



Inspiring new ways



September 2015

The essence of any good bucket list consists of overcoming fears, achieving goals, realizing dreams and even simple pleasures. Going on a Safari is at the top of the list for many people. Maybe you are hesitant because you consider it too expensive, too time-consuming, too difficult to plan...a once-in-a-lifetime trip that you kept putting off until, well, never. But the truth is that there's never been a better or easier moment to take a safari. Here are some of the biggest myths about safaris, debunked by *Condé Nast Traveler (June 2015)*. Many misconceptions about safaris turn out to be just that. Here's how to stop worrying...and (finally) book that great African adventure!

MYTH #1: YOU NEED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS TO REALLY DO IT RIGHT.

FACT: Not only is it possible to do it in a week—it may even be preferable (and it's certainly less tiring). Most experts agree: Eight days is all you need for an African safari, which is good news for travelers who can't swing two weeks or more out of the office. The eight-day safari is also perfect for beginners, because if you really fall in love with it, you can always return and plan so much more.

More information:

<http://www.cntraveler.com/stories/2015-06-23/everything-you-thought-you-knew-about-safari-is-wrong>





MYTH #2: SAFARIS ARE CRAZY EXPENSIVE.

FACT: Considering all that's included, they're actually a great value.

No one will ever call them cheap, but remember that the price per person—about \$600 a night on average—includes everything: meals, drinks (that usually means sundowners while watching a pride of lions), game drives, guided walks, and other activities, along with airport transfers and park entry fees. The only add-on is tipping, generally about \$20 per person a day for a guide and \$10 a day for a tracker

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MYTH #3: SAFARIS ARE WAY TOO STRENUOUS

FACT: In fact—as special projects editor Stephen Orr discovered—they're more sedentary than you ever expected.

I still dream of the animals, sights, and sounds I experienced on my recent safari in South Africa. But as a first-timer, I also experienced one challenge that no one had told me about, and that I came to call “The Tyranny of Mealtime”. We simply ate too much. There was early breakfast before our first sunrise outing, then second breakfast, then a long lunch, then a lavish afternoon tea, then an evening “surprise-and-delight” stop somewhere out in the bush around a fire pit and finally a three-course dinner. This happened every day—for four days.

More information: www.cntraveler.com/stories/2015-06-23/everything-you-thought-you-knew-about-safari-is-wrong



Instagram: @destinationdesign



MYTH #4: YOU CAN PLAN IT YOURSELF

FACT: Don't even try it. Putting your safari in the hands of a specialist is the only way to go.

Most safari experts have been at it for decades. They know all the top guides and naturalists, and they have long-standing relationships with camp and lodge operators. They'll tell you where you should stay to get the most bang for your buck, and they'll keep an eye on booking trends that could yield huge savings. Most important, they'll make sure you're taking the safari you actually want to take.

More information:

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FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA – SEPTEMBER 2015



WILLISTON WINTER FESTIVAL

When: 2 – 6 Sept 2015

Where: Williston

More information: www.karoospace.co.za

This year the festival will be the best thing to do in the Karoo over the flower season and is the best time to visit this area. Not only will there be again more than 100 "rieldancers". There will be lots of stalls and a chance to sample delicious Karoo food.



THE WITNESS HILTON ARTS FESTIVAL

When: 2 – 6 Sept 2015

Where: Hilton

More information: www.hiltonfestival.co.za

The Witness Hilton Arts Festival is the premier arts festival of KwaZulu Natal and one of the leading festivals in South Africa. It is a feast of theatre, music, dance, craft and visual art, as well as excellent food.



SANI DRAGON

When: 25 – 26 Sept 2015

Where: Sani Pass (Drakensberg Mountains)

More information: www.sanidragon.co.za

This is a two-day cycling event that takes participants through some of the prettiest parts of the KwaZulu-Natal Province imaginable, right in the foothills of the magnificent Drakensberg Mountain Range. As such, it sets the perfect scene for cyclists to test their skills and endurance while drinking in breath-taking views.



MORE EVENTS

- Nederburg Wine Auction (11-12 Sept) www.nederburgauction.co.za
- Tulbagh Spring Arts Festival (11 – 13 Sept) www.tulbaghartsfestival.co.za
- Franschoek Uncorked (26-27 Sept) www.franschoekuncorked.co.za
- Moshito (10-12 Sept) www.moshito.co.za
- BMW International polo Test Series (20 Sept) www.sapolo.co.za
- Taste of Joburg (25-28 Sept) www.tasteofjoburg.com

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