

NATURE . WILDLIFE

THE WILD SIDES

3 x 50' (ENG, GER)



Explore the untamed African wilderness from multiple animals' perspectives, revealing their intertwining wild tales.

There are two sides to every story – one wild tale is told from different perspectives in each episode. The dry riverbed of Mashatu, Botswana, is home to an incredible cast of creatures: A herd of elephants, a mother leopard and her cub, a jackal couple raising their young and a feisty troop of baboons. They might all look like great neighbors, but when push comes to shove, every single creature will fight for their piece of African bush. We follow their stories as they fight to stay alive and raise their young in a world full of danger.



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Produced by:	Terra Mater Studios, Red Rock Films International
Partners:	Servus TV, NGCI, BBC America

1. The Drought

A wild corner of Botswana is at the peak of a punishing drought. Families here are forced to live side by side and as their sagas collide - everyone pushes through the hardship with wins and losses swinging in roundabouts. An elephant matriarch leads her herd along ancient trails to places where only they can find water. But as potential prey is drawn to the pools opened up by the gentle giants, cheetahs, leopards, and an entourage of scavengers take notice... each with their own agenda, but all with a common goal. Survival is never guaranteed - one's victory is another's fall.

2. The Flood

A wild corner of Botswana has been ravished by a drought, forcing all animals to crowd around the river. Just as they think things can't get any worse, lions move into the neighbourhood. A young jackal family should benefit from carcasses provided by the drought and the lions, but the hyenas that follow suit are a thorn in the jackals' side. The pesky scavengers are also trouble for the pregnant leopard who has set up camp next to the river. The drought finally breaks and the river flows again. What should be a relief, suddenly brings life-threatening situations to the animal families who live side by side. Finally, the lions make a kill that rattles the food chain.

3. Growing Up

A wild corner of Botswana has been transformed into a lush Eden and the animals are celebrating abundance. There are babies in all the families of Mashatu, and parents are focused on teaching and feeding their young. Leopard and jackal youngsters go against the grain of their parents' and carve their own path by hunting differently. While the cheetah kids embrace what's in their blood - hunting at speed - just like mom. But even paradise has its problems, and the abundance has brought competition for everyone. As the landscape starts to dry once again, everyone is forced to adapt and carve their niche alongside others. In Mashatu, nothing happens in isolation.