wander through stunning Japanese gardens, explore Meiji Shrine and Matsumoto Castle, and enjoy a boat ride that provides spectacular views of Mount Fuji, Japan's highest mountain. Travel on the bullet train, relax in hot-spring baths, see traditional farmhouses with thatched roofs, learn the art of origami, and participate in both traditional and modern Japanese entertainment. This one-of-a-kind tour of the legendary Land of the Rising Sun takes place during the season of spring blossoms. See www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-slide-show.html for pictures of my last tour to Japan. ***Consider joining us on this exclusive cultural tour in April 2015!***



KENYA WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

Departs October 3, 2015 → 15 Days →

Price to be announced

Kenya, one of the most beautiful countries in all of Africa, is the land of the original safari. Its near-perfect climate, magnificent scenery, and abundance of wildlife have long attracted sun seekers, wildlife enthusiasts, and conservationists. Expect to see the Big Five (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, and rhino), countless other animals, and a huge variety of exotic birds. We'll visit Nairobi, Mombasa, and world-renowned game reserves and national parks at Maasai Mara, Lake Nakuru, Mount Kenya, the Aberdare Mountains, Amboseli, East Tsavo, and West Tsavo. Our tour will conclude with two days of fun in the sun at the gorgeous Coral Coast on the Indian Ocean, known for its crystal-clear water, white sands, and swaying palms. If you've always wanted to go on safari in Africa, and have a limited budget, this is the tour for you! **Call now for a detailed itinerary and to get your name on the list.**



MAGNIFICENT MOROCCO

Departs November 2, 2015 → 16 days → Price to be announced

Casablanca, Marrakesh, Fez, Erfoud, Ouarzazate, Essaouira, Meknes, Rabat . . . the exotic cities of this Arabian kingdom await you! Morocco is a land of mystery and enchantment, featuring ancient casbahs, desert landscapes, high mountains, and sandy beaches. Visit mosques, museums, palaces, Roman ruins, a spice market, a handicraft centre, and a romantic desert oasis. Take a camel ride, climb giant sand dunes, stroll through ornate gardens, and enjoy sweeping panoramas of the mountains and the coastlines of the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Watch in amazement as acrobats, jugglers, snake charmers, water vendors, and soothsayers go about their daily business. Listen to the muezzins calling from tall minarets, haggle for souvenirs in the colourful souks, and sip mint tea under star-filled skies. If you like Egypt, you'll be bewitched by Morocco! ***Plan now to join us on this magical journey! →***



EXCLUSIVE

The David Skillan Travel Collection

A Special Series of the Finest Personally Escorted Tours and Safaris

2014				
April 5	UGANDA WILDLIFE SAFARI	13 days	\$8,322	Safari Studio
October 2	KENYA & TANZANIA SAFARI	16 days	\$9,820	Safari Studio
November 1	EXTRAORDINARY ETHIOPIA	18 days	\$7,330	Safari Studio
2015				
January 6	BOTSWANA & ZAMBIA SAFARI	14 days	TBA	Safari Studio
February 3	WONDERS OF EGYPT	12 days	TBA	Safari Studio
April 4	JAPANESE JOURNEY	15 days	TBA	TBA
October 3	KENYA WILDLIFE ADVENTURE	15 days	TBA	Safari Studio
November 2	MAGNIFICENT MOROCCO	16 days	TBA	Safari Studio
<p><i>Tour prices are per person, in Canadian dollars. Taxes are extra, unless otherwise noted. Prices include all international and domestic flights (round-trip from Vancouver, Canada, though you can make your own flight arrangements and meet your tour), fine accommodations, most meals, and all sightseeing, as outlined in the respective itineraries. All dates, itineraries, and prices are subject to change. Most tours can be extended.</i></p>				

Except for the April 2015 tour to Japan, David Skillan's tours and safaris are marketed exclusively by Safari Studio. For full details, including the itinerary and booking information, please contact Safari Studio directly.

Safari Studio
 64 East 10th Avenue
 New Westminster, BC V3L 4R5
 800-565-6670
 or 604-990-1511
chrisb@safaristudio.ca
www.safaristudio.ca

Call now for colour brochures and detailed itineraries! →

Excerpts from Recent Emails, Cards, and Letters



“For many years I saw your ads for African safaris in the *Times Colonist* and thought I could never afford to go on one. Then one day I could. At first the price seemed high, but when you consider all the game drives, meals, and beautiful accommodations, it was worth every penny. If I should win the 649, I will be in touch right away to bring all my grandchildren to see the wonders of Africa.”

~Lyn M. (Mill Bay, BC)

“Thank you for the beautiful pictures of Africa. They make us wish we were back there. We love all the places we visit, especially Africa! It was the first place we visited that we were homesick for when we returned home.”

~Elaine S. and Graydon S. (Powell River, BC)

“I thoroughly enjoyed the tour of Morocco, and all the wonderful sights we saw in the glorious sunshine. As a solo traveller, I always felt safe and well looked after. Another well organized, well thought out, exciting David Skillan tour!”

~Pat M. (Ottawa, ON)

*As a solo traveller,
I felt safe and well looked after.
Another well organized,
exciting David Skillan tour!*

“I can’t stop talking about the wonderful time we had in Africa, and know I will be talking about it for a very long time. The trip exceeded my expectations in every way. The lodges and camps were all five-star, and who would have thought I would be kept awake by wild animals right outside the tent? Fabulous! I can’t put into words the amazing game drives. It’s hard to believe I was actually in Africa!”

~Nancy M. (Oakville, ON)

“Morocco was an amazing trip—not at all what I expected! It was a photographer’s dream. The scenery and colours were spectacular. As always, the accommodations were lovely, the guide and driver were superb, the weather was perfect, and the group was friendly and entertaining. I would expect no less from the Skillan experience!”

~Renae R. (Langley, BC)

“We’re just back from our last series of travel adventures, and here we are, already thinking about faraway places to go to in 2014. The classic sights of Kenya and Tanzania have long been on our bucket list, and we can think of no one we would rather accompany to these places than you, so we’ve signed up for October 2014.”

~Anne W. and Brian M. (Calgary, AB)

“I really hope to join you in Uganda in April. My safaris with you have all been memorable and varied, but for me, this trip would add icing to a very rich cake.”

~Bob A. (Victoria, BC)

“My tour to Botswana and Zambia with you was another great trip. All our senses were heightened with the different sights, sounds, and smells. I don’t think pictures, no matter how good, can do the safari experience justice. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

~Vicki H. (Sechelt, BC)

“We are over jet lag and everything is back to normal. We are now busy working on our many photos, editing, cropping, etc. You looked after us so well! That’s why we like to travel with you.”

~Del W. and Bob N. (Victoria, BC)

“Many thanks for the welcome-home letter and photos. We’d like to thank you again for the fabulous trip to Botswana. It’s one we’ll certainly never forget. You are very good at what you do. In fact, we both believe you were born to lead tours!”

~Gail and Phil C. (Tsawwassen, BC)

(I do not actively solicit comments. Most come to me after I’ve sent thank-you emails to everyone at the end of each tour. I greatly appreciate all of your comments, however, so please keep sending them! ~DS) →

This newsletter comes to you with my compliments.

In return, I ask that you kindly pass it on. It's intended to create a greater awareness of the world we live in, promote worldwide travel and tourism, and foster understanding and goodwill between people.

My mission is to encourage, motivate, and inspire you to get the most out of life. Get up and go! I invite you to join me soon on one of my life-enriching tours. ➔



Befriending a Sykes' monkey in the Animal Orphanage at the Mount Kenya Wildlife Conservancy

Points to Ponder . . .

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.”

~Winston Churchill

“You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.”

~Mae West

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”

~C. S. Lewis

David Skillan's Travel Enterprises

#123 – 2083 West 33rd Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6M 4M6

604-261-4656

davidskillan@skillansafaris.com

www.skillansafaris.com

Globetrotter David Skillan is a tour leader par excellence. He has travelled, lived, and worked all over the world, including the Far East, Australasia, Africa, and Latin America. He's had a love affair with travel and adventure since childhood.

Since 1970, David has hosted more than 240 tours abroad, including more than 120 to Africa. He spends three to four months of each year travelling. Having seen the world both the easy way and the hard way, he loves sharing his hard-earned international experience (albeit discreetly) with others.

David has been publishing articles and newsletters about his life, travels, and tours since 1978. ➔