

travel
and expert advice



CATCHTHIS

Africa is the title and subject of a new publication by the Brazilian photographer Sebastião Salgado. It contains striking black-and-white photographs taken across the continent over a period of 30 years, from images of the Dinka tribes in Sudan and the Himba in Namibia to gorillas and volcanoes in the Lakes region of central and eastern Africa.

This book, which confirms Salgado's reputation as one of the foremost contemporary

photographers, brings together his photographs of Africa in three parts. The first concentrates on the southern part of the continent (Mozambique, Malawi, Angola, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Namibia), the second on the Great Lakes region (Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya), and the third on the Sub-Saharan region (Burkina Faso, Mali, Sudan, Somalia, Chad, Mauritania, Senegal, Ethiopia). The quality of the images is

extraordinary, but this is in no way a coffee-table collection. Whether he is documenting refugees or vast landscapes, Salgado knows exactly how to capture the essence of a moment so that you are drawn into the scene before you.

There is nothing rose-tinted about these pictures, and many of the photographs of refugees and migrants – an abiding theme in his work – are painful and disturbing. But there are also images of

extraordinary beauty: of a magnificent great white pelican in flight, and a herd of mountain zebra by a lake in Namibia. And the ability of children to play joyfully in even the most difficult circumstances – as pictured here – is frequently captured in this amazing collection.

Joanna Symons

✦ *Africa* by Sebastião Salgado (Taschen, £39.95) is available in all good bookshops.