

Herbert Ypma

111

ADVENTURES
AROUND THE WORLD
THAT YOU
MUST NOT MISS



emons:



Foreword

All travel should be an adventure. Life really is too short. So never let an opportunity go by that will create memories ... lasting memories.

You have a choice. We all have a choice. You can spend your life collecting things, or you can use your time on this planet to collect memories. Because that's what adventures are. They are memories. And memories are the only things that you can take with you and leave behind.

But please do not think that the only worthwhile adventures belong to faraway places and exotic destinations. Sometimes a memorable adventure can consist of nothing more than a picnic under a bridge. If that picnic happens to be under the legendary Pont Du Gard, on a quiet beach along the river Gard, then it becomes a "monumental" picnic – and a monumental memory.

And money is not of key importance either. There are plenty of adventures in this book that cost nothing or almost nothing at all. The unlikely thrill of a surfing adventure in Hong Kong, for instance, costs no more than a return ticket on

the local Metro, a taxi fare to the entrance of a national park and the board rental fee, for a grand total of less than US\$60.

Nor do you have to be an adventurer like Bear Grylls, asking yourself, "Will I survive?" There's nothing dangerous, for instance, about taking the night ferry from Naples to the Aeolian island of Salina. But it's definitely a thrill, especially when you witness the famous smoking volcano of Stromboli at dawn from the deck of the ship.

A lot of the adventures documented in this book were not planned. They just happened. And that's part of the charm. A friend suggested visiting a Himalayan monastery at prayer time, and to be honest, it didn't sound that exciting to me. But it's one of the most surprising, entertaining and profound adventures I have ever experienced. So who knew? I certainly didn't.

Upon reflection, I think the most important thing you need for any of these 111 adventures is an open mind.

Herbert Ypma



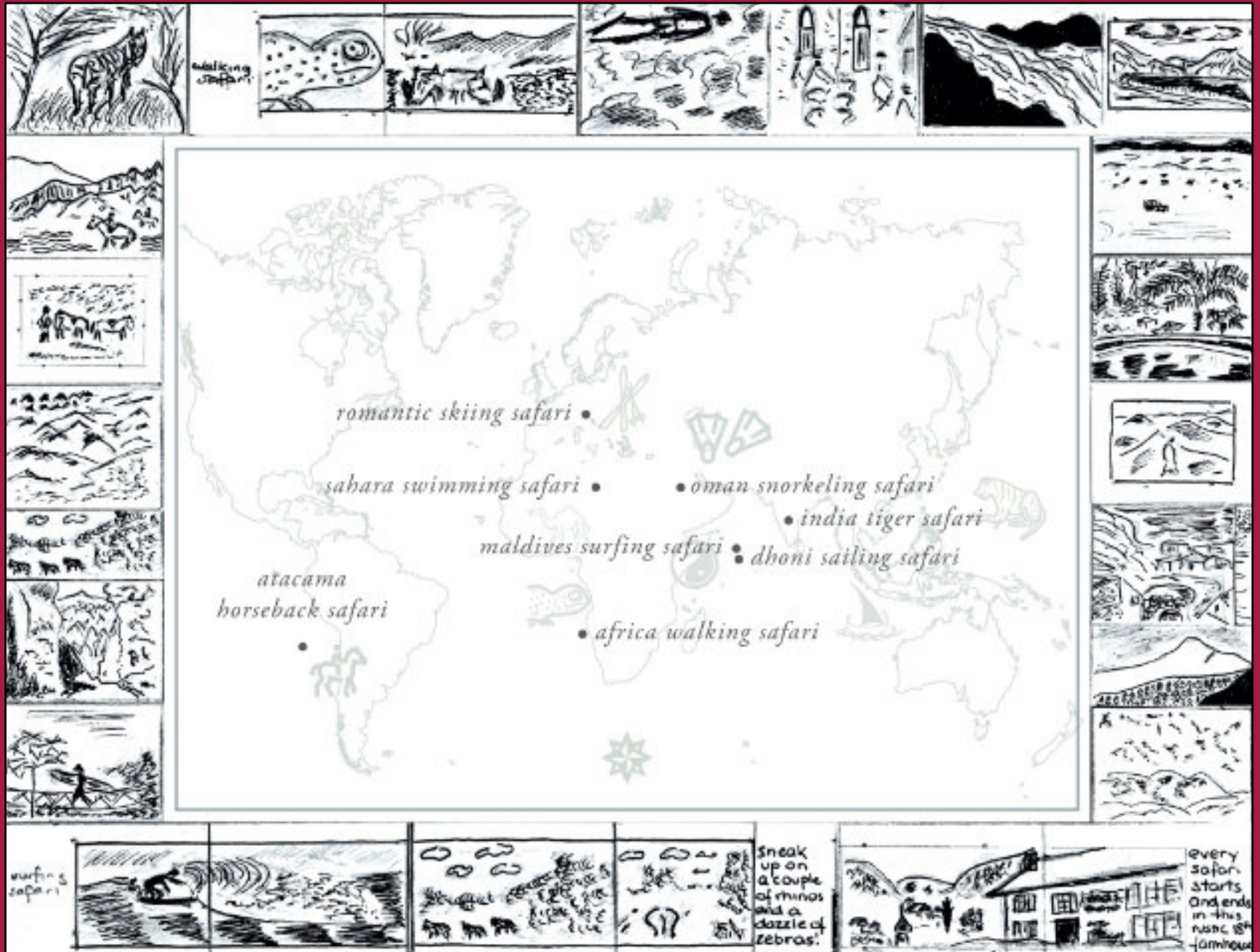


*All travel
should be an
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ON SAFARI

The very word “safari” suggests adventure: something exciting, something Hemingway would like. But a Safari doesn’t have to be the exclusive pursuit of big game in Africa. There are many safaris on offer around the world ... all very different and all completely unique. What they have in common, whether

it’s a snorkeling safari in the emerald waters of the Musandam Peninsula, or a romantic skiing safari in the French Alps, is that they all share a sense of the exotic and the spontaneous. In other words, you have no idea what to expect, and that’s how it should be. A proper safari is an adventure that should surprise and delight.



walking safari

romantic skiing safari •

sahara swimming safari •

oman snorkeling safari

india tiger safari

maldives surfing safari • dhoni sailing safari

atacama horseback safari

africa walking safari

surfing safari

sneak up on a couple of minos and a dazzle of zebras.

every safari starts and ends in this rustic 18th century farmhouse.



1 Africa Walking Safari

The wildlife of the African bush on foot

Trekking through the South African bush on foot is a game changer. Opting to leave the Land Rover behind exposes you to more: more knowledge and more danger. Suddenly, every twitch of a branch or rustle of a leaf gets your heart racing and the adrenaline pumping. But the pure thrill of it is not the best reason to embark on a walking safari in South Africa. It's about what you will learn. It's about discovering the small animals, such as chameleons, as well as the famed Big Five – lions, leopards, rhinos, elephants and Cape buffalo. It's about learning how to read footprints. You can determine the time of day a herd of elephants passed by through looking at the bird prints inside the cavity of the footprint left by the elephants. For example, some birds only walk around at dawn, so if their prints are visible inside the elephant footprint, you know that the elephants passed by during the night. A walking safari in

Africa will connect you to your most basic primordial instincts, ones that you've probably never experienced. Yet in this scenario, they surface quite quickly. It's a dormant part of our evolutionary selves, dating from a time when we were hunting, or being hunted. One thing is certain: you will never again feel as alive as you do whilst walking through the bush. You will discover a part of you that you never knew existed. Your guide is the key. He or she has to have the knowledge and must be a crack with a rifle ... just in case. I was lucky enough to embark on a series of walking safaris with the man consistently voted as the best safari guide in Africa year after year. His name is Greg Lederle, and he is the David Attenborough (but much younger) of the Safari world, a big no-nonsense guy, who knows more about the African bush and wildlife than anyone else I've ever met.

— www.lederlesafaris.com



*A walking Safari
is all about the
small creatures of
the African Bush.
Being able to pick
up a chameleon and
watch it change
colour, observing
footprints of birds in
fresh elephant tracks
to help determine the
time the herd passed
by – these are the types
of experiences you
will have when you
venture out into the
bush on foot.*



