

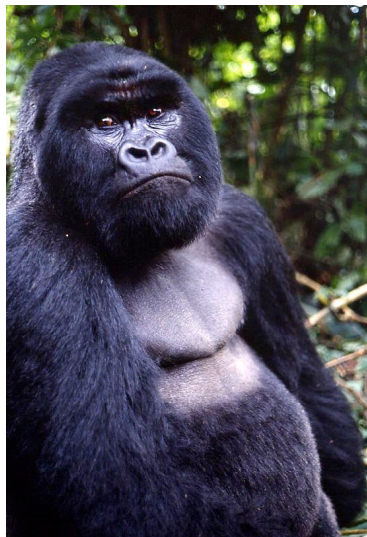
New African Adventure Book Exposes The Joys and Frustrations of Safari Travel

Ever thought that you'd like to set-off across Africa and explore its exotic beauty for yourself? Ever wonder what traveling with those overland safaris was really like? Well, the new Africa adventure travel book **Dead Men Don't Leave Tips: Adventures X Africa** by award-winning author Brandon Wilson provides an authentic, first-hand look at the safari experience by someone who has traveled in those "boots."

As the story opens, the author and his wife Cheryl, tired of a predictable life in suburbia, consider joining a seven-month, do-it-yourself "dream" safari for their honeymoon from Morocco to Cape Town, South Africa. Although they'd already traveled around the world on their own, they initially believe that traveling the length of Africa might prove too formidable—even for them.

Hesitantly, they join a "do-it-yourself" overland safari. Flung into the midst of twenty-one bizarre, young companions, they're shocked to discover that many have never even camped before. Their equally inexperienced "guides" know Africa as well as the dark side of the moon. Finally, after their truck breaks down in the midst of the sweltering Sahara for ten long days, (with no replacement parts in sight), they figure they're better off on their own. So, they eventually do what any other adventurous, slightly insane couple might do—they set off across Africa—alone.

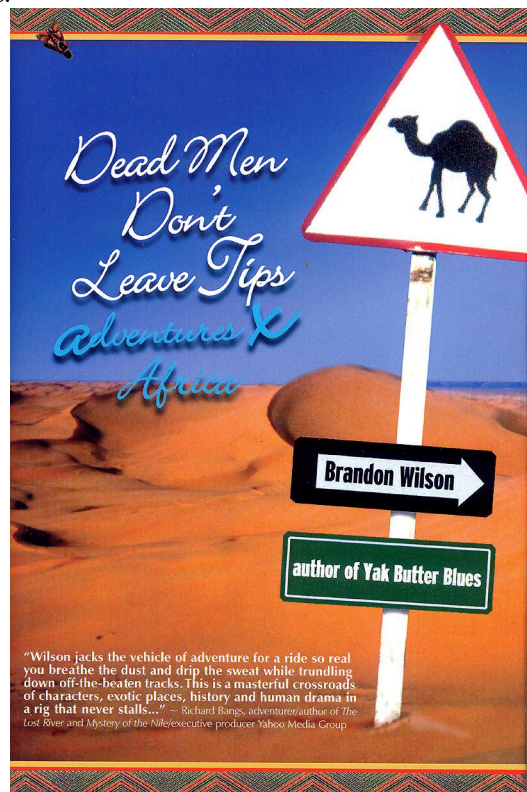
Dead Men Don't Leave Tips takes readers across Africa on a new adventure every chapter as these intrepid travelers photostalk mountain gorillas, hunt dik-dik with Pygmies, climb Mt. Kilimanjaro, explore the Serengeti, hop a "gun-run" through Mozambique's civil war, raft Zambezi Class V rapids and arrive in South Africa as Soweto erupts into violence.



This is a humorous, sometimes anguished and brutally real account of what it's like to cross Africa. Nothing is painted in the typical writer's wide brush extolling one beautiful sunset or another glorious setting. This book exposes the humor and frustration of crossing a land where the rules change daily: from the hustle and hassle of the souk to shady dealings in black market alleys; from the frustration of border extortion to the thrill of sandmatting across the Sahara eight feet at a time. Once removed from the stifling chrysalis of the "pampered overland elite" the couple begins to experience the *real* Africa. And that makes all the difference.

Dead Men Don't Leave Tips leads readers through the ups and downs of independent travel in a land still little-known by Western audiences. On the other hand, it lends a human face to a continent vastly different from the one portrayed in the news. It takes readers onto the crazed roads of African adventure and into the hearts of its people—while transforming the predictable "travelogue" into a raw, penetrating, more poignant genre.

~over~



Early Reviews

"Brandon Wilson jacks the vehicle of trans-African adventure for a ride so real you breathe the dust and drip the sweat while trundling down off-the-beaten tracks outstanding in the number and quality of their ruts. A masterful crossroads of characters, exotic places, history and human drama in a rig that never stalls..." ~ Richard Bangs, producer of *Richard Bangs ADVENTURES*/author *Mystery of the Nile*

"What's striking about Wilson's books (he's also the author of the IPPY Award winner *Yak Butter Blues*) is that his journeys are not only physical but highly spiritual as well. His are journeys of body and soul in every sense of the word. The author writes with honesty and a sharp eye for detail, making this an invaluable amalgam of information for readers of adventure travel or anybody who is considering "do-it-yourself" safaris or simply visiting Africa. Interlaced with this honesty and detail are Wilson's beautiful prose, obvious passion for adventure and a deep inquisitiveness about other cultures, making this book a pleasure to read." ~ Mayra Calvani, *Midwest Book Review*

"It used to be only the British mastered the art of spinning the sweaty traveler's tale. Along comes Brandon Wilson who teaches us that an observant fellow from Hawaii can deal with Africa's grime, dysentery and uncertainty with superior grace and wit. Honest, gritty and insightful. Best of all, it makes the world's most exciting continent read just like that." ~ John Heminway, film producer/author of *Yonder: A Place in Montana* and *No Man's Land: A Personal Journey into Africa*

"Travel writing at its most sublime, a paean to Africa in all her contradictory beauty, and a tribute to the resiliency of those who travel beyond boundaries not only in search of meaning, but also of understanding." ~ C.W. Gortner, author of *The Secret Lion*

"I was swept-away by the drama and storytelling...Wilson is never a tourist. He travels heart-first with both feet solidly on the ground and his curiosity always in high gear. He is exactly the right person to be writing travel books for the rest of us." (5 shakas) ~ Joseph Bean, *Maui Weekly*

"A writer with the eye of an artist, a basic decency and social conscience that in another book made him the champion of the suppressed Tibetan people. He has the humor of a cartoonist and the old fashioned ability to tell a good story. I strongly recommend this one to you." ~ Dr. Bob Rich, award-winning author of 13 books, counseling psychologist

"More than a guide to Africa, but an in-depth, often times laugh-out-loud humorous look at the pitfalls of group travel in such a magical country." (5 stars) ~ Hadley Goodman, Copper Press Publishers

"A great read in the comfort of an easy chair, one of those books that inspires the dream of wanderlust." ~ Liz Janes-Brown, *Maui News*

"They start out on a whole-continent-bound bus with the most eclectic collection of travelers I've ever read about. I couldn't stop laughing. But despite the humor, Brandon also describes the sometimes heart-breaking images of people and places in the Africa you don't hear about from the travel guides. He captures these moments, both good and bad. Highly recommended." (5 stars) ~ James Damico, *Wanderingtheworld.com*

About the Author

Brandon Wilson is an award-winning author/photographer. A voracious explorer of nearly 100 countries, he's passionate about inspiring others to discover the world and themselves through long-distance trekking. He has walked four major long-distance pilgrimage trails. However, the most challenging path was a 650-mile path that he and his wife trekked with their horse from Lhasa, Tibet to Kathmandu. It is the subject of his critically acclaimed book, **Yak Butter Blues: A Tibetan Trek of Faith**, an Independent Publisher IPPY Award-winner. His photographs have won awards from *National Geographic Traveler* and *Islands* magazines and he is a member of The Explorers Club.

Simply put, Wilson's travel philosophy is, "Don't put off following your dreams. There are always excuses and the world is full of naysayers. Chart your own course and do it! No excuses, no regrets."

To arrange an interview with the author, or for any other information, please contact the publisher at:
Pilgrimstales@yahoo.com, or visit www.PilgrimsTales.com

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280 pages, Travel Narrative/Adventure/Non-Fiction with 38 duo-tone photographs and maps

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