

THE BIG FIVE!!!



Everyone who goes on Safari in Africa, wants to see THE BIG FIVE: Elephant, Rhino, Cape Buffalo, Lion, and Leopard. I've been fortunate enough to see all 5 every time I've been there. We WILL see plenty of Elephant ... same goes for Lions. We'll see Rhinos and Cape Buffalo, along with a long list of various other animals such as Cheetah, and a myriad of "deer things" too, but you have to be very fortunate to have a guide who knows where to find the very elusive Leopard. They hunt at night and spend most of the daylight hours sleeping in trees. These 5 animals were dubbed "The Big 5" by big-game hunters because they are the most difficult to hunt on foot. Why anyone would want to do that boggles my mind! Especially once you've seen the size of these guys up close!!! This week we'll focus on ELEPHANTS!!!



African bush elephant

African Elephant – *Loxodonta Africana*

The African Elephant is a very large herbivore having thick, almost hairless skin, a long, flexible, prehensile trunk, upper incisors forming long curved tusks of ivory, and large, fan-shaped ears. The two distinct species of African elephant are: African forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) and the African bush elephant (*Loxodonta Africana* ...



You'll be amazed watching them as they take care to make sure their babies are safe. You'll also be amazed watching those babies push the limits of the adults! You may see the juveniles and teenagers trying to spread their wings by feigning an attack ... mostly you'll just be amazed by their size, how close we are to them, how they can ignore us, and/or how they may interact with us. Remember, you're not in the zoo ... there are no cages, fences, or moats between us, and them!

NO! You cannot feed them!!! Don't even think about it! LOL!!! Just enjoy being in their presence and taking their photos. They only become aggressive when they can't see the young ones or the young ones are in trouble or being maltreated.

The only thing you can "shoot" with on this Safari, is a camera! Take as many pics as you like!!! You will want to re-live this experience when you get home.





... and speaking of feeding ... here are 2 more examples of what you can expect.





ENJOY THE PHOTOS!!!!



ACADIA TREE WITH BAR SET UP FOR "SUNDOWNERS"



CROSSING A RIVER IN A SAFARI VEHICLE!



THE MAASAI ALWAYS WEAR RED.



Yep! We'll see plenty of elephants and you will be amazed by them, how they interact with each other, and what happens when two herds meet up. ... how they greet each other and how the "teenagers" try their hand at being the "protectors". LOL!!! You'll see just how the adults handle that!

I have been informed that a number of you do not enjoy emailing questions, but would rather speak directly with me. Ok, here's the deal. While I am at my desk Monday through Friday from early morning 'til late at night, I suggest you call between 11am and 5pm. You can always leave a message ... Of course, you can email at any time and I'll answer ASAP! 'til next time!

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