

DAVID SKILLAN'S WORLD OF TRAVEL . . .

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2011

Travelling the World Since 1951 → Leading Tours Since 1970 → Publishing Newsletters Since 1978

Dear Fellow Traveller:

I never thought, when I entered the travel business more than 40 years ago, that I'd be leading tours for this long, but here I am, still going strong! When I escorted my first tour, I was 30 years old and didn't have a lot going for me. I had no real qualifications, except for the vast personal experience I'd gathered through military service and six and a half years of world travel. But I did have three very important attributes, which I was to discover could make up for almost anything: a limitless passion for travel and adventure, more energy than I knew what to do with, and infectious enthusiasm for whatever I believed in. I was also quite competitive, which made me fiercely determined to succeed at whatever I did. Apparently that fit the bill. After a while—much to my surprise—I discovered that I was quite good at leading tours, which proved to me that it was meant to be. I had found my niche.

Apart from the occasional oddball, I've been lucky to attract exceptionally nice people to my tours over the years. Salt-of-the-earth folk, I call them. Just like you and me. People who've worked hard all their lives, paid off their mortgages, and now want to see the world. Mostly retired, they come from all occupations and backgrounds. Most are in their fifties, sixties, and seventies, which makes for a great mix. I get quite a few family pairs, such as father and son or mother and daughter. On my last trip (to Uganda) I even had three octogenarians, which proves that there's no age limit to enjoying yourself. There was a time when a person travelling in his or her eighties was relatively rare. Not anymore! Thanks to changes in diet and exercise, eighty is the new seventy, and seventy is the new sixty. Most days, I honestly feel about fifty. There was also a time, when I first started this job, when I'd be disappointed to see older people join my tours. My attitude changed when I learned how fit many of them were. They would often give me and other younger people a run for our money! And most were determined to make the most of the time they had left. Good for them!

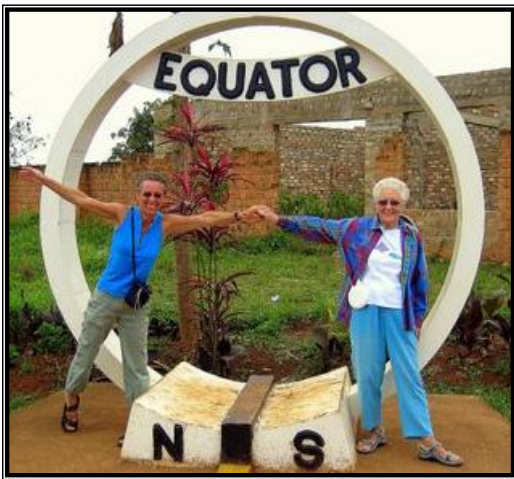
IN MEMORY OF ALLAN SCHUTZ—I wrote about three of my senior clients last year, including my very good friend Allan Schutz. Sadly, Allan passed away this spring, a few weeks after his eighty-eighth birthday and not long after returning from our trip to Uganda. That's him on the back page of this newsletter, enjoying himself.

Many people will remember Allan for his love of life and his lively, intelligent conversation, as well as for encouraging their own interest in bird life. A keen birder, he was an expert at identifying most species, with more than 1,400 "lifers" (first sightings of species he'd never seen before) to his credit. He was a retired forester who loved the great outdoors and everything to do with the natural world, and his innate curiosity kept him busy throughout his long life. I know of no man (and I've known many) who lived life better. Despite the sixteen-year age gap between us, we were the best of friends, and I will greatly miss him. As well as travelling to many countries together—he held the record for the most overseas trips with me, at fourteen—we did three extensive road trips in North America and countless hikes and bird walks. He was the ideal travel companion—considerate, easygoing, observant, and interested in everything. It will be a challenge to replace him.

Of course, I don't expect to find another friend like him, and I have no problem doing things solo, but since my wife is a homebody—I'm the travel junkie—I have to find other comradeship. I enjoy company when I'm hiking, canoeing, and doing other outdoor stuff. There's something special about sharing memorable experiences with a kindred spirit. And I definitely want a buddy or two (the more, the merrier) for a trip I'd like to take to Timbuktu sometime.

Losing such a close friend has reminded me to enlarge my circle of available friends, particularly singles who enjoy the same things as I do. Age and gender make no difference. Gosh, I sound like a member of the Lonely Hearts Club!





Another loyal client and intrepid traveler is **Marlene West** of Osoyoos, who has made eight trips with me and is planning one or two more, including a trip to Namibia with a possible extension to Madagascar next year. Marlene now travels with her daughter, **Vicki Shepherd**, who has been mad about Africa ever since she went to Botswana and Uganda with her mom and me. That's them in the upper left, straddling the equator while on safari in Uganda in September of 2009.

Another long-time client is retired doctor **John Ankenman**, a young-at-heart octogenarian who has taken nine trips with me. Last January he and **John Junior**, the eldest of his four sons, joined my Botswana safari. That's them enjoying a moment together in the lower left. It was John Junior's second trip to Africa with me.

TRAVEL INSURANCE—You'd be surprised at how many people overlook a very important part of travelling—insurance. Or think they're covered by their existing insurance, when they're not. It's very important to take out travel insurance. I've seen many cases over the years where people have been thankful they've been covered. Once, just two days before heading off on a Far East tour, a client of mine slipped off a curb in Vancouver and broke her ankle. Fortunately, she'd taken out travel insurance, and although she had to cancel the trip, she got a full refund. If she hadn't, she'd have lost her trip and all the money she'd paid for it. Another time, a woman on one of my tours broke her leg when stepping off a bus in New Zealand. She got the best medical treatment, and was greatly relieved to know it wouldn't cost her a penny, because she was covered.



The worst case I heard about was a client's husband who was cycling in Washington State. He came hurtling down a steep hill, hit a bump in the road, and somersaulted over the handlebars and into unconsciousness. He spent a week in an American hospital before being air-lifted to Canada, but he never regained consciousness. His wife told me that despite the terrible loss of her husband, at least the

insurance had paid his astronomical medical bills. Otherwise she'd have faced a double calamity—the loss of her husband and probably bankruptcy. Tragic though the outcome was, she was grateful they'd had insurance.

Even if you don't get to use it (and I hope you never do!), it's well worth covering yourself. If nothing else, it provides peace of mind. For only a few hundred dollars, it may be one of the best deals of your life. It not only covers your health, it can also cover lost luggage and trip cancellation.

***When I started in this business,
I never dreamed my job
would ever involve anything like this!***

NEW MEDIA—I'm starting to see the value of some of the new ways we're able to connect in cyberspace, so I've decided to reduce my formal newsletters to a couple per year, rather than three or four, and redirect my efforts toward more frequent email updates containing travel news, photos, and tour info. Sending out most of my tour and safari info electronically saves time, postage, and trees. It also allows you to see colour photos, instead of the black and white ones in my mailed newsletters. If, like me, you prefer printed books, magazines, newspapers, and travel brochures, then please print my newsletters and updates when they arrive in your inbox, and share the hard copies with friends and relatives after you've read them.

If I don't already have your email address, please send it to me. Otherwise, you won't be in the loop about my one-of-a-kind tours and safaris . . . and I'd hate for you to miss out!

And please follow my Twitter feed at **@David_Skillan**, and share what you read with your own followers. I'll post tour updates and other travel news as it breaks. This amazing new way to communicate is revolutionizing both how we do business and how we connect with friends. When I started in this business, I never dreamed my job would ever involve anything like this!

PARTING WITH MEMORIES—Space has become an issue, and I'm reluctantly selling my collection of artwork. I've built it over many years, lugging the stuff one or two pieces at a time on and off airplanes. My treasures include hand-carved African wildlife and people in ebony, mahogany, ironwood, rosewood, teak, soapstone, and Verdite, as well as exquisitely carved candlesticks, walking sticks, salad spoons, masks, wall hangings from Africa, Asia, Egypt, Peru, and Ecuador, leather belts, sunglass cases, and framed and unframed pictures. Two are superb prints of African people by Joy Adamson of *Born Free* fame. There's a variety of other souvenirs and knick-knacks, a couple of hundred items from around the world, mostly in mint condition and in need of good homes.

I'll have the sale by appointment in my Vancouver home, probably during the last week of August. Watch for an announcement via email and Twitter.

UPCOMING TOURS—At least one or two of the following tours should be high on your bucket list. As usual, booking is on a first come, first served basis.

My tour to **eastern and central Europe** is sold out. Hardly surprising, considering the fascinating places we'll be going to, including Vienna, Berlin, Prague, and Budapest. But there's still time to get on board my other trips.

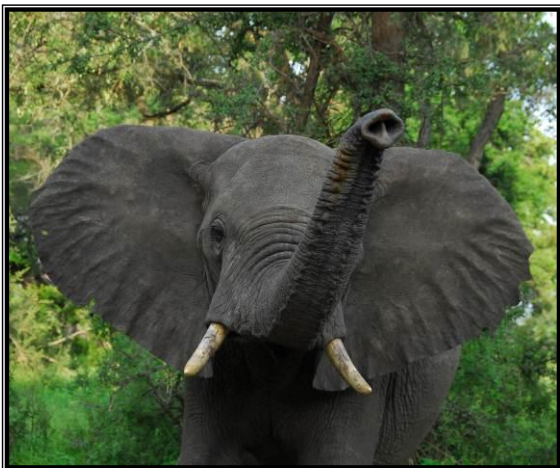
This is the last call for my October **Kenya wildlife safari!** At just over \$5,400 per person, this is a real bargain. It's timed to coincide with the great migration of wildebeest and zebra, often referred to as the greatest show on Earth. Picture expeditions, adventure, big game and colourful birds. And please don't let the latest news coming out of East Africa put you off. Terrible though the situation is, the drought driving the Somali refugees to Kenya is happening many miles from where we'll be. The best thing we can do to help the people of East Africa—aside from making financial donations from home—is to go there and spend our money! If you're interested in this exhilarating trip, please call **Felicity** of **Safari Studio** right away and sign up.

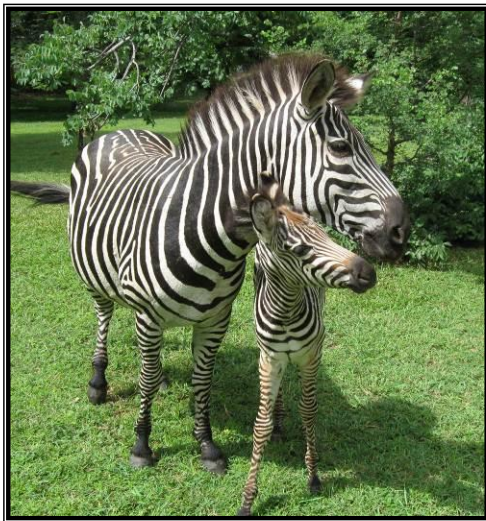


*My January safari in Botswana is sold out.
If enough people are interested,
I'll organize a second tour
to depart around January 23.*

I'm changing the departure date of my tour of **Cambodia and Vietnam**, with a couple of days in **Thailand**, from November 2 to November 9, so we can accommodate more people. If you'd like to journey to the fabulous Far East with me and enjoy breathtaking sites such as the world-famous Angkor Wat, tropical sunshine, and delicious Asian foods, you must call **Samantha** of **Collette Vacations** as soon as possible.

My January safari in **Botswana** is already sold out and has a wait list. If enough people are interested, I'll happily organize a second tour to depart Vancouver around January 23, provided we can get the space for both land and air travel. The fourteen-day itinerary will be virtually identical to that of the January 8 tour, and around the same price of \$9,675 per person. This tour is limited to just twelve people, and we already have four, so if you're interested, you must let me or **Safari Studio** know as soon as possible. Like my South Africa tour, this trip includes two unforgettable days near **Zambia's** adventure capital of Livingstone, a few miles from the magnificent Victoria Falls.





Knowing what a long, cold time we've had this winter, spring, and—so far—summer should have many of you anxious to get away next winter. My February tour to **Costa Rica** should be of considerable interest. Featuring the major places of interest at a very reasonable price, it will be a relief to escape to the tropics. If you're interested in flora and fauna, this is a trip you must add to your list.

South Africa is a land of staggering natural beauty that encompasses just about everything African, including magnificent national parks. South Africa has everything! Our March tour concludes with two exciting days at **Zambia's** Victoria Falls, where you can go rafting, enjoy a helicopter or ultralight flight, take an elephant ride, or walk with lions. If you like a kaleidoscopic variety of activities, you'll love this first-class, twenty-one-day tour. All things considered, for \$8,455 per person, it's excellent value.

*Japan is open for business.
The best way to show our support,
apart from donating through the Red Cross,
is by going there and spending our money.*

My April tour to **Japan** is still on. A friend and his wife just spent a month there, and I'm in regular phone contact with my wife's family. They tell me that apart from the immediate vicinity of Fukushima, life goes on as it did before the March catastrophe. This observation in no way reduces the impact of the terrible circumstances of a few months ago, but it does signal that Japan is open for business. The best way to show our support, apart from donating through the Red Cross, is by going there and spending our money. Actually, this applies not only to Japan, but to many places that suffer natural disasters. When you book a tour, much of your investment goes to the country itself, helping others as well as providing enjoyment for you. If you've always wanted to see the Land of the Rising Sun, consider joining me there next spring, during cherry blossom time. My wife Yuriko, who is fluent in Japanese, will co-host the tour. To learn more, look at my slide show (www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-slide-show.html) and read "Interesting times in Japan" (www.skillansafaris.com/newsletters/japan.pdf) and "Getting around Japan" (www.skillansafaris.com/newsletters/getting-around-japan.pdf).

I'm planning a tour of **New Zealand** in March or April of 2013. Watch for details about this and about my 2012 tours to **Turkey, Kenya and Tanzania**, and **Namibia** in my upcoming newsletters, emails, and tweets.

MY BELOVED AFRICA—A visit to Africa will no doubt have a profound effect on your life, as it has on mine. When I'm there, I'm utterly content. Almost everywhere you go on this vast, magical continent is a treat for the senses. There are few nicer things than an exciting day on safari, knowing you'll sit down to a fine dinner later, followed by a comfortable bed in spectacular surroundings. That's always the way it is on my African safaris. I'm now writing another article about some of my experiences there, which I'll post to my website in a few days. You'll also find the latest info about my tours at www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-tours.html, so bookmark the page.

PICTURES OF PARADISE—I've designed my slide shows to give you an idea of where we go, what we see and do, and some of the lovely places we stay on my tours and safaris. I've recently added new pictures to the Kenya, South Africa, and Zambia shows. If you're thinking of joining me on an upcoming trip, please go to www.skillansafaris.com/david-skillan-slide-show.html and start dreaming!

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?—There are many reasons to travel with me. For more than 40 years I've been making people's dreams a reality, helping them get their money's worth—and sometimes a lot more. I'm a seasoned, mature professional who is fully aware of your needs and expectations. My countless wonderful (and some very nasty) experiences have made me empathetic—I understand where you're coming from! I don't boss anyone around, as some tour leaders do, but keep a quiet, fatherly eye on the proceedings, making sure you enjoy yourself and don't miss anything. I always do my best to make my travel companions comfortable, and go out of my way to be nonintrusive. In other words, I never invade the privacy of your quiet times, and I don't knock on your door at some unearthly hour to remind you what time we're leaving in the morning. I let you enjoy your trip the way you want to.

*A tour offers only an overview of a destination,
but when you have limited time and funds,
it's a great way to go.
It's convenient, carefree, and more affordable
than going it alone.*

People have been entrusting me to take them all over the world for decades. Why not be one of them? We all know it's culturally rewarding and personally enriching to travel. But did you know it's also therapeutic, and could even extend your life? The more relaxed and happy you are, the longer you'll live. It's a fact.

Make no mistake, though: escorted tours are not for everyone. Some people should pay more and go on their own. Escorted tours are not for individualists who like to do their own thing on their own schedules. They involve a certain amount of cooperation and regimentation. You have to be on time for meals, excursions, and bus, train, and airplane departures.

A tour by its very nature offers only an overview of a destination, but when you have limited time and funds, it's a great way to go. It's convenient, carefree, and usually more affordable than going it alone. If you want to entrust the organizing to somebody else and enjoy the convenience that only an escorted tour can offer, the rewards are many. Instead of waiting in line to see some of the world's great sights, you'll be shown to the front of the queue. You'll enjoy fine accommodation and meals and lively conversation with like-minded souls who share some of your interests. Travel can be hard work, especially in a strange country, and an escorted tour allows you to relax, thrill to the world's great sights, and know someone else is making sure you're safe and comfortable.



It's always best to go with someone who's been there before. You'll get more out of your trip. Believe me, after years of travelling by myself on a strict budget and then years of hosting first-class tours, I know the difference between going it alone and having someone else take care of all the arrangements! I'm committed to providing you with the finest holiday possible. I'll look after all the behind-the-scenes details, so you can leave the organizing and the worrying to me and just enjoy yourself.

Please pass on this newsletter to a friend, relative, or neighbour who may be interested. You may be doing him or her a favour, as well as me. One of my tours might be just what he or she is looking for! Many people would like to go away, but don't know who to go with or are afraid of making the wrong choice. I make it simple by offering great tours at affordable prices. You need to do some planning and homework to get the most from your investment, but that's part of the fun. Start reading up and preparing for your next adventure now!

As they say in Swahili, *safari njema* (travel safely)!

Personally yours,

David (Around the World in Eighty Months) Skillan

Incurable romantic, free spirit, and gypsy at heart . . . ➔

DAVID SKILLAN'S WORLD

An Overview of Upcoming Tours and Safaris Presented in Cooperation with Safari Studio and Collette Vacations

KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI

Departs October 11, 2011 → 13 days → \$5,410 per person (sharing)

Explore one of the most beautiful parts of Africa—the original safari country! Its near-perfect climate, magnificent scenery, and unequalled abundance of wildlife have long made Kenya a favourite. See Africa's Big Five (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, and rhino), as well as countless other animals and a huge variety of birdlife. Visit Shaba National Reserve, where George Adamson did his lion research. Stay at the famous Treetops Lodge, and watch a variety of animals come to the waterhole. See Lake Nakuru in the Great Rift Valley, renowned for its flamingos, and explore the incomparable Maasai Mara National Reserve in time to catch the end of the great migration of wildebeest and zebra. If you've always wanted to go on safari in Africa, this is the tour for you! **Don't hesitate—book now!**



CAMBODIA & VIETNAM TOUR

Departs November 9, 2011 → 15 days → \$6,249 per person (sharing)

Two spectacular Asian countries, rich in diversity . . . a world of ancient traditions and remarkable cultures. This memorable tour of the Orient showcases the history and artistic treasures of two extraordinary Far East destinations. Visit the great temple complex of Angkor Wat, the culturally rich Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City (formerly known as Saigon), the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ha Long Bay, the traditional Asian trading port of Hoi An (which flourished from the fifteenth through nineteenth centuries), and My Tho in the Mekong Delta. Spend three days in exotic Bangkok and enjoy

an optional two-day excursion to Hong Kong at the end of the tour. Plus much more! **Plan now to visit the exotic Far East with me later this year!**

BOTSWANA & ZAMBIA SAFARI

Departs January 8, 2012 → 14 days → \$9,675 per person (sharing)

Adventure in style and comfort on this exclusive connoisseur's tour, which is limited to just 12 participants. Described by aficionados as "Africa's Gem," Botswana has become a favoured destination among seasoned travellers. Masses of wildlife roam the woodlands, savannahs, plains, and wetlands of this sparsely populated country, including many species of antelope (nyala, waterbuck, kudu, sable, eland, tsessebe, lechwe, impala, and sitatunga), hyena, jackal, bat-eared fox, wild dog, wild cat, giraffe, zebra, hippo, and of course all of Africa's Big Five (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and buffalo). In this remote, peaceful region of Africa, we stay at the finest places, where food and service are second to none. Accommodations are in luxurious tented camps . . . travel is by specially chartered light aircraft . . . game viewing is by boat and open safari vehicles. Visit the Moremi Game Reserve, Vumbura Plains, Linyanti, world-famous Okavango Delta, and breathtaking Victoria Falls. **This tour is already sold out. If there's enough interest, we'll add another departure later in January.**

ESCAPE TO COSTA RICA

Departs February 19, 2012 → 12 days → \$3,327 per person (sharing)

Leave the Canadian winter behind for a tropical escape! Experience the warm beaches of the Pacific and Caribbean coasts, and explore the dense rainforests that lie in between, with their myriad bird and animal species and traces of pre-Columbian cultures. You'll see toucans, blue-footed boobies, scarlet macaws, howler monkeys, anteaters, sea turtles, three-toed sloths, jaguars, and extraordinary plant and insect life. More butterflies than anywhere else on Earth! Costa Rica occupies just 0.25 percent of the planet's landmass, yet contains five percent of the world's biodiversity. With twenty-five percent of its area protected as parkland, it's one of the greenest countries on Earth. **Treat yourself to a clean getaway with us in this gorgeous Central American country!**

SOUTH AFRICA & ZAMBIA

Departs March 11, 2012 → 21 days → \$8,455 per person (sharing)

Described as “a world in one country,” the breathtakingly beautiful South Africa is one of the most diverse countries on earth. South Africa has everything! Our tour includes both city and safari—Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, world-renowned wineries, the Cape of Good Hope, Blyde River Canyon, Zululand, Swaziland, Mpumalanga, Kruger National Park, and Hluhluwe Game Reserve. Enjoy day and night game drives in open safari vehicles. Take in the scenic Panorama route. Visit a penguin colony, rhino sanctuary, and the magnificent Drakensburg Mountains. Sip fine wines, enjoy gourmet meals, and experience close encounters with extraordinary bird and wildlife. In Zambia, visit Livingstone, the adventure capital, during a two-day excursion to Victoria Falls. Enjoy a sunset cruise on the mighty Zambezi River and an optional helicopter, ultralight, or elephant-back ride. **Join us in March for the best of both city and safari!**

HIDDEN TREASURES OF JAPAN

Departs April 11, 2012 → 14 days → \$5,969 per person (sharing)

This journey through rich history and traditional culture is like no other tour you’ve ever taken! Visit Japan’s ancient first capital at Nara and the vibrant metropolis of Tokyo, as well as Hakone, Nagano, Takayama, Kanazawa, Otsu, and Kyoto. Stroll along the Ginza, wander through stunning Japanese gardens, explore Meiji Shrine and Matsumoto Castle, and enjoy cable car and boat rides that provide spectacular views of Mount Fuji. Travel on the bullet train, relax in hot-spring baths, see traditional farmhouses with thatched roofs, learn the art of origami, and participate in both traditional and modern Japanese entertainment. This one-of-a-kind tour of the legendary Land of the Rising Sun takes place during the season of spring blossoms. **Plan to join us in April!**

CLASSICAL TURKEY

Departs September 13, 2012 → 15 days → \$3,995 per person (sharing)

See the intriguing land that straddles two continents! Visit Istanbul, Ankara, Selçuk, Bergama, Pamukkale, Hierapolis, Egirdir, Konya, Bolu, Gallipoli, and the Dardanelles. Stroll through the ancient ruins of Ephesus, explore the strange underground homes of Cappadocia, and take a ferry across the Bosphorus. Gaze at the treasures of Topkapi Palace, enjoy a show of folk and belly dancing, shop in the Grand Bazaar, and much more. September is the ideal time to go, when the weather is fine and settled. **Mark this on your calendar!**

KENYA & TANZANIA SAFARI

Departs October 3, 2012 → 16 days → Price TBA

The ultimate adventure . . . the two most famous safari destinations in Africa . . . a romantic journey that many dream about, but few experience. This tour includes the finest game lodges and tented camps, splendid game-rich wilderness, and the magical Serengeti Plains, Ngorongoro Crater, Mounts Kenya and Kilimanjaro, Maasai Mara, Aberdares, Lakes Nakuru, Naivasha, and Manyara, and the Olduvai Gorge (the Cradle of Mankind). Take a balloon ride over the East African plains and visit a Maasai village, the Karen Blixen Museum, and more. This is the perfect tour for those who yearn to see a wildlife spectacle unrivalled anywhere. October coincides with the great migration of wildebeest and zebra—often called the greatest show on earth. Imagine warm, sunny days, spectacular scenery, and amazing experiences. They’re all yours on this incomparable trip! This tour can be extended to include the island of Zanzibar or Kenya’s Coral Coast. **Don’t miss this fabulous trip!**

NAMIBIA JOURNEY

Departs November 6, 2012 → 15 days → Price TBA

Known for its haunting, pristine landscapes, Namibia—formerly South West Africa—is worth discovering. Explore Windhoëk, the old diamond city of Lüderitz (now covered in sand), the seaside town of Swakopmund, the legendary Namib and Kalahari Deserts, Fish River Canyon, Etosha National Park, the Skeleton Coast, and the world’s highest sand dunes at Sossusvlei. See rock paintings, a cheetah research farm, and a Bushmen village. Boat out to a seal colony, stay in gorgeous lodges, and enjoy game drives that feature animals unique to this region, including the wild horse, meerkat, gemsbok, oryx, springbok, black-faced impala, and damara dik-dik. You’ll also see the Big Five, including the desert elephant, and hundreds of bird species. **If you’ve been to East and South Africa and yearn to see more of this extraordinary continent, don’t miss this tour!**

David Skillan is a writer, photographer, and tour leader who has travelled, lived, and worked all over the world. He has hosted more than 230 tours abroad, including more than 110 to Africa. Having seen the world both the hard way and the easy way, he loves sharing his vast international experience. →

EXCLUSIVE

The David Skillan Travel Collection

A Special Series of the Finest Personally Escorted Tours and Safaris

2011				
October 11	KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI	13 days	\$5,410	Safari Studio
November 9	CAMBODIA & VIETNAM TOUR	15 days	\$6,249	Collette Vacations
2012				
January 8	BOTSWANA & ZAMBIA SAFARI	14 days	\$9,675	Safari Studio
February 19	ESCAPE TO COSTA RICA	12 days	\$3,327	Collette Vacations
March 11	SOUTH AFRICA & ZAMBIA	21 days	\$8,455	Safari Studio
April 11	HIDDEN TREASURES OF JAPAN	14 days	\$5,969	Collette Vacations
September 13	CLASSICAL TURKEY	15 days	\$3,995	Collette Vacations
October 3	KENYA & TANZANIA SAFARI	16 days	TBA	Safari Studio
November 6	NAMIBIA JOURNEY	15 days	TBA	Safari Studio
<p><i>Tour prices are per person, in Canadian dollars. Prices include all international and domestic flights (round-trip from Vancouver, Canada, though you can make your own flight arrangements and meet your tour), fine accommodations, most meals, and all sightseeing, as outlined in the respective itineraries. Taxes are extra. All dates, itineraries, and prices are subject to change. Most tours can be extended at the ends.</i></p>				

David Skillan's tours are marketed exclusively by Safari Studio and Collette Vacations. For full details, including the itinerary and booking information, please contact the tour operator indicated in the schedule above.

<p>Safari Studio #301 - 123 East 15th Street North Vancouver, BC V7L 2P7 Canada 800-565-6670 or 604-990-1511 africa@safaristudio.ca www.safaristudio.ca</p>	<p>Collette Vacations 34 Pearl Street Mississauga, ON L5M 1X2 Canada 866-358-0333 slutchman@collettevacations.ca www.collettevacations.ca</p>
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Call now for colour brochures and detailed itineraries! ➔

Excerpts from Recent Emails, Cards, and Letters



"I was sorting through a box of stuff the other day, and came across one of your old ads from the *North Shore News*. So glad you're still doing tours. Your Kenya and Tanzania trip sounds wonderful. Please be sure to send us all the info when it's ready. We want to go now, before all the animals disappear."

~Erica and Don F. (North Vancouver, BC)

"I am enjoying travelling vicariously with you . . . and glad you are still trekking around the world, giving new meaning to so many people's lives. Mom and I hope to be with you on another trip before the year is out."

~Hilary M. (Victoria, BC)

"Thanks so much for keeping us in the loop. As always, your latest newsletter was very informative and interesting, and sending it by email saves a few trees. It's been some years since we went to South Africa and South America with you, but the memories are still as fresh as though it were yesterday."

~Barb and John K. (Kamloops, BC)

*Your trip to Kenya and Tanzania
sounds wonderful.
We want to go now,
before all the animals disappear.*

"We love travelling with you, and are so glad you like having us along on your adventures. Botswana in January will be our fourth trip with you, and we hope to do more."

~Lois and Norm B. (New Westminster, BC)

"I too am still doing everything while I can. Off to New York next month, and then theatre in Ontario in August. I've made six trips to the United Arab Emirates, as my eldest daughter is teaching at a university in Abu Dhabi. But hope to get in another trip with you before you head off into the sunset."

~Anne M. (Vancouver, BC)

"My husband and I are very interested in the October 2012 Kenya and Tanzania safari listed in your latest newsletter. This will be a special way of celebrating our thirtieth wedding anniversary. When we started researching African safaris, a good friend mentioned your newsletters and passed one on to me. I was soon on your website!"

~Dianne C. (Saanichton, BC)

"We were very taken by your photos and comments about Uganda. Please add us to the list for March, 2013. Madagascar is somewhere else we are interested in, and Morocco as soon as you put it back on your list."

~Anne W and Brian M. (Calgary, AB)

"You certainly have a way with the pen, to make everything about yourself and your travels so interesting. We're still living on the great memories of our October 2010 African adventure. It really has to be the most amazing trip we've ever taken. Sure beats churches and castles!"

~David and Sue B. (Sechelt, BC)

"It's been four years since my heart surgery, and it sure derailed me for a while. It's improved my quality of life so much that I forget I ever had the operation. It will be interesting to see how I cope with a long-haul trip and 'roughing it' in a luxury tented camp! I'm sure it will all be superb, with David taking care of business . . . as usual!"

~Doreen A. (Victoria, BC)

(I know what you mean! It's been four years since I had my hip replaced, and it's still working gangbusters. Like many not-so-pleasant things, the apprehension about the surgery is far worse than the real thing! ~DS)

"We are still enjoying the wonderful memories of our fabulous trip to Japan in April, 2010. We've been on many trips, but this was our favourite. We're now ready to sign up for your October 2012 safari. We prefer getting the printed newsletter, which is easier for us to show friends when they visit."

~Jim M. and Gwen C. (West Vancouver, BC)

(Many people tell me they like reading hard copy. I suggest that you print my newsletter when it arrives by email. An advantage is that all of the photos are in colour, which they're not in the version that goes out by mail. ~DS) →

This newsletter comes to you with our compliments.

It's intended to create a greater awareness of the world we live in, promote worldwide travel and tourism, and motivate you to get up and go . . . hopefully, on one of my tours!

Life is an adventure. Live it to the fullest! ➔



My great friend Allan Schutz on safari in Uganda, his last trip abroad, flanked by driver-guides Joseph and Jean-Paul.

Words of Wisdom . . .

“Success is never final. Failure is never fatal. It’s courage that counts.”

~Winston Churchill

“You may not realize it when it happens, but a kick in the teeth may be the best thing in the world for you.”

~Walt Disney

“What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.”

~Helen Keller

“I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do.”

~Leonardo da Vinci

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“Adventure is the champagne of life!”

~G. K. Chesterton