

Himba People of Namibia

# PHOTOGRAPH THE VERY BEST OF NAMIBIA – THE LAND OF ENDLESS HORIZONS

# 1. OVERVIEW OF THE ON-GROUND ITINERARY

Date	Transfer	Accommodation
4 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2013	Arrive Windhoek	Galton House,
	Airport – start of	Windhoek
	photo safari	
5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2013	Fly Windhoek-to	Sossusvlei Dunes Lodge
	Sossusvlei	
9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2013	Fly Sossusvlei to Serra	Serra Cafema Lodge
	Cafema Lodge	
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2013	Fly Serra Cafema to	Little Ongava Lodge
	Little Ongava	
14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2013	Fly Little Ongava to	NA
	Windhoek	

#### 2. NAMIBIA BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This Flying Photographic Safari in Namibia is exclusive and exceptional.

For photographers, Namibia is unlike anywhere else in Africa. Its raw, harsh desert is everywhere. Unending kilometres of pristine coastline, remarkable plant life, rugged rock formations and its world-famous red sand dunes offer landscapes of awesome proportions. A photographer could not but be inspired. And if these subjects are not enough to move one's spirit, there is Etosha - one of the world's great national parks for wildlife photography. Namibia also contains a remarkable infrastructure of well-kept gravel and salt roads, modern hotels and lodges and great food — which makes visiting and photographing here a delightful surprise! Namibia is one of Africa's best kept secrets for photographers possessing a wanderer's spirit.

It has been put together to be a dream photography trip, for those who have limited time but wish to experience the best photography Namibia has to offer. It features a carefully selected itinerary to capture the iconic images of the country's inimitable landscape, its spectacular wildlife, the truly nomadic Himba people and the remoteness of Kaokoveld (a place that that can change people's perspective on life itself).

Namibia is one of the most sparsely populated nations on the planet – it is very wild, yet starkly beautiful, and we will experience the pick of its most interesting and photogenic features on this photo safari.

Flying in your chartered aircraft allows you to experience the country's vastness and maximize the time on photography. Photographing the austere dramatic beauty of the Skeleton Coast from the air is not available to the majority of photographers in their lifetime. You will be able to accommodate your full complement of camera gear in your own plane.

For your on-ground photography there will be **a maximum of three photographers per four wheel drive vehicle** — a virtually unheard of indulgence in Africa!

We have timed the photo safari to avoid the prime 'tourist' period in Namibia.

It would be a considerable challenge for anyone to construct a Namibian photo safari of this duration and variety any better!

#### 3. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is in only top-drawer lodges. Each has been selected for both its very high standards and close proximity to the top photo opportunities, thus ensuring easy access at times of best light i.e. early or late light. Note, a direct link to each of the lodges is provided below.

Day 1 or earlier: Depart Home Country for Johannesburg & Windhoek (no stopover in Johannesburg)

#### Day 2: Galton House, Windhoek, Namibia

We will spend the first night in Namibia at <u>Galton House</u>.

Galton House is Windhoek's newest accommodation establishment. Named after the famous explorer Sir Francis Galton, it has a relaxed but efficient style which creates a very welcoming atmosphere. Impressive wildlife photography adorns the walls whilst the rest of the interior is a combination of modern minimalistic and understated decor.

A mere ten minute drive from the centre of town and perched on the edge of Windhoek's northernmost affluent suburb of Eros, guests staying here you will be ensured of peace and tranquillity. There is Wi-Fi throughout the property and the eight guest rooms all have wired internet connectivity and satellite television.

The communal areas consist of a large lounge, indoor and outdoor dining areas, a swimming pool, an early arrival/late departure day room (including toilet, shower, changing and re-packing facility) as well as understated garden areas. There is also a delightful 'al fresco' dining area by the pool where freshly prepared meals are served (including lunch and dinner). A number of shops, restaurants and supermarkets are within easy striking distance.

Our small group will meet here for introductions, a comprehensive briefing, an overview of the photo safari destinations; enjoy dinner and an early night. We depart early the next morning for the beginning of a unique photographic experience.

#### Day 3, 4, 5 & 6: Sossus Dune Lodge

<u>Sossus Dune Lodge</u>, built in an environmentally sensitive manner, primarily from wood, canvas and thatch, in an attractive 'afro-village' style, offers an evocative and life changing experience; it is where you will stay to photograph some of the most striking landscapes on the planet.

The stunning desert landscapes of Sossusvlei, situated at the southern end of Namib-Naukluft National Park, produce sensuous, undulating sand dune images. The towering Sossusvlei Dunes are the highest in the world —most of the awards winning photos of gemsbok (oryx) walking across these rolling red dunes were captured here. Sossusvlei itself is a clay pan set amid monstrous sand dunes that reach the height of a 70 storey building. A deathly white against red sands, the pan is the endpoint of the usually dry river. The dunes in the vicinity of Sossusvlei reach a height of 220m. Indeed one dune beside the Tsauchab River rises 325m above the valley floor. Sossusvlei is the biggest of four pans in the vicinity. In one of them, Dead Vlei, camelthorn trees, carbondated as being between 500 and 600 years old but dead due to the absence of water, still stand mysteriously erect. They remained alive until the "sand sea" finally blocked the occasional floods. The whole Sossusvlei area offers excellent landscape photography. The emphasis here is on patterns, scale, lines, shadows, light and landscapes. From the ripples of the sand, through to the towering S-shaped dunes, these are some of the most photogenic pieces of sand in the world.

Our lodge is inside the national park so we do not have to wait for the gates to open at 6.30am. We will leave the lodge at 4.30am! Our destination is Dead Vlei. As we will have our own 4-wheel drive vehicles our group should enjoy a unique experience ... to photograph the sunrise on the magical dunes surrounding Dead Vlei without the intrusion of other people. This is what makes Sossusvlei special, perhaps mystical I for photographers: the feeling of solitude in amongst the dunes makes the heart beat just a bit faster, as if feeling that wind whip through your hair is a curser to increased heart rate. It really stimulates. Anyone who has photographed Dead Vlei at this time treats the experience as very special, indeed sacred. It is an experience comparable to a jewel that is precious and taken out and polished by memories every now and then. At the end of the day we can relax in the tranquillity and splendour of the Namib Desert, under the spectacular African sky.

We will have the options to undertake a balloon flight over Sossusvlei and weather conditions being favourable a fixed wing aircraft flight over the dunes to the interface between the blue of the Atlantic Ocean and the red of the dunes; both offer glorious photographic opportunities.

#### Days 6, 7 & 8: Serra Cafema, Damaraland, and Kaokoveld

<u>Serra Cafema</u> is located in the extreme north-west of Namibia on the banks of the Kunene River in the Hartmann Valley. Undoubtedly amongst the most remote and surreal destinations in all of Africa, Serra Cafema is only reachable by aircraft. A visit here is a journey into the latent elements of the soul – a winding back of rejuvenation everywhere you look or point your viewfinder.

The Kunene River is the only permanent source of water in this region, the river creating a lush oasis along its banks - a winding band of green surrounded by the lunar like landscape of the Namib Desert which stretches to the Serra Cafema mountain range in the north.

Serra Cafema is an intimate, peaceful camp with a mix of rustic and luxury elements nestled amongst Albida trees on the banks of the Kunene. Rapids just below the camp provide a calming ambiance with guests often lulled into dreamland by the gurgling waters after a day exploring and photographing one of the driest, starkly beautiful regions in the world.

Each fully furnished tent has an en-suite bathroom, ceiling fan and mosquito nets. Serra Cafema satisfies the adventurer and the indulger in us all.

You can't help but be overwhelmed with the natural beauty of the expanse of dunes and grasses when you realize how remote the camp really is. The juxtaposition of red sand dunes and the fast-flowing Kunene is quite startling and the soothing sound of the river is always present.

Our visit to a nearby (hopefully) Himba settlement - one of the last true nomadic people in Africa – will be a highlight for those with interests in people, portrait or cultural photography.

Namibia is a land of great contrasts and Damaraland and Kaokoveld demonstrate this with stark plains, petrified forests and ancient valleys leading to rocky outcrops, the soaring peaks of the Brandberg massive mountains. We will pass over Namibia's highest mountain, the Brandberg, the Messum Crater, which houses the desert plant, Welwitschia mirabilis and Twyfelfontein, a rock strewn hillside full of engravings and petroglyphs. We will also pass over the burnt mountain and the organ pipes, a mass of basalt slabs in a ravine gouged out by a river. All in all, a landscape photographer's dream setting.

# The Himba People

The Himba are semi-nomadic pastoralists who live in Kaokoland. The area is very rugged, dry, remote and mountainous. The Himba live by herding sheep, goats and some cattle and they move location several times a year to graze their livestock. They are descendants of the Herero and speak the same language. Their houses are simple cone-shaped structures made with saplings covered in mud and dung. The Himba maintain their traditional beliefs including ancestor worship and rituals concerning sacred fire (okoruwo) which is considered an important link between the living and the dead.

The Himba are a striking people to look at. The women are topless and wear goat skin "mini-skirts" adorned with shells and iron and copper jewellery. Clothes, hairstyle and jewellery are all of particular significance to the Himba and are part of their tradition and culture. Even newborn babies are adorned with pearl necklaces. The men wear goatskin loin cloths. Both men and women smear their skin with a mixture of rancid butter, ash and ochre to protect them from the harsh desert climate. The paste (Otjize) is often mixed with the aromatic resin of the omuzumba shrub, akin to adding perfume to a suntan lotion. As well as protection from the sun, the deep red colour is a highly desirable look in the Himba culture. It is eye-catching, beautiful and very photogenic. The Himba use the same paste (Otjize) in their hair which is long and plaited into intricate designs.

For the most part, the modern world hasn't yet intruded on their traditional way of life which is why (ironically) increasing numbers of photographers are keen to visit the Himba. That is not to say that the Himba are a relic of the past, no tribe on earth lives in a time capsule. But rather, they have held on to their traditions and adapted to outside influences in their own way. We will visit a Himba village where we will be permitted to photograph for a number of hours.

# Day 8, 9, & 10: Little Ongava Lodge – next door to Etosha National Park

<u>Little Ongava</u>, in the private 66,000 acre Ongava game reserve shares a common boundary with Etosha National Park, nestles on the crest of a hill with wonderful views onto the plains below.

Departing after breakfast we fly to Little Ongava with its own private reservation and right on the door step of Etosha National Park, one of Southern Africa's finest and most important game reserves. There are no fences between the private reservation and the park.

Here you will enjoy unrivalled privacy with only three spacious suites, each with private plunge pool, en-suite bathroom, a sala, and outdoor shower with views of the waterhole in front of camp. Little Ongava lends itself to a relaxed, stylish environ for visitors.

A kaleidoscope of Africa wildlife can be seen at many of the water holes in the reserve has resident White and Black Rhino plus a healthy predator population. Guests share a dedicated guide, ensuring the optimum nature experience at one of Africa's great wilderness destinations.

A highlight at Ongava is that it is one of the few private game reserves in southern Africa where you have a chance of photographing both Black and White Rhino.

For those who enjoy close wildlife encounters, tracking White Rhino on foot with an armed guide is possible here.

Ongava Game Reserve also has a good population of Lion, Eland, Hartmann's Mountain Zebra, Black-faced Impala and a number of other antelope species. Species that can be seen year-round include Elephant, Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Giraffe, Zebra, Wildebeest, Springbok, Gemsbok, Kudu and the diminutive Damara Dik-Dik.

Birdlife is also good with Ostrich and raptors in abundance. Local specials include the Short-toed Rockthrush, Hautlaub's Francolin, Rockrunner, Rüppell's Parrot, White-tailed Shrike and Chestnut Weaver.

Etosha was declared a National Park in 1907 and covering an area of 22 270 square km, it is home to 114 mammal species, 340 bird species, 110 reptile species, 16 amphibian species and, surprisingly, one species of fish.

Etosha (meaning "Great White Place"), is dominated by a massive mineral pan. The pan is part of the Kalahari Basin, the floor of which was formed around 1000 million years ago. The Etosha Pan covering around 25% of the National Park was originally a lake fed by the Kunene River. However the course of the river changed thousands of years ago and the lake dried up. The pan now is a large dusty depression of salt and dusty clay which fills only if the rains are heavy and even then only holds water for a short time. This temporary water in the Etosha Pan attracts thousands of wading birds including impressive flocks of flamingos. The perennial springs along the edges of the Etosha Pan draw large concentrations of wildlife and birds.

The game viewing in Etosha National Park is excellent, the best time being from late-May to late-September - the cooler months in Namibia. This photo safari is timed to be there at the optimum time of year and when the large crowds of visitors found in July and August have gone. There is a network of roads linking the three campsites and subsidiary roads lead to various waterholes.

Due to the extremely dry desert conditions, photographing wildlife in Namibia is very different from the majority of other African countries where water is more plentiful. Normally, on safari, a photographer drives through the landscape, searching for and photographing wildlife as it is found. In Etosha, one simply waits in their vehicle by a water hole to photograph the neverending parade of animals that are forced to visit the water holes every day for survival. Gripping predator/prey dramas unfold in front of you near the water's edge. In Etosha virtually every water hole has a different mix of animals that frequent it, so exploration of a number of them id possible.

This spectacular "winter" gathering of animals at the evaporating water holes and artesian springs on the Etosha Pan constitutes some of the greatest diversity of mammal species seen anywhere. Throngs of remarkable animals, such as greater kudu, gemsbok, springbok, southern giraffe, zebras and the endangered black-faced impalas, come to drink at the small desert pools dotting the park. Etosha is famous for its huge elephant herds; black rhinos are still observed regularly, and predators such as lions, leopards and cheetahs are seen frequently.

#### Day 11: Return to Windhoek

After a last morning shoot we fly back to Windhoek and from there to Johannesburg for the return international flights home

Please ensure you read the section headed "Other Important Information" in pages 9- 16 below.





# OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

# 1. Iconic Images International Pty Ltd and

Iconic Images International Pty Ltd ("Iconic Images") is a company registered in Western Australia and in conjunction with C4 Images & Safaris, registered in South Africa ("C4 Images") will assist guide participants during the land package segment of the photo safari.

Iconic Images is not a travel agent or travel service provider in Australia.

#### 2. Flightworld

The booking agent for this photo safari is **Flightworld**, 200 St. Georges Tce. Perth, Western Australia, Licence Number 9TA 00796, and to whom all payments for the photo safari will be made upon registration. They may be contacted at:

Flightworld, 200 St Georges Terrace, Perth, Western Australia 6000. Telephone: +61 8 9322 2914 Contact: Mrs Khush Suntoke

Email: khush@flightworld.com.au

Flightworld acting as the booking agent for this photo safari can also assist you with flights to/from Africa and with any private extensions to the photo safari you may wish to arrange either before the photo safari commences or after it finishes.

#### 3. Costs & Terms of Payment

The photo safari commences in Johannesburg on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and finishes in Johannesburg on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

The all-inclusive cost is **US\$19,950.00/AUD\$19,450.00** per person, twin share. If specifically requested, a single supplement of US\$2,450.00/AUD\$2390.00 is applicable.

# Terms of Payment are as follows:

- 1. A non-refundable 50% deposit together with the signed Registration Form, no later than 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012. *Places will be allocated strictly on the basis of receipt of the completed Registration Form together with payment of the first deposit and a copy of the travel insurance policy referred to below.*
- A second non-refundable payment of the balance no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013.

#### 4. What Is Included in the Photo Safari

- Pick up/drop off at Windhoek Airport
- Transport (air & ground) for the entire photo safari
- Two persons per tent/room (i.e. double occupancy), unless single supplement option is exercised and secured at the time of payment of the first deposit.
- All park entrance fees where applicable
- All meals commencing with dinner on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and finishing with breakfast on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- All accommodation at the lodges mentioned
- All alcohol and other drinks
- Continuous assistance with your wildlife photography and image processing by the professional photographers
- The services of experienced local drivers/guides

- Gratuities to drivers/local guides; these may be 'topped-up' voluntarily
- Tour leaders who understand the needs of photographers

Note: There will be a maximum of three (3) photographers per vehicle when photographing

#### 5. What Is Not Included in the Photo Safari

- Optional activities
- Personal Travel/Medical insurance costs
- Travel visas and associated costs
- Airport taxes (if applicable)
- Expenses of a personal nature not specifically included above.
- International airfares from international destination to Johannesburg, return
- Credit card surcharges (as per Flightworld's policy)

#### 6. Cancellation Policy & Fees

Flightworld must receive written notice of any cancellation by you at which time, the following cancellation fees will apply:

- If cancelled 90 days or more before departure a fee equal to 50% of the photo safari cost will be payable.
- If cancelled less than 90 days before departure, or in the case of a "no show" on the date of departure, a fee equal to 100% of the photo safari cost will be payable.
- Failure to pay by the due dates will be deemed to be a cancellation of the booking and all fees paid prior to the due date will be nonrefundable.
- Bookings made within 60 days of the departure date must be paid in full on booking.
- Any changes made 45 days prior to departure for private pre or post photo safari flight and or land arrangements made through Flightworld will incur an A\$55.00 amendment fee.

No refunds will be made for unused portions or services of the photo safari for any reason. The photo safari is sold as *a land package only*. Cancellation fees are not transferable.

For flight cancellations and any private pre and/or post photo safari arrangements, please refer to the booking agent, Flightworld, or to your own

booking agent, if used, for any specific conditions.

Credit card surcharges will apply if the fees are paid by credit card. Flightworld accepts all credit cards, Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Diners, all of which attract a surcharge of 2%. Direct deposit facilities are available and details may be obtained from Flightworld.

Iconic Images reserves the right to cancel this photo safari. In the event of this happening, all payments received for the land package will be refunded, but the participant shall have no further claim, of any nature whatsoever, against Iconic Images, or its agents, arising out of such cancellation. Any such refund will not include payments or cancellation charges for any bookings for private or additional services made in addition to the itinerary outlined above. Responsibility for such bookings lies solely with the participant.

#### 7. Insurance Is Compulsory

Due to the remote destinations in this photo safari, participants are **required** to purchase emergency evacuation insurance coverage at their expense. **To emphasize**, **emergency evacuation insurance is MANDATORY for this photo safari**.

Flightworld can assist you with information and the purchasing of the required insurance.

Due to the non-refundability of monies paid, as required above, participants are strongly urged to purchase travel protection insurance at time of or prior to paying the first deposit.

Iconic Images and its agents do not represent that insurance will cover such risk of loss of deposit and other payments.

If you pay for this photo safari using your credit card and you opt to use the general travel insurance associated with major credit cards, we urge you to check that this cover provides fully for emergency evacuation. Also, please ensure that all pre-existing medical conditions, if any, are made known to the insurance underwriter at the time of application for your insurance for this photo safari. These precautions will assist avoid any delays in the event that an emergency evacuation or other medical services are called upon, under your policy. You should disclose your participation in this photo safari to your insurer.

#### 8. Health Considerations

This photo safari is designed to be within the capabilities of average people in good health. Some of the time participants may be required to walk over uneven terrain or trails, stepping into an out of Land Cruiser type vehicles, occasionally hiking -- while carrying an assortment of sometimes heavy camera equipment. If you have concerns about your own capabilities and/or fitness as it relates to this trip, please enquire with the booking agent, before reserving a place.

By forwarding a signed Registration Form and paying the initial non-refundable 25% deposit, you warrant that, to the best of your knowledge, you do not have any physical or other disability that would create a risk for you or other trip participants. Flightworld reserves the right to request a medical certificate from a participant at any time before departure or during the photo safari. The booking agent's judgment will ultimately determine an individual's ability to embark upon the photo safari. Once a booking has been accepted by Flightworld, medical circumstances will not be considered as exceptions to the cancellation policy. Iconic Images assumes no responsibility for medical care or for special dietary requirements. Due to the remote destinations of some parts of this photo safari, participants are required to purchase emergency evacuation insurance coverage (see Section 6 above, headed "Insurance is Compulsory").

If you sustain an injury or become ill on the photo safari, Iconic Images/C4 Images reserves the right to continue the photo safari for the benefit of other participants. Iconic Images/C4 Images will make every effort to assist you while at the same time trying to minimize interruption to the photo safari.

Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Iconic Images/C4 Images reserve the absolute discretion, in the event of behaviour detrimental to other persons, to decline any person's participation at any time during the photo safari and cancel that person's participation in the photo safari, in which case any refund will be on a recoverable cost basis only.

#### 9. Responsibility

Iconic Images and/or its agents act only as agents for the participants in this photo safari, in regard to travel arrangements including, but not limited to,

sightseeing, meals, lodging and transportation, whether by railroad, vehicle, motor coach, boat, ship or aircraft. To the fullest extent permitted by law, lconic Images and/or its agents, disclaim liability for injury, damage, loss, or delay which may be occasioned by reason of a defect in any vehicle or for any other reason whatsoever, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the participant or in carrying out the arrangements of the photo safari.

Iconic Images and/or its agents accepts no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine or other causes. All such losses or expenses are borne by the participant, as the photo safari costs provide for arrangements only for the times and locations stated. Baggage, including photographic equipment is at the participant's risk entirely, and as an insurable risk.

Reasonable care has been taken to compile the information in this and the other documents pertaining to this photo safari but circumstances change. For example, airline schedule changes, airline fuel charges, taxes and operational costs are subject to change. Iconic Images and/or its agents are not responsible for changes that occur and reserve the right to change the price up to the date of commencement of the photo safari. Changes in price may also include adjustments for adverse currency exchange fluctuations.

The right is reserved by Iconic Images to (i) substitute hotels/lodges/tents/camps of similar category for those indicated and to make any changes in the itinerary or transport where deemed necessary or caused by changes in schedules or equipment substitution; (ii) to cancel the photo safari prior to departure, in which case a refund of all payments received for the land package will be given. (However, in such event Iconic Images and/or its agents will not be, responsible for any other trip preparation expenses such as penalized or non-refundable air tickets, visa fees and medical related expenses); (iii) to substitute the photo safari leader(s) for the leader(s) originally specified, in which case the substitution is not a basis for participant cancellation or refund, and (iv) to accept or refuse any person as a participant in the safari.

In the event that, at the sole discretion of Iconic Images/C4 Images, it is necessary or advisable for the photo safari to be cancelled due to such events as outbreak of conflict, government intervention, or withdrawal of access/traffic rights, or in the event of insufficient numbers being available,

the refund of all monies paid, pro rata if applicable after commencement, shall constitute a full and final settlement by Iconic Images and their agents of any obligations to participants. The operation of the photo safari is at the sole discretion of Iconic Images/C4 Images, having in mind the welfare of all participants and the safe and prudent operation of the itinerary and program.

The photo safari price is based on having a minimum of ten (10) participants and on the \$US/AUD\$ currency exchange rate in effect at Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012, and is subject to adjustment in the event this exchange rate changes adversely.

Participants will be informed of such an adjustment, if applicable, fifteen (15) days before making the final payment. Iconic Images is obligated to pay the costs of the photo safari in US dollars.

The Registration Form must be completed and signed by each participant at the time of paying the first deposit. Participation will be declined in the absence of a completed and signed form. No modification to the Terms and Provisions of Registration, detailed on page #3 of the Registration Form, will be accepted.

#### 10. Liability

Iconic Images does not accept any liability of whatever nature, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, for the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise, of third party providers. Under circumstances where liability cannot for any reason be excluded, such liability is limited to the cost of the land package arrangements. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Iconic Images disclaims liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss (including consequential loss), delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by force majeure or any other event which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on the part of Iconic Images.

# 11. Specific Information about Packing Camera Gear

When in vehicles we will not be confined to the usual airline low weight per person, but we suggest you pack your camera gear (i.e. your cameras, lenses, etc.) as your hand luggage so that it can be carried with you onto the plane.

This will ensure if one of your in-hold bags is delayed or lost in transit to Windhoek, at least you can commence photographing as soon as you arrive.

As you will likely be passing through Johannesburg airport it is highly advisable to have your in-hold baggage shrink-wrapped at your international departure airport. Unfortunately, Johannesburg airport has an alleged reputation of baggage theft.

Please DO NOT travel with HARD suitcases; roll-on hold-all/duffle bags are better for packing in the vehicles.

Pack you camera gear in bags such as those manufactured by Lowepro, Think Tank etc.

Ensure you have your long lenses (>300mm) well packed in protective packs designed for such lenses.

Participants will be provided with a more comprehensive information kit prior to departure from Australia and elsewhere.