

5 JUNE - 12 JUNE 2027

AMONGST GIANTS & PREDATORS AT MASHATU

PHOTO SAFARI **WITH SHEM COMPION**

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INTRODUCTION

Mashatu is a landscape of space. Dry riverbeds wind beneath immense trees, open plains stretch towards sandstone ridges, and elephants move along routes shaped by water and season. Set on Botswana's eastern edge, where the country meets South Africa and Zimbabwe, its 90,000 acres encompass savanna, riverine forest, rocky outcrops and seasonal wetlands, each creating a different setting in which to photograph.

Known as the Land of the Giants, Mashatu supports around 1,000 elephants, alongside lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena and a wide variety of plains game. More than 360 bird species add another layer to the experience. Yet it is often the leopards that become part of Mashatu's photographic rhythm, appearing along dry riverbeds, moving through woodland or resting in the branches of the trees that give the reserve its name.

Photography here is shaped by more than the subjects themselves. Open country creates room for environmental portraits, riverbeds offer clean sightlines, and changing light can transform familiar places from one drive to the next. Mashatu's photographic hides add an entirely different perspective, bringing you down to eye level at the water and allowing behaviour to unfold without the need to follow it.

For Shem Compion, this is familiar ground. Years of returning to Mashatu have made it a second home, a landscape known through seasons, sightings and countless hours behind the camera. This June, he returns with just six guests for C4's birthday safari, combining private vehicle time with dedicated hide sessions and the freedom to respond when a sighting develops. It is a fitting place to celebrate another year of C4: back in the field, camera in hand, sharing a landscape that has long been part of our own story.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

- Work with lion, leopard, cheetah and hyena as encounters unfold across Mashatu's varied habitats.
- Photograph from ground level at Lala Limpopo Sleep-Out Hide and Matebole Hide, bringing the camera closer to the animals' perspective.
- Spend time with Mashatu's elephants, particularly around water where behaviour can be observed and photographed patiently.
- Use the private vehicle to stay with developing sightings and position thoughtfully for backgrounds, behaviour and light.
- Move between open plains, dry riverbeds, sandstone outcrops and woodland, creating opportunities for both intimate portraits and wider environmental frames.
- Make the most of June's clear winter conditions, working with the softer light at the beginning and end of each day.

SAFARI HIGHLIGHTS

- Six nights at Mashatu, split between Tuli Safari Lodge and Mashatu Lodge.
- Explore a landscape Shem Compion knows as a second home, guided by years spent photographing Mashatu.
- A private photographic vehicle throughout, giving the group greater freedom around sightings and changing light.
- One night at the Lala Limpopo Sleep-Out Hide, with guests rotating through the experience.
- Dedicated photographic sessions underground at Matebole Hide.
- Time with Mashatu's elephants, predators and plains game across riverbeds, open savanna and woodland.
- A June departure created to celebrate C4's birthday month, with added value as our gift to you.



PRICING & DETAILS

$ 10 500
SHARING COST P/P

$ 12 500
SINGLE COST P/P

5 JUNE - 12 JUNE 2027
7 NIGHTS | 8 DAYS

DETAILS

SERVICE STARTS	O.R. Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg
SERVICE ENDS	O.R. Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg
TOUR	Amongst Giants & Predators at Mashatu
YOUR GUIDE	Shem Compion
MINIMUM GUESTS	3 Guests
MAXIMUM GUESTS	6 Guests
DEPOSIT	30% Deposit confirms your booking. Balance payable 8 weeks before tour start date.

A detailed pre-departure document detailing climate, clothing, travel logistics, travel information, camera gear and other safari information will be sent to you 6 weeks prior to your departure date.

✓ THE ABOVE COSTS INCLUDE

- Return road transfer between O.R Tambo and Lanseria International Airport.
- Return scheduled flights between Lanseria Airport and Limpopo Valley Airfield.
- All accommodation as per the itinerary.
- All meals.
- All beverages. Excludes Premium imported champagne, cognacs, wines, and spirits.
- Wi-Fi, and laundry services.
- Mashatu conservation levy, government bed levy and VAT.
- One night of your stay will be spent at the Lala Limpopo sleep-out hide, with group rotation.
- Private specialist photo guide: Shem Compion.
- Exclusive photographic sessions at the Matebole Hide.
- Private Photo Vehicle.

X COSTS NOT INCLUDED

- Visas & Vaccination.
- Travel & medical insurance.
- All international flights.
- Additional accommodation and transfers.
- All adventure activities offered at Mashatu, i.e.cycling safaris, ad hoc walking safaris, horse safaris, photographic hides & tuition, community visits & night drives.
- Serokolo Spa treatments.
- WalkMashatu full day walking safaris.

Our full terms and conditions are available on request or can be viewed by following this link

CONFIRM YOUR PLACE NOW

YOUR SAFARI

DAY 1 - 2

INTERCONTINENTAL O.R. TAMBO AIRPORT

1 NIGHT

Your journey begins in Johannesburg. After arriving at O.R. Tambo International Airport, make the short walk across to the InterContinental for an overnight stay. It is an easy first night, giving you time to settle in before leaving the city behind for Mashatu the following morning.

DAY 2 - 5

TULI SAFARI LODGE

3 NIGHTS

After breakfast, transfer by road to Lanseria Airport for the scheduled flight to Limpopo Valley Airfield. From the airstrip, the first drive into Mashatu begins, moving through a landscape that Shem knows as a second home.

Over the next three nights, mornings and afternoons are spent out in the reserve with your cameras, following wildlife rather than a fixed formula. Elephants, predators and plains game move through open country, dry riverbeds and woodland, while Shem's familiarity with Mashatu helps shape where time is spent and when it is worth waiting.

During your stay at Tuli Safari Lodge, the group will rotate through the Lala Limpopo Sleep-Out Hide. Here, the perspective changes completely. At water level and with time on your side, photography becomes less about searching and more about watching what arrives.

DAY 5 - 8

MASHATU LODGE

3 NIGHTS

After your morning activity, move across the reserve to Mashatu Lodge for the final three nights. By now, the landscape has begun to feel familiar, giving you the opportunity to build on earlier sightings, revisit productive areas and work more deliberately with behaviour, composition and light.

Your time here includes dedicated sessions at the underground Matebole Hide. Sitting quietly at eye level beside the water changes both the angle and the pace of photography, allowing animals to approach naturally while you concentrate on gestures, reflections and the moments that develop between them.

With Shem alongside you throughout, these final days are about making the most of a place he has returned to for years. There is no need to rush a sighting simply to find the next one.

DAY 8

There is time for one final morning in Mashatu before breakfast and the journey home begins. Transfer to Limpopo Valley Airfield for the scheduled flight to Lanseria Airport, followed by a road transfer to O.R. Tambo International Airport.

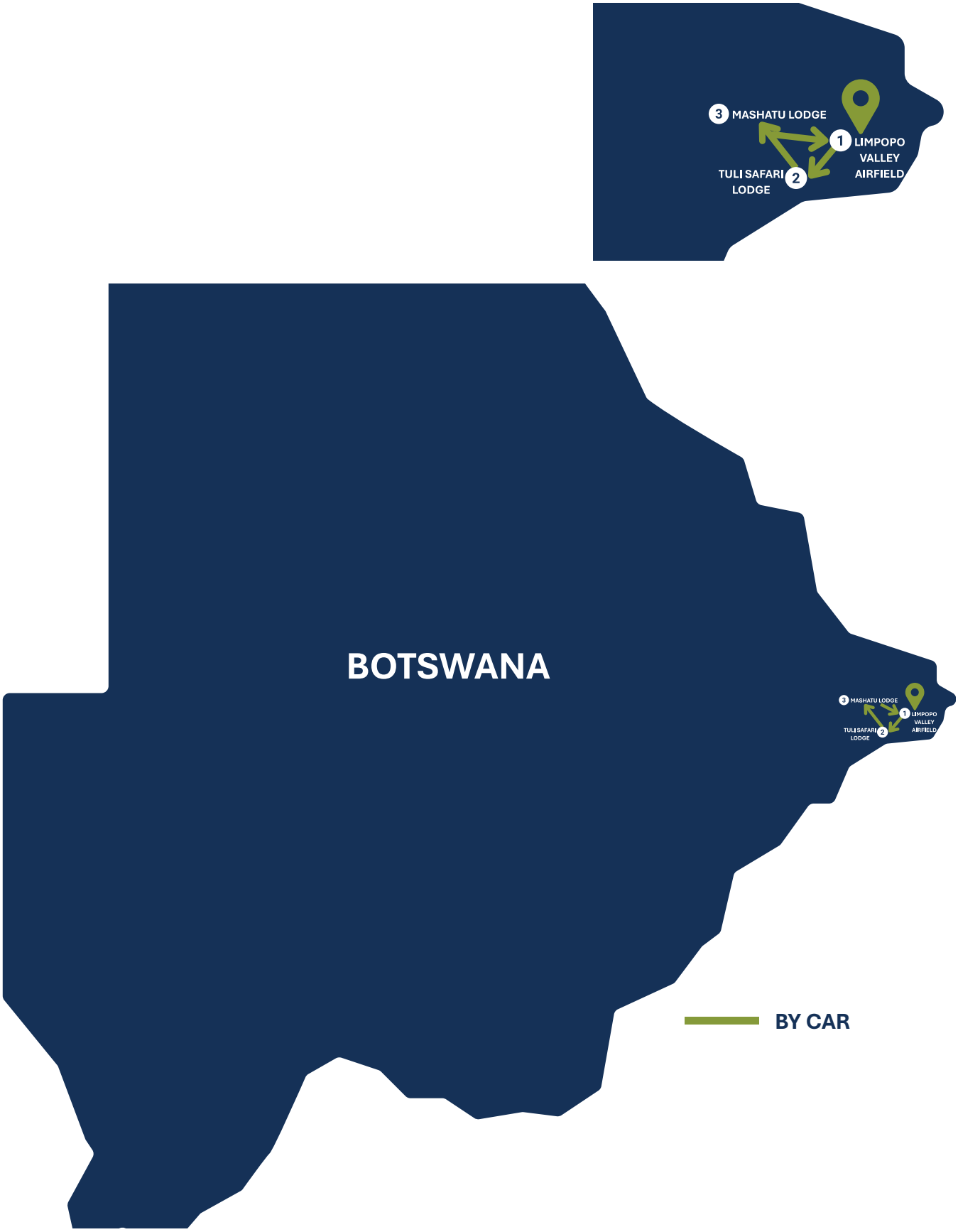
After seven nights together, C4's birthday safari comes to an end where it should: after one last morning in the field, and another chapter added to our long story with Mashatu.

YOUR LOGISTICS OVERVIEW

DAY	TRANSFERS	ACCOMODATION
DAY 1 5 JUNE	• Self-arrival at O.R. Tambo International Airport. Walk across to the InterContinental for your overnight stay.	INTERCONTINENTAL O.R. TAMBO AIRPORT 1 NIGHT
DAY 2 6 JUNE	• Meet your C4 representative and transfer by road to Lanseria International Airport. Scheduled flight to Limpopo Valley Airfield, followed by a game drive transfer into Mashatu.	TULI SAFARI LODGE 3 NIGHTS
DAY 5 9 JUNE	• Morning activity followed by a transfer across Mashatu Game Reserve to Mashatu Lodge.	MASHATU LODGE 3 NIGHTS
DAY 8 12 JUNE	• Transfer to Limpopo Valley Airfield. Scheduled flight to Lanseria Airport, followed by a road transfer to O.R. Tambo International Airport.	DEPARTURE



YOUR JOURNEY











YOUR GUIDE



SHEM COMPION

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER

Shem Compion uses his intricate knowledge of travel in Africa, its wildlife, and fantastic photographic locations to give you the best photographic insight into Africa you can get. Having personally travelled, across many parts of Africa for the last 22 years, Shem brings his extensive travel, logistics and operations experience into planning your safaris and expeditions across Africa.

Beyond the more popular destinations in Africa, C4 Photo Safaris has gained a reputation for safaris into the more remote areas of Africa. Shem has been at the forefront of driving these safari destinations as the new frontiers of photography travel. These include Chad (Zakouma and Ennedi), Gabon, CAR, DRC, northern Kenya, Congo, South Sudan, and Ethiopia. Safaris into these farflung areas require a unique set of skills and operational precision.

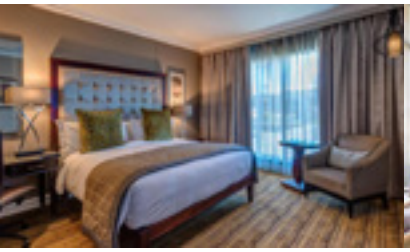
A self-taught wildlife photographer, Shem quickly established himself as one of the top wildlife photographers in South Africa. His work is regularly published worldwide in magazines, calendars, and books. Shem's intricate knowledge of a variety of photographic subjects is his greatest photographic asset. He has received international awards for images in Mammals, birds, reptiles, and landscape categories. In recent years, Shem has worked extensively with African cultures, taking him on expeditions into some of Africa's most remote and beautiful areas.

YOUR ACCOMODATION

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL

Set directly opposite the international arrivals terminal at O.R. Tambo, the InterContinental makes for an easy first night before the journey north. Its location keeps the logistics simple, with no lengthy transfer after your flight into Johannesburg and a straightforward departure the following morning. It is a comfortable pause between international travel and the start of your time at Mashatu.



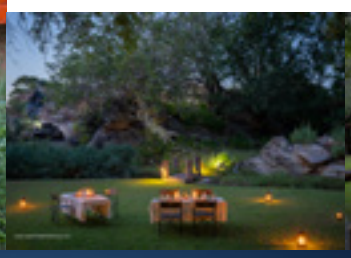


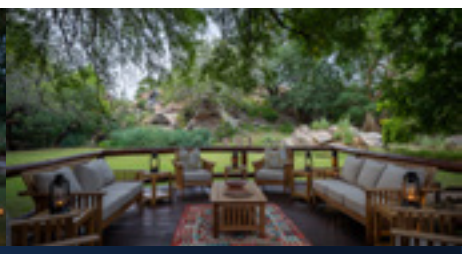




TULI SAFARI LODGE

Set within Mashatu's riverine landscape, Tuli Safari Lodge is your base for the first three nights in the reserve. Mature trees and the surrounding bush give the lodge a strong sense of place, while days are spent exploring Mashatu by private photographic vehicle. This part of the stay also brings a change in perspective through the Lala Limpopo Sleep-Out Hide, where time beside the water allows wildlife to approach on its own terms. Between activities, the lodge provides the space to rest, review images and prepare for the next session in the field.





YOUR ACCOMODATION

MASHATU LODGE

Mashatu Lodge becomes home for the final three nights, keeping you immersed in the reserve while opening another chapter of the photographic experience. Morning and afternoon drives continue across Mashatu's varied habitats, with time to return to productive areas and follow sightings as they develop. Your stay also includes dedicated sessions at the underground Matebole Hide, where a low position beside the water creates opportunities to photograph wildlife at eye level. After several days in the reserve, these final nights allow you to work with a growing familiarity with Mashatu, its wildlife and its changing light.

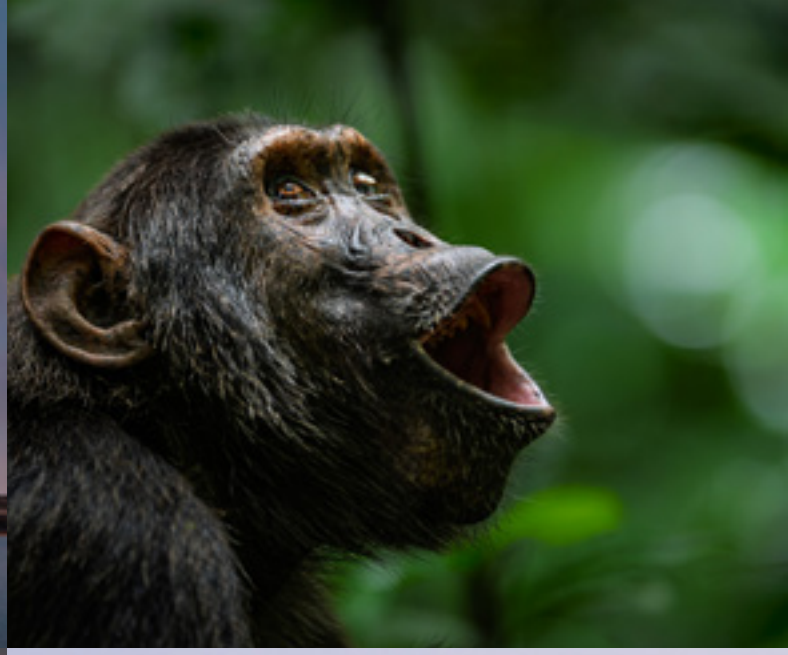


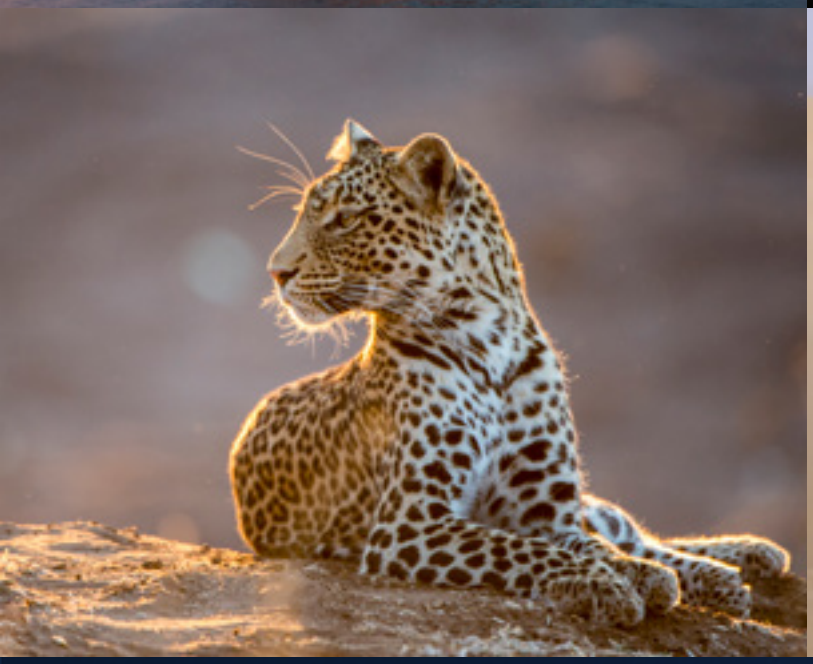














C4

PHOTO SAFARIS

Curating unique photographic encounters and planning rare adventures
in the natural world across Africa is our core speciality.
It's our gift to you.

c4photosafaris.com