

Editors'
CHOICE

*Orient-Express Safaris
and The Westcliff Hotel*



GOING ON SAFARI IS PROBABLY SOMETHING you've secretly wanted to do for years. Go now, while the going is good.

While there are questions about safety in Tanzania and Kenya, Botswana has no problems, politically or otherwise, and Orient-Express (www.orient-express.com) has three safari camps that are each worth a visit.

As you sit near the fire after dinner, there is

a tranquil hush broken only by the quiet rumbling of sixteen elephants at a waterhole right in front of you. It's an experience even your grandchildren shouldn't miss.

At Savute Elephant Camp, day and night, elephants are right in front of you drinking at a waterhole, but they're down a small hill so you are protected as you watch them from above. The elephants don't like to climb hills.

You can experience hippos, perhaps even a leopard sitting in a tree, and all kinds of other game at Eagle Island Camp. Here, boats are provided with guides to take you through the marsh land where alligators, colorful wild birds, hippos, baboons, and many other surprises linger in the brush, but you

are kept safe thanks to the protection of your guide. A complimentary helicopter ride offers a fascinating and exciting experience as you watch antelope, giraffes, and many etceteras from the air.

Khwai River Lodge is a restful, cozy experience in the wild bush of Africa where you can see hyenas, jackals, spotted owls, zebra, giant eagles, and countless other animals.

Combine them all with a visit to the Westcliff Hotel in Johannesburg, where you will want to stay before and after your safari. This is probably the best hotel in South Africa – a haven on a hill that allows you to prepare for the adventure before your safari and to joyously tell about it when you return from the bush.

So go now, while all these are still available. With their great popularity and very reasonable prices for all that you get, future years might find you competing for a slot in one of these expeditions. But right now, it's perfect.

The elephants are waiting to say hello. ●



The Westcliff Hotel: Infinity pool



Westcliff's Presidential Penthouse Suite – the bed where kings sleep



Luxurious bath



1 - A peaceful afternoon on Okavango Delta at Eagle Island Camp; 2 - Fireside dining at Savute Elephant Camp; 3 - Eagle Island Camp – complimentary helicopter ride to a picnic on a private island in the heart of Okavango Delta; 4 - “Hello Lion!” – an afternoon game drive at the Savute; 5 - Luxury tents in the bush with complementary champagne at Savute Elephant Camp; 6 - Honeymoon Suite with private plunge pool at Khwai River Lodge; 7 - Savute Elephant Camp – in the midst of elephants; 8 - Relaxing in the outdoor bath while the birds serenade at Eagle Island Camp; 9 - Enjoying sunset on a private terrace at the Savute Elephant Camp (more elephants in the background)