

### Welcome



Travel has been my life for over 20 years. St Augustine's famous quote remains as true to me today as it was when I first set up 2by2 Holidays – "the world is a book and those who do not travel, read only one page".

My first love was Africa, the place of my birth. Its remarkable wildlife and cultures continue to captivate me today. A recent visit to the wildlife of the

Serengeti has starkly reminded me just how fragile the survival of so many endangered species remains and reinforced my belief that travel must always have conservation at its heart.

In recent years I have discovered the joys of travel in the Indian subcontinent and Latin America. The iconic sites and cultures there are no less enthralling and everywhere wildlife adapts and survives, from harsh barren deserts to cool mountain cloud forests and tropical wetlands.

My enthusiasm burns as brightly as ever and I continue to be as involved in every aspect of the business as I always have been, backed up by our superb travel team. I'm particularly thrilled that so many of our customers return time after time.

I do hope you find our latest brochure inspiring and we all look forward to hearing from you.

Hambe Kahle – Travel Safely

Claire Favley

Claire Farley Managing Director

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### About Us

We specialise in tailor-made holidays to Southern & East Africa, Latin America and the Indian subcontinent – regions that are often difficult to explore on your own.

The excitement of long haul travel starts in the early planning stages, as you browse through inspirational travel sites, speak to friends and gather information from magazines and brochures such as ours. At 2by2 Holidays we understand this anticipation, as we ourselves are passionate travellers. We love to listen to your ideas and supplement them with our own experiences to help you plan the best possible trip – tailored to your special interests and budget.

Our sales team regularly visit the countries we sell to ensure our specialist knowledge remains up-to-date. Through our extensive contacts in each destination, we are also happy to research unusual activities and excursions for you.

With our expert knowledge we can advise you on all the great wildlife reserves in the world and help you to explore iconic cultural highlights in countries that you never thought you

would be able to visit on your own, as our experiences of these destinations is truly second to none.

Our tradition of customer service has been a vital element of our success and many of our customers come back year after year. Be rest assured that you will be well looked after every step of the way as you explore these remarkable countries with their astonishing wildlife, colourful cultures and breathtaking landscapes.



#### **Types of Holidays**

We tailor make all our holidays so you can choose to travel by road, plane, luxury train, houseboat or expedition cruise. We can arrange a private driver/ guide, you can self drive or join an escorted tour.

Browse through our brochure to see the wide range of destinations and types of holidays we offer. The example itineraries are intended to be a starting point, so ring us if you would like to talk with someone who has travelled to the country you are interested in. To see what travel options are possible, these symbols are shown under each example itinerary:

#### **Our Values**

Travel should be a force for good, especially where tourism is a crucial source of revenue for local people. We want you to experience the very best holiday and at the same time, where we can, help to contribute something back to the communities you visit.

#### **Auriel Holidays**

Our sister company, Auriel Holidays, is a retail travel agent that operates worldwide. Auriel Holidays is ABTA bonded (P8305) and can book bespoke holidays, luxury hotels and cruises anywhere in the world.

2by2 Holidays

world you live.

2by2 Holidays holds an Air Travel

Organisers Licence from the UK Civil

Aviation Authority (ATOL 9025) which

provides financial protection if you live in

the UK, and we book some or all of your

above criteria are protected through our

our Client Trust Account, so your holiday

is financially protected wherever in the

flights. Holidays that do not meet the





Travel with confidence P8305

Land Transfers











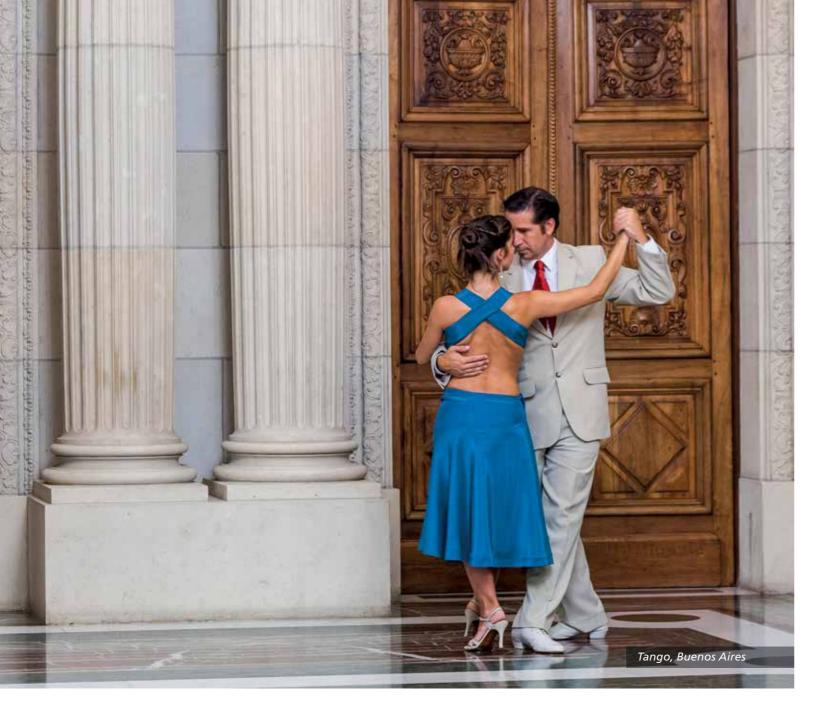






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Email us at info@2by2holidays.co.uk or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk



# Argentina

Argentina is a big country in every sense. It is wonderfully diverse, blending sophisticated city life with truly amazing food and breathtaking scenery – from the rainforests of Iguazu and arid landscapes of Salta, to the spectacular glaciers of Patagonia.

The capital Buenos Aires is the true heart of Argentina. Located on the estuary of the enormous Rio de la Plata (River of Silver), it epitomises the history and versatility of this fascinating country and is the main entry point for visitors. A café and market culture holds swav in this sophisticated and well-organised modern city, where everything is on offer from the finest steaks in the world to Eva Peron's famous Pink House, the 'Casa Rosada'.

Any trip to Buenos Aires should include a tango show. You don't have to join in, but the elegance and symbolism of this national dance will leave you spellbound. You can also take a boat excursion to the Tigre Delta, or a day trip to a gaucho estancia (cowboy ranch) to experience the unique skills, dress and traditions of these famous horsemen. Be sure to taste an empanada, a small traditional pie, and enjoy an asado (barbecue) accompanied

by fine Argentinian wine. Serious riders should opt for a longer stay at a ranch further afield, set against a backdrop of the Sierra Chica Mountains, or play a chukka or two on the polo field.

For sunshine and sand you can visit the beach-lined coast of Uruguay, which is easily reached from Buenos Aires by hydrofoil across the Rio de la Plata. Head for glamorous Punta del Este or laid-back, arty Jose Ignacio.

At the northeastern tip of the country are the Iguazu Falls, shared with Brazil, where they are called Iguassu, and one of the most inspiring waterfalls in the world. Meaning 'Great Waters', these magnificent falls are twice the size of Niagara and constitute one of the major must-see sights on the planet. Both sides of the falls can be visited with ease, with the Brazilian side providing postcard views whilst the Argentinian side affords the best opportunity to explore the rainforest and the many cataracts.

Comprising over 275 separate cascades, the Iguazu Falls form a curtain of foaming water that crashes over a vast granite amphitheatre into the jungle below. Resembling a reverse 'J', most of the river plunges down through an area known as the Devil's Throat, with the rest spreading out over a wide shelf that splits into hundreds of different waterfalls. There are a series of walkways that lead above, below and behind the falls with breathtaking views. You can also hope to see monkeys, toucans, parakeets and other wildlife that live in this rainforest.

Upstream from the falls you can discover the lush Iryapu rainforest, staying in a comfortable jungle lodge and exploring on foot with a local guide or by boat, gliding through the waterways. You should see a great diversity of butterflies and many vivid tropical birds such as the Plain parakeet, Black-fronted piping guan, Great dusky swift and elusive Harpy eagle. Interesting reptiles and insects abound



and if you are fortunate you may catch a glimpse of one of the larger creatures that live here such as the caiman, coati, jaguar, jaguarundi, tapir, anteater or ocelot.

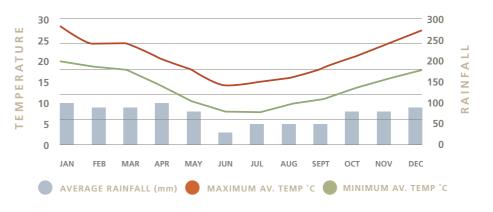
For red wine aficionados, Mendoza in the west, is the country's wine capital. Argentina is world-famous for making superb wines from the Malbec grape and here you can tour the vineyards, see how the wine is made and sample the results. The tranquil town of Cafayate in the north, set amongst spectacular Andean mountains, is Argentina's second wine centre and specialises in dry white wine made from the Torrontés grape.

Also in the northwest, around the old colonial town of Salta, you will find stunning geological features and fantastically coloured rock formations. Dominated by the Andes, the local culture is strong here.



### When to go

The best time to visit Buenos Aires, the Lake District and Mendoza winelands is November to March (the warm summer), but April/May (autumn) and September/October (spring) are also very pleasant. June to August is the cold winter. The Iguazu Falls have their highest water flow between March and May following the summer rains, but they are a spectacular sight at any time of year. Patagonia is best from November to March but, being so far south, the weather can be very changeable. Most facilities close from April to August, when heavy clouds obscure the mountains and temperatures drop sharply.



Arrive in Buenos Aires DAY 2 City tour & tango show DAYS 3/4 Fly to Puerto Madryn & Valdez Peninsula, with its rich marine life including penguins, seals, sea lions & whales in season Fly to Ushuaia to visit Tierra del Fuego National Park, with boat ride on Beagle Channel Fly to El Calafate, with visit to Los Glaciares National Park & the Perito Moreno Glacier

DAYS 10/12 Fly to Iguazu, with tours of both sides of the falls **DAYS 13/14** Fly to Buenos Aires/Depart







This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk







↑ fter visiting the High Mountain Museum, take a trip to the highaltitude Salinas Grande salt flats, staying at the Indian village of Purmamarca and returning via the dramatic landscapes of Humahuaca Gorge. You can also take the narrow gauge 'Train to the Clouds' travelling through the multi-coloured Toro Gorge, a fabulous journey through dense forest and brightly coloured canyons.

In the southwest of the country the Lake District beckons, with fresh air and adventure. The scenic alpine town of Bariloche, with its strong German community, is an ideal base from which to explore the stunningly beautiful Nahuel Huapi National Park. Take in the pristine glacial lakes and verdant green landscapes, all with an Andean backdrop. An excursion into Chile's Lake District can easily be arranged, with a scenic boat crossing to Puerto Varas.

Patagonia in the far south is Argentina's essential must-see. This spectacular region of mountains and ice is usually accessed from El Calafate, the gateway town to Los Glaciares National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where you can see the famous Perito Moreno Glacier. With luck you may see it 'calving', when huge chunks of ice break off the glacier and crash into the lake below. The Southern Patagonia Ice Field dominates this region of towering mountains and glacial lakes and a boat ride to the base of the glacier is an unforgettable experience. You can also visit an 'estancia' (ranch) or take a boat ride up the northern arm of Lake Argentino to the Upsala Glacier.

To view marine life, head to Puerto Madryn on the eastern Atlantic coast. The Valdés Peninsula is a site of global significance for the conservation of threatened marine species and you can expect to see elephant seals, penguins, orcas and numerous seabirds. Southern right whales also breed here. The whale-watching season extends from May to December, but the best chances of sightings are in September and October. On land look for the rhea, a large flightless ostrich-like bird, and the Patagonia fox. You can also enjoy Welsh tea cakes in Gaiman, Trelew and Trevelin which are home to a large Welsh

At the tip of the continent, on the island of Tierra del Fuego you will find the regional capital of Ushuaia, which is the southernmost city in the world. Patagonia expedition cruises set off from here, navigating from Ushuaia to Punta Arenas in Chile and vice versa. Sail through the Beagle Channel to Wulaia Bay and Cape Horn and cruise through the magnificent fjords and glaciers of Glacier Alley, whilst looking out for marine life such as elephant seals and sea lions. Some cruises visit the Magellan penguins on Tucker Islets and Ainsworthy Bay, while others visit Magdalena Island. Each day shore excursions are arranged to view glaciers and the breathtaking scenery, so remember to wrap up warmly. Transfers to shore are by 'panga', a rubber-sided zodiac boat, and are a thrilling experience.

Ushuaia is also the setting off point for most cruises to the Falkland Islands and Antarctica.







Arrive in Buenos Aires, with city tour & tango show DAYS 3/5 Fly to Iguazu, with tours of both sides of the falls Fly to Salta & visit High Mountain Museum **DAYS 8/9** Overnight trip to Salinas Grande salt flats, Indian village of Purmamarca & magnificent Humahuaca Gorge DAYS 10/11 Overnight trip to Cachi & Cafayate winelands

**DAYS 12/13** Fly to the Mendoza winelands DAYS 14/16 Relax in Bariloche in the beautiful Lake District DAYS 17/18 Visit the Perito Moreno glacier

in El Calafate

DAYS 19/20 Fly to Buenos Aires/Depart



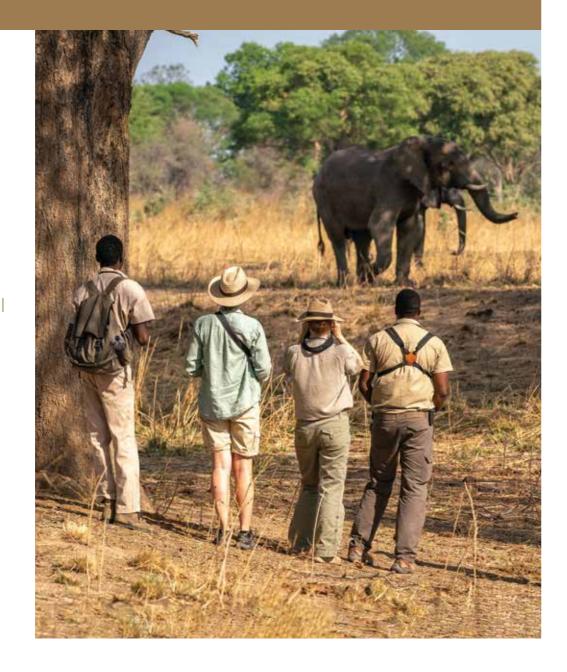




This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

## Special Interest Holidays

Travel offers a wonderful opportunity to do and see things that you have previously only dreamed of. We can introduce you to a wonderland of new experiences and if you have a particular passion or interest, we are the people to talk to. Known for our wildlife and cultural holidays, we also have expertise in many other specialisms. Unlike most travel companies, we take the time to research and book even the most unusual requests. Here we highlight some of the special interest holidays that other customers have loved.





### Walking

f you enjoy hiking, we offer a thrilling range of walking safaris – ranging from a few hours in the early morning or late afternoon, accompanied by an armed ranger, to specialised walking camps in Botswana and South Africa where all game viewing is on foot. We also offer point-to-point trails in Zambia, where you can spend a week walking from one remote bush camp to another – a truly unforgettable experience!

You can trek to see mountain gorillas, and in most of our destinations we can incorporate a variety of walking and hiking trails into your itinerary, ranging from day hikes to waterfalls and volcanoes in Costa Rica, to Peru's iconic Inca Trail and Nepal's stunning Annapurna Trek.

If you are sufficiently fit, you can even combine a safari in East Africa with climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, accompanied by experienced mountain guides.

### Birding

any of our customers are avid birders who want to spot regional endemics, as well as increase their life list, whilst others are more casual birders who simply enjoy the pleasure of identifying known species and spotting new ones. Whichever category you fit into, we know how important it is to design an itinerary that visits the best birding regions, at the right time of year.

With our extensive network of

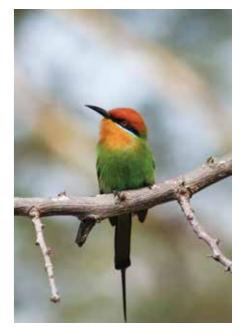


specialist birding guides, we can tailor make private tours to key destinations such as Costa Rica, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Galapagos, Brazil, Guyana, Madagascar, South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania, India, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. We can also help you track down iconic species, such as the Harpy eagle in Panama.

We offer cheaper lodge-based birding holidays too, using guides employed by



the various lodges – although the quality of guiding can vary – and a few scheduled departure tours in high demand countries such as Costa Rica.







### Sports & Cultural Events

As we tailor make all our holidays, we cater to a wide range of special interests.

#### Golf

Our golf holidays in South Africa are particularly popular, allowing golfers to escape the northern winter and combine championship golf with wine tasting and a luxury safari or beach break. You can select the courses you wish to play, varying from social to world class.

#### Riding

Our riding holidays vary from thrilling mobile horseback safaris in Big Five territory for experienced riders, to familyfriendly lodge-based riding holidays suitable for all levels.

#### Diving

The Indian Ocean offers outstanding diving in warm water, from Kenya all the way down to Zanzibar, Mozambique and South Africa, as well as the islands of the Maldives, Andamans, Mauritius, Seychelles

and Madagascar. Galapagos offers liveaboard dive ships, whilst Mexico and Belize offer superb Caribbean diving.

#### **Fishing**

These same regions offer some of the best deep-sea fishing in the world. To this must be added the renowned fishing waters of the Baja Peninsula in Mexico.

#### **Sports Events**

Sports events are often the catalyst for a special holiday. We can source tickets to rugby internationals in South Africa and Argentina, as well as cricket tests in India, Sri Lanka and South Africa. We can also arrange Grand Prix packages.

#### **Cultural Events**

We can also build a holiday around special events such as the Rio Carnival, Holi in India or the Day of the Dead celebrations in Mexico





Expedition cruises explore regions that are difficult to reach in other ways, whilst relaxing houseboats provide a different perspective from the water.

#### **Expedition Cruises**

Expedition cruises to the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador are the best way to explore the unique wildlife of this stunning archipelago. Itineraries vary in length from several days to a week or more, with a wide choice of boats varying in size, design and cost.

Patagonia expedition cruises sail from southern Argentina to Chile, and vice versa, navigating via Glacier Alley and Cape Horn.

Expedition cruises to the Falkland Islands and Antarctica use much larger vessels capable of handling the polar ice.

You need to be relatively mobile to enjoy an expedition cruise, as you will disembark twice a day for excursions, making your way down a gangplank into a zodiac-type inflatable.



#### Houseboats

Houseboats are a relaxing way to watch the world go by. They are the perfect way to explore the mighty Amazon River, the largest in South America, whether boarding from Manaus in Brazil, Coca in Ecuador or Iquitos in Peru.

You can also explore Brazil's southern Pantanal by houseboat or sail down the Magdalena River in Colombia.

India has houseboats that sail down the Brahamaputra and Ganges Rivers and are wonderful for observing local life. You can also spend a night on a traditional rice houseboat gliding through the Kerala backwaters. In Africa, Botswana has houseboats on the Chobe River, superb for both wildlife viewing and tiger fishing, whilst Zimbabwe has houseboats on Lake Kariba. Lake Jozini in South Africa also offers tiger fishing by houseboat.

Houseboat facilities will be en suite, but expect the cabins on many boats to be relatively small and simple.

#### **Ocean Cruises**

Through our sister company, Auriel Holidays, we can source a wide variety of ocean cruises that can tie in with tailor-made land arrangements, either before or after your cruise.









### Luxury Trains

If you love train travel, there is no better way of leisurely exploring a country than aboard one of the world's iconic luxury trains, travelling in the utmost comfort with superb dining.

### **Southern Africa**

#### **Rovos Rail**

The nostalgic Rovos Rail train journeys across Southern Africa at a leisurely pace, pulling along its historic reconditioned carriages. The traditional observation car provides a delightful way of viewing the unfolding landscape, whilst enjoying superb service and delicious food and wine – everything from mouth-watering afternoon teas to cocktails and formal dinners. All off-train excursions are included. Dress code is smart casual, but a little more formal in the evening.

A selection of short journeys is available in both directions (two to four nights), with three cabin styles – Pullman, Deluxe or Royal:

- Pretoria to Cape Town
- Pretoria to Victoria Falls
- Pretoria to Durban

Longer journeys are also available in both directions:

- South Africa Collage (Pretoria to Cape Town)
- South Africa to Namibia
- Dar Es Salaam to South Africa
- Dar Es Salaam to Angola

A few specialist golf journeys are also available in both directions:

- Golf Collage (Pretoria to Cape Town)
- Golf Safari (Sun City, Durban and Kruger)

#### **Blue Train**

The modern Blue Train also travels regularly between Pretoria and Cape Town.



#### India

India is well served by a range of luxury trains that offer superb service and dining reminiscent of the opulent Maharaja era.

#### Maharaja's Express

The famous Maharaja's Express is India's most luxurious train and offers a wonderful way to explore the treasures of the Golden Triangle and Rajasthan, starting from Delhi. A short three-night journey visits the stunning Taj Mahal in Agra, Ranthambore Tiger Reserve and Jaipur in Rajasthan. A longer trip includes Orchha Fort, the magnificent temples of Khajuraho and the sacred city of Varanasi. There is also a journey that combines the Golden Triangle with more of Rajasthan including Bikaner, Jodhpur and beautiful Udaipur - before continuing all the way to Mumbai. This trip is available in both directions. There are four different cabins – Deluxe, Junior Suite, Suite or Presidential Suite.

#### Palace on Wheels

The opulent Palace on Wheels, India's original luxury train, also starts in Delhi and explores the Golden Triangle and Rajasthan including a longer route to Jaipur, Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Chittorgarh Fort, Udaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Agra before returning to Delhi. The train has two different cabins - Deluxe or Super Deluxe.

#### **Deccan Odyssey**

The blue Deccan Odyssey explores the state of Maharashtra in style, including the holy city of Nashik, the incredible Ellora and Ajanta Caves with their magnificent sculptures and paintings, the temples of Kolhapur and the beaches of Goa. Another route links Mumbai with Delhi, travelling via Udaipur, Jaipur, Agra and Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. There are two cabin styles – Deluxe or Presidential Suite.

#### **Golden Chariot**

The luxurious Golden Chariot train explores South India. Starting from Bengaluru, the Karnataka route visits Bandipur Tiger Reserve, Mysuru Palace, the temples of Halebid, the hill station of Chikkamagaluru, the spectacular ruined city of Hampi and the beaches of Goa. The Tamil Nadu and Kerala route explores the temples and palaces of Mysuru, the Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram,

the Great Chola temples at Thanjavur, Chettinad Palace and Kochi, including a cruise in a traditional rice houseboat on the Kerala backwaters. This train has one adapted cabin.

#### Peru

#### **Belmond Train**

The luxurious Belmond Train journeys through Peru, travelling from Arequipa to Lake Titicaca and Cusco – gateway to the stunning Inca citadel at Machu Picchu. The train runs in both directions. Be sure to visit Machu Picchu aboard the famous Hiram Bingham train.

#### **Mexico**

#### El Chepe

Although not a luxury train, another iconic train journey is aboard El Chepe, which travels through the stunning Copper Canyon.







### Small Group Tours

We offer a range of sociable small group tours in many of our key destinations, if you don't want to travel independently or self drive.

#### **Southern Africa**

South Africa offers a range of small group tours, travelling from beautiful Cape Town along the scenic Garden Route to Port Elizabeth. Afterwards you can add on a Big Five safari in the Eastern Cape. Alternatively, you can combine the wildlife of the famous Kruger National Park with Eswatini (Swaziland), Zululand and the beaches of Durban.

Namibia tours take in this country's dramatic landscapes, from the Fish River Canyon to Etosha, with longer tours travelling through the lush Caprivi to Victoria Falls.

Botswana wildlife tours are generally done under canvas, exploring the wildlife of the Okavango Delta and Chobe.

#### **East Africa**

Kenya small group tours visit the famous Masai Mara, the elephants of Samburu and Amboseli in the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro, with shorter tours from Mombasa.

Tanzania tours explore the northern circuit of Tarangire, Ngorongoro Crater and the vast open plains of the wildliferich Serengeti.

Uganda tours focus on chimp and gorilla trekking. Ethiopia tours explore its ancient history.

#### **Latin America**

Peru tours visit Cusco and the stunning Inca citadel at Machu Picchu, with an extension to Lake Titicaca and the salt flats of Bolivia. Alternatively, you can combine Peru with Ecuador and the fascinating Galapagos Islands.

Brazil tours combines vibrant Rio de Janeiro with the thundering Iguassu Falls, whilst tours of Argentina and Chile focus on their capital cities and the dramatic landscapes of spectacular Patagonia.

Mexico small group tours explore their pyramids and the spectacular Mayan ruins of the Yucatan, before relaxing on the warm Mayan Riviera.

Through our sister company, Auriel Holidays, we offers tours to many other destinations.

### **Accessible Travel**



If you are a wheelchair user or have limited mobility, long-haul travel poses a unique set of challenges, but as the UK market leader in accessible safari holidays we have considerable expertise in this field. Our greatest experience is in Southern and East Africa, but we have been expanding our knowledge in recent years and we now also offer accessible holidays to India, Sri Lanka and Latin America.

Whether you are simply unsure about travelling without assistance, walk with sticks or use a wheelchair permanently, we can design a holiday appropriate to your needs. We know which hotels and lodges are accessible (i.e. ramps, roll-in showers and grab rails) and which are not, and your private guide can travel with a shower chair if needed. However if you use a power chair, we will need to get the approval of the airline before we can confirm your holiday.

In South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania and Namibia we have access to a small number of accessible vehicles, with ramps for wheelchairs. If you have upper body strength and can transfer into a regular vehicle, you will have more destination choices.

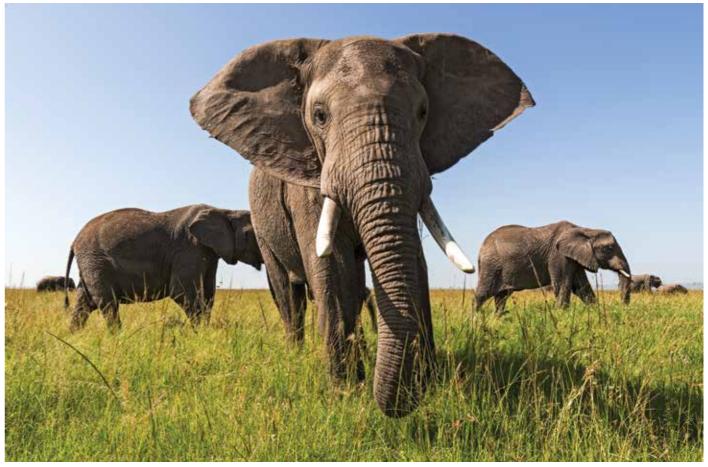
In India we also have a few accessible vehicles on the famous Golden Triangle route. In Latin America accessible vehicles are found mostly in the larger cities, but if you use a manual wheelchair we can take you to places such as Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands.

The accessible section of our website

showcases the many destinations we offer, but as you will have many questions please call us to discuss your specific needs or visit us in person and we will be happy to go through all the details with you.

As accessible hotels, guides and vehicles are always in short supply, you should book your holiday well in advance.







### Book with confidence

#### **Booking your holiday**

When you are ready to book, we will guide you through the process. Our terms and conditions can be found on our website at www.2by2holidays.co.uk.

Through our membership of ATOL (9025), our Client Deposit Trust Account and Tour Operator Insurance, your holiday is financially protected wherever in the world you live.

#### **Copyright and accuracy**

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### Worldwide Holidays

Almost anywhere in the world that 2by2 Holidays doesn't cover, our sister company Auriel Holidays does.









Auriel Holidays brings the same high standards of travel expertise and service as 2by2 Holidays, but as a retail travel agent.

Ring us to discuss a tailor-made holiday anywhere in the world: **01582 766122** or visit www.aurielholidays.co.uk

