

adventurewomen

THE DESTINATION IS JUST THE BEGINNING

# BOTSWANA

## A Wildlife Safari in Southern Africa



May 17 - 27, 2020

# BOTSWANA

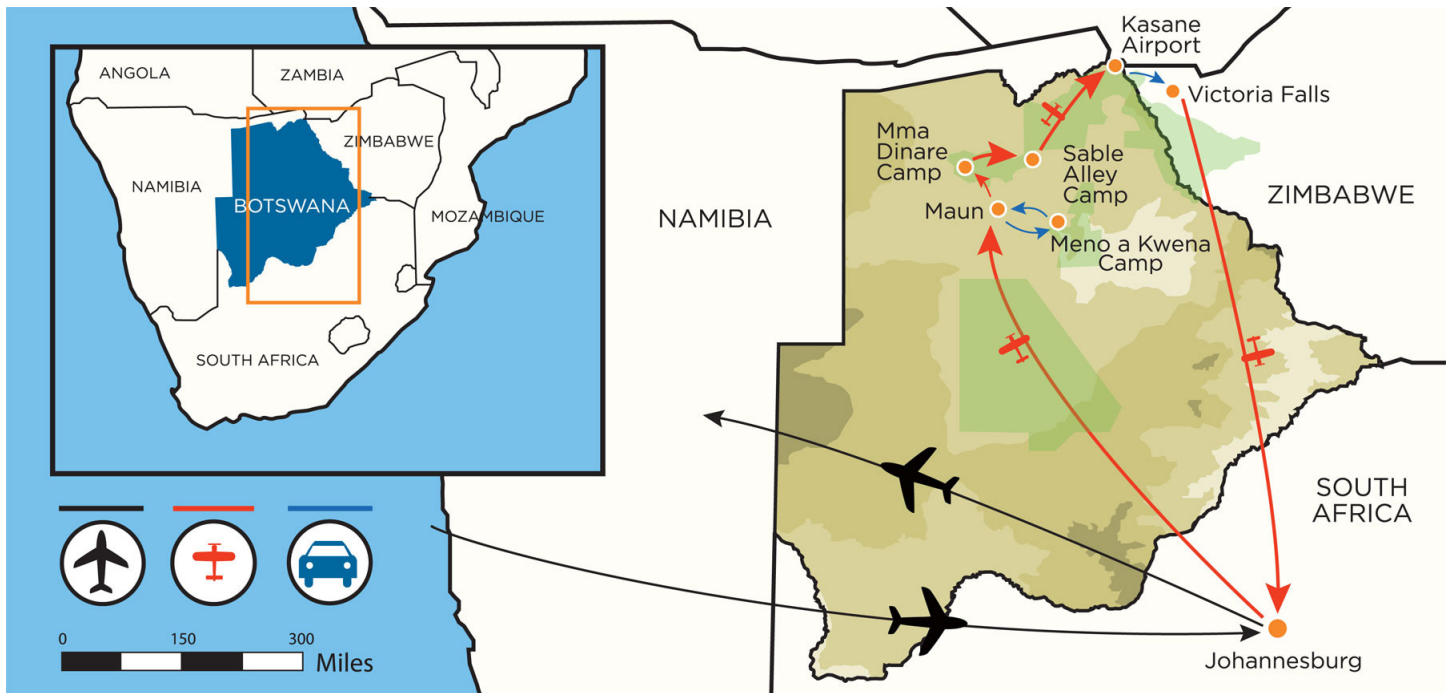
## A Wildlife Safari in Southern Africa

May 17 - 27, 2020

### TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Meet African wildlife at home in their natural habitats and learn all about them from naturalist guides
- ▶ Travel to three game reserves and national parks in Botswana's famed Okavango Delta
- ▶ Experience the thrill of walking through the African bush in search of animals as well as game drives by night
- ▶ Sleep in luxurious tented camps as you try to distinguish between the call of a lion and the bark of a hyena
- ▶ Hike along the length of Victoria Falls' many waterfalls as the Zambezi River cascades over the cliffs into a cloud of mist and rainbows

### TRIP ROUTE



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### QUICK VIEW ITINERARY

- Day 1: arrive Johannesburg, overnight near the airport
- Day 2: meet your guide, fly to Maun, start wildlife viewing
- Day 3: full day of safari activities
- Day 4: another full day on safari
- Day 5: drive to Maun, fly to your next safari camp in the Okavango Delta
- Day 6: safari by vehicle, foot, or canoe
- Day 7: enjoy another day on safari
- Day 8: have one last day in the bush searching for African wildlife
- Day 9: fly to Zimbabwe, sunset cruise on the Zambezi River
- Day 10: explore Victoria Falls, helicopter ride over the falls
- Day 11: fly to Johannesburg and depart for the US

### TRIP PRICE

Main Trip: \$8,990

Internal Air: \$750

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### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 1

Sunday  
5/17/20

### Arrive in Johannesburg

Arrive in Johannesburg, the largest city in South Africa. This is the perfect place to meet up as a group before heading into the bush on a safari.

Pick-up and  
Transfer

You will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

Dinner

Enjoy dinner on your own this evening.

#### Accommodations

City Lodge Ortia

#### Meals Included

on your own

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**DAY 2**  
Monday  
5/18/20

### Johannesburg to Makgadikgadi Pans

The Makgadikgadi Pan is a salt pan smack in the middle of the dry savannah of north-eastern Botswana, and is one of the largest salt flats in the world.

- Fly to Maun** Transfer as a group to the airport for your flight to Maun, Botswana, this morning. You'll be met upon arrival and transferred to Meno a Kwena, your home for the next few days.
- Settle in at Camp** Settle into your stunning camp this afternoon. Unpack a bit and enjoy how private this camp is - with only nine tents, it will feel very intimate!
- Activities at Meno a Kwena** You will do a number of activities while at Meno a Kwena, but the order in which the activities happen may change in order to give you the best experience possible.
- Afternoon Game Drive** This afternoon, head out to the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park. Search for antelope and meerkats, and just enjoy the vastness of the scenery.
- Welcome Dinner** Enjoy your official welcome dinner back at camp. Toast the adventures to come!

Accommodations  
Meno a Kwena  
Meals Included  
breakfast, lunch, dinner

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#### DAY 3

Tuesday  
5/19/20

### Makgadikgadi Pans and the Kalahari

The Kalahari Desert takes up most of Botswana as well as part of Namibia and part of South Africa. The Central Kalahari Game Reserve covers almost 10% of Botswana's total land area.

#### Morning Walk

Head out this morning on a walk with some of the local people. Stroll along the banks of the river and learn about traditional hunting and survival techniques. Enjoy a glimpse into the local traditional culture.

#### Game Drive

Not far from camp, you will search for wildlife near the river. Be on the lookout for lion, cheetah, elephant, giraffe, warthog, and more!

#### Relax at Camp

Relax at your tent overlooking the river that is often flooded with elephants and other animals - you can watch the wildlife without leaving your bedroom!

#### Accommodations

Meno a Kwena

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner



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#### DAY 4

Wednesday  
5/20/20

### Makgadikgadi Pans and the Kalahari

The most social of the big cats, lions live in groups called prides, composed mostly of females and cubs and only one or two adult males. Typically prides have 6-12 lions, but can sometimes have more than 30 members. Superior hunters, lionesses inherit the same territories as their mothers while young males roam until they drive out old males from other prides to take over leadership.

#### Another Day on Safari

Enjoy another day on safari. You may do an early morning and late afternoon game drive, a full-day excursion, or perhaps you'll do some of the activities and spend part of the day in the stunning swimming pool with views of the river.

#### Accommodations

Meno a Kwena

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

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**DAY 5**  
Thursday  
5/21/20

### Makgadikgadi Pans to the Okavango Delta

The Moremi Game Reserve is on the eastern side of the Okavango Delta, and was named after Chief Moremi of the BaTswana tribe. Moremi combines permanent water sources with drier areas, which create startling and unexpected contrasts.

#### Fly to the Okavango Delta

Drive to Maun this morning to catch your flight to your next spectacular safari location - the Okavango Delta!

#### Settle in at Camp

Once you arrive, settle in at this beautiful safari camp. The swimming pool gives it a luxurious feel - take a dip!

#### Afternoon Game Drive

Head off on an afternoon game drive in the Moremi Game Reserve. Search for all of the major predators in the area.

Accommodations  
Mma Dinare

Meals Included  
breakfast, lunch, dinner



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#### DAY 6

Friday  
5/22/20

### The Okavango Delta

In the Moremi Game Reserve, you can see an abundance of wildlife. Search for Cape buffalo, giraffe, rhinoceros, lion, elephant, hippopotamus, cheetah, hyena, and many other species.

**Life on Safari** Depending on the day, you may take an early morning walk to soak in the African sunrise, a game drive, or head out by canoe - enjoy the surprises that unfold for you along the way!

**Night Drive** You'll have the opportunity to go out on a night game drive. Search for nocturnal animals and observe their behavior from your vehicle.

#### Accommodations

Mma Dinare

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

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#### DAY 7

Saturday  
5/23/20

### The Okavango Delta

The hippopotamus is a large, mostly herbivorous, semiaquatic mammal. The name comes from the Ancient Greek meaning “river horse,” and despite its short legs and stocky body, it’s capable of running up to 19 miles per hour.

#### Morning Flight

Have breakfast this morning before catching your short flight to your next safari camp.

#### Explore Your Camp

When you arrive at your next camp, take some time to explore. At this camp, wildlife literally comes to you. There is an uninterrupted view of the plains.

#### Life at Camp

Enjoy an array of activities while at your camp - you will be able to go game viewing from safari vehicles, on foot, and on the water.

#### Accommodations

Sable Alley

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

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#### DAY 8

Sunday  
5/24/20

### The Okavango Delta

The water in the Okavango Delta does not flow into any sea or ocean but eventually just evaporates. The Delta is one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The area was once part of Lake Makgadikgadi, an ancient lake that dried up by the early Holocene period.

#### Early Morning Walk

Get up early this morning and head out on foot. You'll search for wildlife and see the landscape from a different perspective while on foot. Enjoy the extraordinary quiet peacefulness of the African morning.

#### Breakfast at Camp

Enjoy a delicious breakfast at camp after your morning walk. Take some time to sit in an armchair and do some birdwatching.

#### Mokoro Adventures

This afternoon, head out in a mokoro, the traditional boat of the area. Search the waters for elephant, hippo, crocodiles, and the plethora of wildlife that come to drink at the banks of the river.

#### Accommodations

Sable Alley

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

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#### DAY 9

Monday  
5/25/20

### The Okavango Delta to Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls is the largest waterfall in the world, and it is roughly twice the size of Niagara Falls. The Zambezi River flows into these world-famous falls.

#### Fly to Victoria Falls

Leave the Delta this morning and fly to Victoria Falls. Transfer to your lodge and settle in. You'll have an amazing view.

#### Sunset Cruise

Take a sunset cruise this evening on the Zambezi River. Soak in the noise of the river and the falls as you search for elephant, hippo, and crocodiles.

#### Accommodations

Victoria Falls Safari Club

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

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#### DAY 10

Tuesday  
5/26/20

### Victoria Falls

The falls are formed as the full width of the Zambezi River plummets in a single vertical drop that is over 5,000 feet wide. There are also two islands on the crest of the falls that divide the flow of water.

**Tour the Falls** Tour Victoria Falls today, just minutes from your hotel. Walk a path along the edge of the forest and brave the tremendous spray for an unparalleled view of the falls. You'll have a chance to view the falls from the Knife Edge Bridge, from which you can see the Eastern Cataract, the main falls, as well as the Boiling Pot where the river turns to head into Batoka Gorge.

**Helicopter Flight** This 12 minute helicopter flight over the falls offers spectacular photographic opportunities. You'll fly circuits over the falls in both directions, as well as fly up and down the Zambezi River.

**Farewell Dinner** Enjoy a farewell dinner with your group and toast the end of an amazing adventure!

#### Accommodations

Victoria Falls Safari Club

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

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#### DAY 11

Wednesday  
5/27/20

### Depart Victoria Falls

Enjoy one last morning in Africa before departing for the US.

#### Morning Flight

Fly as a group to Johannesburg mid-day. Say goodbye to your new AdventureWomen friends as you catch your flight home.

Meals Included  
breakfast

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time, if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

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### Accommodation Details

#### City Lodge Ortia

Based at Africa's busiest airport, City Lodge Ortia will provide you with a comfortable and accessible overnight accommodation. The hotel is equipped with a fitness room and pool deck and is the perfect place to overnight before flying into the bush.

#### Meno a Kwena

Midway between the Botswana's extraordinary Okavango Delta and the spectacular Central Kalahari Game Reserve, Meno a Kwena tented camp provides you with a unique African wildlife experience. Nine luxurious guest tents, all with ensuite bathrooms, overlook a river often flooded with elephants and other animals – so you can watch game without leaving your bedroom! Incidentally, Meno a Kwena means 'teeth of the crocodile' – a common sight as the reptiles lounge on the river's banks, often near the camp. After game drives, you can relax in the lodge's stunning swimming pool with views of the river – a relaxing experience that is thankfully crocodile-free.

#### Mma Dinare

The central area has been built with an open, thatched space allowing you to relax and enjoy the natural surroundings, while watching wildlife and birds from the comfort of an armchair or the bar. The swimming pool and curio shop complete the luxurious, relaxed feel. Accommodation consists of luxury safari tents in true traditional safari style, all with full en-suite semi-open bathrooms.



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### Accommodation Details

#### Sable Alley

Overlooking a lagoon that's connected to the River Khwai, just a stone's throw from the world-famous Moremi Game Reserve, this enviable location means the game literally comes to you. From the camp's swimming pool, lounge, and outdoor seating area there is an uninterrupted view of large herds of plains game, elephant, and buffalo coming to drink – an idyllic way to spend an afternoon. Back at camp, your home in the bush is a comfortable and stylish tent. Elevated on decks to give you a view of the lagoon, the tents have en suite bathrooms, private verandas and private indoor and outdoor showers where you can wash off the dust of each truly memorable day.

#### Victoria Falls Safari Club

Located within the lush grounds of the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge resort the Victoria Falls Safari Club offers a new concept in accommodation. With 20 luxurious en-suite rooms the Safari Club is a place where Africa meets the modern-world in a private "Club." Situated on a kopje with uninterrupted views of the bush and spectacular sunsets, the property provides an elegant atmosphere in which to relax and unwind after a busy day.

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### Included/Not Included

#### Included:

- ▶ Accommodations based on double occupancy
- ▶ Meals as noted in the itinerary
- ▶ All ground transportation
- ▶ All activities as listed in the itinerary
- ▶ English-speaking guide throughout the trip
- ▶ Entrance fees
- ▶ Bottled water
- ▶ One AdventureWomen Ambassador

#### Not Included:

- ▶ International airfare
- ▶ Domestic airfare
- ▶ Meals not specified in itinerary
- ▶ Alcoholic beverages, unless otherwise specified
- ▶ Items of a personal nature
- ▶ Passport and visa fees
- ▶ Travel insurance
- ▶ Gratuities for guides and staff

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### Activity Level:

**Moderate**

Active

High Energy

Challenging

We rate this trip as Moderate. Our Moderate adventures exercise your mind more than your body and are designed for women who prefer a leisurely, less rigorous experience. For example, you could walk up to 2 miles per day through cities and villages, stand in museums for a few hours, relax on a boat, or view wildlife from a vehicle. Please note that this is a general description of what you might encounter; for specific details about your trip, please consult the itinerary.

We recommend training before your trip (with your doctor's permission!) to make the most of your adventure. We have a partnership with FitForTrips, a company that will design an individualized fitness plan for you with this itinerary in mind. Best of all, AdventureWomen guests get a 25% discount with the code FITWOMEN. Learn more at: <https://fitfortrips.com/partners/adventure-women/>

You should come with a flexible, adventurous, and enthusiastic spirit, and a wonderful sense of humor that adventure travel requires.

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The deposit for this trip is \$1,500, and is nonrefundable and nontransferable. Once you book, you will need to fill out and return to AdventureWomen:

- Information Form
- Booking Conditions Form
- Copy of Flight Information
- Copy of Issuing Page of Passport (Photo Page)

**Final payment is due to AdventureWomen in a cash form (check, money order, or wire transfer) on or before February 17, 2020.** A maximum of \$1,500 per person can be put on a credit card, which includes your deposit.

### Passports and Visas:

Citizens of the United States must have a passport valid for six months beyond your travel dates with at least two blank facing pages. If you do not have a passport, please apply now!

You will need a tourist visa to enter Zimbabwe but you can get it upon arrival in the area for \$30.

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### Health Considerations:

Make an appointment with a travel clinic. There are no immunization requirements for travel to southern Africa, however your local travel clinic may have recommendations for you based on your age, health, and past vaccination history.

For more health information, go to [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel) and navigate to the pages about Botswana and Zimbabwe.

### Money:

You will be able to use US dollars on your trip to Botswana. Credit cards are generally accepted but there may be a surcharge for credit card use of 3-4%. You should plan on bringing cash as ATMs may not be readily available.

### Suggested Gratuities:

- ▶ Specialist Guide: \$15 per day
- ▶ Driver: \$10 per day
- ▶ Lodge Staff: \$7 per day
- ▶ Other Tips: Bartender, guides for nature walks and other activities - at your discretion

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**Arrive:** Arrive in Johannesburg, South Africa (JNB) on May 17, 2020.

**Depart:** Depart Johannesburg, South Africa (JNB) on May 27, 2020 after 6:00pm.

We are happy to help you make your flight and travel arrangements. Please contact us at:

**(800) 804-8686 or (617) 544-9393**  
**email: [info@adventurewomen.com](mailto:info@adventurewomen.com)**

If you'd like to do anything prior to or following the AdventureWomen trip, we'd be delighted to help you arrange any trip extensions you're interested in.

**Note:** The recent trend in travel is for travelers to finalize their plans much closer to departure time than was customary in the past. While we try to be as flexible as possible booking last-minute registrants, we must release hotel rooms two to three months prior to departure! Please keep this in mind when making your travel plans.

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As you get ready to pack for your adventure, have a look at The AdventureWomen Store at [www.theadventurewomenstore.com](http://www.theadventurewomenstore.com) - we have picked out our favorite travel clothes and outdoor gear to help make packing easy for you. You can also see our recommendations for this trip on the [AdventureWomen Pinterest](#) page.

**For your internal flights you are required to have a fully soft-sided duffel bag no larger than 30cm x 30cm x 70cm (approximately 12" x 12" x 27"), and can weigh no more than 44lbs.**

May to September is the dry season, or "winter." There is little to no rain, the skies are clear, most days are sunny and beautiful, and there are fewer mosquitoes. It is the perfect time for wildlife viewing since it is easier to spot because there is less vegetation, and the animals gather around rivers and waterholes.

At night and in the mornings it can get cold, so it's advised to pack warm clothing, especially for morning safari drives in open vehicles.

### Clothing and Gear:

- Duffel bag (soft-sided)
- Daypack
- 5 short-sleeve shirts
- 2 long-sleeve shirts
- 2 pairs of shorts
- 2 pairs of convertible, light-weight zip-off pants
- 1 set of nicer clothes for dinners
- 7 pairs underwear
- 3-5 bras/sports bras (good for bumpy roads!)
- 1 fleece or insulated jacket
- 1 waterproof windbreaker
- Wide-brim, tie-on sun hat
- 7 pairs of socks
- 1 pair well broken-in comfortable walking shoes
- 1 pair sport sandals
- Sleepwear

### AdventureWomen Essentials:

- Travel documents (passport, airline tickets, money)
- 2-3 spare passport photos (in case of lost passport)
- Write down/print out travel insurance number
- Locks for your suitcase/duffel bag
- Travel alarm clock with spare batteries
- Headlamp or small flashlight with spare batteries
- Binoculars (8x40/42 models are excellent choices; center focus models are easiest)
- Digital camera, memory cards, battery charger
- Power adapters/power bank
- Sunglasses, case, and strap



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### Essentials Continued:

- Spare glasses, contact lenses, cleaner, saline, etc.
- Money belt or neck pouch
- Your AdventureWomen water bottle
- Sunscreen and lip balm with SPF
- Mosquito repellent
- Hand wipes/hand sanitizer
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Soap, shampoo, and conditioner
- Small packet of tissues
- Tampons and panty liners (avoid plastic applicators)
- Earplugs: We recommend Mack's Pillow Soft White Moldable Silicone Snore Proof Earplugs. Available at most drugstores or at [www.earplugstore.com](http://www.earplugstore.com)
- Assortment of stuff sacks and Ziploc bags
- 1-2 bandanas/Buff
- Reading material/journal and pens

### Personal First Aid Kit:

- Prescription medicine you usually take (in original containers)
- Personal epi pen (if you need one, don't forget to pack it!)
- Bandages, Gauze, Ace bandage, blister prevention
- Antiseptic wipes/spray
- Antibiotic ointment
- Cotton-tipped applicators
- Oral rehydration tablets/packets
- Antidiarrheal medication
- Mild laxative
- Antacid
- Cold remedies
- Ibuprofen/acetaminophen
- Eye drops
- Tweezers, scissors (travel size), safety pins

If you prefer to buy a complete kit, we recommend the Smart Travel first aid kit.

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### Cancellations and Refunds

Notification of cancellations must be received in writing. Full payment is due 90 days prior to departure date, and the registration deposit is non-refundable.

For cancellations received 61-90 days prior to the trip departure date: 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable. For cancellations received 1-60 days prior to the trip departure date: 100% of the total trip cost is non-refundable.

You are highly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance to cover emergency situations. Travel insurance information will be sent to you once you have registered for your trip.

### Switching Trips

Our deposits are nonrefundable and nontransferable. If for some reason you need to switch to a different trip, please call us and we will do our best to accommodate you, but switching is not guaranteed.

### No Smoking Policy

Beginning in 1995, our trips became smoke free. Please note that there will be no smoking by any participants on AdventureWomen vacations.

### Health Insurance

You must have your own health insurance to participate in an AdventureWomen trip.

### Adventure Travel Today

At AdventureWomen, we want everyone to understand that our excursions are adventure travel vacations and not "tours." We define "adventure travel" as travel in which one **actively participates**, as opposed to a "tour," in which one is more or less a passive observer. AdventureWomen designs and organizes vacations all over the world for women who want to **experience an active, out of the ordinary vacation, and meet new friends**. Most of all, we want our trips to be **fun!**

**good-natured realist and have a sense of humor!** Adventure vacations, by nature, require that participants be self-sufficient, flexible, and able to accept situations as they exist, and not just as they would have preferred or expected them to exist. The constraints of scheduled group traveling also necessitate that each of us be understanding of and sensitive to others. **Being on time** is important, and contributes to the congeniality, success and well-being of both individuals and the group!

In this spirit, the successful adventure traveler should be a