

A TRAVELER'S TALES

A2A Safaris' Co-Founder and Chief Wildlife Photographer, Jose Cortes III shared his his spectacular album of wildlife and landscapes in three continents: Africa, South America and the Antarctic. He shared his top photography tips for both smartphone and SLR cameras.



BASUKA THE GORILLA, UGANDA

For wildlife photos, I always tell people try to get to be on eye level with the animal. It's just more flattering if your background is not the ground, if your backdrop is the sky. For this photo I actually went on my my tummy photographing this silverback and he actually did the same thing and we had a little kind of moment that went on for 10 minutes.



SALYAR DE UYUNI, BOLIVIA

From January to April this whole thing - the salt flats - floats. When it floods, it becomes like a giant mirror that you see in this photo, it's very hard to discern the horizon. If you like landscape photography, this is probably one of the best places in the world to do it, go hang out there for three days.

EMPEROR PENGUINS, SOUTH GEORGIA, ANTARCTICA

This is an island called South Georgia. I snapped this view with my iPhone, and you know, when you look at it you see all the penguins, but you know there are no rocks in this photo, that's a proper beach. All those brown blobs you see there are all southern elephant seals.



SUNSET AND STARS, BOTSWANA

For night photography or astral photography, people ask me, how did you manage to get the sunset with the baobab and the stars? But this orange light in the background was a distant forest fire which was not even visible to the naked eye when I took this photo. I actually had the shutter open for 30 seconds, and the orange just came out and it worked!

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