

A man wearing a green baseball cap and a camouflage jacket is holding a dead monkey. The monkey is light-colored with a dark face and is being held in front of the man. The background is a bright, outdoor setting with some foliage.

# **MONKEY BUSINESS**

**British trophy hunters  
& companies involved  
in monkey shooting**



**WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**

**Registered Charity no. 1200250**

**September 2025**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- British trophy hunters have shot over 500 monkeys and baboons, according to CITES records.
- British-owned hunting holiday firms sell monkey and baboon-shooting experiences. Prices start at just over £50, although are sometimes free.
- Baboons are a type of monkey. Monkeys and humans share around 90% of their DNA.
- Holidays to shoot monkeys can easily be bought from the internet. [BookYourHunt.com](https://www.bookyourhunt.com) currently has 363 monkey-shooting holidays for sale (mid-August 2025).
- This briefing includes accounts of monkey-shooting by British trophy hunters.
- It also includes information about the British-owned companies that sell monkey-shooting experiences.



*Chacma baboon with young*



*British Trophy Hunter Alan Nicholson  
Photo - Umilio Safaris*



*British Trophy Hunter David Tart  
Photo - Umilio Safaris*



*British Trophy Hunter Rodney Fuller  
Photo - Umilio Safaris*



*British Trophy Hunter Ryan Seaman  
Photo - Umilio Safaris*



*British Trophy Hunter Jimmy Metherell  
Photo - Umilio Safaris*



*British Trophy Hunter Micky Jordan  
Photo - Umilio Safaris*



# MONKEY TROPHY HUNTING

What monkeys do British trophy hunters shoot for sport?



Bleeding Heart Monkey (Gelada)



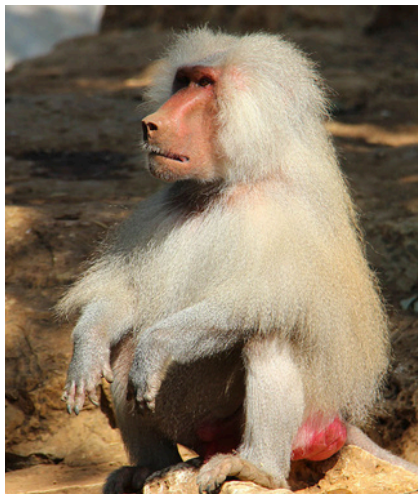
Blue Monkey



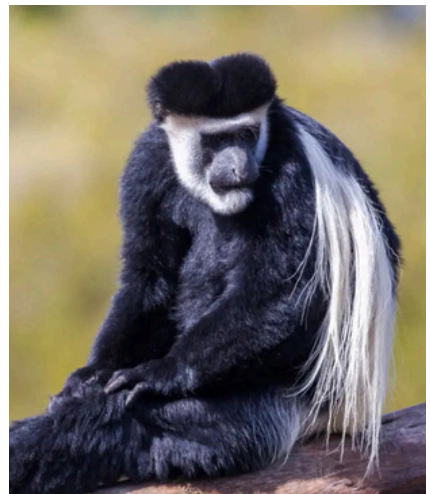
Chacma Baboon



Grivet Monkey



Hamadryas Baboon



Mantled Guereza



Olive Baboon



Vervet Monkey



Yellow Baboon



British-owned companies that sell monkey-shooting holidays include:

- ProStalk Safaris – based near Glastonbury - offers Vervet monkey shooting on several hunting concessions in South Africa’s Eastern Cape province. It also sells baboon hunts for a trophy fee of £55.
- Take Aim Safaris – owned by Carl Knight from Surrey – sells Vervet monkey for \$75 and Baboons for \$80 at its Gonharezhou and Matetsi concessions in Zimbabwe.



Take Aim Safaris’ clients.

→ ↺ 🏠 🔍 takeaimsafaris.co.za/matetsi-price-list/

Trophy Fees

For animals killed or wounded.

Baboon	\$80
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→ ↺ 🏠 🔍 takeaimsafaris.co.za/matetsi-price-list/

Vervet Monkey	\$75
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Take Aim Safaris’ price list.

## How easy is it to buy a monkey-shooting holiday?

Websites such as [BookYourHunt.com](https://bookyourhunt.com) openly sell monkey-shooting experiences on the internet. No checks are required.

**Book Your Hunt** Hunts Map Gift cards Shop GBP List your hunts Log in / Sign up

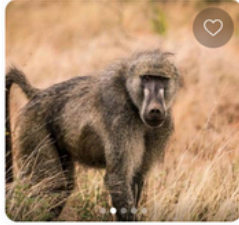
Destination

Species  
Baboon x  
Select one or more species

Start day End day

Hunters Guests

We found 267 hunts



**Culling Package - 2x1**  
★★★★★ 9.2 6 reviews  
Limpopo, South Africa  
Baboon, Blue wildebeest, Common blesbuck, Impala, ...  
Bow Hunting, Crossbow Hunting, High Seat, Hunting Fr...  
Season: Jan 1, 24 - Dec 31, 26

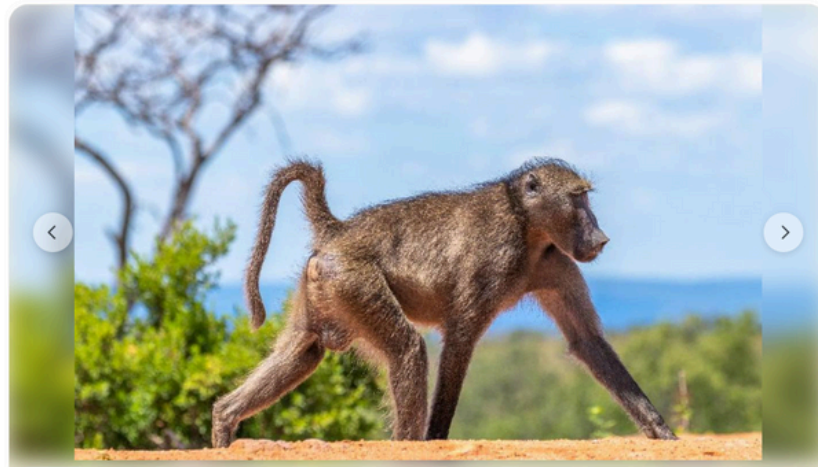
Package price  
**£3,018**  
for 7 days, 1 hunter

**Book Your Hunt** Hunts Map Gift cards Shop Q GBP List your hunts Log in / Sign up

[Home](#) • [Catalog](#) • [South Africa](#) • Special Starter Bushveld Package

### Special Starter Bushveld Package

Limpopo, South Africa



Package price  
**£5,202**  
for 7 days, 1 hunter  
with Baboon, Black-backed  
jackal, Common blesbuck,...



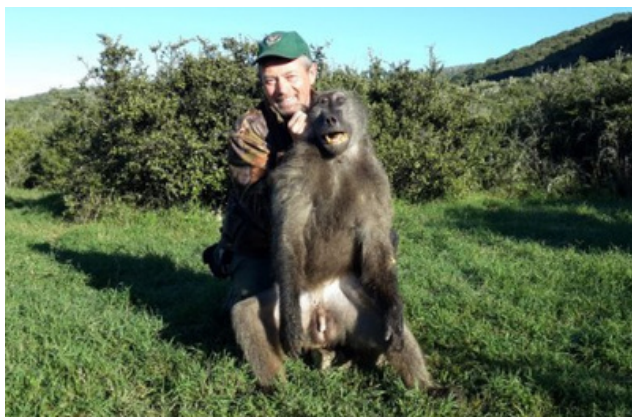
**Wessel: Owner, Outfitter & PH**

South Africa  
Response rate: 57%  
Response time: within a day

#### More about us

Our company was established in 2018 and operates in 1 territory. Wessel takes pride in every hunt, so that the client is satisfied and guaranteed to receive a full bushveld and hunting experience. We use the Limpopo province as our base hunting area on various family owned land and exclusive hunting concessions. Species varies from plain's game to dangerous game, depending on client needs.

Monkey hunts available on [BookYourHunt.com](https://bookyourhunt.com).



British Trophy Hunter Jimmy Jordan  
Photo - Umilio Safaris



British Trophy Hunter Rob Fegan  
Photo - Umilio Safaris



# BRITISH CASE STUDIES

Leading British restaurant critic AA Gill provoked outrage when he revealed that he had once shot a baboon on a safari hunting trip in order “to get a sense of what it might be like to kill someone”.

He wrote of the experience: “I took him just below the armpit. He slumped and slid sideways. I’m told they can be tricky to shoot: they run up trees, hang on for grim life.

“They die hard, baboons. But not this one. A soft-nosed .357 blew his lungs out.”

Gill went on to say that he knew that he had no good reason for killing the animal.

“I know perfectly well there is absolutely no excuse for this,” he wrote. “I wanted to get a sense of what it might be like to kill someone, a stranger.

“You see it in all those films: guns and bodies, barely a close-up of reflection or doubt. What does it really feel like to shoot someone, or someone’s close relative?”

## Chris Hemingway

British trophy hunter Chris Hemmingway has hunted with Huntershill Safaris, a South African firm that has a sales agent in the UK, Neil Jones.

Hemmingway sent Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting investigators photos of his trophy room and some of the animals he had killed, including a rare albino baboon.

He told investigators that he had gone hunting with Huntershill Safaris on three occasions, and had more trips planned.

“Last time I was out I shot a white baboon. I’ve got that fully mounted.

“My PH (guide) had seen it when he was working on the farm.”

Hemmingway, who lives in the Scottish Borders, flew to South Africa from Edinburgh airport via Heathrow. He was allowed to take his own rifle through customs.



*Chris Hemmingway.*



He said he had arranged for his trophies to be mounted by taxidermists in South Africa from where they were shipped back to his home.

Hemingway told investigators that he had now become addicted to safari hunting.

“Neil (Jones) always, because he’s always tried to get me to go, he said, ‘If you go, you’ll want to go again’. And he was right! I’m hooked! I am!

“They’ve taken me out at night – jackals, baboons.

“Even my wife, she loves it.” Hemmingway said his wife had shot a donkey in order to feed it to lions.

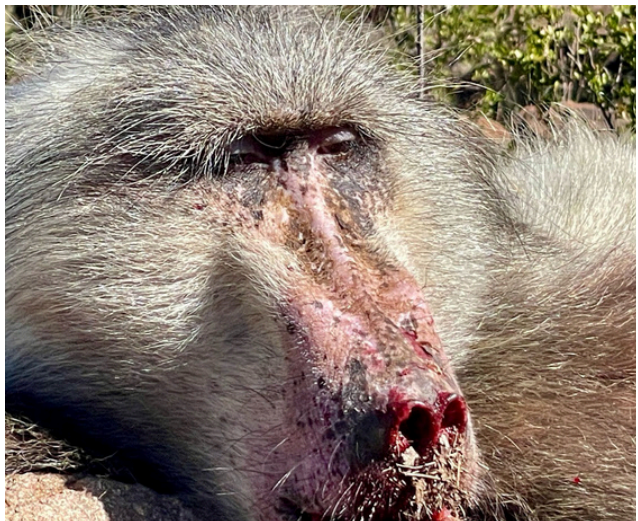
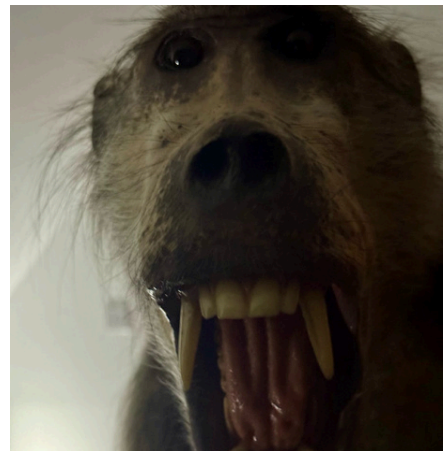
“She’s got pretty hooked now! I think she’ll be wanting one or two of her own trophies.”

Hemmingway has brought several animals back to Britain.

“The warthog came back with a baboon as well. We shared a crate with somebody who was out there.”

Hemmingway said that originally he wasn’t going to send his baboon trophy home to Britain, but later changed his mind.

“Shooting this baboon, I said ‘Have it done and put it in the lodge, and I’ll see it when I come back’. Simon – Greg’s son – he said, ‘Do you know, Chris, that’s a once-in-a-lifetime trophy’. I said, ‘Sorry, I’m going to get it done’. The taxidermist, when he did it, he said he’d had a hell of an interest in it.”



*Monkeys shot by Chris Hemingway.*

## **Chris Simons “I took him for his 9<sup>th</sup> birthday and he had a great time!”**

Blaauwkrantz Safaris is a short drive north of South Africa’s Port Elizabeth international airport.

It operates from a 98,000-acre ranch and has access to millions of acres of other hunting grounds.

The firm claims to be ‘South Africa’s Premier Hunting and Conservation Destination’<sup>12</sup> and offers a Father and Son hunting holiday deal, during which they can shoot as many as 12 different species. The cost is US \$5,250 if the boy is under-18.

The deal was purchased by Chris Simons, a retired businessman from Cheltenham. Simons’ company, Boab, imported and sold camping and expedition equipment including trailer tents and folding caravans.

Simons confirmed that he had taken his young son hunting with him and that his child had shot “a few” monkeys.

“I took Oliver for his 9th Birthday and he had a great time. We did a father and son package.

“He took an Impala Trophy, a real beaut, plus 3 or 4 other cull Impala.

“He also had a couple of lovely Duiker, one of which we ‘trophied’, plus a nice little warthog, nothing special but for him a great memory and well worth a trophy. He also got a nice Blesbok trophy.

“He also took a few Dassie and a few Vervets (monkeys), and earned himself the nickname ‘the sniper’ from his hunting mob.”

## **Paul Taylor**

Paul Taylor is an award-winning taxidermist serving Britain’s leading Trophy Hunters.

He runs Dorchester firm PG Taylor. He was recommended to Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting investigators by several British hunters who had their African trophies mounted by him.

He has a number of British safari hunters currently on his books.

“I’ve got probably 3 or 4 clients that go around the world regularly so I’ve got a west African safari in at the moment. I’ve just finished another lot, about 12 animals have gone. I’ve been in the business for about 35 years,” he added.

He confirmed that he did monkey and baboon ‘mounts’ for British trophy hunters.

“Monkeys, that sort of stuff, baboons is something I’ve done often, I’ve got a full baboon I’m doing at the moment. I’ve done all the heads of those.”



*Chacma Baboon in South Africa.*



## **Rob Weir “I had this thing in my head - I wanted to shoot a baboon!”**

HJ Weir Engineering is a business based in Chepstow specialising in commercial laundry technology. The company is known for designing and developing automated systems for the industry such as Tru-Feed, the 1234 Feeder, and Stac-N-Fold and Foldmaker products.

The firm was founded by John Weir in the 1960s. Its Chairman today is Rob Weir, a keen amateur rally car racer who has his own team, Weir Rallying UK, which competes in events around the world.<sup>3</sup>

Rob Weir is also one of Britain’s top trophy hunters.

“I go out there a couple of times a year,” he told undercover investigators from the Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting.

“I’ve been going out with Gary (Kelly Safaris) for 7 or 8 years now.”

The company runs hunts both on its own estates and on leased private hunting concessions in South Africa, Tanzania, Botswana and Namibia. The company’s price list includes all the ‘Big 5’ animals as well as giraffes and zebras.

One of its record rhinos – killed in Mkuze, South Africa – was shot with a handgun.

Weir told investigators about his hunting holidays here.

“The very first time I went it was about 8 years ago and that was specifically for a baboon. I had this thing in my head: I wanted to shoot a baboon!

“I had this thing about shooting a baboon. Don’t know why but I did.

“So the very first time I went out there that is what we went after and it was just one of those things.

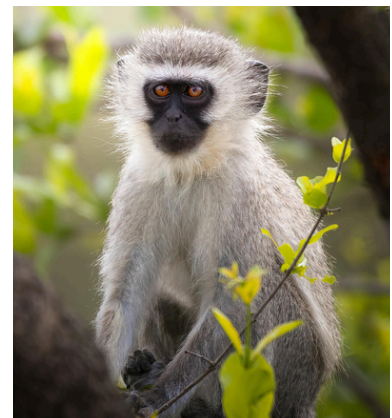
“I’ve been going hunting there over the last few years twice a year. I enjoy it that much!”

## **Stuart Eborall “We grab a few beers and have fun shooting the monkeys!”**

Thorndale Safaris is owned by Jens Heimberg, a South African businessman whose multi-million-dollar business empire spans hospitality, property development, restaurants, and even aquaculture.

The hunting holiday firm has its own UK sales representative. Stuart Eborall is a professional deer stalker from Rugby. He guides roe deer and muntjac hunts in Warwickshire and neighbouring Northamptonshire.

Eborall told Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting investigators that his first African safari was his and his wife’s honeymoon.



*Vervet Monkey in South Africa.*

“Eleven years ago when I was getting married the only part of the wedding I was allowed anything to do with was the honeymoon,” he said. “I went 11 years ago and I’ve been going back every year ever since.”

He said the trip had been a “once in a lifetime trip”; however, thanks to being an agent for Thorndale Safaris “I’ve found a way to get back there every year.

“They asked me probably on my second trip there if I’d be interested in acting as their UK agent. Which I’ve been doing ever since.”

He told the investigators what his first trip had been like.

“It was fantastic,” he replied. “I just loved it.

“After a week of being there I was already decided that I was coming back!”

The investigators asked Eborall if they shot monkeys at Thorndale Safaris.

“Yeah, yeah,” he replied straight away. “There’s no end of monkeys. We do that as a bit of fun normally.

“We go and grab a few beers and get up on one of the rocks looking over some tree’d area where all the monkeys are and just have a bit of fun shooting the monkeys!”

Monkeys cost just US \$60 to shoot here.

The company offers several package holiday deals. They include a £4,045 Father & Son hunting holiday, and a Couples Package - the week-long romantic hunting holiday includes 6 animals.

There is also a family deal. The US \$6,500 package includes 13 animals and an instructor “to teach kids to shoot”.

**Bob Broom “I call it my Africa room - I’ve got more than enough trophies!”**

Bob Broom is another regular British visitor to Thorndale Safaris’ 5-star hunting ranch. Broom has been on at least 10 hunting holidays here, some of them with his wife Rose.<sup>6</sup>

“I’ve made annual hunting trips to Thorndale over the past 10 or 11 years,” he told Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting investigators. “Prior to that I’ve hunted in Namibia as well as other locations in South Africa,” he added.

“Thorndale have a wide selection of very good trophy animals to choose from.”

“I’ve always taken my own rifle. Because I’ve been so many times it’s been a very, very straightforward process. I live in Lincolnshire but I travel down and fly out of Heathrow.

He said he had his animals mounted by local taxidermists before having the bodies flown back to Britain.



“All of mine were done in Africa and airfreighted/delivered to my house,” he told them. He was highly complimentary about them. “They’ll set the eyes so they’re looking in the same direction as well. And little things like that.”

“I think I’ve been there 12, 13 years on the trot,” he added.

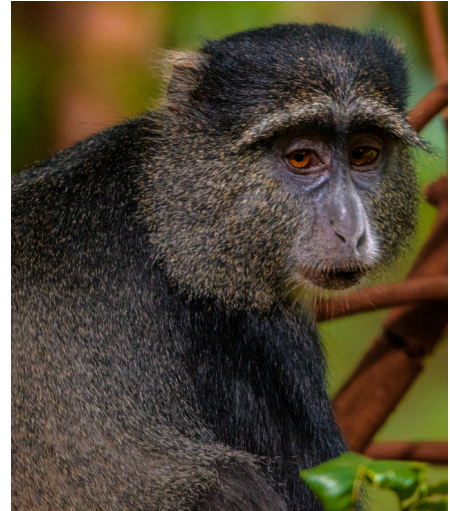
He confirmed that monkeys were among the animals he had shot. “I’ve shot baboons there, also jackal, monkeys, things like that.

“They basically want you to have a good time.

“I’ve got all the trophies!”

He said he had now amassed a large collection of different species.

“I call it my Africa room - I’ve got more than enough trophies really!”



*Blue Monkey in Tanzania.*

**Dave Pullan “You can shoot what you want, you can carry on shooting!”**

In 2024, David Pullan bought a hunting holiday from Huntershill Safaris’ UK agent Neil Jones. He travelled to South Africa in September with a group of friends.

“Three of us went,” he told Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting investigators. “We’re all mates. We’ve been mates for a long time.

“I’ve been to Africa before”, he added.

He said you can shoot a variety of ‘big game’ and ‘plains game’ animals here, as well as species bred specially to have certain traits and characteristics sought after by some hunters.

“You can shoot giraffe, hippos, Cape buffalo... Wildebeest, golden wildebeest.”

“Every colour of impala, from white to black. They’ve got springbok from white, copper colour. The common springbok, black springbok, everything.”

He was looking forward to returning – and to shooting primates.

“We’re going back in September again, me and my missus.

“She’s a shooty, yes. I’m just going to what they call pay and play. I really did enjoy shooting the warthogs, so I’ll probably go out and shoot warthogs, do baboons. There’s hundreds and thousands of baboons there and monkeys.

“If you shoot a big trophy baboon, it’s free of charge.”

His wife, meanwhile, would do a nine-animal package. “Dawn wants to do the nine animal cull, and she wants a nice mountain zebra.”

Pullan had his trophies mounted with a company called Lauriston Taxidermy. The Eastern Cape company produces up to 4,000 animal trophies every year. Its gallery features lions, zebras, porcupines, and baboons.<sup>7</sup> “It’s cheap as chips,” Pullan said.

“I can’t say enough about the place,” he added, retuning to the hunting estate. “(You can) shoot what you want.

“Honestly, I can’t get over how good it was.”



## References

- 1 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/oct/26/aa-gill-shot-baboon>
- 2 <https://www.blaauwkrantz.com/>
- 3 <http://www.hjweir.co.uk/author/admin/>
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- 6 <https://www.facebook.com/thorndalesafari/photos/a.347970121945697/1239789902763710>
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