

TRIBAL AFRICA

It is easy to visit Africa and yet see nothing of the local customs and cultures. Safaris focus on the wildlife and many travellers don't see a local village. We feel that to visit Africa and learn nothing of its culture is to miss out on part of the experience. Here, we've suggested a few ideas of how you can visit local communities and support vital projects at the same time.



FACT FILE

There are countless ways to discover the human aspect of Africa and we can tailor an itinerary to suit your interests and budget. Please contact Marilyn, Ariana, Richard or Ruth on 01869 276 250.



Walking with the Bushmen at the Makgadikgadi Pans, Botswana

Arriving in the Kalahari, you are met by a seemingly desolate and unforgiving landscape of vast salt pans stretching for miles with not a drop of water in sight. You wonder if it could ever be possible to live in this arid area, but Bushmen have lived here for centuries and spending a day with them gives an insight to their unique culture. Not only do they show you how to make animal traps, but also how to find roots and tubers and even make tobacco from zebra dung. Dressed in loin cloths, they swing their bows and arrows over their shoulders and lead the way. Following, you can't fail to wonder at their incredible knowledge of the land.

Visiting a Himba community, Namibia

The Himba inhabit Namibia's remote northwestern Kunene Region. Semi-nomadic pastoralists, they trek from one watering area to another. The women are noted for their beauty and the dramatic colour of their skin, created by rubbing their bodies with red ochre and fat to protect them from the harsh desert climate. It is possible to visit Himba communities from camps in Namibia's Skeleton Coast National Park. Spending time in a village is a unique and humbling experience, giving you the chance to learn about the architecture of their houses, the structure of their community, survival in an unforgiving landscape and how to create beautiful and intricate jewellery from iron and shell beads.

A stay at Kawaza village, Zambia

Kawaza village is a simple Kunda village near to the South Luangwa National Park in Zambia. The villagers have set up a project to introduce visitors to life at Kawaza and improve their community at the same time. You stay in the heart of the village in a traditional hut and partake in everyday activities. Nothing is put on especially for you and nothing is contrived. During a day in the village you might assist in cooking the traditional Ugali for lunch, wander amongst the small fields, pound grain or even thatch a house. There is the chance to meet with the village headman and engage in lively conversation with many members of the village. The income gained from your visit helps fund and run vital community projects.

Walking with the Maasai, West Kilimanjaro

The Maasai lands on the lowland slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro are spectacular, with expansive plains dotted with Maasai warriors standing guard over cattle grazing amongst wildebeest and zebra. In these areas money is scarce and sustainable tourism projects inject funds into vital clinics and water supplies. Staying at a simple tented camp here and walking with the Maasai, you will be able to enjoy the unspoiled wilderness, enjoy the wildlife and learn about the Maasai culture.

Ruth Milligan
Africa Safari Specialist



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- 1 Children at Kawaza village
- 2 Bushman at Jack's camp
- 3 Walking with the Maasai
- 4 Himba woman