

A leopard with a distinctive spotted coat is lying on a large, weathered, and gnarled log. The leopard's head is lowered, and it appears to be resting or observing something out of frame. The background is a soft-focus savanna landscape with tall grass and a warm, golden light, possibly from a low sun, creating a hazy and atmospheric scene.

KR

KNIGHTON REEVE

SPECIALISTS IN EXCEPTIONAL TRAVEL

AFRICA | INDIAN OCEAN | VOLUME ONE



Specialists in exceptional travel to Africa & the Indian Ocean

What makes us different? We'd say it's a lot to do with our heritage.

Knighton Reeve has evolved from African Pride: a company that's been at the forefront of African travel for almost 20 years. Our team knows the continent inside out. We've lived there, worked there, visited many, many times. It's under our skin. We care about conservation and communities. And we care that you experience everything Africa has to offer.

We take our name from two of South Africa's most passionate advocates: John Knighton, joint founder of African Pride, and Sir Anthony Reeve, a former chairman of our parent company.

John Knighton is sometimes known as the 'the man who created tourism in South Africa'. He first visited the continent as a young man working on the Union Castle shipping line. After one visit he was hooked. Over his 40-year career with various tour operating companies, John paid countless visits to the continent. As a result, his stories and experiences (and sense of humour) were the stuff of legends.

Sir Anthony Reeve, or Tony as he liked to be called, was a career diplomat. He was sent to South Africa during a key stage in its history: as the new South Africa developed in the 1990s. After his retirement in 1996, he became chairman of The Curzon Corporation Ltd and there his association with the travel industry began.

Sadly both men passed away recently. As a tribute to their love, influence and involvement in African travel, we named the company Knighton Reeve.

We're proud to bring their passion for the continent to a whole new generation of travellers.





LUXURY MEANS DIFFERENT THINGS TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE. WE GET THAT.

For some, it's all about the finishing touches: the marble bathrooms, fluffy towels and design-led flourishes. Others measure luxury in experiences: a night in the desert beneath a thousand stars; camping wild under a mosquito net on a dry river bed; watching wildlife at a waterhole mere metres from your lodge.

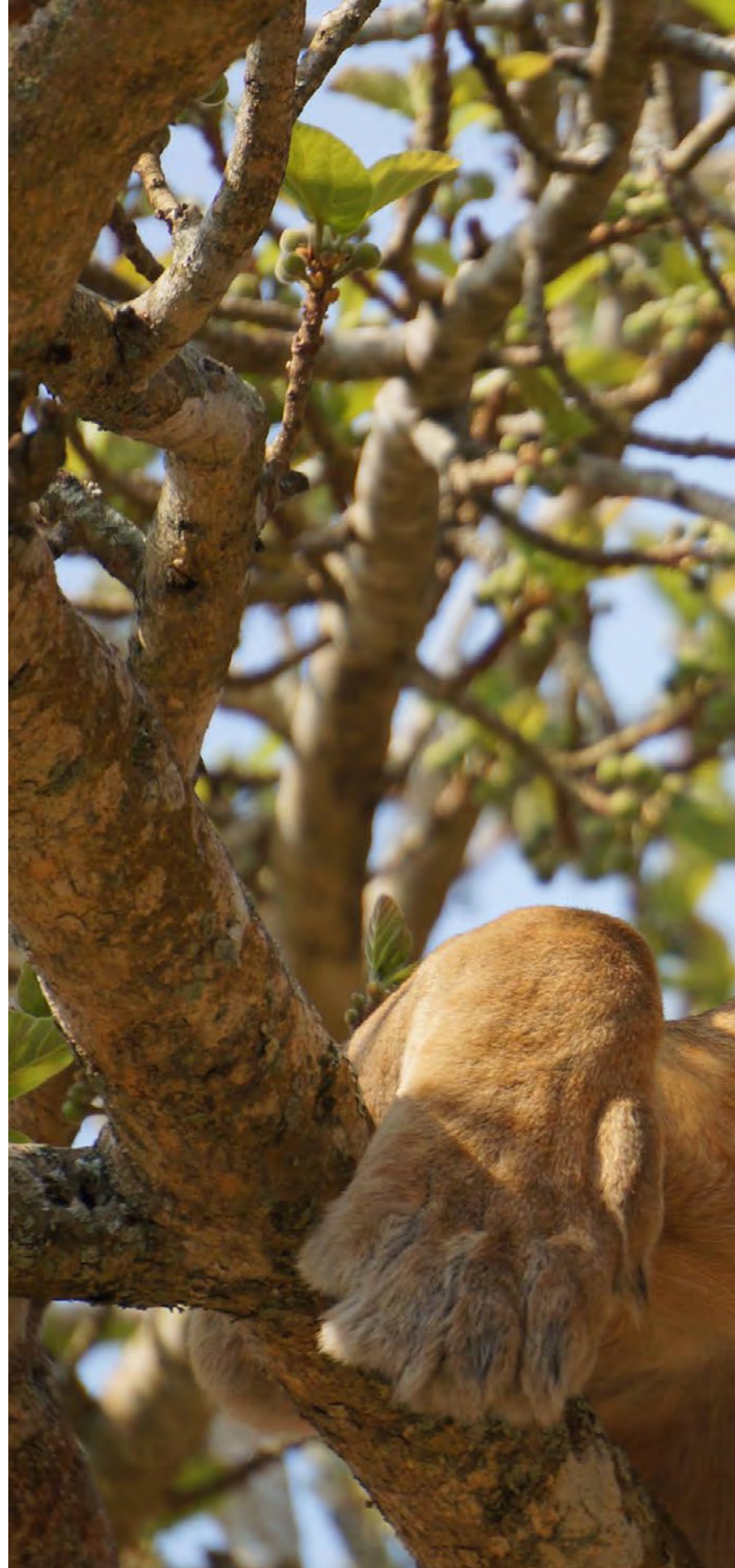
We offer the best of both worlds. So whether you're looking for full-blown fabulousness or an African wilderness in its raw state, you've come to the right place.

When we choose the properties to put in our brochure, we look for that extra something, be it world-class guides, utter isolation, humbling views or a fascinating story. This means the lodges and camps we've included really are our favourites.

We've designed this brochure to give you a feel for what we're all about (there's more information on our website). Inside, you'll find lots of touring itineraries to whet your appetite.

Africa is a huge continent and, in our experience, everyone who visits is looking for something a little different. We've been crafting tailored itineraries for our clients for many years now. And we enjoy nothing better than working out what they really want from their trip, and planning a visit that brings their African dream to life.

If you'd like to make your experience truly bespoke, allow us to create it for you.





*Exquisite destinations throughout
Africa and the Indian Ocean...*

OUR AFRICA	6
Getting around	16
Cruising	19
Itinerary suggestions	22
South Africa	24
Botswana	58
Victoria Falls	64
Zimbabwe	66
Zambia	68
Namibia	70
Tanzania	74
Kenya	82
Gorilla trekking	90
AND CHILL	92
Mauritius	94
Seychelles	96
Zanzibar	98
Kenyan Coast	99
Mozambique	100
Private islands	101
Beyond the beach	102
USEFUL INFORMATION	104



OUR AFRICA

A VISIT TO AFRICA ISN'T A HOLIDAY;
IT'S AN EXPERIENCE UNLIKE ANY OTHER.

Africa touches your soul, it gets under your skin and paves the way for future adventures. We'd love to be the ones to show it to you. We know Africa inside out. We've lived, breathed and explored it for

many, many years. And it's given us the insight it takes to create genuinely unique itineraries: ones that amaze, thrill, excite and inspire in equal measure.



ON SAFARI

WE THINK AN AFRICAN SAFARI IS ONE OF THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCES EVERY TRAVELLER SHOULD HAVE – AT LEAST ONCE IN A LIFETIME.

See the Big Five; explore terrains spanning deserts, deltas, lakes, forests and everything in between; feel your heart race at your first glimpse of a wild animal: a safari is something you carry with you for the rest of your life. It's the chance to meet inspirational guides, share stories with fellow travellers and see, hear and feel the heartbeat of the bush.



HONEYMOONS & ROMANCE

SOMEONE ONCE SAID TO US THAT IF A HONEYMOON INVOLVES SLEEPING UNDER CANVAS, IT ISN'T A HONEYMOON. WE'D HAVE TO DISAGREE.

Because clearly, they've never spent a night on a star bed. Charged through the bush on a game drive. Or seen elephants drink from a waterhole. The romance this majestic continent offers goes so much deeper than your traditional sun, sea and sand holiday ever could. We think the sense of adventure is what makes an African honeymoon so special.



FAMILY FRIENDLY

IN AFRICA, EVEN TEENS AND STRESSED OUT EXECS PUT DOWN THEIR GADGETS AND START CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER AGAIN.

It could be a self-drive safari with the extended family. Or a guided safari with a ranger who knows how to get kids up close to the animals. But remember, there's more to Africa than wildlife. Mountain biking, canoeing, dune boarding, city breaks: you name it, Africa offers it. And we can tell you the best places to do it. We have a selection of exclusive-use properties where families can stay together and play together – at a pace that suits them.

GOLF

SOUTH AFRICA IS A GOLFER'S PARADISE: ALMIGHTY VIEWS, WORLD-CLASS COURSES AND THE WEATHER TO MAKE EVERY ROUND MEMORABLE.

When it's raining cats and dogs during the British winter, South Africa is usually basking in hot, sunny days. Need we say more? From luggage space for golf clubs to the best tee off times, we understand the ins and outs of planning a golf trip. And we have the expertise and the know-how to make your trip legendary.



LOCAL LIFE

AFRICA IS NOT A THEME PARK. AND WHETHER YOU'RE ON SAFARI IN THE SERENGETI, SEEING A NEW SIDE OF CAPE TOWN OR MEETING MAASAI LADIES IN THE MARA, WITH US IT'S ALWAYS THE REAL DEAL.

Whether you're visiting upcoming neighbourhoods like the Old Biscuit Mill in Cape Town and Maboneng in Johannesburg, going on a graffiti tour or meeting the Himba people of north west Namibia, we believe the cultural experiences we arrange will stay with you for the rest of your life. We only do authentic.

ROAD TRIPS

DRIVING ACROSS AFRICA IS ONE OF LIFE'S MOST UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEYS.

South Africa's Garden Route is a beautiful drive for your first visit. Then there's KwaZulu-Natal and the deserts of Namibia. Both are excellent areas to try a self-drive. But if you really fancy putting a Land Rover through its paces and feeling the freedom of the open road, try Tanzania. We can tailor-make your experience with instructors, back-up vehicles and guides at the ready – to make sure you really savour the scenery and see the minutiae within the vastness.



FOOD & DRINK

WITH THE BEST LAMB, BEEF, SEAFOOD, FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IN THE WORLD ON THEIR DOORSTEPS, AFRICA'S CHEFS HAVE PANTRIES FULL OF INCREDIBLE PRODUCE TO WORK WITH.

So it's hardly surprising that African restaurants – particularly those in Cape Town and the Winelands – are rated among the finest on the planet. Lots of the places we feature have award-winning chefs, wine lists of international quality and, without doubt, some of the most magical settings to actually enjoy your meal.

ASTOUNDING SCENERY

SOUL-SHAPING SCENERY.
IMMENSE AFRICAN
SKIES. ENDLESS COLOUR
SPECTRUMS. AND THE
MOST STUNNING SUNSETS
KNOWN TO MAN.

We think our featured properties have the most magnificent sense of place and setting. There are lodges perched on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. Resorts surrounded by organic gardens and vineyards. Ocean-facing hotels where you can snuggle up in a glass-fronted lounge to watch whales breach. Residences perched on escarpments looking down on the Masai Mara. And remote camps where there's nothing but savannah for as far as the eyes can see.

ADVENTURE

WHETHER YOU PREFER YOUR ADVENTURE TO TAKE PLACE ON DRY LAND, ON THE WATER OR UP IN THE AIR, YOU'LL FIND SOMETHING TO SET YOUR PULSE RACING IN AFRICA.

What's it to be? Pitting your running skills against a Maasai warrior, scuba diving surrounded by unbleached coral in the Indian Ocean, or zip wiring at Victoria Falls? Or why not go all out and just climb Kilimanjaro? In Africa you can do as much (or as little) as you choose.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MEETING LOCAL PEOPLE DURING YOUR TRAVELS IS ABOUT MORE THAN ENRICHING YOUR EXPERIENCE. FOR MANY, THESE CHANCE ENCOUNTERS HAVE TURNED INTO LIFE-CHANGING MOMENTS.

One of the most unique ways is to be found in Botswana, where you can spend a couple of weeks training to be a guide in the Okavango. The course is excellent, but what makes it truly rewarding is knowing you're sponsoring training for a local Botswanan. Then there's Uthando, in Cape Town. If you take some time out during your stay to see some of their projects, we're sure they'll leave a lasting impression.





BEACHES & ISLANDS

THE BEACHES IN AFRICA
COME IN ALL SHAPES, SIZES –
AND CLIMATES.

Some beaches are cold and best suited to spotting whales and sharks on marine safaris. While others are piping hot and made for sipping Amarula Coladas. So it's always a good idea to speak to us before you book. We can point you in the direction of Cape Town's hippest urban beaches, the most secluded sands in Zanzibar and the best unbleached coral in Mozambique. And remember, Africa is a mere hop, skip and a jump from Mauritius and the Seychelles. If you'd like to know the hottest shores and the best times to go, just ask.



GIVING BACK

WE APPLAUD THE WORK OUR PARTNERS DO TO PROTECT LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND LANDSCAPES. WE'RE PROUD TO PLAY A PART IN THEIR PROJECTS, TOO.

Tourism is having a positive effect in Africa. Remote lodges offer employment for local communities and protection for the environment. If you're in South Africa's Eastern Cape, we recommend a visit to the Born Free Foundation: a global force for wildlife who rescue and rehome animals in spacious bush sanctuaries. And companies like Great Plains and andBeyond battle tirelessly to return animals to their natural habitat and save icons like the rhino from extinction.

AFRICA

GETTING AROUND

Africa can sometimes feel like it's a world away. But when you travel there, there's no jetlag to worry about, so you'll feel ready to go as soon as you touch down. What's more, we're experts in logistics and making

trips happen. Just leave us to wade through the detail and complex itinerary planning – while you focus on savouring every second of the experience.



BY ROAD

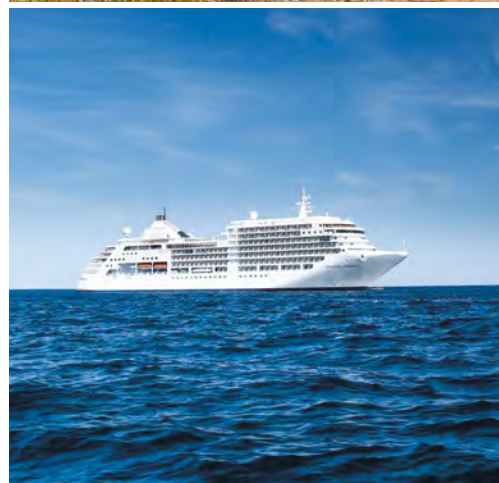
If you'd like to cruise along epic roads, we can tell you some of the most scenic routes to try. We can even arrange top of the range cars for when you really want to arrive in style. But if you don't fancy driving, don't worry. We can arrange a driver to take you off the beaten path and even a private guide to stay with you for the duration of your trip.

BY AIR

Africa is crisscrossed with tiny airstrips. Luckily, we know the ones that will work with your itinerary, as well as how to avoid unnecessary overnights and congested airports. We can arrange private charters and scenic flights over places like the Okavango Delta or the Serengeti. Tell you when the best way to arrive at your lodge is by helicopter. Or plan the ultimate: a multi-country adventure on an executive plane with your own pilot and guide.

BY RIVER & SEA

Cruising is the leisurely way to explore Africa's shimmering coast. You could sail from Mombasa to Cape Town. Navigate your way along the Zambezi by canoe. Or opt for a stay in a stylish houseboat on the Chobe River. If you'd like to try something different, join an expedition cruise along Africa's coastline to places that are rarely on the tourist map. Travelling by water takes you to parts of Africa other visitors rarely reach.



*Clockwise from top:
driving in a National Park • road
trip • light aircraft • helicopter over
the Okavango Delta •
Silversea cruise*

BY RAIL

Africa's vast landscapes lend themselves to the leisurely pace of a train journey. South Africa's classic trains combine the glitz and glamour from a bygone era with all modern 21st century comforts. Pretoria to Cape Town or Victoria Falls may be the most popular routes, however if you're a true rail aficionado, you may enjoy a longer trip to Dar es Salaam or Namibia.

THE BLUE TRAIN

The Blue Train is a magical five-star 'hotel' on tracks. It runs around three times a week between Pretoria and Cape Town. And we think it's one of the best ways to see the country. There's delicious food in the classically chic wood-panelled dining car (if the chocolate pots are on the menu you have to try them). Suites that simply ooze glamour. And impeccable service, including an on-board valet. We might need to do a bit of creative planning to make your dates work and get you on board. But, luckily, that's exactly the kind of thing we do best.

ROVOS RAIL

To step on board Rovos Rail is to step back in time. It's a time old, all inclusive way to explore Africa: a journey on Rovos Rail is so reminiscent of romantic train journeys at the turn of the 19th century. Our favourite routes are the two-night journey from Cape Town to Pretoria, the three-night passage from Pretoria to Victoria Falls - which also includes a game drive in Hwange National Park en route - and the epic 15-night journey from Cape Town to Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. The pace is leisurely. The atmosphere is refined. We love relaxing in the observation car and watching the magnificent landscapes fly by.

*Clockwise from top:
Rovos Rail • Blue Train dining car
• Rovos Rail • Blue Train club car •
Blue Train cabin*



A large cruise ship, the Silver Spirit, is sailing on the ocean at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The ship is white with multiple decks and is moving towards the right side of the frame.

SET SAIL

We understand how to bring dry land to life. We also work with leading names in the cruising industry like Silversea, Regent and Crystal Cruises. As a result, we can offer you the best of both worlds during your trip: exciting experiences on the water along with a stay on land before or after you sail.

So if you'd like to island-hop around the Seychelles on an exclusive yacht, spot elephants from the decks of a river boat on the Chobe River or sail around the South African coast on a cruise ship, all you need to do is ask.

SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

EXPEDITION CRUISES

A SMALL SHIP, LIMITED NUMBERS AND EXPERT GUIDES:
SET SAIL FOR ISOLATED WATERS ON AN EXPEDITION
CRUISE AND PREPARE YOURSELF FOR AN EXPERIENCE
YOU'LL NEVER FORGET.

This is the real deal. An expedition cruise where the emphasis is firmly on adventure. Where you travel with renowned marine biologists, zoologists and historians. And where you get a real sense of what it feels like to explore uncharted waters.

This expedition isn't for you if your idea of cruising includes opulent suites and fine linens. The cabins are functional rather than five-star and the

ship is small – with good reason. It allows it to access more remote regions. There are also zodiac dinghies on board, which can travel along the tight channels bigger boats just can't access.

The cruises range from seven to eighteen days and sail along the African coast from Dakar to Zanzibar, with plenty of stops along the way. Highlights include seeing lemurs in Madagascar, a trip

on Rovos Rail and sailing around the Aldabra Atoll in the Seychelles – one of the most isolated places on the planet.

There are 10 cruises between October and February. And there are only 23 cabins on the ship. So if venturing into wild Africa, accompanied by people who really live and breathe it, sounds like your cup of tea, best book well in advance.





SOUTH AFRICA...A GREAT START

An introductory tour of South Africa's main attractions, combining Cape Town, the Winelands, the Garden Route and a safari in the Eastern Cape.



DAY 1
Overnight flight to Cape Town.

DAYS 2-5
Transfer on arrival to your hotel and enjoy exploring Cape Town. We can arrange activities for part or all of your stay and tailor experiences to your personal interests, be they culinary, cultural or adventure. **Belmond Mount Nelson**, 4 nights with breakfast.

DAYS 6-7
Pick up your hire car and drive to Franschhoek – take time to visit some of the excellent wine estates. **Le Quartier Français**, 2 nights with breakfast.

DAY 8
Drive through the Franschhoek Pass and along the scenic Route 62 to Oudtshoorn. **The Rosenhof**, 1 night with breakfast.

DAYS 9-11
Continue along the dramatic Garden Route to Plettenberg Bay. **Tsala Treetop Lodge**, 3 nights with breakfast.

DAYS 12-14
Drop your hire car off at Port Elizabeth where you will be met and transferred to the Eastern Cape for a few days on safari. **Shamwari Game Reserve**, 3 nights on full board.

DAY 15
Return to Port Elizabeth and fly back overnight via Johannesburg.

DAY 16
Arrive home.

Guide price: From £3980pp including flights, transfers, hire car and accommodation as indicated. Don't fancy driving? We can arrange a driver/guide.

EAST AFRICA...A GREAT START

If you haven't yet experienced East Africa and can't decide between the Serengeti and the Masai Mara, we'd suggest you visit both.

DAY 1
Fly to Kilimanjaro via Amsterdam. On arrival, transfer to Arusha. **Legendary Lodge**, 1 night all inclusive.

DAYS 2-4
Meet with your driver/guide and set off towards Karatu, a fertile area of forested slopes and coffee plantations, well placed for exploring the Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara National Park. **Gibbs Farm**, 3 nights on full board.

DAYS 5-7
Fly into the Serengeti for an unforgettable few days on safari, staying under canvas in a camp that moves with the seasons, ensuring that you are always well-placed to experience the Serengeti at its finest. **andBeyond Serengeti Under Canvas**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 8-11
Fly to the Kenyan border and cross into the Masai Mara to continue the safari experience. **Mahali Mzuri**, 4 nights all inclusive.

DAY 12
Fly to Nairobi for the overnight flight back via Amsterdam.

DAY 13
Arrive home.

Guide price: From £7840pp including flights, transfers, driver/guide and accommodation as indicated.



AFRICA FOR ROMANTICS

Mauritius and South Africa offer a safari and beach combination that's hard to resist.

DAY 1

Overnight flight to Mauritius.

DAYS 2-7

There's nothing quite like a week on a beach to recharge the batteries, but if you want a little more action, Mauritius will oblige. Catamaran trips to spot dolphins, sunset sails, deep sea fishing, golf, hiking, mountain biking, zip wiring, watersports – we could go on, but the choice is entirely yours. **Shangri-La's Le Touessrok**, 6 nights with breakfast.

DAY 8

Fly to Johannesburg and swap your beachwear for khaki and binoculars. **AtholPlace**, 1 night with breakfast.

DAYS 9-11

Fly into the Sabi Sand where your safari begins. Rise early for a game drive before breakfast, then relax by your plunge pool before heading out again later in the afternoon for sundowners in the bush. **The Dulini Collection**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAY 12

Fly back via Johannesburg.

DAY 13

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £5255pp including flights, transfers and accommodation as indicated.



OUR ULTIMATE BUCKET LIST

Gorillas in the mist, whale watching, the Great Migration, Table Mountain, Victoria Falls... this, we think, is the ultimate bucket list itinerary.



DAY 1

Overnight flight to Cape Town.

DAYS 2-3

Transfer to Hermanus for a spot of whale watching (in season). **Birkenhead House**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 4-6

Transfer to Cape Town and tick Table Mountain off your list. **Cape Grace**, 3 nights with breakfast.

DAYS 7-8

Fly to Livingstone and marvel at the Victoria Falls. **Tongabezi**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 9-10

Fly to Nairobi and meet a resident herd of Rothschild giraffe. **Giraffe Manor**, 2 nights on full board.

DAYS 11-14

Fly to the Masai Mara for a thrilling safari. **Governors' Il Moran**, 4 nights all inclusive.

DAY 15

Fly to Rwanda via Nairobi. **Kigali Serena Hotel**, 1 night with breakfast.

DAYS 16-17

Travel to the Virunga Mountains for a show-stopping finale with Rwanda's mountain gorillas. **Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAY 18

Return to Kigali for the overnight flight back.

DAY 19

Arrive home

Guide price: From £9430pp including flights, transfers, driver/guide in Rwanda, 1 gorilla trekking permit per person and accommodation as indicated.





SOUTH AFRICA

YOU'VE HEARD THE CLICHÉS BEFORE. IT'S THE RAINBOW NATION. THE WORLD IN ONE COUNTRY. WHAT CAN WE SAY? THEY'RE ALL TRUE.

It's home to countless species, from the Big Five in the heart of the Kruger to the penguins on the Cape. Terrains that vary from the sands of the Kalahari to the shores of Cape Point. And eleven official languages encompassing Zulu, Xhosa and Swazi.

Look up 'diverse' in the dictionary, and you'll find South Africa.



IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO AFRICA BEFORE, THIS IS THE PLACE TO START.

In our opinion, the best itinerary for a first-timer gives a taste of South Africa's many different flavours. We're thinking Cape Town, the Winelands, the Garden Route and safari. We warn you, though, South Africa gets under your skin; one visit and you're hooked.

There's so much more to it

than the Garden Route. (That said, the 300km stretch from Mossel Bay to Plettenberg Bay rightly deserves its spot on so many peoples' bucket lists.) Combine a safari with a city break. Mix wine tasting with whale watching. Blend desert trails with mountain hikes. It's a long way from a basic beach holiday.

Tell us what you want to do and we'll work out how to make it happen. Crashing down dunes in a Land Rover your kind of thing? No problem. Prefer to sip

Champagne on Table Mountain or dine by candlelight in the bush? You've got it. We can even arrange family days out, complete with guides and nannies who know how to keep children entertained.

And when it's time to recharge your batteries, do it over a spicy Cape Malay dish or a braai beneath the stars – washed down with a bottle from the oldest wineries outside Europe.

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE TOWN

THE MOTHER CITY DOESN'T SCRIMP WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS TO SEE AND DO. WORLD-CLASS DINING, NATURAL BEAUTY, ENDLESS SUNNY DAYS AND ADVENTURES AT EVERY TURN: YOU'D BE HARD PRESSED TO FIND ANOTHER CITY THAT PACKS SO MUCH INTO SUCH A RELATIVELY SMALL SPACE.

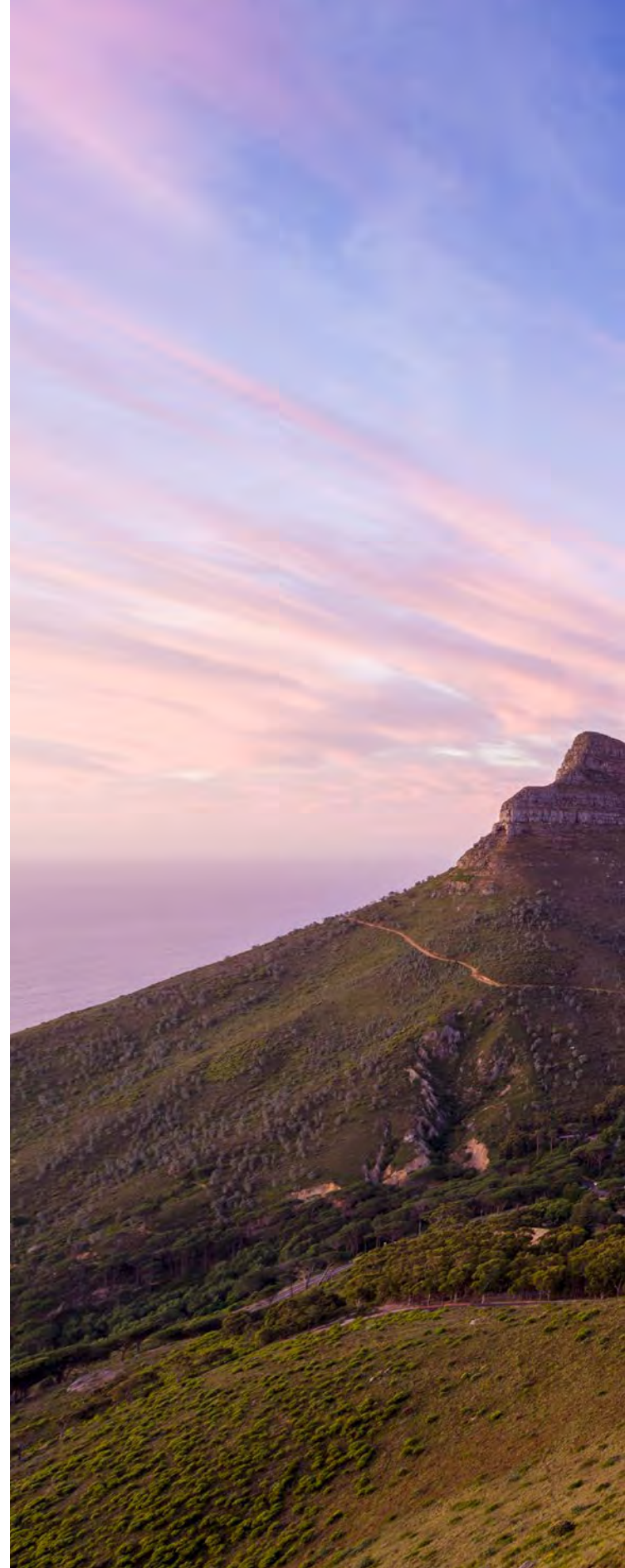
Like Sydney or San Francisco, it's got that arty, boho thing going on. Tourists tend to flock to the Waterfront. But you're more likely to find Capetonians in the bars and cafés on Kloof Street than partying at Camps Bay.

First timers will probably want to penguin spot on Boulders Beach, take the cable car up Table Mountain, visit Robben Island or barter for a carved

giraffe in Green Market Square. Scratch a bit deeper and you'll see a very different side. Visit the Old Biscuit Mill in Woodstock, where some of SA's most talented creatives hang out, celebrate local cuisine at Oranjezicht City Farm, or, if you're lucky enough to be there on the first Thursday of the month, head to Bree Street (which, if you ask us, has overtaken Camps Bay as the city's

coolest strip). You'll see art galleries open in the evening, secret gin bars appear behind chocolate shops and the streets spring into life.

Tearing yourself away from the Atlantic Seaboard may feel like a wrench, but it's worth it if you want to see the true face of Cape Town. And if you'd like us to give you a hand coming up with the ultimate itinerary, just ask.





SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE TOWN

ELLERMAN HOUSE

On your marks, get set, go: if you want to book Ellerman House, you need to move fast. It's one of the most popular boutique hotels in Cape Town (quite rightly, if you ask us). Perched on the slopes of Lion's Head in Bantry Bay, it's shielded from the winds that can sometimes breeze through the city. Rooms in the hotel are colonial in style, whereas the villas are modern and great for groups of

friends. Peruse the contemporary art collection. Sample a bottle from the 7,500-strong South African wine gallery. Or indulge in our personal guilty pleasure: homemade cakes and treats fresh from the guest pantry.

Guide price: £230-£295pppn, with breakfast & selected beverages



THE CELLARS-HOHENORT

With its pretty rose gardens, you'd be forgiven for thinking you were in an English country retreat instead of the heart of Constantia. With its centuries-old vineyards and acres of greenbelt, it might feel a million miles from Cape Town – yet the Waterfront is only 20 minutes away. That said, traditional hospitality is what The Cellars-Hohenort does best. Its award-winning Greenhouse Restaurant often

features as one of Cape Town's top restaurants. And Peter Tempelhoff, the executive chef, is recognised as a 'Relais & Chateaux Grand Chef'. Just one of the reasons people come back time and time again.

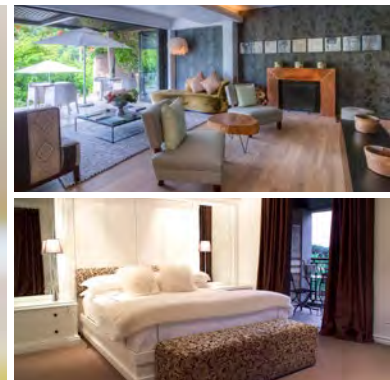
Guide price: £110-£145pppn, with breakfast

KENSINGTON PLACE

Want a table booking at a top restaurant? You got it. Need some help organising a wine tour? Done. When you stay at Kensington Place nothing (and we mean nothing) is too much trouble. It's one of the most established boutique hotels in the city. You'll find it in the leafy, upmarket residential area of Higgovale, on the slopes of Table Mountain. It's an oasis of calm

overlooking the city, where you can expect a warm welcome whatever time of day you arrive. What more can we say? Kensington Place, you had us at all-day breakfast.

Guide price: £65-£90pppn, with breakfast



CAPE GRACE

From its twinkling chandeliers to the dramatic drapes at the French windows, Cape Grace oozes pure Capetonian glamour. It's cleverly designed and styled to feel like a boutique hotel. Yet, the facilities are five-star hotel all the way. You'll find it on the Victoria and Alfred waterfront. Every room comes with spectacular views of the marina, Table Mountain or the water. It's

home to our favourite breakfast in Cape Town. Delicious tapas in Bascule Bar. And one of the largest whisky collections in the southern hemisphere. The service is intuitive and very accommodating – there's even a chauffeur especially for guests.

*Guide price: £185-£275pppn,
with breakfast*



ONE&ONLY CAPE TOWN

Never mind raising the bar: the One&Only Cape Town sends the bar into orbit. As far as we (and most other people) are concerned, this hotel is so glamorous and exclusive, it verges on the iconic. The restaurant is the brainchild of Nobuyuki Matsuhisa, who serves faultless Nobu food using locally sourced ingredients. There's a brasserie with breathtaking views of Table

Mountain. A blissful, award-winning spa. An infinity pool ringed with swaying palm trees. And with their private balconies and terraces, the rooms and suites are nothing short of perfect.

*Guide price: £230-£290pppn,
with breakfast*

BELMOND MOUNT NELSON

We really rate the Belmond Mount Nelson's relaxed, laid back vibe. It might be slap bang in the centre of the city, but its surrounded by so much greenery it feels more like a little resort. There's a massive pool and it's the kind of place where kids can come to the table in their towel and flip flops and no-one bats an eyelid. It's recently had a makeover, too – out with the Sanderson prints,

in with a new selection of cool, bright rooms and suites. Thankfully, though, its famous high tea is every bit as delicious (and popular) as ever.

*Guide price: £150-£205pppn,
with breakfast*

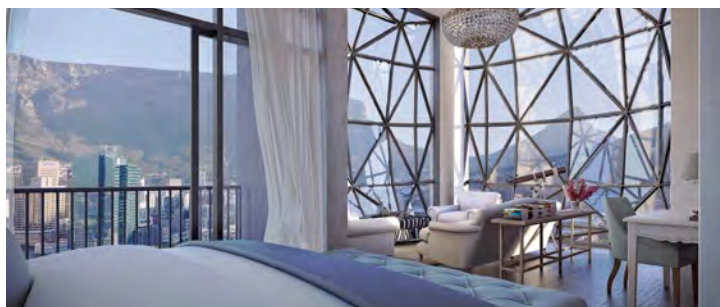


THE SILO

The wait is killing us: we're counting down the days to early 2017, when The Silo will finally open its doors. It's the latest offering from the Liz Biden stable, the most famous independent hotelier in South Africa. Built in what was Cape Town's historic grain silo, there's going to be floor to ceiling pillowed windows in all the suites. A glass swimming pool

on the roof. Direct access to The Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa when it opens later in 2017. And what we think will be the best panoramic views to be found anywhere. Watch this space.

Guide price: £305-£455pppn, with breakfast & museum entrance

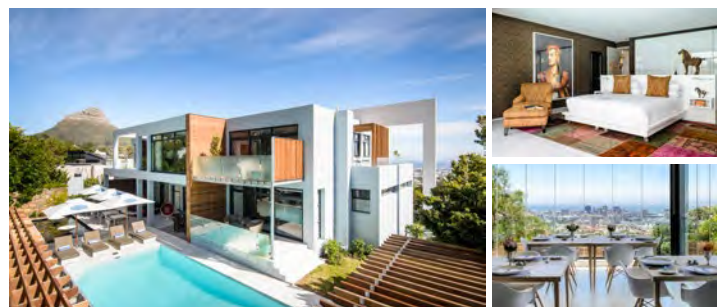


MANNABAY

If pristine white walls are your thing, forget it. MannaBay's colour palette knows no such bounds. But if orchid print wallpaper, South African flag rugs and brightly coloured Kartell Ghost Chairs do it for you, read on. The funny thing is, the busy décor just works – we particularly love the huge pink flamingo painting hanging behind the free-standing

bath in the Flamingo room. It could be down to the simple beauty of the backdrop. You can't stay nearer to Table Mountain than this: any closer, you'd be scrambling up it.

Guide price: £170pppn, with breakfast, high tea & selected beverages

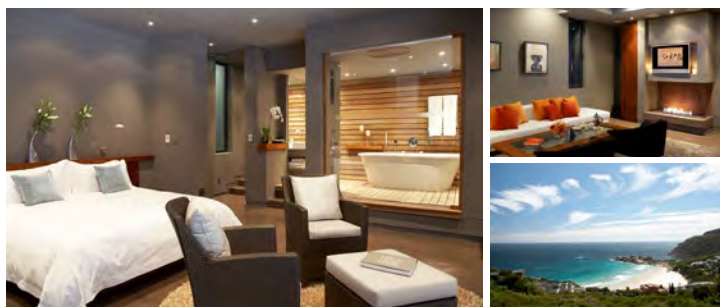


26 SUNSET AVENUE

The gates roll back to reveal a striking house and jaw-dropping view. You enter a world where your every wish is taken care of. Where your meals are prepared by your private chef. This is how it feels to be one of the privileged few. The location isn't for everyone. Llandudno is about 15 minutes from Camps Bay. There aren't many local amenities (although we promise you won't miss them). But if you're looking

for the ultimate post-safari, exclusive use villa or home from home for the family, it doesn't get better than this. (And at certain times of the year, couples may be fortunate enough to experience it too.)

Guide price: £305-£365pppn, with breakfast & light lunch or sundowners; £276-£323pppn based on 12 sharing



VILLAS & APARTMENTS

You get more space to relax and more for your money with a villa (especially if you're a family or travelling in a large group). From five-bed retreats by the beach to one-bed apartments in the city, choose from a range of properties across Cape Town. We can even equip your home from home with private chefs, butlers, drivers and nannies.

Be sure to book early, though. Repeat visitors and those in the know tend to snap up private properties well in advance.

Please call for a tailor-made quotation



A SHORT DRIVE AWAY

Four hours. That's all it takes to drive to some of the Western Cape's lesser-known gems. From the Cederberg Mountains in the north to wildlife reserves in the east, there's lots to see beyond the Mother City. And the journey is all part of the experience. Ask yourself, what would a savvy traveller do? Join the masses along the ever popular Garden Route? Or hit the tarmac to find something only those in the know ever get a chance to see? Here are our top destinations within easy reach of Cape Town.



BUSHMANS KLOOF

Don't go here to tick the Big Five off your list. Bushmans Kloof is more about serious relaxation than serious safari. What it does offer, however, is scenery like you've never seen in your life – the view of the Cederberg Rock formations from the verandah is simply jaw-dropping. Relax by the pool. See bushman art dating back 10,000 years. Sample a bottle from

the platinum award winning wine cellar. Bushmans Kloof is the perfect place to kick-off your holiday, or wind down after a week in the city.

Guide price: £150-£260pppn, full board with lodge activities



SANBONA WILDLIFE RESERVE

The best open skies in South Africa for star gazing. Rangers who know how to tell a story. The strangely moon-like landscape of the Karoo. It's the little things that make Sanbona so special. It isn't on the same scale as the Kruger. There are buffalos, lions and elephants a-plenty, although you won't see herds of wildebeest stampeding across the

plains. But if you're looking for a family friendly safari that you don't need to book another flight for (it's practically on Cape Town's doorstep), Sanbona is well worth a visit.

Guide price: £255-£370pppn, full board with game drives & walks

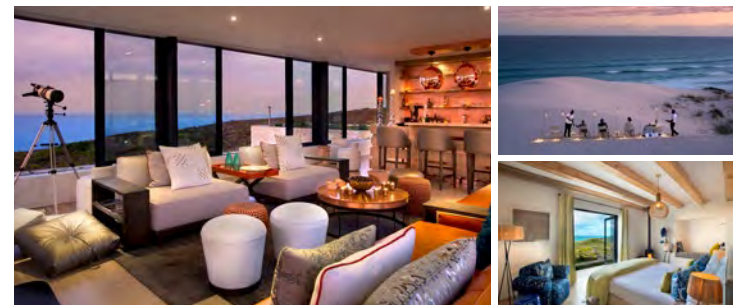


MORUKURU OCEAN HOUSE

Stunning ocean views? Check. A nature reserve on your doorstep? Check. The chance to see southern right whales breed and breach from mid-July to November? Double check. The villa is perfect for large families. There's more sandboarding and snorkelling than the kids can shake a stick at. The location is excellent and there's all the staff

you could want to cater to your every whim. And if it's seclusion you're after, head to the high sandy dunes and you'll often have them completely to yourself. It's what we call a five-star bucket and spade holiday.

Guide price: £275-£430pppn, based on 4 sharing, all inclusive & activities







SOUTH AFRICA

THE CAPE WINELANDS

BONE-DRY SAUVIGNON. SMOOTH SHIRAZ. PUNCHY PINOTAGE. TASTING SOUTH AFRICAN SPECIALITIES AT THE SOURCE IS REASON ENOUGH TO VISIT THE WINELANDS. BUT WE CAN THINK OF A FEW MORE.

It's an hour from Cape Town, although the Cape Dutch architecture, lush scenery and magnificent mountain ranges make it feel light-years away. It's always a little hotter here, and in our opinion it's the perfect place to unwind.

The former French Huguenot settlement of Franschhoek and Dutch-founded Stellenbosch are the most well known towns. These, along with nearby Paarl, are trailblazers when it comes to

South African food. There are plenty of excellent places to eat, offering everything from tasting menus by celebrated chefs to al fresco picnics in vineyards.

There are lots of lesser-known towns to visit, too. Places like Robertson, famed for its fragrant roses, or the olive growing area, Riebeek Kasteel. We know some super routes from Wellington to Oudtshoorn, so if you fancy hitting the open road, we'd

be happy to help with the planning.

Driving not your thing? There are lots of other ways to travel. Take the wine tram around Franschhoek. Go wine tasting on horseback or by helicopter. Or let us arrange a car and driver for you.

And beer drinkers, don't despair: Franschhoek now has a little micro-brewery, too.

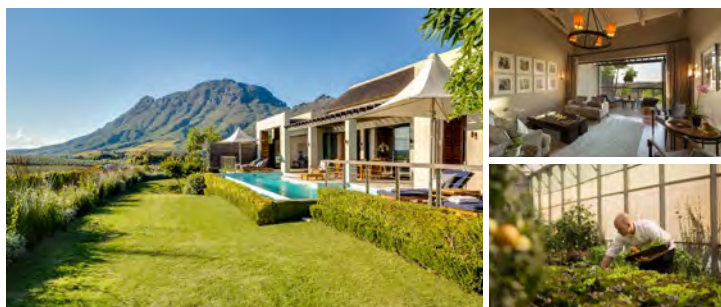


DELAIRE GRAFF ESTATE - STELLENBOSCH

Could somebody please pinch us? Because we can't believe anywhere could be this perfect. The wine cellar is one of the best. The Pan-Asian restaurant is sublime. And the art collection includes masterpieces from Laurence Graff's own personal collection, like the Chinese Girl by Tretchikoff. With wraparound views of vineyards and your own private

lodge complete with heated plunge pool, you might struggle to believe you're awake, too. The only thing that could top this, is going home with a diamond from the on-site Graff store.

Guide price: £325-£470pppn, with breakfast & wine tasting



LA RESIDENCE - FRANSCHHOEK

There's no photograph on earth that could do this hotel justice. Photos can't capture the way the chandeliers twinkle in the morning sunlight. The opulent grandeur that comes without a hint of stuffiness. Or the way La Residence's team make you feel the moment you walk through the doors. If you can tear yourself away from your individually

decorated suite, it's worth exploring the estate. And don't be surprised if you bump into a couple of miniature horses or a little herd of springbok on your way.

Guide price: £245-£380pppn, with breakfast & selected beverages

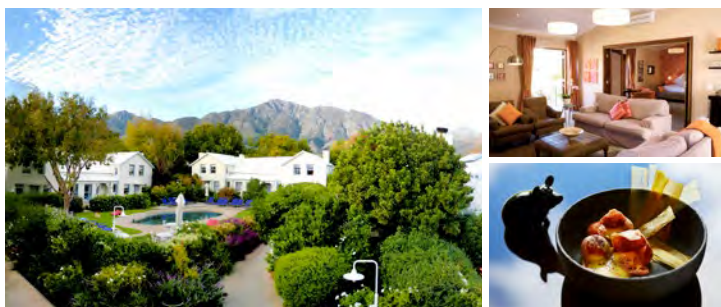


LE QUARTIER FRANÇAIS - FRANSCHHOEK

An icon in Franschhoek for many years, thanks, in part, to its head chef. Margot Janse is regularly voted the best chef in South Africa. Her food is so in demand, if you want to eat at the Tasting Room, the best way to guarantee a table is to check into the hotel. Not that it isn't worth it. The rooms are filled with African colours. The Four Quarters suites come with

oodles of space. And the House Suites, with a pool and second loft room, are great for families.

Guide price: £170-£190pppn, with breakfast & wine tasting

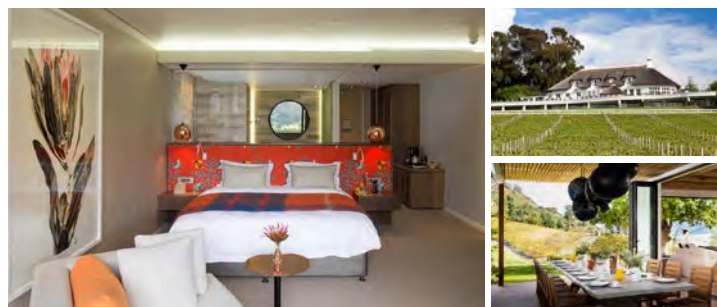


MONT ROCHELLE - FRANSCHHOEK

Part Western Cape glamour, part English eccentric. The kind of place where wooden-beam ceilings overlook statues of sheep. Where Warhol-esque paintings of Mandela hang next to ceramic bulldogs. It's owned by Sir Richard Branson, and comes with Virgin Limited Edition's stamp of quality. It sits on its own private estate (ideal for picnics), with

epic views across the Franschhoek Valley. The Farmhouse Kitchen is fabulous for wine tasting and deli-style lunches. And we're very excited about the private Manor House – perfect for families and people searching for a little seclusion.

Guide price: £95-£145pppn, with breakfast



SOMETHING DIFFERENT

We think there's a lot more to the Winelands than wine tasting. So much so, we just had to give special mention to a few of the experiences and places to stay that we love best. So why not put down that bottle and immerse yourself in the heart of a working farm? Or spend a couple of nights relaxing in one of the region's hot new spas? There's no better way to recharge your batteries and detox, before heading back to the vineyards ready to re-tox all over again.



BABYLONSTOREN - NEAR FRANSCHHOEK

This organic farm is like The Good Life meets Grand Designs. It's a place to be at one with nature and escape the noise of the city. And it's a personal favourite of ours. It sits in the footprint of the original 17th century farm buildings. From the whitewashed, gabled exterior down to the spa-like bathrooms, it embodies simplicity, done with style. Pick fruit and veg in

the garden. Take bike rides around the grounds. Feast on local breads, cheeses and hams from the deli. Getting back to nature never felt so good.

Guide price: £110-£165pppn, with breakfast & garden visit

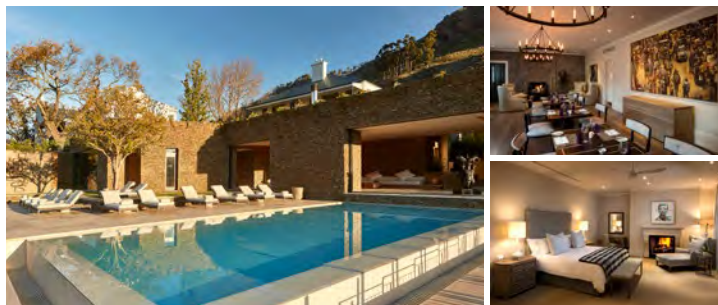


LEEU ESTATES - FRANSCHHOEK

Leeu Estates has been causing quite a buzz in the Winelands. It's a haven where art, wine and hospitality collide. Where you can curl up with a book in the reading room one day and visit the wellness sanctuary for a hand-picked treatment using ingredients from the Amazon rain forest the next. In particular, people are talking about the Dining

Room, masterminded by executive chef Oliver Cattermole, whose uncomplicated style makes simple dishes sing. We're expecting Leeu Estates to be the name on people's lips for a long while yet.

Guide price: £230-£250pppn, with breakfast & wine tasting



THE LIGHT HOUSE BOUTIQUE SUITES - PAARL

Some secrets are too good to keep. That's how we feel about the Light House Boutique Suites. Being in Paarl, this guest house might be a little off the beaten path. But it's surrounded by landmark wine estates and, if you ask us, well worth taking a detour for. The managers are fashion designers, so expect style, flair and impeccable attention

to detail. They're also mines of local knowledge. Just ask, and they'll point you in the direction of truly authentic vineyards where you can still meet the winemaker in person.

Guide price: £90-£125pppn, with breakfast





SOUTH AFRICA

MARINE SAFARIS

VISIT HERMANUS AND YOU CAN TICK A MARINE SAFARI,
SHARK CAGE DIVING AND WHALE WATCHING
OFF YOUR BUCKET LIST, TOO.

It's where southern right whales go to nurse their young from July to November. You don't even need to get on a boat – snuggle beneath a blanket at Birkenhead

House and the whales will come to you. The best way to get a sense of the magnitude? Fly out over Walker Bay to see just how many there actually are.



GROOTBOS PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE

At Grootbos you can get up close to the marine Big Five: whales, dolphins, seals, penguins and sharks. You can horse ride, go on a flower safari, explore the 1,000-year-old Milkwood Forests, visit the beach or simply savour amazing organic food washed down with local Overberg wines. But in our opinion, the best thing about Grootbos is getting to know the Cape

floral kingdom. When you're driving past, it's easy to miss the detail – or even know the detail's there in the first place. Michael, the owner, is a master at (literally) getting guests to take time to smell the flowers.

Guide price: £230-£325pppn, full board with selected land-based activities

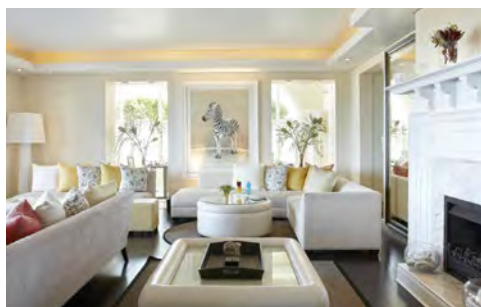


THE MARINE - HERMANUS

Whatever you do, ask for a front facing suite. They overlook Walker Bay, South Africa's most treasured whale sanctuary. And from July to November you can watch them in action without even leaving your room. The cliff-top location is pretty dramatic, too. The area started life as a place where local shepherds could live off the fresh fish they

caught. So, as you'd expect, the seafood restaurant, overseen by Relais & Châteaux Grand Chef, Peter Tempelhoff, is second to none. The Marine, if you're reading, never take Rich Man's fish and chips off the menu. It would break our hearts.

Guide price: £115-£150pppn, with breakfast



BIRKENHEAD HOUSE - HERMANUS

What comes to mind when you think of a beach house? We imagine it's not twinkling chandeliers, huge roll-top baths and fresh seafood prepared to order. But Birkenhead House isn't your typical beach house. Despite the obvious glamour and style, it's the kind of place no-one will frown at you if you kick off your flip flops and curl up on the sofa to

watch the waves. The rooms have been styled by the magic wand of Liz Biden. They're all gorgeous. But in our opinion, it's worth spending a bit more to get a sea view room.

Guide price: £165-£235pppn, all inclusive







SOUTH AFRICA

THE GARDEN ROUTE & THE EASTERN CAPE

HEADING ALONG THE GARDEN ROUTE? OUR ADVICE IS TO
BREAK FREE FROM THE CONVOYS OF MINIBUSES, AND
EXPLORE THE REGION AT YOUR OWN PACE.

Don't plan a trip to the Garden Route expecting expanses of perfectly pruned gardens. It inherited its name because its rugged coast is such a stark contrast to the arid inland.

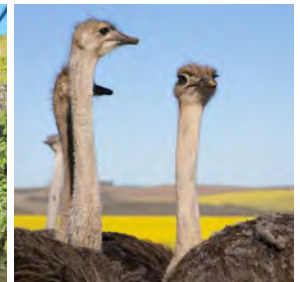
It's a joy to drive along and there are plenty of things to see and do along the way. You can take forest walks amid ancient trees, hit bike trails or head out by boat to spot whales and dolphins – days can be as action packed or relaxing as you please; evenings can be pleasantly

whiled away in popular coastal resorts such as Knysna or Plettenberg Bay.

But if you do plan a trip to the Garden Route, our advice is to not stick religiously to the coast. Venture inland, along Route 62, and you'll see things most minibus convoys on the N2 highway miss. It runs from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth and offers lots of scenic stop-offs along the way. There's sleepy Oudtshoorn (the ostrich capital of the country). Jaw-dropping views

through the Swartberg Pass. And Calitzdorp, with its port wine estates.

Once you pass Port Elizabeth, you enter a different world. A world of rolling hills, endless plains and world-class game reserves. Safaris on the Eastern Cape are a great place to start wildlife spotting. The reserves are home to the Big Five (although the leopards are a tad elusive). And even if you're a seasoned safari pro, we still think they're up there with the best.



THE GARDEN ROUTE

FANCOURT - GEORGE

Fancourt is the place to stay for golf. It's home to three award-winning Gary Player courses. These include The Links, currently ranked as number one by Golf Digest South Africa and reserved for the sole use of guests and members. But there's a lot more to Fancourt than golf. It's a super resort with lots for children and families. For couples,

we really recommend a suite in the Manor House. It's a boutique hotel within the resort complete with butler service, evening canapés and beautiful baskets of goodies in the bathrooms.

Guide price: £85-£115pppn, with breakfast; The Manor £180-£250pppn with breakfast



PEZULA GOLF RESORT & SPA - KNYSNA

Pezula's private villas are dotted around a lush 2,500-acre estate. There's a nine-treatment-room spa complete with heated massage waterbeds. A championship golf course with jaw-dropping views over the Knysna heads. And interconnecting rooms that were made for families. The pan-African cuisine served in Zachary's is made

with herbs and vegetables from their own garden and is utterly delicious. We also love the stylish cocktail bar. But if you really feel like splashing out and living like royalty, check into one of Pezula's three private castles on Noetzie Beach.

Guide price: £115-£135pppn, with breakfast

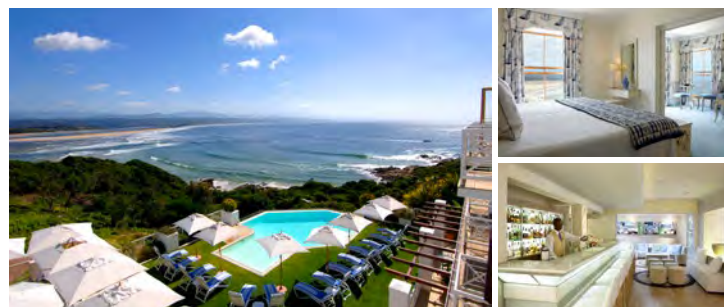


THE PLETTENBERG - PLETTENBERG BAY

The Plettenberg used to have a reputation for being a bit of a seaside retirement home. Not now. The chintz has been replaced with a raft of cool, contemporary suites. There are buckets and spades for the kids, beach bags and boogie boards aplenty. If you ask us, it's taken years off the place. It's worth splashing out on a sea view room overlooking

Plettenberg Bay. But be sure to book well in advance. This hotel is seriously popular, so you might need to be a bit flexible with your itinerary.

Guide price: £100-£145pppn, with breakfast



TSALA TREETOP LODGE - PLETTENBERG BAY

Tsala's villas remind us of tree houses, suspended in the forest on a network of raised pathways. With their out-of-this-world views they make romantic getaways for couples. And we think they're a dream come true for kids (and big kids, come to mention it). They're in a prime spot for exploring the Garden Route; Plettenberg's beaches and the Tsitsikamma

National Park are both close by. But if you'd rather stay put, there are splash pools for plunging, wood-burners for snuggling and the superb restaurant, Zinzi, a short stroll away.

Guide price: £180-£280pppn, with breakfast



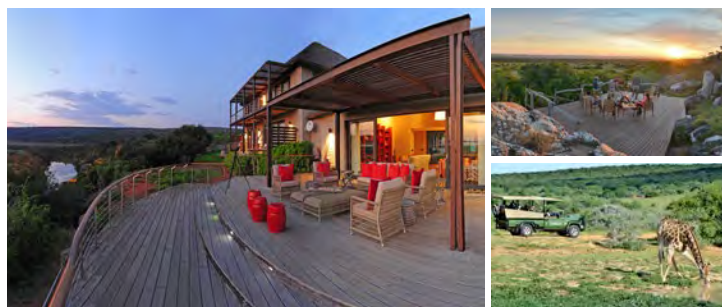
EASTERN CAPE SAFARIS

SHAMWARI GAME RESERVE

There's a good reason Shamwari is the most well-known reserve in the Eastern Cape: it's the whole package. It's a malaria free zone. There's wildlife on your doorstep. Lodges tucked in trees and ones that open out onto the plains. (With its play area and interconnecting rooms, Riverdene Family Lodge is perfect if you're travelling with kids.)

But if you're looking for more of an authentic safari feel, we recommend going for one of the tented suites – complete with staggering views of the African bush.

Guide price: £255-£320pppn, full board at Long Lee Manor with game drives & walks



KWANDWE PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

Kwandwe is a family friendly private reserve in the Great Fish River valley. Their exclusive-use safari houses come with their own chef, vehicle and staff, and we think they're great for extended families. Each lodge is superbly finished – choose between timeless elegance or funky cosmopolitan with vibrant pops of colour and bright, squishy sofas.

There's oodles of space, plunge pools, huge bathrooms (as well as outdoor showers, too). You're likely to tick wildlife off your list here, too. Kwandwe guides work with trackers. Because sometimes on safari, one pair of eyes just isn't enough.

Guide price: £410-£610pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks

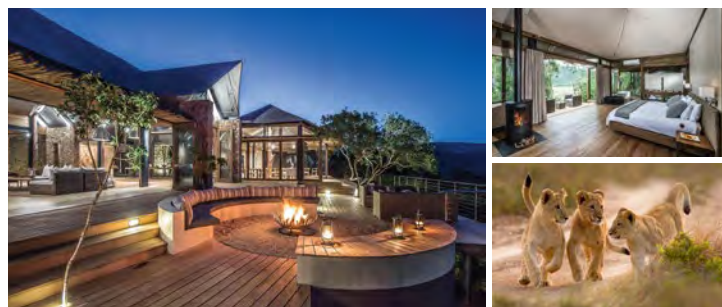


SETTLERS DRIFT - KARIEGA PRIVATE RESERVE

In our opinion, Settlers Drift is the most lavish lodge on the Kariega Reserve. But it's not all about the opulence: you really can feel the heartbeat of the reserve. Each tented suite comes complete with a private viewing deck overlooking Bushman's River. And don't be surprised if you open your front door in the morning to find a nyala grazing by

your doorstep. Our top tip: time your arrival to meet the boat and, weather permitting, you can cruise down the river to the lodge instead of driving.

Guide price: £315-£465pppn, all inclusive with game drives, walks & river cruises



GORAH ELEPHANT CAMP - ADDO

Your adventure begins before you even arrive, with a 30-minute drive to the camp in a game-viewing vehicle. How to top that? By settling into a beautifully decorated tent with panoramic views of the plains. When we say tent, we're talking wooden floors and thatched roofs, by the way. (Although thanks to the canvas walls, you still feel like you're on safari.)

You don't need to venture far to see wildlife. Over lunch on the terrace, we spotted zebras, warthogs and a cautious jackal – the lunch was delicious, too.

Guide price: £300-£450pppn, full board with game drives



SOUTH AFRICA

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

WELCOME TO ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST NATIONAL PARKS: HOME TO AN INCREDIBLE ARRAY OF WILDLIFE, POWERFUL LANDSCAPES AND THE KIND OF ACCOMMODATION DREAMS ARE MADE OF.

The Kruger is where you'll find all of Africa's iconic safari species – elephant, lion, cheetah, rhino, buffalo, giraffe, hippo and zebra. (We're not making any promises, but your chances of seeing leopards are higher here, too.)

Most of our favourite lodges are on reserves to the west, like Sabi Sand, Timbavati, and Thornybush. And being private reserves, you can break all the rules you have to follow when you're in the national park.

Your guide can go off road, meaning if a leopard is 100 metres from the main route they can drive right to it. You can go on night drives, when most animals hunt. And you can always get the perfect photograph. Rangers are often great photographers and know where to position vehicles, as well as how to predict photo opportunities.

Prepare yourself for some big names over the next few pages, as well as more intimate, boutique lodges.

You won't be roughing it. Private reserves were the birth place of bush dinners, Champagne pit stops and outdoor free-standing bath tubs.

The Kruger's private reserves are the perfect place to start if you're new to safari. Because if the thought of witnessing a lion hunt doesn't get your pulse racing, the show-stopping splendour of the lodges surely will.





SOUTH AFRICA

THE KRUGER & NEIGHBOURING RESERVES

RATTRAYS ON MALAMALA

When it comes to safari, size matters. And that's where Rattrays really raises the bar. It has one of the largest traversing areas of any lodge in the region. The result is an undisturbed game-viewing experience where your guides really don't need to take the same route twice. You rarely see other vehicles (during our stay, we spotted a young leopard sitting on a log and had him completely to

ourselves). The rooms are large and lack for nothing. They might not be the fanciest in the area, but we think the real sense of privilege here comes from the unforgettable wildlife encounters.

Guide price: £780pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks



ROYAL MALEWANE

The game might not be as prolific at Royal Malewane. But when you have such exceptional guides, it really doesn't matter a jot. What's more, the lodge is absolutely stunning. If a destination spa, exquisite rooms and great food are your motivation, then you'd be hard pushed to find a better – or more beautiful – lodge in the Kruger area. It's popular with people who want privacy. It's located

in a discreet spot on the western side of the national park, and there's even a secluded six-bedroom house. (That could be why it's a big hit with celebrities, too.)

Guide price: £1125-£1190pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks

ULUSABA

It's a tough decision: do you stay at Rock Lodge, perched 800-feet above the wilderness, or Safari Lodge, tucked in the bush beside a dry river bed? These are the delightful dilemmas you face when you stay at Sir Richard Branson's Kruger lodge. Whichever you choose, the rooms are quirky and full of character across the board. You really feel that you're in Africa when you stay here. It could

be the airy, natural décor. Or perhaps it's down to the epic views from the floor to ceiling windows. Still can't decide? Maybe it's time to toss a coin.

Guide price: £580pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks



SINGITA

All hail the queen of luxury lodges. Singita's South African offering is made up of four lodges and a private house across two separate areas: a concession within the Kruger and another in Sabi Sand. Singita rangers know how to bring the bush to life. The service is exceptional. And the food is phenomenal: the chefs and wine cellars here would put a top London restaurant to shame.

Unless you can book well in advance or are flexible with your dates, try not to set your heart on one particular lodge. Singita is very popular. Best to keep your options open.

Guide price: £1190pppn, all inclusive at Ebony Lodge with game drives & walks



LEOPARD HILLS

The clue's in the name: Leopard Hills is renowned for its sightings of the most camera shy of all the Big Five. There are no guarantees, of course. But the head ranger and his team really do go out of their way to make it happen. The lodge is in a beautiful spot, perched on top of a rocky outcrop overlooking the bush and watering hole. The glass-fronted suites have plunge pools, exterior

showers and private decks, and they've got that earthy, romantic feel that's perfect for honeymooners. The views across the bushveld beyond are simply incredible.

Guide price: £695pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks

LONDOLOZI

Londolozi's been in the Varty family for decades. Over the years, they've spent huge amounts conserving, rehabilitating and making their land a place where wildlife can thrive. As a result, it's one of the finest reserves in Africa for game viewing and regular sightings of leopards. You can tell the staff love what they do. And the lodges are sublime. They've recently extended some chalets at Founders Camp to make them comfier for

families: we particularly love Tree Camp, surrounded by orchids, lanterns and leadwood trees. And the Private Granite Suites, complete with exclusive-use heated pools, are the last word in seclusion for up to six guests.

Guide price: £560pppn, all inclusive at Varty Camp with game drives & walks





ANDBEYOND NGALA

AndBeyond Ngala opens out onto the Kruger National Park – ideal for spotting leopards, elephants and lions. There are two camps to choose from. The Tented Camp, on the banks of a dried river bed, has that intimate, under-the-canvas feel to it. It's a good choice for couples. Safari Lodge has recently been refurbished and is one of the largest camps we offer. We

think it works well for families. The cottages are close together – perfect if you're travelling with teenagers – and the family suite is great if you're travelling with younger children.

Guide price: £370pppn, all inclusive at Safari Lodge with game drives & walks



CHITWA CHITWA

Fine food; awe-inspiring wildlife; spacious suites: Chitwa Chitwa is old-school safari hosting brought bang up to date. From the exceptional food at our bush breakfast to the array of almost two dozen gins at sundowners, the team takes bush dining to a whole new level. The suites are high-ceilinged and stylish. But best of all, they overlook

a wildlife-rich dam. By day hippos, elephants and antelope bask in the sunshine. By night, lions roar and might even take a stroll through the camp while you sleep (like they did during our visit).

Guide price: £605pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks



SAVANNA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

If you'd like to sleep beneath canvas but worry about going full tent, Savanna is for you. Your friends need never know that the draped canvas ceiling is actually covered by a sturdy, permanent structure. It creates an atmosphere that's rugged and opulent at the same time (go for a suite with a plunge pool if you really want to up the indulgence factor).

Worth noting: the Savanna ranging team is arguably one of the finest in Africa. They're seriously well trained and have vast knowledge of the African bushveld.

Guide price: £485pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks

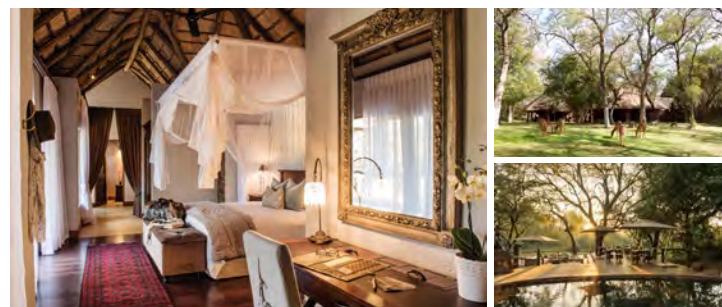


THE DULINI COLLECTION

Honeymooners, listen up: every single suite at The Dulini Collection comes with its own plunge pool. The collection comprises three romantic lodges: Dulini, Leadwood and River. Whichever you choose, personal service reigns supreme. The lodges are deliberately small and intimate and it makes it easy for the team to really put guests at the heart of

everything they do. Go for Leadwood if you're travelling as a family or in a group – you can have the entire place for your own exclusive use.

Guide price: £715pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks



A herd of elephants is walking along a dirt path in a savanna landscape. The elephants are in the foreground, with one slightly ahead of the others. The background shows more elephants and the dry, open landscape under a hazy sky.

SOUTH AFRICA MADIKWE

THINK AFRICA IN THE MOVIES AND YOU'RE ALMOST THERE:
ENDLESS GRASSLANDS, ACACIA TREES AND EPIC SUNSETS.

Madikwe is home to the Big Five, wild dogs and cheetahs. It's also malaria free, so if you're travelling with kids, they won't need to take tablets. The lodges are straight out

of the movies, too. Imagine outdoor baths, art collections and panoramic views and you're on the right track. We can't help having our favourites and here's why.

MORUKURU

Morukuru is our number one for families. It's a collection of exclusive-use lodges (our favourite for kids is the Farmhouse, with its light, airy décor and two pommel horses in the garden). The Farmhouse's outside bath is a gorgeous spot for parents who manage to sneak away for a romantic moment, too. The Owner's House and River House are a little

smaller and more traditional, so they're great for smaller families and couples. Whichever you choose, book early. Morukuru fills up fast, especially during the school holidays.

Guide price: £355-£530pppn based on 4 sharing, all inclusive with game drives & walks

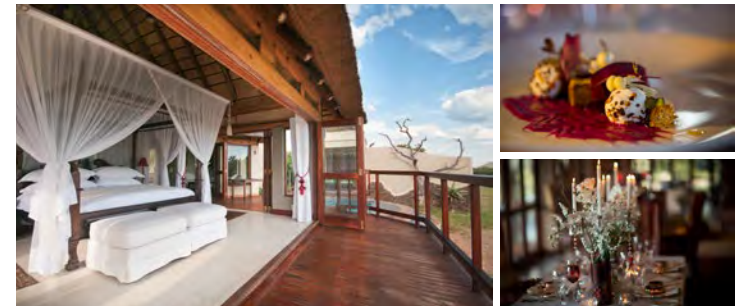


JAMALA MADIKWE

Calling all foodies. Jamala Madikwe's chef and general manager is a genius at finely tuning food to match the safari experience. This is bush dining at its best. Aside from game viewing in a malaria-free zone, one of our favourite things to do here is stay put. The villas have lovely little extras like private outdoor showers. And there's a watering hole right next to the

lodge. An afternoon spent on sofa safari here, with a pair of binoculars and a G&T, is an afternoon well spent.

Guide price: £470-£515pppn, all inclusive with game drives



MATEYA SAFARI LODGE

We think Mateya's rangers are among the best in the whole area. They're masters at bringing the landscape to life. And they only ever put four people in a vehicle, so you're guaranteed a more private, personal game-viewing experience. It's also home to one of the world's finest collections of African art including carvings, majestic oil paintings and

life-sized bronze statues. When it comes to service and style, Mateya does things traditionally – albeit to impeccably high standards. We like to think of it as the Rolls Royce of Madikwe safaris.

Guide price: £665pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks

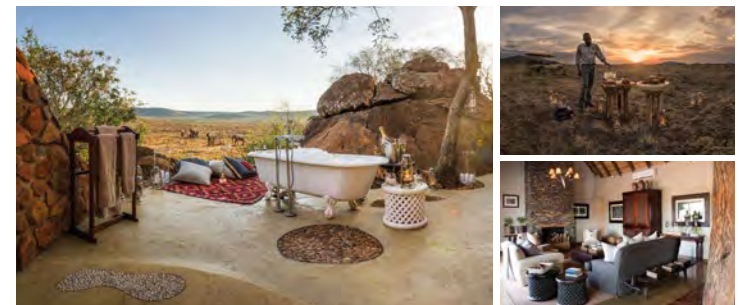


MADIKWE HILLS

The panoramic views here are jaw-dropping. This includes the views from the suites, where the baths and beds are positioned to make the most of the outlook; you can spot game without even leaving your room. Although you'd be missing out if you didn't. The rangers think of every detail to make your drive comfortable (the hot water bottles

are a particularly lovely touch). And if you combine your stay with a stint at Leopard Hills, their sister lodge in the Kruger, you'll benefit from their 'stay longer' deals, too.

Guide price: £385-£490pppn, all inclusive with game drives & walks



SOMETHING DIFFERENT

TSWALU KALAHARI

Walk with meerkats. Sleep beneath hundreds of twinkling stars. Perhaps strike it lucky and see aardvark and pangolin. From the moment your light aircraft arrives at Tswalu Kalahari, you know you're in for something very special.

The malaria-free territory stretches on forever with open savannahs, dunes and massive hills unlike any others in South Africa.

Numbers are limited on game drives (there are never more than 30 guests allowed to

stay at the reserve at any one time) so you're more likely to catch glimpses of elusive, endangered beasts like the black rhino and cheetah. You can set your own pace - you can even explore the reserve on foot and stop for a picnic en route if the fancy takes you. And the idyllic lodges are second to none.

We warn you, though: one visit just won't be enough.

*Guide price: £780pppn,
all inclusive with game drives,
walks & horse riding*







SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG

WE TEND TO VIEW JOHANNESBURG AS NOTHING MORE THAN A STOPOVER.
IN FACT, MOST OF US JET IN AND OUT AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN.
BUT RATHER THAN RUSH, WE RECOMMEND STOPPING
TO SMELL THE JACARANDA.

It's a city with a past and a sense of purpose. Visit Soweto to learn about the struggle South Africa went through to abolish apartheid and achieve independence. Head to the progressive

streets of Melville to see just how far Johannesburg has come.

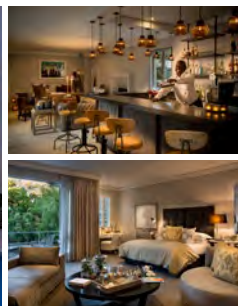
Jo'burg has an energy. And we know where to find it.

ATHOLPLACE

AtholPlace is a boutique hotel in a leafy, residential part of Jo'burg. With its home-from-home feel, it's great for getting away from it all. And we love it as an authentic antidote to the corporate tide that's currently sweeping over the city. The suites are the epitome of modern South African design and they're beautifully furnished. The hotel also has a top-

notch reputation for food. We think families will love the villa: it's a real hideaway, sitting within its own grounds just next door to the main hotel.

*Guide price: £145pppn,
with breakfast*

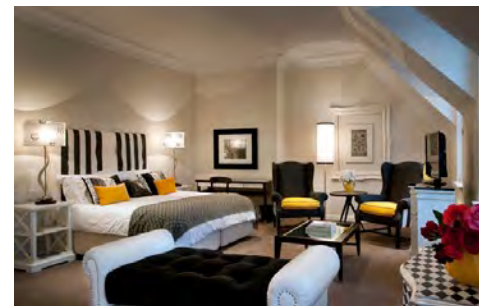


33 MELVILLE ROAD

If stuffy, fussy hotels bring you out in a sweat, you'll love 33 Melville Road. For starters, the outdoor pool is the perfect place to cool off. Secondly, the individually decorated suites are a masterclass in eclectic elegance. The staff really do go out of their way to make you feel welcome (personal service is high on their agenda). And whatever you do, make sure you have

breakfast: the freshly baked bread is divine and the banter with the resident chef in the open kitchen isn't to be missed.

*Guide price: £160pppn,
with breakfast*

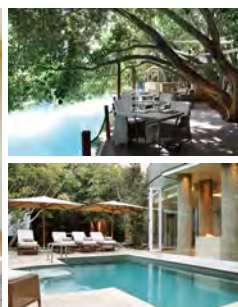
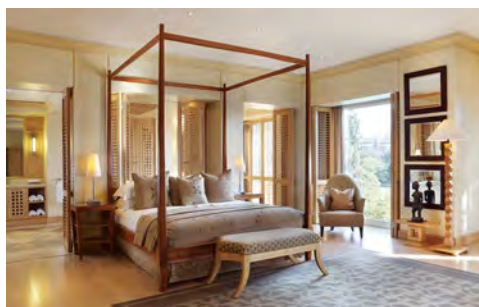


SAXON HOTEL, VILLAS & SPA

Sandton is Johannesburg's most sophisticated district. So we can think of no more fitting location for the Saxon. It is, quite simply, jaw-dropping. This is splendour on a completely different scale. There's a world-class spa, spectacular suites complete with interconnecting rooms and even an art collection. A meal in the award-winning restaurant is

an absolute must. It's run by Luke Dale-Roberts, one of South Africa's finest chefs. Don't leave it to the last minute, though. You need to book well in advance to stand a chance of securing a table.

*Guide price: £180pppn,
with breakfast*

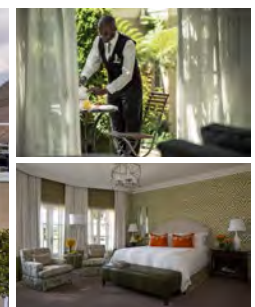


FOUR SEASONS HOTEL THE WESTCLIFF

Four Seasons The Westcliff is a classic hotel from an international name you can trust. It's housed in what was the old Westcliff hotel. Since changing hands it's undergone a complete makeover and now feels bang up to date. Every amenity is top-notch. The rooms and suites take their inspiration from the muted tones of modern Africa. The spa is heaven on

earth. And the two pools never seem crowded. We also loved the Sunday brunch at Flames, where the buffet left us wanting for absolutely nothing.

*Guide price: £150pppn,
with breakfast*





SOUTH AFRICA

KWAZULU-NATAL

RUGGED MOUNTAIN RANGES, FASCINATING HISTORY,
TOWNS TEEMING WITH AFRICAN LIFE:
KWAZULU-NATAL HAS GOT IT ALL.

Hotter than Cape Town and the Garden Route, KwaZulu-Natal is a region where iconic battlefields jostle for space with Africa's finest destination spa. Where rolling grasslands sit alongside the spectacular Drakensberg mountain range.

Where hustly bustling cities like Durban give way to pretty beaches. Add to that the wildlife – the Big Five and rare marine wildlife are a three-hour drive or one-hour flight from Durban – and you've got the complete South Africa package.

FUGITIVES' DRIFT

Remember to pack your tissues. Because when you hear the guides at Fugitives' Drift recount stories of the Zulu War, you'll be sure to need them. Even if you're not a history buff, you can't help but be moved. The property, owned by the Rattray family, is close to Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift, sites of two of the most infamous battles of the 1879

conflict. The accommodation itself isn't super fancy. But that's not really why you come here. It's one of those emotionally charged experiences that transcends typical notions of luxury.

*Guide price: £130-£200pppn,
full board*



THREE TREES AT SPIOENKOP

Three Trees is the brainchild of Simon and Cheryl Blackburn. It's located in the very northern part of the Drakensberg, on the site of the Spioenkop Anglo Boer War. And Simon just so happens to be an eminent expert on this battle. The food (and atmosphere) is honest and homely. Cheryl knows a thing or two about wine and has put together

a stellar list. It might not be the most spectacular accommodation (although the Churchill Suite ups the wow factor), but the overall experience is something very special.

*Guide price: £120-£135pppn,
full board*



CLEOPATRA MOUNTAIN FARMHOUSE

The food at Cleopatra Mountain Farmhouse is so good, it's a good idea to pack a pair of elasticated waist trousers. The owners, Richard and Mouse, are famous in the local area for their excellent food and fine dining: Richard's seven-course dinners are the stuff of legends. Even the breakfasts here are a sit-down, three-course affair.

If you do over indulge, you could always walk off a few of those extra pounds in the Drakensberg. These rugged mountains are the highest in South Africa.

*Guide price: £125pppn,
half board*

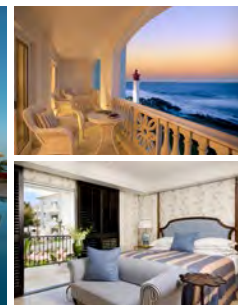
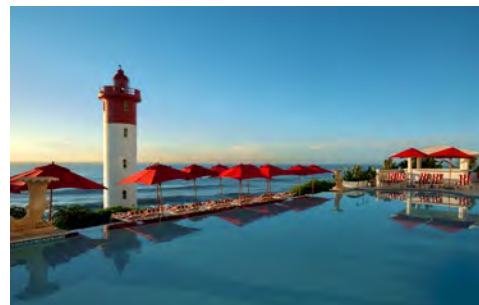


THE OYSTER BOX

The staff at The Oyster Box ring a bell whenever there are dolphins in the surf. And thanks to its direct access to the beachfront, you've usually got time to reach the water's edge to catch a glimpse. The spa is sublime: we had the hot lemon and sugar body treatment and absolutely loved it. We're also big fans of the bar and secluded swimming pool. Seeing as

you're in Durban, it would be wrong not to sample the curry buffet. Oh, and the afternoon tea here is simply legendary.

*Guide price: £140-£150pppn,
with breakfast*





KARKLOOF SAFARI SPA

We think this place is truly exceptional. It beats a few days unwinding on the beach: for us, it's the ultimate post-safari wind-down. First up, there's Africa's leading and most exclusive destination spa, with its 17 treatment rooms and endless menu of treats. Then there's the food, all created using ingredients sourced from their own or neighbouring farms. Karkloof Spa may look

expensive on first glance. But when you consider the price tag is fully inclusive – and that means unlimited meals, spa treatments, snacks, drinks and activities – the cost might not seem quite so high after all.

Guide price: £695pppn, all inclusive with unlimited spa treatments, game drives & activities



ANDBEYOND PHINDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

From palm savannahs and mountainous bushlands to sandy forests and dense thornveld, and Beyond Phinda's got them all. Thanks to its seven distinct ecosystems it's home to seven different kinds of habitat. These, in turn, attract a far greater array of animals than you'll see in any other single location in South Africa. There's the Big Five and elusive and

endangered animals like the cheetah and black rhino. Four hundred and fifteen different species of birds. And rangers who have the knack with smaller creatures as well as the giants of KwaZulu-Natal.

Guide price: £410pppn, all inclusive at Mountain Lodge, with game drives & walks



EXPERIENCE KWAZULU-NATAL

City lights, gourmet feasts, a destination spa, Zulu battles relived and thrilling game drives – KwaZulu-Natal is South Africa in a nutshell.

DAY 1

Overnight flight to Johannesburg.

DAYS 2-3

Fly on to Durban and transfer to your hotel, where you can relax, stroll along the shoreline or enjoy the spa. **The Oyster Box**, 2 nights with breakfast.

DAYS 4-6

Pick up your hire car and drive to the Karkloof Valley, where you can combine game drives with bike rides in the mountains and unlimited spa treatments. **Karkloof Safari Spa**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAY 7

Drive to the Drakensberg Mountains for a gourmet getaway. **Cleopatra Mountain Farmhouse**, 1 night on half board.

DAYS 8-10

Head across country to battlefield territory around Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift. **Fugitives' Drift**, 3 nights on full board.

DAYS 11-14

Drive down to Phinda Private Game Reserve and relax on safari. **andBeyond Phinda Forest Lodge**, 4 nights all inclusive.

DAY 15

Drive back to Durban and fly to Johannesburg for the overnight flight back.

DAY 16

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £6190pp including flights, transfers, hire car and accommodation as indicated. Don't fancy driving? We can arrange a driver/guide.



KWAZULU-NATAL FOR FAMILIES

Looking for a short holiday away with the family? Combine soft adventure with safari in KwaZulu-Natal.



DAY 1

Overnight flight to Johannesburg.

DAY 2

Fly on to Durban and unwind by the Indian Ocean. **The Oyster Box**, 1 night with breakfast.

DAYS 3-5

Collect your hire car and drive towards the Drakensberg Mountains. Embrace the great outdoors on nature walks, go mountain biking or horse-riding (ponies can be arranged for youngsters). Watch displays at the reptile and raptor centres or head further into the mountains where you'll find zip wiring, quad biking and archery. **Three Trees at Spioenkop**, 3 nights on full board.

DAYS 6-8

Safari bound – drive to Phinda Private Game Reserve and place yourselves in the hands of the expert guides and trackers. **andBeyond Phinda Mountain Lodge**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAY 9

Return to Durban and fly back overnight via Johannesburg.

DAY 10

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £2890 per adult, £2325 per child including flights, transfers, hire car and accommodation as indicated. Don't fancy driving? We can arrange a driver/guide.



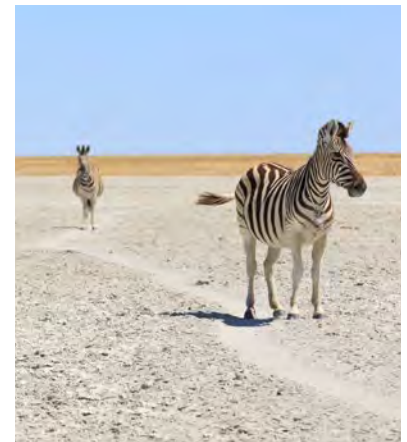


BOTSWANA

BOTSWANA IS UNTAMED AFRICA AT ITS BEST.

Where landscapes range from the Okavango Delta to the Kalahari. Where there are more elephants than any other country. Where lions den and leopards rest in shady spots. And where your canoe can glide along the delta in channels carved by hippos.

And yet, Botswana's never swamped with tourists. The lodges are small and remote and whether you're exploring by water or by land, we promise you're in for a truly exclusive experience.



Botswana sits in the centre of southern Africa, 950-metres above sea level and over 600km from the nearest coastline. It's arid, flat and three quarters is covered in desert sands.

So how can there be an area of wetland within the desert?

It takes six months for water from the highlands of Angola to trickle down and fill the Okavango Delta. And when it does, it comes alive with birds, frogs and mammals as

well as animals only found in watery delta areas, such as the endemic antelope species.

We always suggest including a few camps on your itinerary. That way, you get to try a variety of safaris: land, boat and mokoro (a dugout canoe). You also see the array of animals that call it home. Here, big cats roam free, there are more elephants than in any other country, and there's everything from aquatic antelope to abundant birdlife. You can still visit during

the Green Season (it's often quieter between December and April). But most people choose the drier months of May to October. If you want to travel then, make sure you plan well in advance and can be a bit flexible with dates and routes.

Still not decided? Here are our thoughts on our Botswana safari partners and some itinerary suggestions to help you make up your mind.



BELMOND SAFARIS

Belmond Safaris are true Botswana specialists. They have three camps to choose from. Eagle Island, nestled in the Okavango Delta, has recently been refurbished. Now it's got more of an explorer feel going on – as well as new tented accommodation, and dining areas decked out in greys and golds. Savute Elephant Lodge, on the banks of a river in the heart of the bush, is a magnet for wildlife. And

Khwai River Lodge attracts a huge variety of big game. With such a range of settings, you can create a fabulous itinerary just by staying at their places.

*Itinerary suggestion:
2 nights Savute Elephant Lodge,
2 nights Khwai River Lodge and 2 nights
Eagle Island Lodge from £4,925pp
including flights.*



GREAT PLAINS

Great Plains put every penny of their profits back into preserving and protecting the land. Better still, they really involve the local communities in their work. They have a selection of camps in Botswana. Keen walkers will love Selinda Explorers' Camp, while comfort junkies should head to Zarafa. It's a photographer's dream – you can use their semi-professional camera equipment during your stay.

We love that Great Plains' commitment to conservation even stretches to the décor: the furniture at Zarafa is made from wood reclaimed after the Boxing Day Tsunami and the decks are formed from old railway sleepers.

*Itinerary suggestion: 3 nights Duba Plains
and 3 nights Zarafa from £7,415pp
including flights.*





WILDERNESS SAFARIS

Wilderness Safaris' camps are in some of the best locations in Botswana, in the Okavango, Linyanti and the Kalahari. They range from show-stoppers like Jao, Mombo and Kings Pool to the more modest Chitabe, Tubu Tree and Xigera. If you stay at one of these, your tent might be slightly less opulent, but we promise your safari experience will be every bit as magical. The camps are all small

and intimate. So our advice is to book in advance or get creative with your dates if you set your heart at staying somewhere in particular.

Itinerary suggestion: Classic Camps, 2 nights Duma Tau, 2 nights Jacana and 2 nights Chitabe from £6070pp including flights; Premier Camps, 2 nights Kings Pool, 2 nights Vumbura Plains and 2 nights Mombo from £7325pp including flights.



ANDBEYOND

We love all andBeyond's camps, but if we had to pick a favourite, we'd probably say Sandibe, where the game viewing is hard to beat. But what about their Under Canvas camps, where you can feel the sand beneath your toes without sacrificing any facilities? Then there's Xudum and Xaranna for boat safaris on the Delta. And Nxabega, with its new light, bright tents. We love them all

for different reasons. One thing they've all got in common, though: the andBeyond Rangers. They know their stuff, they're really good fun and they really do make your trip.

Itinerary suggestion: 2 nights Matsi River Lodge (Victoria Falls), 2 nights Savute Under Canvas, 2 nights Xaranna and 3 nights Sandibe from £6930pp including flights.



A large, ancient baobab tree stands prominently in the center of the frame, its thick, gnarled trunk and sprawling, leafless branches silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon. In the foreground, a rocky, uneven terrain is covered with small, dry plants. To the right, another smaller baobab tree is visible. The overall scene conveys a sense of wilderness and adventure.

BOTSWANA

BEYOND THE DELTA

TRAIN TO BE A GUIDE, EXPERIENCE A BYGONE ERA
OF ADVENTURE, SLEEP UNDER CANVAS IN THE OPEN WILDERNESS:
WHY NOT ADD A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA
TO YOUR BOTSWANA SAFARI?

On the following page, you'll find a few of our favourite off-the-wall camps and unique experiences to help you go beyond the Delta. We guarantee each one will add

a new dimension to your trip – and don't forget you can even start or end your safari in Victoria Falls.

TRAIN TO BE A BUSH GUIDE

This is the real deal. When you train at the Okavango Guiding School, forget glamping: we're talking bucket showers and bush toilets. You'll learn how to track big game, drive a game vehicle and pick up survival tips along the way. And if you're really serious, there are longer courses that lead to official guiding qualifications, too. It's a chance to get back to nature

and to give something back. (When international guests take these courses, it funds training for local students with the potential to go all the way.)

Guide price: £1355pp, 7 night bush skills course on full board



CRUISE ALONG THE CHOBE RIVER

There are some things you only really see when you explore the Chobe by boat. Like the dawn mist lingering above the water. Elephants drinking by the banks. Or the abundance of water birds like sacred ibis, egrets, cormorants and herons. There are some things you hear best by boat too, like grunting hippos by day and chirruping frog choruses by night.

That's why you can't beat a river cruise on the Zambezi Queen. Choose from a two or three-night cruise and prepare your senses for a real treat.

Guide price: £745-£900pp, 2 night cruise on full board with soft drinks & activities

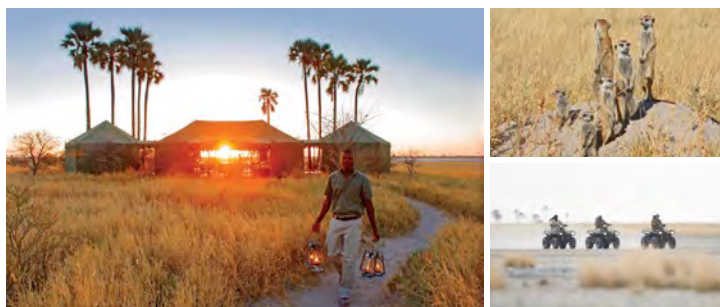


MEERKATS & THE MAKGADIKGADI PANS

Jack's Camp has been in the family for three generations, ever since Jack Bousfield fell in love with the savage beauty of the Makgadikgadi Pans in the 1960s. Today, it's a world-famous place to meet meerkats. Where Africa's second largest zebra migration takes place. And where you can race across the pans on a quad bike. What we love best, is

how it captures the earthy glamour of a traditional 1940s eastern Africa explorer camp. The cool cotton sheets and Persian rugs are the perfect contrast to the rugged wilderness beyond.

Guide price: £920-£1155pppn, all inclusive with activities



BUSH WALKING TRAIL

If pampering is your number one priority, forget it. The only concession to cossetting on the Selinda Adventure Trail is that you don't need to put up your own tent. What it is, is a safari for your soul and an adventure to stir your senses. Walk through the Selinda Spillway, sleep beneath the stars, hear lions call and hippos grunt: this is one of our most authentic experiences.

From the moment you arrive by helicopter you know you're in for something very special indeed.

Guide price: £2305pp, 4 night trail on all inclusive with helicopter transfer





ZAMBIA/ZIMBABWE

VICTORIA FALLS

VICTORIA FALLS IS KNOWN AS MOSI-OA-TUNYA IN SOTHO.
IT TRANSLATES AS 'SMOKE THAT THUNDERS'.
WE CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO SUM UP THIS
FORCE OF NATURE AND AFRICAN ICON.

The view aside, there are lots of ways to get your pulse racing. With its white water rafting, bungee jumping, bridge swings and canoeing, Victoria Falls is a mecca for adrenalin junkies. But just as there's more to India than the Taj Mahal, there's more to Victoria Falls than the Falls.

We recommend travelling upstream to the smaller camps and lodges. There, you can watch the elephants head downriver, go on

fishing trips, safaris and visit villages minus the throngs of backpackers who tend to mill around the main attraction.

It's easy to add Victoria Falls to your Africa trip. It straddles Zimbabwe and Zambia, so you can choose which side to visit it from. There are direct flights from Nairobi, Kruger Mpumalanga, Cape Town and Johannesburg. And it's only a short trip from Botswana and Lower Zambezi, too.

ANDBEYOND MATETSI - ZIMBABWE

Around 40km upstream of Victoria Falls lies andBeyond Matetsi. It's back. It's bold. And it's had a huge rebuild programme. The lodge and exclusive-use villa are an homage to wood and glass. The designers have teamed organic, earthy notes with touches of the Great Zimbabwe ruins thrown in for good measure. And you know what? It works. It's an amazing

place to spot elephants, fish, or simply watch buffalo drink from the river from the comfort of your own plunge pool. And we're big fans of the canoe and sunset boat safaris.

Guide price: £500-£705pppn, all inclusive with activities

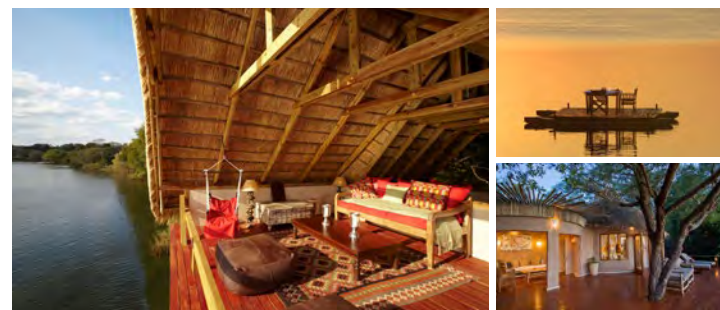


TONGABEZI LODGE - ZAMBIA

We love the individual, quirky rooms and chalets here. They've got names like Nut House and Dog House, which sums up the fun and friendly atmosphere to a T. Stay here if you're looking for something authentic – Tongabezi is perched right on the banks of the Zambezi, away from the crowds and tourist hotspots. And if you're looking to up the sense

of adventure, stay in one of the five open-sided cottages on Sindabezi Island: a rustic paradise where you can feel the sand beneath your toes.

Guide price: £460-£545pppn, all inclusive with activities



THE ROYAL LIVINGSTONE - ZAMBIA

If a few days on safari has left you craving your creature comforts, the Royal Livingstone is just the ticket. It's right next to the Falls (you can walk there in a few minutes). The rooms are quite small, but they come with everything you need to shake off the safari dust: marble-topped bathrooms, private verandahs and even your own personal butler. Be

sure to take them up on their offer to tumble dry your clothes after you've visited the Falls during high water – an offer we really appreciated.

Guide price: £260-£275pppn, with breakfast & unlimited Falls access



ROYAL CHUNDU - ZAMBIA

Royal Chundu is Zambia's only Relais & Chateaux property. It's on its own stretch of the Zambezi (perfect for river cruises), upstream of the Falls, so you're practically guaranteed an unparalleled sense of seclusion. There are two lodges to choose from. Island Lodge on private Katombora Island and the main River Lodge, an explosion of colour and personality.

Our top tip is to splash out and arrive by helicopter. You get a true feel for the geography, and, in our opinion, gliding along the river at low level is something you'll never, ever forget.

Guide price: £570pppn, all inclusive with transfers & activities



ZIMBABWE

WELCOMING PEOPLE, STUNNING SCENERY,
AN INCREDIBLE ARRAY OF WILDLIFE: ZIMBABWE IS BACK
ON THE MAP AS A TOURIST DESTINATION.

Visitors are returning to Zimbabwe in numbers not seen for many years. It can be tricky to get around, and you might need to use scheduled charter flights. But believe us, it's worth the time and money it takes to spot the Big Five, visit incredible archaeological sites and marvel at the sheer force and power of Victoria Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world. We think Hwange and Mana Pools are the

country's finest safari destinations. Hwange is the largest park in Zimbabwe with over 100 species of mammals and almost 400 kinds of birds. It's also especially revered for its huge herds of elephants. The lodges we've included are real show-stoppers: opulent, authentic and full of charm. If you're a second or third time safari goer, we seriously recommend adding Zimbabwe to your bucket list.

LINKWASHA - HWANGE

Linkwasha is one of Hwange's newest camps and the game viewing is fantastic: open, airy tents overlook a waterhole, where animals love to congregate. The park is home to scores of different species of animals including lions, giraffes, leopards, cheetahs, hyenas and wild dogs. But it's most famous for its elephants – there are close to 40,000 in the park. You might have heard you can only visit during dry season, and, technically, it's the best time to view game and huge herds of elephants. But trust us, at other times it can be just as rewarding.

*Guide price: £385-£720pppn, all inclusive
with park fees & activities*

RUCKOMECHI - MANA POOLS

Laze on an outdoor bed, built for stargazing. Take a bath with an incredible view. Fall asleep to the sounds of hippos grunting in the water. Ruckomechi is strung along the banks of the Zambezi – you can't stay any closer to the river than this. During winter months it's a great spot for game. The animals congregate around the river and you can expect to see buffalos, elephants and even the occasional predator. It's a truly beautiful place to savour the real Zimbabwe. (The sundowners on the sandbanks are amazing, too.)

*Guide price: £585-£770pppn, all inclusive
with park fees & activities*

Itinerary suggestion:

*1 night Victoria Falls Hotel, 3 nights Linkwasha, 3
nights Ruckomechi and 2 nights andBeyond Matetsi from
£7235pp including flights.*

SOMETHING EXCEPTIONAL - SINGITA PAMUSHANA LODGE

We might need to do some creative tour planning to get you to Singita Pamushana. It's off the beaten track, surrounded by extraordinary wilderness, next to Gonarezhou National Park. The lodge is the ecotourism part of the reserve. It exists to protect the wildlife and landscape, while allowing visitors to experience some of its magic. There's lots to do aside from safari. There are spectacular views from the hilltops, sundowner cruises and fishing aplenty. You can fly there from Johannesburg and, now, Victoria Falls. In our opinion, it's well worth the journey.

*Guide price: £1055pppn, all inclusive
with game drives, walks & activities*



*Clockwise from top:
Singita Pamushana • Linkwasha • baboons at Linkwasha • Ruckomechi • Linkwasha Opposite page: elephant at Ruckomechi*



ZAMBIA

ZAMBIA IS THE PLACE TO FEEL THE SAND BENEATH YOUR TOES AND EXPERIENCE THE RUGGED SIDE OF SAFARI. BUT IT ALSO HAS A DIFFERENT, SLIGHTLY SOFTER SIDE.

It's the home of walking safaris, fly camps and specialist guides. It's where you can walk behind an elephant, connect with the bush and experience the real Africa. But if roughing it isn't your thing, there are

magnificent lodges that offer a smooth alternative. We've picked out our favourites and come up with two itineraries to give you a flavour of this remote, enchanting wilderness.

WALKING IN THE SOUTH LUANGWA

Feel the heat beneath your feet. Hear the sounds of the bush without the thrum of an engine. See the smallest details, like claw marks in a nearby tree. We think bush walking gives you a whole new perspective. This walk isn't extreme: just a few hours a day between camps. And you're in very safe hands with trusted guides and operators who really know their stuff. It's been said that a game drive's like watching the movie, but a walking safari is like reading the book – we couldn't put it better ourselves.

Itinerary suggestion:

*1 night Nkwali, 2 nights Nsefu, 2 nights Luangwa Bush
Camping, 2 nights Tena Tena from £5270pp
including flights.*

ZAMBIA IN STYLE

If tents and camp fires really aren't your thing, don't fret. It is possible to experience the charms of Zambia without getting your hands dirty. If you stay at one of these lodges, you can have the same wonderful wildlife experiences and feel spoilt rotten at the same time.

CHINZOMBO - SOUTH LUANGWA

Hands-down our number one lodge in the South Luangwa for pampering. It's designed by the architects that dreamt up Momo Camp in Botswana and North Island: Silvio Rech and Lesley Carstens. They know a thing or two about the wow factor. Expect free-standing baths with views, cool bedrooms and private plunge pools and you won't be disappointed.

ANABEZI - LOWER ZAMBEZI

Anabezi dispels the myth that you have to stay in a bush tent to appreciate Zambia. It's a relatively new lodge, built on the foundations of a historic camp. The tented suites are spacious and elegant and there are lots of activities on offer including walks, safaris and cruises. Fish, canoe, or simply watch the wildlife from your private plunge pool.

Itinerary suggestion:

*3 nights Chinzombo, 3 nights Anabezi, 2 nights Royal
Chundu from £6,660pp including flights.*



Clockwise from top:

Luangwa bush camping • Anabezi • Carmine bee-eaters • Chinzombo • walking in the South Luangwa





NAMIBIA

THE THREE BEST THINGS ABOUT NAMIBIA: SCENERY, PHOTOGRAPHY AND SAFARI. THAT'S JUST OUR OPINION, OF COURSE. BUT ONCE YOU'VE BEEN, WE'RE PRETTY CERTAIN YOU'LL AGREE.

Namibia is very, very large with a very, very small population. It's the land of huge landscapes, deserts, dramatic scenery and starry night skies. It's where the Benguela current fuels an ecosystem that supports sand dunes, seals, salt pans and lions. And where you'll marvel at the delicate way it all knits together.

It's a country full of contrasts and unforgettable experiences – take a drive through the lonely desert roads, where huge slabs of granite rise up in the distance and you'll see what we mean.



Sights don't get much better than the view as you fly from Sossusvlei to Swakopmund and on to the Skeleton Coast. Once you've seen endless dunes and salt pans, epic colour spectrums and ship wrecks from the air, you'll know what it means to feel humbled. We're also big fans of Serra Cafema, a remote spot in the north west that borders with Angola, especially exploring the dunes on foot or by quad bike.

Speaking of Sossusvlei, the massive dunes are a photographer's dream – especially at sunrise. Although, the same could be said for the country as a whole. Namibia looks like a glossy photography book sprung to life.

Then there's the safari. The camps in Damaraland might be relatively simple, but they offer amazing opportunities to track rhino. Etosha, and its private reserves, is a wildlife

utopia. When we go, we like to pull up by a waterhole and just wait. It doesn't take long to attract animals aplenty. Namibia is vast and varied: you can fly it, or you can drive it. It's best not to drive unless you're comfortable changing a tyre (or two). And if you don't fancy being behind the wheel at all, we can organise a driver for you.

FLY NAMIBIA

Flying over Namibia's vast and dramatic landscapes is without doubt an awe-inspiring experience – plus it leaves you with more time on the ground to further explore this incredible country.

DAY 1

Overnight flight to Johannesburg.

DAY 2

Fly on to Windhoek. Transfer on arrival to your hotel in the country's capital city. **Olive Exclusive Hotel**, 1 night with breakfast.

DAYS 3-5

Fly into the Namib Desert and immerse yourself in the vast spaces and endless horizons. Go on nature drives in 4x4s, explore on quad bikes or simply stargaze. A trip to the Sossusvlei dunes is worth the early start. **andBeyond Sossusvlei Desert Lodge**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 6-8

Fly over the desert dunes to Damaraland. Hike mountain trails, visit ancient rock art sites or look for the desert adapted elephant on nature drives. **Damaraland Camp**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 9-11

Fly up to Ongava Game Reserve and Etosha National Park for a few days on safari. **Little Ongava Lodge**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAY 12

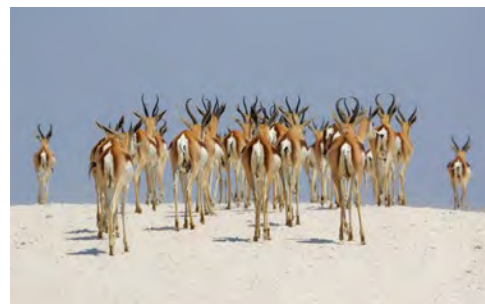
Fly via Windhoek to Johannesburg for the overnight flight back.

DAY 13

Arrive home.

Extend your trip to capture more of the country's highlights – for truly unique experiences, we would recommend adding 3 nights at Hoanib Skeleton Coast Camp and/or 3 nights up in the far north at Serra Cafema.

Guide price: From £7110pp including flights, transfers and accommodation as indicated.



NAMIBIA BY LAND

If you like the idea of taking to the open road and traversing Namibia by land, but don't fancy being behind the wheel yourself, we recommend exploring in the company of a personal driver/guide.



DAY 1

Overnight flight to Johannesburg.

DAY 2

Fly on to Windhoek and transfer to your hotel. **Olive Exclusive Hotel**, 1 night with breakfast.

DAYS 3-4

Meet with your driver/guide and head off into the Namib Desert. We recommend a day trip to the dunes; otherwise, relax and enjoy the desert scenery. **andBeyond Sossusvlei Desert Lodge**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 5-6

Drive up to Swakopmund, a coastal town with a host of activities, from catamaran trips to spot dolphins and seals to quad biking or sand boarding on the dunes. **The Strand Hotel**, 2 nights with breakfast.

DAYS 7-8

Head inland for what we believe to be a truly special experience – tracking desert rhino on foot with the Save the Rhino team. **Desert Rhino Camp**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 9-10

Drive further north to Ongava Game Reserve for game drives both in the reserve and in neighbouring Etosha National Park. **Ongava Tented Lodge**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAY 11

Fly back via Windhoek and Johannesburg.

DAY 12

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £5820pp including flights, transfers, driver/guide and accommodation as indicated.

A small white propeller plane with the registration 'V5-AMY' is flying over a vast desert landscape of sand dunes. The plane is seen from a side-on perspective, flying towards the right. The dunes are large and rolling, with some areas showing sparse, low-lying vegetation. The sky is clear and blue.

NAMIBIA

THE SKELETON COAST

The Skeleton Coast is about sheer spectacle, not percale linen sheets. So the accommodation on this experience might be a tad on the simple side. However what we can guarantee is a genuinely exclusive experience. Fly in for three nights with the Schoeman brothers – they are widely

regarded as the experts in this field. What's more, they are the only operator allowed in the area so you really will be the only guests for miles around. Call us to discuss how to build this unique safari into your holiday itinerary.





TANZANIA

TANZANIA IS SAFARI. WHERE WILDEBEEST AND ZEBRA STAMPEDE ACROSS THE SERENGETI. LIONS ROAM INSIDE THE NGORONGORO CRATER. AND ELEPHANTS WANDER IN TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK.

It's also the country of coral beaches, coastal villages and centuries of Swahili culture.

It's where you can sleep beneath canvas one night and in a luxury lodge the next. Where there are well-worn paths and untrodden ones waiting to be discovered.

In our opinion, one visit just isn't enough.



What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Tanzania? Chances are, it's the endless plains of the Serengeti. Trouble is, that's what most people think of first, too.

We're not saying your trip shouldn't contain a visit. In fact, it's usually where we recommend most trips should start (especially if it's your first time). It's the best place to see the wildebeest migration as it

moves around the Serengeti and Masai Mara ecosystem.

But there are a host of other places to visit, too. Destinations like Tarangire (with its elephants, baobabs and panoramic views), Lake Manyara and Ngorongoro Crater wonderfully complement the Serengeti. You don't need to tear cross-country, either. With careful planning you can take in a huge area and still stay at one

base. We suggest flying longer distances and driving the shorter ones. And when we say drive, do it properly - with an expert guide and comfortable vehicle.

Whether you stay in a swanky lodge or rough it in a tent, we suggest rounding off your safari with a few days of relaxation. Head to Zanzibar. Take over a private island: a bit of pampering after a safari never hurt anyone.

TANZANIA

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

NOMAD LAMAI

Tucked among the rocks, in the northern part of the Serengeti, Nomad Lamai couldn't be in a more dazzling location. And when the migration crosses into the Masai Mara, you couldn't be in a better spot to see it. The views from the public areas are incredible. But this is a place where wealth is measured in terms of experience, space and simplicity, rather than fancy extras. You can see

it everywhere you look: a chair made out of an oil drum, here, a pair of wellies for crossing the muddy path, there. This is barefoot glamour at its best.

Guide price: £620-£995pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities



LEMALA KURIA HILLS

At Lemala Kuria Hills, you get the best of both worlds: an authentic safari experience with plenty of home comforts. It's located in the far north of the Serengeti, in the Kogatende area – a plum spot for viewing wildebeest migration and river crossings from around June. The tents have wooden floors, warm duvets, outdoor showers and gorgeous free-standing baths. They even have little

plunge pools on each deck: perfect if you crave a little pampering after your foray into the wild. The staff are lovely – really friendly and welcoming. We think the food is pretty special here, too.

Guide price: £570-£825pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities

MWIBA LODGE

Imagine a haven, set within massive stone boulders, surrounded by ancient coral trees and acacias. A breathtaking lodge, overlooking a rocky gorge on the Arugusinyai River where the opportunities for adventure are boundless. That's Mwiba Lodge. You'll find it on the cusp of the Serengeti, on the very southern edge. From January to March, it's the best location to witness

the wildebeest calving season. You can walk with a Mwiba scout or enjoy unforgettable sundowners. But the highlight of your trip will be meeting people from the Hadzabe, Datoga, Maasai and Sukuma tribes. People tell us it's a life-changing experience.

Guide price: £1055-£1430pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities



SINGITA GRUMETI

Every time we stay at Singita Grumeti, we always agree: it's utterly faultless. What we can't agree on, though, is which lodge we love most. There's Faru Faru, a glass house on the edge of the river that's all pale wood and organic influences. Then there's Sabora Tented Camp, so reminiscent of a 1920s explorer camp. Serengeti House is a stunning villa for families and friends. Sasakwa Lodge towers

over the plains from its hilltop location. And Singita Explore is the real deal: a state of the art mobile camp with every modcon, beneath canvas. The Singita team set out to be the best, and they really do achieve it.

Guide price: £1175-£1550pppn, all inclusive at Sasakwa Lodge with wildlife fees & activities



ANDBEYOND SERENGETI UNDER CANVAS

A stay in this mobile camp gets you right up close to the massive herds of the migration. Any nearer, you'd be running with them. It moves about four times a year to keep up with the action. Yes, there are bucket showers and the tents might not have running water. But it doesn't really feel like camping. Each tent is lavishly furnished with comfy beds, fluffy duvets and chandeliers. You sip your

Champagne from crystal flutes here. And you even get your own personal butler who'll bring you a cup of tea or coffee in the morning.

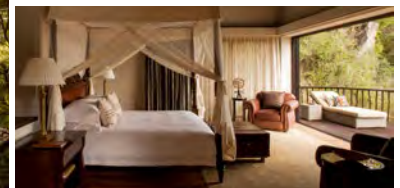
Guide price: £675-£995pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities

FOUR SEASONS SAFARI LODGE SERENGETI

Four Seasons Serengeti is an air-conditioned haven in the heart of the hot, dusty Serengeti. If you like your safari with a (generous) side order of sunbathing, pampering and pool lounging, you'll love it. It delivers the kind of experience Four Seasons has built its name on: great views, immaculate interiors and large, interconnecting suites. We think it's ideal for people who want to

wind-down after a few days in a more rustic camp. Or anyone who's trying their hand at safari for the very first time, and wants to be sure they like it before they go full-on camping.

Guide price: £455-£655pppn, all inclusive with park fees



TARANGIRE AND THE CRATER

ANDBEYOND NGORONGORO CRATER LODGE

This place is like nowhere else on earth. When you awake, surrounded by velvet curtains and silks, you'd be forgiven for thinking you'd been transported to a 17th century chateau. Until you look out the window, that is. Because you're actually perched on the edge of the Ngorongoro Crater. Being so close, you can avoid a

seriously early start and arrive before the crowds – with ample opportunity to go in search of black rhino, prides of lion and herds of wildebeest.

Guide price: £960-£1435pppn, all inclusive with crater fees & activities



GIBBS FARM - NGORONGORO CRATER

Gibbs Farm is cool, in a craft beer and homemade cupcake kind of way. Think organic cottons and vegetable patches and you're on the right track. You'll find it in the fertile Karatu Valley: the drive there is incredible, climbing up through coffee plantations and banana plants. And there's lots to do once you arrive. Bake

bread in the morning, join in with the harvest, roast your own cup of coffee. It's a chance to get back to nature, without going full-on Good Life.

Guide price: £265-£355pppn, full board



SANCTUARY SWALA - TARANGIRE PARK

Sanctuary Swala is a hidden gem. Tucked deep in the Tarangire National Park, it's where to go to avoid the hustle and bustle of the busier areas in the north. Staying here, it feels a bit like you've got the entire park to yourself, especially when you wake in the morning with the front of your tent open and drink in the view.

The watering hole assures a steady flow of elephants. In fact, we think there are more elephants here than at Chobe. (Just don't tell the Botswanans we said so.)

Guide price: £390-£570pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities



CHEM CHEM & LITTLE CHEM CHEM

What's it to be: a 'soft safari' or a back-to-basics experience that's all about the Big Five? How about both? Chem Chem is a beautiful camp, all white linens and worn leather. With its excellent dining, well-stocked bar and peaceful library, it's all about dropping down the gears. Whereas Little Chem Chem is all about

accelerating (mainly in pursuit of big game). This is an authentic safari experience – especially during drier months. We like to combine a stint at both, to really get the best of both worlds.

Guide price: £732-£945pppn, all inclusive at Chem Chem with activities



TANZANIA & ZANZIBAR

What we'd call a 'classic', this itinerary includes Tanzania's star attractions and a few days on an exotic island.



DAY 1

Fly to Kilimanjaro via Amsterdam. Transfer on arrival to Arusha. **Arusha Coffee Lodge**, 1 night on full board.

DAYS 2-3

Meet with your driver/guide and head off to Tarangire National Park, a naturally beautiful park with hills and rivers, renowned for its large herds of elephants. **Sanctuary Swala**, 2 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 4-5

Continue with your guide to Karatu, where forested slopes are lined with coffee plantations and working farms, a pleasant base from which to explore the Ngorongoro Crater with its exceptional game. **Gibbs Farm**, 2 nights on full board.

DAYS 6-8

Fly into the Serengeti and experience the thrill of sleeping under canvas in this immense National Park. **andBeyond Serengeti Under Canvas**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 9-12

Fly to Zanzibar for a few days of beachfront relaxation. **The Residence Zanzibar**, 4 nights on half board.

DAY 13

Fly back via Dar es Salaam and Amsterdam.

DAY 14

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £7170pp including flights, transfers, driver/guide, Crater entrance fee and accommodation as indicated.

TANZANIA DONE DIFFERENTLY

When your full-on safari experience leaves you craving more time in the bush, we'd suggest you try a 'slow safari'.

DAY 1

Fly via Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro and transfer to Arusha. **Legendary Lodge**, 1 night all inclusive.

DAYS 2-4

Fly to the Serengeti's Western Corridor and the Grumeti Reserve – this private reserve to the west of the National Park covers the same area as the Masai Mara but is home to only a handful of lodges and tented camps, ensuring exclusivity both in the lodges and on game drives. Even if your visit doesn't coincide with the migrating wildebeest, your day and night game drives will generally reveal a great variety of wildlife. **Singita Faru Faru**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 5-8

Fly to the Tarangire area and slow things down a little – here's where they do 'slow safari' best. Walk – or run – with the Maasai, visit Lake Manyara or Tarangire National Park for the day, or just sit back and watch the wildlife as it passes by the lodge. **Chem Chem**, 4 nights all inclusive.

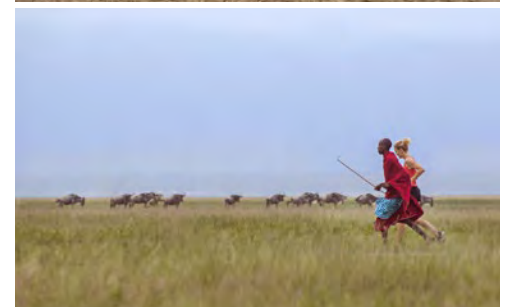
DAY 9

Fly back via Kilimanjaro and Amsterdam.

DAY 10

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £7435pp including flights, transfers and accommodation as indicated.





TANZANIA

BEYOND THE SERENGETI

TO SEE A DIFFERENT SIDE TO TANZANIA,
TURN AGAINST THE TIDE OF TRAVELLERS
HEADED NORTH.

If you're looking for raw beauty and experiences most people miss, head south or turn to the west. You'll find the Selous Game Reserve, a 50,000-sq-km wilderness that's home to buffaloes, crocodiles, hippos

and more. There's Ruaha, with its 12,000 elephants. And the almost isolated Katavi, which receives the same number of visitors per year as the Serengeti sees in one day.

TRACK CHIMPS IN THE MAHALE MOUNTAINS

Sure, towering mountains rise up behind Greystoke Mahale like something out of a movie. And the waters of Lake Tanganyika twinkle in the sunshine. But there's only one real reason you're here: the chimpanzees. A large family lives in the wild Mahale Mountains. You'll need to be reasonably fit to find them, but the effort is so worth it.

Seeing them in their natural habitat is something you'll never forget. The accommodation is simple and rustic. The location is remote and untouched. In a word, we think it's special.

Guide price: £655-£1110pppn, all inclusive with park fees & chimp trekking

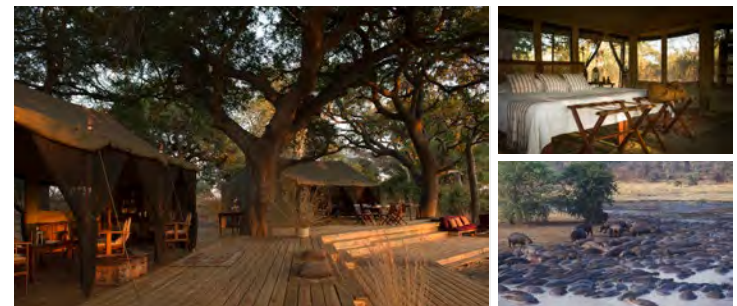


THE WILD WEST

We don't recommend coming to Chada Katavi if your priorities include aircon, minibars and plunge pools. This is the wild and remote Africa of 100 years ago. There are just four camps in the park – two are rarely used – so you can expect isolation at every turn. With the exception of October, when temperatures soar, the wildlife is incredible. There are huge

populations of hippos and crocodiles as well as elephants, lions, zebras, giraffes, elands and topis. To take it to the next level, why not try your hand at fly camping?

Guide price: £595-£720pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities

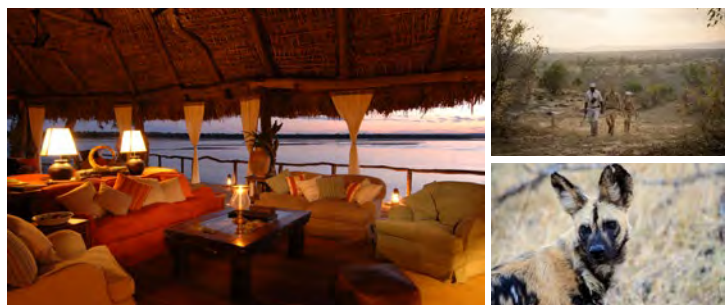


EXPLORE SELOUS

At a whopping 50,000 square kilometres, Selous is the largest game reserve in the world. The game viewing is more spread out than somewhere like the Kruger, so you might have to work harder for your sightings. But it's worth it. With such scale comes an unparalleled sense of space and freedom, and the kind of isolation you just don't get at busier,

more densely populated reserves. We think a stay here works best when you combine it with a few days in Zanzibar: the perfect mix of bush and beach.

Guide price: £605-£850pppn, all inclusive at Sand Rivers with park fees & activities



CLIMB KILIMANJARO

At 5,895 metres tall, we're not saying climbing Kilimanjaro is a walk in the park. But with the right guides, it is possible to scale it in a few days. You don't need to be 19 and on your gap year. Whatever it takes, our partners will find a way to help you do it. They won't throw you in with the backpackers and you won't need to lug your own bag. Mission

accomplished? We think the best way to recover is with a safari or a break on the beach.

Guide price: £3115pp, Machame route, 8 night set departure group climb with 2 nights in Arusha; £4410pp, 6 night climb on a private, VIP basis





KENYA

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FALLING IN LOVE WITH KENYA FOR YEARS, WAY BEFORE MERYL STREEP AND ROBERT REDFORD CAUGHT ON TO ITS CHARMS.

It's the home of safari, national parks, soul-shaping scenery, iconic wildlife and genuinely friendly people.

And there's more to it than the Masai Mara: travel further afield and you'll find varied terrains encompassing mountains, valleys, lakes, deserts and forests.

Sleep under the stars. Go camel trekking. Or fly in a 1920's Waco plane. The possibilities are endless.



Welcome to Kenya. You're probably familiar with its most famous sights from photographs: vast savannahs; the Masai Mara and the people who live on it, with their bright red shukas and beaded garlands; big cats and rugged mountain ranges.

No doubt, you've seen images of the migration, where wildebeest and zebra hotfoot it in droves from July to October. It's amazing. But don't forget that there are other times of year when it's

worth visiting, too. In fact, we sometimes prefer visiting the Mara during non-migration months, when there are more elephants and fewer vehicles.

And always remember there's more to Kenya than this iconic area. There's Chyulu Hills, with their mind-blowing views of Kilimanjaro. The beautiful Laikipia area, where game reserves and private ranches are opening up huge areas to conservation and uplifting local communities. Then there's the dry Samburu

area, home to the colourful Samburu people and their camels.

Combine your safari with a relaxing few days beside the Kenyan coast. Fly on to Zanzibar or the Seychelles. Visit Nairobi to see the amazing work the people at the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage do there. In short, Kenya is a country of endless variety, terrains and experiences that stoke our deepest passions for this fascinating continent.

KENYA

MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE

MAHALI MZURI

Most camps try to make their accommodation blend into the backdrop. Not Mahali Mzuri: their tents are loud and proud. They sit within the Olare Motorogi Conservancy, home to one of the highest lion populations in the world. It's a private concession, so lots of the rules you find in national parks don't apply. You can go on night drives and you can get out of your vehicle and

walk, if the fancy takes you. It's a Sir Richard Branson property. And, who knows? Perhaps you'll see him there. He often says Kenya's his favourite country in the world.

*Guide price: £625-£900pppn,
all inclusive with conservancy fees
& activities*



RICHARD'S CAMP

If butler service is your kind of thing, forget it. Richard's more likely to kick about in flip flops than wear a tailcoat. But if it's a proper safari you're looking for, read on. Richard's Camp is owned by the Roberts Family, who have been in Kenya for four generations. From the moment you arrive, the staff, Richard (and his little dog) couldn't make you feel more welcome.

Stay in a traditional canvas tent. Eat, drink and debate until the small hours. Richard's Camp is your chance to feel the pulse of the Masai Mara. This is the real deal.

*Guide price: £575-£770pppn,
all inclusive with conservancy fees
& activities*

GOVERNORS' CAMPS

If you know your safaris, you'll be very happy at Governors' Camps. The tents are dotted along the winding banks of the Mara River – waters which teem with birds, hippos and crocodiles – in the middle of the national reserve. The accommodation might not be as plush as some other camps, but you can't get much closer to the action than this: you're already watching the wildlife, while most visitors are

still making their way there. We think the best tents in the collection are at Il Moran, which comes with added finishing touches, or Little Governors', overlooking the Musiara Marsh.

*Guide price: £310-£525pppn, full
board at Little Governors'; £350-
£590pppn, all inclusive at Il Moran,
with park fees & activities*

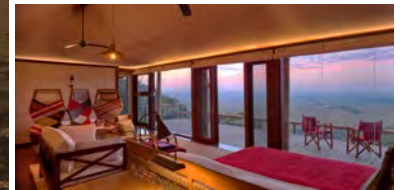
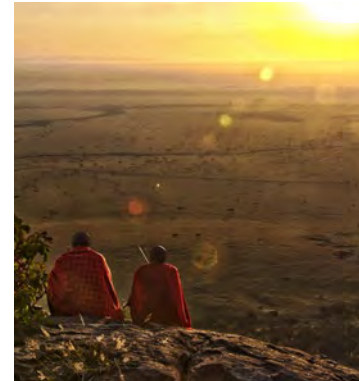


ANGAMA MARA

It's not often we're lost for words, but it's not often a camp like Angama Mara comes up. We don't have superlatives enough to do it justice. The chefs take their inspiration from Ottolenghi. As a result their food is as light as a feather, a world away from bush tucker. The tents are just right: not too fussy, not back to basics. The safaris on the Mara Triangle are

world-class. And when we say the views are panoramic we really mean it. The service is first rate, too: the staff seemed (almost) as excited as us to be there.

Guide price: £725-£1210pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities



COTTAR'S 1920S CAMP

Immerse yourself in the golden age of safari at Cottar's 1920s Camp. It's a marvellous mix of canvas tents, antique furnishings and timeless elegance: classic Hollywood. There are just 10 tents in total, and we think families will love the five-bedroom Bush Villa (not just because of the 25-metre lap pool). The camp is on a small concession in the south east of the Mara and has been in the same

family for four generations. With Cottar's, it's always been about the safari. No-one knows the bush better than these guys – or can guide you through it more expertly.

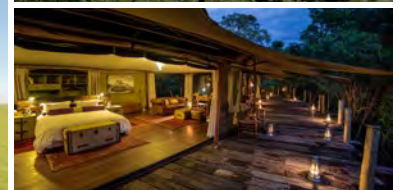
Guide price: £510-£805pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities

MARA PLAINS

What's it to be: forest, plain or bush? The tents here come with different views – and each one's perfect for snapping with the Canon camera the Great Plains team give you to use during your stay. It's the most opulent tented camp in the Masai Mara. It's a member of Relais & Chateaux, so you can be certain that the food is out of this world. But it's not just about

indulgence. There's a real sense of drama about the place. You can feel it, from the guides to the game viewing. And it's something very special indeed.

Guide price: £660-£1250pppn, all inclusive with conservancy fees & activities





KENYA

BEYOND THE MARA

MAKE IT ABOUT MORE THAN THE MARA
IF YOU WANT TO SEE EVERYTHING
THE DEFINITIVE AFRICAN COUNTRY
HAS GOT TO OFFER.

When it comes to safari, Kenya has been ruling the roost for many years. But we seriously recommend venturing beyond the Masai Mara to really make the most of your trip. To tempt you, we've pulled

together our ultimate Kenyan adventures over the next couple of pages. They include lots of different activities, from honey collecting to helicopter trips.

SASAAB

You might have ticked the Big Five off your list. But what about the Samburu Special Five: the Beisa oryx, reticulated giraffe, Grevy's zebra, gerenuk antelope and Somali ostrich? It's great for game viewing, and there are lots of activities like camel rides and quad biking. But we think Sasaab feels more like a retreat than a camp. The suites are spectacular, with

private plunge pools and epic views of the Ewaso Nyiro River. If you want to up the indulgence, book a treatment with a view at SpaSaab.

Guide price: £685-£835pppn, all inclusive with park fees & activities

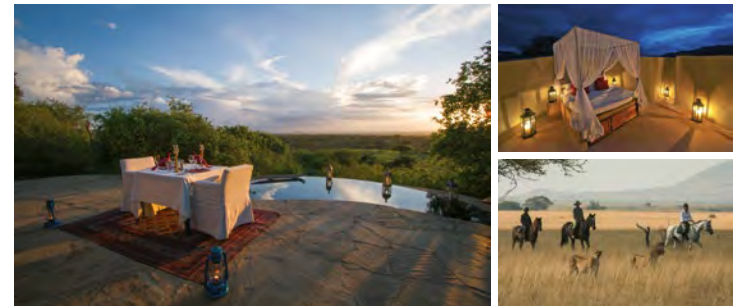


OL DONYO LODGE

Ol Donyo is one of our favourite lodges in east Africa. It's in the Chyulu Hills, the range Ernest Hemingway had in mind when he wrote 'Green Hills of Africa'. And there's only one lodge in the whole area, even though it's four times the size of Amboseli. There's plenty to see nearby (including Africa's last remaining big-tusk elephants). But our favourite thing

by far was climbing onto the roof of our suite to sleep on the star bed. A magical experience and something we'll never forget.

Guide price: £715-£1085pppn, all inclusive with conservancy fees & activities



SIRIKOI

At Sirikoi, you really get the feeling it's a light footprint camp – ask to see their Shamba vegetable garden and you'll see what we mean. It's a family-run lodge in the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, on the northern slopes of Mount Kenya. And it's the kind of place where you can really feel at one with nature. The grounds might be well manicured, but the

animals come pretty close to the low fence. We took tea in the lounge and watched the wildlife while we sipped.

Guide price: £695-£840pppn, all inclusive with conservation fees & activities



SEGERA RETREAT

If you've ever fancied travelling like royalty, here's your chance to try. This lavish lodge springs up out of nowhere: barren wilderness for miles and then suddenly there it is. And with its art gallery and lush botanical garden, it's quite a contrast to the arid landscape you drive through to get there. It's not a big game area: you have to work harder for your wildlife.

But there are so many other things to see and do, from collecting honey to a helicopter ride up to Mount Kenya.

Guide price: £1030-£1215pppn, all inclusive with conservation fees & activities



EXCEPTIONAL KENYA

Kenya has an abundance of experiences to offer and some exceptionally stylish accommodation from which to enjoy them.

DAYS 1-2

Fly to Nairobi and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy breakfast with the resident giraffes and perhaps head over to the Elephant Orphanage or the Karen Blixen Museum. **Giraffe Manor**, 2 nights on full board.

DAYS 3-5

Fly down to the south of the country and the Chyulu Hills – it's here that you'll get your signature photos of Kilimanjaro, see huge elephants and experience the lava tubes unique to the area. **Oi Donyo Lodge**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 6-8

Fly north via Nairobi to the wide open plains of Lewa, where activities include game drives and bush picnics or shaded walks in the nearby forest. Helicopter flights around Mount Kenya can also be arranged. **Sirikoi**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAYS 9-11

Fly west to the Mara and head off on safari in this renowned reserve. This is big cat country with the added attraction of the annual wildebeest migration from July to October. The Mara's plains literally teem with wildlife, which, combined with sleeping under canvas, creates a real sense of being at the beating heart of Africa. **Mara Plains**, 3 nights all inclusive.

DAY 12

Fly back via Nairobi.

DAY 13

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £9095pp including flights, transfers and accommodation as indicated.



MASAI MARA & THE BEACH

A few nights in the Mara followed by a week on the shores of the Indian Ocean – the quintessential safari and beach combination.



DAY 1

Overnight flight to Nairobi.

DAYS 2-4

Fly on to the Mara for a safari experience in the heart of the reserve. The huge herds of migrating wildebeest can usually be seen from July to October and outside of these months the prides of lions and abundance of other game ensure that game drives are never dull. **Little Governors' Camp**, 3 nights on full board.

DAYS 5-11

Fly via Nairobi to the coast for a week of relaxation. The Watamu Marine Reserve has excellent reefs for snorkelling and diving and the warm waters of the Indian Ocean are ideal for trying your hand at water sports – kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding and windsurfing are all available. There's a turtle sanctuary nearby and mountain biking in the coastal forest. **Medina Palms**, 7 nights with breakfast.

DAY 12

Fly back to Nairobi and onwards via Amsterdam.

DAY 13

Arrive home.

Guide price: From £4230pp including flights, transfers and accommodation as indicated.

KENYA FOR FAMILIES

Do you know a little one who'd love to adopt a baby elephant and see it snuggle down for the night? Or a warrior in the making who'd like to track like the Maasai? If it's a yes, then it has to be Kenya.

It gives kids a chance to run wild in safe surroundings. It's a wonderful place to visit as a family: lots of Kenyan destinations are at quite a high altitude, so it's much cooler and fresher than you'd ever expect.

Places like Laikipia and Samburu are ideal: the game viewing is less intense than in the Mara, so you won't always feel the pressure to be on a game drive. Children can also interact with animals at a younger age. They can ride camels at Sasaab, see turtles on the coast, or even kiss a giraffe in Nairobi (if the fancy takes them).

Children are welcome in Kenya and the accommodation really reflects this. You'll find interconnecting rooms, exclusive-use villas where absolutely everything is catered to your needs, staff to keep the kids entertained and private vehicles at most lodges.

We think Cottar's 1920s Camp is probably the best family tent we've seen in the Mara (the interconnecting family tents at andBeyond Kichwa Tembo come a very close second, though). Be sure to check out Alfajiri's exclusive beachfront villas, too – we think they're the best accommodation on the Kenyan coast.

Unsure where to begin? Here's one suggestion that starts with time in Nairobi to adopt a baby elephant or visit the giraffe sanctuary before flying north to Samburu where the whole family can enjoy camel treks across the arid valleys. Further highlights include the Loisaba Starbeds, where even the children can enjoy the thrill of sleeping under the stars (don't worry, the four poster beds are on wheels and can be wheeled back if the need arises) and a few days in the Masai Mara.

Guide price: 1 night Hemingways Nairobi, 3 nights Sasaab, 2 nights Loisaba Tented Camp, 1 night Loisaba Starbeds and 3 nights Cottar's 1920s Camp from £5780 per adult, £4245 per child including international flights.

*Clockwise from top
Loisaba starbed • bush walk at
andBeyond Kichwa Tembo • child
minding at Angama Mara • learn
warrior skills at Sasaab • Giraffe Manor*





RWANDA

IN SEARCH OF THE MOUNTAIN GORILLAS

ON THE MIST-SHROUDED SLOPES OF THE VIRUNGA
VOLCANOES, ENDANGERED MOUNTAIN GORILLAS LOUNGE,
PLAY, SLEEP, STRIDE AND GROOM.



GORILLA TREKKING

Nothing prepares you for the thrill of coming face to face with a wild gorilla. And an encounter with these daunting, charismatic creatures is something you'll never forget. You can feel the excitement and anticipation rise as you approach their kingdom. It's not often you get to see something only a privileged few have been lucky enough to lay eyes on. This is one of those times. If you add gorilla trekking to your East Africa trip, it'll be the highlight you'll be talking about in years to come.

The walk's uphill, but you don't need to be a mountaineer. The altitude might take your breath away, but it's worth the effort. We found it incredibly moving: we'll never forget the mother we saw cradling her baby, surrounded by toddlers play fighting in the grass.

Rwanda is remarkable – clean, friendly and full of energy. If there's time, we recommend pausing in Kigali, one of the most beautiful cities in Africa and a testament to Rwandan peace.

Gorillas, chimps and the Serengeti

Our closest living relatives, chimpanzees and gorillas are fascinating to observe in their natural habitats – combine this with a few days in one of the world's greatest safari destinations.

Itinerary suggestion:

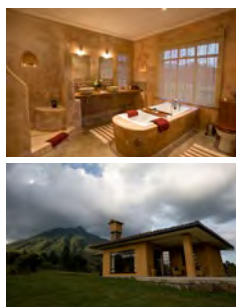
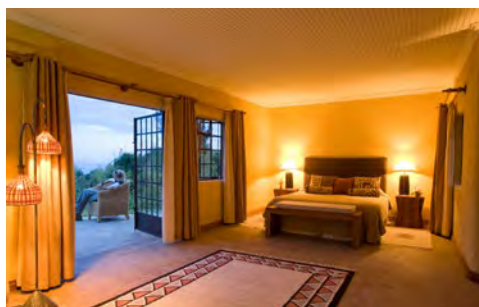
3 nights Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge with 1 guided gorilla trek, 1 night Kigali Serena Hotel, 4 nights Lamai Serengeti and 3 nights Greystoke Mahale with 1 chimp trek from £9275pp including international and local flights.

SABYINYO SILVERBACK LODGE

At Sabyinyo the service is excellent. They give you gaiters and gloves for your walk, and they'll even wash your muddy boots when you return. But it's more about the experience than the extras. It's quite a hike from the car park to the lodge, but the views

are worth it. (It's also good practice for your trek.)

Guide price: £805-£1135pppn, full board (includes private, return transfers from Kigali)



VIRUNGA LODGE

Virunga is perched high in the clouds, with breathtaking views across the lakes and volcanoes. It's an hour's drive from the park, so it's much quieter than lodges nearer by. The atmosphere is bush-chic and on the more basic side of the scale – but

the complimentary massage to ease aches and pains after your trek is a touch of genius.

Guide price: £735-£995pppn, full board (includes private, return transfers from Kigali)



AND CHILL

WHAT'S YOUR IDEA OF PARADISE?
A POWDER-SOFT BEACH, A CRYSTAL CLEAR LAKE
OR A SPA RETREAT?

Everyone deserves time out, especially if you've been up at the crack of dawn on safari. But relaxation can take many forms. And when you can choose from beachside escapes, lodges in remote settings and

retreats on the shores of glistening lakes, it's hard to know where to begin. That's why we've come up with a few options for when it's time to recharge your batteries – here's a little food for thought.





INDIAN OCEAN MAURITIUS

PREPARE TO BE RENDERED SPEECHLESS,
BECAUSE IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE ANYWHERE
COULD BE QUITE AS PERFECT AS THIS.

Mauritius is also much bigger than you'd expect. Down south there's the drama of Le Morne, while in the north it's all about beach life and watersports. It's a country filled with local markets, street food vendors and sugar plantations. Trouble is, you'll love your resort so much, with its golf course and world-class spa, you might not want to leave it.

THE OBEROI

Sample homemade rum. Dine by candlelight with the sand beneath your feet. Embark on a late-night diving expedition. There's a lot more to do at The Oberoi than lie on the beach. It's on the sheltered west coast, home to Mauritius's finest sunsets, shallow waters and golden sands. The hotel has a boutique, cosy feel that we think suits couples

best. Although we challenge anyone not to adore the excellent spa, with its impressive range of treats encompassing Ayurveda, Thai, Balinese and western techniques.

*Guide price: £310-£445pppn,
with breakfast*

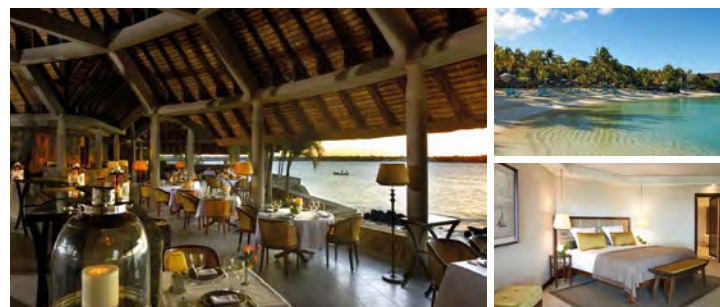


ROYAL PALM

This six-star resort is widely considered to be the best on the island. It's definitely in one of the best locations: a pristine stretch of white sand on the sheltered north west coast. The intuitive service never feels obtrusive. And the food, created by an award-winning French chef, is simply sublime. It feels small and boutique by Mauritian standards, which adds

even more to its charms. If you really want to try the best of the best, ask for the Royal Suite complete with its own private pool.

*Guide price: £270-£480pppn,
with breakfast*



FOUR SEASONS RESORT MAURITIUS

At the Four Seasons, individual villas are dotted about the resort. They're all gorgeous: each one offers a true sense of space and seclusion (as well as a private plunge pool). It's a good choice for discerning families. If you need a cot, baby food or a steriliser you only need to ask. Little ones will love the Hobbit Village kids club. Teenagers will find table tennis, a

home cinema and a DJ booth at Karokan. And for grown ups there's always a round of golf on the Ernie Els designed course.

*Guide price: £315-£430pppn,
half board*



SHANGRI-LA'S LE TOUESSROK

Shangri-La's Le Touessrok achieves something most hotels struggle with: it works for families and couples alike. Every room offers uninterrupted views of the glittering Indian Ocean. There's a kids' club and separate set-up for teens. Complimentary watersports like wake boarding and banana tubes galore. And if you're looking to escape the crowds, you can take the boat

across to Ilot Mangénie for a private island experience – where you're served by a fleet of on-island butlers. Romantic hideaway and family fun: somehow, Le Touessrok does both without feeling watered down.

*Guide price: £175-£240pppn,
with breakfast*





INDIAN OCEAN

THE SEYCHELLES

THE SEYCHELLES ARE AN ESCAPIST'S DREAM.
A COLLECTION OF SMALL ISLANDS BLESSED BY MOTHER
NATURE, WHERE THE TURQUOISE WATERS LAP
AND WHITE SANDS SHIMMER.

Ditch your shoes and relax on the beach. Because aside from a spot of snorkelling, cycling or sampling spicy creole food, there's not a great deal more to do. But

when you're surrounded by the most beautiful beaches, hills and colour palettes on the planet, why would you want to do anything other than stare?

MAIA

Maia perches on a dramatic hillside on the southwest coast of Mahé. It's quite a setting. But Maia is quite a place. It's a honeymooner's paradise: small and intimate, with the kind of attentive service you only get in a boutique hotel. The thatched villas all have private infinity pools, sunken outdoor double baths and uninterrupted sea views. Speaking

of the sea, make sure you pack your snorkel. There's a reef right in front of Maia that teems with brightly coloured sea life – the kind you usually only see in aquariums.

*Guide price: £805pppn,
all inclusive*

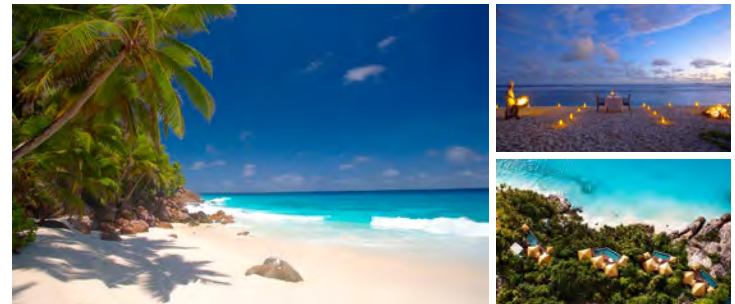


FREGATE ISLAND PRIVATE

As wildernesses go, Fregate is pristine. The residences are set on high cliffs, screened by vegetation. Each has a private infinity pool and butler service. There are seven white, sandy beaches. The Rock Spa is sublime. And you can dine anywhere you choose: in a treehouse, on the beach, even on a bobbing boat. Yet conservation, not pampering, is at the heart of this

private island. It teems with tropical birds, geckos and over 2,000 giant Aldabra tortoises. Whether you arrive by boat or helicopter, you'll never forget your first glimpse.

*Guide price: £1440-£2080pppn,
all inclusive*



FOUR SEASONS RESORT SEYCHELLES

The Four Seasons feels like a remote retreat, yet it's relatively easy to reach. The stilted villas are dotted on the hillside on the south west coast of Mahé, with incredible views of the bay of Petite Anse. If you love the Four Seasons brand, you won't be disappointed. With its infinity plunge pools, open-air showers, acres of living space and glass box bathrooms, the

resort has all the amenities you'd expect from such a trusted name – although we think the hilltop spa takes it to another level entirely.

*Guide price: £475-£640pppn,
with breakfast*



CRYSTAL CRUISING

The best way to explore the Seychelles is to island hop. And travelling on the Crystal Esprit is the most magical way to do it. This all-suite yacht carries just 62 passengers. It feels prestigious and privileged, but it's the sense of intimacy and adventure such limited numbers create that really rang true with us. Jet ski; kayak; take a trip in the two-person submarine: there are

plenty of activities to try. Or simply stay on board to share stories, debate and watch the world drift by.

*Itinerary suggestion:
1 night Hemingways Nairobi, 4 nights
Mahali Mzuri, Masai Mara, 7 nights
Crystal Esprit cruise from £6970pp
including flights.*



ZANZIBAR

Zanzibar is exotic. Flanked by coral shores. Larger and more rugged than you expect. And where the tidal coastline makes beaches magically disappear at high tide. Be prepared for fairly long transfers along unsurfaced roads and through rural villages – it's all part of the adventure. Explore Stone Town and its mesh of narrow streets. Drive through avenues of mango trees. See Zanzibari ladies balancing baskets on their heads. This is very much a 'lived-in' island.



XANADU VILLAS

A Moroccan lantern, here, South African kudu horns, there. Xanadu is owned by a house developer and an art collector. And you can see their stylish influences everywhere. So much so, it feels like a private home (albeit one where the hosts are particularly attentive). It's located on a stretch of white sandy beach with snorkelling, sunset cruises and paddle

boarding on the doorstep. The sense of seclusion is something very special: you reach the property via a palm tree-lined track from the main road, entering through wooden gates built from old dhow boats. Beautiful.

Guide price: £220-£260pppn, all inclusive



ANDBEYOND MNEMBA ISLAND

You feel it the second your boat arrives, and you kick off your shoes to wade through the crystal waters to the beach: this is paradise. Mnemba Island is a romantic, private hideaway overlooking the Mnemba atoll. You can walk round the entire island in just 20 minutes and the ten private bandas add to the rustic, Robinson Crusoe feel. Scuba dive. Dine on

the beach surrounded by flaming torches. Soak up the unpretentious atmosphere – we have no qualms admitting this is our favourite place to stay in Zanzibar.

Guide price: £940-£1295pppn, all inclusive with activities

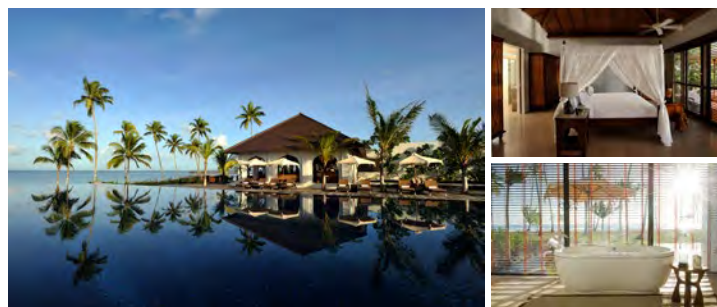


THE RESIDENCE ZANZIBAR

The Residence Zanzibar sits on a mile-long strip of pristine beach. But as Zanzibar is tidal, at times the sea disappears into the distance. It might not be the best time to go swimming, but it's the perfect time to get better acquainted with the resort. Take a dip in your private pool (a big win for honeymooners). Enjoy a treatment in the spa. Or simply soak up the views

from your villa. As befits a Residence property, these are spacious and well configured – we think they work particularly well for families.

Guide price: £225-£390pppn, half board



THE KENYAN COAST

The Kenyan coast feels like a world away from the savannahs. Yet you'll find its white sands and azure seas a mere hop, skip and a jump from the Mara. It's a diver's paradise – the coral reefs around the Watamu Marine Reserve are among the finest in east Africa. Prefer dry land? There's golf at Vipingo Ridge, turtle sanctuaries, and sunset horse rides on the beach. Either way, a few days here is the perfect way to unwind post safari.



KINONDO KWETU

There are no airs and graces at Kinondo Kwetu: just genuine hospitality at its best. It's run by a Swedish couple who understand how to make a resort work for families. You can stay in a cottage or a room in the Mama Taa Villa. They have their own stables. There are plenty of beach activities like kite surfing and paddle boarding – you can even dine

on the beach if the fancy takes you. It's this flexible approach that makes Kinondo Kwetu feel like a true home away from home.

Guide price: £345-£380pppn, all inclusive



MEDINA PALMS

If you like your creature comforts, you're going to love Medina Palms. There's a variety of accommodation to choose from: suites with extended views across tropical gardens, tree-top penthouses and beachfront villas. There's even a private villa if you're looking for something a touch more exclusive. The rooftop spa is an absolute treat and the dining options

are excellent (we particularly love the cocktails invented especially for the resort). The beach isn't huge, but we think the network of pools and relaxation spots more than make up for it.

Guide price: £180-£265pppn, with breakfast

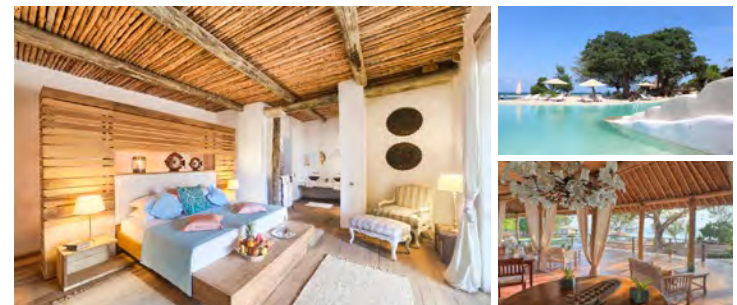


SARUNI OCEAN

There's a real sense of seclusion at Saruni Ocean. It's removed from the more established resorts, on a stretch of almost deserted beachfront in a truly intimate setting. There are never more than 38 people staying at any one time, so even at peak season the place never feels crowded. You can feel your shoulders drop the second you enter the gorgeous thatched

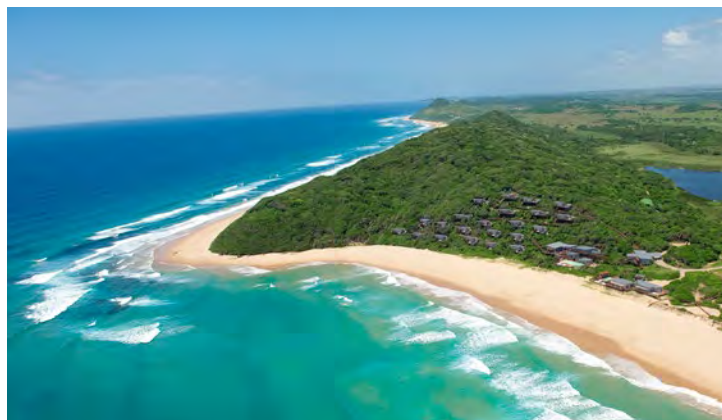
houses. They're clean, minimalistic and fresh: lots of pale wood, white fabric and natural materials. (The unending ocean views add to the sense of blissful isolation.)

Guide price: £375-£415pppn, all inclusive



MOZAMBIQUE

If you're looking for marble bathrooms and somewhere to wear your Manolo's, keep walking. But if you're looking for charm, culture, coastlines and coral reefs, Mozambique is hard to beat. It might not be as polished as Mauritius, but it has architecture, natural beauty and adventure in abundance. It's easy to combine a stay with a safari in the Kruger. Plus, it's off most traveller's maps. It's quieter. It's raw. In short, it feels like real Africa.



WHITE PEARL

You'll find White Pearl on a glistening stretch of coastline, peeking through a fringe of Casuarina trees. We think it's beautiful. It's a diver's paradise, with 16 dive sites and dolphins and turtles at certain times of the year. The suites are built on stilts and dotted across the hillside. Inside, they're slick and contemporary with terraces, outdoor showers and private plunge

pools. But the thing we love best is the way White Pearl feels more like a relaxed beach house than a resort: it pulls off perfection without being uptight.

Guide price: £470pppn, all inclusive with activities

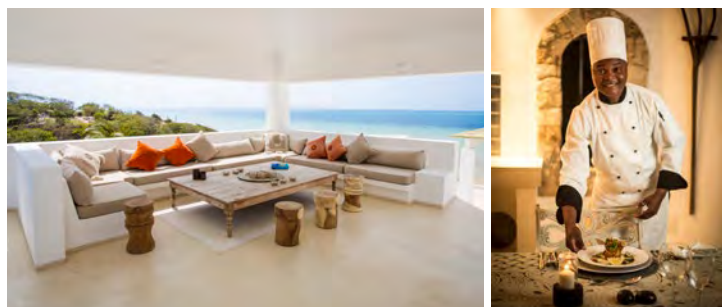


SANTORINI

Santorini isn't the place if you're looking for a dazzling white-sand beach. Although ocean views don't get much better than this. It overlooks Vilanculos Bay and might feel like a secluded haven in the heavens, but it's relatively easy to reach from Vilanculos. You don't need to take another flight, so for us it's the ideal post safari option. There's a selection

of suites available as well as the main villa. We think it's a super choice for families or groups looking for an entire property for their own exclusive use.

Guide price: £385-£505pppn, all inclusive with transfers & activities



AZURA BENGUERRA

Azura Benguerra is on an unspoilt island complete with empty white beaches and dhow-bobbing, azure seas. You arrive by helicopter, and you may feel the urge to kick off your shoes before you even set foot on the sand. The relaxed vibe is blissfully infectious. Unlike most desert islands, though, there are butlers to answer to your every whim. Sundowners to

attend. Thatched villas with private pools. This is your chance to get away from it all. No big resorts. No commercialised shopping streets. Just exclusive island hideaways in unspoilt, protected marine areas.

Guide price: £460pppn, all inclusive with activities



ISLAND ESCAPES

Exclusive island hideaways in some of the most unspoilt, unpretentious and peaceful marine areas on the planet. No big resorts. No tourist traps. In fact, very few tourists full stop. If you've ever dreamed of living like Robinson Crusoe, these fantasy islands are your chance to try. How you while away your time is completely up to you. Dine on the beach. Try deep sea fishing. Or simply sit by a clear blue lagoon and watch the waves roll in and out.



MAVANA PRIVATE ISLAND - MADAGASCAR

Miavana means 'reconcile' in Malagasy. The owners chose the name to reflect their hope that guests will leave restored and reconnected. We can't imagine how they'll be anything else. The best way to arrive is by wave-skimming helicopter. It's remote, it's raw, it's the real deal for anyone looking to truly escape the rat race. It's located on Nosy Ankao island, off

the north-east of Madagascar, where you can kite surf, go deep sea fishing or spot whales and turtles on a blue safari. In a word, it's perfect.

Guide price: £1980pppn, all inclusive with conservation fee & activities



THANDA ISLAND - TANZANIA

At Thanda Island, slick Swedish design meets desert island chic. It's a private island off the Tanzanian coast, lapped by an Indian Ocean teeming with whale sharks and sea turtles. Inside the exclusive-use villa, elegance is at every turn. The indoor aquarium, cigar humidor and wraparound dining area add a touch of grandeur. While the pizza oven, bbq and

outdoor cocktail bar keep it real. To get there it's a short flight from Dar es Salaam to Mafia, followed by a boat crossing. But nothing beats arriving by helicopter direct from Dar.

Guide price: £740pppn based on 10 sharing, all inclusive with activities, boat use & transfers from Mafia Island



NORTH ISLAND - SEYCHELLES

This is barefoot luxury at its best. And in our opinion, one of the finest properties in our entire portfolio. When it comes to private islands, North Island is quite possibly the most private. There are just 11 unique and individual villas on the island. Meaning it's perfectly feasible that you won't see another soul for the entire duration of your stay. It's no

surprise that North Island is popular with honeymooners. Apparently, it's a big hit with celebrities, too – although, naturally, the team are too discreet to name names.

Guide price: £2795pppn, all inclusive with activities



BEYOND THE BEACH

WHO SAYS RELAXATION HAS TO HAPPEN ON A BEACH?
HERE ARE OUR FAVOURITE WAYS TO UNWIND WITHOUT GETTING
EVEN A GRAIN OF SAND BETWEEN YOUR TOES.

If beach holidays just aren't your thing, there are still plenty of other options when it comes to recharging your batteries. These spa, countryside and lakeside retreats

combine easily with other itineraries. You might not need to book extra flights to include them. (And the weather's often better inland than on the coast, too.)

COUNTRY RETREATS

Ah, the great African outdoors. The perfect compliment to a safari or city break, where there's mountain biking, trekking and canoeing (and still the option for pool lounging). Bushmans Kloof, hidden away in South Africa's Cederberg Mountains, is one of our favourite country

retreats. We also love the exotic oasis that is Segera and the epic views at Ol Lentille in Laikipia. But as scenery goes, it doesn't get much better than Finch Hattons in southern Kenya – the sunsets over Kilimanjaro are incredible.



SPA SECLUSION

Whether you're gearing up for a few days in the bush or hoping to soothe away aches and pains caused by bumping along dirt roads, a spa retreat is always a good idea. But we think there are a couple that really stand out from the crowd. At Karkloof

in KwaZulu-Natal, the treatments are unlimited and are all included in the price. And at Sasaab in Samburu, northern Kenya, spa treatments are served with a generous side order of river views, to a magical soundtrack of the bush and birdlife – sublime.



LAKESIDE HIDEAWAYS

The beauty of a lakeside retreat is that you get fresh, cool water and sand between your toes, without the crowds you often find beside the beach. Make it as laid back or action packed as you please. At Kaya Mawa, on Malawi's Likoma Island, you can sail, kayak, water-ski and wakeboard

to your heart's content. You can even learn to dive in its crystal-clear waters. While at Lupita Island, on Tanzania's Lake Tanganyika, the focus is firmly on chilling out. We can't think of anywhere better to shake off the safari dust.



VICTORIA FALLS

Sunset cruise or skydive? Well, we think merely laying eyes on the Falls is enough to set you right with the world: it's a truly humbling experience. We recommend staying nearby, but at enough of a distance to give the crowds a wide berth. As the Falls straddles Zambia and

Zimbabwe, you can choose which side you see it from. For fabulous food on the Zambian side, we recommend Royal Chundu. For something chic and contemporary in Zimbabwe, it has to be andBeyond Matetsi River Lodge – it's even got its own private game reserve.



USEFUL INFORMATION

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is essential that comprehensive travel insurance is in place for all travellers from the date of booking to the date of arrival back into the UK. The cover, terms and conditions should match your travel and activities for the whole duration of your trip including those that you may not book with us. We will require details of your insurance provider and policy number.

QUOTES AND CONFIRMATIONS

We will produce a quote for your holiday based on the instructions we receive. In addition to the price, travel, accommodation and other arrangements, this will include important and useful details and should be read and understood before confirming your holiday. At this stage, changes may be made to your holiday. Once your holiday is confirmed any further changes will incur charges as per our booking conditions.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

We will endeavour to assist with any special requests you may have e.g. special meals, low floor or inter-connecting rooms, special airport assistance, mobility restrictions etc. If you require such requests to be a condition of your acceptance of your holiday, these will only be agreed as a variance to our standard booking conditions if you receive written confirmation from us that such requests have been confirmed by the carrier/accommodation provider or principal involved. Whenever possible, and where we are advised of such requests, we will endeavour to provide information relating to accessibility.

CHILDREN

We will be pleased to provide guidance and advice on the suitability of types of holiday and accommodation for children of all ages. This is particularly important in game viewing areas and our knowledge and experience will ensure that your requirements are met.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Ensuring that your passport and visas are valid for the countries you are visiting is your own responsibility and whilst advice is provided we cannot be held responsible if you are not able to travel as a result of failings in your passport or visa. Be aware that some countries require that more than one blank consecutive page is available in your passport. Information in this regard will be sent to you or your agent with your documentation and any such information we provide is for holders of UK passports and should be used for guidance only. Further advice may be obtained from the UK Passport Service via www.passport.gov.uk and the relevant embassies or consulates.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

It is essential that all relevant medical requirements are adhered to prior to and during travel. Any information provided by us is for your guidance only and you should consult with your GP or other medical authority to ascertain the latest requirements for each destination you are visiting. We cannot be held responsible for any omission or amendment to health requirements as they can change without notice.

TRAVELLING BY AIR

We work closely with all the major airlines serving Africa and benefit from excellent rates in all the premium cabins which we pass onto you. Restrictions often apply to air tickets regarding changes and cancellation penalties. Should you need to amend your dates or flight times then we will assist as much as possible and apply charges as per our booking conditions. This should only be done in conjunction with us as the ticket issuer. Should an airline amend its flight schedule then we will make every effort to advise you or your travel agent and assist as per our booking conditions. Specific seat requests can be made on most airlines, and in some cases a charge is

made, but no guarantees can be given as to the fulfilment of such requests. Some flights within Africa may be on light aircraft and there are often personal weight and/or baggage restrictions and if a passenger does not comply with these then there may be additional charges to be paid locally and/or permission to travel may be withdrawn. We will provide as much advice as possible prior to travel to alleviate any such instances.

All airport taxes and additional charges as known at the time of booking are shown in the quotation. However, these can change at any time and should this happen we will endeavour to advise you or your travel agent as soon as possible. Some taxes and charges need to be paid locally and are your responsibility. We will endeavour to advise you of these but cannot be held liable for any omissions or changes.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Baggage allowances are usually strictly enforced and can differ between each airline and class of travel. Details of the latest information relating to the limits for both checked and carry-on baggage will be supplied with your travel documents and should be checked on the relevant airline's website. Flights in light aircraft often have lower limits and restrictions on bag types. Details will be advised with your documents and it is important that these be understood and adhered to.

FLIGHT DELAYS

In the unlikely event of a significant delay to your flight then arrangements for meals, overnight accommodation etc. should be met by your airline, subject to the applicable terms and conditions which can be found on the airline's website. Under the Denied Boarding, Cancellation and Delay Regulations you may be entitled to compensation from the airline, refer to www.caa.co.uk for more information.

DEPOSITS

The usual minimum deposit is £300 per person, or 10% of the total cost of your holiday, whichever is the greater. However, travel at certain times of year such as (but not limited to) Christmas, New Year and Easter along with certain accommodation and other components of your holiday, may require a higher deposit or full payment to secure the reservation. You or your travel agent will be advised of the required deposit or payment at the time of booking. Deposits and certain other payments are non-refundable subject to our booking conditions.

ACCOMMODATION

Check-in is usually from 15:00 with check-out between 10:00-12:00. For early arrivals and late departures, it is recommended that an earlier or later arrangement be made, usually at a full night's charge, although this can sometimes be arranged locally for an additional charge.

PRICES

Prices shown in this brochure were correct at the time of going to press and include services and facilities as shown. However, air fares and currency rates do change and we will provide you with the best value prices applicable at the time of booking. Our booking conditions (available on request or on our website, www.knightonreeve.co.uk) show further information in this regard. Unless otherwise stated, accommodation and tour prices per person based on two people sharing, are seasonal, in GB£, in standard lead-in twin or double rooms with private facilities. Higher grade rooms are often available for which a supplement will apply. All inclusive usually means all meals, soft drinks and local brands of alcoholic drinks; premium brands are generally not included and supplements may occasionally apply for some menu items. In many safari lodges and camps, daily activities are also included – these vary from camp to camp. Our touring itinerary prices also include local park fees where applicable.

SAFETY

In some areas there may be some risk of wild animals roaming free. Every precaution is taken by game lodges to ensure guests' safety but you will usually be asked to sign a liability disclaimer on check-in. For all the destinations and countries we feature, the Foreign & Commonwealth Travel Advice Unit is a useful source of the latest travel advice www.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo.

OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

Information sent to you with your quotation, confirmation and travel documentation should answer many other questions that you may have regarding travelling to Africa and the Indian Ocean. Should you need any further assistance please contact us or ask your travel agent to do so.

BROCHURE ACCURACY

This brochure was published in October 2016. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in our brochure is accurate. However, it is possible that the content contained therein may have changed or not be as shown. This could be due to conditions outside our control, the advance production schedule of the printing of the brochure, the possibility of human error and that developments and changes may have taken place at accommodations and their environs which may affect the appearance of the accommodation and its surroundings. Should this apply, we will endeavour to advise you or your travel agent of any changes.

THERE WHEN YOU NEED US

Your final documentation will have a comprehensive itinerary with the contact details for your holiday arrangements. You will also be given details of our local agents (where applicable) and our 24-hour UK emergency help-line whereupon we will do all we can to assist you.



WEBSITE

WE HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED THIS SELECTION OF PROPERTIES FROM OUR PORTFOLIO.

YOU'LL FIND LOTS MORE ON OUR WEBSITE, ALONG WITH IDEAS AND ITINERARIES TO HELP YOU DAYDREAM, DECIDE AND PLAN YOUR AFRICAN ADVENTURE.

RATHER THAN TAKE ONLINE BOOKINGS, WE PREFER TO TALK THROUGH YOUR REQUIREMENTS BEFORE WE START TO CREATE YOUR HOLIDAY. CALL US – OR SPEAK TO YOUR TRAVEL AGENT – TO DISCUSS YOUR IDEAS IN MORE DEPTH.

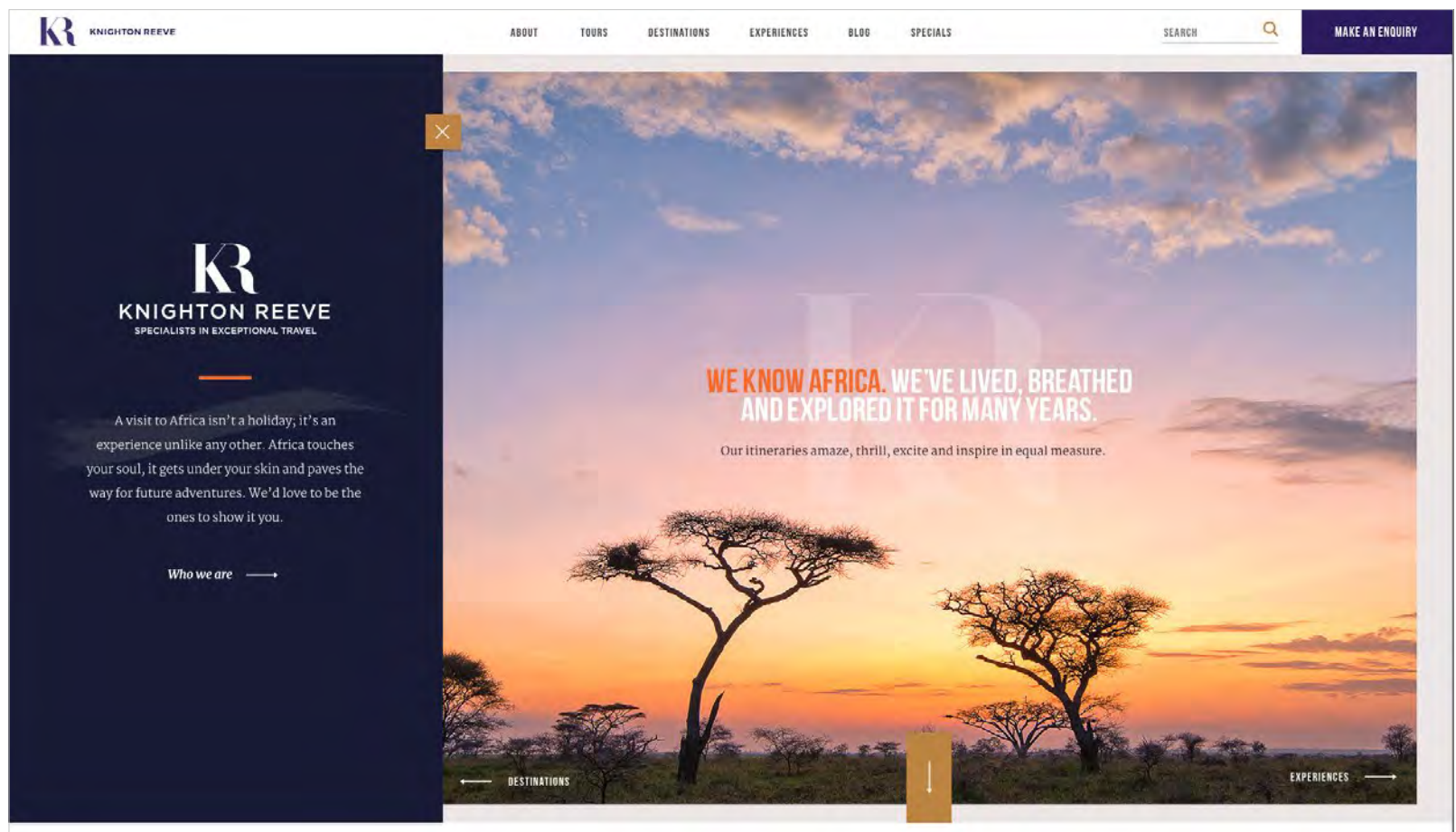


Photo credits

Shutterstock, iStock and our partners: Angama Mara (pages 9 & 10), Tswalu Kalahari (pages 9 & 13), Babylonstoren (pages 11 & 33), Rhinos Without Borders & Beverly Joubert (page 15), Federal Airlines (page 16), Rattrays (page 42), Wilderness Safaris (page 66), Sasaab (pages 82 & 86), Royal Chundu (page 102)

KNIGHTON REEVE

Box Tree House, Northminster Business Park, York, YO26 6QU
01904 866 033 africa@knightonreeve.co.uk

