There are many Africas...choosing which to visit can be challenging and confusing! EXPLORE helps you make the right choices. Choosing where and when to travel is critical in creating the best possible experience. EXPLORE's knowledge of this magnificent continent is unsurpassed thanks to many years of constantly searching for the best Africa has to offer. From your first call, you’ll find that all of our travel specialists draw from first-hand experience. Unlike any other African tour operator in the U.S., I am based in Africa most of the year and have been since the early 90's. When we develop a custom itinerary for you, we mean custom! We know the terrain, the people, the seasonality and select each lodge you visit with care.

If you are looking for a classic African safari, we recommend that you visit Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania or Zambia. All feature unspoiled wilderness which is home to Earth’s largest free-ranging elephant population, the endangered wild dog, lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, buffalo, antelope and over 500 bird species. Accommodations range from luxury lodges where each villa has its own private swimming pool to classic Hemingway-style tented camps set up in a remote and exclusive area. There is nothing more luxurious than your own camp, and nothing more exciting than when lions come into camp!

For a safari which focuses more on activity and less on game drives, we recommend a selection of small personal camps where you can traverse through the bush with a professional guide, canoe the waters of the Zambezi viewing elephant and hippo close up, or ride horses through herds of zebra and wildebeest.

If scenery is what you are after, you may choose to explore the largest inland delta in the world – the Okavango – often referred to as “Earth’s Last Eden” or experience the world’s oldest desert, the Namib.

If it’s ancient cultures that intrigue you, you can visit the nomadic Himba of Namibia, the Dogon cliff villagers of Mali, or the Tuareg of the Sahara. We can even organize an authentic trance dance with the San (Bushmen) of the Kalahari. The truly adventurous can visit remote regions of the Congo Basin to meet the kings of ancient chiefdoms and track the only habituated lowland gorillas in Africa with the Ba’aka (pygmy) people.

Explore the world’s most pristine reefs and underwater wildlife at recently discovered diving destinations in the Indian Ocean. In Mozambique, Madagascar and the Seychelles you can glide through crystal clear turquoise waters which are as pristine as any on Earth and teem with fish of every color and shape.

Whether you are looking for the ultimate in ‘Robinson Crusoe luxury’ with more comforts than home, or a challenging African adventure, we handcraft the trip of your life. EXPLORE supports a multitude of conservation and community development projects and ensures that your visit benefits both people and wildlife. We introduce you to renowned researchers and conservationists and make sure you travel with guides who reveal an Africa few are privileged to know.

Come to Africa, your life will change forever, and we are sure you will come back...

Cherri Briggs, President/Founder
Explore’s knowledge of the continent is unsurpassed, thanks to years of experience searching out the best Africa has to offer.
Classic Africa can still be experienced by taking one of EXPLORE’s mobile tented safaris. Our professional safari operators set up your private camp in a remote wilderness site. You awake before dawn to the exquisite song of the Heuglin’s Robin and welcome in the day with a steaming cup of coffee brought to your tent. Enjoy a breakfast of homemade hot breads, eggs and bacon while the sun rises over the plains and you watch the animals emerge from the forests. Then set out in an open-air Land Cruiser, the atmosphere electric with animals on the move. Africa wakes and reveals her many faces. Drive through herds of antelope that study your every movement; then, if you are lucky, lions and the hunt is on - true African magic. End the day with a glass of wine as you watch the great African sun drop over the horizon and return to camp for a sumptuous feast. Off to bed to listen to the lions calling as you fall to sleep. Another day in Africa.

Active Africa - If you want authenticity, then EXPLORE is right for you. Whether it’s tiger fishing or canoeing past hippos on the Zambezi River, or gathering baobab pods with the bushmen in the Kalahari, a trip with Explore awakens a part of yourself you didn’t know existed.

- Scott Lindenau – Architect, Aspen

Authentic Safaris

“Traveling with EXPLORE is the opposite of a packaged tour. It is a magic bridge to new worlds...a gateway to the natural world, an authentic experience of how the world was meant to be.”

- Gloria Steinem – Writer, New York City

Explore, Inc. Phone: 970-871-0065 Email: info@exploreafrica.net Website: www.exploreafrica.net
XPLORE arranges trips which reveal Africa as it has been for millennia, by gliding through crystal clear channels in a dugout canoe or feeling the earth beneath your feet as you walk through the bush with a professional guide or indigenous trackers. You may even find yourself on the back of an elephant, meandering through nature’s most magical world from a lofty height! There are three key ingredients that make a spectacular safari: pristine wilderness, abundant wildlife and great naturalist guides. XPLORE delivers them all. We keep a close ear to the ground on quality, weather and safety issues and are in direct contact with our innumerable on-site operators. Africa is ever changing so it is essential to keep in touch with local experts and managers. We adjust our clients’ itineraries accordingly.

“Botswana is one of Africa’s great havens for wildlife and needs to be protected. Explore has shown exceptional commitment in educating its travelers and providing support for conservation through its excellent safaris”

— Peter Seligman - CEO, Conservation International
If you are looking for the ultimate in luxury, EXPLORE offers journeys to Africa’s premier game lodges and private villas where gourmet meals and world-class service exceed the standards of the world’s most sophisticated hotels. Ranging from South Africa’s ultra-luxurious lodges featuring private pools in each private “villa”, to the elegant riads of exotic Morocco and palaces of Egypt, the standards are unrivalled anywhere in the world. In Southern Africa one finds pure, wild and spectacularly beautiful landscapes and very small, exclusive lodges set in million-acre private concessions. Crowds and mini buses are non-existent, game is fantastic and the guides have unparalleled knowledge. Traveling in Africa can be demanding and we ensure that your trip is perfectly managed. We obsess over the details so your experience runs as smoothly as Ethiopian silk.

“EXPLORE makes the difficult easy and the rigorous routine.” – Conde Nast Traveler
The Joy of Eco-Tourism

EXPLORE was founded in 1990 as a result of founder Cherri Briggs’ involvement in African conservation. EXPLORE works extensively in the field to help native peoples and see that wild, unspoiled Africa is left for future generations to enjoy. Eco-tourism provides a powerful economic incentive to protect wilderness and strengthen indigenous cultures. EXPLORE clients help preserve places where the African wilderness touches the human spirit.

EXPLORE takes you to the most exotic destinations in Africa. Mali is unmatched in its rich art and ancient culture. Visit the cliff-side villages of the Dogon people and wander through the labyrinthine streets of fabled Timbuktu as you explore the culture of the Taureg people, the ‘blue men of the desert.’

Long recovered from draught and famine, Ethiopia is rising again due to its rich culture and dramatic scenery. The “Historic Route” includes the monasteries of Lake Tana, monolithic churches of Lalibela, medieval castles of Gondar and ancient Axum – alleged home to the legendary Arc of the Covenant.

Gabon is a new African destination coupling eco-tourism with precious conservation research. White sand beaches and mangrove swamps line the coast. Groups of 700 mandrills race through the tree tops. Gorilla sanctuaries protect these highly endangered, magnificent primates. EXPLORE partners with the Wildlife Conservation Society in making this experience accessible to the intrepid traveler.

“EXPLORE is top notch! They find the best lodges and the best guides, and create outstanding highly-educational safaris for the most discerning traveler. They develop the finest hand-crafted safaris of anyone we know in the U.S.”

— Philip Lovejoy — Director of University-Wide Alumni Affairs, Harvard Alumni Association
The Indian Ocean forms Africa’s eastern coastline, offering unparalleled experience of Swahili culture, white beaches and pristine reefs.

In the Seychelles, decompress from civilization at an ultra-elegant seaside resort, then sail to the remote outer islands for wilderness diving in unexplored waters or try your hand at the world’s best bone fishing. Be one of the privileged few to dig your toes into idyllic white sand beaches, breathe the scents of cinnamon and vanilla plantations, swim in exquisite turquoise lagoons and bask in endless island charm. Snorkel over the brilliantly-colored coral or walk through virgin forests to look for the Black Paradise Flycatcher and the Dragon Blood tree.

Madagascar’s rain forests teem with an amazing variety of life, including 33 species of lemurs (primates endemic to the island), chameleons, bright red tomato frogs, rare orchids and baobab trees. Visit bays that once sheltered pirates and experience traditional Malagasy food and music.

Mozambique is a vast country with a remote, undeveloped interior and Africa’s most spectacular coastline. It is a colorful, romantic destination that is uniquely African, with a heady mix of Arabic and Portuguese influences. Luxurious private islands, vibrant culture, marine wilderness and remote game reserves make Mozambique a destination for those seeking adventure beyond a traditional African safari.

"Madagascar was a big surprise to me! In one day we passed through tropical rainforests, countryside that reminded me of rural Portugal, and desert that was reminiscent of the Four Corners of our Southwest! Such diversity, such wonderfully friendly people. Thank you!"

– Cindy Walpole – Explore Traveler, Bonita Springs
EXPLORE caters to the sophisticated traveler’s every need. We work closely with you to create your dream trip, while our operations team fine tunes each detail of your journey. In most cases we book your lodging, charter flights, transfers and special guides directly, eliminating unnecessary costs of the middleman while allowing us to have more control over your itinerary. We retain our objectivity in planning our itineraries by not investing in particular lodges, so we make the best choices for you without bias. Our travel specialists advise you on the level of comfort and fitness to expect during each component of your safari while closely adhering to your special needs and interests.

Almost two decades of experience coupled with our personal relationships and contacts in the field give us an unparalleled, in-depth knowledge of Africa ensuring that you visit the right place, at the right time, with the perfect level of amenities and activities to match your expectations.

“WE LOVED THE DIVERSITY OF CAMPS AND ECO-SYSTEMS IN OUR ITINERARY—FROM LUXURY CAMPS TO THE MORE RUSTIC MOBILE CAMPS—EVERY FEW DAYS IT WAS SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT, EACH MOVE A WONDERFUL SURPRISE! THE SHEER NUMBER OF ANIMALS ASTOUNDED US.”

— Chris Multhauf — CEO, CHICAGO
EXPLORE, travels to a vast array of countries spread throughout the African continent. From the Sahara to the islands of the Indian Ocean, each EXPLORE trip offers a different cultural perspective and unique wilderness experience.

**Africa & Beyond**

- Botswana
- Ethiopia
- Niger
- Seychelles
- Kenya
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Mauritius
- Namibia
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Madagascar
- Sudan
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe
- Zambia
- Namibia
- Botswana
- Mozambique
- Comoros
- Madagascar
- Reunion Island
Explore caters to the discerning traveler’s every need. We help you choose your dream trip, then our operations team personally secures every detail of your journey, booking charter flights, selecting special guides that are knowledgeable about your particular interests, and developing an individual itinerary that is the journey of a lifetime.

Explore will also advise you on the particular level of comfort and fitness required for each component of your safari.

Our years of experience, coupled with our contacts in the field, give us an incredibly in-depth knowledge of Africa, which ensures that you will visit the right place, at the right time, with the right level of amenities and activities for you.

We are a U.S. company, with a full-time logistics office in Africa, so we eliminate the middleman, passing our savings directly on to you.

**Medical/Health Precautions**

Explore’s destinations are all healthy places to visit with few of the illnesses that plague the more humid tropical areas of Africa. Malaria is present in much of Africa but is predominantly seasonal. We encourage travel during the dry times of the year to maximize comfort and minimize the risk of malaria. Expect a dry climate with cool nights and warm to hot days. Please check with your doctor regarding malaria prevention - it must be taken seriously.

Basic first aid kits are maintained in camp, and guides are trained in first aid, but you should bring personal medications as required. Be sure to carry all prescription drugs in your carry-on luggage. If you wear prescription glasses or contact lenses, you may want to bring an extra pair.

Medical evacuation insurance is carried by most camps but we strongly encourage you to purchase your own and bring all documentation with you. South Africa has excellent health care and is a short plane ride from many of our southerly destinations.

When traveling to any foreign destination, we suggest that you check with your local immunization authority, public health facility or personal physician to find out what immunizations and medications are required or suggested for your travels. Since you will be traveling in remote areas, it is advisable to have physical and dental check-ups before your trip.

**Safety**

Most crime occurs in the capital cities, far from the wilderness venues visited by Explore. Botswana, Namibia and Zambia in particular are three of the most stable countries in Africa with strong well-established democracies and small populations with no tribal warfare. Ask us about particular areas that concern you. Rest assured we always put safety as a priority when planning trips for our clients.

**What’s Included**

Since each Explore trip is unique, you will be given a complete itinerary that contains information on what is included as part of your trip, and what optional extras are available.

**What to Bring**

Because all trips are customized, you will be provided with a thorough packing list with your travel documents and itinerary.

**When To Go**

Please talk to us about your preferred travel times and we will advise you where to go for particular times of the year. We encourage our clients to travel at optimal times to avoid the humidity and insects of the rainy season.