

**W**e know that most people won't be quite so single-minded about their priorities, but perhaps you do want to do a bit more than sit in the back of a vehicle racing around in search of the Big Five. It's certainly possible to visit some of the most beautiful locations and see the amazing wildlife that Africa can offer, including the critically endangered black rhinos, so why not do your bit for conservation whilst on holiday by visiting one of the projects we support. You never know, you might be lucky enough to spot a rhino!

### Kenya - Laikipia District

The Laikipia District holds about half of Kenya's critically endangered black rhino, with five major populations and four smaller ones, so you're nearly guaranteed a sighting. This is eco-tourism heaven, as the Laikipia Wildlife Forum has developed numerous community-owned tourism projects. There are also over 50 traditional tourism operators in Laikipia, all members of the LWF. Given the remarkable integrity of the ecosystem with its immense wildlife populations, and the fact that the plateau is home to more endangered species than anywhere else in East Africa, we're convinced that Laikipia will increasingly be seen as Kenya's foremost wildlife destination. Visit [www.laikipia.org](http://www.laikipia.org) for more information. Vicky Stirling (sister of Dave Stirling, our Project Director) who runs Farside Africa, knows Laikipia well and can recommend places to suit every interest.

### Kenya - Tsavo East National Park

In the late 1990s, the Kenya Wildlife Service, together with various NGOs including Save the Rhino, reintroduced black rhino to the Park in a free-release programme. We continue to support this project and our annual "Rhino Climb Kil" overseas challenge, organised

by World Odyssey in conjunction with the African Walking Company, (see elsewhere in this issue of The Horn) ends with a visit to the Park, so that the exhausted climbers can see for themselves the project their hard-earned funds are helping to support.

### Kenya - Chyulu Hills National Park

As you'll read in this issue, the rhino project in the Chyulus is doing well, and you can visit the Chyulus for yourself. The place to stay is Ol Donyo Wuas, Richard Bonham's luxury lodge; visit [www.richardbonhamsafaris.com](http://www.richardbonhamsafaris.com) for more information.

Discovery Initiatives is running a special "Rhino Retribution Safari" to the Chyulus. It is led by Alex Hunter, grandson of the legendary J A Hunter, whose government-appointed job in the 1950s was to exterminate rhinos from much of their range. A donation will be made to the Chyulus for every participant. Moving through some of Kenya's most

beautiful landscape, using superb lodges and comfortable classic camping, you'll drive, walk and track animals including elephant, lions, leopards and of course rhinos, through some of Kenya's most visionary conservation efforts.

### Uganda - Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary

The Rhino Fund Uganda, with support from Save the Rhino and numerous other partner organisations, has reintroduced the rhinoceros to Uganda at the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary and at present holds four Southern white rhinos. The Sanctuary is located 170 km northwest of Kampala, along the tarmac road to Murchison Falls, one of the main tourist destinations in Uganda. This makes the Sanctuary a perfect stopover for overnight travellers on their way to Murchison Falls, or to see the mountain gorillas.

### Tanzania - Mkomazi Game Reserve

The little-visited Mkomazi Game Reserve is located in north-eastern Tanzania, on the Kenyan border. The Rhino Sanctuary and African Wild Dog breeding programme there is run by legendary conservationist Tony Fitzjohn. The Reserve is about to get National Park status, which may mean that more accommodation options become available; for the moment your best bet is to go with Baobab Expeditions.



**Above:** Black rhinos drink at least once a day

**Left:** Heading out on patrol

**Below:** Ol Donyo Wuas offers sweeping views across to Mt. Kilimanjaro



DAVE STIRLING



BACKGROUND: RICHARD BONHAM SAFARIS

CATHY DEAN



# How and where to see rhinos in the wild

Choosing the perfect destination when planning your African safari can be quite a mind-boggling decision, with so many choices on offer. For us, there is only one criterion: **can we see rhinos in the wild?**

**Petra Fleischer**  
Corporate Fundraising Manager



### Tanzania - Selous Game Reserve

The Selous is one of the most beautiful places in Africa; vast, with mixed habitat, and the chance to go on a five-day walking safari here shouldn't be missed. The Kidai Ranger Station (see elsewhere in this issue of The Horn) is about 40 minutes up-river from luxurious Sand Rivers Lodge. The only video footage of a black rhino in the Selous in recent years was, in fact, taken by a tourist, so why not try for yourself? Enquire with Nomad Tanzania about booking.

### Namibia - Palmwag Rhino Camp

Namibia holds more than a third of all the black rhinos remaining in Africa, and numbers are steadily increasing. Save the Rhino Trust has partnered with Wilderness Safaris to organise desert rhino expeditions, in which you join vehicle-, foot- or camel-based teams of local trackers to monitor the rhinos. A share of the proceeds goes to support SRT's work.

### Zimbabwe

Despite the uncertain political situation, Zimbabwe's lodges are still very keen to see visitors, and you'd know that your tourist dollar was making a very real contribution to the local economy. Try visiting Matusadona National Park, Save Valley, Chiredzi River, Bulye or the Midlands Rhino Conservancy, for an insight into how conservationists are managing to continue their good work, irrespective of the difficult conditions.

All the travel companies listed right support our work in some way, either by making a contribution per visitor to each project, or by making donations to the project visited. The text above suggests particular companies for each trip, but virtually all of those listed can put together an itinerary for any of these destinations. Enjoy researching your trip!

**Baobab Expeditions:**  
www.baobabexpeditions.com

**Discovery Initiatives:**  
www.discoveryinitiatives.co.uk

**Farside Africa:**  
www.farsideafrica.com

**Nomad Tanzania:**  
www.nomad-tanzania.com

**Tim Best Travel:**  
www.timbesttravel.net

**Wilderness Safaris:**  
www.wilderness-safaris.com

**World Odyssey:**  
www.world-odyssey.com

**Worldwide Experience:**  
www.worldwideexperience.com

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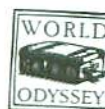
**Air Namibia:**  
www.airnamibia.com

**South African Airlines:**  
www.flysaa.com



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# Eckō's grant, one year on \*eckō unltd.®

**Petra Fleischer**

Corporate Fundraising Manager

In May 2005, Eckō Unlimited generously gave Save the Rhino a grant of \$75,000. To keep the behind-the-scenes work going, and to aid front-line rhino work, we decided to split the grant between our Annual Fund and four black rhino projects in Africa.

In the office, the Eckō grant helped us to pay the salary of Renaud Fulconis, EAZA Campaign Manager, who in turn is aiming to raise awareness and work with zoos, companies, trusts and foundations, schools and individuals to raise a staggering 350,000 euros for 13 chosen field projects. Talk about spending money to make money! Renaud is more than grateful for the sponsorship and wears his Eckō T-shirt with great pride...

In the field, Eckō's grant has been used to supporting four very different projects, all important. These donations have already made significant contributions towards increasing rhino numbers. The following short summary briefly describes how:

- In Zimbabwe, Eckō's funds enabled us to support two projects. We have continued to pay for intensive monitoring of the rhino population in Matusadona National Park, in the north west of the country, home to approximately 40 rhinos. This ongoing work (described in more detail elsewhere in this issue of The Horn) will provide valuable information in advance of a census / ear-notching / horn-implant operation planned for July / August 2006.
- The second Eckō grant for Zimbabwe was allocated to veterinarian Chris Foggin, who not only carries out planned work like translocations, ear-notching and horn implants, but also does emergency operations on rhinos who may have been injured in fights with dominant bulls, or got caught in snares.
- In Kenya, their grant was allocated to the Laikipia Wildlife Forum's Community Conservation programme, through which Josephat Musyima, the Community Conservation Officer, and the five Community Liaison Officers work with local communities to ensure that they benefit from their proximity to wildlife and from the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Finally, in Namibia, Eckō's grant paid for rhino translocations from over-crowded Etosha National Park to communal area conservancies (described in an earlier issue of The Horn).

## Thanks

It's safe to say that Eckō Unlimited has saved some rhinos! Our heartfelt thanks go to the Eckō team in the US.