

WILD FRONTIERS



Cuba Horse Trek (Recce Tour) Cuba

A beautiful tableau of limestone mogotes, underground caverns and fertile farmland, Cuba's Pinar del Río Province enjoys a well earned reputation as one of the country's most spectacular natural settings. Exploring this scenic haven on horseback we follow in the footsteps of Cuba's traditional *vaqueros* (cowboys), riding across landscapes that have changed little in centuries. Spending between four to five hours in the saddle each day, we will journey through the foothills of the Alturas Pizarosas, taking in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Viñales Valley and Cuba's most famous tobacco growing region in the process. Camping each evening of the ride, we enjoy Cuban hospitality and home-cooked food, before heading back to the vibrant streets of Havana for a final night amidst the grandeur of one of the finest colonial cities in the Americas.

"I have travelled a lot with several different tour companies and would not hesitate recommending Wild Frontiers to those who want a very special adventure." *Jayne Hanlin*

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore Havana by foot and by Cadillac
- 6-day ride amongst the natural beauty of Pinar del Río
- Visit the UNESCO listed caves and limestone landscapes of the Viñales Valley
- Al fresco dining and Creole cuisine
- Camping in the 'Garden of Cuba'

Duration: 12 Days

Average group size: 5 - 10

Start: Wed 16 May 12

Finish: Sun 27 May 12



Why Wild Frontiers?

As a young, innovative company, Wild Frontiers is delighted to have been voted one of the 'Top 10 Tour Operators' by the readers of both Wanderlust and National Geographic Adventure. We are frequently asked what makes us different from other tour operators, and feel that the factors below answer this important question.

The Traveller's Ethos: WF is a company that has been set up by travellers for travellers, and our ethos is to help adventurous souls get to incredible and inaccessible places in safety and as much comfort as local conditions allow. We are firm believers that travelling is all about the experience and it's the details that make the trip - we specialise in drawing on our own extensive local knowledge and array of contacts to give our clients the very best experience possible.

Personal Service: Our London office is manned by experienced expedition leaders and every trip we run stems from their extensive knowledge - in short, we run the kind of trips that as passionate travellers, we like to do ourselves! When you ring our office, you can be guaranteed to chat to someone that knows the trips and the terrain, and is able to offer sound and practical advice.

Authentic Experiences: Our unique, original itineraries allow our clients to take journeys that venture beneath the surface of the region. Unlike the plethora of 'world specialists' out there who purport to know a hundred destinations, we concentrate on the locations we know and love. We don't run the same tour over and over, thus running the risk of creating a 'tourist circuit' and spoiling untouched regions. Instead, we rarely run any tour more than a couple of times a year and they are on routes we have discovered for ourselves, meaning we are able to give a truly authentic, off-the-beaten-track experience.

Be the First: Our style of travel is all about exploration, and nothing excites us more than opening up new routes to genuine travellers. We keep abreast of new destinations and are often the first to return to places that have vanished from the tourist map. We were the first back into Pakistan after 9/11, the first to return to Kashmir after a decade of tourist isolation, and the first to run a commercial travel trip to Afghanistan for almost 30 years. Since then we have helped bring Colombia, Yemen and Georgia back into the tourist fold, specialising in groundbreaking reconnaissance trips and imaginative expeditions.

Small Group Size: We believe it is imperative to keep the group sizes small. Most trips are limited to a maximum of approximately 12 travellers, thus giving you more access to fragile cultures, better opportunities to interact with local people, and the knowledge you are making less of an impact while there.

Cost of Tours: We believe in an honest, upfront pricing system so you know exactly what the tour will cost before you book. We avoid local payments, 'optional extras' or forcing our clients to split every meal bill. Our tours are provided on a predominantly full board basis, with mineral water, government permits, entrance fees and transport all included.

Added Value: We aim to give our clients the very best (not the least expensive) experience through whatever facilities are available to us. We always try to provide accommodation that is interesting, characterful and convenient, and transport - another important part of any tour - that is as varied and comfortable as possible.

Our Clients: Your companions can make or break a trip, and it's lucky therefore that our clients are our greatest asset. Travelling to remote regions is not for everyone, and as such we tend to attract open-minded travellers looking for genuine experiences, and a desire to reach those hard to get to places.

Responsible Travel: Awarded 5 star status by AITO (Association of Independent Tour Operators), responsible tourism has always been an integral part of our company ethos and our adventures are designed with the local people, culture and eco-system in mind. For further details please refer to the RT section on this dossier.

Itinerary map coming soon...



Day 1: Tour starts in Havana: Our journey begins amongst the Latin rhythms of Havana, one of the most captivating colonial cities left in the Americas. Founded by the Spanish in the early years of the 16th century, the city went on to play a pivotal part in the emergence of Spain's New World colonies. Blessed with a fascinating history, today its rich blend of colonial grandeur, iconic imagery and Latin flair makes it one of the most engaging destinations anywhere in the Americas. We plan to stay at a hotel in the heart of the old city.

Hotel (D)

Day 2: Touring Havana by Cadillac and on foot: Following breakfast this morning we will enjoy a guided walking tour of Havana's historic centre, visiting, amongst others, Cathedral Square and Plaza Vieja, before transferring to one of the city's classic American cars for a panoramic trip around Havana. Taking in Revolution Square and the city's vibrant Malecón (sea-front), we will also have time to explore a little something of the exclusive Miramar district before returning to the hotel. This evening there will be the chance to partake in some of the nightlife and music for which Cuba is so rightly famed.

Hotel (B,L,D)

Day 3: Drive to La Guabina: This morning we head east, towards the beautiful landscapes of Pinar del Río Province, home to some of Cuba's most spectacular scenery. Our destination is La Guabina, a charming ranch set amongst some 1,000 hectares of pasture, forest and wetland in the heart of Cuba's fertile tobacco

growing region. On arrival we will enjoy a welcome drink and get a chance to familiarise ourselves with the horses by taking a ride around the Finca. Famed for its breeding stock of Apaloosa and Pinto Cubano horses, Finca Guabina offers us our first opportunity to watch Cuban *vaqueros* (cowboys) at work. This afternoon we can relax and enjoy our picturesque surroundings before dinner and an evening of traditional Cuban entertainment.

Finca (Ranch) accommodation (B,L,D)

Day 4: Ride La Guabina - Cerro de Cabras: It is not without reason that Pinar del Río is often referred to as the 'Garden of Cuba'. The Guanahacabibes Peninsula and the Rosario Mountains have both been declared biosphere reserves by UNESCO, whilst the Viñales Valley enjoys a reputation as one of the most scenically and culturally rich landscapes in the country. This morning we head out from La Guabina on our first full day's ride, striking out towards the heights of the Cerro de Cabras to the west of the city of Pinar del Río. Crossing a landscape of plantations and farmland, we begin our journey amongst some of the finest tobacco growing regions anywhere on earth. Some 80% of Cuba's famous cigars begin their lives here amongst the fertile rich soils of Pinar del Río. Stopping to enjoy a picnic lunch along the way, we reach our camp sometime this afternoon and settle down for an evening of Creole cuisine and Cuban hospitality under the stars.

Camp (B,L,D)

Day 5: Ride Cerro de Cabras - Hoyo del Guama: After breakfast we break camp and ride through the mountain valleys, maybe enjoying a chance to stop off and swim in the waters of the Rio Los Pozos before lunch. This landscape is blanketed in tiny farmsteads, where customs and traditions have remained relatively unchanged for generations. Our destination today is the small rural community of Hoyo del Guama, lying at the end of a trail of Cuban pine, ferns and guayabita del Pinar, a tree endemic to western Cuba, whose fruit is used in the production of a particularly potent liquor. Keep an eye open too for some of the region's resident birdlife, including the colourful Tomeguin de Pinar.

Camp (B,L,D)

Day 6: Ride Hoyo del Guama - El Moncado: Today we ride into the stunning landscapes of the Viñales Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is home to the largest cave system in the country. The Gran Caverna de Santo Tomás, lying close to the community of El Moncado, is an incredible underground world of limestone caverns, underground lakes and dazzling stalactites. Covering over 46 kilometres, these vast chambers were formed by a network of underground rivers that carved their way through the soft limestone escarpment during the Jurassic Period. Today they form the third largest cave in Latin America and provide us with a fascinating diversion today en route to our next camp.

Camp (B,L,D)

Day 7: Ride El Moncada - Dos Hermanas: This morning presents us with one of the scenic highlights of our journey, the unique limestone ‘mogotes’ of the Viñales Valley. These stunning karst pillars of rock provide a spectacular backdrop to our ride today. Rising up to 400 metres in height and formed over millions of years, they present us with some of Cuba’s oldest and most impressive natural landscapes. Set amongst the mountainous foothills of the Alturas Pizarosas, these fertile panoramas are home to a rich diversity of flora and fauna, including Cuban trogons, hummingbirds and nightingales. The region is also one of the most important tobacco growing areas in the Pinar del Río and during our ride today we pass a number of traditional farms that still adhere to practices that date back to their Spanish and Caribbean origins.

Camp (B,L,D)

Day 8: Ride Dos Hermanas - Valle de la Jutía: The combination of captivating views, national preserves and fertile farmland makes our final day’s ride one to savour, as we head into the beautiful landscapes of the Valle de la Jutía. This is some of the most visually captivating scenery anywhere in Cuba and our final camp lies in a valley named after Cuba’s native tree dwelling rodent, the jutia. Something of delicacy in Cuba, these large herbivores are often served up with wild nuts and honey, or else in a stew with green peppers, tomatoes and garlic. Sleeping under canvas for the last time

this evening, we have a final chance to enjoy the serene tranquillity of the Cuban wilderness before we say goodbye to the horses tomorrow.

Camp (B,L,D)

Day 9: Drive San Diego de los Baños via Cayo Jutía: Breaking camp for the last time we say goodbye to our horses today and head by road to Cayo Jutia, where we will have some time to relax on the beach and have lunch before moving on to San Diego de los Baños. San Diego de los Baños is a tiny back-of-beyond town built on the edge of a lovely river and natural mineral springs. The springs have been famed for their medicinal properties for centuries, and the local baths are a very popular destination for Cubans looking for a relaxing getaway, giving us a chance to relax and unwind after our time in the saddle.

Hotel (B,L,D)

Day 10: Exploring a local farm close to San Diego de los Baños: After a leisurely breakfast we will head off to spend the morning with a local farmer helping to prepare traditional local food for our lunch. We will have a gentle afternoon back in San Diego de los Baños either relaxing by the pool or enjoying the springs with the locals.

Hotel (B,L,D)

Day 11: San Diego de los Baños to Havana: Today we will return to Havana in time for a late lunch and the afternoon will be free to explore the city or to simply relax in a café and watch the world go by. This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner amidst the colonial grandeur of the Café del Oriente, one of the city’s finest restaurants before heading out for a *cuba libre* or two..

Hotel (B,L,D)

Day 12: The tour ends in Havana: There will be a free morning to do a final bit of shopping before a late lunch after which those on the suggested group flights will transfer to the airport.

(B,L)

Wild Extensions:

Arrive early to adjust to a new time zone or just to get a feel for the country before your tour starts. Explore the country after your tour on a bespoke Wild Extension or just allow a few days to

relax afterwards. Maybe choose all of the above and get cheaper flights mid-week?

A sample of what you could do...

Asides from doing anything in the America's - North or South - the only sensible thing to do as a pre or post trip extension is to spend more time in Cuba, perhaps visiting the coast for some diving, Trinidad or taking more time in Havana. If you have more time you could head over to the east of the country to take in the sights & sounds of Santiago de Cuba or for revolution buffs there's always Santa Clara, home to Che's mausoleum.

Contact the office for extension specifics.

TOUR DETAILS

Tour Code: CHT/C

Tour price: All our tours are priced on a LAND ONLY basis, giving you maximum flexibility when deciding how to get to and from your tour.

Single Supplement: This is NOT compulsory for any Wild Frontiers tour. Where single supplements are available please note that a single room cannot always be guaranteed as rooms may be limited. On this tour we are happy to offer an optional single supplement that will cover you for all nights of the tour and for those nights when we are camping you will get a single tent.

Flights: If you would like us to send you a quote for the suggested tour flight (see GETTING THERE) or on any alternative flight that may suit you better, please let us know.

In all cases, for the latest prices, please refer to our website or contact the office.

Please remember that all Wild Frontiers tour prices mean NO hidden extras, NO local payments or kitty and NO compulsory single supplements.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- Full services of a Wild Frontiers Tour Leader with local guides and drivers.
- Meal plan as detailed in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner) with mineral water as required.
- All transport as outlined in the itinerary.
- All accommodation.
- All entrance fees, as per itinerary.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- Visas (if needed)
- Local airport taxes
- Tips
- Beverages & any costs of a personal nature.
- International Flights & airport transfers (unless travelling on WF recommended flight)

GETTING THERE

For this trip our suggested flight (subject to change) is:

16MAY VS063 LGW-HAV 11:25/16:20
27MAY VS064 HAV-LGW 18:50/08:25 +1

Key:

LGW - London Gatwick
HAV - Havana
VS - Virgin Atlantic

NB If you wish to arrange your own flights you are completely free to do so and in this case we can arrange any transfers or supplementary accommodation that you may require.

Please note that if you are making your own flight arrangements, we recommend that you only purchase flights that are totally flexible and refundable as due to the nature of adventure travel, itineraries can change at any time. For more information, please refer to our booking conditions.

PRACTICALITIES

Accommodation on this trip will be in local hotels, ranges and camping. Please note this is the first time (as far as we're aware) that this is the first time a camping-style horse trek has been attempted in Cuba and so don't expect too much. We are actually taking the tents with us! So please remember this is an exploratory trip and people should only sign up if they are able to deal with a slightly more 'fluid' style of holiday!

Any accommodation mentioned in the itinerary is subject to availability and if not available substitutes will be of a similar quality.

Transport includes minibuses and horses.

Trip Grading:

Adventure Rating ❖❖❖❖❖

Comfort Grade ❖❖❖❖❖

Fitness Level ❖❖❖❖❖

Cultural Interest ❖❖❖❖❖

Please note that this grading is an indication only and should you have any concerns please contact the office.

Recce Trips: As we all know, the world is a constantly changing place - destinations & routes that were once cutting-edge now regularly find themselves appearing in mainstream brochures. Coming up with truly original tour ideas is a constant challenge but at Wild Frontiers we are committed to offering you a real alternative to the mainstream and each year we plan to run a handful of new and original adventures. These are our so-called Recce Tours and since the very beginning have proven incredibly popular with those of you who like to act as our "guinea pigs" and join us on these tours. Fantastic fun and highly rewarding, Recce Tours will assuredly not go 100% to plan and it is not uncommon for clients to take an active role in tweaking the itineraries along the way. More challenging than our normal tours, these will often require a greater degree of flexibility...they will not be for everyone.

Fitness...

Anyone in a good state of health, an open mind and a sense of adventure - plus of

course the ability to ride - should be perfectly able to cope with this tour to Cuba.

In terms of riding ability, this trip is suitable for fit, intermediate riders capable of enjoying a canter and able to handle 5 to 6 hours in the saddle. In truth the riding on this trip is not that challenging, but you do need a sense of confidence. *If you have any doubts about your riding ability, please contact the office before booking.*

Safety when Riding: Although we understand that a large part of the fun of horse trekking is the freedom you derive from riding wild and free over magical terrain, we would like to point out that this form of holiday can be a hazardous and it is important you follow a few basic rules.

- Firstly you must be a competent rider. If you are not sure if your level of riding skill is sufficient for the particular trip you are signing up for, please contact the office for advice
- We strongly recommend that you wear a hard hat - at least while you get used to the horses. Accidents can happen to anyone at anytime particularly while both horse and rider are sussing each other out. A hard hat can be the difference between a nothing accident and a very serious problem
- Concentrate - particularly over tricky terrain. It is all too easy to get carried away with the scenery, the adventure and the ongoing conversations. Remember you are riding and take care.
- Pass message back - if someone shouts hole or wire it is not just for your information but for those behind you, so pass it on.
- Do not canter or gallop in front of the guide. Hand up means 'Stop'
- Until you are sure of your horse's demeanour, try to keep at least a metre apart.

And if you do all that and use your common sense all should be fine and you will have a fabulous horse-bound adventure holiday.

It may sound obvious but...

Wild Frontiers tours are not always for everyone and it is important to us that the tour you choose is the most suitable.

Please therefore take time to read the dossier carefully. All our tours are graded to give an overall picture of the trip but these are only guidelines and you should check the daily itinerary. Should you have any concerns about your ability to partake in any aspect of the tour then please contact the office.

Insurance: Insurance that provides cover for emergency repatriation in case of a medical emergency is compulsory for all tours. You should be aware that many standard insurance policies may not cover you adequately for all aspects of a Wild Frontiers trip and so we strongly recommend that you purchase a suitably designed insurance policy. One such policy is the "Wild Frontiers" policy underwritten by Travel & General Insurance Company plc, which is available to UK and Republic of Ireland residents through our website or via the insurance company direct on 0845 408 0583. Under this policy there are two different levels of cover available and for this trip the minimum requirement would be the Standard policy.

Cover explained:

Standard policy: a comprehensive travel insurance policy that provides cover for all Wild Frontiers activities, including trekking up to 6,000m. This policy does not provide cover for travel to areas where the FCO is advising against all or all but essential travel.

Elite policy: provides the same comprehensive level of cover as the standard policy. In addition the Elite policy also provides cover for travel to areas where the FCO is advising against all or all but essential travel. The policy will not provide cover for any claims arising from or relating to the reasons why the FCO is advising against travel.

If purchasing the Elite policy you also have the option to **extend the cover** provided by the policy to include cover for claims arising from a terrorist act in an area where the FCO is advising against travel. You can add this cover to your policy when purchasing online or over the telephone.

These policies are only available to those travelling on a Wild Frontiers holiday.

For more information and to purchase your policy online please visit the Insurance section on our website.

The cover is underwritten by the International Insurance Company of Hannover Limited (IICH), who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA). Wild Frontiers Limited is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Travel & General Insurance Company plc, details of which can be found at the FSA's website www.fsa.gov.uk.

If you do decide to purchase alternative insurance, then you must ensure that it covers you for every aspect of this trip. Please pay particular attention to ensuring that you are covered for horse-riding.

Visas: Visas are necessary for many of the destinations we travel to and while we aim to provide you with the most up-to-date information, requirements frequently change and as such we advise that you check with the relevant embassies or contact our recommended visa agency, Travcour (020 7223 5295) www.travcour.com for the latest advice.

For this tour, UK passport holders do currently require a visa for Cuba which must be obtained in advance.

Non-UK passport holders should contact the relevant embassies for individual requirements.

Further details will be sent out to you on booking, however ensuring that correct and valid visas are obtained remains the sole responsibility of the client.

Responsible Travel: Responsible travel and sustainable tourism are fundamental ideas that Wild Frontiers has been committed to since our birth. It is our strong belief that these words should not be simply 'tagged on' to dossiers and websites but should be at the very core of each trip, and our adventures are therefore designed with the local people, culture and eco-system in mind. We believe that a successful trip not only delivers a unique and unsurpassable journey for our clients, but that it also benefits the peoples whose lands we are privileged to visit.

The Wild Frontiers Foundation: In order to facilitate an enduring support structure for the communities we visit, and to show a commitment to these values, Wild Frontiers has set up a charitable foundation through which we can channel funds to both existing NGOs and our own development projects. In addition to organising ethically sensitive tours, having our own charitable foundation allows us to raise money - through the cost of our tours, charity trips and fund raising events - which can then be used to fund various projects in education, sanitation, reforestation and a number of other important issues facing developing communities. Wherever possible we are happy for our clients to visit these projects to see for themselves where and how this money is being spent. For a full list of partner NGOs please visit our website. Should you wish to donate to the foundation please contact the office for details.

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The Environment: Trying to do our bit for the environment, in 2005 we were among the first UK-based travel companies to automatically offset every client's international flight (if booked with us) with a payment to Carbon Clear to help promote sustainable energy.

Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO): The FCO travel advice highlights potential hazards people might experience when travelling abroad. Given the nature of destinations offered by Wild Frontiers it is inevitable that from time to time some itineraries contravene this advice. Whilst WF takes the safety and security of its clients extremely seriously, we will not necessarily cancel a trip because of the FCO advice. It is recommended therefore that clients check this advice before booking and contact us if they have any queries or concerns. Please see our website for further information.

Climate: Although we will be travelling at one of the nicest times of year, when the sun should be strong and rain limited to a few showers, this is still a mountain ride and as such it is important you are prepared for all eventualities.

Further information:

When you make a confirmed booking with Wild Frontiers we will send you our confirmation pack with complete pre-departure information giving you details on visas, health and vaccinations, packing lists, suggested reading on the region, insurance, photography and other useful tips to make your trip more enjoyable.

CUBA - THE FACTS



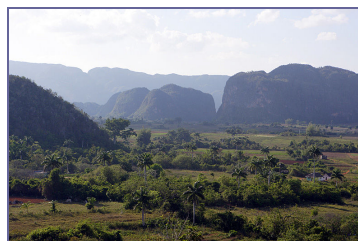
A rich fusion of Caribbean spirit, cultural icons and natural beauty, Cuba is a land of fascinating contrasts. The largest and most populous island in the Caribbean, the 'Pearl of the Antilles' is a melting pot of cultures and cuisines. Largely uncorrupted by the over exposure to commercial tourism that has blighted some other Caribbean destinations, Cuba still retains its sense of adventure and mystery and its reputation as one of the most fascinating countries in the Americas. Spain's gateway into the New World, it is blessed with a colonial heritage that spanned nearly 400 hundred years and produced cities like Havana, Trinidad and Santiago de Cuba. A dazzling enigma, it is one of the last bastions of socialist reform and yet is home to no fewer than nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Blessed with some of the best beaches and some of the finest colonial architecture in the Americas, its vibrant culture is a mulatto mix of Spanish, Caribbean and African influences. This is the country that introduced to the world two of the most iconic figures of the 20th century - Fidel Castro and Ernesto 'Che' Guevara - yet its most famous exports are rum and cigars. Certainly one of the most unique destinations anywhere in Latin America, the island of Cuba remains (for now) a largely undiscovered gem.

Havana: Founded by the Spanish in the 16th century, Cuba's vibrant capital is the largest city in the Caribbean and remains, even today, one of the most engaging colonial cities left in the Americas. An intoxicating mix of grandiose architecture, revolutionary zeal, 1950s Cadillacs and crumbling old tenement buildings, Havana is a real feast for the senses and can boast some of the most diverse architecture in the world. At its heart lies the city's Vieja district, a wonderfully evocative UNESCO World Heritage Site that is filled with a dazzling collection of Baroque and Neoclassical buildings. Noteworthy landmarks include the National Capitol building and the Plaza de la Revolucion, with its huge iconic image of Che Guevara. A visit to the city's Museum of the Revolution provides a fascinating insight into the struggle that introduced Che and Castro to the world stage, whilst for something a little different, the magnificent Necropolis Cristóbal Colon presents visitors with one of the city's more unusual attractions. Built at the end of the 19th century, it is one of the most famous cemeteries in Latin America, filled with a unique collection of nearly one million tombs that range from the pious to the downright extravagant.

Viñales: Viñales was founded in 1875, along the main route between Pinar del Rio and Puerto Esperanza, the region's main outlet to the sea. Blessed with fertile, iron-rich soil and a favourable climate, the village prospered following the expansion of Cuba's tobacco growing industry and today is renowned for producing some of the best tobacco in the world. In spite of the passage of time, Viñales itself has managed to retain much of its original charm, still possessing some of its traditional colonial architecture, as well as a rich mix of Spanish and Caribbean traditions. Located in the centre of Viñales, besides the church in the town's main square, the Casa de la Cultura is an old mansion house that provides a fitting venue for a series of cultural events each day. Four kilometres to the west of the



town, nestling at the foot of the Sierra de Viñales, is the Mural de la Prehistoria, a 180 metre long mural that was designed by Leovigildo González, a devotee of the great Diego Rivera. Meanwhile, for those looking for some local interaction, the town has a farmers market in the central plaza every Saturday morning.



How to book:

In order to confirm your booking we need to have a completed signed booking form for each client together with a £400 deposit per person. You can either return your booking form to us by post or by booking online at www.wildfrontiers.co.uk

You can contact the office by email to info@wildfrontiers.co.uk or we are very happy to take your call on **020 7736 3968**.

Wild Frontiers is a fully licensed and bonded tour operator and our ATOL number is 5975. You can book your holiday with Wild Frontiers in complete confidence that all monies you pay to us for your tour are fully protected.

We are also bonded with the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO). AITO members comply with the highest standards of consumer protection. Every AITO holiday is backed not only by AITO's Quality Charter but also by full financial protection.

We do recommend that you take out adequate travel insurance at the time of booking in the event that you are no longer able to travel as all deposits are non-refundable - full booking conditions can be found on the booking form and online at our website.