AROUND THE WORLD

A PRIVATE JET EXPEDITION • APRIL 6 – 30, 2009

AMAZON RAIN FOREST • EASTER ISLAND • SAMOA • BORNEO • LAOS • NEPAL
MADAGASCAR • COASTAL NAMIBIA • GORILLA TREKKING IN RWANDA OR UGANDA

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
of SMITH COLLEGE
Dear Friends,

During field research in Borneo two years ago, I sighted pygmy elephants, the smallest in the world, weaving through thick rain forest along the Kinabatangan River.

Such sightings are rare, even to a seasoned researcher. But each time I see species in the wild, I remember why I work in the remarkable field of conservation: To help save these animals and to inspire others to care deeply for the world’s wild places — and because moments like the one in Borneo, no matter how fleeting, are the most memorable of my life.

World Wildlife Fund has helped design an around-the-world expedition designed to experience wildlife in areas that are changing rapidly. I invite you to join me as we explore Borneo and seven other notable places.

We’ll enter misty forests of Uganda or Rwanda, habitat of highly endangered mountain gorillas. We’ll visit Laos, where my colleagues and I discover new species every year. And we’ll search for tigers and rhinos against a backdrop of snow-capped Himalayas in Nepal.

This is a 25-day expedition aboard a specially outfitted Boeing 757 that brings us around the world safely, comfortably, and efficiently. We’ll stay in wonderful hotels and unique lodges. And other distinguished conservation experts from the San Diego Zoo and Wildlife Conservation Fund will join me in sharing their special insights.

There’s no doubt that you, too, will experience some of the most memorable moments of your life. To join other Smith alumnae travelers, please call tour operator TCS Expeditions at 800-727-7477— they would love to tell you more about this extraordinary opportunity.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sybille Klenzendorf
Director
WWF Species Conservation Program

P.S. To get first priority, call TCS or return the enclosed Reservation Form right away.
Cir cle the globe.
Prepare to be astonished.

In one dazzling journey, traverse the globe to celebrate some of the world’s most beautiful places.

Connect Around the World

The world’s most spectacular wild places and creatures are scattered far and wide. Now, aboard a specially outfitted private jet, travel around the world with people devoted to protecting Earth’s incredible diversity.

In 25 extraordinary days, travel to seven of the World Wildlife Fund’s Top 19 Priority Sites. Discover the vast landscapes and ecosystems of the Amazon, Namib Desert, and the Mekong River. Delight in Madagascar’s extraordinary diversity. Relish the success of bold conservation efforts in the Galápagos Islands, trek in search of Uganda’s mountain gorillas, and marvel at Borneo’s wildlife habitats.
“The wilderness holds answers to questions man has not yet learned to ask.”
– Nancy Newhall, American writer and conservationist
THE WHOLE WORLD IS WAITING FOR YOU.

For centuries, scientists, wildlife lovers, and adventure seekers have ventured deep into Earth’s far corners, forgoing comfort and surmounting great obstacles for a chance to glimpse fascinating and elusive creatures.

Now – aboard a private jet in remarkable comfort, ease, and safety – join an extraordinary around-the-world expedition to the world’s wild places.

Isn’t it time to reawaken your sense of wonder?

Search for birds that swim and fish that fly in the Amazon rain forest . . . and Bengal tigers and one-horned rhinos in Nepal’s high grasslands.

Get close to Madagascar’s exotic lemurs . . . rare Mekong fish and mammals . . . and vast colonies of Cape fur seals and flamingos along Namibia’s wild coastline.

And study man’s closest relatives — the great apes — from arboreal orangutans in Borneo to astonishing, critically endangered mountain gorillas in Uganda or Rwanda.

In this one indescribable expedition by private jet, bring the world within your reach.

For the past 15 years, WWF has helped Namibian partner organizations form 50 communal conservancies, protecting more than 29 million acres. These programs allow the communities to receive economic benefits from wildlife management and tourism.

The Zoological Society of San Diego’s center for Conservation and Research for Endangered Species (CRES) has recently collected genetic material from Uganda’s mountain gorillas to study kinship relationships, gene flow dynamics, population structure, and disease status.

Among the Eastern Himalayas, one-horned rhinos share the dense grasslands with Bengal tigers and Asian elephants.
FEEL THE WORLD BEATING IN YOUR HEART.

Have you ever found a lemur playing on your porch? Looked into the eyes of a mountain gorilla – in her neighborhood? Rambled on elephant-back through grasses tall enough to conceal rhinos?

On this once-in-a-lifetime journey around the world, Nature becomes your classroom and your playground. Glorious sights and sounds of life greet you each day, and lull you to sleep at night.

This is an expedition for travelers who seek more from their journeys. Travelers with vision, and with an unquenchable passion to learn, grow, and change during their experiences.

The world is bursting with life — and lives — for you to discover. Let us lead you there.
“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”

– Charles Darwin
“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.”

– John Muir, writer and wildlife preservationist
DISCOVER EARTH’S DELICATE BALANCE.

The diversity of life isn’t evenly distributed around the planet. Some of the world’s most beautiful places – tropical rain forests, coral reefs, deserts, and the banks of vast rivers – are also the richest in natural wealth. And they face some of the toughest preservation challenges.

Through extensive study and research, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has identified 200 of these places – the Global 200 – most vital to preserve within the next 50 years, and then further identified 19 of those as the very highest priority.

Seven of these distinctive areas – and other fascinating sites few travelers will ever experience – await you on this once-in-a-lifetime journey. In the company of conservation experts, open your eyes to the world. Embrace these precious living treasures. And fill yourself with wonder.
A "river of life" to 80 million people, the Mekong hosts 1,300 fish species — including the world's largest freshwater fish — as well as a wealth of cultural sites.

In a secluded rain forest sanctuary, watch orangutans — one of the great apes, humankind's closest relatives — climb and play, and also look for proboscis monkeys, crocodiles, and rare birds.

Robert Louis Stevenson was enticed by the lush beauty of Samoa, from which Polynesian seafarers have navigated by the stars for millennia.

Located more than 2,300 miles off the coast of Chile, this remote, mysterious island is a wonder of ancient stone villages, open-air sanctuaries, and giant moai.
KATHMANDU, NEPAL
April 18
In the Kathmandu Valley, explore Bodhnath — Nepal’s largest stupa — as well as the medieval city of Bhaktapur and the intricate woodcarvings of ancient Patan.

TIGER TOPS JUNGLE LODGE, NEPAL
April 19 & 20
In former hunting grounds of the maharajas, ride atop guided elephants to search for deer, rhinos, crocodiles, and kingfishers.

MADAGASCAR
April 21, 22 & 23
In your choice of environment — beachside reserve, rugged eastern rainforest, or southern spiny desert — encounter Madagascar’s fascinating lemurs.

WALVIS BAY, NAMIBIA
April 24 & 25
In one of only three places on Earth where desert meets sea, go in search of Cape fur seals, prolific birdlife, and a 2,000-year-old plant that thrives only in the Namib Desert.

UGANDA OR RWANDA
April 26, 27 & 28
Discover hippos, pelicans, and saddlebill storks in a lush, green national park, or join a vigorous rain forest trek in search of rare mountain gorillas.
EXPLORATION THE WORLD

ITINERARY

APRIL 6, 2009

Orlando, Florida

Meet fellow travelers, lecturers, and expedition leaders at a festive welcome dinner at our hotel.

Ritz-Carlton Grande Lakes, Orlando

APRIL 7 & 8

Amazon Rain Forest, Brazil

The Amazon rain forest — the world’s largest — hosts thousands of unique plants and animals, many still unclassified.

Board your private jet for Manaus to enjoy a choice of Amazon explorations. Board a chartered riverboat to explore the “meeting of the waters,” where the dark, clear Rio Negro and the pale, silty Rio Solimões join to form the mighty Rio Amazonas. Or take jungle walks amid the Parque Ecólogico’s flooded forests, giant floating lilies, and other extraordinary plants.

In the heart of the Amazon basin, rubber barons erected a magnificent opera house in Manaus using imported European bronze, tile, and crystal. We enjoy a private visit with cocktails and a concert at this stunning Teatro Amazonas.

Tiwa Lodge or Tropical Hotel, Manaus

APRIL 9 & 10

Easter Island, Chile

There’s much the world could learn from this remote island that sits more than 2,300 miles off the coast of Chile. A thousand years ago, a sophisticated society developed then disappeared, leaving stone villages, open-air sanctuaries, and giant statues called *moai.*
Resident archaeologists lead you to hidden troves of statuary, as well as pictographs and petroglyphs that detail the annual rituals of the birdman cult.

*Hanga Roa Hotel or Taha Tai Hotel*

**APRIL 11**

**Apia, Samoa**

Robert Louis Stevenson was enticed by the lush beauty of Samoa. Discover why as you experience a traditional *kava* ceremony at Stevenson’s estate, and enjoy a *fiafia*, a colorful performance of Samoan dancing.

*Aggie Grey’s Lagoon Resort & Spa, Apia*

**APRIL 12**

**Cross the International Date Line**

We lose a day crossing the International Date Line, and arrive in Borneo on April 13.

**APRIL 13 & 14**

**Borneo, Malaysia**

Of humankind’s closest relatives – the great apes – only orangutans are arboreal. This endangered species rarely descends to the ground; each night an orangutan builds a new sleeping nest high in the forest canopy. Brilliant botanists, Borneo’s orangutans can recognize which products of the 750 rain forest’s tree species are edible, nutritious, and nontoxic.

In the state of Sabah on the north coast of Borneo, World Wildlife Fund founded the

WWF has been at the forefront in Amazon conservation for more than four decades, engaging local communities and helping governments identify ways to balance economic development and conservation.

WWF scientists study how South Pacific coral reefs could be more resilient to climate change, and why warmer ocean temperatures cause coral to lose the colorful microorganisms living in their tissues.

The Manaus office of the Wildlife Conservation Society, together with the Federal University of the State of Amazonas, provides scientific information and technical assistance to conservation planning throughout the Amazon.
The Mekong River is the lifeline for 80 million people. WWF envisions a future in which people protect wildlife by using renewable resources responsibility — reducing overfishing and deforestation, for example.

Through WWF’s Community Forest User Groups in Nepal, local people manage and benefit from the forests they conserve, while protecting vital tiger habitats. WWF also works to improve resource management in the country’s most remote areas.

Sepilok Rehabilitation Center to help orphaned and once-captive orangutans learn to fend for themselves and thrive in the wild. During feeding time, watch these marvelous creatures as they play, climb, and eat. Since 2000, WWF has worked with other organizations to save four million acres of Borneo’s forests, established a national park to protect elephants and tigers, and pioneered research on pygmy elephants.

Travel to the lower Kinabatangan River where proboscis monkeys – unique to Borneo – leap and crash through the forest canopy. Also look for crocodiles, civets, and rare species of birds, reptiles, and insects. The Zoological Society of San Diego is leading conservation efforts to protect Asian leaf-eating monkeys – including Borneo’s proboscis monkeys – by studying their ecological requirements, social organizations, and mating systems.

Sabah Hotel, Sandakan

APRIL 15, 16 & 17

Vientiane & Luang Prabang, Laos

While the rest of Southeast Asia bustles, Laos welcomes travelers with quiet beauty, legendary hospitality, and stunning temples adorned with fine sculpture.

Pha That Luang, a gorgeous golden stupa, rises above the Vientiane skyline, and the city’s oldest temple, Wat Si Saket, draws Buddhist worshippers.

In Luang Prabang, historic Lao temples mingle among French colonial buildings. Members of Hmong, Mien, and Thai hill tribes converge to trade at the colorful markets.

Lao Plaza Hotel, Vientiane and
Pansea Phou Vao Hotel, Luang Prabang
Jungle Lodge, Nepal

Kathmandu, the once-forbidden city tucked in a Himalayan valley, is an exotic blend of Buddhist and Hindu influences. Visit Nepal’s largest stupa, Bodhnath, its huge white dome surrounded by 108 images of Buddha, and the remarkable Swayambhunath Stupa, encircled by dozens of smaller stupas, temples, shrines, and fluttering prayer flags. We also explore medieval Bhaktapur to find extraordinary Nepali architecture and art, including the ornate Golden Gate, a centuries-old masterpiece of metalworking.

We transfer by charter flight to Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge in Nepal’s Royal Chitwan National Park, the former hunting lands of the maharajas. The tall grass and dense forest are home to deer, rhinoceros, crocodile, and kingfisher. In the tradition of royal hunting parties of old, we explore the area atop elephants. Our lodgings are comfortable tree houses constructed of native materials.

Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge, Royal Chitwan National Park and Hyatt Regency, Kathmandu

APRIL 21, 22 & 23

Madagascar

The island nation of Madagascar is a living laboratory, spawning unique plants and animals, including more than 30 lemur species. After an initial night in the capital of Antananarivo, options abound.

“The land is one great wild, untidy, luxuriant hothouse, made by Nature for herself.”
– Charles Darwin, describing Borneo
Choose to visit remote Anjajavy with its beautiful beaches and see Coquerel’s sifaka and brown lemurs, baobab trees, unique birds, chameleons, geckos, and frogs. Or trek through the rugged eastern mountain rainforest to see Malagasy wildlife and hear the eerie sound of the Indri, the largest lemur, in Perinet Reserve. As a final option, explore Berenty Reserve in the southern spiny desert, taking guided night walks that reveal the tiny mouse lemur as well as birds, carnivorous plants, and reptiles.

_Hilton Madagascar, Antananarivo; and Gite d’Etape, Vakona Forest Lodge, or L’Hotel Anjanjavy_

**APRIL 24 & 25**

**Walvis Bay, Namibia**

Namibia harbors a wealth of beauty and history, from the charming colonial town of Swakopmund at the coastal edge of the world’s fourth largest nature conservation area to giant flocks of flamingos in Walvis Bay.

Customize your time here any way you choose. Cruise Walvis Bay to discover Cape Fur seals, African black oystercatchers, petrels, shearwaters, and terns; take a sightseeing flight over the great red dunes of the Namib desert; or traverse the lunar hills and valleys carved by the Swakop River on a geologist-guided exploration and search for an intriguing 2,000-year-old plant.

_Swakopmund Hotel_
Wildlife of Uganda or Rwanda

Winston Churchill called Uganda the “pearl of Africa.” After a first night spent in the capital city of Kampala, discover the charms of this green, biologically diverse country on your choice of small-group activities.

Go on safari in Queen Elizabeth National Park to see hundreds of hippos as well as pelicans, kingfishers, cormorants, and saddlebill storks. The park encompasses thousands of square miles of untouched wilderness, ranging from the low-lying riverine lands near the Kazinga Channel all the way to the otherworldly Mountains of the Moon.

Or choose to trek through the rain forest in search of the magnificent mountain gorilla in Uganda’s Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park or Rwanda’s Parc National des Volcans. The very fit travelers who choose this option will stay in basic, comfortable eco-lodges and spend their days exploring lovely, mountainous terrain.

*Kampala Serena Hotel and Mweya Lodge or Gorilla Forest Camp (Uganda); or Virunga Lodge or Gorillas Nest Lodge (Rwanda)*

London/Depart for Home

Relax at our London hotel, then transfer the next day to the airport for scheduled commercial flights homeward.

*The Dorchester, London*
LE T U S S U R P R I S E Y O U.
L E T U S D E L I G H T Y O U.

A treasured trademark of TCS Expeditions
is the concept of Surprise and Delight.

While our brilliant expedition team,
behind the scenes and on the jet, are carefully
orchestrating every detail of your extraordinary
journey, they’re also plotting behind your back.

As spectacular as the scheduled events and
experiences of your expedition already are, our
goal is to make them even better. We call these
the Surprise and Delight moments — and your
private jet expedition is studded with them.

They’re not listed in your brochure. They
aren’t mentioned in your trip documents.
They’re not on the schedule. And you will never
know when they’re coming. But be confident
that they are coming.

Without giving away too much, we can
tell you . . . we’ve produced baby elephants
on command. We’ve delivered brilliant dance
performances in the middle of public squares.
We’ve transformed a simple rest stop into a
feast of homemade pastries beside bubbling
springs in a forest glen.

We take special pride in our ability to take
your breath away. In fact, we’re a little bit smug
about it. So come along and let us surprise you.
Let us delight you.

When you least expect it, you can expect it.
BEST-IN-CLASS JETLINER

Only a private jet can bring you to so many places all in comfort, safety, and ease.

Just 19 rows of spacious leather seats with full ergonomic support. Gourmet meals, chilled champagne, your own chef. Personable, professional jet staff who welcome you back aboard after each stop. The perfect place to relax, reflect on your experiences, and learn.

Dedicated advance staff paves the way for hassle-free arrivals. You fly direct, bypass busy airports and, at most stops, enjoy expedited boarding and easy passage through Customs and Immigration.

EXPERTS ENLIGHTEN YOU

Travel with a team of conservation experts, enjoying briefings in-flight and special audio systems on the ground to stay in touch.

Dr. Allison Alberts, Director of Conservation and Research for the San Diego Zoo, oversees programs at the Zoo, the San Diego Wild Animal Park, and at field sites in 35 countries around the world. A reptile and amphibian specialist, she develops innovative techniques for restoring critically endangered species to the wild.

Anthropologist Dr. Aivecita Chicchón is the Wildlife Conservation Society’s Latin America and Caribbean Program Director, managing programs in 15 countries. She focuses on economic and ecological anthropology in rural communities, natural resource use, sustainable development enterprise, and local peoples’ rights.

Dr. Sybille Klenzendorf, director of the Species Conservation Program at World Wildlife Fund, is an expert on conservation of tigers and other large mammals, human-wildlife conflict, carnivore ecology, and game warden training. Some of her current projects study the effects of climate change on polar bear, tiger, and sea turtle survival.

YOUR PRIVATE BOEING 757 JET

JET TIMINGS

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JOURNEY TO A WHOLE OTHER WORLD.

Join a life-changing expedition around the world, exploring nine spectacular habitats in just 25 days.

LIVE YOUR DREAMS
on this inaugural journey
by private jet.

SPACE IS LIMITED TO ONLY 74 GUESTS.
PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY.

CALL NOW • 800-225-2029

DON’T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

“For a person who has traveled to more than 100 countries, this was no doubt the finest trip I have ever taken.”
   — Ralph H., Elkton, MD

“We have traveled extensively and were thrilled with every aspect of this trip. All the stars were aligned and we realize this does not happen by accident. Thank you!”
   — John and Cynthia H., Los Angeles, CA

“Zebras outside our room in Zambia — how did you plan that?”
   — Don and Pat G., Hinsdale, IL

“Every time we stopped it was a different landscape and culture. TCS planning and advance work is the best!”
   — Beryl and Joan N., Rochester, NY

“Everything was thought of before I asked. It was 5-star all the way!”
   — Maxine W., Calabasas, CA

Our thanks to Wolfgang Kaehler for his generous contribution of photographs used throughout this brochure. To view more of his work, please go to www.wkaehlerphoto.com

Call now to reserve your space on this unique expedition around the world, set to depart soon.