

VIC HORATIUS

Born and raised in Maun, Vic grew up on the edge of true wilderness. As a boy, he spent weekends and school holidays on his parents' farm in the Kalahari, tending cattle and goats and absorbing the quiet rhythms of the bush. It was here—on wide, untouched grasslands beneath brilliant stars, surrounded by hooting owls, howling jackals, and stories shared around the fire—that his deep love for nature first took root.

After high school, Vic studied International Business Communication and worked as a Front Office Manager in Maun while awaiting his results. But the pull of the wilderness was strong. In 2000, he joined Wilderness Safaris as an Assistant Manager in the Jao Private Reserve, where his natural curiosity, calm presence, and genuine warmth immediately set him apart.

During his time with Wilderness, Vic completed the Level 2 Guiding Qualification along with his walking and rifle proficiency assessments. Over the years, he has accumulated **more than 6,000 hours leading walking safaris**, cultivating a profound appreciation for the subtle, often-missed details—tracks, insects, plants, behaviours—that bring the ecosystem to life. His strong sense of responsibility and natural leadership saw him rise to the position of Guide Coordinator, overseeing a team of twenty guides.

His eye for beauty also flourished during this time. Vic became an accomplished wildlife photographer, with images published in Africa Geographic, and he has contributed valuable photographs and data to BirdLife Botswana, especially on endangered species.

In 2008, Vic moved into the private guiding world, leading photographic safaris across Southern Africa—from Botswana to Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and even to Rwanda, where he guided guests on treks to see the mountain gorillas. He has led both mobile and lodge-to-lodge safaris, gathering an immense breadth of experience.

Today, Vic guides exclusively at Kweene, where the space, freedom, and solitude of the concession allow him to fully express his passion not only for the wilderness but for the people who come to experience it. Guests are instantly drawn to him—his gentle humour, steady patience, and warm, grounded presence. Vic is a natural teacher: he shares knowledge generously and with ease, turning every sighting or track into a story, and every moment into an opportunity to understand the bush more deeply.

On safari with Vic, guests often remark that they feel both completely safe and completely at home. His leadership is effortless, his enthusiasm sincere, and his ability to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds is one of his greatest gifts.

When he isn't guiding, Vic retreats to his farm on the banks of the Boteti River. There, he grows vegetables, keeps an ever-ready pair of binoculars close, and spends quiet mornings watching birds and elephants move along the water—still as enchanted with the natural world as he was as a boy beneath the Kalahari stars.

