2023 Insider Journeys

Kingdom of the Monarchs: Mexico
An Insider’s Journey into Yosemite: California
Jaguars and Wildlife of the Pantanal: Brazil
Autumn Adventure: Discovering the Whales & Wildlife of French Canada
WWF Insider Journeys are for those who have a thirst for travel and a passion for preserving the wild places and creatures that inhabit our planet. These custom-designed trips offer an exclusive opportunity to journey with WWF experts and other conservation insiders to learn about and experience the wildlife, ecosystems, and communities we are working together to protect. Come explore the best of the natural world and see how, together, we are making a difference for the planet.

**WWF Experts**

**Kingdom of the Monarchs: Mexico: January 15-20, 2023**

Adriana Valera is WWF-Mexico’s Pollinator Officer for Terrestrial Ecosystems Programs. In this role, she oversees WWF’s conservation actions for the preservation of monarch butterflies. She started working on the monitoring of overwintering colonies as a consultant for WWF’s monarch butterfly program, where she co-founded and implemented the monarchs’ overwintering colonies’ systematic monitoring protocols in 2004 and 2005. Adriana has a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and a Master of Science in Human Dimensions and Natural Resources from Colorado State University.

Maria José Villanueva has worked with WWF-Mexico for over 10 years, helping establish nationwide partnerships with Indigenous communities, local and federal governments, and private sector businesses to conserve Mexico’s unique biodiversity. As the Conservation Director for WWF-Mexico, she leads the Ocean, Terrestrial Ecosystem, Climate Change, and Freshwater programs.

**An Insider’s Journey into Yosemite: July 23–30, 2023**

Jim Sano is WWF’s Vice President for Conservation Travel. In this role, he serves as the senior advisor on sustainable tourism programs and develops new initiatives to engage WWF’s most committed supporters. Jim was formerly President of Geographic Expeditions, a San Francisco-based adventure travel company that offers educational travel, location management, and sustainable travel consulting services. Prior to joining Geographic Expeditions, Jim served as a ranger and special assistant to the Superintendent at Yosemite National Park in California.

**Jaguars and Wildlife of the Pantanal: September 8–18, 2023**

Mike Osborne is WWF’s Senior Program Officer for Oceans. He works on fishery improvement projects, sea turtle and whale conservation, and implementation of bycatch mitigation tools for a variety of fisheries around the world. During his career in Australia, Mike implemented a humpback whale monitoring program on the Great Barrier Reef and off the coast of Western Australia. He served as a research director, conducting humpback whale research in both Maui and along the east coast of Australia. Mike has a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology/Ecology and a Master of Science in Tropical Ecology.

**Autumn Adventure: Discovering the Whales & Wildlife of French Canada: September 25–October 2, 2023**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Visit Monarch Migration Groves** — On foot and horseback, enter the remote fir forests of Mexico’s Central Highlands, where millions of monarchs roost and breed each winter.

**Listen to the Sound of Butterfly Wings** — When the sun emerges, hear the gentle hum of gossamer butterfly wings as tens of thousands of monarchs take flight, fluttering overhead in a cloud of orange.

**Local Culture with Local Guides** — Explore traditional Mexican mountain villages and visit an authentic market, witnessing the benefits of butterfly tourism for local people.

**ITINERARY AT A GLANCE** 6 Days

Day 1: Mexico City, Mexico
Day 2-4: Angangueo—El Rosario Sanctuary / Chincua Sanctuary / Valle de Bravo
Day 5: Valle de Bravo / Toluca / Mexico City
Day 6: Mexico City / Depart

**Trip Information**

Dates: January 15–20, 2023
Price: $4,395
Group Size: Limited to 14 guests

*worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys*

For itineraries and additional information please visit *worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys*

Join us in Mexico to experience one of the most astounding natural events on Earth, featuring an unlikely creature: the delicate monarch butterfly. Every year, at the end of the summer, millions of monarchs take flight on a remarkable 2,500-mile journey, from the Northeast United States and Southeast Canada to their ancestral wintering grounds in the volcanic mountains of central Mexico.

Journey with WWF-Mexico’s conservation Expert Adriana Valera to her homeland’s Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve for a unique chance to get up close to these amazing creatures.

Immerse yourself in the monarchs’ fascinating world and learn directly from WWF Experts and local communities about how, since 2000, we have worked together to preserve vital monarch habitat and protect the species’ migration phenomenon from the impact of climate change. Today, local people grow fir trees for re-forestation; produce mushrooms for consumption and income; serve as guides for visitors; and volunteer in brigades that patrol the forest on the lookout for illegal logging and forest fires.
Yosemite became the world’s first nationally protected park in 1864, ensuring the conservation of its granite cathedrals, roaring waterfalls, and ancient sequoia groves for generations. We retrace the journey that inspired this important effort, viewing the towering granite Half Dome and the 3,000-foot wall of El Capitan, flower-strewn alpine heights, and the silver ribbon of the Merced River—an inspiration for countless painters. In the Mariposa Grove, stand among the largest trees on Earth, and discover hidden spots most visitors miss. Join Jim Sano, former Yosemite ranger naturalist and WWF Vice President for Conservation Travel, for a behind-the-scenes look at how Yosemite shaped the future of the 4,000 US national parks and 202,000+ protected areas around the globe, while also learning about the valiant efforts of World Wildlife Fund in these natural sanctuaries. He’ll delve into his decades-long insider’s experience as a ranger naturalist, introducing visitors from around the world to the park’s wonders—from its high-country meadows, giant sequoia trees, meandering rivers, and towering waterfalls, to its abundant flora and fauna, and Miwok and Paiute cultures.

**ITINERARY AT A GLANCE** 8 Days

Day 1: Fresno, CA / Fish Camp
Day 2: Mariposa Grove / Wawona / Fish Camp
Day 3: Glacier Point / Yosemite Valley
Day 4 & 5: Exploring Yosemite Valley
Day 6: Yosemite’s High Country / Tioga Road / Tuolumne Meadows / Lee Vining
Day 7: Mono Lake—Canoeing / Bodie State Historic Park / Tuolumne Meadows / El Portal
Day 8: Yosemite Climbing Museum / Fresno / Depart

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Insider Access** —In our small group, with flexibility to rise early, linger later and tap our naturalist guides’ insider knowledge, you’ll have a more meaningful experience.

- **Stay at the Historic Ahwahnee** —It can be next to impossible to get Yosemite’s most in-demand hotels on your own—count on us to stay at the historic Ahwahnee Hotel and Tenaya Lodge.

- **Cross the High Sierra** —Few tours cross Tioga Pass, but we also stay on the east side of the Sierra to watch the sunrise over Mono Lake, followed by a morning canoe ride.

- **Experienced Leadership** —Learn directly from a Yosemite expert, Jim Sano, who has seen the park evolve over the past 40+ years.

**Trip Information**

Dates: July 23-30, 2023
Price: $6,995
Group Size: Limited to 14 guests

For reservations and additional information, please contact Court Whelan at Natural Habitat Adventures at 888-903-8687, (Int’l) 303-449-3711 or courtw@nathab.com

For itineraries and additional information, please visit worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys
Situated in the heart of South America, the Pantanal is the world’s largest tropical wetland, covering 75,000 square miles, and is one of the most biologically-rich environments on the planet. It is a refuge for iconic wildlife, including the jaguar, hyacinth macaw, the caiman, and giant river otters—creating an intricate food chain made up of the largest concentration of wildlife in the Americas. WWF and partners have worked in the Pantanal since 1998, helping to protect this extraordinary ecological system. Over the last several years, WWF supported a new transboundary sustainable development and conservation strategy in partnership with the governments of Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay that will protect this globally significant freshwater resource. Join WWF’s María José Villanueva, and local experts on a journey into the heart of our efforts as we visit the regions vital to the future of the Pantanal. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity explores firsthand how WWF is working on-the-ground with communities, NGOs, governments, and the private sector to protect the iconic wildlife, habitat, and the people who call this extraordinary region home. On foot, by boat and in 4x4, we will venture into the verdant depths of the Pantanal.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Search for Jaguars** — Alongside WWF experts, discover the world’s largest tropical wetland area—the best place on the planet to spot jaguars in the wild!

**Enjoy Varied Outings** — Explore by boat in the north, then on 4x4 safari drives and guided walks in the south—you won’t find a more varied or comprehensive Pantanal itinerary.

**Explore a Private Refuge** — Enjoy an exclusive stay at Caiman Ecological Refuge, our remote and secluded base to seek out the giant anteater, tapir, ocelot and hyacinth macaw.

**ITINERARY AT A GLANCE** 11 Days

Day 1: Arrive São Paulo, Brazil
Day 2 & 3: São Paulo / Cuiabá / North Pantanal
Day 4,5,6: North Pantanal / Porto Jofre—Jaguar Viewing
Day 7,8,9: Porto Jofre / South Pantanal
Day 10: Caiman Ecological Refuge / Campo Grande
Day 11: Campo Grande / Depart

For itineraries and additional information, please visit worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys

For reservations and additional information, please contact Court Whelan at Natural Habitat Adventures at 888-993-8687, (Int’l) 303-449-3711 or courtw@nathab.com
Join expert Mike Osmond, WWF Senior Program Officer, Oceans, to discover the natural beauty of French Canada. Quebec has some of North America’s grandest natural landscapes, rich wildlife habitat, world-class whale watching, and vibrant autumn foliage. Just beyond Quebec City, mountains, gorges, glacial valleys, dense forests, and the St. Lawrence estuary converge. A host of species inhabit these varied marine ecosystems—porpoises, seals, and five whale species, including the beluga whale. WWF works to help identify critical beluga habitat by supporting research, community-based projects, and funding recovery for the St. Lawrence population. Terrestrial areas hold scores of birds in addition to black bear, gray wolf, red fox, moose, and woodland caribou. The entire region holds World Heritage status as the Charlevoix Biosphere Reserve, encompassing three of the five national parks and reserves we visit.

**ITINERARY AT A GLANCE  8 Days**

Day 1: Quebec City, Quebec  
Day 2: Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park / Tadoussac  
Day 3: Saguenay Fjord National Park  
Day 4: La Malbaie  
Day 5: Hautes-Gorges-de-la-Riviere-Malbaie National Park  
Day 6: Grands-Jardins National Park / Lac Delage  
Day 7: Jacques Cartier National Park / Lac Delage  
Day 8: Quebec City / Depart

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Explore Diverse Landscapes** — See Saguenay Fjord, Hautes-Gorges-de-la-Riviere Malbaie, Grands-Jardins, and Jacques-Cartier on foot and by canoe.
- **Enjoy 3 Private Zodiac Outings** — View abundant whales in Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park, including endangered belugas and possibly even blue whales!
- **Enter a Mosaic of Habitats** — Discover river ecosystems, estuarine tidal marshes, coniferous and mixed forests, and mountain tundra.
- **Learn In-depth about Whales** — Hear insider knowledge from WWF expert, Mike Osmond, about the robust whale species and their habitat.

**Trip Information**

- **Dates:** September 25–October 2, 2023  
- **Price:** $7,495  
- **Group Size:** Limited to 12 guests  

For reservations and additional information please contact Court Whelan at Natural Habitat Adventures at 888-993-8687, (Int’l) 303-449-3711 or courtw@nathab.com

For itineraries and additional information please visit worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys
Reservation Information and Trip Details

INCLUDED:
Trip prices are per person, based on double occupancy, and include: Accommodations, services of Nat Hab’s professional Expedition Leader(s), travel costs for your WWF Expert and local guides, most meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, most gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.

Internal air cost includes: On trips with internal flights, all flights within the itinerary are included (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

NOT INCLUDED:
Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees if required, optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry, and internet, etc.), airline baggage fees, required medical evacuation insurance, and optional travel protection insurance.

PAYMENTS:
A deposit of $500 or $1000 confirms your space, depending on the trip. Payments are accepted by credit card or by check made out to Natural Habitat Adventures. Some deposits are nonrefundable.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS:
Cancellations must be received in writing at Natural Habitat Adventures by US mail, email, or fax. At the time Natural Habitat Adventures receives your written cancellation, the following per person penalties apply: On or before 120 days before the trip: Full refund minus deposit. On or before 60 days before the trip: Forfeit 50% of tour cost. After 60 days before the trip: No refund.

INSURANCE:
Since the areas we travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that’s why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for our guests’ safety. If you decline the medical evacuation insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat, we request that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We will add the cost of a medical evacuation policy to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company’s name, contact number, and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests’ safety.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

TRAVELING WITH NAT HAB AMID COVID-19:
WWF Insider Journeys are operated by Natural Habitat Adventures. Due to COVID-19, health and safety protocols have been enhanced. To learn more about the current measures being taken, please visit: www.nathab.com/covid19.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS
Each adventure has different physical requirements varying from easy to difficult.

While adventures are designed specifically for WWF’s closest supporters and enhanced with WWF Experts, exclusive site visits, and enriched content, a minimum number of guests is required to run each trip. To avoid canceling, WWF and Nat Hab may fill unsold spots with WWF and non-WWF members.

Make it Private
Choose Your Travel Companions on a Private Group Journey
If any of the dates, destinations, or style of travel do not work well for you, these journeys and many more can be offered on a private basis, but without a WWF Expert.

With private options, you get the benefit of experiencing our carefully-crafted, remote itineraries while gaining the peace of mind of traveling only with your own select group of immediate family, multi-generational family, or group of friends.

Here are some of the advantages when you Make It Private:
• Your private group of family or friends, with special activities for kids
• Exclusive occupancy of our small luxury camps and lodges in select destinations
• Your own private naturalist Expedition Leader
• Your own vehicle for the utmost in flexibility
• Private meals whenever possible
• Surprisingly affordable pricing

To register, or if you have questions, please visit worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys or contact Court Whelan at Natural Habitat Adventures (888) 993-8687 or courtw@nathab.com

These journeys are being operated by Natural Habitat Adventures. To register, or if you have questions, please visit worldwildlife.org/insiderjourneys or contact Court Whelan at Natural Habitat Adventures (888) 993-8687 or courtw@nathab.com
“The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious.”
—Albert Einstein