



Greetings all Safari Adventurers,

June is the first real month of winter for us. It brings an unrivalled crispness to the air. If you're interested in the stars, then our winter skies, especially in the Namibian deserts, will enthral you. If you're an animal lover then the thinner vegetation and concentrated water in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe give you the best opportunity to find the creatures you want to see. If you like the beach without the crowds and swelter of summer, then a lazy, warm holiday at Rocktail Bay Beach Camp is what you need this winter

SAFARI ADVENTURE COMPANY FEATURE: JUNE 2010

**Green Leaf Environmental Standard**

**Platinum Award for Rocktail Beach Camp – first in Africa**



With 95% compliance to the stringent Green Leaf Environmental Standard (GLES), Rocktail Beach Camp is the very first camp, hotel or lodge in Africa to receive the Platinum Leaf Award from Dr Ian Player of the Wilderness Foundation. This is the highest award offered by the prestigious foundation and we are very proud of the accolade which was presented in May at the Tourism Indaba in Durban.



The GLES is a measure of environmental, social and economic impacts in the tourism industry. It gauges the effects of a tourism operation on the natural environment and their commitment to social upliftment in communities in their area of operation. We are very pleased to say that we achieved the Platinum Rating without compromising on the exceptional experience our guests receive on a daily basis.



The Safari Adventure Company will strive to bring all of its camps to this standard in the coming years. We believe that by adhering to the ethics spelt out by the GLES, we can make ecotourism more sustainable in the long term. By so doing we will ensure the continued protection of fragile ecosystems and support the communities living around them.



Rocktail Beach Camp is set in the sanctuary of the lush Maputaland Coastal Forest on South Africa's north-east coast. With the Maputaland Marine Reserve just offshore and the beach a brisk 20-minute walk from the camp, there is world-class diving and remote, unspoilt beaches to savour [www.rocktailbeachcamp.com](http://www.rocktailbeachcamp.com).

If you are interested in other interesting eco-friendly camps, have a look at [Kalahari Plains Camp](http://www.safari-adventure.co.za/lodge.asp?LD_ID=30&LC_ID=231): [http://www.safari-adventure.co.za/lodge.asp?LD\\_ID=30&LC\\_ID=231](http://www.safari-adventure.co.za/lodge.asp?LD_ID=30&LC_ID=231)



## REGION SPOTLIGHT, JUNE 2010 – ETOSHA

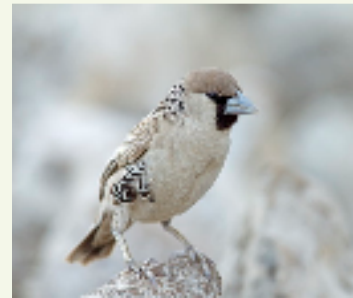
The 20 000-square kilometre Etosha National Park is a vast expanse of game-rich savannah centred on an immense saltpan - the Etosha Pan, 4 950 square kilometres in extent. It is the largest saltpan in Africa and an evocative remnant of an ancient super-lake. If it was possible to have visited the pan several million years ago, one would probably have seen an enormous lake supporting a multitude of birds and animals – probably similar to the present-day Okavango Delta system. Due to shifting continental plates, the river that once fed this lake dried up, and over time the sunken, dry depression we see today was formed.

Away from the pan, the topography is generally flat with a range of habitats ranging from mopane and terminalia woodlands to wide-open, acacia-dotted plains. The Haunted Forest, where odd, misshapen moringa trees create a strange woodland scene, is a habitat highlight.

This unique place of shimmering landscapes and vast openness allows visitors to explore the lives of an amazing array of wildlife with considerable ease.

Etosha is Namibia's premier wildlife destination – game viewing along the numerous springs and waterholes often reveals lion, leopard, elephant, southern giraffe, red hartebeest, rare black-faced impala, endangered black rhino, as well as more common plains game such as blue wildebeest, Burchell's zebra, desert-adapted gemsbok and springbok in their hundreds. The comical ground squirrels, with their bushy parasol-like tails, are also a highlight.

Birdlife in Etosha is prolific with over 340 species recorded - including several of Namibia's 14 endemics. Sociable weavers and their enormous communal nests, pugnacious pygmy falcons and the brilliantly coloured crimson-breasted shrike are common highlights. Namaqua sandgrouse, double-banded courser, northern black korhaan and many lark species (spike-heeled, pink-billed, sabota and Stark's) occupy the plains. The acacia thickets harbour yellow-bellied eremomela, pririt batis and Acacia pied barbet. Birds like red-headed finch and lark-like bunting also commonly flock around waterholes where predatory red-necked falcon often look for a meal.



## CAMP NEWS



### **Kulala Wilderness Reserve – Cheetah Release**

Two male cheetah, captured on Namibian farmland, were released on Kulala Wilderness Reserve this month. They are about four years old, 50Kgs and in the prime of their lives. When the cage doors finally opened, camera shutters began snapping furiously. The cheetah, however, were in no rush. They continued to snooze in their transport cage until it was tipped up to help them on their way. The two carnivores then sauntered out of their temporary home and off towards the Tsauchab Riverbed. [Click here: http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/news/camp\\_news\\_detail.jsp?newsitem=18400](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/news/camp_news_detail.jsp?newsitem=18400) for a full report and pics.

### **Lufupa Tented Camp - Zambia**



The predator viewing was exceptional in June. Incredible leopard, cheetah and wild dog viewing was enjoyed by our guests. Seven different leopard were seen on various occasions throughout the month while the resident band of three cheetah brothers continued to delight with their hunting. A pack of three wild dog provided huge excitement, chasing and killing an impala in front of us. As always, the lions made their presence known in June. When they weren't in full view, their calls resonated through the Kafue night. [Click here: http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/news/camp\\_news\\_detail.jsp?newsitem=18649](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/news/camp_news_detail.jsp?newsitem=18649) for a full account of the June highlights.



### **Pafuri Camp – Northern Kruger National Park**

The winter has brought some interesting dynamics to the Pafuri concession. With the seasonal pans drying out, animals are concentrating on the banks of the Luvuvhu River, which is running clear and pure. The river is a great place to watch the herds of elephant and buffalo come to drink. The concentration of general game on the Luvuvhu has made the lions focus on its banks. Unusual mammal highlights of the month have included: Aardwolf, Cape clawless otter, porcupine and African wild cat. [Click here: http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/news/camp\\_news\\_detail.jsp?newsItem=18439](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/news/camp_news_detail.jsp?newsItem=18439) for the full report of this stunning area.

## **CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Tree Planting Initiative in Chinteché**

Wilderness Safaris in partnership with the NGO Ripple Africa, are constructing another shed for our tree planting initiative in Chinteché.

Initially preparations are being made to raise **10,000 seedlings**. The goal of this initiative is not only to ensure that trees are planted to assist in reforestation but to also provide the local people of Nkhata Bay with an environmentally better alternative to excessive and ultimately unsustainable felling. The planting of seedlings will ensure that trees used locally for firewood, crafts and building are replaced by replanting on a regular basis.

As more and more land is being cleared for agricultural cultivation and industrial purposes, an increasing number of trees is being felled. Tree planting initiatives like this ensure that plants, vital to the longevity of ecosystems, are replaced. At the same time the harvesting and felling of slow growing hardwood trees is discouraged, and education programmes conducted by Ripple Africa help local people to select the most sustainable species for harvest and also aid in conservation awareness.



## **CONTACT US IF YOU LOVE THE WILD AND WANT TO LIVE ADVENTURE**

Until July...

Wild regards,  
Tania

For further information on any of our camps, please consult our website or email us directly at:

[info@safariadventurecompany.com](mailto:info@safariadventurecompany.com)

[www.safariadventurecompany.com](http://www.safariadventurecompany.com)

[www.wildernesstrust.com](http://www.wildernesstrust.com)

[www.childreninthewilderness.com](http://www.childreninthewilderness.com)

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