



YORKSHIRE PREPARES TO HOST UK'S BIGGEST WALK ON THE WILD SIDE



The biggest names in wildlife and safari travel are blazing a trail to Harrogate this Autumn as the spa town prepares to host the UK's leading show dedicated to wildlife, safari and conservation travel experiences.

The Wildlife & Safari Travel Show, run by Converge Exhibitions, promises a host of thrilling experiences for passionate travellers when it returns to Harrogate Convention Centre for its second year on 12-13 October 2019.

Drawing inspiration from hit TV shows Blue Planet, Dynasties and Our Planet, the show's line-up of celebrity speakers and exhibitors will give visitors the knowledge to make the switch from armchair viewers to worldwide travellers.

Headline speakers include adventurer and conservationist Holly Budge, the first woman to skydive Everest, who raced 1,000km across Mongolia on horseback. Holly is the founder of charity *How Many Elephants*, which is educating a global audience about the devastating impact of the elephant ivory trade.



The ONE Show's wildlife presenter Mike Dilger will discuss his colourful career from first bird book and early adventures as a young naturalist to his work as a biologist in the tropical rainforests of Ecuador, Vietnam and Tanzania.

With two talks theatres, the packed programme features panel sessions with wildlife travel experts who will explore topics including wildlife travel photography, planning your wildlife safari holiday and the growing trend of polar and wildlife cruising.

A 360 VR Travel Experience theatre will enable visitors to experience trips of a lifetime in Virtual Reality including swimming with seals and meeting the penguins.

The Wildlife & Safari Travel Show supports conservation campaign Explorers against Extinction. The charity's Sketch for Survival wildlife art exhibition will premiere at the show, which last year featured artwork by well-known wildlife artists and celebrity supporters including Dame Judi Dench, Stephen Fry and Sir Ranulph Fiennes.

Each contributor will donate a 26-minute sketch or original artwork of an endangered species because an elephant is poached for its tusks in the wild every 26 minutes.

Chris Erasmus, of the Wildlife & Safari Travel Show, said: "We have gone all out this year to bring the best names in wildlife, safari and conservation to Harrogate – and we will be confirming even more fantastic guests and visitor attractions over the next few weeks.

"Visitors will get a real taste of the types of travel experiences available – our show provides them with the gateway to go and do for themselves what they have seen on television.

"Travellers in the North really engaged with the show in 2018 and, whether you're in love with Alaskan bears on Indian tigers, I guarantee there will be inspiration for everyone this year."

For the full show programme and to book tickets visit: <https://wildlifesafarishow.com>

Ends



For more information, please contact **Cicada Communications** on 01423 567111. We have a selection of photographs available to accompany editorial features.

Notes to Editors:

The first Wildlife & Safari Travel Show took place at Harrogate Convention Centre from 29–30 September 2018. The Show is organised by Converge Exhibitions; the company's directors are experienced travel show and event organisers Chris Erasmus, Debbie Dale and Lorraine Barnes Burton.

Ticket sales are now live – save £2 by booking in advance, visit www.wildlifesafarishow.com

Opening Times

Saturday, 12 October 2019: 10am – 5:30pm

Sunday 13 October 2019: 10am – 4:30pm

1 Day Adult Entry: £6 per ticket, booked in advance; £10 per ticket, on the day at the show

Weekend Adult Ticket: £8 per ticket, booked in advance

Under 12s go free but require an advance ticket.