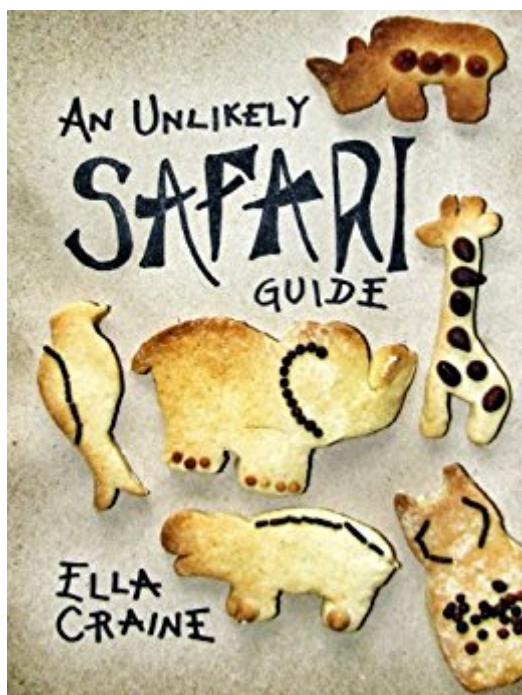


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An Unlikely Safari Guide



Synopsis

Safari guide Ella Craine sees the world in a different way. Ever wondered why a Hamerkop is better than you? Or thought about which animal has the weirdest tongue in the Kalahari? Probably not. A collection of true safari stories and quirky wildlife observations, 'An Unlikely Safari Guide' will leave you astonished at the antics of eccentric safari guests and giggling the next time you think of a wildebeest. And if all goes to plan, you'll crave a plate of cookies by the end. It's all about mind control... From menacing mongooses (or is it mongeese?) to philosophical antlions, 'An Unlikely Safari Guide' is delightfully unlikely.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If I am ever lucky enough to go on a safari, I want Ella as my guide. It's because she really cares about doing a good job and not just showing people wonderful animals but educating them about the animals too. This book is full of facts and interesting stories about her childhood, her likes and dislikes, and her unforgettable safari guests. She must have been an amazing geeky child as she turned into a pretty amazing, but still geeky adult. I don't know what a guided drive into the bush costs, but I have always thought that safaris are very expensive. Thousands and thousands of

dollars. Now maybe that's for the week long type, not a three hour drive safari. But, if it is so expensive it should be expected that people might want to see certain animals to feel they've seen their money's worth. Ella seems to not have patience for the people who are interested in just seeing the "Big Five" or specific animals. Yes, I agree with others that there might have been a few too many facts spouted about grass and mud, but most of Ella's facts about animals were very interesting. She mentions cookies so many times that it is monotonous. She says she is a vegetarian, but I think she's a Sweetatarian. Despite all the typos in the Kindle edition and the author's several minor annoying idiosyncrasies I found this book very interesting. I haven't found the sequel Ella expected to write yet, but I will keep looking.

I enjoyed riding with Ella in her Range Rover on late night, and early morning game drives in Kalahari. She provided terrific trivia about creatures great and small and taught me what it takes to be a good safari guest. Her conversational style is fun and informative. However, I think she should have hired a professional editor to curb self-indulgent rants and meanderings into the joys of junk food. It reads like a blog diary. I have no problem with that, but I do with obvious spelling mistakes throughout the text. I admire Ella's pluck and charm, and hope she will continue sharing her journey, but in a more polished manner.

Ella has a way of drawing you in to her world. I will be going on safari next month and found this book to be incredibly compelling....made me look things up in my safari books. I HIGHLY recommend this book for anyone who wants a full experience...not just the big five

I am an avid wildlife/safari enthusiast and enjoy safari stories. Just like Ella I appreciate all the small critters and stories about them not only stories about the big, hairy and scary! The book started off well, but became very repetitive with all Ella's quirks, while initially funny and cute became a bit tiresome and repetitive towards the end. It was a nice light read and I did enjoy the book for the most part. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys safaris in Southern Africa and can appreciate the little stories about life as a safari guide and their day to day experiences.

An enjoyable read, but not a real "page turner." Ella's style is to throw in some self-deprecating humor here and there which is fun. As a safari enthusiast, I found the descriptions of animal behavior, especially for some not so common species, to be very interesting.

I really enjoyed every story! Ella mixes the perfect amount of factual information with self-effacing humor and colorful descriptions of the various scenarios. Being a suburban who considers a hike in the outskirts to be a nature experience, I now have a deeper appreciation for the fragility of the truly wild places. I'm glad there are people like Ella out there fighting for them.

As a little girl, I played I was a travel agent. I'd plan every aspect of the trip. The trip was to Africa. Always Africa. I still haven't gotten there so I devour anything written. This indeed was quite lovely. Informative without being dry. Very entertaining. The only problem I had was I kept having the urge to turn to my guide and say, "Will you please just be quiet? I would just like to watch" , however irrational that may be. Give it a go. I don't think you'll be disappointed.

This is a rather difficult book to review. The author herself is a very unusual person with quite a sense of humour, you will either like her or hate her! Needless to say I liked her and enjoyed the book. Lots of interesting facts about animals and places in Southern Africa. You really get an insight into the strange and weird people that guides have to deal with too. She obviously loves the Kalahari and has made me wish to get there soon! Worth reading!

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