

### 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

















Ring us on 01582 766122

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



## Chile

From the dramatic landscapes of the Atacama in the north to the vineyards, lakes and spectacular mountains and glaciers of Patagonia in the south, as well as fascinating Easter Island – Chile is a natural beauty giant!

amous for its wonderful wines and great cuisine, Chile is one of the smallest countries in South America and one of its most prosperous. Averaging only 110 miles wide, it stretches an astonishing 2,650 miles in length, with a remarkable contrast in scenery, as you travel from the salt flats, geysers and barren moon landscapes of Atacama in the north to the breathtaking fjords and glaciers of Patagonia in the south.

Most visitors arrive in the capital of Santiago de Chile, a modern city with

museums, parks, galleries, theatres, traditional bars and cafes. Surrounded by the snow-capped Andes Mountains and the beautiful Chilean Coastal Range, it's one of the less hectic South American capitals. The Gabriela Mistral Cultural Centre, named after Latin America's first female Nobel laureate for literature, is a brilliant example of the city's culture, complete with amazing multi-coloured glass roof. Check out Santiago's downtown with its colonial architecture, famous fish market and the restaurants of the Mercado

Central. Barrio Lastarria, the Bohemian Quarter, is another must-see and on San Cristóbal Hill you will find the amazing Chilean Museum of Pre-Columbian Art.

Santiago is the starting point for exploring the famous Chilean Winelands. The Maipo Valley, known for its exceptional reds, is the closest wine producing region to the capital and some of the oldest and best wineries are found here. The Casablanca Winelands, with their crisp white wines, are also within easy reach on a day tour.



Slightly further south, Santa Cruz and the Colchagua Valley are renowned for their red wines - especially Cabernet Sauvignon, Carménère and Syrah.

On the central coast the two main tourist hotspots are the historic port of Valparaiso, Chile's third largest city, and the popular beach resort of Viña del Mar. Established in 1544, Valparaiso is today a laid-back city with a great maritime tradition, wonderful hilltop neighbourhoods, an attractive maze of cobbled streets and brilliant multicoloured buildings. It is also Chile's foremost educational and cultural centre, with numerous universities, festivals,

street musicians and artists.

In the far north of the country, the vast Atacama is one of the driest and oldest deserts on earth. For centuries the Aymara people have lived here and there are both Inca and pre-Inca remains, such as the mysterious Giant of the Atacama. This is the largest human-like geoglyph in the world and is thought to be an ancient astronomical calendar. The desert extends for almost a third of the country and includes some of the world's most spectacular landscapes and geological phenomena. Its clear night skies also offer world-class star gazing.

Most visitors stay in San Pedro de

Atacama, which is ideally located for excursions to the Salar de Atacama salt flats and Chaxa Lagoon in Los Flamencos National Reserve, with its vast flocks of pink flamingos. Moon Valley and Death Valley offer dramatic clay and salt landscapes, shaped over millennia by the wind. The El Tatio geysers, the largest geothermal fields in the southern hemisphere, are another must-see. Viewing their fumaroles at dawn against a backdrop of the Andes Mountains is simply unforgettable.

You may see vicuña, foxes and cavies on the Altiplano, the immense high plateau that stretches northwards from the Atacama into Bolivia and Peru. A 4x4 journey from San Pedro through these remote rugged landscapes to the incredible salt flats of Bolivia is one of the world's great adventures.

A five-hour flight west from Santiago, across the Pacific, takes you to fascinating Easter Island, where the main attractions are the hundreds of the centuries-old Moai statues, mysteriously carved and erected on this tiny island. Known locally as Rapa Nui, most of the 6,000 inhabitants are descendants of the original Polynesian settlers.



DAY 1 DAYS 2/4

DAY 5

Arrive in Santiago & city tour Fly to San Pedro to view the dramatic landscapes of Atacama, including salt flats, El Tatio Geysers & Moon Valley Fly back to Santiago Fly to Patagonia. Visit Torres Del Paine National Park &

enjoy a boat ride to view the Balmaceda & Serrano Glaciers YS 9/11 Relax in the historic port city of

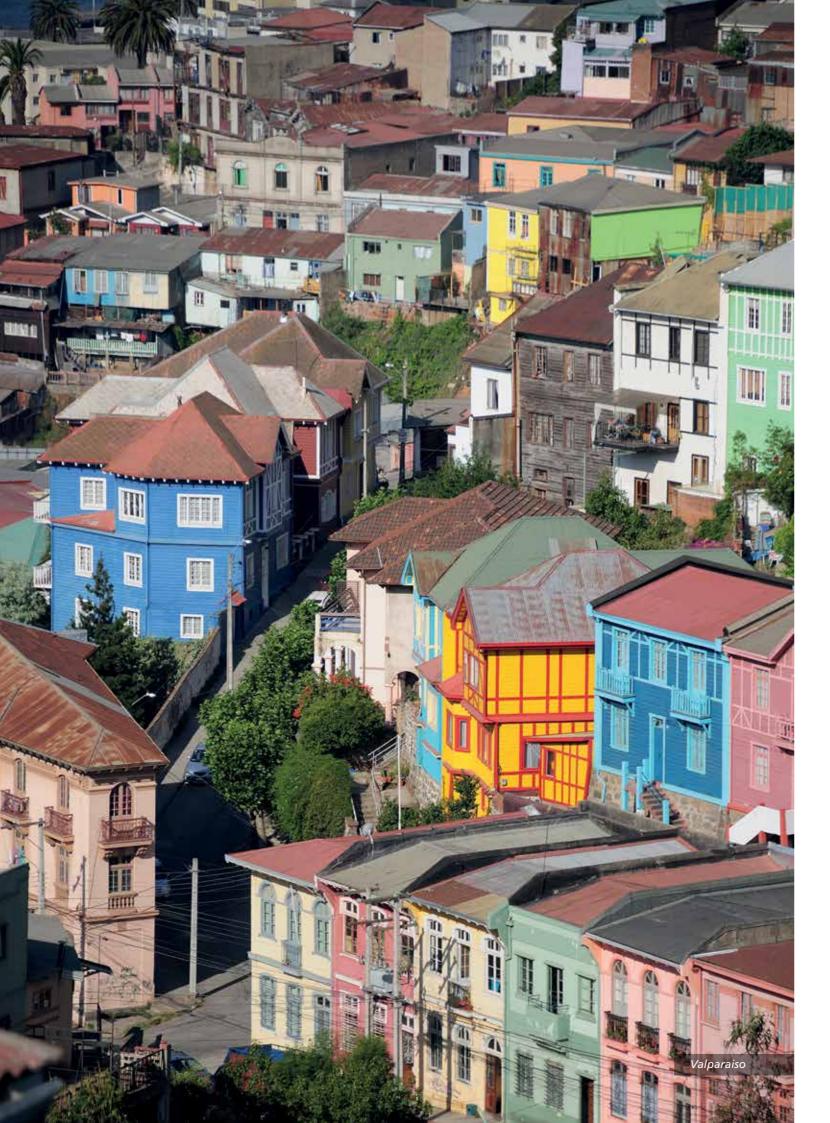
Valparaiso **DAY 12** Depart from Santiago

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

When to go

Chile is a very long and narrow country, with many different weather patterns. The best time to visit Santiago and the Lake District is from November to March (summer), but April/May and September/October are also very pleasant. 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. Easter Island and the Atacama can be visited all year round, although in the desert the summer heat can be very intense from January to March and in the winter drop below freezing at night. The whale watching and trout fishing season is from November to April. Birding is best from November to February.





oving south from Santiago, the scenery changes and you reach the beautiful Lake District, where there are no less than twelve major lakes. Dairy cattle graze in lush fields against a picturesque backdrop of snow-capped volcanoes, waterfalls and ancient forests. Stretching 200 miles south from Temuco to Puerto Montt, the Lake District is an outdoor adventure playground. Here you can walk,

hike, bike, white-water raft, fish, climb volcanoes and horse ride before soaking in warm thermal springs or sunbathing on one of the lake beaches. Pucón is a mecca for adventure sports and from Puerto Varas, the main port on Lago Llanquihue, you can take the boat crossing to Bariloche in Argentina. This is the heartland of the indigenous Malpuche Indians, known for their intricate silver jewellery.

The Chiloe Archipelago is made up of hundreds of tiny islands, which were isolated for many years. These islands are known for their quaint wooden houses built over the water on stilts and their wooden churches. Rugged and wet, the area is rich in bird and marine life with whale watching from late January to April. This is one of the only places in the world where Blue whales gather to feed.



### The best way of exploring the dramatic landscapes of Patagonia is on a thrilling expedition cruise, travelling through Glacier Alley and around Cape Horn to Ushuaia in Argentina.

Even in a continent of scenic wonders, Chile's share of Patagonia stands out with some of the finest and most unforgettable spectacles in the world. First among these is Torres del Paine National Park, with its iconic granite peaks and astonishing turquoise glacial lakes.

Most visitors to Patagonia fly to the small town of Punta Arenas then travel by road to Puerto Natales, where you can take a boat ride along the Ultima Esperaza ('Last Hope') Fjord to view the Balmaceda and Serrano Glaciers.

Puerto Natales is the gateway to Torres del Paine, one of the most beautiful parks in the world. This World Biosphere Reserve offers a glorious mix of mountains, glaciers, lakes, waterfalls and rivers. On nature walks you are likely to see the flightless rhea, vicuña, foxes, Andean condors and flamingos, but you

need a specialist guide to track the elusive puma (mountain lion).

Patagonia's fjords are simply stunning and, if your budget allows, are best explored on an expedition cruise. travelling from Punta Arenas in Chile to Ushuaia in Argentina (or vice versa). Sail across the Strait of Magellan and through Ainsworth Bay to Tucker Islets, home to a large penguin colony, before navigating through stunning Glacier Alley to Wulaia Bay and Cape Horn. You will disembark twice each day by panga, a zodiac-like rubber boat, to explore these islands before your cruise ends at Ushuaia on the island of Tierra del Fuego.

Punta Arenas is also the gateway to the Falklands Islands, with a weekly direct flight to Port Stanley, and the starting point for some expedition cruises to Antarctica.



DAYS 1/2 Arrive in Santiago, & city tour Visit Torres del Paine & Balmaceda & Serrano glaciers

Travel to Punta Arenas, for thrilling Patagonia Expedition Cruise to Ushuaia, via Cape

Horn & Glacier Alley **DAYS 11/12** Fly to El Calafate & view Perito Moreno glacier

DAYS 13/14 Explore Buenos Aires/Depart





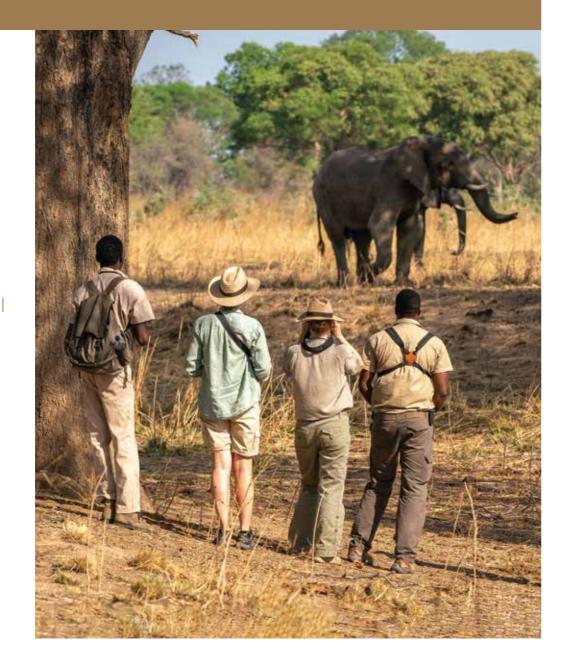




This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

# 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

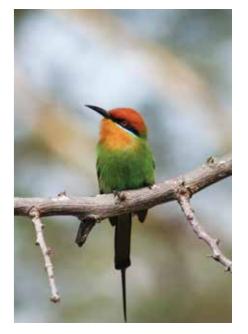


specialist birding guides, we can tailor make private tours to key destinations such as Costa Rica, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Galapagos, Brazil, Guyana, Madagascar, South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania, India, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. We can also help you track down iconic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

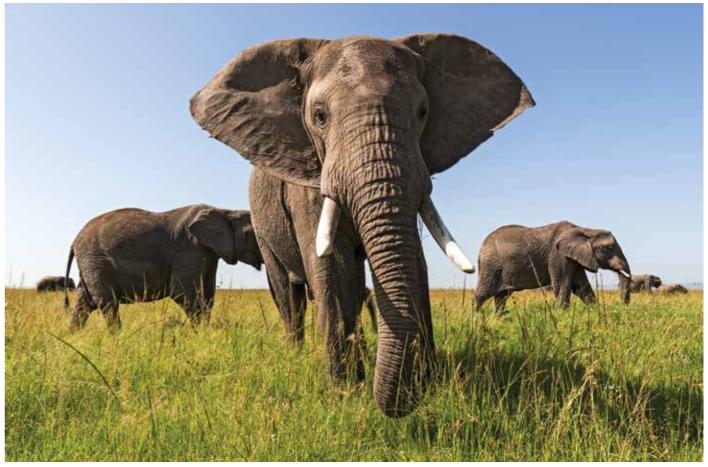
In India we also have a few accessible vehicles on the famous Golden Triangle route. In Latin America accessible vehicles are found mostly in the larger cities, but if you use a manual wheelchair we can take you to places such as Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands.

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

