

Dear wildlife watcher,

2026 has not been a great year geopolitically, with upheaval and uncertainty seemingly everywhere we are very happy to have still provided many clients with great mammalwatching experiences around the world in the first half of 2026 and with many more trips due in the remainder of the year and beyond we are looking forward with excitement and we hope you are able to join us on one of our specialist mammalwatching tours in the near future.

So far in 2026 we have run 31 tours to 17 countries on 5 continents. Below is a summary of the trips we ran and the amazing wildlife we showcased to our clients:

We hope you enjoy reading our recap of the first half of 2026 and below we have listed our groups for 2026 and 2027 which still have places available; and look forward to hearing back from you and providing any further information you may want about any of these trips.

AFRICA

- Always one of the first trips we run in the year, our specialist mammalwatching tour to Western Sahara (the autonomous part of Morocco to the south), was run twice in the first couple of months of 2026. Both of the trips were successful with **sand cat, fennec fox, Ruppel's fox, African wild cat** and various species of rodent and other mammals including some very nice views of **desert hedgehogs**.
These week long trips are always popular with our clients and we have opened up two more group tours for the 2026-27 winter season. There is limited availability on these trips and more details are below.
- After the success of our 2025 pangolin focused trip to Ghana we were back here with a group and also a solo traveller for a couple of tours. Over the two trips we had many mammal species (56 in fact) including **black-bellied pangolin** as well as many primates including **Lowe's mona monkey, Mona monkey, West African potto** and **white-thighed colobus**. We were also successful in finding several **Benin tree hyraxes**. We will be repeating this trip in 2027 and have good availability at present for anyone interested in a unique West African mammalwatching tour.

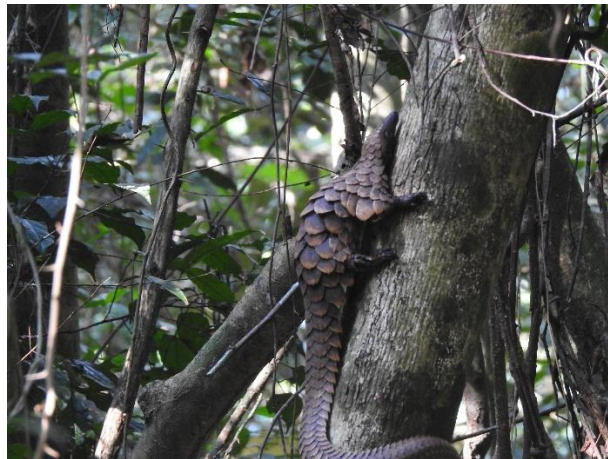


Photo by Julie Grosso

- We ran two trips to Cote d'Ivoire in early 2026, one was focused on the elusive pygmy hippo again, unfortunately it eluded us this time, the first unsuccessful trip for 3 years. However **pygmy hippos** were seen the week before and after our group, it was just very bad luck.
The second trip was focused on the primates of Tai Forest and was very successful with all of the primate species seen and seen well, including **chimps, western red colobus, agile mangabeys** and **Diana monkeys** among others.
- In January we had a private tour visiting both Kenya and Uganda where we visited some off the beaten track locations across these two countries. Including Kidepo National Park in northern Uganda as well as Samburu National Reserve and Meru National Park in Kenya. Sightings of wildlife was of course very good, as you would expect from two of Africa's (and the world's) greatest safari destinations. Highlights included **leopards, lions, cheetah, patas's monkeys,**

African bush elephants, black rhinos and a whole host of typical African safari species.

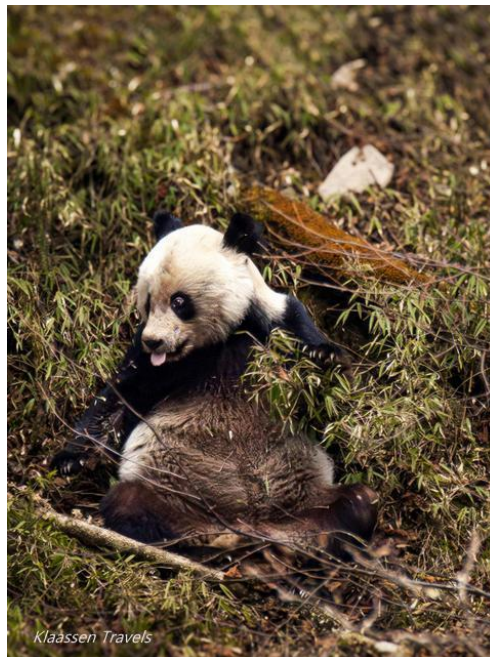
- After several years we were back in another very well-known safari destination; as we made our first of 6 trips to South Africa in 2026. Our specialist rare mammals tour to South Africa was very successful with 65 species of mammals seen including the main target of **black-footed cat**. We will be running several other rare mammals tours to South Africa in 2026 and hope to maintain the record of seeing species like **ground pangolin, black-footed cat, armadillo, armadillo** among dozens of others!

ASIA

- As with every year since its reopening after the pandemic, China was visited in the spring giant panda breeding season. We ran our Sichuan Mammals Group Tour twice as well as private tours to see endemic primates of Sichuan and Yunnan and also high altitude species on the Tibetan Plateau. Our two groups to Sichuan were once again very successful with **giant panda** sightings, a combined 4 sightings of this amazing species including a three hour sighting of one young male as it fed on bamboo means we now have an incredible 75% success rate in seeing wild **giant pandas**. In addition to the main target we also had many sightings of **Chinese red panda, Chinese goral, Sichuan takin** and a nice troop of **golden snub-nosed monkeys** in addition to amazing close views of **Chinese mountain cats, Tibetan wolves, Tibetan foxes** and **Tibetan gazelles** among many other high altitude specialities. Being one of our most popular group tours we have 2 trips planned in springtime 2027 and one is already fully booked with limited availability on the second set of dates.

One of the clients on the first group decided to add on an extension to see some of the rare primates of China and we were successful in showing him both **Francois' langurs** and **Yunnan snub-nosed monkeys**.

Another extension was organised for a couple on the second group and this involved heading to Qinghai where we were successful with views of **snow leopard** as well as **Pallas's Cat** and **Eurasian lynx** which were all the main targets of this extension.



Klaassen Travels

Photo by Jack & Clara Klaassen

- We were in India just a couple of times in the first half of 2026 and this was a snow leopard tour, which we were very successful with multiple **snow leopard** sightings as well as bonus views of **Eurasian lynx** and **Tibetan wolves**.
- An easy country to add on to trips to India or Nepal or book as a standalone destination is Bhutan and we had one trip here very early in the year. **Golden langurs** were the main mammal target as part of this largely cultural tour.
- A country which is always a popular winter destination is Japan and this winter season we were there three times. All of these trips were focused on the great wildlife photography opportunities available in northern Japan during winter, many of these are bird related, including the dancing Japanese red-crowned cranes, the huge Steller's sea eagles on the sea ice and the imposing and Blakiston's fish owl. But there are of course nice mammals here too, with sightings of **Japanese macaques, Japanese serow, sika deer, spotted seals** and **sable**.
- Perhaps the favourite destination for our company director (Martin Royle), Vietnam is a great destination for mammalwatching and in particular primate watching. We ran a private tour to the northern parts of the country and our annual group tour in the first half of 2026 with great success in seeing all targeted primates including **Delacour's langur, Hatinth langur, Cat Ba Langur, southern yellow-cheeked gibbon** and all three species of **dooc langur**. We also

continued our success in finding and observing the seldom seen **Annamite muntjac** which we now believe is very likely as part of these trips as well as continuing to be able to access the very restricted forest which is home to the stunning **Tonkin snub-nosed monkey**.



Photo by Luc Nguyen

NORTH AMERICA

- Once again Royle Safaris run a truly unique mammalwatching trip, which visits the Dominican Republic to see two weird and wonderful endemic mammals (which we have 100% success in seeing) which are of course **Hispaniolan solenodon** and **Hispaniolan hutia**. We also see other species including endemic bats and some great reptiles like the critically endangered Ricord's iguana. We also visited the northern coast on this trip and had nice encounters with **humpback whales** and **Caribbean manatees**. The next group will be 2027 and we have availability for anyone interested.



Photo by Jorge Brocca

- Costa Rica is one of the most famous countries when it comes to wildlife watching and eco-tourism and in the first half of 2026 we had two private tours visit this diverse country. Sightings of leatherback turtles, resplendent quetzals and strawberry poison-dart frogs complimented great mammals, including **Baird's tapir**, **Central American silky anteater**, **Hoffman's two-toed sloths**, **mantled howler monkeys** and many more.

SOUTH AMERICA

- Our first new itinerary to be run in 2026 was our Andean Mountain Cat Expedition to Chile and we were remarkably successful. Not only did we find and observe the elusive and absolutely gorgeous **Andean mountain cat**, we also had sightings of **Garlepp's colocolo** and a **puma**. Meaning we were the first people (we know of) to see all three species of cat in Lauca National Park during one trip. We also had great views of all of the main high Andean mammals such as **mountain viscacha**, **guanaco**, **vicuna**, **northern huemel** and various species of rodents. We have just one place remaining on our March 2027 repeat trip here, and due to the rooming situation we can only accept a male booking.



Photo by Mark Langston

- Argentina is growing in popularity for mammalwatchers and in 2027 Royle Safaris will be running the first specialist group tour travelling north to south in this vast country. But for people who don't have 3 weeks to travel or perhaps have smaller budgets there are many parts of Argentina which can offer stunning mammalwatching. Including Peninsular Valdes which is where we ran a private tour in April 2026. The focus was the beach hunting **orcas** here, which were seen out in full force. Alongside the **orcas** we also had views of **southern elephant seals**, **Patagonian mara**, **guanacos**, **South American sea lions** and others.



Photo by David & Sally Irven

EUROPE

- Once again Spain has proven to be very popular for wildlife enthusiasts and we have run three trips to this amazing country. Once again rare and stunningly beautiful **Iberian lynx** was the main target as well as other mammals such as **Eurasian otter**, **fallow deer**, **Spanish ibex** and others, many mammals (including our main targets) were seen on one of the trips we ran which was primarily a private birding tour.
- Just like Spain Finland is a perennially popular destination for our mammalwatching clients and in May we ran another version of our Just Wolverines Photography Tour which was successful with **wolverine** & **brown bear** sightings.



OUR TOP 20 MAMMAL SPECIES SEEN SO FAR IN 2026

1. Andean Mountain Cat – March – Chile	2. Giant Panda – February & March – China
3. Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey – March - Vietnam	4. Black-bellied Pangolin – March – Ghana
5. Orca – April - Argentina	6. Eurasian Lynx – April – China
7. Cat Ba Langur – April – Vietnam	8. Puma – March - Chile
9. Sand Cat – January & February – Western Sahara	10. Iberian Lynx – January & February - Spain
11. Baird’s Tapir – January & April – Costa Rica	12. Hispaniolan Solenodon – February – Dominican Republic
13. Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey – February - China	14. Black-footed Cat – April – South Africa
15. Agile Mangabey – April – Cote d’Ivoire	16. Ground Pangolin – April – South Africa
17. Northern Huemel – March – Chile	18. Benin Tree Hyrax – March – Ghana
19. Snow Leopard – February – India	20. Pallas’s Cat – April – China

As you can see we have had some amazing success already in 2026 and have seen some of the world’s most endangered and sought after wildlife. We are proud to continually add new destinations to our roster of mammalwatching tours and will once again be starting new trips in 2027 and onwards.

Our continued success is largely down to the continued hard work of our fantastic local guides all over the world. We hire some exceptional local guides (many of which have become world famous for their knowledge, tireless efforts in finding wildlife and jovial approaches to cutting edge ecotourism). Some of the trips listed above were guided by David Couve in Chile, Sid Francis in China, Luc Ngyen in Vietnam, Steve Braun in Japan, Karl Diakhite in Cote d’Ivoire, Robert Ntakor in Ghana and Michael Wright in South Africa among others.

As the world’s only specialist mammalwatching global tour operator, Royle Safaris is very proud to offer a mix of mammalwatching tours and safaris all over the world which are specially focused on the world’s rarest mammals – nearly always with incredible and high success rates from past trips.

In the second half of 2026 and into 2027 we will be once again be running our popular group tours to Finland, Russia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Borneo, Gabon, Nepal, Indonesia, Madagascar, Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, China, Spain, USA, Uganda, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, India, Bangladesh, Western Sahara and Vietnam as well as running new trips to Sao Tome, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Thailand, Zimbabwe, Azores, Romania, Kazakhstan and Tanzania.

Some of these trips still have spaces available and can be found below along with many others which are ready to run and still have some limited availability. All of the trips listed below are guaranteed to run as planned.

There are links to more information online and of course we remain available to answer any questions you may have or help in how to secure a place on one of these tours.

If your travel plans for the next 18 months are already finalised then do not worry as we plan to run all of these trips listed below in 2028 also. Many of the below trips have dates already set for 2028, but some are still to be finalised, so if you don’t see 2028 dates but would be interested just get in touch and we can discuss further.

In 2028 we will be launching at least two brand new Mega Mammals Tours, one to Chile (similar to our Mega Mammals Tour of Argentina) which will travel north to south and also to Tanzania, which will focus on many of the smaller species as well as the more famous larger species. If you are interested in the sounds of these itineraries please contact us.

We very much look forward to hearing back from you and hopefully showcasing some of these wonderful animals to you in 2026 and beyond.

Sincerely

Martin Royle – Director



List of trips below:

- **Qinghai Tibetan Mammals Tour** (departures in both 2026 *limited availability* and 2027 *very limited availability*)
- **Bolivian Cat Specialist Tour** (departures in both 2026 *very limited availability* and 2027)
- **Western Sahara's Rare Mammals** (departures in both 2026 *very limited availability* and 2027 *very limited availability*)
- **Pygmy Hippo Expedition** (2027)
- **Endemic Mammals of the Dominican Republic** (2027)
- **Kingdom of the Snow Leopard** (2027)
- **Pangolins & Other Mammals of Ghana** (2027)
- **Andean Mountain Cat Expedition** (2027 **LAST PLACE LEFT**)
- **Just Wolverines Photography Tour** (2027)
- **Just European Mink Tour** (2027)
- **Sichuan Mammals Tour** (2027 *limited availability*)
- **Vietnam's Rare Primates Tour** (2027)
- **Wild Nepal** (2027)
- **South Africa's Rare Mammals** (2027)
- **Panama Mammals Tour** (2027)
- **Javan Rhino Expedition** (2027 *very limited availability*)
- **Azore's Rare Whale & Dolphin Watching Special Trip** (2027 **LAST PLACE LEFT**)
- **Gabon Wildlife Adventure** (2027)
- **African Golden Cat Expedition** (2027 **LAST PLACE LEFT**)
- **Borneo's Rare Mammals Tour** (2027 *very limited availability*)
- **Tawau Hills & Maliau Basin Extension** (2027 *very limited availability*)
- **Best of Sumatra Mammals Tour** (2027)
- **Tanzania's Endemic Mammals Tour** (2028 – TBC)
- **Argentina's Mega Mammal Tour** (2028 – TBC)
- **Endemic Mammals of the Horn of Africa** (2028 – TBC)
- **Chile's Mega Mammals Tour** (2028 – TBC)

Below follows a brief synopsis of the tours listed above, their next group tour dates, current availability and prices as well as pictures highlighting what species and sightings can be possible on each of these trips.

Some of the trips listed for 2028 are not fully finalised yet in terms of dates and prices etc, but we hope that this will all be finalised in the first half of 2027 and so if you are interested in any of those trips you should let us know and we will add you to the mailing list for those itineraries.

We very much look forward to hearing back from you.

Snow Leopards & Tibetan Mammals Tour (Qinghai)

Dates: 26th July – 9th
August 2026

Price: £3,995
Single Sup: £595

Dates: 26th July – 9th
August 2027

Price: £4,195
Single Sup: £595



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Wild Yak / Snow Leopard / Tibetan Fox / Pallas's Cat / Tibetan Antelope / White-lipped Deer / Chinese Red Pika / Midday Gerbil / Himalayan Wolf / Tibetan Gazelle / Eurasian Lynx

Summary: China is not necessarily a country that makes you think of pristine ecosystems and safari holidays, however this is incorrect. There are many places in China that are full of wildlife incredible ecosystems that can be explored; this tour explores one of the least visited in the world, not just China. This itinerary will visit the Tibetan Plateau and associated mountainous ecosystems of the Chinese province, Qinghai. This rugged and sparsely populated area is home to large numbers of iconic and endangered species such as **snow leopards, wild yak, Tibetan antelope, Himalayan brown bear, Tibetan wolves** among many others.

For the last 2-3 years the sightings of **snow leopards** here have steadily increased and an average of numerous sightings per trip has resulted in us organising this specific high altitude mammal watching tour. We are very confident that the **snow leopard** sightings and regularity of the sightings here is at least what it is in Ladakh. But in addition to the **snow leopards** this itinerary visits areas which are very good for **Tibetan antelope, wild yak, Alpine musk deer, white-lipped deer, Tibetan wolves, Tibetan foxes, kiang** and other mammal species of the Tibetan Plateau. But we also have found quite reliable locations for **Himalayan brown bear** and even **Eurasian lynx** in recent months.

You will be experiencing rural China and technically Tibetan culture and everything from the food, culture, architecture you will encounter will differ from the typical Chinese imagery that most people have when they think of the superpower that China is nowadays and the ultra-modern cities.

This is a unique tour that explores part of China that are rarely visited, to get a good idea of what to expect we recommend you read through the below information. We have outlined a detailed itinerary for the entire trip. However due to weather conditions the route and activities may vary once we get there, although we will endeavour to stick to the stated itinerary as much as possible.

2026
JUST 3 PLACES LEFT

2027
JUST 3 PLACES LEFT

Photo Credits: Tibetan antelope & Eurasian lynx– Oleg Rozkho / snow leopard – John Oates / Tibetan fox – Samuel Marlin

Bolivian Cat Specialist Tour

Dates: 17th Oct – 29th
Oct 2026

Price: £5,195
Single Sup: £565

Dates: 4th Oct – 16th
Oct 2027

Price: £5,195
Single Sup: £560



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Jaguar / Pauma / Ocelot / Jaguarundi / Geoffroy's Cat / Chaco Peccary / Tayra / Pale Titi Monkey / Bolivian Red Howler Monkey / Bolivian River Dolphin

Summary: When people think of a tour to see **Jaguars** they immediately think of the northern Pantanal region in Brazil and the location around Porto Jofre has become an incredible place to see this species, but as a result the crowds and numbers of boats around the **Jaguars** has also increases, as have the prices. So we at Royle Safaris have been working hard to find alternative places to the Pantanal (with a means of setting up small-scale sustainable ecotourism centred around **Jaguars** that will not get out of hand like it has in Brazil (to some extent) and this search has led us to Bolivia. The lowlands of Santa Cruz province are full of wildlife and forest tracts and farmland is home to a surprising diversity and density of cats.

We have teamed up with local guides to discover and open up some of these areas and as of 2022 when we first ran these trips we have a 100% record of number **Jaguar** sightings (including at least 3 different **Jaguars** seen on each trip) and two of these four trips have netted all 5 of the targeted species of cat including more than one sighting of each (excluding **Geoffroy's cats** – where one was seen on each trip), we also have a 100% success rate in seeing the very endangered and amazing looking **Chaco Peccary**.

We visit 3 distinct areas on this itinerary, firstly a private reserve with a large **Jaguar**, **Jaguarundi** and **Ocelot** density and then the amazing dry Chaco forest of Kaa Iya National Park where **Jaguars**, **Pumas** and **Tapirs** live alongside Chaco endemics such as the **Chaco Peccary**, **Southern Three-banded Armadillo** and **Pale Titi Monkeys**. We then finish the trip with a visit to Trinidad and nearer the true Amazon, here we have a great chance to see the endemic **Bolivian River Dolphin** and (whilst not a mammal) one of the world's rarest birds, the endemic **Blue-throated Macaw**.

2026
JUST 3 PLACES LEFT

2027
6 Places Available

Photo Credits: jaguar, ocelot, jaguarundi and peccary – Anita Ericson

Western Sahara's Rare Mammals

Dates: 16th Nov –
23rd Nov 2026

Price: £2,395
Single Sup: £100

Dates: 7th Jan –
14th Jan 2027

Price: £2,395
Single Sup: £100
(only for nights
in Dakhla)



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Sand Cat / Fennec Fox / Ruppel's Fox / African Golden Wolf / Egyptian Mouse-tailed Bat / Lesser Egyptian Jerboa / Lesser Egyptian Gerbil / Pygmy Gerbil / Maghreb Hare / Honey Badger

Summary: Deep into the orange sands and gravel pans of the Sahara live some wonderful mammals. Once thought impossible to find and reliably see well, the likes of the **Sand Cat** and **Fennec Fox** remained elusive for a long time. However the autonomous region of the Western Sahara lying to the south of Morocco has become the place see these (and other species) of desert adapted mammals. The trip is a week long exploration of the desert where we will use local guides and drivers with years of experience in reading the desert and predicting the likely den sites of **Sand Cats** and **Foxes**.

2026
JUST 2 PLACES LEFT

2027
FINAL PLACE LEFT

In recent years there has been more rainfall than normal in the area and this has led to some bumper years for the rodents and then shortly after their predators. On our most recent trips in 2024-25 we had many **African wild cat** sightings as long with **fennec & Ruppel's foxes** as well as simply stunning **sand cat** sightings (being very close and relaxed for photography), many **Libyan striped weasels** (7 sightings), **honey badger**, **African golden wolves** and a wealth of rodents.

Please note the single supplement is only available for the first and last night in the city of Dakhla, the desert accommodation (both camp and homestay) require everyone to share with another client.

The trip has special permissions from the local Bedouin people to camp deep in the desert and in prime **sand cat** and **fennec fox** habitat which is not possible otherwise, we also have exclusive access to a house in the town of Assouard which means we do not have to drive all of the way to and from Dakhla each night and are instead right in the best location for wildlife in a range of different desert habitats. All of these perks with the addition of an excellent naturalist and spotlihter with many years of experience in the desert and knowledge of these rare desert predators.

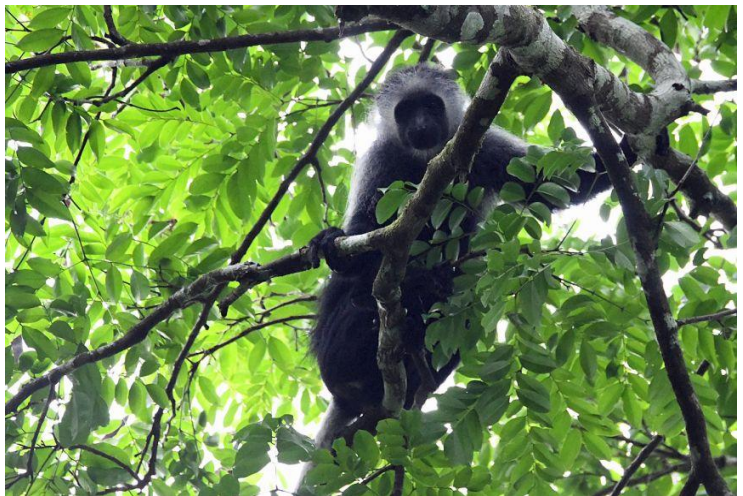
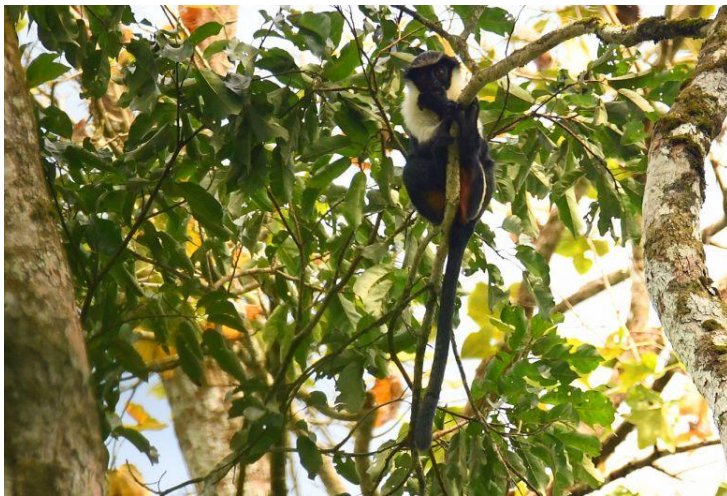
Photo Credits: sand cat – Michele Viganò, fennec fox, lesser Egyptian jerboa, honey badger – Javi Elongiarra

Pygmy Hippo Expedition

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 25th Jan – 4th Jan
2027

Price: £4,995
Single Sup: £580



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Pygmy Hippo / West African Chimpanzee / Water Chevrotain / King Colobus / West African Potto / Olive Colobus / Diana Monkey / Zebra Duiker / Jentkin's Duiker / Sooty Mangabey / Johnston's Genet / Common Cusimanse / Slender Squirrel / Red River Hog

Summary: Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) is home to the largest remaining tract of primary rainforest in the whole of West Africa. One of the best examples of this forest is the untouched paradise of Taï National Park. Taï is a vast ecosystem that, whilst under pressure, has managed to remain a haven for wildlife and a wildlife watching trip here will almost certainly have more success than similar trips in other parks in West Africa. The most famous residents of the park are the many tool-using chimpanzees and the wonderful and iconic **Pygmy hippos**.

6 places available

Other than the **pygmy hippos** and **chimps** there are eleven species of primate recorded here as well as **Leopard, forest elephant, bongo, Jentink's duiker, zebra duiker, water chevrotain, olive colobus, Johnston's genet, pardine genet, Liberian mongoose** and **giant pangolin**.

This tour is focused on trying to find and observe this amazing, elusive, little-known and rare mammal. Taï is by far the best place in the world for this species and the local guides and rangers in the region report more frequent sightings of them here than anywhere else. Indeed the park has the largest population of them in the world, perhaps as many as half of the global population. Throughout this trip you will spend many hours in the forest, we have various techniques to try and find the **hippos**, including exploring the rivers in boats and or kayaks, walking the forest trails and checking out the pools of water that hippos use to rest and stay cool in and also staking out feeding areas deep in the forest. A combination of these techniques as well as making the most of the most recent information from the locals means we are ideally situated to have the best possible chances of seeing this rare animal. However we have to say that they are rare and elusive and no sightings are guaranteed.

All of our trips since 2023 have resulted in **Pygmy Hippo** sightings!

Photo Credits: pygmy hippo (top left) – paVan / pygmy hippo (top right) – Mark Langston / Diana monkey & king colobus – Chris Scharf



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Hispainolan Solenodon / Hispainolan Hutia / Eastern Red Bat / Jamaican Fruit-eating Bat / Brown Flower Bat / Cuban Funnel-eared Bat / Waterhouse's Leaf-nosed Bat / Mexican Funnel-eared Bat / Cuban Fig-eating Bat

Summary: The Caribbean is not a massive hotspot for mammal life but there are some endemic species of terrestrial mammals on the larger islands. This specialist tour targets two of these rarities, the **Hispainolan Hutia** (a large beaver like tree dwelling species of rodent) and the very unusual **Hispainolan solenodon**. This large shrew-like venomous species has a ball and socket joint on its nose and is one of the strangest mammals on the planet.

4 places available

We search for these species (as well as visiting various bat roosts) with the expert help of the Dominican Republic's leading biologist and conservationist Dr. Jorge Brocca and his team. We have a 100% success rate in seeing both of these species and also a variety of endemic reptiles (including the critically endangered Ricord's Iguana and bird species for those also interested).

We also run a couple of different optional pre or post tour extensions to see more of the wildlife of Hispaniola. One of these is based around the many of the endemic bird species to the island, and with some luck we can see all of the endemics as part of this trip. The other extension will travel to the northern coast of the island and focus on marine mammals with time spent looking for **Caribbean manatees** and **humpback whales**. For anyone interested in this extension, please contact us and we can provide more information.

Photo Credits: hutia (top right) Dr. Brocca / hutia (bottom left) Chris Scharf / solenodon (bottom right) Deborah Bradley



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Snow Leopard / Bharal / Ladakhi Urial / Mountain Weasel / Large-eared Pika / Eurasian Lynx / Himalayan Wolf / Asiatic Ibex / Royle's Pika / Woolly Hare

Summary: Explore the remote and rugged Hemis National Park in Ladakh, north-west India with expert guides and **snow leopard** spotters. We travel in the peak of the **snow leopard** breeding season when they are most active and since 2011 we have a 90% success rate in not just seeing a **snow leopard** but having multiple sightings over the course of the trip. Over 18 species of mammals have been recorded on our Kingdom of the Snow Leopard tours over the years, with special species including **mountain weasel**, **Eurasian lynx**, **Himalayan wolf**, **Argali** and of course **Snow Leopards**.

At first glance the vastness of the landscape and seeming inaccessibility of the Himalayas will combine to frustrate anyone hoping to see a **snow leopard**, but you have to remember that this is far from a lifeless environment, despite what it may appear like at first glance. The **Snow Leopard** is the ultimate predator here and they take their place at the top a diverse food web with many species inhabiting in this inhospitable habitat.

This trip will also introduce you to the local culture and customs of this Buddhist area and along with the hardy wildlife, and you will have the privilege of meeting many Ladakhi people as they go about their business in this harsh environment. It is with the help of the local shepherds and pony men here that we will find **snow leopards** and it is cooperation like this which is vital for the continued conservation of **snow leopards**.

But by far the most important resource we have is the information we collect from local people who live in the presence of snow leopards year around. It is by staying with the villagers in home-stays and working closely with the shepherds that we will gain a picture of the **snow leopard** activity. Below we have outlined a detailed itinerary for the entire trip. However due to weather conditions the route and activities may vary once we get there, although we will endeavour to stick to the stated itinerary as much as possible.

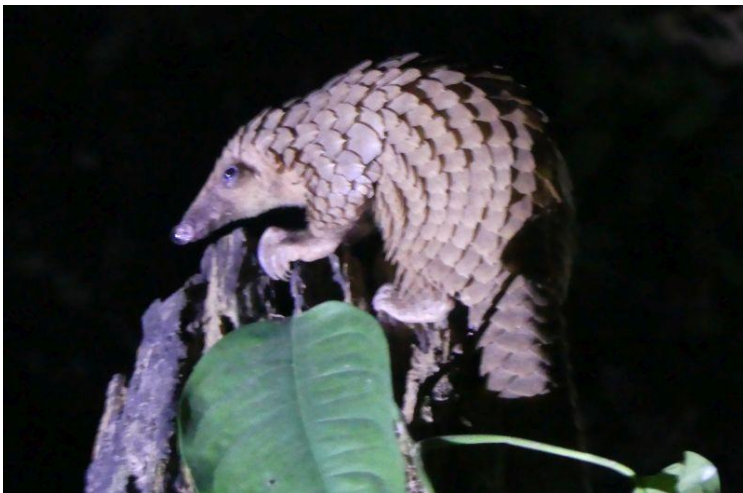
2027
6 Places Available

Pangolins and Other Mammals of Ghana

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 3rd March – 18th March 2026 Price: £4,745
Single Sup: £200

Dates: 3rd March – 18th March 2027 Price: £4,795
Single Sup: £250



Top 10 Mammal Targets: White-bellied Pangolin / Black-bellied Pangolin / Gambian Mongoose / Western Tree Hyrax / White-thighed Colobus / Red-flanked Duiker / Lowe's Monkey / Pel's Anomalure / Benin Tree Hyrax / Mona Monkey

Summary: Ghana is home to some of the last remaining tracts of rainforest and savanna in West Africa. National Parks such as Kakum and Mole are home to populations of lions, forest & savanna elephant, bongo and other large mammals which have been extirpated from many neighbouring countries.

Whilst seeing some of the large mammals is very tough in Ghana there are some smaller species which have started to make this wonderful country quite famous.

Home to three species of **pangolins**, two species of **tree hyrax**, four species of **anomalure** (African flying squirrel) as well as a wealth of **primates**, diurnal **squirrels** and small carnivores the country offers a bounty for any mammalwatching enthusiast.

This trip is designed for the best mammalwatching the country has to offer and we have secured the services of the pangolin finding expert Robert Nkator and his team who are regarded as near pangolin whisperers with a great reputation among the mammalwatching community, we are confident of finding as many of these wonderful species as possible as we explore Ghana.

The trip visits a combination of primary and secondary rainforest and savanna as we target both of the smaller species of pangolin (we have a 75% success rate in seeing both of these species and around 90% in seeing one of the two species), which are the **white-bellied (or tree) pangolin** and the **black-bellied (or long-tailed) pangolin**. We also visit various forest which are perhaps the only (or certainly the most reliable) locations for species such as **Pel's anomalure**, **white-thighed colobus**, **Gambian mongoose** among other species.

We have extended the trip to also include a couple of nights exploring the forested hills east of the Volta River where we will try to find the recently described **Benin Tree Hyrax**.

2027
8 Places Available

Photo Credits: black-bellied pangolin - Rod Cassidy

Andean Mountain Cat Expedition

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 5th March – 14th
March 2027

Price: £6,850



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Andean Mountain Cat / Garlepp's Colocolo / Mountain Viscacha / Vicuna / Bolivian Big-eared Mouse / Culpeo / Molina's Hog-nosed Skunk / Northern Huemul / Garlepp's Mouse / Puma

Summary: Many existing wildlife watching tours to Chile focus on the wonderful pumas of Torres del Paine, the unique island of Chiloe and of course the Sub-Antarctic islands of the far south. But there is much more to the wildlife of Chile than those locations, in fact the northern Andean regions of Chile are home to some of South America's most elusive species. One of which is the focus of this tour, one of the world's most secretive and little known predators; the special **Andean Mountain Cat**.

In recent years more and more people have entered the high altitude mountains and deserts of the **Andean mountain cat's** range and with the help of awesome and dedicated local guides this once near impossible to see cat is beginning to show itself.

Chile is a unique country, with incredible topography and vast longitudinal span means Chile has an extraordinary, array of high peaks and plateaus, towering snow-capped volcanoes and vertiginous coastal mountains. The country stretches over 4,000 kilometres north to south; from the arid Atacama Desert in the north to the subantarctic islands of the south. With a distinctive ribbon like shape there is nowhere more than 180 kilometres wide (from coast to neighbouring country) and with a rugged coastline on the west and the Andean mountains on the east, Chile has some of the most spectacular scenery in South America.

Thanks to its unusual geography, and a comprehensive domestic airline network, it is possible to visit a wide range of habitats within a single holiday in Chile – from the Andean snowline and seabird filled waters of the Pacific, to the south's wild coastline and the beech forests bordering the Straits of Magellan at the very tip of the continent.

It is still a very hard animal to see, but we are proud to add the **Andean Mountain Cat** to the growing list of rare and elusive mammals which Royle Safaris offers specific expedition style tours to see.

The tour will visit the most reliable location for sightings (Lauca National Park) and by using techniques developed by the local guides we will visit areas of high probability for sightings during the peak times of activity. The nights will be long, but rewarding with many other mammal species known from here and commonly seen, including **southern mountain visacha, vicuna, Garlepp's colocolo, north Andean huemul, highland tuco-tuco, culpeo** and others.

2027
FINAL PLACE LEFT
Due to rooming constraints we can only accept a male booking of this final place



Top 10 Mammal Targets:

Wolverine / Brown Bear / Eurasian Red Squirrel / Mountain Hare / Siberian Roe Deer / Wolf / Canadian Beaver / Musk Rat / Siberian Flying Squirrel / Yellow-necked Mouse

Summary: One of the most elusive carnivores in the world, the charismatic **Wolverine** is probably most well known these days for being the name of a popular superhero, but the animal is far more impressive than any comic book hero. The world's largest mustelid (weasel, badger, otter family) they have been recording taking down reindeer and holding their own against **Brown Bears!** The **Wolverine** truly is a tough animal and in Europe's frozen north they can be found with surprising ease.

6 places available

That is if you come to one of the very few locations where they are well known from, Royle Safaris knows one such place on the Finnish side of the Finnish/Russian border. In a wonderful forest full of wildlife there are a few specialist photography hides where you can spend the night and observe these amazing animals as they come to you. A short wildlife break that will showcase one of the best looking and little understood of all of the northern hemispheres mammals.

We are also able to add on various extensions to this trip, such as looking for **forest reindeer**, **Saimaa seals**, spending time in dedicated hides which offer better chances for **wolves** and **brown bear** as well as many birding options. The forests in Finland are home to a great diversity of owls which are popular with many wildlife photographers.

Photo Credits: wolverines (top left & bottom right) – Esa Muikku / wolverine (top right) Chris Scharf / wolverine (bottom left) Manda Simmons

Just European Minks – Specialist Tour

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 12th March – Price: £1,850
16th March 2026 Single Sup: £200



Top 10 Mammal Targets: European Mink / Eurasian Wild Cat / Raccoon Dog / Golden Jackal / European Pine Marten / Brown Rat / Daubenton's Bat / Noctule / Kuhl's Pipistrelle / Soprano Pipistrelle

Summary: This is a specialized short mammal-watching tour to look for the critically endangered **European Mink**.

6 places available

Working with expert local guides in Romania who have been pioneering mammalwatching here to point where Romania is now perhaps the greatest mammalwatching destination in Europe, we are proud to bring this specialist trip to see one of Europe's and the world's rarest mammals.

There has been repeated success with sightings over several years.

But it is still an elusive species and we don't offer a 100% guarantee. March which is the mating time for the **European Mink** and the Danube Delta is definitely the 'only' accessible and somewhat reliable place in the World to see this rare mammal!

As the name of the tour would suggest the mink is our prime target but we will try to see many other mammals as well. There are not many places in Europe where we can hope to see one of the rarest mammals, but the Danube Delta in Romania still offers this chance for mammal watchers! The **European Mink** was once widespread from Northern Spain and Western France throughout Central Europe towards the Ural Mountains but it has severely declined due to many factors. One of the strongholds now is in the Danube Delta and we have a good chance to connect with it on our four nights stay inside the delta.

Photo Credits: European mink (top and bottom left) Janos Olah / European mink (top and bottom right) Zoltan Gergey



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Giant Panda / Pallas's Cat / Red Panda / Sichuan Takin / Chinese Mountain Cat / Tibetan Gazelle / Golden Snub-nosed Monkey / Asiatic Black Bear / Tufted Deer / Chinese Ferret Badger

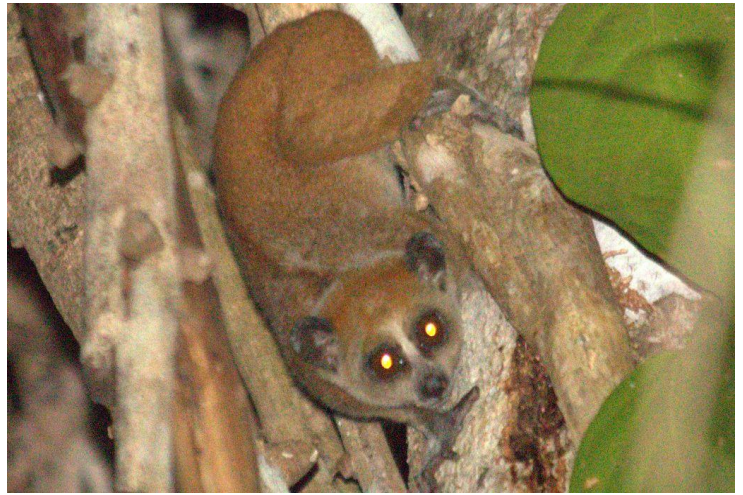
Summary: When people think of China they rarely think of wildlife and if they do think of Chinese animals that inevitably think of giant pandas. This one species is so iconic and so famous around the world that it is hard to imagine them as wild animals that live a life completely removed from people, but in recent years more and more giant pandas are living wild lives away from the disturbance of people. This is testament to fantastic conservation work and we will be hopefully benefiting from this conservation work as we enter a huge bamboo ecosystem in the mountains of one of the last remaining wild **giant panda** habitats. By hiking in this forest we will be in prime **panda** habitat and will hopefully be rewarded with one of the rarest sights in nature.

However this is only the first of three very different habitats we will be exploring, from the bamboo zone we will travel to the edge of the Tibetan plateau and to the rocky and rugged wilderness of Ruoergai where typical high altitude species such as **Pallas's cat** and **Chinese mountain cat** live and then down into the forested mountains of Tangjiahe where **musk deer**, **serow**, **gorals**, **badgers** and **bears** live. We will spend a considerable amount of time exploring these habitats for wildlife and trying to see as many of these species as possible and hopefully get some rare species too.

Since we started to revisit China in 2023 after the covid-19 pandemic we have run 12 trips and have been successful in seeing **Giant Pandas** on 9 of these trips (a 75% success rate). **Panda** sightings have included watching a mother and cub in a tree for over 1 hour, a large male at 5m range, a young male feeding for 3 hours and a mating pair! So anyone wishing to experience the best of mammalwatching in Sichuan and also spend time specifically looking for **giant pandas** this is the only trip for you.

2027
JUST 3 PLACES LEFT

Photo Credits: giant panda – Wouter Pieters / Sichuan takin – Chris Scharf / Chinese mountain cat & Chinese red panda – Steven White



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Red-shanked Douc / Black-shanked Douc / Grey-shanked Douc / Pygmy Slow Loris / Buff-cheeked Gibbon / Hatinth Langur / Delacour's Langur / Annamese Silver Langur / Rhesus Macaque / Northern Pig-tailed Macaque / Assamese Macaque / Long-tailed Macaque

Summary: Vietnam is home to 25 species of wild primate, for such a small country with a huge human (not one of the primates included) population this is incredible. This tour aims to showcase as many of these primate species as possible, we will not see all 25, but we do hope to be able to see around half (with some good luck). This tour travels from the south to the north and visits various locations which are among some of the only places where certain species still cling to existence.

Whilst on this particular trip the primates are major focus of this trip; with some of the rarest species in the world inhabiting these forests. Some of the **langurs**, **gibbons** and **douc-langurs** are so endangered that there are only 50-100 left in the world. Some of these species are intensively studying and we have a very good chance of seeing them, some are not protected very well at all and so they will be harder to find, but we will endeavour to do our best at all locations or course. Once again (as with all Royle Safaris trips) we will employ the best local guides at each national park to try and find as many species and interpret the amazing behaviour we see.

Alongside the primates we will also be watching out for the larger species that inhabit these forests such as **sambar deer**, **muntjacs** (we now have a reliable spot for the **Annamite muntjac**) and of course a whole host of rarer species which are near mythical, such as the **Annamese striped rabbit** and **Saola** (if the latter is even still in existence).

We can also arrange extensions to see two other very critically endangered and range restricted primates if you wish; these being the **Token Snub-nosed Monkey** and the **Cat Ba Langur**. The Cat Ba Langur extension is very popular and done with all of the correct legal permissions.

2027
8 Places Available



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Tiger / Indian One-horned Rhino / Sloth Bear / Leopard / Chital / Sambar / Terai Langur / Jungle Cat / Gaur / Indian Hog Deer

Summary: Chitwan National Park is one of the most famous wildlife watching destinations in Asia, lying south-west of Kathmandu and along the border between Nepal and India this vast park contains large populations of **Tigers**, **Sloth Bears** (perhaps the largest in the world), **Indian One-horned Rhinos** and **Asiatic Elephants** (among dozens of other species). The park is a wonderful mosaic of grasslands, sal forest, bamboo groves including lowlands which are flooded annually by the monsoon and melt water from the Himalayas and the hills to the north.

What makes Chitwan one of the most popular safari destinations in Asia is the fact that you can explore the park a variety of different ways. Unlike in India where you are largely confined to vehicles you can get out and track the various species on foot as well as take the typical open safari vehicle and also being paddled around some of the rivers that border the park.

This tour combines these methods into a full exploration of the park and its varying habitats. It is this mixture of techniques to find animals and the fact that we have a special arrangement with the park to do more private full day jeep safaris than normal that mean we have a better than most chance of seeing **Tigers**, **Sloth Bears** and **Leopards** and in fact our two trips in 2022 were successful in this regard and we backed that up with more sightings in 2023, we didn't visit Chitwan on our group tour in 2024, and we hope for continued success in the future.

2026
8 places available

2027
8 places available

Photo Credits: leopard, tiger, Indian one-horned rhino & sloth bear – Justin Cote

South Africa's Rare Mammals Tour

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 20th May – 2nd Jun 2027 Price: £4,995
Single Sup: £1,350



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Ground Pangolin / Caracal / Southern Aardwolf / Aardvark / Honey Badger / Black-footed Cat / Zorilla / Cape Fox / African Wild Dog / Serval / Black Rhino / Meerkat / Brown Hyena

Summary: South Africa is one of the world's premier wildlife watching destinations, but there is a lot more to this wonderful country than the traditional Big Five, great white sharks and whale watching. This specialist mammalwatching tour aims to showcase many of the species which often go under the radar.

The field guides are full of species of mammals which are seldom ever seen, but that is all about to change if you book onto this trip. Animals which have long been enigmas such as **aardvarks**, **ground pangolins**, **black-footed cats**, **honey badgers** and **brown hyenas** are all seen with regularity in the sites we visit as part of this trip.

Travelling the breadth of South Africa in the safe hands of some of Africa's top mammalwatching local guides we visit a combination of private properties and national parks as we go in search of rare mammals of all sizes. From the huge endangered **black rhino** and the colourful **African wild dog** to the tiny **four-toed elephant shrew** and the very elusive **riverine rabbit**; all these species and many more are targeted on this trip.

Of course whilst traveling through South Africa you will also see many of the common species which help to make South Africa a famous wildlife watching destination. So you will get to see **lions**, **white rhinos**, **leopards**, **African elephants**, **Cape buffalo** (the traditional Big Five) as well as up to 60 species of mammals.

With some luck there is a chance of seeing a very impressive 6 species of cat including **lion**, **leopard**, **cheetah**, **caracal**, **African wild cat**, **black-footed cat** and **serval**.

We also offer optional extensions to Kruger and Madikwe National Parks for anyone wishing to further explore South Africa.

2027
8 Places Available

Photo Credits: aardvark & aardwolf – Chris Daniels / Ground Pangolin & Rock sengi – Chris Scharf

Panama Mammal Tour

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 23rd May – 1st June 2027

Price: £3,795
Single Sup: not always available



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Western Night Monkey / Kinkajou / Central American Woolly Opossum / Western Lowland Olingo / Mantled Howler Monkey / Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth / Geoffroy's Tamarin / Silky Anteater / Lesser Capybara / Rothschild's Porcupine

Summary: This specialist mammalwatching trip is to be led by expert local guides throughout. With this expertise you will be well equipped with excellent local knowledge as you go in search of mammals in one of the world's most underrated mammal watching countries.

Being the southernmost country of Central America, Panama has a lot of species found in northern South America as well as many species found only in Central America. All this makes Panama a wonderful place to either visit as a first time mammal watching trip to the region or as a trip to try and fill in missing species from previous trips to countries such as Costa Rica or Colombia.

The trip spends most of the time around the historic and world-famous Canopy Tower (which is located inside the wonderful Soberania National Park). Whilst based in the Canopy Tower your specialist guides will take you to iconic and great mammal watching locations such as around the Canopy Tower itself and Semaphore Hill, Pipeline Road, Barro Colorado Island, Gatun Lake (via boat), Panama Rainforest Discovery Center, Metropolitan Nature Park and Fort San Lorenzo located on the Caribbean coast.

Neotropical mammals are a fascinating group of animals which include many unique and iconic members, such as **sloths, marmosets, anteaters, armadillos** and more. All of which are unique to the Americas.

Unlike other parts of the world such as Africa or the Pantanal of Brazil, the majority of the mammals found in Panama here are small to medium-sized, and many are predominantly nocturnal. So we have tailored the activities to maximise the chances of seeing as many species as possible.

Photo Credits: night monkeys – WolfmanSF / silky anteater – Quentin Questel / Geoffroy's tamarin – Ben Keen / Rothschild's porcupine – Bertis Y. Franco Perez

2027
6 places available



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Javan Rhino / Banteng / Javan Mousedeer / West Javan Ebony Langur / Javan Small-toothed Palm Civet / Javan Slow Loris / Sunda Colugo / Sunda Leopard Cat / Javan Rusa / Sunda Palm Civet

Summary: One of the world's rarest mammals, with around 35 remaining in the wild, none in captivity, the **Javan Rhino** is on the edge. But in recent years the species has been increasing in number and the species is beginning (slowly) to reveal its secrets. Over the past decade Royle Safaris has been working hard with local guides, wildlife photographers and the Indonesian parks authorities to work out a way of seeing this magnificent species whilst minimising impact in the only forest they call home (Ujung Kulon National Park). We have had success and now we offer the world's only dedicated expeditions into the heart of this forest and to a particular hotspot for rhino activity.

2027
JUST 2 PLACES LEFT

By boating silently up and down a couple of favoured rivers deep in the core area of the park we have gained an impressive success rate in seeing these animals along with a wealth of other life. With expert local guides, trackers and our tour leader we stand a favourable chance of seeing one of the last **Javan rhinos**.

For anyone interesting in exploring more wild places in Java we have an optional post tour extension for mammals such as **Javan Gibbon, Javan Ferret-badger, Javan Slow Loris, Sunda Porcupine** and others. Contact us for more on this itinerary.

We must also let you know that all of these trips to Ujung Kulon National Park are dependant on the core area of the park being open to tourism again. As of the start of 2026 the core area was still closed, but we are hopeful that in spring time 2026 we will once again be able to run trips to the park.

Photo Credits: Javan rhino (top left) & banteng – Chris Scharf / langur – Alex Meyer / Javan rhino (bottom right) – Toby Nowlan

Azores Rare Whale & Dolphin Watching Trip

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 24th July – 1st August 2027 Price: £2,695



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Sperm Whale / Northern Bottlenose Whale / Short-finned Pilot Whale / Sowerby's Beaked Whale / Atlantic Spotted Dolphin / False Killer Whale / Risso's Dolphin / Pygmy Sperm Whale / Striped Dolphin / Azore's Noctule

Summary: Jutting out of the Atlantic Ocean the rugged yet beautiful Azores are one of the best whale watching locations in the world. After an exploratory trip in 2025 Royle Safaris was stunned with the diversity of marine mammal life here and so we started work on getting our first dedicated whale and dolphin watching group together.

The Azores is home to a good amount of resident cetacean species, such as the largest toothed whale in the world, the **sperm whale** and its smaller cousins like **Risso's dolphins**, **common bottlenose dolphins**, **common dolphins** and **striped dolphins**; but it is the visitors to the archipelago which really make the Azores a whale watching mecca. We choose the last week in July for this trip as this is the time of year with the best chances of seeing the amazing **northern bottlenose whale** as they arrive here for a short period, making this area perhaps the only reliable place in the world for this species. Another regularly seen species around this time of year is a much smaller beaked whale, **Sowerby's beaked whale**, which means it is very possible to see not one but two species of the elusive beaked whale family.

Along with these high profile targeted summer visitors there are other species which visit for the summer and are very easy to see, such as **Atlantic spotted dolphins** and **short-finned pilot whales**. It is not uncommon to come here for a week and see over 10 species of marine mammal! There is nowhere else on the planet which can be as productive for marine mammalwatching. And as well as all of the species mentioned above there are some annual sightings of very rare and special species here and with some luck we may see **pygmy sperm whale**, **dwarf sperm whale**, **false killer whale**, **orcas** and maybe a **sei whale** which is the only baleen whale which is in the area at this time.

As well as these marine mammals we will of course look for the only endemic mammal of the islands, the **Azores noctule** bat which are commonly seen (even flying in the daytime) around most of the island.

**2027 first trip
FINAL PLACE LEFT**

Photo Credits: northern bottlenose whale – Whitehead Lab / Atlantic spotted dolphin - Hobbyfotowiki



Top Mammal Targets: Mandrill / African Forest Elephant / Black Colobus / Red River Hog / Western Gorilla / Common Chimpanzee / Giant Pangolin / African Palm Civet / Hammer-head Bat / Servaline Genet

Summary: Gabon is 80% forest, let that statistic settle in a second. 80% of the entire country is covered in pristine forest. There are not many countries in the world that can boast such a record. Not only is there such vast tracts of forest left in Gabon the country has a small population which is nearly all centred around the few cities and towns. This means that the forests are full of wildlife, the downside is that getting from A to B can be challenging. We take a combination of overnight trains, private vehicles and boats to get from the two main protected areas in the country (three protected areas if you wish to also book our optional pre-tour extension to Ivindo) which is Lope and Loango National Parks.

This tour is a specialist mammalwatching tour but it may be further defined as a primate watching tour. The two major targets are the **Mandrills** and **Western Gorillas**. The **Mandrills** of Lope National Park have been studied for years and the researcher allows tourists to come into the park and experience the vast troops of loud and colourful **Mandrills** with him. The same experience is offered in Loango with the **Gorillas** and in between these primate tracking experiences you can see over 10 species of **primates**, forest **Duikers**, many **Forest Elephants** and other rare species such as **Manatees**, **Genets** and if you are very lucky you could see a **Giant Pangolin** as they have been seen here before but are very hard to find.

Many people who book this this also book our pre-tour extension to Ivindo National Park, this is a very wild park and the only way in and out is via hiking and the wildlife watching is done from a raised platform overlooking a bai (a clearing in the forest) where **Gorillas**, **Red River Hogs**, **Forest Elephants** and **Sitatunga** are near daily visitors. If you wish to know more about the Ivindo tour then you can contact us and we will send over the PDF brochure.

2027
6 Places Available

African Golden Cat Quest

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 22nd May – 1st Jun 2027 **Price:** £5,795
Single Sup: £300

Dates: 12th Aug – 22nd Aug 2027 **Price:** £5,795
Single Sup: £300



Top 10 Mammal Targets: African Golden Cat / African Forest Elephant / African Palm Civet / White-bellied Pangolin / Marsh Mongoose / Demidoff's Galago / Giant Forest Hog / L'Hoest's Monkey / Lion / Leopard

Summary: Guided by Uganda's foremost mammalwatching guide (Harriet Kemigisha and her well established team) and traveling to locations which have had recent repeated success in seeing **African Golden Cats**, this is the first expedition style trip of its kind in the world. A small group tour dedicated to spending time on a developed strategy to find Africa's most elusive cat and one of the world's most beautiful mammals.

Over the last few years people have been visiting looking specifically for this species and this has lead to local guides exploring every possibility for a way to find them. This hard work has paid off and there now appears to be a couple of locations which are offering repeated sightings. It is still a very hard animal to see, but we are proud to add the **African Golden Cat** to the growing list of rare and elusive mammals which Royle Safaris offers specific expedition style tours to see.

The tour will visit 2 of the most iconic locations for wildlife watching in Uganda. All of which are different habitats (showing the versatility of this cat); from rainforest in Kibale to the savanna and the Afro Montane forests of Bwindi. All of these locations harbour good chances to see the **Golden Cat** as well as a wealth of other wildlife, Uganda is perhaps the only place in the world that can combine typical African 'big game' viewing, with world class primate watching and the chance for incredibly rare mammals such as **African Golden Cat** and **Giant Pangolin**.

All in all we think any mammalwatcher or general wildlife enthusiast would thoroughly enjoy this trip.

It is also popular with our clients booking this trip to add in an extra day at the start and one at the end of the trip so they can do **chimpanzee** and **mountain gorilla** trekking as well, which we can arrange an add on easily.

2027 first trip
FINAL PLACE LEFT

2027 second trip
6 Places Available

Photo Credits: golden cat (top left) – felidaefund.org / L'hoest's monkey & lions – Samuel Marlin / golden cat (bottom right) – Laila Bahaa-el-din

Borneo's Rare Mammals Tour

Dates: 4th Aug – 18th
Aug 2026

Price: £5,395
Single Sup: £950

Dates: 18th Sep – 1st
Sep 2027

Price: £5,395
Single Sup: £950



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Sunda Clouded Leopard / Proboscis Monkey / Marbled Cat / Binturong / Otter Civet / Sun Bear / Sunda Stink Badger / Borneo Orangutan / Asiatic Elephant / Banded Civet

Summary: Borneo has long been known as a wonderful rainforest and wildlife watching destination, enjoyed by hardcore enthusiasts and casual wildlife lovers alike. But in the last decade there are various sites which have turned Borneo is one of *the* destinations for mammalwatching globally. Deramakot is one of these locations and this tour spends a week here, as well as visiting Tabin Wildlife Resort and a stay along the amazing Kinabatangan River.

This tour focuses on some of the rarer mammals which live in Borneo's rainforests. This means many of the activities to look for wildlife will be done at night. Guided by the famous and tireless Mike Gordon throughout the itinerary we have a great track record in seeing several of the rarest mammals in Borneo, animals such as **Sunda clouded leopard, sun bear, Sunda pangolin, marbled cat, otter civets** (all of which were seen in 2024 and 2025) are now seen with more frequency than ever before. We don't pretend that the trip will be successful in seeing all of the targeted species (such a trip would probably be the single greatest trip in mammalwatching history) but we have a good success rate in seeing several rare species.

We also like to visit a couple of different forest reserves (in this case Tabin and Deramakot) to give you the best overview of different habitats and also increase our chances of seeing as many species as possible. It is not just nocturnal life that we spend time looking for however, we also have time dedicated to see the **Orangutans, Elephants and Proboscis Monkeys** (as well as various primates species).

We also have an optional post tour extension which explores the amazing and seldom visited Tawau Hills National Park and Maliau Basin, for more information on this trip please contact us and we can provide more information.

**2027
JUST 3 PLACES LEFT**

Photo Credits: clouded leopard & sun bear – Chris Scharf / otter civet & marbled cat – Mark Langston

Best of Sumatra Wildlife Tour

Dates: 17th Sep – 29th Sep 2026 **Price:** £3,450
Single Sup: £495

Dates: 17th Sep – 29th Sep 2027 **Price:** £3,650
Single Sup: £495



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Sumatran Orangutan / Pen-tailed Treeshrew / Sunda Leopard Cat / Binturong / Sunda Slow Loris / Thomas's Langur / Siamang / Banded Langur / Agile Gibbon / Sunda Clouded Leopard

Summary: As Borneo takes the limelight for mammalwatching in South East Asia it is easy to forget that Sumatra (one of the world's largest islands) is also home to a huge diversity of mammal life and has some great areas of well protected forest you can explore on foot and by vehicle and boat both day and night.

This tour explores two of these locations, one in the north (Gunung Leuser National Park) and one in the far south (Way Kambas National Park); these two parks couldn't be more different, Gunung Leuser being very mountainous and rugged and Way Kambas a lowland swampy forest interspersed by rivers and grasslands. But by visiting both of these parks you have the chance to see species which are difficult in the other or just absent completely; giving a great overview of the wildlife of Sumatra. The tour starts by hiking the forested hills of Gunung Lesuer looking for the enigmatic Sumatran Orangutan, Agile Gibbons and Thomas's Langurs and then ends with night drives around Way Kambas looking for relatively common nocturnal species such as Sunda Slow Loris, Banded Civets, Sunda Leopard Cats and some rare one such as Sunda Clouded Leopard, Malay Tapir, Marbled Cat and Pen-tailed Treeshrews. You will have great guidance throughout and excellent local guides at each location who have decades of experience in showing and understanding the mammal life of this incredible island.

2027
6 Places Available

Photo Credits: leopard cat & slow loris – Chris Daniels / banded civet – Mark Langston

Tanzania Endemic Mammals Expedition

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 2028 (dates
TBC in late 2026)

Price: TBC in late 2026



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Kipunji / Black-and-rufous Sengi / Eastern Tree Hyrax / Sanje River Mangabey / Rondo Dwarf Galago / Tanzania Coastal Galago / Udzungwa Red Colobus / Bushy-tailed Mongoose / Natal Red Duiker / Suni

Summary: Following in the footsteps of one of the mammalwatching communities leading figures, Dr. Charles Foley, Royle Safaris is in development of a mega mammal trip to Tanzania. Mostly visiting the southern parts of this incredible and ridiculously mammal diverse countries. We will be targeting all of the endemic primates to the mainland (we can also arrange an extension to Zanzibar for anyone wanting to have a clean sweep of Tanzanian endemic primates).

Primates do make up a large part of this trip with no less than 12 species including the **kipunji, Sanje river mangabey, Udzungwa red colobus, yellow baboon, Syke's monkey, Angolan black-and-white colobus** and many nocturnal **galagoes**.

But it is not just primates which we will target on this trip, there is another group of mammals which is unique to Africa and has a diversity hotspot in Tanzania, these are the **sengis** (otherwise known as elephant-shrews) and we have a chance to see four different species including the stunning **black-and-rufous sengi**.

We will visit a number of forests as well as a private farm which is jam packed with rodents, meaning that no true mammalwatcher will want to miss this place. Along the way visiting these reserves we will have a chance to see many more commonly seen Tanzanian species such as **African bush elephants, Maasai giraffe, bushbucks, suni, duiker** species, **rusty-spotted genet, common slender mongoose** and other rarer species like **bushy-tailed mongoose, honey badger, striped weasel** (outside chance).

With some luck there is a chance for over 70 species of mammals here and with the specialist nature of such a trip this would be the perfect way to see many of the species which are included in the field guides but are hardly ever seen.

8 places available

Photo Credits: kipunji - NR1&GLAFan2004 / red-and-black sengi - Joey Makalintal / Sanje river mangabey – Marc Veraart / Angolan colobus - Tomas Hejlek

Argentina Mega Mammal Tour

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 1st Sep – 22nd
Sep 2028 (dates not
100% set)

Price: £9,995
Single Sup: £1,590 (price
is not 100% confirmed)



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Franciscana / Southern Monito-del-monte / Geoffroy's Cat / Patagonian Weasel / Southern Huemul / Long-nosed Shrew-opossum / Pichi / Puma / Northern Huemul / Southern Colocolo

Summary: Argentina is one of the world's largest countries and being a "long" country north to south, there is a huge range of climates and ecosystems. This in turn means there is a huge wealth of wildlife to be found here, but up until recently Argentina has not been a major mammalwatching (or even wildlife watching) destination. Yes people would visit as a stopped off point to visit the sub-Antarctic islands and Antarctica itself and Peninsula Valdes has always been popular with whale watchers; but the vast tracks of pampas, mountain ranges, tropical and subtropical forests and rugged coastlines have been largely unexplored by mammalwatchers.

8 places available

That has all started to change in the last few years, no little part due to the finding of one of the continent's best guides and a very enthusiastic mammalwatching convert, Marcelo Gavensky.

Royle Safaris has worked with Marcelo and other wildlife guides in Argentina for years and this itinerary is the work of love and passion a long time in the making.

We have decided to base the tour around seeing some of South America's most underrated species, the **northern** and **southern Andean huemul** (species of deer) endemic to the Southern Cone of South America. Once we decided on this we had the basis of a route and in visiting both the northern and southern parts of Argentina we started to develop stop offs in many places which are hotspots for range restricted and endemic mammals.

The trip will be visiting habitats and areas where well over 100 species of mammals have been seen, we don't expect to see 100 species but 50+ is a definite target for this trip and among these dozens of species are there some very cool ones including **Geoffroy's cat**, **South American sea lion**, **franciscana**, **southern monito-del-monte**, **lesser grison**, **Wolff's mountain viscacha** and many more. With some luck we could find an amazing 11 species of **armadillo**, 7 species of **tuco-tuco** and 9 species of **cat**. However to see all 9 species of cat would require unbelievable luck.

All in all we are happy to announce this new itinerary, to showcase the very best of Argentine mammalwatching and hopefully start to fully integrate Argentina into the mammalwatching community.

Photo Credits: southern huemul – Alejandroaguilarc / southern monito-del-monte – Marcel Gavensky / screaming hairy armadillo – Arnaud Boucher

Endemic Mammals of the Horn of Africa

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 1st Dec – 19th
Dec 2028 (dates are
not 100% set)

Price: £5,890
Single Sup: £350 (price is
not 100% confirmed)



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Dibatag / Abyssinian Genet / Hamadryas Baboon / Beira / Salt's Dik-dik / Maned Rat / Pelsen's Gazelle / Silver Dik-dik / Soemmerring's Gazelle / Somali Sengi

Summary: In recent years intrepid mammalwatchers are finding new places to explore and find some of the world's most elusive and sought after species. Whether that is the island of New Guinea, the rainforests of Central & West Africa or various Indonesian islands with their host of endemic inhabitants; the net result has been an explosion in the amount and diversity of mammals which can be reliably seen.

6 places available

Royle Safaris is the only international tour operator which views these expansions to new locations as an opportunity to work with the locals and increase eco tourism on the ground and run small group tours on a regular basis. One of the latest locations for mammalwatchers is the Horn of Africa. An area which has been ravaged by war in recent years and with countries like Somalia and Eritrea some of the Horn of Africa is still not safe or open to travel to, however that doesn't mean that the whole region is off limits. Northern Ethiopia (an area called Somali Region (not to be confused with the country Somalia) and Djibouti are remarkably safe and stable and they are also home to some of the regions most sought after species.

Our main targets on this trip are some of Africa's most range restricted ungulates; namely **beira**, **dibatag**, **Salt's dik-dik**, **Genther's dik-dik**, **Silver dik-dik** and **Pelsen's gazelle**. But it is not just the antelopes here which are our focus, we also should see the impressive **hamadryas baboon** as well as a range of rodent species, including gundis and maned rats. There is also a chance for **Abyssinian genet**, **African golden wolf**, **African wild cat** and many other species of mammals.

As well as visiting these stunning locations in Ethiopia, we will also be visiting the very seldom visited country of Djibouti which offers more chances to see **beira** and some of the antelopes including Soemmerring's gazelle and more endemic rodents. By visiting both of these countries you will be in for a full immersive experience of the Horn of Africa as well as maximising the chances to see all of these amazing species.

We also have optional pre tour extension to visit the Bale Mountains National Park and other areas in Central Ethiopia which can add **gelada**, **Ethiopian wolf**, **mountain nyala**, **giant mole-rat**, **Bale monkey** and many other iconic endemic mammals of the Ethiopian highlands.

Photo Credits: Salt's dik-dik – David Castor / Atlantic spotted dolphin - Hobbyfotowiki / Hamadryas baboon - André Karwath /

Chile Mega Mammal Tour

*not online – PDF brochure available on request

Dates: 2028 (dates
TBC by early 2027)

Price: TBC by early 2027



Top 10 Mammal Targets: Puma / Leopard Seal / Darwin's Fox / Juan Fernandez Fur Seal / Southern Pudu / Kodkod / Marine Otter / Long-tailed Chinchilla / Chilean Dolphin / Coruro

Summary: The latest in a series of Mega Mammal trips which will be focusing on one country and trying to see a large number of mammals (of all kinds) is our Chile Mega Mammal Tour which will be run in 2028. Like the others in this series we will be exploring the whole country (as much as we reasonably can) and visiting a large number of habitats. In Chile this will take us north to south along this very longitudinally narrow country.

4-8 places available

We will visit the high Andes as well as coastal areas and the unique Valdivian forests. Our main targets on this trip vary from some very range restricted terrestrial mammals such as **Darwin's fox, kodkod, southern pudu** and **cururo** and marine mammals such as **Juan Fernandez fur seal, Chilean dolphin** and **Burmeister's porpoise**.

Along with these very specialist mammals we will also be looking for species with a larger range including **pumas, South American river otter, lesser grison** and many others.

We will also be looking to link up with various researchers and have permissions to set small mammal traps and mist nets which will help contribute to the ongoing understanding and research of some of South America's lesser known species and also vastly increase the chances of seeing lots of Chilean mammal species. Some of the key rodent species which we will be looking for include several **tuco-tuco** species and the endemic **coruro** as well as the unique looking **Garlepp's mouse** and colourful **Jelski's altiplano mouse**.

In addition to these terrestrial species we will also be spending a lot of time around the coast of this huge country, visiting islands (near and far) as we look for many marine mammals including **leopard seals, Juan Fernandez fur seals, sub-Antarctic fur seals, southern elephant seals, South American sea lions, Chilean dolphins, Burmeister's porpoise, Commerson's dolphins, Peale's dolphin** among others.

But perhaps the most famous mammals that people come and look for in Chile are the cats (big and small) and we will of course spend time in habitats which could result in sightings of **puma, Andean mountain cat, Garlepp's colocolo** and **kodkod**.

All in all we are confident that any mammalwatcher will have a great time on this trip and we hope the trip is successful and we can continue to launch trips in our Mega Mammal Tour series.