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MEN'S SPECIAL

BARACK OBAMA
RICHARD CARING
DOMINIC COOPER
& MARK RONSON



BOY WONDERS

Britain's catwalk superheroes

INTO AFRICA



Will Jones, 36, lives in Brighton but was born and raised in Nigeria, as well as in Ethiopia, Lesotho, Kenya, Sudan and Pakistan. His ex-Army father was in Africa with the Red Cross during the Biafran war and then joined

the World Food Programme. 'After school in Kenya, I used to ride my bike into the Ngong Forest and I had my first wildlife experience at 11 when I was chased by buffalo. We could stand at the front gate and call giraffes into the garden with our recorders, and I used to spend hours catching flying termites.' At 13, he was sent to board in England at Wellington, where he shocked his English friends by eating ants.

Will set up Journeys by Design in 1999, running exploratory trips into Ethiopia's remote southwestern corner, the Omo Valley. The company has recently added Rwanda and the rock churches of Gheralta in north Tigray, Ethiopia, to their programme. 'Wild Week' is the most adventurous option. The itinerary combines the remote Chalbi Desert of northern Kenya with Lake Turkana and the Omo Delta. According to Will, 'Fewer people have stood on the remote dunes of the Suguta Valley than on the surface of the moon.'

He is married to Laura, a doctor. Her father, the Labour MP Bob Marshall-Andrews, started the George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trust, which runs a park in northern Tanzania. The couple have three children – Josh, eight, Danny, seven, and Tassia, five (a Masai name). Every other year they take August off and go on safari.

What is your earliest travel memory?

Driving into the highlands of Lesotho, aged seven, looking for semi-precious stones in the rivers and streams.

When did you first realise you had a taste for adventure?

When I built Ethiopia's first tented camp on the remote eastern shores of Lake Langano, in the southern Ethiopian Rift Valley. There were no roads and the only access was by boat. I arrived



Above: wildebeest in the Serengeti

with a boat, a cook and a helper, and spent the next three years in a tent there.

What has been your most memorable trip?

A helicopter flight across the Suguta Valley from the hottest place on earth to the mountain top of Nyiru, where the Masai gods reside.

What has been your most terrifying moment?

Being charged by a rhino. I was guiding an American family, who ran down one path and I ran down another; the rhino followed me. I lost a large patch of hair from the shock.

What do you always pack?

My satellite modem, GPS and maps.

What's the strangest thing you've ever found yourself doing?

Carrying a lady who gave birth in the back of the car I was driving from Lake Langano to Shashamane in Ethiopia, in 1996. I then had to drive another six hours to the hospital in Sodo as the local hospital didn't have the right blood type for her and she would have died without it.



A volcano by Lake Turkana in Kenya

