



**RAINBOW
TOURS**

AFRICA | MADAGASCAR | LATIN AMERICA



RAINBOW TOURS

At Rainbow Tours we offer journeys that leave the natural beauty of the destinations we visit unchanged; journeys where you really get to experience and understand other people and their cultures.

We offer a wide range of lodges, tours and activities that directly benefit local communities and help to support threatened habitats and endangered species. And we do all of this in the knowledge that there is no compromise on luxury or wildlife – in fact the experience is all the richer for stepping off the beaten track and choosing a unique holiday that has a deeper connection to precious eco-systems.

We've been pioneering responsible travel now since 1997 and to celebrate our 20th birthday in 2017 we've selected a favourite destination to visit each month offering you a whole year's worth of incredible travel experiences to choose from.

We look forward to helping you plan your next journey.

Celebrating 20 years...



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JANUARY

São Tomé & Príncipe

Sitting on the Equator and located 225 kilometres west of Gabon, the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe is one of the smallest countries in Africa (only the Seychelles is smaller). Part of an extinct volcanic range, the country consists of two archipelagos, clustered around the two main islands, São Tomé and Príncipe. These little islands are hardly known but offer a paradise of unexplored jungles, crystal clear waters, palm-fringed beaches and delicious Portuguese-Creole cuisine. They are also a haven for wildlife, and Príncipe is a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve thanks to its rich biodiversity that includes humpback whales, dolphins and nesting turtles.

Our 11-day São Tomé & Príncipe Paradise Island Retreat costs from £2745pp



FEBRUARY

Brazil

Brazil is a vast country bursting at the seams with enticements for every traveller – from world-famous beaches, dense rainforest and diverse wildlife, to dynamic cities and fun-loving culture that will have you smiling from the moment you step off the plane. Rio de Janeiro, home to the colossal statue of Christ the Redeemer, is the number one place to start any Brazil holiday, especially when the city plays host to the world's most lively and colourful festival each February – Rio Carnival! After soaking up the party atmosphere on Copacabana beach, set off to enjoy life at a slower pace in the lush greenery and wildlife-rich Amazon jungle or the jaguar-hiding wetlands of the Pantanal.

Our 13-day Southern Brazil Private Tour
costs from £3730pp

South Africa

In the two decades since South Africa celebrated its first democratic elections, the country has grown to become one of the world's greatest travel destinations, offering a mesmerising mix of awe-inspiring landscapes, stunning coastline, fascinating culture, cosmopolitan cities and prolific wildlife. Combine a visit to vibrant Cape Town, where Table Mountain overlooks the city, with a fly-drive through the winelands, coastal bays and nature reserves of the Garden Route, then top off the holiday with an exhilarating safari experience in the huge wildlife reserves of Kruger or Madikwe. South Africa also boasts exceptional Big Five game viewing opportunities in malaria-free areas.

Our 14-day Cape Town, Garden Route
& Safari Tour costs from £2510pp

GIVING BACK

Rainbow Tours donate £10 from every South Africa holiday to Uthando, a non-profit and Fair Trade in Tourism organisation that raises funds for life-changing community development projects in South Africa.



APRIL

Ecuador & Galapagos

Lying some 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador on the Equator, the Galapagos Islands offer visitors a very special experience. With its unique ecosystem, the archipelago has some of the world's most spectacular wildlife on both land and water. Time your visit to the land that inspired Charles Darwin's theory of evolution with the breeding season of the Waved albatross to catch mating pairs in enchanting courtship rituals. Whilst most famous for its offshore island archipelago, mainland Ecuador, one of the smallest countries on the continent, packs a lot of attractions into its dramatically beautiful landscapes, ranging from the coast to the Andes and the Amazon.

Our 15-day Ecuador & Galapagos Cruise costs from £6415pp

Namibia

Namibia is a vast land of spectacular natural contrasts and a great variety of wildlife has adapted to the harsh wilderness environments. In the south, the towering sand dunes of Sossusvlei rise over 300 feet above the surrounding Namib Desert and in the north, animals gather in their thousands around the waterholes of Etosha National Park creating one of the world's best wildlife-viewing sites. The west is pounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Skeleton Coast reclaims the bones of whales and ships from the rough seas. Though sparsely populated, Namibia has well-maintained and virtually empty roads through vast landscapes, making it the perfect destination for a fly-drive holiday.

Our 14-day Classic Namibia Self-Drive Holiday costs from £2655pp

Peru

Wind the clock back more than 500 years and watch Incan civilisation brought back to life. Inti Raymi, or the Festival of the Sun, was held during the winter solstice when Incans paid homage to the Sun God. Today the festival is held in June amidst the ruins of the ancient Incan capital in Cuzco; priests chant as pallbearers draped in red and gold hoist the emperor in his throne. Combine this festival in this striking Spanish colonial city with a trip to one of the most sought after highlights on the continent – Machu Picchu. Explore the archaeological sites in the Sacred Valley, visit beautiful Lake Titicaca and spend time in the country's capital, Lima.

Our 10-day Peru Express Tour
costs from £2985pp

GIVING BACK

Rainbow Tours support Huatata Preschool and Primary School near Cuzco. In 2016 we donated funds so that the school could build a vegetable garden. For each booking to Peru Rainbow Tours donate £15 per person to continue supporting future projects.



JULY

Tanzania

The monumental migration of animals in their millions travelling across the vast plains of the Serengeti make Tanzania one of the greatest wildlife-watching destinations in the world. Visit in July for the best chance of witnessing the breathtaking Great Migration. A quarter of Tanzania's land is protected and it has largely resisted mass tourism. Fewer visitors means less traffic on game drives. Home to Africa's highest mountain, largest game reserve, the UNESCO listed Ngorongoro Crater and with a coastline bordered by the clear waters of the Indian Ocean, it's here you'll find the true romance of Africa. The pristine beaches of Zanzibar's east coast lay just a short flight away.

Our 12-day Authentic Northern Tanzania & Zanzibar Tour costs from £3320pp

Botswana

Botswana is one of Africa's greatest safari destinations for those who enjoy wilderness, personal lodges, and superb guiding. Unfettered by fences, the wildlife of Botswana travels in vast herds across the plains of the Kalahari to the UNESCO-listed Okavango Delta, the Chobe River floodplains and salt pans of the Makgadikgadi in the wet season. National parks and private game reserves cover nearly half of the country – and form a unique range of eco-systems that support a rich diversity of plant, bird and animal life. There are a variety of ways to go on safari in Botswana and an incredible choice of superb safari camps and lodges to choose from.

Our 9-day Botswana Made Easy Tour costs from £3915pp

GIVING BACK

£10 from every Rainbow Botswana holiday goes directly to Travel For Impact, an in-country NGO that works hand-in-hand with local charitable schemes to give practical guidance for effective and sustainable operations.

Chile

The slimmest of nations snakes down South America's western coastline and boasts an extraordinary range of epic landscapes. For almost 4,300 kilometres, Chile stretches from the salt lakes and red sand of the Atacama Desert in the north to the immense glaciers and dramatic granite pillars of the Torres del Paine National Park in the Patagonian south. The lively and modern capital city, Santiago, is one of South America's most enjoyable to spend time in and is not far from the famous wine regions and Malbec-producing vineyards. Easter Island, a Chilean territory, is one of the most isolated places on Earth and it's here you'll find 900 or so recognisable residents, the mighty moai statues.

Our 14-day Complete Chilean Patagonia
Tour costs from £5040pp

Madagascar

With over 100 different species and subspecies of lemur, more than 400 species of reptile and over 100 species of bird found nowhere else, few places on the planet can compete with Madagascar's incredible wildlife. The island separated from the African mainland some 165 million years ago and much of its flora and fauna has evolved in a unique way – over 80% is endemic. Almost as big a draw as the wildlife are the island's amazingly varied landscapes. These range from dense tropical formations naturally sculpted into fantastic shapes, from razor-sharp limestone pinnacles to the stately avenue of the baobabs and its offshore islands are fringed with beautiful sandy beaches.

Our 16-day Madagascar Wildlife Discovery Tour costs from £3895pp

GIVING BACK

Rainbow Tours is a long-term supporter of Money for Madagascar who aim to tackle extreme poverty, limited healthcare and access to education. We make a donation of £30 to the charity for every Madagascar booking.

Argentina

Argentina is a vast country, stretching almost 3,500 kilometres from its northern border with Bolivia to the southernmost tip of South America. Most commonly associated with the sensuous tango, world-class red wines and impressive steaks, Argentina offers visitors so much more. With its dramatic landscapes, cosmopolitan cities and lively culture, Argentina is a traveller's delight. From the glaciers of Patagonia and elegant boulevards of Buenos Aires to soaring Andean mountains it is a country of immense beauty. Ever satisfying the needs of active visitors, the country's iconic landscapes are best roamed on horseback, saddled up and accompanied by a gaucho.

Our 13-day Argentina Cultural Tour
costs from £3860pp

Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a natural wonderland of active volcanoes, bewitching cloud forest and verdant rainforest packed with exotic birds and flowers. But perhaps its major draw is its extraordinary native wildlife and the refreshing attitude to conservation and sustainable tourism. A quarter of the land is protected by national parks and wildlife reserves and many of the lodges and hotels have impeccable environmental and social credentials. Scour the volcanic landscapes of the Central Valley for natural hot springs, spot hummingbirds darting through the lush Monteverde Cloud Forest and journey by boat through the waterways of Tortuguero National Park in search of alligators.

Our 13-day Costa Rica Sustainable Wildlife
Tour costs from £3675pp

GIVING BACK

For every booking to Costa Rica, Rainbow Tours donate £15 per person to the ASTOP turtle conservation project aiming to save the sea turtles of Parímina

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