

Lion Crossing the River (Crocodile Lion)

by Brian Hampton



Canon 1DS Mk II with a 600mm lens. Photograph by Brian Hampton, all rights reserved.

My passion in photography is capturing the best wildlife images possible. After running businesses in corporate America for 35 years I'm ready to spend my next career seeking to capture images in nature rarely seen by humankind.

This lion has heard the distant call from others in her pride. In some telepathic form of communication, not fully understood by man, this lion knows it is time to join the rest of her pride to begin the hunt for buffalo. In order to join the rest of the pride, this lion must first cross this treacherous crocodile infested river.

A great deal of wildlife photography is luck. Sure, you need to be in the right place at the right time with the right equipment; then hope something happens. Without having my Canon 1Ds Mk II in AI servo mode, it would have been nearly impossible to get a shot like this with the explosive action that occurred when the lion crossed the river. I had to reposition myself a few times and try to anticipate where the lion may cross the river. I lucked out and was ready to capture this burst of energy by filling my buffer. I had the good fortune of having my 600mm lens mounted on a Wimberly head with a Manfrotto tripod trained on the eye as the lion explosively made its' way across this crocodile infested river.

My two photography companions and I huddled with some fears as the lion came towards us and passed us by. We gave a sigh of relieve as she made her way to the more important task of joining the other lions in her pride to hunt for buffalo.

More of Brian Hampton's Work



"First Look" is a pair of newly born Impala (probably a day or two old). As we approached them they have a natural fear that seemed to be paused by their curiosity. Canon 1Ds Mk III and the 70-200 Canon zoom

To see more of Brian Hampton's work please go to

www.brianhamptonphotography.com

"Territory Marked" is a male leopard that returned to one of its' favorite spots to view his territory. The vantage point provides a perch to scan for intruders as well as looking for his next meal. Canon 1Ds Mk III and the 70-200 Canon zoom





“Maternal Instincts” is a lioness carrying and leading her three cubs back to the pride. A lioness with cubs hides them far away from a hunt by the pride. This is to protect them from other predators that would kill them while the lions are preoccupied with the hunt. In this case; she was carrying them one at a time as they were so tired from the long walk. Canon 1Ds Mk II body and the 600mm F4 Canon lens

“Buffalo Sunset” was a special moment in Botswana. As the rains come in November there are clouds that provide colorful sunsets that only occur very few times on the Kalahari Desert (Okavango Delta). This great sunset developed as a herd of over one thousand buffalo approached the water hole for a drink before dark. Canon 1DS MkII body and 70-200 Canon Zoom lens

