



# MICATO SAFARIS

THE TRAVEL + LEISURE NINE TIME WINNER



MICATO SAFARIS

2019-2020

The wild creatures  
*I had come to*  
*Africa to see*  
are exhilarating in their  
multitudes and colors...



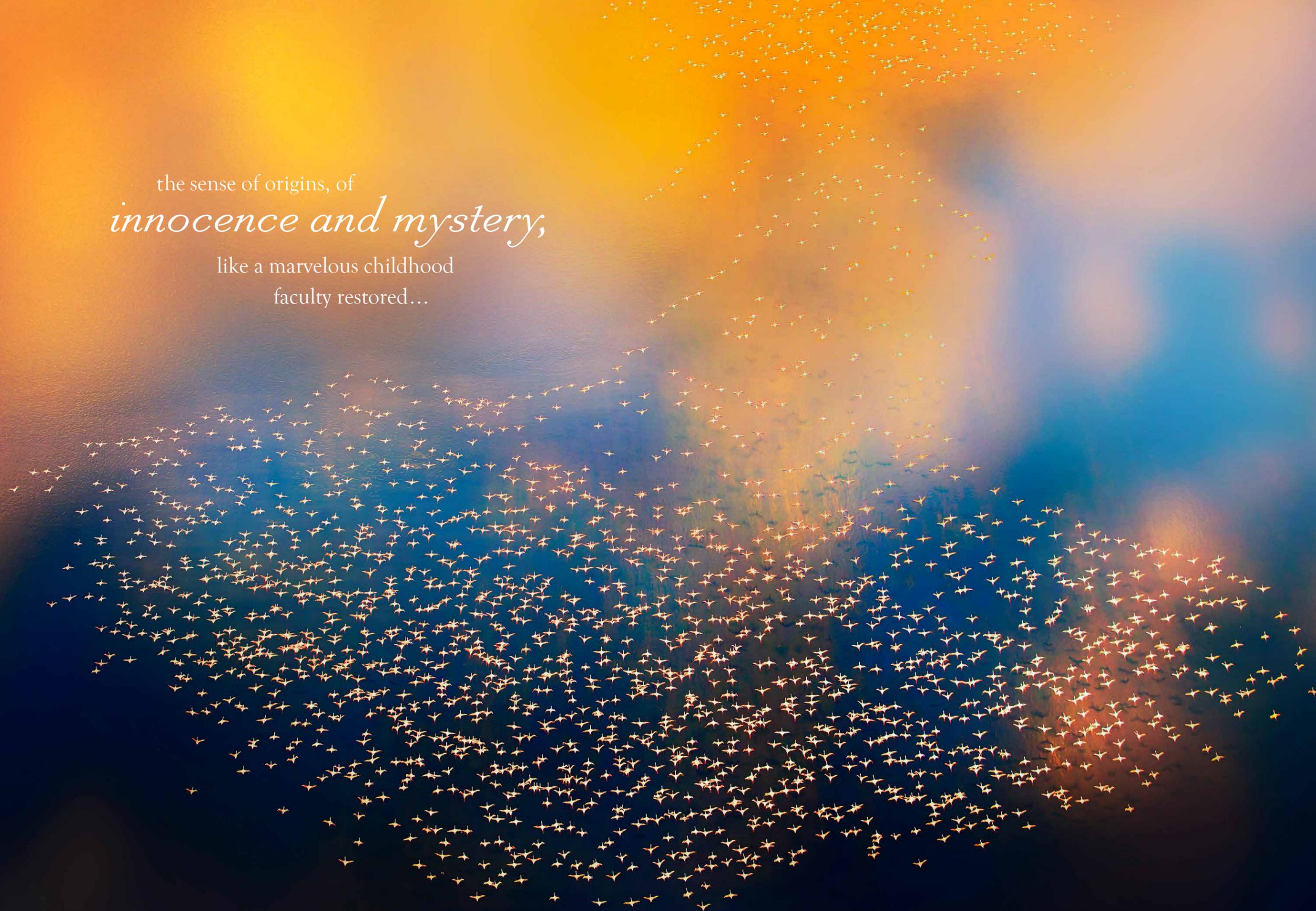


and I imagined for a time that this glimpse  
of the earth's morning might account for the

*anticipation*  
*that I felt...*

the sense of origins, of  
*innocence and mystery,*

like a marvelous childhood  
faculty restored...



A herd of elephants is seen from behind, walking across a vast, golden savanna. The elephants are in the lower half of the frame, moving from left to right. The savanna is filled with tall, golden grass. In the background, there are low mountains and a large, dramatic sky filled with white and grey clouds against a deep blue background. The lighting suggests late afternoon or early morning, with long shadows and warm tones.

Perhaps it is the consciousness  
that here in Africa, south of the Sahara,  
*our kind was born.*

—Peter Matthiessen, *The Tree Where Man Was Born*



# MICATO SAFARIS

TRAVEL+  
LEISURE

Unprecedented Nine-Time Winner of Travel+Leisure's  
Award for #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter

Travel+Leisure Hall of Fame

Condé Nast  
Traveler

Unprecedented Five-Time Winner of the Condé Nast Traveler  
World Savers Award for Education and for Doing It All

Member of the World Savers Hall of Fame

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—Forbes Magazine

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## Dear Friends,

Little did we think 50 years ago that the small enterprise we had just inaugurated would become one of the world's premier safari companies. (In our minds, of course, Micato is unquestionably the world's absolute *best* safari company—fortunately, many well-informed minds agree, as our awards and accolades indicate.)

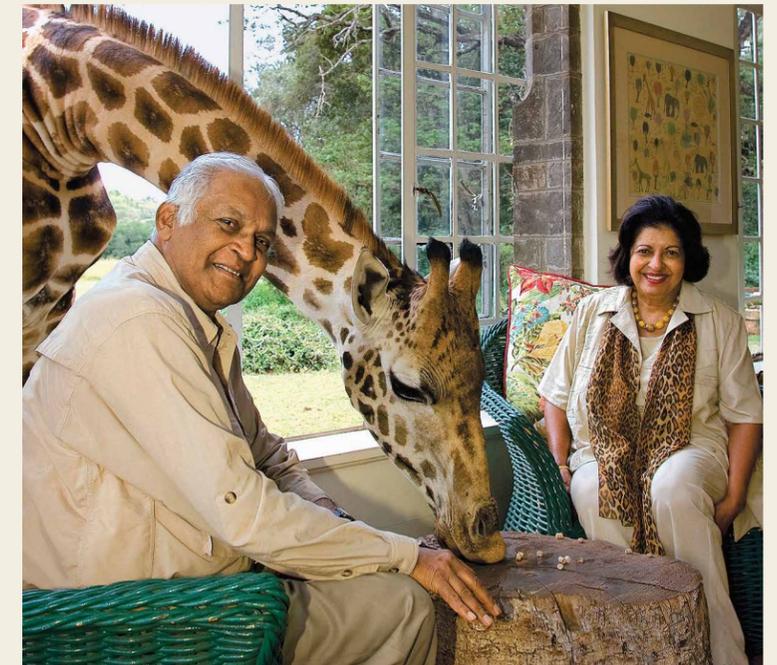
From the beginning we knew Micato would be unique. We are third generation Africans, and we began and built our company here in the well-known, well-loved land of our birth. We raised our children on a farm in Kenya, quite close to Karen Blixen's famous coffee plantation, seven or eight miles from the Ngong Hills. So, you see, when you travel with Micato you're travelling with more than just a company—you're travelling with our family.

Indeed, that's what sets Micato apart and makes our safaris feel so different. You'll find yourself charmed by Africa's generous spirit, spellbound by the peace and beauty of its natural world, delighted by the gentle luxury of life on safari, and you'll be enveloped in warmth and friendship. Every member of the Micato affiliate companies—the Safari Director who'll accompany your safari, your Driver Guides, all our Africa staff, our son and daughter at Micato USA, and many others in Africa and America—will become your family. This is how we have conducted our lives, this is how we built our company, this is why we say, please join us at home in Africa, for a safari that will surpass your most eager dream.

Sincerely,

*Felix and Jane Pinto*

Founders, Micato Africa





## THE PINTOS OF MICATO

# A Unique African Story

In 1963 Felix Pinto, a high-ranking member of Kenya's colonial government, was personally invited by Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, Kenya's founding father, into the government of the newly independent country, where he was instrumental in laying the foundations for Kenya's agricultural success story.

Jane Pinto—like Felix, a second-generation Kenyan—was an elite international table tennis player. They lived on a rambling farm off Bogani Road, in the Nairobi suburb of Karen, where they raised their three kids.

In 1966 Felix and Jane—known as Mama Kibiriti, She Who Gets Things Done—now in retirement yet full of energy and talent, decided to start a little safari company. The brochure you hold in your hands is evidence of their success. But Micato, now a big company, remains a family affair, committed

to making its Micato affiliate employees on three continents, and its guests from all over the world, feel like family.

**Felix Pinto and Jane Pinto**, Micato Africa's founders, live just outside Nairobi in beautiful Lavington House, where they entertain all Micato visitors in the capital city; they also enjoy sojourns to their Cape Town residence and safaris with their children and grandchildren.

Felix is one of Kenya's most highly respected businessmen. The family's Ideal Farm, close by Nairobi National Park, was for many years a model East African agro-industrial enterprise (and the home of a cadre of prize-winning livestock—including a massively beautiful champion pig who occupies regal stature in family lore; when you dine with Felix and Jane in Nairobi, ask them to tell you the story of the Empress of Ideal Farm).

Jane is a former Kenyan table tennis champion (ask her about having her picture taken with China's premier Zhou Enlai during the famous Ping Pong Diplomacy tournament in 1971). She sits on the board of the International Table Tennis Federation, represents Kenya at the Olympics and at international championships, and is an accomplished businesswoman (as this brochure attests), but Jane's greatest passion is helping her country's children in need; her work with Mother Teresa is reflected in Micato-AmericaShare's programmes.

Executive Director **Anastasia Pinto** heads up Micato's multi-continental sales efforts from her base in Los Angeles. A graduate of St. Lawrence University, she began her sales career with Hyatt Hotels in the South Pacific. Anna is deeply involved with the Pediatric Therapy Network and Sandpipers, an influential Southern California women's philanthropy, and she is a major force behind Micato-AmericaShare, just one example of her embrace of Africa's and the Pinto family's tradition of supporting those in need.

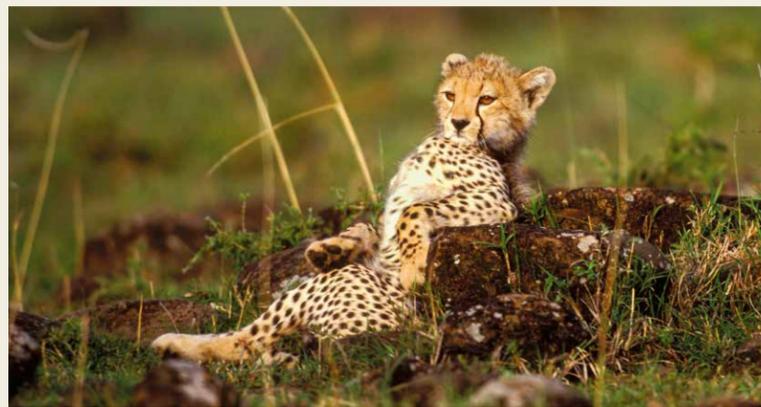
After graduating from St. Mary's School in Nairobi, **Dennis Pinto**, Micato's Managing Director, headed west to Stanford and then all over the world as a vice president for American Express International Banking. Thirty years ago Dennis took a six-month sabbatical to set up a New York City office for Micato,

and he's still happily ensconced in the Big Apple. Skillfully honing the Micato Safaris philosophy of luxury, exploration, cultural interaction, and responsibility, he also co-founded Micato-AmericaShare.

**Joy Phelan-Pinto**, our Executive Director and Dennis' bride of 24 years, oversees Micato's brand and editorial strategy and is the impresaria of this brochure. An alumna of Taft School and Brown University, Joy has a love of travel and the travel business that led her to executive positions with Travel Dynamics and the Cunard Line. She managed such legendary vessels as *Sea Goddess*, *Sea Cloud*, and *Royal Viking Sun*, and at last count has travelled to 120 countries and territories. She has summited Kilimanjaro, regularly explores Africa with the family, and she and Dennis keep their New York home fires burning for their Ivy Leaguers, Sasha at Brown and Tristan at Yale.

**Alan Lobo**, our Chief Operating Officer, is a graduate of Southern California's Loyola Marymount University and is a mainstay of New York City's much-vaunted Village Lions Rugby Football Club. Alan grew up with Micato: his mother, Dulu, is Jane Pinto's cherished sister and Micato's Head Concierge Emerita in Nairobi.





# Three Ways to Safari with Micato

## 1. Custom

A safari hand-tailored from top to bottom according to your schedule and interests.

For more about our Custom Safaris in East Africa, see pages 50-57 and for Southern Africa, pages 114-115.

## 2. Classic

A scheduled small-group departure. Ten different safari programmes, with multiple departure dates every month, all guaranteed to operate.

Scroll over to pages 58-95 for East Africa and pages 116-141 for Southern Africa.

## 3. Private Classic Safari

You and your family or group of friends choose one of the many scheduled departure dates of any Classic Safari and convert it into a completely private journey, with your own vehicle and a Micato Safari Director to yourselves.



## Here Are The Many Micato Differences

How does a safari company amaze and excel for more than 50 years? By a cheerfully relentless dedication to service and innovation. With painstaking discernment, profound expertise, and the generosity of spirit that arises from a family's bedrock commitment to hospitality.

- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Small-group, boutique safaris of fewer than 18 travellers, and only 12 in Southern Africa.
- 100% guaranteed departures, even for parties of two.
- All tips included, even to Safari Directors and Driver Guides.
- All meals included. And we unhesitatingly pick up the tab for meals in any local restaurant on all Custom Safaris.
- At mealtimes, regional wines, beer, and bottled water included. In Southern Africa, spirits are often included, too.
- Unique Micato Moments abound on every safari, from bush cocktails to walking safaris.
- Free Wi-Fi and valet laundry service included everywhere.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Itineraries perfected by generations of experience and local knowledge.
- Safari Directors who accompany every East Africa safari. And exceptionally well-versed Driver-Guides.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.
- Surprises. We're famous for them. You'll be amazed.
- The Pinto family, at your service, in Africa and in the U.S.
- And—this could well be at the top of the list—we pay for an African child's education for every safari we sell.

## Why Choose Micato?



*The Pintos treat their guests like well-loved, out-of-town relatives.*

—Travel+Leisure

# Micato's Unique Access

Micato's 50 years of safari experience and three generations of Pinto family born and raised in Africa enable us to provide you with an insider's understanding, extraordinary introductions, and unique access.

## With Us, It's Personal

Having raised their family in Kenya, Micato founders Felix and Jane Pinto make their home in Nairobi and Cape Town. They're quite the couple about town, and seem to know absolutely everyone. And, of course, their friends are your friends.

## The Benefits of Micato's Insider Access

We have interesting, dynamic friends in Africa. Whether it's Louise Leakey driving her Micato-bedecked car #17 in an off-road rally in between unearthing fossils of early mankind, *National Geographic* Explorer lion researcher Shivani Bhalla, chic fashion designer Anna Trzebinski, or the continent's new master chefs and young artists, we can put you in touch with engaging, zesty people making a mark in today's Africa.



BELOW Dennis, Tristan, Sasha, and Joy Pinto with Drs. Maeve and Louise Leakey, holding the evolution of mankind in their hands at Kenya's Turkana Basin Institute.



## Safari Directors Without Equal

Africa's magic charms are revealed as you explore everything from wildlife and tribal cultures to politics and history with your remarkable Safari Directors—Africans born and raised, not expats or transplants. They bring Africa's story to life through a delightful blend of guiding in the bush, lecturing in camp, conversations over meals, and enlightening anecdotes in between.

Every day your team in East Africa includes both your Safari Director and a highly-credentialed Driver Guide. Two dynamic, exuberant experts, delighting you every step of the way, versus the solitary guide most companies send along.

## Extensive Safety Network

The health and safety of Micato guests is our primary priority. Micato is connected with top-flight security and advisory networks in the U.S. and Africa. Our general manager in East Africa is a Member of the Board of the American Chamber of Commerce in Kenya, and works closely with the U.S. ambassador and government officials. Felix and Jane Pinto—who consider their guests extended family members—and their management team live in Africa, with the network and resources to anticipate and respond to situations quickly. Our team has their finger on the pulse of what's happening.

*For me, whether it's Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Botswana, side trips to Zanzibar or Victoria Falls, or gorilla-tracking excursions to Rwanda, the "best" is always the same—Micato. The Pinto family, which launched Micato 47 years ago, from Africa, has unrivaled experience and an incredible network of personal connections at the highest levels. . . . In an industry built on subcontracting and lack of hands-on control, they are the rare safari outfitter that has all their own full-time, expert, and highly trained guides, local offices, including desks in the better hotels, a huge in-country support staff, and their own vehicles and drivers. . . . I know many of the best and most well-informed travel agents in the nation, and they pretty much unanimously swear by Micato. . . . There is no one else I would consider using to plan a trip to Africa.*

—Larry Olmsted, *Forbes*



# We Aim to Amaze

You don't win *Travel+Leisure's* award for #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter an unprecedented nine times unless you're on the ball, all the time. Luxury takes on new meaning with Micato. We go far beyond what's expected of even the most luxurious safari outfitter.

## Dine at Home with the Pintos

It's different in Micato's Africa. Hospitality is a way of life here and all guests are welcomed like old friends to dine in the home of founders Felix and Jane Pinto in Nairobi, or with family friends in Cape Town or Johannesburg.

## Only Micato Moments

Every safari includes Only Micato Moments designed to surprise and delight. In the bush, we arrange sublime sundowner cocktails at twilight on the plains and picnic lunches under ancient

baobab trees. Then we amaze you with the sights and sounds of the awakening bush on an early morning walking safari or a peaceful after-dark encounter with Africa's nocturnal creatures.

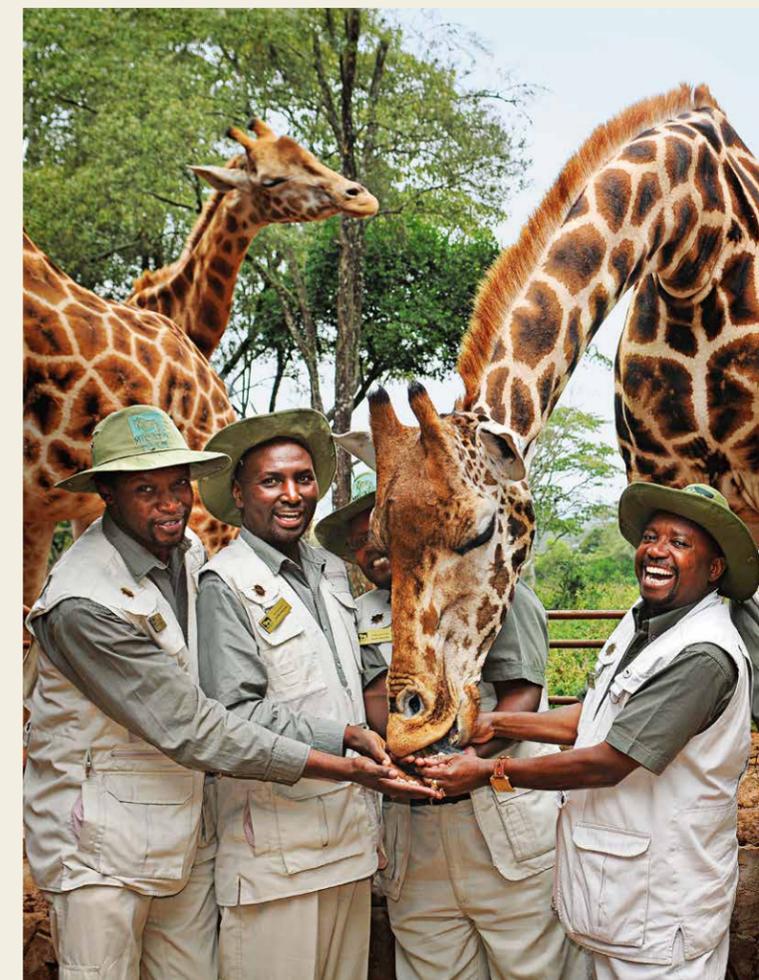
In villages and towns, we visit market days and tempt you with savory bites of local specialties and the joyous hubbub of local sellers, and take merry, off-the-beaten-path rides in tuk-tuks to explore proudly authentic old quarters. In the savannahs, we also know the unspoiled tribal villages where heart-stirring encounters with elders and mamas are still wonderfully possible, your Micato Safari Director facilitating every unforgettable moment.

## Over The Top and Imaginative

There's nothing we relish more than fashioning the ultimate in exclusive experiences. A few past highlights: South Africa's former president, F.W. de Klerk (the Nobel Peace Prize winner who with Nelson Mandela helped end apartheid) has generously hosted Micato guests. The celebrated Rovos Rail luxury train staged its first-ever cooking demonstration in their galley car exclusively for our travellers. We've arranged for guests to run the lush Kenyan Highlands with elite Kenyan marathoners. We've assisted award-winning biologists in lion conservation projects; and we've combed the dry riverbeds of Lake Turkana for hominid fossils with the Leakey family.

## Private Dining and Libations On Us

From the moment we welcome you to Africa, all meals and mealtime drinks are included—even, happily, local beer and wine. In Southern Africa, we often include spirits, too. We're also lavish with complimentary bottled water and soft drinks—and not just at meals but in your rooms, tents, and safari vehicles. On a Custom Safari, you may also dine at any restaurant of your choice and order anything on the menu. We'll make the reservation, arrange the car, and pick up the tab.



*You expect first-class treatment from Micato and that's exactly what you get. What makes Micato even more special is the attention to detail in the added touches, the welcoming dinners, the little gifts from Felix and Jane along the way, and the extra care taken with our children.*

—Alex Trebek



# We Aim to Amaze *Even More*

## No Tipping, Ever

Not at safari's beginning or end, not in hotels, lodges, camps, airports, not to Micato Concierges, or anywhere in between.

We also decided years ago to buck industry convention and include the substantial end-of-trip tips to Safari Directors and Driver Guides, unlike other safari operators. Because a seamless safari should never include the anxiety of how much, who and when to tip.

## Your Personal Concierge<sup>SM</sup> Awaits

A Micato Concierge is a delightful luxury at your service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, available anywhere Micato takes you. Based from our offices in Nairobi, Cape Town, Arusha, and Johannesburg, this resourceful team is ready to obtain forgotten prescriptions, make flight changes, or find a camera battery and fly it to you in the bush. They'll also shop for you, pack your purchases, and ship them home. If you need it, they'll move mountains to get it done.

*I have rarely ever worked with an organization that is so detail-oriented, so thoughtful, so welcoming, so personal (and with such personable staff). And all those extra-special Micato touches, those behind-the-scenes experiences. How to chronicle them?* —Ruth Katz



## Complimentary Wi-Fi & Laundry

Laundry is included everywhere, every day—not just once during your safari, but where and when you need it. Imagine returning from a day in the bush to find your clothes cleaned and folded, even on your last day with us. Returning home with clean clothes... now that's luxury!

It's also our pleasure to provide complimentary Wi-Fi wherever it exists. More and more camps feature Wi-Fi but not all—though, rather wonderfully, Micato safari vehicles throughout Africa do. You may or may not want to keep in virtual contact with the world, but it's nice to know you can.

## Safari Luggage You'll Happily Flaunt

We brainstormed with our friends at Marmot to design the ideal bag, sized for safaris and bush flights. The result: a stylish, lightweight, and gloriously roomy duffel with terrific handy features, including

a retractable handle *and* wheels...not that you'll ever lift your bags in Africa, of course: luggage will simply appear inside your room like magic from camp to camp. (But of course when you *do* lift your bag on your future journeys, your exclusive luggage will be the envy of travellers everywhere!)





# Small-Group Boutique Safaris

With a party of only 18 guests or fewer, a Micato Classic Safari is a convivial, personalized adventure that creates astonishing shared experiences, fond friendships, and lots of laughter...with your exuberant, expert Safari Director leading the troupe.

## Arrive as Guests, Leave as Family

After sharing a meal at home with the Pintos or their friends on your first day in Africa, you'll find that the irresistible warmth of their welcome transforms your newly-arrived band of travellers into fast friends, and sets the stage for the enjoyable discoveries, diversions, and delights to come.

## A Word You'll Seldom Hear: No

Our Classic small-group boutique safaris operate with the same deep dedication to service as our private Custom Safaris: the word *no* is seldom uttered!

There may be moments when your interests diverge from those of the group, but the Micato team is ready. Perhaps you'd like to return to the bush to find that elusive leopard while others catch up with their reading? Certainly. Or maybe your fellow travellers prefer to visit that intriguing shop three villages down the road while you remain at camp? We'll send a car. And if you change your mind and decide to join the shoppers later, we'll send *another* car.

Micato is proud to operate the most non-groupy group safaris imaginable. Our Safari Directors make the impossible possible for every Micato guest, every day.

## Small Groups, Big Adventures

Small groups and Micato's love of spontaneity mean we can react quickly and do more. You may find yourself hopping out of the pool and into a vehicle to see the lion cubs that came out of hiding while you were relaxing. Or diverting from the lunch plan to check out the hip Swahili café discovered by the younger Pintos a few days earlier.

Our Safari Directors have been known to make impromptu stops in their villages to introduce you to the family. Other groups have chatted up Parliament members, ministers, and professors encountered on the fly by Safari Directors who made the introductions. We're constantly on the lookout for remarkable opportunities to delight our guests.



with seamless bush flights to provide more time on safari. Not having ownership stakes in African hotel properties is also a key Micato advantage: we're uniquely able to include only the newest, best and most desirable camps and lodges in our programmes, unlike so many safari operators who are obliged to use their own.

## Brilliantly Crafted Itineraries

And finally, our Classic Safaris are the culmination of generations of safari experience complemented by present-day knowledge, and woven together

*One of our group purchased the wrong size pants in Nairobi, and Micato returned the pants, found the right size, and had them delivered to the bush the next day. Your service surpassed all definitions of "excellence," from stunning sunset appetizers and fine wines in the bush, and all the hundreds of little touches that none of the other safari companies provide.* —Zora Lazic



# Safari Lodgings That Astonish

It's a point of pride for us to find and favour East and Southern Africa's toppest-notch camps and lodges. And evidence of our selectiveness appears just about everywhere in this brochure.\*

## A Continuously Curated Collection

To use a current expression, we curate our lodges and camps liberally, year-by-year, safari-by-safari. Most of our regularly scheduled Classic Safaris feature properties listed on the *Travel+Leisure* World's Best Hotels Africa list and *T+L's* World's Top 500 Hotels...plus a few private favourites of our own.

Because we enjoy such good relations—and good business—with Micato's favoured camps and lodges, our guests are accorded preferential treatment, and greeted as good friends of good friends.

## What Makes a Great Safari Camp?

It takes on-the-ground, up-to-the-minute knowledge to select the finest safari lodges. The latest trendy camp in the magazines may be a long 45-minute drive from wildlife. Or too close to a main road or village to attract good game—antelopes perhaps, but not big cats. Sometimes you want your camp to be inside a game reserve, and other times it's preferable to stay outside the gate. Many of the oldest lodges are in the best locations, but what about the leading-edge, community-owned group ranches? We know these things, and more.



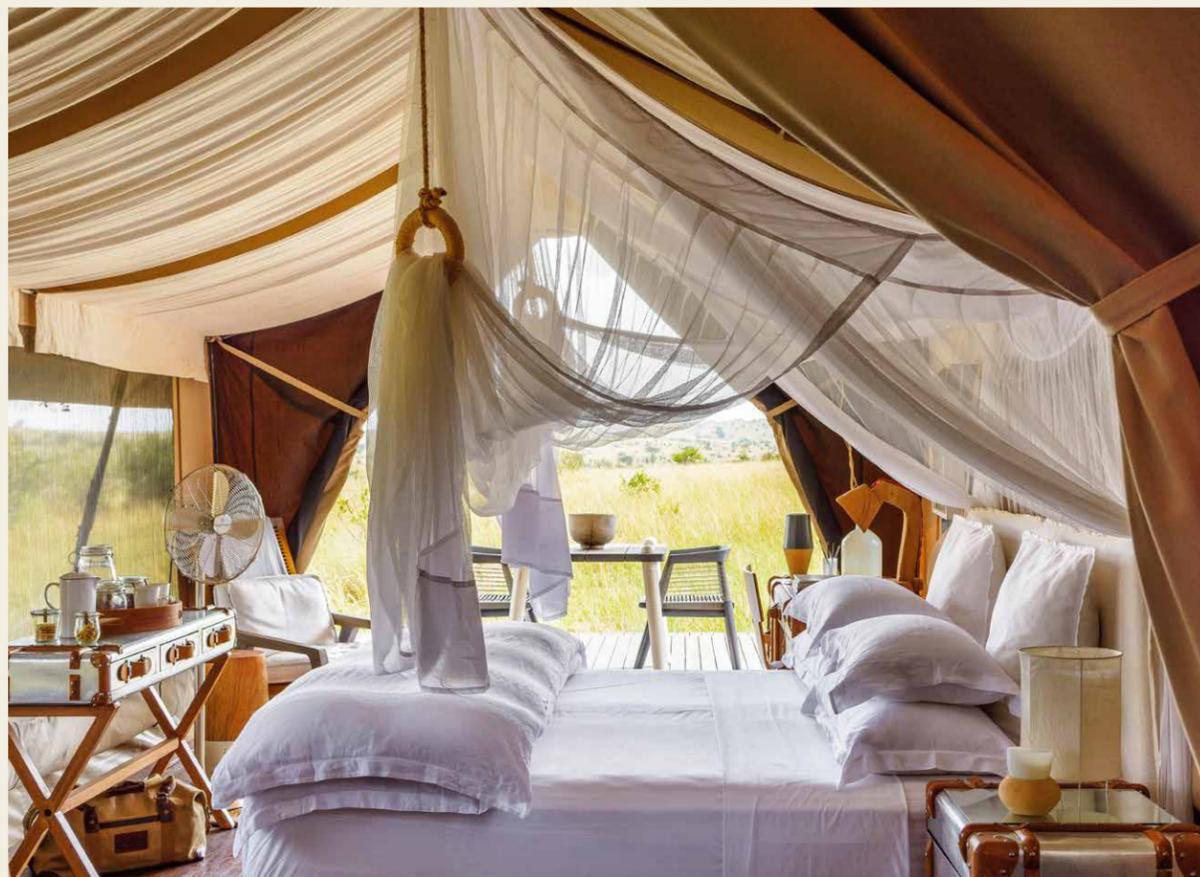
## Immediate Hotel Check-In

You've flown all night and your plane touches down in Nairobi, Cape Town, or Johannesburg in the wee hours of the morning. You meet your Micato staff and drive to the hotel and—!—proceed serenely to your room (feeling sorry for the folks who booked with other safari companies, and who are now exhaustedly lining up in front of the reception desk). If you book your international flight through Micato's Preferred Air Supplier (ask us or your travel advisor for details), this unheard-of perk is guaranteed.

\* A frequently asked question: What's the difference between a lodge and a camp? Well, a lodge's buildings are permanent, while camps feature canvas tents on permanent foundations. Of course, as the many pictures in these pages attest, and as a friend once said, "Those are tents like the mansions at Newport were cottages."

## We Scrutinize and Micato-ize Your Room

Micato's unique Personal Concierges in Nairobi, Cape Town, and Johannesburg carefully scrutinize your hotel room before your arrival to make sure everything is ship-shape... and even slip in a surprise or two. They also escort you to your room, show you around, and check back with you regularly.





## Seamless, Worry-Free Travel

When Micato was founded 50 years ago our mission statement was simple: Treat guests like family. For us, that means anticipating your wants and needs as well as handling a multitude of tiny details... part of our “secret” to making safaris seamless.

### Every Safari Is 100% Guaranteed

We have never cancelled a safari, even for parties of one or two. (Of course, Micato’s Recommended Travel Insurance Plan protects your investment should you be forced to cancel the trip yourself.)

### More Than Just Private Transfers

Day or night, without even asking, you’re guaranteed to be met or sent off at the airport by a private vehicle with a Safari Director who’s intimately familiar with your flight arrangements. So there’s peace of mind and no waiting for group members.

In Johannesburg we go even further. We assist between international and domestic connections, drive you to the air hangars for bush flights in private vehicles with cool towels and drinks, handle your check-in and wait with you. All this while everyone else is still queuing up for the shuttle bus to the air hangar.

### Day Rooms on Departure

On your last day, we also book a private five-star day room for you to await late-departing flights. (In addition to not having to mark time in an airport, this gives you the afternoon for shopping, resting, and freshening up before your flight.)

### Bush Flights with a Difference

Our safaris include myriad internal flights for both pleasure and expeditious travel. Pleasurable grace notes: We offer exclusive Audio Guides that allow you to listen to your Safari Director’s sharp-eyed commentary on the lands, fauna, and flora we’re flying over... and you can ask questions. Plus we provide customized flight kits with local newspapers, fact sheets, quiz games, and other unexpected onboard amusements.

As for the important practicalities: by flying in—it almost goes without saying—carefully-vetted, comfortable planes, we save up to 20 hours of driving per safari. We arrange for all Micato flights to take off and land at excellent bush airstrips, close to our lodges, eliminating the tedium of airport check-ins and arrivals, luggage transfers and delays. We simply drive to the steps of our waiting aircraft and amble aboard.

### Safari Vehicles with Every Luxury

Fifty years on safari has taught us what makes an exceedingly comfortable, even luxuriously-stocked safari vehicle. In the bush we supply ours with cool beverages and snacks, binoculars, flora and fauna



guide books, lap blankets for chilly mornings and evenings, a pit-stop kit, plus bean bags for stabilizing long lenses. All guests are also assured of a window seat directly under a pop-up roof in East Africa or in an open-top vehicle in Southern Africa.

Micato vehicles also offer Wi-Fi, charging points, refrigerators, oversized windows and extra head room. Our city vehicles are additionally equipped with air conditioning.





# Your Safari Team in the Bush

## Safari Directors: Guide, Helper, Friend

And with you every step of the way. Safari Directors meet you upon landing in Africa and are with you until the moment you depart, always nearby and on prompt call around the clock—not just during business hours.

Every Micato Safari Director in Kenya has earned the prestigious Silver-Level certification by the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association and are seasoned professionals, most of whom have been with us their entire careers.\* Graduates of Kenya Utalii College or Tanzania's College of African Wildlife Management, they guide forays into the bush, lecture on flora and fauna, deftly handle logistics, and impart fascinating nuggets of African history, Swahili, and tribal folklore. They will also become dear friends.

In Southern Africa, Micato Safari Directors meet the same high standards, while wildlife explorations are led by Game Rangers and Trackers stationed at each camp. Safari Directors offer a deep knowledge of the region's natural history and are fluent in South Africa's cultural history, current affairs, local art, and culinary and winery scenes—you

name it. But their real talent lies in their ability to make the logistics of travel calm and effortless for Micato travellers.

## Driver Guides, Tops in Their Field

It bears repeating: While most companies offer only Driver Guides, Micato groups safari with a team of Driver Guides and a Safari Director. In Kenya, our Driver Guides hold a minimum Bronze-Level certification from the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association and many are Silver certified. Micato is one of the few safari companies that still operates an in-house training school with classes in conservation, the latest discoveries in paleoanthropology, guest relations refreshers, and many etceteras, including CPR training in which every Safari Director and Driver Guide is fully certified.

*Having a Safari Director and a Driver made such a difference. I learned so much...felt sorry for [guests] not on a Micato safari!*

—Sarah Wille

## Flying Doctors on Call

The services of East Africa's famous Flying Doctors are included in every safari as part of Micato's comprehensive Passenger Protection Program. A group of highly qualified physicians, the doctors fly throughout the East African bush, providing treatment and emergency transportation. Similar evacuation services are available to Micato travellers in South Africa and select lodges in Botswana, ensuring our guests receive the quickest, most reliable medical attention and transport.

\* The head of one of the world's largest cruise lines wrote that "Upon arrival, I asked our Safari Director Denis how long he had worked for the company. His response was indicative of our entire journey. Denis said, 'I have worked for Micato for over 25 years and this is my family.' And we felt we were with family during our entire adventure."

## Lost Luggage Rescue Kits

If your luggage fails to arrive from an international flight, we're at the ready with a marvelously stress-relieving kit including a change of clothes and amenities. And if you need something else, your Concierge will provide it, posthaste.

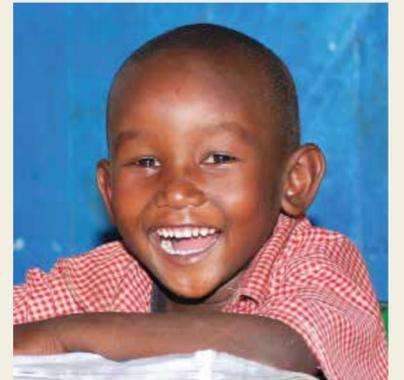




*If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.*

—Mother Teresa

**A**n unimaginable number of Kenyan children don't attend school because their families are too poor to pay even the most nominal school fees. In principle, primary education is free in Kenya, but myriad fees often put it beyond reach: parents are obliged to buy their child's desk; to pay for term exams, the wood for cooking fires, and a portion of the cooks' salaries. Then there are schoolbooks, uniforms, writing supplies, and notebooks. All this adds up to many, many thousands of eager and worthy children staying at home.



### *The One for One Commitment*

For more than a quarter of a century, Micato-AmericaShare has been a passionate advocate for East African children and their families. The Micato One for One Commitment sends a child to school—year after year—for every safari we sell.

Thousands of Kenyan children are able to attend school thanks to our guests, who join us in The One for One Commitment by signing up for safari. Every child deserves an education, and we're overjoyed to be contributing to this unalienable right.

LEFT: A typically exuberant classroom, led by Peter Mithamo at a school near the Micato-AmericaShare Harambee Centre. Anastasia Pinto summed up the African ethos when she said, "African people will give away their last dollar or loaf of bread to someone who needs it more."

THE MICATO  
*One for One*  
 COMMITMENT  
 —————  
 FOR EVERY SAFARI SOLD  
 WE SEND A CHILD TO A  
 CAREFULLY CHOSEN SCHOOL

## Micato-AmericaShare The Boy Who Started it All..

It all began with one little boy, thirty years ago.

He was going from person to person in a Nairobi shopping centre with a note from his school headmaster. The note said that he was an orphan and needed to raise 700 shillings for a school uniform before he could come to class. He had only collected 100 shillings. The boy approached Micato's Lorna Macleod. She read the note and handed him the 600 shillings—the equivalent of \$15. Tears running down his face, the boy stood there for a moment, said "God bless you," and dashed away.

At that moment Lorna realized that Micato was an ideal bridge between some of the poorest people on the planet, and some of the wealthiest, our travellers. So we gave that bridge a name: AmericaShare, and have been helping to change lives for the better ever since.

We're proud of our accolades and of the life-sparking joy our safariers routinely experience, but as our Managing Director Dennis Pinto often says, "Micato-AmericaShare is the why of why we exist."



For much more on *Micato-AmericaShare* and all our efforts to **give back** to our home continent, visit [Micato.com](http://Micato.com) and click **About Micato**



## The Harambee Centre

The heart of Micato-AmericaShare's Kenya operation is Harambee Centre, a multi-building oasis of calm and purpose in the midst of Mukuru, one of Nairobi's largest slums (where a staggering 60,000 or more children can't attend school).

Harambee Centre—made possible by our dear friends Bernard Wharton and Jennifer Walsh and scores of caring safari-goers—comprises a Community Centre for Mukuru residents; a beautiful, 13,000-volume library for all of Mukuru (made possible by Suzie and Bruce Kovner through a grant by The Kovner Foundation); a digitally up-to-the-minute Computer Centre (also enabled by the Kovner Foundation); a basketball court; a special-needs classroom; a fresh-water well (Mukuru has no assured water supply); the Gorretti Nursery School, which cares for upwards of 150 children (Micato-AmericaShare contributes to the students' daily meals for these children, which is often their only meal for the day); and a cottage factory for Huru International.



## Huru International

Girls in East Africa who can't afford sanitary pads very often avoid school during their periods, losing as much as an entire month each school year. Micato is a major donor and supporter of Huru International, founded in 2008 by AmericaShare founder Lorna Macleod. Huru manufactures reusable sanitary pads, which have been distributed in Huru Kits to more than 150,000 girls in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Each kit consists of a colourful drawstring backpack with eight reusable pads; underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; a resealable waterproof bag for the safe storage of used pads; and educational materials on HIV/AIDS prevention and sexual and reproductive health. Huru Kits have saved girls 3.5 million school days that otherwise would have been lost.

## Sponsorship

It's not unusual for inspired safari guests to decide on the spot (or back home for that matter) to sponsor a child to attend boarding school. This programme places a child in a carefully vetted boarding school, and provides every resource

necessary for a child to obtain a high school diploma. Many lives, on both sides of the Atlantic, have been changed by this programme. Email [Inquiries@AmericaShare.com](mailto:Inquiries@AmericaShare.com) to learn more.

## More Milestones

The Harambee Centre Library was recently awarded the Best Community Library in Nairobi by the Kenya Library Association.

To its post-graduates, Micato-AmericaShare offers scholarships that cover the cost of acquiring trade skills or semi-professional certifications or professional degrees.

We partner with Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity to bring eye clinics to the community. VOSH doctors examine and treat thousands of children and adults, and donate thousands of prescription eyeglasses.

Lacrosse, a game not played in Kenya, was introduced in Mukuru in June 2014 through an AmericaShare Project by teenager Ian Macleod with support from private donors, businesses, and the International Lacrosse Federation.

# THE WORLD'S Most Awarded SAFARI COMPANY



Unprecedented Nine-Time Winner of *Travel+Leisure's* award for #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter

*Travel+Leisure* Hall of Fame



*Travel+Leisure* World's Best Value



Tourism Cares Legacy in Travel Philanthropy Award



Unprecedented Five-Time Winner of *Condé Nast Traveler* World Savers Award  
Three Education, Two for Doing It All

Member of the World Savers Hall of Fame



*Travel+Leisure* Trips of a Lifetime



*Travel+Leisure* Global Vision Award  
Development, Youth Education  
Micato One for One Commitment



*Porthole Cruise Magazine* Best African Safari Tour Operator

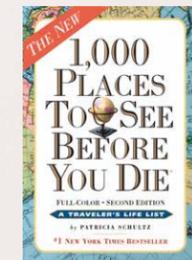


*Best Tour Operator Africa/Middle East*

TravelAge West WAVE  
Best Tour Operator Africa / Middle East



Virtuoso  
Best VAST (Active) Operator  
Best Escorted Tour Operator  
Best Destinations & Experiences Custom Tour Partner  
Virtuoso Performance Award



1,000 Places to See Before You Die  
#1 *New York Times* Travel Guide  
Preferred East Africa Tour Operator

Sorry for the fine print, but here are some other Micato Awards and Accolades:

World Tourism Award, 2017 • Travvy Awards: Gold, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Africa, 2016, 2018; Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Adventure, 2016, 2018; Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Family, 2016; Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Luxury, 2016 • Travel Weekly Magellan Awards: Gold, Best Tour Operator, 2017, 2015; Silver, Best Tour Operator, 2016; Gold, Best Marketing Campaign, 2009, 2011, 2015; Gold, Best Consumer Brochure, 2009, 2012-2013, 2016-2017; Gold, Best Trade Brochure, 2009-2012, 2016-2017; Silver, Best Trade Brochure, 2010-2011, 2013-2014; Gold, Best Travel Website, 2012, 2014, 2017; Silver, Best Travel Website, 2013, 2015 • Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMIA) Adrian Awards: Gold, Best Trade Brochure, 2012, 2014-2016; Gold, Best Consumer Brochure, 2012, 2014-2016; HSMIA and National Geographic Traveler Gold Winner, Leader in Sustainable Tourism, 2013 • Ubuntu Tourism Award • Travel Weekly's World Travel Market Global Award • Tanzania Tourist Board Cruise Development Award • TORCH (Together Our Resources Can Help) Inspiration Award, to Lorna Macleod, head of Micato-AmericaShare • William D. Littleford Award for Corporate Community Service • Travel Agent magazine's Tour Operator of the Year: Leaders in Luxury—Dennis Pinto • LuxuryLink.com's World's Best Luxury Tour Company • National Geographic 50 Tours of a Lifetime.



# Family Safaris

## A Micato Tradition for More Than 50 Years

Africa is one of the most family-friendly places on earth. Not only because of the stellar, multigenerational excitements of safari, but also because family is vitally important to the people of Africa, and visiting families enjoy great respect.

Devices are put on hold and imaginations are engaged on family safaris. Fabulous sights are seen, horizons stretched, educations enhanced, bonds strengthened and—perhaps

most importantly—memories are created that reverberate merrily unto the generations.

Our private Custom safaris are individually designed around family activities—and for times when the generations want to temporarily go their own ways—and our Classic and Private Classic Safaris are eminently family-friendly. Our safari experts are ever ready to get into the delightful details.

*Our grandkids put down their electronic mesmerizers, marveled at the animals, enjoyed interacting with the people, and we all got to know and appreciate each other better every day.*

—Paula and Juan-Miguel Sanchez





*My son danced exuberantly with the Maasai, and decided to become a warrior himself. . . . The chef at Amboseli told me he hadn't cooked with nuts for two days to keep my son safe. So incredibly moving. . . such warmth, such care. True kindness and unbelievable good humor.*

—Ami Rothschild

## Generations on Safari

Creating one-of-a-kind family safaris isn't a nice little market niche for us. It's a way of life. As witnessed in the family portrait above.

Dennis Pinto was born and raised in Africa, and has safaried with his parents Felix and Jane, Micato's founders, since he was a child, growing up in the purple shadows of the Ngong Hills. Joy Pinto was already an old Africa hand when she and Dennis were married. And Sasha and Tristan were gamboling in Africa's wildlands before they knew the difference between a warthog and a wildebeest.

### Every Family Is Unique...

... which is why our Custom Safaris are designed around your interests and inspirations, your time-frame, your family's individual needs and fancies.

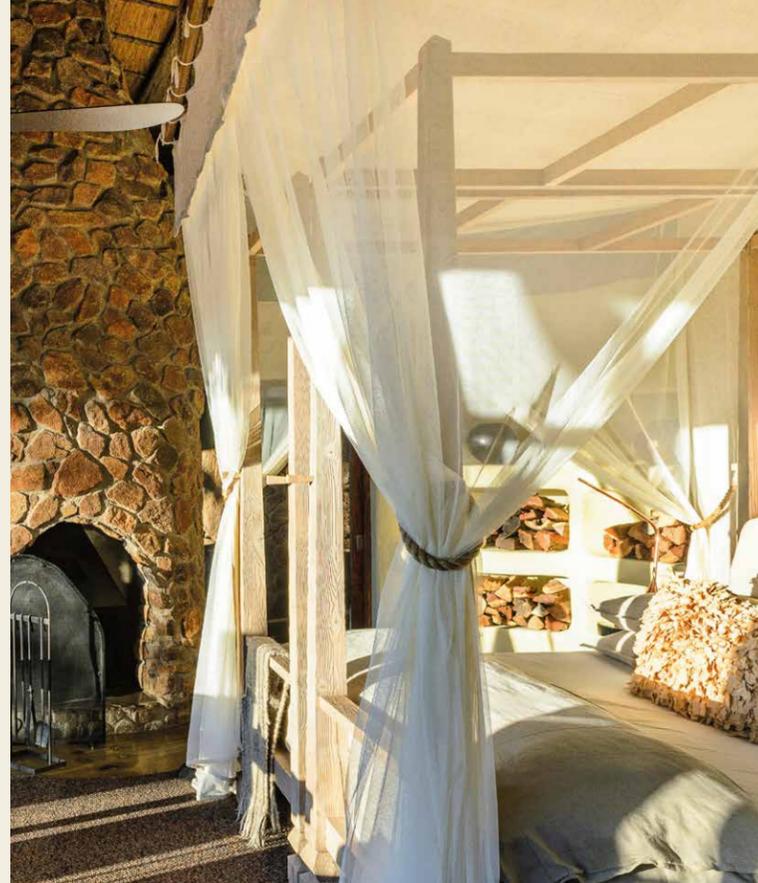
### At the Risk of Boasting

No other company has our 50-plus years of experience with family safaris. No one does it better, with more persnickety planning, empathy, expertise, and 1,440-minutes-a-day dedication to worry-banishing service and carefree fun.

## Enriching, Exciting Encounters

- Ask your kids “Who is Nelson Mandela?” then show them. Follow in his footsteps at Robben Island, where he was imprisoned for nearly two decades.
- Have a private, crowd-free visit specially-arranged by Micato at the Daphne Sheldrick elephant orphanage, where we sponsor a baby elephant in your family's name.
- Amaze the family with a soaring helicopter ride over one of the planet's eye-poppingest wonders, Victoria Falls.
- Make fire and learn to track big cats with Maasai warriors.
- Commune with cuddly colonies of African penguins and Cape fur seals during privately-arranged kayaking excursions.
- See Africa's herds in an uncommon way... from the back of a friendly horse or camel.
- Get a selfie with that giraffe you're feeding.
- Watch shooting stars in Africa's night sky from a custom-designed star bed.
- Jog through the Great Rift Valley alongside a barefooted Maasai warrior... the most memorable workout ever.
- Special youth-themed game drives and ranger programmes at selected lodges. And on every safari, age-appropriate activities and encounters designed just for your family by your Micato Safari Director.





## Early-Morning Game Drive

The sun rises early and eagerly on the savannahs, and after some tea, coffee, and pre-breakfast snacks, we venture into what the great lover of Africa Peter Beard called “a paradise caressed by light and air in their most special forms.”

Back at the lodge, we tuck into an English-style breakfast, or perhaps we enjoy an acacia-shaded picnic in the bush.

## Exploring Africa's Intimate Landscapes

“Whole landscapes seem alert,” Peter Matthiessen wrote about Africa in *The Tree Where Man Was Born*. He may well have been thinking of *our* alertness in these landscapes, a charged, joyous concentration “like a marvelous childhood faculty restored.”

We roam the savannahs and forests with our eyes, searching for their treasures—*Look! There, a cheetah!*—and the land is no longer mere scenery, an object to look at and admire, but a living thing that invites intimacy and engagement. We know about our species that the more we engage with something, the more likely we are to develop a fiery affection for it.

## Sundowners and Sunsets

After a festive lunch, with talk of sightings and amazements (high on the list of safari surprises: the fresh and tasty food), we have time for reading, music, maybe a profound nap followed by a swim, and then it's off for an afternoon game drive.

After a lovely dinner back at camp, and some time around the campfire, we're off to bed. And in the morning we may agree with author Elspeth Huxley that there is no “sleep so perfect as that stirred but not broken by the thrilling vibrance of a lion's roar.”

*Africa always brings us something new.*

—Pliny the Elder, *Historia Naturalis*

# A Day on Safari





# Flying Over Africa

You may remember—it's hard to forget—the scene in the film version of *Out of Africa* when Denys Finch Hatton (played by Robert Redford) lands his Gipsy Moth near Karen Blixen's (Meryl Streep's) farm. She rushes out to the spiffy little biplane, and Finch Hatton doesn't take off his flying goggles, he barely throttles back his engine, he just says, "Get in," and thus begins one of cinema's great moments: a heart-firing poem of a swooping flight over the incomparably eloquent landscapes of East Africa.\*

Isak Dinesen, Blixen's nom de plume, remembered her many African flights as "the most transporting pleasure of my life. . . . Every time I have gone up in an aeroplane and looking down have realized that I was free of the ground, I have had the consciousness of a great new discovery. 'I see,' I have thought, 'This was the idea. And now I understand everything.'"

It's as true today as it was in the 1920s: flying low and easily over the continent in small planes

is a matchlessly intimate way to appreciate its subtle and dramatic colours, its tectonic dramas, and its cavalcade of creatures. We fly over villages, waving to their residents, and in a few moments, we're on the ground, shaking their hands. One of our guests said it well: "For me, flying over Africa is about as *flying* as flying gets."

Our Custom Safaris offer as many flights as your personalized itinerary calls for, and we—and our guests over the years—think the flights that link lodges and camps on our Classic Safaris (six on *The Micato Grand Safari*, for instance, and five on *The Stanley Wing*) are safari highlights, airy dalliances with Africa's incomparable landscapes.

\* Before she climbs into the plane, Blixen asks Finch Hatton, "When did you learn to fly?" And he answers with a Redfordian grin, "Yesterday." Rest assured our pilots have hundreds upon hundreds of times more experience than that—and many of them have movie-star smiles. (As for the welcome practicality of flying in Africa, see *Bush Flights with a Difference*, page 31.)





# East Africa

*To depart on a safari is not only a physical act, it is also a gesture. You leave behind the worries, the strains, the irritations of life among people under pressure, and enter the world of creatures who are pressed into no moulds, but have only to be themselves; bonds loosen, anxiety fades, the mind closes against the world you left behind like a folding sea anemone.*

*—Elspeth Huxley, *The Flame Trees of Thika**

# MICATO Custom Safaris

Our private, hand-crafted Custom Safaris are inspired by a good old British word, bespoke, which brings to mind custom craftsmanship, finicky attention to detail, and, above all, a fruitful collaboration between client and purveyor, with an eye toward creating a unique product . . . in this case, a safari whose memory will warm the coldest night.

*East Africa*



Singita Faru Faru Lodge



Custom-building safaris is something we do as well as—no, *better* than anyone in the world. (Why allow modesty to trump accuracy?) We are a family of Micato companies and each office has its own staff on the continent, its own vehicles, its own uniquely intense, multigenerational engagement with Africa. (And, of course, its own Safari Directors, who accompany every Custom Safari from beginning to end.)

\* Keep in mind that all our small-group Classic Safaris (pages 58-95 and 116-141) are a bountiful source of inspirations for your Custom Safari—in fact, this entire brochure is a grand grab bag of ideas for places to safari, lodges and camps to luxuriate in, and activities to be astounded by. You might look at *The Micato Grand Safari* (page 61), for instance, and tell us, “That looks great for my family, let’s do it.” Or you might want to tinker with the itinerary a bit or a lot. Our Custom experts will work alongside you to create a customized itinerary that fits your needs exactly.

Micato’s Custom Safaris experts are in hour-to-hour touch with the ins and outs, the ups and downs, and the soaring possibilities for private safaris. They have created epicly enjoyable Custom Safaris for eager first-timers, connoisseurs, celebrities, college buddies, friends-since-kindergarten, big bubbly families, and avid parties of one.

So whether you’ve always dreamed of going on safari, or if you woke up the other day with the sudden urge to visit Africa, we will tune in to your wishes, your schedules, your budget, your interests and inclinations, and we will work with you to create a Custom Safari that will surpass your dreams and—as a safari so often does—ignite the urge to return one day to bask again in Africa’s golden joys.

The first step of your safari: Call your travel advisor or our Custom consultants at 800-Micato-1 (800-642-2861).\*

*We have just boarded our final flight home to Boston, and the sadness is setting in. Michael and I cannot tell you how wonderful and near perfect this trip has been in every aspect.... Each and every member of your staff is outstanding and should be congratulated often for the lengths they go to, to bring the spirit of Africa to everyone.*

—Sharon Fake, Director of Operations, Travel Experts



ACTRESS TERI HATCHER IN THE MAASAI MARA

## Custom Safari Ideas and Inspirations

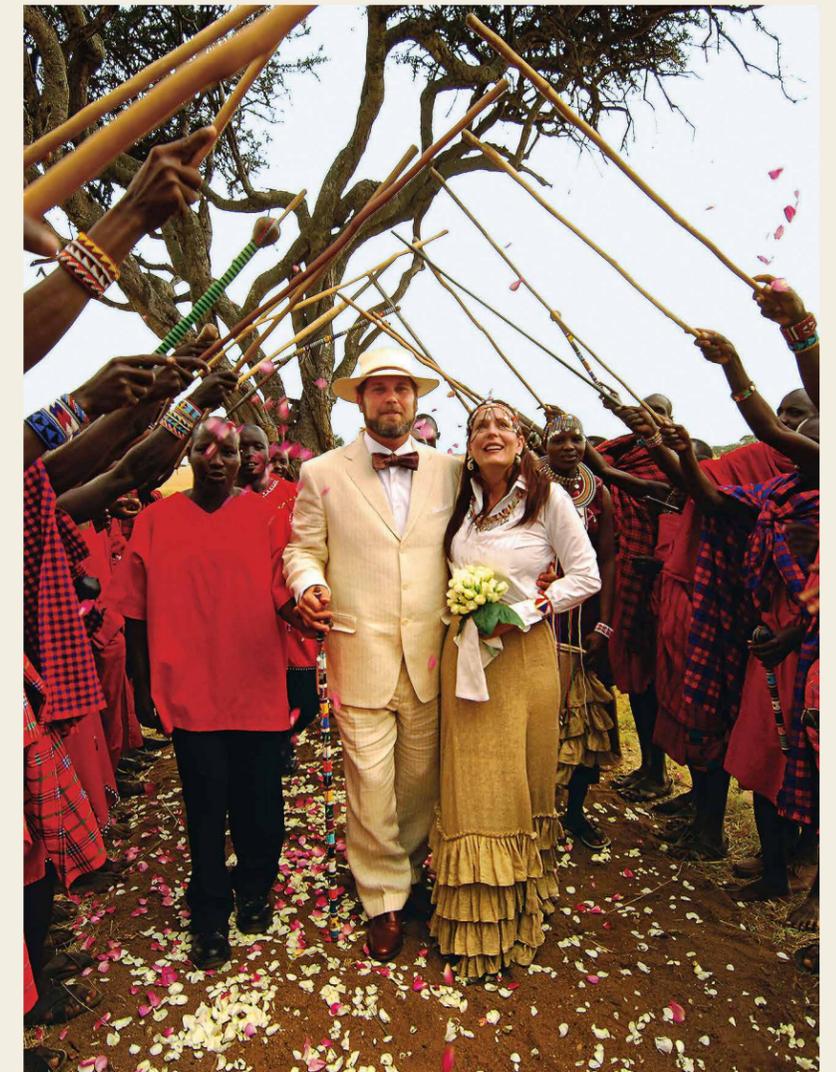
The bottom line on Micato's Custom Safaris is that there isn't one. They can be as long or as short, as focussed or as free-form, as populous or as private as you like. It's up to you. Every Custom Safari is unique, but here are some of the kinds of private, individually planned safaris we've created over the many years.

Going on safari is a persistent dream for many—maybe *most*—travellers. We're prejudiced, of course, but we've always thought that the best time to realize an old travel dream is pretty much *as soon as possible*. So if you're ready to seize the day, a **Custom Introduction to Africa** awaits. A two-week look at the Maasai Mara and the Serengeti? An out-of-the-way three-week immersion in East Africa's relentless calm? Birding? Natural history? Getting to know the Maasai? All are very doable. We love Africa, we love travelling in it and talking about travelling in it, and we especially love introducing it to first-time visitors.

Because a visit to Africa often outshines even the brightest dream and inspires a yearning nostalgia, we delight in creating intimately personalized return visits. The **Custom Return to Africa** can take you back to old favourites (*Remember that wonderful camp on the Mara River, the one with the sweet askari?*) and acquaint you with new areas, new lodges, new sources of enduring delight (*There's a brilliant new lodge up on the Laikipia Plateau that we think you'd really like . . .*).

Romance is where you find it, whether it's curled up on the couch watching Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr in *An*

*Affair to Remember* or strolling by the Seine on a crisp fall day. But on safari, romance is in the very—sometimes inspiringly sultry—air. Our eyes are opened on safari and so are our hearts. Despite the fact that we've had the privilege of creating many of them over the years, we have no single favourite place or plan for a **Custom Wedding (or Anniversary or Honeymoon) Safari**. There are simply too, too many possibilities. We will, however, be delighted to do a little matchmaking and find just the right and romantic spots for you.

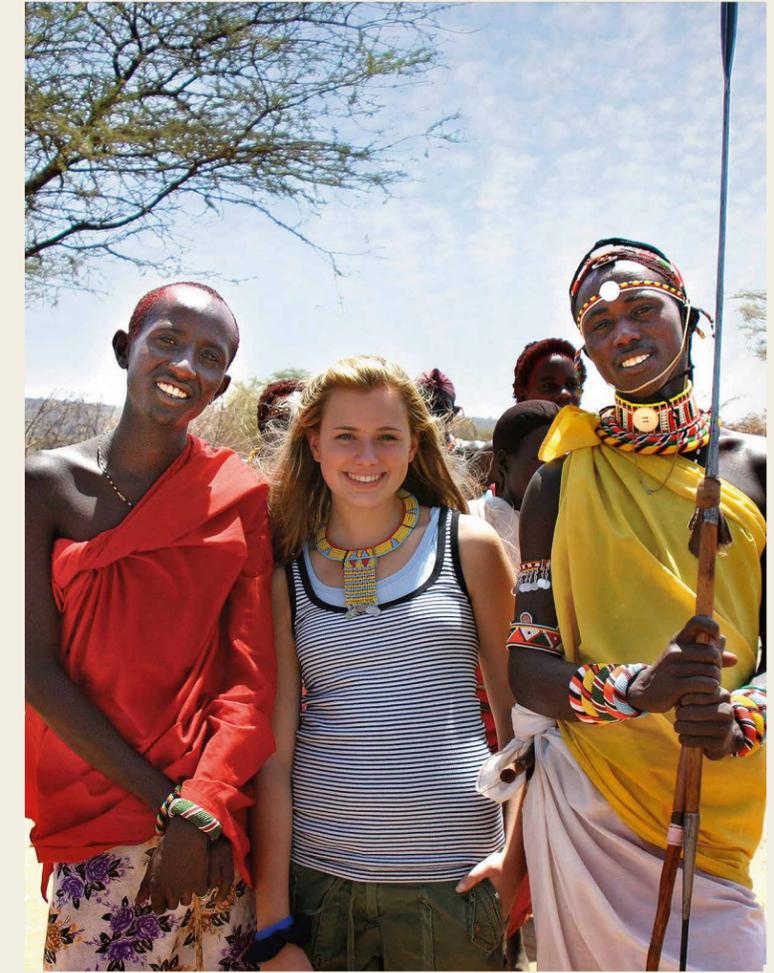




*To be totally honest, we were a tad nervous about investing so much money on our trip when we started...but by the end of the trip, we ALL were saying how it was all SO worth it. Micato made us feel as though we were their only customers and that anything we needed would be taken care of—that was how focused their support and service for us was!*

—Lillian Chang, on behalf of a family of ten from California, Taiwan, and Japan

Our friend Mark Ross—legendary safari guide, educator, biologist, explorer, and all-around great guy—is also a major-league pilot. We have created many Mark Ross-led and piloted **Custom Air Safaris** to just about anywhere in East Africa—from the Northern Frontier’s incredible Lake Turkana to Rwanda’s Virunga Volcanoes, to the vast and less-visited parks of southern Tanzania. We confide our feeling about flying in Africa on page 47, and here we only add that it applies in spades to Mark (plus, he’s got a Redfordian smile).



## Custom Safari Ideas and Inspirations

The graduate deserves a reward and a look at the wider world. (And if you’ve helped put that graduate through school, you deserve a reward, too.) A **Custom Graduation Safari** can be a small, exploratory affair, or it can be a family celebration. It can be post-gradually focussed on natural science or culture, or it can be a hearty idyll with no point except fun. And, at safari’s end, the graduate might want to spend some quality time seeing the work of our nonprofit arm, Micato-AmericaShare, in the bustling, humanly rich, but economically poor Mukuru slum—very much part of the wider world.

The long friendship between the Pinto family and the pioneering, preminent anthropological Leakey clan has allowed Micato to arrange many private safaris to Kenya’s Northern Frontier to visit the ongoing Leakey excavations up there. Louise Leakey, granddaughter of the great Louis and Mary, is a special friend, and if the idea of a **Custom Archaeological Expedition to the Leakey Excavations**—perhaps in the company of Louise, a true daughter of Africa—strikes a chord, we are ready to create a unique, time-traveling safari for you.



# Custom Private Jet Safaris

Very few things in life are as soothingly salubrious, hassle-reducing, and—let's face it, pure fun—than a fully private jet safari with your family, your closest friends, or your business associates.

Arranging, facilitating, and creating private jet safaris has been a Micato speciality for more than a couple of decades. We know the ins and outs, the ups and downs, the permissions and strip lengths, and we're masters at untangling and scissoring red tape.

Our clients fly on their own or chartered jets from Europe or the U.S., or pick up a jet charter in Nairobi, Cape Town, or Johannesburg. We're practiced at planning and arranging intra-Africa flights—to Rwanda or Namibia, let's say—and flights onward, to the Seychelles for one sublime example, or further east to India (where they'll be met by our equally adept Micato India team).



ABOVE A flamboyance of flamingos, Northern Kenya

Mixing prop charters into the bush on safari with international jet travel is old hat to us.

For a tribute to the joy of flying over Africa, by jet or prop plane, see page 47 (or see the previous page), and then contact our air safari experts to begin planning a magnificent, serene journey.



## Seldom Seen Africa: Custom Safaris on Foot, Camel, or Horseback

We're eager and inveterate explorers of our home continent's secluded corners. And so are many of our Custom, Classic, and Private Classic safariers.

And so we've expertly arranged adventures like:

**Camel safaris** in the acacia-dotted Nandanguru Plains. A wonderfully intimate way to appreciate the deep quiet and vastness of the African bush. The camels carry all gear, and graciously accept riders. (One of the minor, but memorable moments in a camel safari is watching the great beasts contentedly chew on sharp, stiff, multi-inch thorns.)

**Adventuring in and around Lake Turkana**, in Kenya's Northern Frontier, a land of indomitable desert landscapes and 12-foot termite mounds, inhabited by some of the continent's more personable and handsome nomadic tribes. One of Africa's Great Rift Valley Lakes, Turkana has a

mesmerizing otherworldliness (it's famous for its massive crocodiles, who "float silently, dreaming of the Pleistocene," one bedazzled visitor wrote).

**Visiting with the chimpanzees of Tanzania's Mahale Mountains National Park**, home to the world's largest population of *Pan troglodytes*.

**Helicoptering to the ultra-remote Chalbi Desert** in Northern Kenya, a great shimmering salt pan where oryx and rare Grevy's zebra still roam.

**Biking on and flying exuberantly in a biplane over the Laikipia Plateau**, one of many biking and flying adventures we can arrange, on the Mount Kenya-dominated Laikipia, and in many magical African elsewhere.

**Horsebacking** at a number of lodges and camps, yet another way to get close and personal with Africa's dramatic and subtly enriching landscapes and view the continent's great game.



# MICATO Classic Safaris

In many ways the six safaris on the following pages speak for themselves (with a little eloquence and a lot of excitement, we hope). They're the distillation of Micato's four-generations'-worth of African experience, and they've been crafted and carefully orchestrated to reflect the newest and best, the deepest and most memorable ways to experience the dreamt-of Africa. And keep in mind that all these Classic Safaris can easily be made into a Private Classic for families and groups of friends.

*East Africa*



Classic Safaris are group safaris designed to be as non-group-like as possible. Our groups are small—from a maximum of 18 to as few as 2 (they can be that nicely underpopulated because of the next item).

We have *never*, in all our years, cancelled a safari. At the end of each safari's description, you'll see a long list of departure dates. So: if you sign up and pay a deposit for the September 24 departure of, say, the *Hemingway Wing Safari*, it will proceed very happily even if you and your spouse (or family or buddies or whomever you're safariing with) are the only guests. Guaranteed.

Each East African Classic Safari has its own Safari Director per country, who will be with you—gently guiding, natural historying, storytelling, and taking care of whatever you need taking care of—from the moment the curtain rises to the warm applause (to be honest, it's usually an emotional ovation) at safari's end. (And of course, our unique Concierge Service is on round-the-clock call.)

Remember: there is *no tipping*, anywhere, anytime, on a Micato trip, Custom, Classic, or Private Classic, not even the traditionally sizable gratuities to guides and drivers at safari's end. And all your meals are included, everywhere, all the time. And all portage fees, park fees, this-that-or-the-other fees are paid. We're travellers, too, and we know what a balm it is to have these nagging concerns deftly and definitively erased from our vacationing consciousness.

See pages 18–33 for a deeper look at these Many Micato Differences.



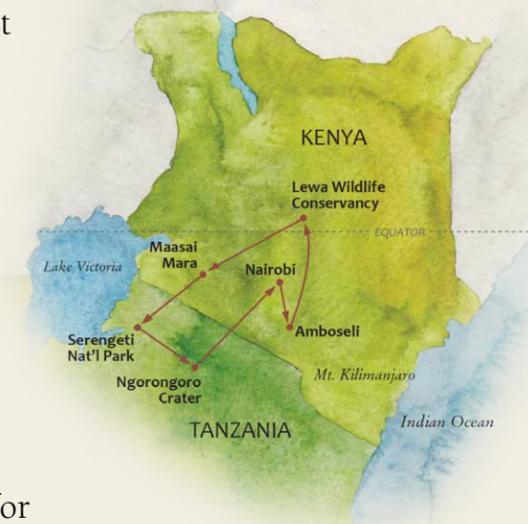


# THE MICATO GRAND SAFARI

15 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

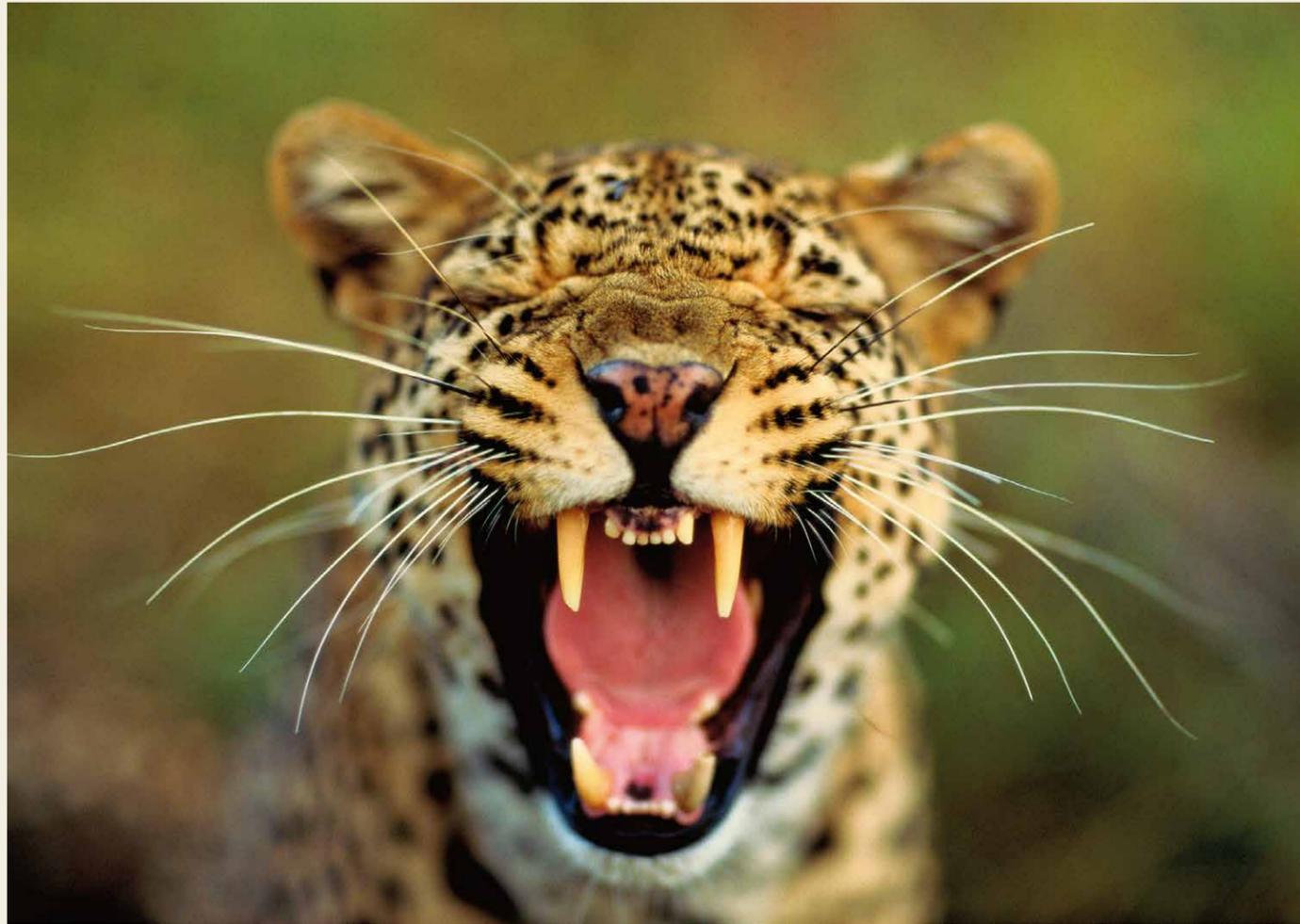
The grand, glamorous, unabashedly luxurious safaris favoured by princes and princesses, potentates, plutocrats, and ex-presidents (Teddy Roosevelt's epic 1909 safari was one of the first of its sumptuous kind) are central to East Africa's heritage as one of the world's most desired destinations. This *Grand Safari* is Micato's homage to those old and romantic days, to their indulgent and exquisite grace.

The *Micato Grand Safari's* six flights—be sure to see our praise for *Flying Over Africa* on page 47—make travel between game reserves and luxury camps a seamless, time-saving joy. And our stays in places like the airy Tortilis Camp in Amboseli; Bateleur or Governors' Il Moran camps in the Maasai Mara; the charmingly luxe Four Seasons Safari Lodge or the Grumeti Serengeti Tented Camp in the Serengeti; and the serene Lewa Safari Camp on the Laikipia Plateau bring us into close and comfortable contact with some of Africa's richest game lands and most stirring landscapes.



*Sitting [by a safari campfire] listening to the lions far out in the darkness was like returning to the really true world again—where I probably once lived 10,000 years ago.*

—Karen Blixen, in a letter to her mother, Ingeborg Dinesen



DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2 & 3 *Nairobi*

Upon arrival in the Kenyan capital, we'll be met by our Micato Safari Director and driven to **Hemingways**, a hotel that great lover of Africa would have savoured for its classic African ambience and old-school luxuries.

The next day, we'll wend our way over to the Giraffe Centre for some interspecies camaraderie, and visit the former home of Karen Blixen, author—writing as Isak Dinesen—of *Out of Africa*, one of the most evocative books ever written about any earthly place. And we'll head over to Lavington, the home of Felix and Jane Pinto, Micato's founding couple, for a hearty, familial, and story-flavoured lunch, then tour the excellent National Museum before returning to our hotel.

DAYS 4 & 5 *Amboseli*

We fly south this morning over the Athi Plains to the natural wonderland of Amboseli National Park. Mount Kilimanjaro, the still-glaciated monarch of Africa, presides over Amboseli, thrusting three dizzying miles above the park's grasslands. As Peter Matthiessen wrote in *The Tree Where Man Was Born*, "A snow peak in the tropics draws the heart to a fine shimmering painful point of joy."

**Tortilis Camp** is our base for a visit to a Maasai village and game drives in this almost incomparably rich animal kingdom. Our spacious, luxuriously furnished, thatch-covered tents nestle under the huge and reposeful Tortilis acacia trees from which the camp takes its name. Unwinding on our veranda, we might, like Isak Dinesen, watch a parade of elephants "pacing along as if they had an appointment at the end of the world."

DAYS 6 & 7 *Lewa Safari Camp*

Set high up on the Laikipia Plateau, graced with unendingly various views of lordly Mount Kenya,\* **Lewa Safari Camp** is the jewel of the famed Lewa Conservancy, which has helped create the template for the successful conservancy model of wildlife and habitat preservation. Lewa's wide range of

\* 17,057-foot Mount Kenya, seat of Ngai, God himself, is the only mountain in the world to give its name to a country.

terrains support a full cast of predators and prey; it's home to the world's largest concentration of Grevy's zebra, and its 130 happily roaming black and white rhinos are a testament to the Conservancy's resolute

and ingenious conservation efforts. Lewa Safari Camp's 11 thatched roof tents are classically airy and simply, easefully luxurious. Each has a modern en suite bathroom and a large private veranda overlooking one of the continent's vastest and most vibrant African landscapes.

drive throughout the Mara, spend rewarding time with the local Maasai people, and make side trips to the Mara River and its tributaries for a gander at leviathan crocodiles and hippos. And we'll have sundowners in the gentle evening warmth of Ms. Dinesen's true world, breathing its clean and guileless air, watching Africa's showy stars come out to dazzle, feeling like we might have dallied in these parts, 10,000 years ago.

On our second day in the Mara, we'll sweep in a hot-air balloon above the *siringet*, or the "endless place," as the Maasai call this great land (normally an additional cost, ballooning on *The Micato Grand Safari* is part of the luxe experience; see pages 88 and 153 for some warm words about ballooning in the Mara). And at flight's end, we'll savour a champagne breakfast; we'll already be a little giddied by the plain's beauty and our good fortune to be so welcome and at ease in its presence.

Tortilis Camp

DAYS 8 & 9 *The Maasai Mara*

This morning we'll fly over the planetary rumple of the Great Rift Valley—it makes "the Grand Canyon look like a line scratched with a toothpick," John Gunther wrote in *Inside Africa*—to the Maasai Mara, the northern sector of the bigger-than-Belgium Serengeti–Maasai Mara ecosystem, unquestionably the earth's greatest haven for large mammals, more than 70 species of which go about their business in the oceanic Serengeti–Maasai Mara grasslands. Based from equally splendid **Bateleur Camp** or **Governors' Il Moran Camp**, we'll game



DAYS 10 & 11 **The Serengeti**

We fly to the Serengeti via Nairobi and Arusha, Tanzania. Three million or more large mammals—elephants, cheetahs, gazelles by the gazillions, wildebeest, zebras, giraffes “floating across the plain” (thanks, Ms. Dinesen), lions, rhinos, and going on 60 more species—inhabit the great grassland, its riverine forests, and bustling, set-piece kopjes, rock islands that pop up from the plain. We’ll spend our two Serengeti nights in either the *Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti* or *Grumeti Serengeti Tented Camp*. The magnificently conceived Four Seasons is set on



*What an incredible experience! Thanks to Micato, my family and I enjoyed a trip we will never forget. We could not have asked for a friendlier, more knowledgeable team. It was truly the adventure of a lifetime.*

—Cal Ripken

a fine collection of kopjes, looking out at what seems to be a golden eternity, with sunrise skies “banded with rose and lemon and the colour of flamingo wings,” as Elspeth Huxley wrote. Grumeti is a chic, 10-tent camp set along the banks of an oxbow lake, bustling with stunningly sizable crocs and hippos, always heftier than we remember. These are the kinds of African places that Micato loves to introduce our guests to, places that seduce us into slowing down.

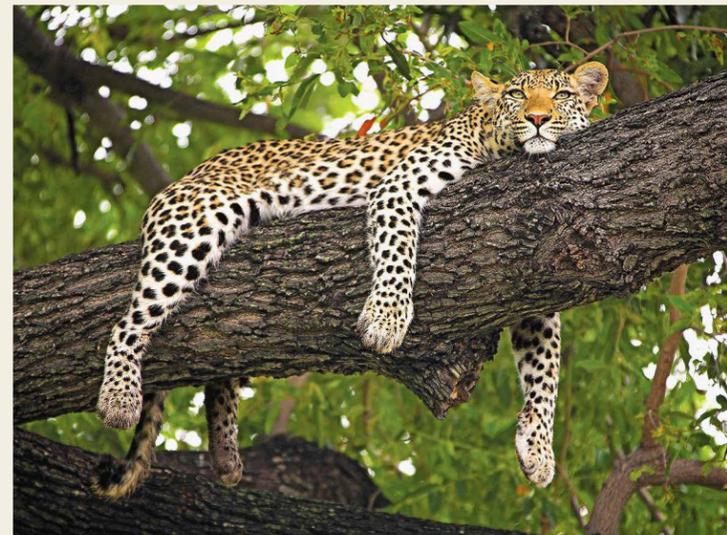
DAYS 12 & 13 **Ngorongoro Crater**

We fly southeast from the unforgettable Serengeti to Lake Manyara—the lake that heart-stirringly erupted with thousands of flamingos in the film *Out of Africa*. Ernest Hemingway thought, and many of us think—that Manyara is Africa’s loveliest lake. We’ll have splendid views of the lake during lunch at the refreshing Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge, and perhaps have time to amble, maybe catching sight of some local predators and sprightly birds.

Now we make the beautiful drive across the Crater Highlands and up to the *Ngorongoro Crater Lodge*, perched on the rain-forested rim of the Ngorongoro Crater, one of our solar system’s greatest geographic ornaments.

In *The Tree Where Man Was Born*, Peter Matthiessen captured one of the crater’s enigmas: “How did the hippopotamus find its way up into the Crater Highlands, to blunder into the waters of Ngorongoro? Today one sees them there with wonder, encircled by steep walls.” Indeed, meandering around the softly lush caldera floor, we may feel like Professor George Edward Challenger and Lord John Roxton in Arthur Conan Doyle’s thriller *The Lost World*. True, we won’t see any Aardonyxes or Zupaysauri, but—as we often say—once you’ve really *looked* at a rhino, or contemplated the gigantic unlikelihood of an elephant, your old sadness at never having seen a dinosaur will be lightened.

*This tour was the most expensive travel adventure we had ever considered, and as we embarked we wondered if the cost would prove to be worth it. Let me assure you that we now not only believe it was worth every penny, but for the dollars spent, consider it a great travel value.* —Alan Kaufman



DAY 14 **Depart Nairobi**

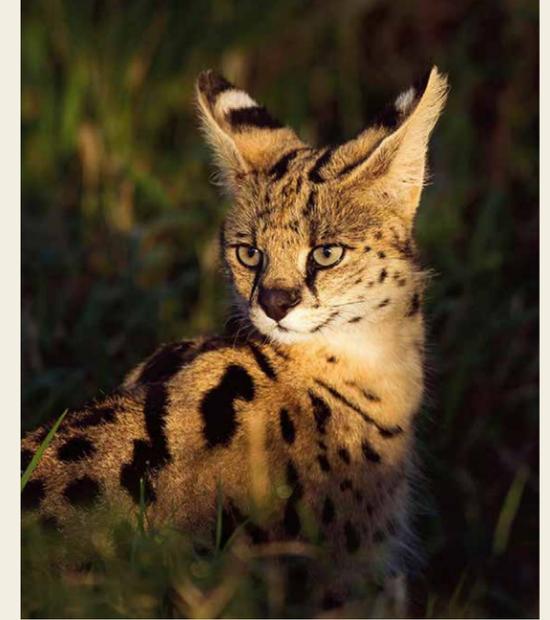
After breakfast and a last look at the Edenic lands below, we’ll drive to Lake Manyara and hop on our flight to Nairobi, where we’ll have a day room at *Hemingways* or the near-the-airport *Boma Nairobi*, and get a bite to eat before being driven to the airport for our late flights back to the Northern Hemisphere.

DAY 15 **Connect in Europe**

... for flights home.

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

The *Micato Grand* can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. And you can extend your safari by jetting off to Cape Town or Zanzibar for a few days, or visit the mountain gorillas of Rwanda, or stupendous Victoria Falls. See pages 152-159 for tempting details.



**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May      | November | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$17,150 | \$18,450 | \$21,950        |
| Single Supplement          | 2,550    | 3,050    | 5,250           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 2,400    | 2,400    | 2,500           |

(Nairobi / Amboseli / Lewa / Maasai Mara / Serengeti / Lake Manyara; Lake Manyara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**Make this a Private Classic Safari:** Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

**2019 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Sunday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 06 – Jan. 20 | May 26 – June 09  | Aug. 11 – Aug. 25   | Oct. 27 – Nov. 10 |
| Jan. 13 – Jan. 27 | June 02 – June 16 | Aug. 18 – Sept. 01  | Nov. 03 – Nov. 17 |
| Jan. 20 – Feb. 03 | June 09 – June 23 | Aug. 25 – Sept. 08  | Nov. 10 – Nov. 24 |
| Jan. 27 – Feb. 10 | June 16 – June 30 | Sept. 01 – Sept. 15 | Nov. 17 – Dec. 01 |
| Feb. 03 – Feb. 17 | June 23 – July 07 | Sept. 08 – Sept. 22 | Nov. 24 – Dec. 08 |
| Feb. 10 – Feb. 24 | June 30 – July 14 | Sept. 15 – Sept. 29 | Dec. 01 – Dec. 15 |
| Feb. 17 – Mar. 03 | July 07 – July 21 | Sept. 22 – Oct. 06  | Dec. 08 – Dec. 22 |
| Feb. 24 – Mar. 10 | July 14 – July 28 | Sept. 29 – Oct. 13  | Dec. 15 – Dec. 29 |
| Mar. 03 – Mar. 17 | July 21 – Aug. 04 | Oct. 06 – Oct. 20   | Dec. 22 – Jan. 05 |
| Mar. 10 – Mar. 24 | July 28 – Aug. 11 | Oct. 13 – Oct. 27   | Dec. 29 – Jan. 12 |
| May 19 – June 02  | Aug. 04 – Aug. 18 | Oct. 20 – Nov. 03   |                   |

**2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Tuesday, returns Tuesday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 07 – Jan. 21 | May 26 – June 09  | Aug. 11 – Aug. 25   | Oct. 27 – Nov. 10 |
| Jan. 14 – Jan. 28 | June 02 – June 16 | Aug. 18 – Sept. 01  | Nov. 03 – Nov. 17 |
| Jan. 21 – Feb. 04 | June 09 – June 23 | Aug. 25 – Sept. 08  | Nov. 10 – Nov. 24 |
| Jan. 28 – Feb. 11 | June 16 – June 30 | Sept. 01 – Sept. 15 | Nov. 17 – Dec. 01 |
| Feb. 04 – Feb. 18 | June 23 – July 07 | Sept. 08 – Sept. 22 | Nov. 24 – Dec. 08 |
| Feb. 11 – Feb. 25 | June 30 – July 14 | Sept. 15 – Sept. 29 | Dec. 01 – Dec. 15 |
| Feb. 18 – Mar. 03 | July 07 – July 21 | Sept. 22 – Oct. 06  | Dec. 08 – Dec. 22 |
| Feb. 25 – Mar. 10 | July 14 – July 28 | Sept. 29 – Oct. 13  | Dec. 15 – Dec. 29 |
| Mar. 03 – Mar. 17 | July 21 – Aug. 04 | Oct. 06 – Oct. 20   | Dec. 22 – Jan. 05 |
| Mar. 10 – Mar. 24 | July 28 – Aug. 11 | Oct. 13 – Oct. 27   | Dec. 29 – Jan. 12 |
| May 19 – June 02  | Aug. 04 – Aug. 18 | Oct. 20 – Nov. 03   |                   |



# THE HEMINGWAY WING SAFARI

14 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

Such is Africa's allure: that a bright fellow like Hemingway would lie in his tent, homesick before he'd even parted from a place that had come to seem more like home than home itself. We're told these days to stick to the *now*, and the *here*, but Hemingway—like many of us lovers of Africa—knew that sometimes you can't micromanage your passions.

*The Hemingway Wing Safari*—a cherished favourite of Micato staff—is a tribute, not only to Africa's tendency to grab hold of our hearts, but also to the old-fashioned and cozy safaris of Hemingway's time, with three tented camps (a little more luxurious than in Ernest's day, but he was never one to avoid intelligently offered luxury), good looks at East Africa's most legendary game parks (and a couple of lesser-known gems), and five swooping flights that bring us into great intimacy with Africa's landscapes.

*All I wanted to do now was get back to Africa. We had not left it, yet, but when I would wake in the night I would lie, listening, homesick for it already.*

—Ernest Hemingway,  
*Green Hills of Africa*





Migration Camp

DAYS 6 & 7 *The Maasai Mara*

South by air to the Maasai Mara, the northern reaches of the Serengeti–Maasai Mara ecosystem, earth’s richest wildlife habitat. Our base for explorations in the fabled Mara is the **Fairmont Mara Safari Club**, recently voted among the Top 20 in *Travel+Leisure’s* consequential *World’s Best Hotels* list.

Surrounded on three sides by the life-giving Mara River, the Mara Safari Club is a masterpiece of appropriate and generously luxurious design. And it’s a great jumping-off place for extraordinary game drives in the mixed land- and waterscapes of the Mara. We’ll visit a traditional Maasai village as we wend our way through this natural wonderland, the kind of place that moved Hemingway to write, “I loved this country and I felt at home and where a man feels at home, outside of where he’s born, is where he’s meant to go.”

DAYS 8 & 9 *The Serengeti*

“How can one convey the power of Serengeti?” asked Cyril Connolly in *The Evening Colonnade*. “It is an immense, limitless lawn, under a marquee of sky. . . . The light is dazzling, the air delectable; kopjes rise out of the grass at far intervals, some wooded; the magic of the American prairie here blends with the other magic of the animals as they existed before man.”

The Serengeti sometimes does remind us of the American prairie, but in truth it can’t be compared with any other place on earth. Its kopje-dotted landscape, its vast and billowing skies, and especially its astounding wealth of wildlife make it one-of-a-gorgeous-kind. Flying via Nairobi and Arusha, we reach our base, **Migration Camp**, on the hippo-haven Grumeti River. Known for its superb tents (which, one traveller wrote, “have only one thing in common with normal tents: canvas”) and its dramatic setting in rocky outcrops, Migration Camp is revered for its tranquillity (something of a Serengeti specialty).

DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2 & 3 *Nairobi*

We’ll be met by our Micato Safari Director and whisked away to a place Hemingway spent many Hemingwayesque hours, the **Fairmont Norfolk Hotel**. We’ll visit the Giraffe Centre and the illuminating National Museum, pay our respects at the newly renovated home of Karen Blixen (who, Hemingway said more than once, should have received the Nobel Prize for literature instead of him). And we’ll have a welcoming meal at Lavington, the home of Micato’s founders, the renowned storytellers Felix and Jane Pinto.

DAYS 4 & 5 *Samburu National Reserve*

We fly 200-plus miles north to the Samburu, in many ways the embodiment of the Africa we’ve been carrying around in our imagination since we were children (it was the home, for instance, of Elsa the lioness, of *Born Free* fame). Nurtured by the Ewaso Nyiro River, the Samburu is rugged, calmly inviting, and enveloped in the air of remote Old Africa, scented by acacia.

We’ll sojourn in one of two outstanding Samburu camps: **Larsens Camp** or **Elephant Bedroom Camp**, both set on the forested banks of the

Ewaso Nyiro, much frequented by friendly elephants, whose meanderings we watch in comfort from the verandas of our superbly designed tents.\* Game drives in the Samburu introduce us to its fabulous plentitude of large (and cunningly small) mammals, who are just the headliners in a fabulous cast of very natural, very intriguing characters. (Some travellers, having seen and appreciated the Big Five, begin a more difficult search for the Little Five, whose identities we will divulge a little east of here, in *Tanzania Spectacular*.)

\* We remember seeing elephants bathing and frolicking in the Ewaso Nyiro. One group spends 10 or so minutes, then clambers up the red dirt bank, politely giving way to the next group.

*There is no feeling like being absolutely alone with creation . . . with nothing spoiled or sullied or abused. . . . A whole world revolves in balance with itself more perfect than the finest symphony.*

—Elspeth Huxley, *The Mottled Lizard*



The amazing thing was that your staff acted as though we were the only people in the world and that all their efforts were on our behalf. We were pampered. They were unbelievably caring and helpful. As we moved from place to place, we realized that everyone with Micato is caring and helpful. We were entertained, instructed, educated, and advanced along the way by the nicest group of guides and drivers that we could ever imagine.

—Bill and Lee Shewry



**DAYS 10–12** *Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Crater*

We take a picturesque flight from the Serengeti to Lake Manyara, then drive to our base for the next three nights, the quietly spectacular **Manor at Ngorongoro**, whose 10 Cape Dutch cottages (with 20 full suites) are tranquilly set within a coffee plantation adjacent to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The Manor, much admired for its cuisine and thoughtful service, offers a wealth of activities, from horsebacking, mountain biking and swimming, to estate walks and recreative spa lounging.

We'll make the thrilling drive up to one of earth's wonders, the great, green, animal-nurturing caldera of a once catastrophically cranky, now beneficently mellow volcano, the Ngorongoro. Winding up to the crater's rim puts us at Vail and Aspen altitudes of well over 7,000 feet, and being up that high, figuratively and actually, we may recall Isak Dinesen's words in *Out of Africa*, "The air of the African highlands went to my head like wine, I was all the time slightly drunk with it." And then we zoom down to the Lost World's lush and park-like floor

(but which, make no mistake, is an animal, not a human, kingdom) for a day's game viewing and a festive bush picnic.

And we'll game drive and view-catch at Lake Manyara, which our guy Ernest Hemingway thought "the loveliest lake in Africa." The lake is a birder's heaven (it's frequented by 300 migratory species)\*, and the water from its Crater Highlands-supplied springs makes it a forested redoubt for all the most glamorous large mammals, including the famed Manyara tree-climbing lions. (It's a little irreverent, but *tree-lounging* might be a better description.)



**DAY 13 & 14** *Nairobi and homeward bound*

We affectionately say goodbye to the great crater, lake, and deliciously homey Manor, and fly to Nairobi, where we'll rest up in day rooms at the **Norfolk** or handy-to-the-airport **Boma Nairobi** before our late evening flights.

\* Manyara especially, but all of East Africa is an avian wonderland. One of our many bird-fancying safariers offers a representative tale: "Lilac-breasted rollers are among the most beautiful sights I've seen in Africa, anywhere, anytime. And I was mesmerized once watching a kingfisher power-dive into a river several times in succession, and when he came up with a fish in his beak on the third try, three of us broke into applause spontaneously."



**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May      | November | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$12,850 | \$14,350 | \$15,850        |
| Single Supplement          | 2,300    | 2,750    | 3,550           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 2,300    | 2,300    | 2,400           |

(Nairobi / Samburu / Maasai Mara / Serengeti / Lake Manyara; Lake Manyara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**Make this a Private Classic Safari:** Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

**2019 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Tuesday, returns Monday  
Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 01 – Jan. 14 | May 14 – May 27   | July 30 – Aug. 12   | Oct. 15 – Oct. 28 |
| Jan. 08 – Jan. 21 | May 21 – June 03  | Aug. 06 – Aug. 19   | Oct. 22 – Nov. 04 |
| Jan. 15 – Jan. 28 | May 28 – June 10  | Aug. 13 – Aug. 26   | Oct. 29 – Nov. 11 |
| Jan. 22 – Feb. 04 | June 04 – June 17 | Aug. 20 – Sept. 02  | Nov. 05 – Nov. 18 |
| Jan. 29 – Feb. 11 | June 11 – June 24 | Aug. 27 – Sept. 09  | Nov. 12 – Nov. 25 |
| Feb. 05 – Feb. 18 | June 18 – July 01 | Sept. 03 – Sept. 16 | Nov. 19 – Dec. 02 |
| Feb. 12 – Feb. 25 | June 25 – July 08 | Sept. 10 – Sept. 23 | Nov. 26 – Dec. 09 |
| Feb. 19 – Mar. 04 | July 02 – July 15 | Sept. 17 – Sept. 30 | Dec. 03 – Dec. 16 |
| Feb. 26 – Mar. 11 | July 09 – July 22 | Sept. 24 – Oct. 07  | Dec. 10 – Dec. 23 |
| Mar. 05 – Mar. 18 | July 16 – July 29 | Oct. 01 – Oct. 14   | Dec. 17 – Dec. 30 |
| Mar. 12 – Mar. 25 | July 23 – Aug. 05 | Oct. 08 – Oct. 21   | Dec. 24 – Jan. 06 |

**2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Thursday, returns Wednesday  
New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 02 – Jan. 15 | May 21 – June 03  | Aug. 13 – Aug. 26   | Nov. 05 – Nov. 18 |
| Jan. 09 – Jan. 22 | May 28 – June 10  | Aug. 20 – Sept. 02  | Nov. 12 – Nov. 25 |
| Jan. 16 – Jan. 29 | June 04 – June 17 | Aug. 27 – Sept. 09  | Nov. 19 – Dec. 02 |
| Jan. 23 – Feb. 05 | June 11 – June 24 | Sept. 03 – Sept. 16 | Nov. 26 – Dec. 09 |
| Jan. 30 – Feb. 12 | June 18 – July 01 | Sept. 10 – Sept. 23 | Dec. 03 – Dec. 16 |
| Feb. 06 – Feb. 19 | June 25 – July 08 | Sept. 17 – Sept. 30 | Dec. 10 – Dec. 23 |
| Feb. 13 – Feb. 26 | July 02 – July 15 | Sept. 24 – Oct. 07  | Dec. 17 – Dec. 30 |
| Feb. 20 – Mar. 04 | July 09 – July 22 | Oct. 01 – Oct. 14   | Dec. 24 – Jan. 06 |
| Feb. 27 – Mar. 11 | July 16 – July 29 | Oct. 08 – Oct. 21   | Dec. 31 – Jan. 13 |
| Mar. 05 – Mar. 18 | July 23 – Aug. 05 | Oct. 15 – Oct. 28   |                   |
| Mar. 12 – Mar. 25 | July 30 – Aug. 12 | Oct. 22 – Nov. 04   |                   |
| May 14 – May 27   | Aug. 06 – Aug. 19 | Oct. 29 – Nov. 11   |                   |

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

The Hemingway Wing can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. And a short safari extension that includes a balloon ride over the Mara is guaranteed to be a never-forgotten, always-cherished memory. We present our most popular and rewarding Options and Extensions on pages 152-159.



# THE STANLEY WING SAFARI

16 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

*The Stanley Wing*, named for the iconic 19th-century Africa explorer Henry Morton Stanley, may be Micato's most comprehensive and popular safari. We range through East Africa widely and leisurely, from Nairobi into the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro in southern Kenya and farther into Tanzania, with luxuriously long stays in some of the continent's most treasured and exhilarating game parks. *The Stanley Wing* is a matchless introduction to the dreamt-of Africa; it's also a marvelous way to experience that Africa yet again.

Stanley, a world celebrity for finding Dr. David Livingstone in 1871 after a gruesome 700-mile trek from Zanzibar to Lake Tanganyika (he legendarily greeted the famed missionary with the words "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"), still ignites controversy among historians (they don't call you *Bula Matari*—Breaker of Rocks—for your mild manners). But a couple of things about him are sure. He was a very tough fellow, and he was hopelessly enthralled by Africa and the "sweet and novel pleasure of indifference to all things earthly" that it offers the traveller, "one of the most soul-lulling pleasures a mortal can enjoy."

*I thought...of Africa, not a particular place, but a shape...and the shape of course, is roughly that of the human heart.*

—Graham Greene,  
*Journey Without Maps*





DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2 & 3 *Nairobi*

Soon after we land in Nairobi, Micato staff will whisk us away to the historic **Fairmont Norfolk Hotel**. Now a jewel in the Fairmont crown, the Norfolk has been a reigning East African landmark since the early 1900s. For much of their history, Nairobi and the Norfolk have been nearly synonymous.

The next day, we'll head out for some city sightseeing in the capital, including visits to the National Museum, the Giraffe Centre (where we'll hand-feed endangered Rothschild giraffes), and Karen Blixen's home just outside of Nairobi. In 1937, Baroness Blixen (under the pen name Isak Dinesen) published *Out of Africa*, which many of us consider the most heart-stirring book ever written about the continent. And we'll lunch with Micato's founders, Felix and Jane Pinto, at their home in Nairobi's lovely Lavington district. We'll return to the Norfolk inspired by hospitality, good food, and fine conversation, eager and ready to embark on a classic African safari.

DAYS 4 & 5 *Amboseli*

A morning flight—see page 47 for more about these flights—from Nairobi's Wilson Airport takes us south to Amboseli National Park, dominated by gargantuan Mount Kilimanjaro,

which rises suddenly to over 19,000 feet, 15,000 of them above Amboseli's acacia-dotted grasslands. (Local people didn't think that God, or gods, lived on Kilimanjaro. They more or less thought the mountain was God; casting your eyes on the still-glacier-topped behemoth, you can see why.) During our game drives out of wonderfully decorated **Ol Tukai Lodge**, we'll marvel at our first good looks at what is probably Africa's largest population of free-ranging elephants, along with the Cape buffalo, impalas, lions, cheetahs, hyenas, giraffes, zebras, and wildebeest who—in addition to two score or more other mammal species—make their domicile in and around the park.

DAY 6 *Tarangire*

Today we drive south into Tanzania for lunch at the bustling, very *African* town of Arusha, then fly to Tarangire National Park, celebrated for the diversity of its wildlife (which includes tree-snoozing lions), its world-class collection of more than 550 bird species, and its outlandishly towering termite mounds, which may not sound terribly impressive, but are just about guaranteed to elevate termites to the top of any traveller's pantheon of amazing insects. We'll enjoy a fine overnight at **Tarangire Sopa Lodge**, tucked away in a verdant valley, with enchanting views of Tarangire's trademark baobab-studded landscapes. (And we may spend a post-game drive afternoon basking in the Sopa Lodge's marvelous pool, set just above a nicely dramatic gorge.)

DAYS 7 & 8 *Ngorongoro Crater*

After a morning game drive and breakfast we make a memorable drive west, to the fabled Lost World of the Ngorongoro Crater, a volcanic bowl abounding with life and beauty, unknown to the outside world until 1892 (which helps account for its wealth of wildlife, everything from a burgeoning lion population to fine stands of flamingos).

Our lodge, the **Ngorongoro Sopa**, is perched on the gigantic crater's rim, allowing us to gaze at the flat, 100-square-mile crater floor hundreds of feet below. Ngorongoro is one of the world's largest volcanic calderas, and without a smidgen of doubt its most interesting, not to mention its most lively and lovely; Ngorongoro's floor, down to which we'll wend our way for a full-day game drive, is a mesmerizing, eventful place.

DAYS 9 & 10 *The Serengeti*

We'll stop by the Olduvai Gorge, a rocky spur of the Rift Valley, where the Leakey family's discoveries in the last century convinced the scientific world that humanity arose in East Africa. ("It's a splendid spot, Olduvai Gorge," Theo Cruz wrote, "but it's a good thing our ancestors wanted a peek at someplace else.") Then it's on to the Serengeti, a vast and fabled plain the great writer and roustabout Beryl Markham said was "as warm with life as the waters of a tropic sea." From our base at the airy **Serengeti Sopa Lodge**, deep in the heart of the world's most important large animal migration corridor, we make rolling forays into the plain, on the lookout for the 70 large mammal species who inhabit this most noble swatch of planet Earth.





*It is a challenge to determine where to begin in our praise of Micato. . . . We are seasoned travelers, taking an average three to four significant trips annually. I can say without reservation that we have never had a single travel experience that we haven't thoroughly enjoyed. However, having said that, we can also state unequivocally that our Stanley Wing Safari with Micato transcends any journey that we have ever taken.*

—Gary and Linda Kaplan

**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May      | November | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$12,250 | \$12,750 | \$14,850        |
| Single Supplement          | 950      | 1,450    | 1,900           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 1,950    | 1,950    | 1,950           |

(Nairobi / Amboseli; Arusha / Tarangire; Serengeti / Maasai Mara / Mt. Kenya / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**Make this a Private Classic Safari:** Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

**2019 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Saturday, returns Sunday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 05 – Jan. 20 | May 25 – June 09  | Aug. 10 – Aug. 25   | Oct. 26 – Nov. 10 |
| Jan. 12 – Jan. 27 | June 01 – June 16 | Aug. 17 – Sept. 01  | Nov. 02 – Nov. 17 |
| Jan. 19 – Feb. 03 | June 08 – June 23 | Aug. 24 – Sept. 08  | Nov. 09 – Nov. 24 |
| Jan. 26 – Feb. 10 | June 15 – June 30 | Aug. 31 – Sept. 15  | Nov. 16 – Dec. 01 |
| Feb. 02 – Feb. 17 | June 22 – July 07 | Sept. 07 – Sept. 22 | Nov. 23 – Dec. 08 |
| Feb. 09 – Feb. 24 | June 29 – July 14 | Sept. 14 – Sept. 29 | Nov. 30 – Dec. 15 |
| Feb. 16 – Mar. 03 | July 06 – July 21 | Sept. 21 – Oct. 06  | Dec. 07 – Dec. 22 |
| Feb. 23 – Mar. 10 | July 13 – July 28 | Sept. 28 – Oct. 13  | Dec. 14 – Dec. 29 |
| Mar. 02 – Mar. 17 | July 20 – Aug. 04 | Oct. 05 – Oct. 20   | Dec. 21 – Jan. 05 |
| Mar. 09 – Mar. 24 | July 27 – Aug. 11 | Oct. 12 – Oct. 27   | Dec. 28 – Jan. 12 |
| May 18 – June 02  | Aug. 03 – Aug. 18 | Oct. 19 – Nov. 03   |                   |

**2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Monday, returns Tuesday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                    |                     |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 06 – Jan. 21 | June 01 – June 16  | Aug. 24 – Sept. 08  | Nov. 16 – Dec. 01 |
| Jan. 13 – Jan. 28 | June 08 – June 23  | Aug. 31 – Sept. 15  | Nov. 23 – Dec. 08 |
| Jan. 20 – Feb. 04 | June 15 – June 30  | Sept. 07 – Sept. 22 | Nov. 30 – Dec. 15 |
| Jan. 27 – Feb. 11 | June 22 – July 07  | Sept. 14 – Sept. 29 | Dec. 07 – Dec. 22 |
| Feb. 03 – Feb. 18 | June 29 – July 14  | Sept. 21 – Oct. 06  | Dec. 14 – Dec. 29 |
| Feb. 10 – Feb. 25 | July 06 – July 21  | Sept. 28 – Oct. 13  | Dec. 21 – Jan. 05 |
| Feb. 17 – Mar. 03 | July 13 – July 28  | Oct. 05 – Oct. 20   | Dec. 28 – Jan. 12 |
| Feb. 24 – Mar. 10 | July 20 – Aug. 04  | Oct. 12 – Oct. 27   |                   |
| Mar. 02 – Mar. 17 | July 27 – Aug. 11  | Oct. 19 – Nov. 03   |                   |
| Mar. 09 – Mar. 24 | Aug. 03 – Aug. 18  | Oct. 26 – Nov. 10   |                   |
| May 18 – June 02  | Aug. 10 – Aug. 25  | Nov. 02 – Nov. 17   |                   |
| May 25 – June 09  | Aug. 17 – Sept. 01 | Nov. 09 – Nov. 24   |                   |

9-hole golf course we can stroll across the hemispheres during play. We'll also have a chance to visit the club's animal orphanage and the nearby Ol Pejeta Conservancy, home to a healthy coterie of rhinos, plus its Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary (Kenya's only chimp haven), operated in conjunction with the Jane Goodall Foundation.

**DAY 15 Depart Nairobi**

We'll have day rooms for use prior to our late night flights homeward. And during the day, we can visit the Micato-AmericaShare Harambee Centre, do some shopping, or just kick back and savour the first, fresh memories of a classic African safari.

**DAY 16 Connect in Europe**

. . . for return flights home.

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

The Stanley Wing can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. As for safari extensions, contemplate: meeting our fellow primates in Rwanda, visiting Victoria Falls, or jaunting down to Cape Town. See pages 152-159 for our roster of Options and Extensions.

**DAYS 11 & 12 The Maasai Mara**

We think of the Maasai Mara as the Africa of our imagination, brought to joyous life.\* Rolling grasslands, expressive acacia trees, sweeping vistas teeming with wildlife, and one of Africa's common

\* You sometimes see Maasai written Masai (as, unfortunately, in the Masai Mara National Reserve). Maa is the language spoken by the Maasai and the Samburu, so it should always be Maasai with two a's.

and unforgettable sights: "the cumulus clouds that drift all day long across a sun-filled sky," Elspeth Huxley wrote in *The Flame Trees of Thika*, "remind[ing] me of huge swirls of whipped cream." (Those sunny skies and grand landscapes inspire us to consider a hot-air balloon option while we're in the Mara. For a

strongly stated opinion about Mara balloon rides, see pages 88 and 153.)

We fly to the Mara via Arusha and Nairobi, and after unfailingly exciting game drives, we'll enjoy

sundowners from our tented camp at either the **Fairmont Mara Safari Club** or **Kichwa Tembo**, looking out at the vital yet deeply pacific Mara.

**DAYS 13 & 14 Mount Kenya Safari Club**

We bid farewell to the Mara and wing our way to the **Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club**, entrancingly close to Africa's second-highest and most classically comely mountain, the glaciated, 17,000-foot Mount Kenya.

The Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club—created in the late 1950s by actor William Holden and a bunch of fellow Africaphiles—has been visited by innumerable dignitaries, stars, and panjandrums, and we'll feel rather stellar ourselves during our two nights in upgraded deluxe Club Level rooms. The Safari Club is a continental center of relaxation, and, if relaxing gets too relaxing, many activities like trout fishing and tennis are close at hand. And on the Equator-straddling



# TANZANIA SPECTACULAR

10 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Arusha

We bow to the fact: Many of us are firmly engaged in a very busy world, a world in which time away from the busyness is precious. And so we offer this safari to three major contributors to the East African mystique: the classic game lands of Tarangire, the Ngorongoro Crater, and the fabled Serengeti—all in a mere but marvelous 10 days. We begin with the sudden, serendipitous serenity of the Arusha Coffee Lodge, and then we're off on a carefully choreographed safari, with two nights in each of the three camps and lodges we've chosen for their warmth of spirit, their invigorating calm, their refreshing lack of busyness.



*When you have caught  
the rhythm of Africa,  
you find it is the same  
in all her music.*

—Isak Dinesen,  
*Out of Africa*



DAY 1 *En route*

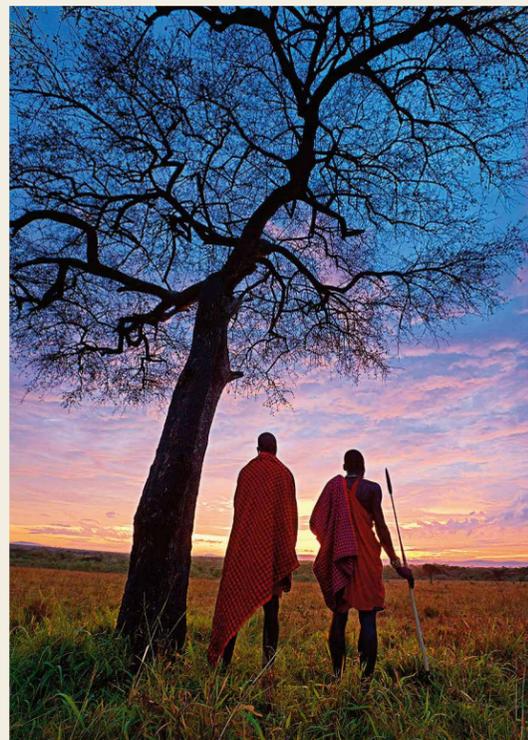
DAY 2 *Arrive in Arusha*

*The Arusha Coffee Lodge*, an old-fashioned island of quietude tucked away in a plantation, is a great place to unwind after the rigours of long flights. Arusha is only 3 degrees south of the equator, but its 4,500-foot elevation encourages floral luxuriance and gentle airs. So we'll be more or less surrounded by enthusiastic greenery as we sit on our Plantation Suite's veranda—perhaps after a relaxing swim—looking up at massive Mount Meru, a 14,977-foot volcanic colossus that looms beneficently over this quintessentially African city.

DAYS 3 & 4 *Tarangire*

After a breakfast topped off by some of the freshest and best coffee we'll ever imbibe, we'll be briefed by our Safari Director and set off on a marvelously African drive to Tarangire and our home for the next couple of nights, *Tarangire Treetops*. Our first experience of luxury life in the bush couldn't be more spectacular. Treetops' main lodge, built around a thousand-year-old baobab, is only the beginning. The lodge's 20 famous, lovingly crafted tree houses, elevated for sweeping views of the park, are extraordinarily large, airy, and utterly magical.

And from our tree house's balcony, we look out at Tarangire's wonderfully varied landscapes of rocky outcrops, rolling hills, and golden savannah generously strewn with acacias and baobabs, home to just about the entire cast of wild African characters—and some rare stars, like kudu and oryx—in addition to 2,500 or so elephants. We'll spend a day in the bush discovering the big game and spying dozens of species of birds cavorting in the trees of Tarangire, and, if we're still keen to see more all-star creatures, we can go out on a night drive, always a revelation.



DAYS 5 & 6 *Ngorongoro Crater*

The drive from Tarangire to the world-wondrous Ngorongoro Crater takes us north, past Lake Manyara, into the Crater Highlands, and up to the reposeful cabins of *Neptune Ngorongoro Luxury Lodge*.

We'll drive to the crater for an extraordinarily rewarding game drive, exploring the caldera's 100 square miles, spotting lions, elephants, black rhinos, just about all of East Africa's faunal celebrities, and return to the lodge for quiet, view-besotted sundowners on our cabin's private terraces, followed by a lovely dinner overlooking one of the world's most magical places.

DAYS 7 & 8 *The Serengeti*

We end this short, but undeniably spectacular, safari in the Serengeti. "There is a lightening of the spirit," Cyril Connolly wrote about the vast plain. We're invited to a rare, deep-rootedly serene idyll. The sky is huge and blue and as pure as the day the earth was born. (And on the southern horizon, over the Crater Highlands—"That's Ngorongoro, just behind that

big green mountain," we'll say knowledgeably, affectionately—clouds pile up in grandly crazy towers, looking like computer-generated special effects.) The Serengeti's kopjes are the creation of a cosmic bonsai master, and on a flat brown rock atop one of them, a lion rolls over and warms its fluffy white belly in the sun.

We'll spend two idyllic Serengeti nights in *Migration Camp*, tucked away in kopje-esque rocks just above the Grumeti River. The main lodge has a split-level lounge, a swimming pool, and a dandy restaurant, and each of Migration Camp's 20 tents is encircled by a deck, a private sanctuary from which to gaze out at the natural extravaganza below and beyond. Those of us who can't quite believe that hippos really exist—that's how otherworldly they sometimes seem—are delighted that rumbling pods of them disport on the Grumeti, along with many single-minded crocodiles; the great migration funnels into a crossing of this river, and the crocs bide their time like the pleistocenic beasts they are.



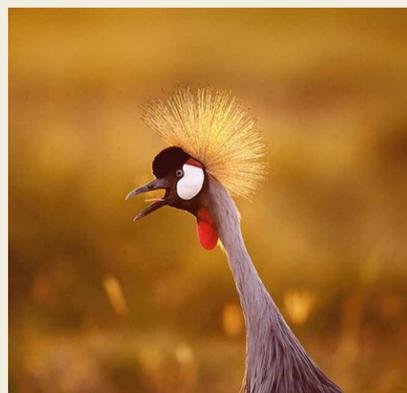
*Micato rules!* —Heidi Klum



**DAYS 9 & 10** *Depart and fly homeward*

After a final game drive, we'll head back to **Migration Camp** for breakfast. Maybe we're close to sighting the Little Five, and need just a little luck to complete the list. We promised to divulge their identities on page 68, and here are the mini-masterpieces: rhinoceros beetle, buffalo weaver, leopard tortoise (not so mini, really; they can weigh as much as three standard bowling balls), ant lion, and the extremely shy elephant shrew, which weighs not much more than an elephant's tear.

In any case, it's time to say goodbye to the Serengeti and Tanzania's spectacular bush. We fly back to Arusha, relax in day rooms at the **Arusha Coffee Lodge**, maybe take a pre-flight swim, and board our homebound planes in the evening, arriving back home.



*for hours at a time. . . . There is mystery behind that masked gray visage, an ancient life force, delicate and mighty, awesome and enchanted, commanding the silence ordinarily reserved for mountain peaks, great fires, and the sea.*

—Peter Matthiessen, *The Tree Where Man Was Born*



*At each camp we would meet other travelers and the talk would eventually come around to their safari company. When they heard about the quality service we were experiencing, you could see them turn green with envy. To say that this was the best trip I could ever have expected is an understatement. I cannot find a flaw in your system.*

—Jim Paul

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic,  
Or Add an Amazing Extension**

Tanzania Spectacular can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. In any case, you may want to—very easily—extend your safari: Cape Town beckons, and so do Zanzibar and Victoria Falls. For other engaging Options and Extensions, scroll over to pages 152-159.



**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May     | November | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$9,000 | \$10,350 | \$11,350        |
| Single Supplement          | 1,650   | 1,950    | 2,350           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 550     | 550      | 550             |

(Lake Manyara / Serengeti / Arusha)

Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**Make this a Private Classic Safari:** Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

**2019 Dates**

10 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Tuesday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 06 – Jan. 15 | May 26 – June 04  | Aug. 18 – Aug. 27   | Nov. 10 – Nov. 19 |
| Jan. 13 – Jan. 22 | June 02 – June 11 | Aug. 25 – Sept. 03  | Nov. 17 – Nov. 26 |
| Jan. 20 – Jan. 29 | June 09 – June 18 | Sept. 01 – Sept. 10 | Nov. 24 – Dec. 03 |
| Jan. 27 – Feb. 05 | June 16 – June 25 | Sept. 08 – Sept. 17 | Dec. 01 – Dec. 10 |
| Feb. 03 – Feb. 12 | June 23 – July 02 | Sept. 15 – Sept. 24 | Dec. 08 – Dec. 17 |
| Feb. 10 – Feb. 19 | June 30 – July 09 | Sept. 22 – Oct. 01  | Dec. 15 – Dec. 24 |
| Feb. 17 – Feb. 26 | July 07 – July 16 | Sept. 29 – Oct. 08  | Dec. 22 – Dec. 31 |
| Feb. 24 – Mar. 05 | July 14 – July 23 | Oct. 06 – Oct. 15   | Dec. 29 – Jan. 07 |
| Mar. 03 – Mar. 12 | July 21 – July 30 | Oct. 13 – Oct. 22   |                   |
| Mar. 10 – Mar. 19 | July 28 – Aug. 06 | Oct. 20 – Oct. 29   |                   |
| Mar. 17 – Mar. 26 | Aug. 04 – Aug. 13 | Oct. 27 – Nov. 05   |                   |
| May 19 – May 28   | Aug. 11 – Aug. 20 | Nov. 03 – Nov. 12   |                   |

**2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Tuesday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 05 – Jan. 14 | May 24 – June 02  | Aug. 16 – Aug. 25   | Nov. 08 – Nov. 17 |
| Jan. 12 – Jan. 21 | May 31 – June 09  | Aug. 23 – Sept. 01  | Nov. 15 – Nov. 24 |
| Jan. 19 – Jan. 28 | June 07 – June 16 | Aug. 30 – Sept. 08  | Nov. 22 – Dec. 01 |
| Jan. 26 – Feb. 04 | June 14 – June 23 | Sept. 06 – Sept. 15 | Nov. 29 – Dec. 08 |
| Feb. 02 – Feb. 11 | June 21 – June 30 | Sept. 13 – Sept. 22 | Dec. 06 – Dec. 15 |
| Feb. 09 – Feb. 18 | June 28 – July 07 | Sept. 20 – Sept. 29 | Dec. 13 – Dec. 22 |
| Feb. 16 – Feb. 25 | July 05 – July 14 | Sept. 27 – Oct. 06  | Dec. 20 – Dec. 29 |
| Feb. 23 – Mar. 03 | July 12 – July 21 | Oct. 04 – Oct. 13   | Dec. 27 – Jan. 05 |
| Mar. 01 – Mar. 10 | July 19 – July 28 | Oct. 11 – Oct. 20   |                   |
| Mar. 08 – Mar. 17 | July 26 – Aug. 04 | Oct. 18 – Oct. 27   |                   |
| Mar. 15 – Mar. 24 | Aug. 02 – Aug. 11 | Oct. 25 – Nov. 03   |                   |
| May 17 – May 26   | Aug. 09 – Aug. 18 | Nov. 01 – Nov. 10   |                   |



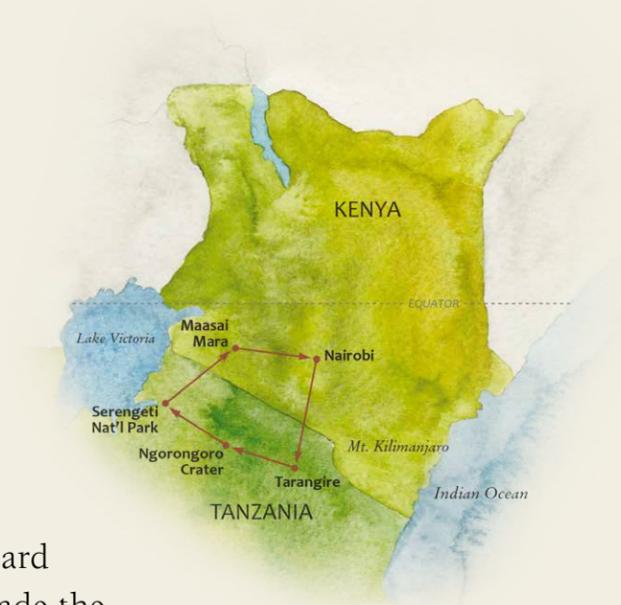
# THE HEART OF KENYA AND TANZANIA

12 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

The names alone are magic: The Serengeti. Ngorongoro Crater. The Maasai Mara. We're reminded that when we travel, we visit *names* as well as places—names with romantic heft, names that resound, names that may have captivated us for many years. Names like *Ngorongoro*.

(Then again, if we'd never heard that sonorous name, and we made the exhilarating drive up the flank of the old volcano and reached its rim and suddenly beheld the green and animal-thronged crater far below, Ngorongoro would be just as utterly amazing.)

In less than two weeks, *The Heart of Kenya and Tanzania* introduces us—or re-introduces us—to places with famous names, but most of all, it brings us to *fantastic* places, fantastic in the sense that their like is to be found exactly nowhere else on earth.



*All our lives we've seen these animals in captivity or on a screen. Now we see them in wilderness, propelled by the force of their evolution; at last they're able to tell us what they are, who they are.*

—Mary Marenka Poxon,  
in a letter to her sister,  
Eileen Borzencki

DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2 & 3 *Nairobi*

After arrival at Jomo Kenyatta Airport, we'll be met by our Safari Director and driven to the classic **Fairmont Norfolk Hotel**, for more than a century the world's preferred pre- and post-safari stomping ground. We'll meet sassy pachyderms at the Daphne Sheldrick elephant orphanage, consort with the world's tallest terrestrial animal at the Giraffe Centre, make a pilgrimage to the home of Karen Blixen—aka Isak Dinesen, one of Africa's supreme laureates—and have lunch at Lavington, home of Micato's founders, Felix and Jane Pinto (be sure to ask about Jane's adventures in the world of international table tennis).

DAY 4 *Tarangire*

We'll tour the informative National Museum and after lunch fly in early afternoon from Nairobi to northern Tanzania's Kilimanjaro International Airport. We fly onward to Tarangire National Park and the **Tarangire Sopa Lodge**, a classic example of beautifully designed modern lodge architecture.

Tarangire is an apt place to begin a wildlife safari. Home to just about all the headliner beasts, including a large and robust elephant population, Tarangire also shelters such rarities as the fringe-eared oryx and the long-necked gerenuk, a particularly winsome and creatively constructed antelope. Tarangire charms us with its exemplary African landscapes: acacia trees, brawny brown hills, sweeping vistas, clear nights of "soft velvet," as Elspeth



Huxley wrote. "[Like] a warm conservancy whose great dome was encrusted with all the diamonds in the world, and all the scents in the world were there too, changing like currents in the sea."

DAYS 5 & 6 *Ngorongoro Crater*

We drive from Tarangire up into the green Crater Highlands, weaving our way to our lodge, the **Ngorongoro Sopa**, perched at well over 7,000 feet on the rim of the fabled Ngorongoro Crater.

As geologic masterpieces go, Ngorongoro has had quite a career. It's been a gigantic peak, perhaps a rival of Kilimanjaro, and, after it blew its snowy top in what must have been a rather impressive explosion (our forefathers over at the nearby Olduvai Gorge, busy getting their humanoid act together, probably saw it), Ngorongoro spent many millennia as an alternately quiet and occasionally bubbling lava lake. Now in an extended pacific mood, the crater is home to upwards of 25,000 personality-rich animals, who roam—as we will—over a sweetly lush area larger than 76 Central Parks.

DAYS 7 & 8 *The Serengeti*

After stopping at Olduvai, the symbolic wellspring of our DNA, we drop down to the Serengeti, the

known universe's largest (and, happily for us, most wonderfully watchable) collection of illustrious mammals: elephants, giraffes, tumbling pool-fuls of hippos, elegantly slinking serval cats, zebras with incredibly muscular haunches (leading us to wonder why they were never ridden—very weak backs, that's why), and scores of species more, all of them going about their business unconcerned by the likes of us. ("But make no mistake," an old Africa hand once wrote, "these aren't theme parks. The truest owners of these lands are the animals who roam them free and, if that's their nature, fiercely.")

We'll soak up the essence of the Serengeti from the **Sopa Lodge**, set on an escarpment overlooking the seemingly limitless plains, enjoying a sundowner after a game drive, watching clouds build up as the day cools, big clouds that "look like you could scoop them up with a spoon," Elspeth Huxley wrote.\*

\* If there were a *Guinness Book of Best Sunsets and Sunrises*, the Serengeti's would be near the top of the list; one morning we saw a cloud on the horizon lit so incandescently by the still-hidden sun that it was almost too bright to look at directly.



**DAYS 9 & 10** *The Maasai Mara*

We fly back to Kilimanjaro International, then to Nairobi, and on to the Kenyan section of the Serengeti–Maasai Mara ecosystem, a world treasure, one with no counterpart, anywhere. (During humanity’s tenure, the closest any place on earth has come to equaling the Serengeti’s incredible wealth of wildlife may be paleolithic Siberia, with the ancient North American Plains another contender.) The size of Vermont (with Liechtenstein thrown in for good measure), the Serengeti–Maasai Mara ecosystem is, amongst much else, famed for the dramatic migration of its 1,000,000-plus wildebeest and 750,000-or-so zebras (and the intense attention that migration gets from predators, both mammalian and reptilian). Though the migration reaches seasonal crescendos, the movement of animals—north after the Long Rains, south as the rains return to nourish the southern plains—

is more or less continual, and the sight of a two- or three-mile-long train of animals on the move is extremely memorable.

Up here in the system’s north, the landscapes are grandly varied but tend to be more green (which is why the migration heads up here, in search of water), with somewhat less savannah than in the south. We’ll be staying in a characteristically attractive tented camp, either *Kichwa Tembo* or *Fairmont Mara Safari Club*, both of which take advantage of the Mara’s scenic mix. Kichwa is set in riverine forest on the banks of the Sabaringo River, and the Mara River nearly wraps around the Mara Safari Club. Both camps offer balloon excursions; wafting over the Mara in the piercingly fresh and golden morning, floating over elephants and hippos, feeling a mild and worthy intoxication-by-grandeur, is one of those things that, having done, we wonder how on earth we ever contemplated not doing.

*I had time after time watched the progression across the plain of the Giraffe, in their queer, inimitable, vegetative gracefulness, as if it were not a herd of animals but a family of rare, long-stemmed, speckled gigantic flowers slowly advancing.*

—Isak Dinesen, *Out of Africa*

**DAYS 11 & 12** *Nairobi and onward*

We fly back to Nairobi in the morning for some relaxation, freshening up at our day rooms at the *Norfolk* or the near-the-airport *Boma Nairobi*, and perhaps making time for a visit to the Micato-AmericaShare Harambee Centre, a guaranteed spirit-lifter, before our late evening flight.

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

The Heart of Kenya and Tanzania can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. And a visit to Victoria Falls, or our close, friendly, and very substantial relatives, the mountain gorillas of Rwanda, are intriguing safari extensions. For more options and ideas, see pages 152-159.



*It certainly was a new experience to receive so much attention from a company owner. The personal touch of Jane Pinto and her sister Dulu was very much appreciated. And our driver Frederick was so warm and amiable that we thought we were traveling with a friend. We were especially moved by the enthusiasm and dedication of Roba, our Safari Director. It was beyond a vacation or even a dream.*

—Roger, Julia, and David True

**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May     | November | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$9,350 | \$10,250 | \$11,550        |
| Single Supplement          | 850     | 950      | 1,150           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 1,650   | 1,650    | 1,650           |

(Nairobi / Arusha / Tarangire; Serengeti / Maasai Mara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**Make this a Private Classic Safari:** Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

**2019 Dates**

12 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Monday, returns Friday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 07 – Jan. 18 | May 27 – June 07  | Aug. 19 – Aug. 30   | Nov. 11 – Nov. 22 |
| Jan. 14 – Jan. 25 | June 03 – June 14 | Aug. 26 – Sept. 06  | Nov. 18 – Nov. 29 |
| Jan. 21 – Feb. 01 | June 10 – June 21 | Sept. 02 – Sept. 13 | Nov. 25 – Dec. 06 |
| Jan. 28 – Feb. 08 | June 17 – June 28 | Sept. 09 – Sept. 20 | Dec. 02 – Dec. 13 |
| Feb. 04 – Feb. 15 | June 24 – July 05 | Sept. 16 – Sept. 27 | Dec. 09 – Dec. 20 |
| Feb. 11 – Feb. 22 | July 01 – July 12 | Sept. 23 – Oct. 04  | Dec. 16 – Dec. 27 |
| Feb. 18 – Mar. 01 | July 08 – July 19 | Sept. 30 – Oct. 11  | Dec. 23 – Jan. 03 |
| Feb. 25 – Mar. 08 | July 15 – July 26 | Oct. 07 – Oct. 18   | Dec. 30 – Jan. 10 |
| Mar. 04 – Mar. 15 | July 22 – Aug. 02 | Oct. 14 – Oct. 25   | Jan. 06 – Jan. 17 |
| Mar. 11 – Mar. 22 | July 29 – Aug. 09 | Oct. 21 – Nov. 01   |                   |
| Mar. 18 – Mar. 29 | Aug. 05 – Aug. 16 | Oct. 28 – Nov. 08   |                   |
| May 20 – May 31   | Aug. 12 – Aug. 23 | Nov. 04 – Nov. 15   |                   |

**2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Wednesday, returns Sunday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 01 – Jan. 12 | May 27 – June 07  | Aug. 19 – Aug. 30   | Nov. 11 – Nov. 22 |
| Jan. 08 – Jan. 19 | June 03 – June 14 | Aug. 26 – Sept. 06  | Nov. 18 – Nov. 29 |
| Jan. 15 – Jan. 26 | June 10 – June 21 | Sept. 02 – Sept. 13 | Nov. 25 – Dec. 06 |
| Jan. 22 – Feb. 02 | June 17 – June 28 | Sept. 09 – Sept. 20 | Dec. 02 – Dec. 13 |
| Jan. 29 – Feb. 09 | June 24 – July 05 | Sept. 16 – Sept. 27 | Dec. 09 – Dec. 20 |
| Feb. 05 – Feb. 16 | July 01 – July 12 | Sept. 23 – Oct. 04  | Dec. 16 – Dec. 27 |
| Feb. 12 – Feb. 23 | July 08 – July 19 | Sept. 30 – Oct. 11  | Dec. 23 – Jan. 03 |
| Feb. 19 – Mar. 01 | July 15 – July 26 | Oct. 07 – Oct. 18   | Dec. 30 – Jan. 10 |
| Feb. 26 – Mar. 08 | July 22 – Aug. 02 | Oct. 14 – Oct. 25   |                   |
| Mar. 04 – Mar. 15 | July 29 – Aug. 09 | Oct. 21 – Nov. 01   |                   |
| Mar. 11 – Mar. 22 | Aug. 05 – Aug. 16 | Oct. 28 – Nov. 08   |                   |
| May 20 – May 31   | Aug. 12 – Aug. 23 | Nov. 04 – Nov. 15   |                   |



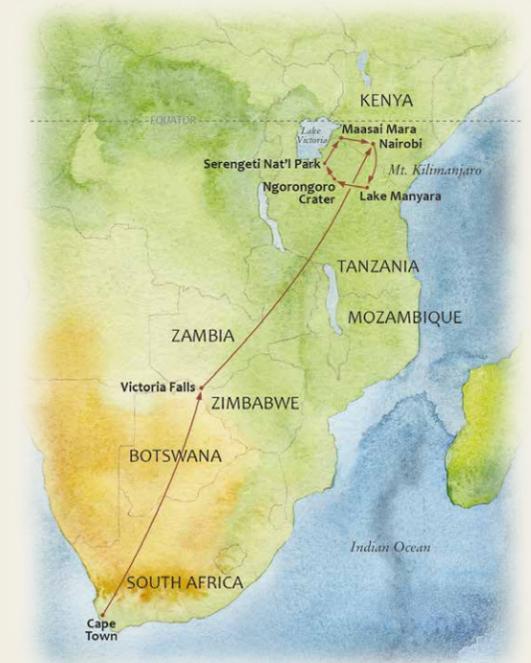
# AFRICAN SPLENDOUR

17 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Cape Town and Nairobi

We're not sure why, but great journeys often involve great contrasts. *African Splendour* is a case in point. On the full 17-day safari (the first 5 days in Southern Africa are optional), we range through 34 degrees of latitude and four countries, but, most engagingly and contrastingly, we experience the diverse excitements of Cape Town's urban pizzazz, the watery colossus of Victoria Falls, and the wondrous game lands of the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem, where the wandering rains compel the planet's most momentous movement of big, interesting mammals. (And then there's the Ngorongoro Crater, which really can't be contrasted with any other place, because there really isn't any other place remotely like it, at least on our home planet.)

*Feeling the cool wind of the night and smelling the good smell of Africa, I was altogether happy.*

—Ernest Hemingway,  
*Green Hills of Africa*





**DAY 1** *En route*

En route to Southern Africa for optional 17-day safari; otherwise, begin on Day 7 in Nairobi.

**DAYS 2–4** *Cape Town and environs*

After a late afternoon or early evening arrival in South Africa's second-largest and most scenic and snazzy city, we'll settle into Cape Town's grande dame hotel, the pink, very pretty, much-loved **Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel**.

Nelly, as it's affectionately known, lies in the centre of City Bowl, the rocky natural amphitheatre that embraces old Cape Town. During our two full days we'll make an excursion to the area's famed Cape Winelands, lunching at an estate and strolling through one of the Winelands' charming villages (whose names highlight their Dutch heritage: Stellenbosch, Franschhoek). We'll visit Cape Point Nature Reserve and, a little farther south, the Cape of Good Hope. And we'll take the Aerial Cableway to the top of 3,500-foot Table Mountain, centre stage of Cape Town's amazing amphitheatre. And we'll visit, and perhaps lend a helping hand at one of Micato-

AmericaShare's inventive and inspiring programmes in Cape Town.

**DAYS 5 & 6** *Victoria Falls*

A lovely flight northward via Johannesburg delivers us to Victoria Falls, Mosi-oa-Tunya, "The Smoke That Thunders," not the highest or the widest but the world's grandest and most booming waterfall, a large lakesworth of water flinging itself 360 feet straight down every minute of every day, right before our delighted eyes.

We have a couple of days to appreciate the Falls, cruising on the Zambezi River, watching elephants and giraffes. We'll helicopter over the Falls on the Flight of Angels, and we'll wander from one misty vantage point to another, returning for sustenance and leisure to our magnificent **Royal Livingstone Hotel** in Livingstone, Zambia, named for the almost mythic explorer David Livingstone.\*

\* In early November, 1855, Livingstone had noticed the Falls' rising mist from many miles away, and when he finally came upon the great cataract, he was so moved that for the first and only time in his 32 years in Africa he "vandalized" nature, as he later wrote, carving his initials on a tree, as if to verify to himself that he had actually seen such a sight as Victoria Falls.

Words are not adequate to describe the genuine attention to detail, down to the small gifts on the bed at night. Awaiting us on Valentine's Day was a pack of heart-shaped homemade cookies. That's class! —Leo P. Lavellee

**DAY 7** *Nairobi*

We fly northeast from Zambia and Victoria Falls to Nairobi and **Hemingways**, a quietly ravishing haven for lovers of old-style panache mixed with modern amenities and great cuisine, wonderfully set in the lush suburb of Karen.

**DAYS 8–10** *Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Crater*

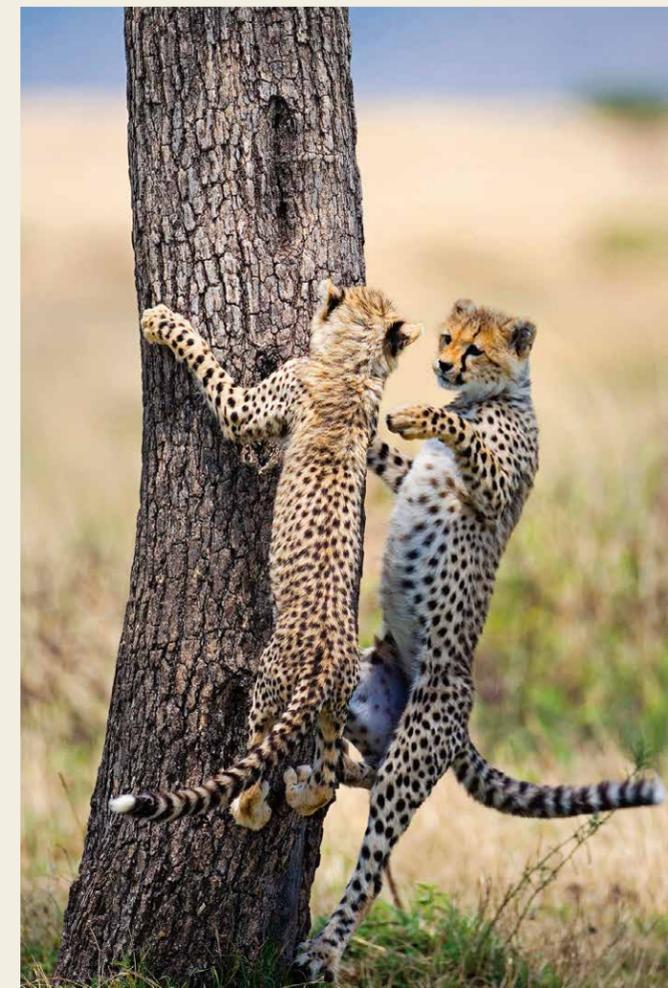
After visiting the nearby Karen Blixen Museum and the playful giants of the Giraffe Centre, we take a typically beautiful flight from Nairobi to Lake Manyara (to which we'll be formally introduced in a couple of days), followed by a pleasant drive to **The Manor at Ngorongoro**, a marvelous 10-cottage, 20-suite retreat set within a 1500-acre Arabica coffee estate adjacent to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Those of us who



began *African Splendour* in South Africa will recognize the Manor's elegant Cape Dutch style; those who haven't will simply be charmed. Our three nights at the Manor are a rare idyll.

We'll enjoy a restful afternoon (or a very active one; the Manor offers horsebacking, mountain biking, swimming in the Manor's pool, and estate walks, among other enjoyments), before a classic high tea and dinner in the private dining room or wine cellar.

And the next day we visit one of the earth's natural masterpieces. We've got a lot of affection for Ngorongoro, and we attempt to do it justice on pages 64, 70, 75, 81 and 87. In case you'd prefer not to scramble around this brochure at the moment, here's the essence of the crater's tremendous charisma: 25,000 or so large and very viewable mammals—from apex predators to galumphing hippos—inhabit the crater's 100-square-mile floor, and zigzagging up the old volcano's forested wall to its rim, and gazing for the first or fifth time at the lush lands and their inhabitants in the crater below, is a great moment in any traveller's life.





We'll descend to the crater and excitedly roam from morning to afternoon, stopping at mid-day for a charmingly luxurious bush lunch, before heading back to a serene evening at the Manor.

Now we encounter Lake Manyara. Africa is blessed with epic lakes (Tanganyika is the world's second deepest; all the Rift Lakes are gigantic stunners), but many, including Ernest Hemingway, consider the smaller gem of Lake Manyara—with its diamond-white alkali rim, its million or so coral-coloured flamingos, and the deep sapphire waters at its centre—the loveliest of all. After a relaxed (or active) morning at the Manor, we'll embark on a fine afternoon of game viewing around the lake (many tree-climbing lions frequent Manyara's

Africa-embodiment scrublands, mahogany forests, and bird-thronged marshlands). And after cocktails and canapés in the bush, we head back to the Manor for a final night before venturing to another masterpiece, the Serengeti.

#### DAYS 11 & 12 *The Serengeti*

We feel much the same way about the Serengeti as we do about Ngorongoro, and if you'd like to read some praiseful prose about it, flip back to pretty much the same pages we referenced above.

We'll make far-ranging game drives in the Serengeti based from the stunningly deluxe *Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti*, elevated above the great plain, giving us vast, endlessly stimulating views.

#### **Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

*African Splendour* can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. Extensions: a balloon flight in the Mara will pay lasting dividends in the form of warm memories. Victoria Falls, Zanzibar, and a visit with mountain gorillas are other possibilities. All this and more pops up on pages 152-159.

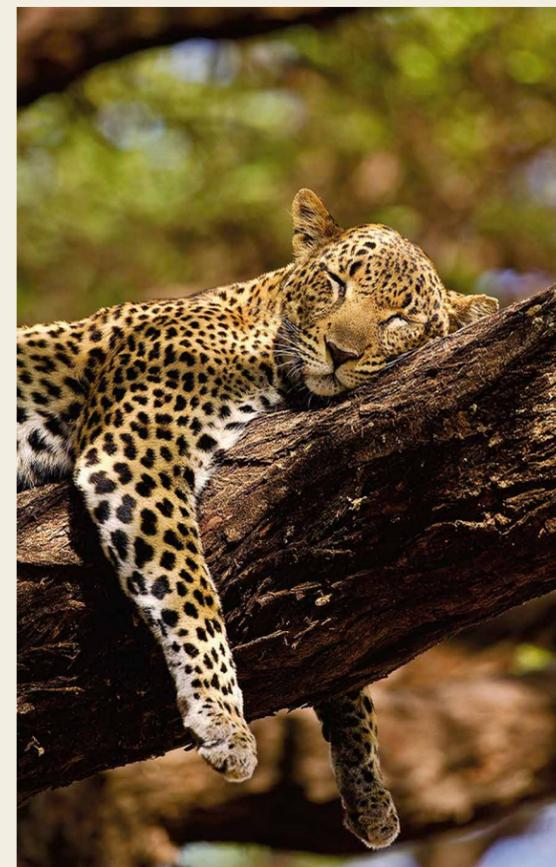
#### DAYS 13-15 *The Maasai Mara*

Leaving the Serengeti, we fly via Arusha and Nairobi to the Maasai Mara, the northern, more verdant section of the single most salubrious wildlife habitat on this or any known planet, the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem.

Game drives in the Mara are especially fruitful... Our Mara headquarters is Sir Richard Branson's *Mahali Mzuri*, whose innovatively designed, yet very African tents "resemble the tents of our youth like a Gulfstream G650 resembles a Piper Cub," as we said a while back. Mzuri is auspiciously set next to one of the Mara's prime migration pathways.

#### DAYS 16 & 17 *Nairobi and flights home*

After flying back to Nairobi, we'll visit the Micato-AmericaShare Harambee Centre in the afternoon, relax in a day room at the *Norfolk* or *Boma Nairobi*, have a quiet dinner, and head out to nearby Jomo Kenyatta Airport for our late evening flights home, where we arrive, tired but exalted, on Day 17 of this mightily spirited safari.



#### Tariff 2019

##### Full Safari Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May      | Dec. 15-31 | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------|------------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$19,300 | \$24,300   | \$22,900        |
| Single Supplement          | 4,100    | 8,000      | 5,700           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 3,200    | 3,300      | 3,300           |

##### East Africa Only Land arrangements, per person

|                            | May      | Dec. 15-31 | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------|------------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$13,350 | \$15,650   | \$16,650        |
| Single Supplement          | 2,350    | 3,650      | 3,650           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 1,600    | 1,700      | 1,700           |

(Cape Town / Johannesburg / Victoria Falls / Nairobi / Lake Manyara / Serengeti / Maasai Mara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

Business class supplements are available for some segments.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**Make this a Private Classic Safari:** Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.



#### 2019 Dates

17 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Thursday, returns Saturday  
Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 03 - Jan. 19 | May 16 - June 01  | Aug. 01 - Aug. 17   | Oct. 17 - Nov. 02 |
| Jan. 10 - Jan. 26 | May 23 - June 08  | Aug. 08 - Aug. 24   | Oct. 24 - Nov. 09 |
| Jan. 17 - Feb. 02 | May 30 - June 15  | Aug. 15 - Aug. 31   | Oct. 31 - Nov. 16 |
| Jan. 24 - Feb. 09 | June 06 - June 22 | Aug. 22 - Sept. 07  | Nov. 07 - Nov. 23 |
| Jan. 31 - Feb. 16 | June 13 - June 29 | Aug. 29 - Sept. 14  | Nov. 14 - Nov. 30 |
| Feb. 07 - Feb. 23 | June 20 - July 06 | Sept. 05 - Sept. 21 | Nov. 21 - Dec. 07 |
| Feb. 14 - Mar. 02 | June 27 - July 13 | Sept. 12 - Sept. 28 | Nov. 28 - Dec. 14 |
| Feb. 21 - Mar. 09 | July 04 - July 20 | Sept. 19 - Oct. 05  | Dec. 05 - Dec. 21 |
| Feb. 28 - Mar. 16 | July 11 - July 27 | Sept. 26 - Oct. 12  | Dec. 12 - Dec. 28 |
| Mar. 07 - Mar. 23 | July 18 - Aug. 03 | Oct. 03 - Oct. 19   | Dec. 19 - Jan. 04 |
| May 09 - May 25   | July 25 - Aug. 10 | Oct. 10 - Oct. 26   | Dec. 26 - Jan. 11 |

#### 2020 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Saturday, returns Monday  
New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 04 - Jan. 20 | May 23 - June 08  | Aug. 08 - Aug. 24   | Oct. 24 - Nov. 09 |
| Jan. 11 - Jan. 27 | May 30 - June 15  | Aug. 15 - Sept. 31  | Oct. 31 - Nov. 16 |
| Jan. 18 - Feb. 03 | June 06 - June 22 | Aug. 22 - Sept. 07  | Nov. 07 - Nov. 23 |
| Jan. 25 - Feb. 10 | June 13 - June 29 | Aug. 29 - Sept. 14  | Nov. 14 - Nov. 30 |
| Feb. 01 - Feb. 17 | June 20 - July 06 | Sept. 05 - Sept. 21 | Nov. 21 - Dec. 07 |
| Feb. 08 - Feb. 24 | June 27 - July 13 | Sept. 12 - Sept. 28 | Nov. 28 - Dec. 14 |
| Feb. 15 - Mar. 02 | July 04 - July 20 | Sept. 19 - Oct. 05  | Dec. 05 - Dec. 21 |
| Feb. 22 - Mar. 09 | July 11 - July 27 | Sept. 26 - Oct. 12  | Dec. 12 - Dec. 28 |
| Feb. 29 - Mar. 16 | July 18 - Aug. 03 | Oct. 03 - Oct. 19   | Dec. 19 - Jan. 04 |
| May 07 - May 23   | July 25 - Aug. 10 | Oct. 10 - Oct. 26   | Dec. 26 - Jan. 11 |
| May 16 - June 01  | Aug. 01 - Aug. 17 | Oct. 17 - Nov. 02   |                   |



# MICATO Lodges and Camps

Nothing comes as more of a surprise to first-time visitors to Africa than the luxury, serenity, and romance of its lodges and camps. Tributes to these delightful lodgings appear throughout this brochure, along with testimony to our long, hearty relationships with them.

Here are some of the extraordinary East Africa properties Micato has chosen for its Classic, Private Classic, and Custom journeys. (For more Custom lodges and camps, see [Micato.com](http://Micato.com).)

*East Africa*

## Neptune Mara Rianta Luxury Camp

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

Nestled in original—hence ancient—bush and riverside forests, Neptune Mara Rianta's 20 luxurious tents directly overlook the Mara River, which winds itself around the camp with gently flowing waters, nurturing abundant wildlife, including—to our ongoing glee—large pods of hippos. The camp is built to ease and invigorate, with al fresco lunches, massages at the Mvua African Rain Spa, evening barbecues around the pool, and cultural activities with the local Maasai.



Neptune Mara Rianta Luxury Camp

Olare Mara Kempinski



## Olare Mara Kempinski

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

A small luxury tented camp in the grand, century-old Kempinski tradition, Olare Mara is beautifully set in riverine forest on the banks of the Ntiakitiak River, an ideal place to watch elephants bathing and hippos lazing. Olare's tents, built on airy wooden platforms, feature a large lounge area furnished with sofas and large pillows on which to unwind after a game drive or just for the fun of it.

Angama Mara



## Angama Mara

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

On the edge of the Great Rift Valley, Angama Mara embraces its enviable perch with modern, elevated tented suites, whose 36-foot-wide floor-to-ceiling glass frontages bestow heavenly views of the Mara. From our private wooden deck we might take our butler-proffered coffee at sunrise before our Maasai naturalist escorts us on a memorable walking safari to explore the miles of wilderness at our doorstep.

## Fairmont Mara Safari Club

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

Surrounded on three sides by the bustling Mara River, on the edge of the great game lands of the Maasai Mara, the Fairmont Mara Safari Club is an exemplar of tented charm. Named a Top 20 Luxury Resort by *Travel+Leisure*, the Fairmont hosts a number of fine dining, safari, and outdoor activities. With four-poster, pillow-top beds and a veranda overlooking the hippo- and crocodile-filled river, each of the 50 tents at Fairmont Mara Safari Club is superbly and comprehensively furnished.



Kichwa Tembo



Fairmont Mara Safari Club

## Kichwa Tembo

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

Set in a lush riverine forest in the midst of a game-rich private conservancy, Kichwa's tented suites are modern and elegant. Each has a private deck overlooking what we think is one of Kenya's most stunning landscapes (which is saying a very lot), and the camp's pool, airy main lodge, and exceptional service add luster to Kichwa's terrific reputation.

Bateleur Camp

## Bateleur Camp

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

A sister property of Kichwa Tembo, Bateleur epitomizes tented luxury. The camp's setting is exquisite, nestled among the forests on the edge of the Maasai Mara (quite near where the final scene of *Out of Africa* was filmed). Lavishly appointed tents, each looked after by a butler,\* feature polished wooden floors, en-suite bathrooms with glass-walled showers, and private decks.

\* *Butler* is one of those words that remind us of East Africa's British colonial past. Some prefer room attendant, or something a little less highfalutin. But these fine-fellows-by-any-name are there to make sure your every need is cheerfully met.





Mara Plains Camp

## Mara Plains Camp

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

Located in a spectacularly predator-rich area of the Mara, Mara Plains is an intimate escape, with seven tents in a vast private conservancy. Sweeping savannah views dominate the lusciously appointed marquis tents that create the lounge, dining room, and library. Unique octagonal guest tents are raised on decks with floor-to-ceiling net walls. Combined with night game drives, nature walks, and unrivalled access to superior wildlife, Mara Plains Camp presents a remarkable bush experience.



Sala's Camp

## Sala's Camp

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

Sala's Camp, in the wild, southern reaches of the Maasai Mara, near the Serengeti, is deeply private—only seven stunningly-crafted luxury tents, each with its own winsome plunge pool—and it's one of the first camps in Kenya to witness the Mara-Serengeti's prodigious Great Migration. The Mara, of course, teems with wildlife throughout the year, and Sala's, near the animal-attracting confluence of the Sand and Keekorok Rivers, is marvelously situated for extraordinarily rewarding game drives.

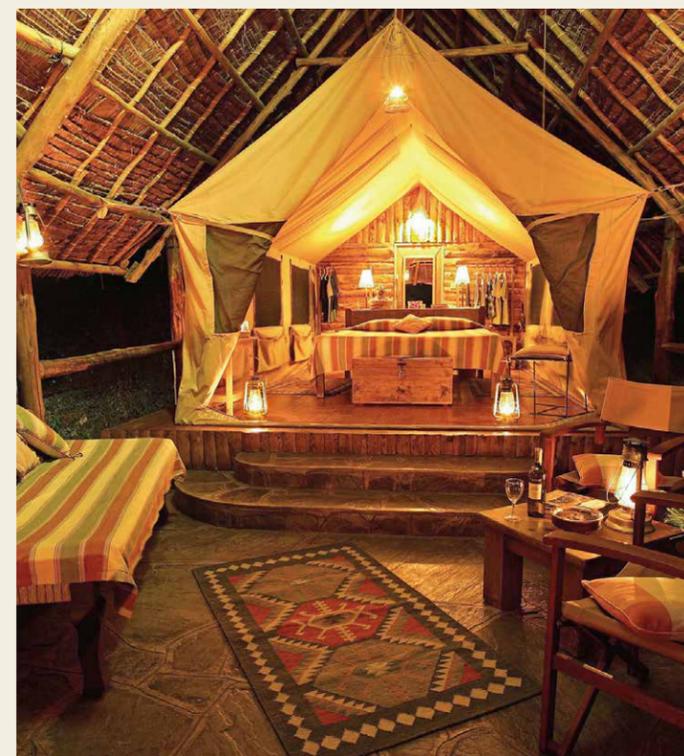
Ol Tukai Lodge



## Ol Tukai Lodge

AMBOSELI, KENYA

Ol Tukai Lodge abounds in classic views of elephants strolling beneath Mount Kilimanjaro, whose ice cap Kenya-born writer Edmund Morris describes as "floating like a bubble, its lower slopes dissolving into blue." Ol Tukai's dedication to eco-awareness is reflected in its imaginatively designed rooms graced with astutely chosen original African art. A favourite guest pastime is a restorative dip in the gorgeous acacia-shaded pool.



Tortilis Camp

## Tortilis Camp

AMBOSELI, KENYA

Kilimanjaro looms above, glamorous beasts gather at the water hole nearby, and the essence of Africa slowly works its magic. Tortilis is in many ways the archetype of an African tented camp. Its 16 classically designed tents, secluded under the acacia trees that give the camp its name, blend soothing comfort and rustic style. Tortilis grows its own vegetables and herbs, and our meals there are especially vibrant and delicious.

## Mahali Mzuri

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

The inspired creation of Sir Richard Branson, Mahali Mzuri is a state-of-the-art tented camp whose futuristic, fabulously comfortable and innovative—yet very African—tents resemble the tents of our youth like a Gulfstream G650 resembles a Piper Cub. The camp, graced with an infinity pool and a wealth of Bransonesque touches, is located next to one of the Mara's prime game-viewing areas, much frequented during the great migration.

Governors' Il Moran Camp



## Governors' Il Moran Camp

MAASAI MARA, KENYA

Luxurious yet homey, Governors' Il Moran nestles in a serene forest, and its 10 superbly crafted tents line the Mara River, giving us a fascinating, ongoing story line: elephants and rare small cats, galumphing hippos and delicate birds throng to the water, playing, drinking, relaxing, unconcerned by our rapt attention. Breakfast and lunch at Il Moran are served under giant evergreens on the riverbanks, and dinner is served by candlelight in the open dining tent or al fresco by the river: just a couple of examples of the camp's romantic aura.



Mahali Mzuri

## Hemingways Nairobi

NAIROBI, KENYA

Set in lush gardens in the pacific Nairobi suburb of Karen, Hemingways has created an excited stir in East Africa's travel world. Its 45 gorgeous rooms, each honouring an African luminary, are unmatched in their intelligent, gentle luxury. Hemingways' common rooms are reminiscent of English stately homes, yet with an African flavour. And its restaurants, designed by Michelin star-winning Barry Tonks, have quickly entranced the capital's gastronomic community.

Hemingways Nairobi



Ol Donyo Lodge

## Ol Donyo Lodge

CHYULU HILLS, KENYA

Set amidst 275,000 acres of rolling wilderness with inspiring views of Kilimanjaro, Ol Donyo Lodge is a supreme experience. We explore this enchanting landscape by foot, mountain bike, or horseback and view wildlife in a four-by-four or at close range in Ol Donyo's unique "logjam" blind. The lodge features 10 exquisite, individually designed suites; all feature combinations of private pools and verandas, sitting rooms, and an indulgent treat: private rooftop star beds.

Campi ya Kanzi



## Campi ya Kanzi

CHYULU HILLS, KENYA

Owners Luca and Antonella Belpietro are warm-hearted hosts, and the unique partnership between this dynamic Italian couple and a conservation-conscious Maasai community has resulted in a stunning camp, constructed entirely of local materials, with luxe touches and grand style imported from Italy. Walking safaris, game drives, and sundowners in wildly spectacular settings with the Belpietros make for an unforgettable stay. A personal favourite of the Pinto family, Campi ya Kanzi is a true ever-memorable and bright gem.

## Elsa's Kopje

MERU NATIONAL PARK, KENYA

The *Daily Telegraph* calls Elsa's Kopje "heaven for romantics," and for good reason. Named for the camp where George Adamson raised and released orphan lions (those of a certain age will remember Elsa from the movie *Born Free*), Elsa's Kopje is sculpted into Mughwango Hill in the heart of Meru. Each cottage is crafted around Mughwango's rocks, with a large bedroom, open sitting room, veranda and spacious bathroom, and vast, varied, and heartlifting African views.



Elsa's Kopje

Larsens Camp



## Larsens Camp

SAMBURU, KENYA

Another beloved classic, Larsens Camp is bordered on one side by the life-giving Ewaso Nyiro River and on the other side by nothing but pristine nature. Larsens' 20 ample tents are bathed with light and excitement at sunrise. Each tent stands on a plinth of natural stone, and all have en-suite bathrooms and are designed and decorated in a delightfully chic safari style.

Elephant Bedroom Camp

## Elephant Bedroom Camp

SAMBURU, KENYA

Set on a particularly lovely spot on the forested banks of the Ewaso Nyiro, a very Africa-of-our-dreams river, Elephant Bedroom Camp's 12 refreshingly airy, superbly designed tents each feature a private plunge pool in which we laze while watching the Samburu's animal citizens—including elephants, who frequently and peacefully (and perhaps with a little elephantine fascination) pass through camp—as they go to bathe and drink and play in the river.





Mount Kenya Safari Club

## Mount Kenya Safari Club

NANYUKI, KENYA

Since its inspired creation by actor William Holden and his Africa-besotted buddies, the Mount Kenya Safari Club has been an East Africa icon. Graced with magnificent views of Mount Kenya, the Safari Club is set amidst more than 100 acres of lovingly landscaped gardens. A winner of the 2013 *Travel+Leisure* Traveler's Choice Award, it is often voted one of the World's Top 50 on *T+L's* coveted list of the planet's premier hotels.

## Ol Jogi Ranch

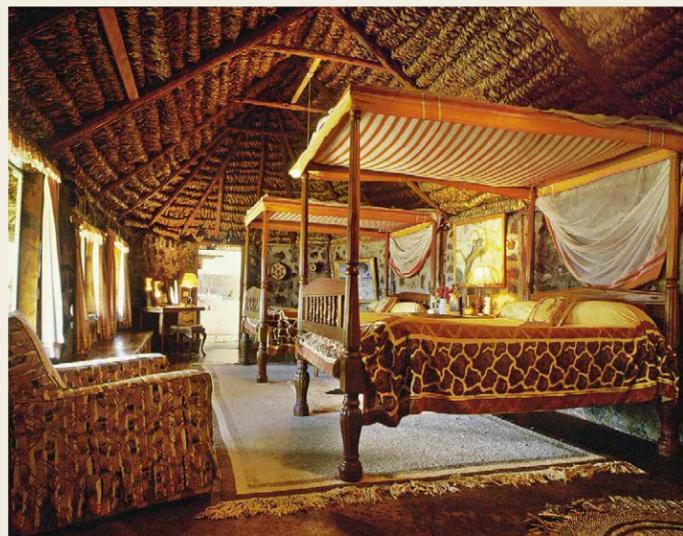
LAIKIPIA, KENYA

*Forbes* cautions guests at Ol Jogi Ranch to not get “caught up in the exquisite details,” the “Murano glass globes over lamps, the sumptuous Hermès linens, the perfectly polished Buccellati silver,” but to—not instead, but in addition—savour the vast Ranch's “enchanting...incredible and diverse” wildlife. For generations the 58,000-acre home of the Wildenstein family, Ol Jogi is quietly luxurious, stunningly situated, and welcoming in the highest African tradition.

Ol Jogi Ranch



Lewa Wilderness



## Lewa Wilderness

MOUNT KENYA, KENYA

Lovingly built in the foothills of Mount Kenya, Lewa Wilderness is the home of Will and Emma Craig, whose idyllic ranch—part of the vanguard Lewa Conservancy—has been in the family since 1922. Its eight cottages are decorated with a mixture of British coziness and safari chic. Another branch of the famous Craig family—Calum and Sophie Macfarlane—has created Lewa House in the Conservancy's heart. Its sweet hospitality and novel, luxurious Earthpods are a cause for celebration.

## Loisaba Tented Camp

LAIKIPIA, KENYA

Nestled on an escarpment overlooking the magnificent patchwork of Laikipia, Loisaba was designed to relish the breathtaking views. Spacious, airy tents have floor-to-ceiling doors and windows, polished floors and minimalist but sophisticated Africana furnishings. Horse and camel rides, bush walks, Samburu village visits and more await as we explore the Loisaba Conservancy quite literally in our backyard.



Loisaba Tented Camp

Lewa Safari Camp



## Lewa Safari Camp

LAIKIPIA, KENYA

High up on the Laikipia Plateau, graced with unendingly various views of Mount Kenya, Lewa is classically airy and simply, easefully luxurious. The camp delights with its 11 thatched roof tents, each with a modern en suite bathroom and a large private veranda overlooking one of the continent's most vibrant African landscapes.

Segera Retreat

## Segera Retreat

LAIKIPIA, KENYA

Set up on the Laikipia Plateau, presided over by Mount Kenya, the Segera Retreat is a lush oasis whose raised timber and thatch villas look out expansively at the surrounding savannah. A large bedroom and en-suite bathroom occupy each villa's upper floor; a sun deck and jacuzzi in the private garden offer comfortable lounging and post-game drive relaxing. All of Segera's villas are graced with expertly chosen original African artwork.

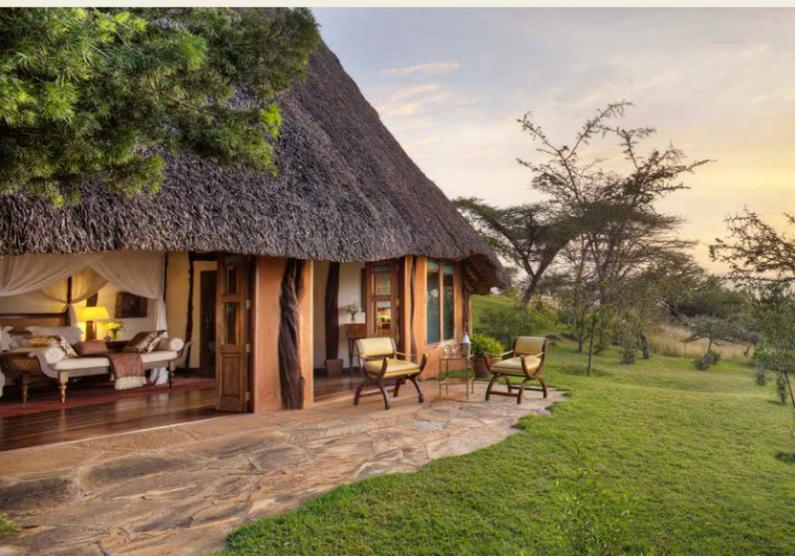


## Solio Lodge

LAIKIPIA, KENYA

Tucked away between the gently, then dramatically rising slopes of Mount Kenya and the Aberdare Mountains, Solio Lodge combines the exclusivity of a private ranch with a seldom-rivalled wildlife experience. This modern lodge and its six lavishly decorated cottages are located on the Solio Game Reserve, home to a healthy group of endangered black and white rhino who live in placid rhinocerean harmony with the normal (and therefore uniquely wondrous) East African animal populace.

Kifaru House



Solio Lodge

## Kifaru House

LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY, KENYA

At the cutting edge of conservation and sustainability, the much-revered Lewa Conservancy is famed for its rigorously protected white and black rhinos, along with its full repertoire of free-ranging African beasts. And Kifaru House's main lodge and five charming thatched cottages are splendid, intimate, and scenic places (glorious Mount Kenya rises just to the south) for a quintessential African experience.

Mwiba Lodge



## Lewa House

LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY, KENYA

One of the gems of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Lewa Conservancy, wonderfully homey Lewa House is the creation of a young family with deep African roots. Sophie's family, the Craigs, have lived for five generations in Lewa, and now share it with the world. Calum is a highly accredited guide and zoologist, and their two kids, well, they're growing up in a natural Eden, and we're privileged to join them for a true African idyll.



Lewa House

## Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti

SERENGETI, TANZANIA

Already well supplied with safari-style elegance, the rebranded Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti is a delightful escape in the heart of the Serengeti. Spacious, lavishly appointed rooms feature original artwork and private decks. We browse the art gallery, luxuriate at its world-class spa, and lounge in the infinity pool while watching wildlife drink at the nearby water hole. Private ranger and butler services make this heavenly African experience yet more luxurious.

Grumeti Serengeti Tented Camp



## Mwiba Lodge

SERENGETI, TANZANIA

Perched on a bouldery, tree-shaded kopje overlooking a river gorge, Mwiba is a little island of serene civilization and luxury in the midst of an even more serene natural wonder, the vast, golden, animal-thronged plain of the Serengeti. Its ten tented suites (two of them adjoining for family safariers) are superbly equipped, and well situated to capture the Serengeti's epic sunsets and sunrises.

## Grumeti Serengeti Tented Camp

SERENGETI, TANZANIA

Chic and elegant, Grumeti's 10 luxe tents feature modern, earthy interiors of African fabrics and locally sculpted furnishings, as well as al fresco showers open to the sun and stars. Winingly, the camp sits on the edge of an oxbow lake bustling with hippos.

## Serengeti Sopa Lodge

SERENGETI, TANZANIA

Magnificently styled after a traditional Maasai *manyatta*, or village, Sopa Lodge fits in with the Serengeti's sun-bleached colours; floor-to-ceiling windows bring the spectacle of the savannah into the lodge, and guest suites contain private sitting areas and balconies opening over the "warm ocean of life" that is the Serengeti.

Serengeti Sopa Lodge



Ngorongoro Crater Lodge

## Ngorongoro Crater Lodge

NGORONGORO, TANZANIA

Set on the forested rim of the great and mind-spinningly grand Ngorongoro caldera, Crater Lodge is one of three comely and distinct lodges we favour at this site-of-all-sites. Crater Lodge's suites are perched on stilts, providing airy views down into the Lost World. And they're decorated exuberantly, with banana-leaf ceilings and carved Zanzibar wall paneling.

Migration Camp



## Migration Camp

SERENGETI, TANZANIA

Perched alluringly on a kopje above the rolling hills and plains of the Serengeti, Migration Camp is a haven of sumptuousness amidst the raw splendour of the surrounding bush. Its roomy tents are superbly secluded and blend in with their site above the Grumeti River. Migration Camp's split-level lounge, cigar bar, restaurants, and swimming pool remind us of what it's pleasant to think of as the delightfully, almost innocently decadent days of the past.

## Singita Lodges and Camps

THROUGHOUT TANZANIA

Singita is a name synonymous with African authenticity and imaginative, soothing luxury, in Tanzania as in South Africa (see page 144). We enthusiastically send Custom safariers to Singita's varied lodges and tented camps such as Sasakwa Lodge, Sabora Tented Camp, Faru Faru Lodge, Serengeti House, the marvelous mobile Explore Camp in the Grumeti Reserves, and Mara River Tented Camp in Lamai.

Neptune Ngorongoro Luxury Lodge



Singita Sasakwa Lodge

## Neptune Ngorongoro Luxury Lodge

NGORONGORO, TANZANIA

Smartly, strategically placed in 50 acres of lush, untrammled Tanzanian bush a short drive from Ngorongoro's rim, the lodge features deliciously private luxury log cabin suites kitted out with stunning modern wooden floors and furnishings, an open fireplace, and a private viewing terrace for taking in the transcendent early-morning radiance of Tanzania's highlands.

The Manor at Ngorongoro

## The Manor at Ngorongoro

NGORONGORO, TANZANIA

South of the glorious crater within a lush coffee estate, the Manor blends refined European touches and farmhouse chic. Private, stand-alone cottage suites with adjoining sun terraces are floored with sleek parquet and tile, accented by impeccable wooden furnishings as well as double open-fronted fireplaces. Favourite pastimes here include exploring the estate by horseback, mountain biking the Manor's hills or surrendering to a deep-tissue massage.



## Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

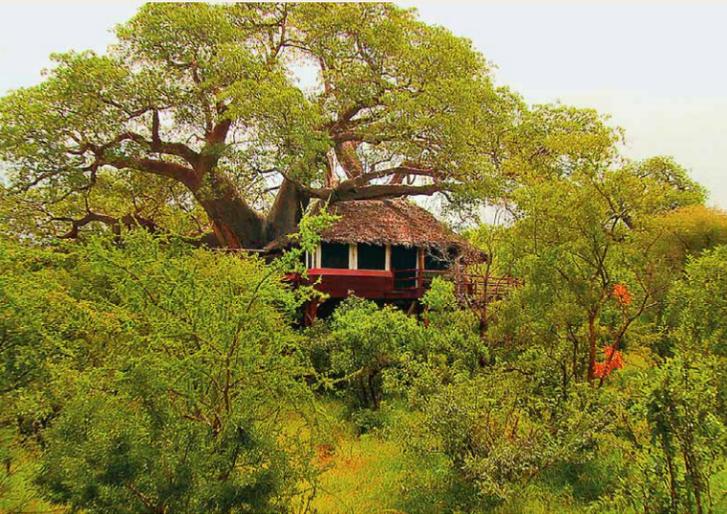
NGORONGORO, TANZANIA

Also set on the crater's rim, Sopa is an architectural marvel. Its suites include a large solarium overlooking the crater, and the lodge's overall design reflects the vastness of the Africa bush; huge walls of glass—in both the public areas and the stylishly decorated guest suites—frame and bring into the heart of the lodge ever-surprising views of the Ngorongoro Crater and its luminous sunsets.



Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

Tarangire Treetops

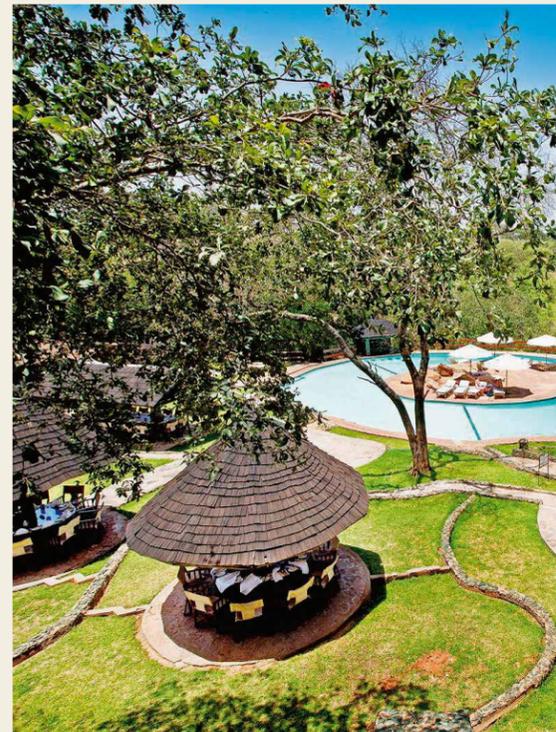


## Tarangire Treetops

TARANGIRE, TANZANIA

The main lodge encircles a baobab tree, but that's just one Treetops fascination: every marvelous tree house boasts one of the largest bedrooms to be found in any camp or lodge in East Africa. Each features an exotic double shower in its en-suite bathroom, furnishings that demonstrate a commitment to fine local craftsmanship, and an open-fronted room design affording views across the Tarangire plains from an expansive balcony.

Tarangire Sopa Lodge



## Tarangire Sopa Lodge

TARANGIRE, TANZANIA

Built to blend in with its vast and beautiful surroundings, Tarangire Sopa Lodge is hidden among the kopjes, ancient baobabs, and grasses of Tarangire National Park—home to the greatest concentration of elephants in Africa (many of whom can be seen around the lodge, affording us close, respectful encounters). Tarangire Sopa's rooms—each with a private-entry lounge and mini-bar—are unusually spacious and refreshingly open to the pristine Tarangire air.

## Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge

PARC NATIONAL DES VOLCANS, RWANDA

Due east of here, on page 154 we say that visiting with the famous and carefully protected mountain gorillas of the Parc des Volcans is “something you’ll want to tell your grandchildren’s children about.” Micato is delighted to use the lovely Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge’s six stone cottages, its two suites, and its grand family suite, as a staging point for “rare, beautiful, and often very moving” encounters with our magnificent near-relatives.



Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge



Xanadu Villas and Retreat

## Xanadu Villas and Retreat

ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA

We think the fabled Spice Island of Zanzibar is an ideal pre- or post-safari stop, rich in R&R of the sublimest sort, and the Xanadu meets our expectations for relaxation, rest, and some of the scenic and historic spice for which the island is famous. Its six spectacularly-designed villas surround a large pool area, and a private beach on the warm waters of the Indian Ocean is only steps away.

Bisate Lodge



## Bisate Lodge

PARC NATIONAL DES VOLCANS, RWANDA

Graced by towering views of the jungle volcanos from which the park takes its name—they’re higher, as we say, than “any Rocky or Sierra Nevada”—Bisate is a sumptuous gateway to heart-stirring meetings with the Parc des Volcans’ mountain gorillas. Intimate, very African in feel, the lodge’s six brightly decorated suites were designed for comfort, immersion in this natural wonderland, and for state-of-the-art sustainability.

# *Southern Africa*

*So geographers  
in Afric-maps . . .*

*Place elephants for want of towns.*

—Jonathan Swift, *On Poetry: A Rhapsody*



# MICATO Custom Safaris

It's a joy for us to create a Custom Safari from the ground up—a virtuoso safari painstakingly tailored to your passions and interests, your schedule and budget, your inclinations and dreams. This is our art. Over on pages 53-57 we go into detail about the Custom idea and offer some Custom Safari themes. Here we offer a few more, with an emphasis on Southern Africa.

But, as we say, the bottom line on Custom Safaris is that there isn't any. Micato's Custom Safari designers are ready to construct just about every imaginable type of safari, from a highly focussed journey (for a group of friends who want to concentrate on photographing lions in the Sabi Sand, let's say); to short but unhurried (or long and active) safaris to a particular lodge/camp or place; to fabulously luxurious, wide-ranging safaris.

## *Southern Africa*



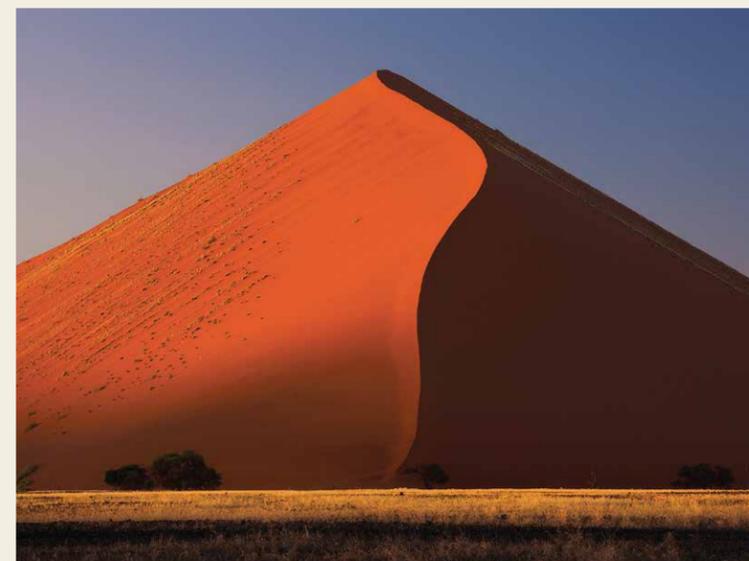
# Custom Ideas and Inspirations

We're happy to honour Cape Town with many words of praise, beginning about four pages to the right of here. A quick glance, and you'll see why some of our most popular custom journeys in Southern Africa centre around **Cape Town**, from the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront to the misty heights of Table Mountain, and out into the soothing and good-spiritedly posh Cape Winelands. Natural historians are entranced by Cape Town's 31 nature reserves; enthusiastic diners-out revel in the city's marvelous and varied cuisines; and people who love lively and lovely places rank Cape Town and its environs high on their All-Earth list.

Of all the world's endorheic basins, the Okavango Delta is without dissent the most beautiful and inviting to our—and, luckily, many other equally interesting—species. Now, *endorheic* isn't a very pretty word, but the Okavango (like all other such basins, formed when a river or rivers can't find a route to the sea)



is—as we say on page 131 of *Botswana's Timeless Wilderness*—not only extremely beautiful, it's rather *miraculously* beautiful. We know the Okavango intimately (and we know Botswana's Moremi and Chobe regions, and the Okavango's neighbor, the Kalahari Desert, just as well). So we can create a **Custom Okavango Adventure Safari** that will immerse you intimately and comfortably in this fabulous place.



If you've talked with someone who's been there, you've surely heard rapturous things about Namibia. We and our guests have been exploring this scenically spectacular country for a while now. Some of Namibia's fascinatingly designed lodges and camps (see pages 150 and 151) are worthy rivals of East and Southern Africa's absolute best. Its conservation ethic is sterling, its massive dunes are the planet's largest by a long shot, and its famed Skeleton Coast and seemingly limitless expanses of gorgeous, expressive desert are all open to exploration on a **Custom Namibia Safari**.

# MICATO Classic Safaris

The four Southern African Classic Safaris that follow are carefully crafted, dexterously orchestrated reflections of our long experience in (and deep affection for) Southern Africa's diverse delights. Other than that fancy bit of horn blowing, they need little introduction—except perhaps to remind you of a few Classic matters.

## *Southern Africa*



We design our Classic Safaris to be as non-groupy as group trips can be. Groups are small—from a maximum of 12 to as few as 2.

We have *never* cancelled a safari. That's why your group may be quite small. At the end of each safari's description, you'll see a long list of departure dates. So: if you sign up for the August 17 departure of *Botswana's Timeless Wilderness*, it will proceed seamlessly even if you and your spouse—or family or friends you're safairing with—are the only guests.

It may seem a small thing, but veteran travellers know what a relief it is to be freed from the nagging concern about tipping. And so Micato

has instituted an across-the-board policy: *no tipping*, anytime, anywhere, on any Micato safari. Not even the traditionally substantial gratuities to Safari Directors and Driver Guides. Plus: all your meals are included, everywhere, all the time. And all portorage fees, park fees—any and all fees are paid.

Every Classic Safari with more than six guests features a series of professional Safari Directors who will travel with you at all times within their countries. In addition, our Concierge Service will be at your beck and call, all day and night, throughout your safari.

*We go into more detail about these and other Micato Differences on pages 18–33.*

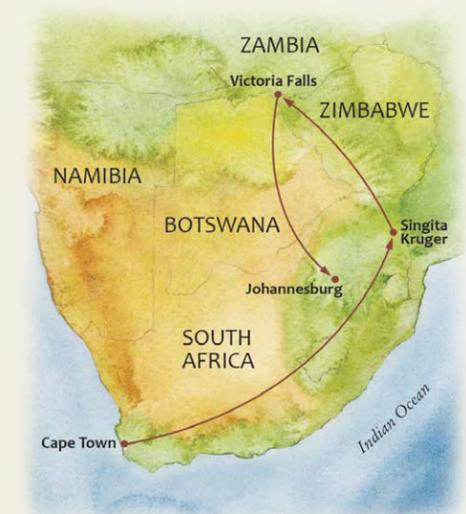


# THE TRAVEL+LEISURE WORLD'S BEST SAFARI

13 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Cape Town and Johannesburg

We're fans of *Travel+Leisure's* annual Best in the World polls. (Admittedly, we're just a bit prejudiced, having been voted World's Best Safari Outfitter by *T+L* a record nine times.) So a few years ago we decided to honour *Travel+Leisure* and its readers by creating an all-star safari that sets down at some of Africa's best hotels, as consistently recognized by the magazine (and by our happy guests).

We begin with four nights in Cape Town's "knockout" One&Only, a resort of "outsize luxury" on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and a superb base for explorations in this most cosmopolitan of cities and its varied, magnificent environs. Then comes a splendid four nights in the bush at Singita Lebombo or Singita Sweni Lodge—both much-admired, both located in Kruger National Park, and two of the finest and most intelligently designed lodges on the continent. We end with a perennial favourite, the famed Royal Livingstone, where mist from nearby Victoria Falls freshens our day.



*Haste, haste has  
no blessing.*

—Swahili proverb



DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2–5 *Cape Town and environs*

“The whole town,” Captain Cook wrote in 1771 about Cape Town, “may be consider’d as one great Inn fitted up for the recreation of all comers and goers.” The great voyager may as well have been writing this week: Cape Town is one of the world’s jazziest, most fascinatingly multicultural and downright beautiful cities, a magnet for discerning

\* The Cape Floristic Region, which we’ll be amidst, is far and away the smallest of the world’s six recognized floristic kingdoms or phytochorions. It’s the only earthly abode of more than 6,000 vascular plant species. The long and short of it: the CFR is a guaranteed pulse-raising wonderland for nature lovers.

Aerial Cableway, a spectacular bit of engineering in service to an even more spectacular view. We’ll spend a little heart-lifting time helping out

at one of Micato-AmericaShare’s programmes for Cape Town’s less fortunate. And we’ll wander out to the Cape Winelands for tastings and relaxed meals at places like the sublime Delaire Graff and Waterford Wine Estates. The Winelands charms us with brisk and picture-pretty little towns, a variety of refreshing activities, and lovely scenery reminiscent of Northern California’s Wine Country (except the craggy mountains that shoot up from its vineyards make Sonoma and Napa’s look rather modest in comparison). And we’ll head over to the Cape of Good Hope, around which much of the world’s history once turned, and which a dissimilar cohort of creatures—including penguins, zebras, and ostriches—happily call home.\*



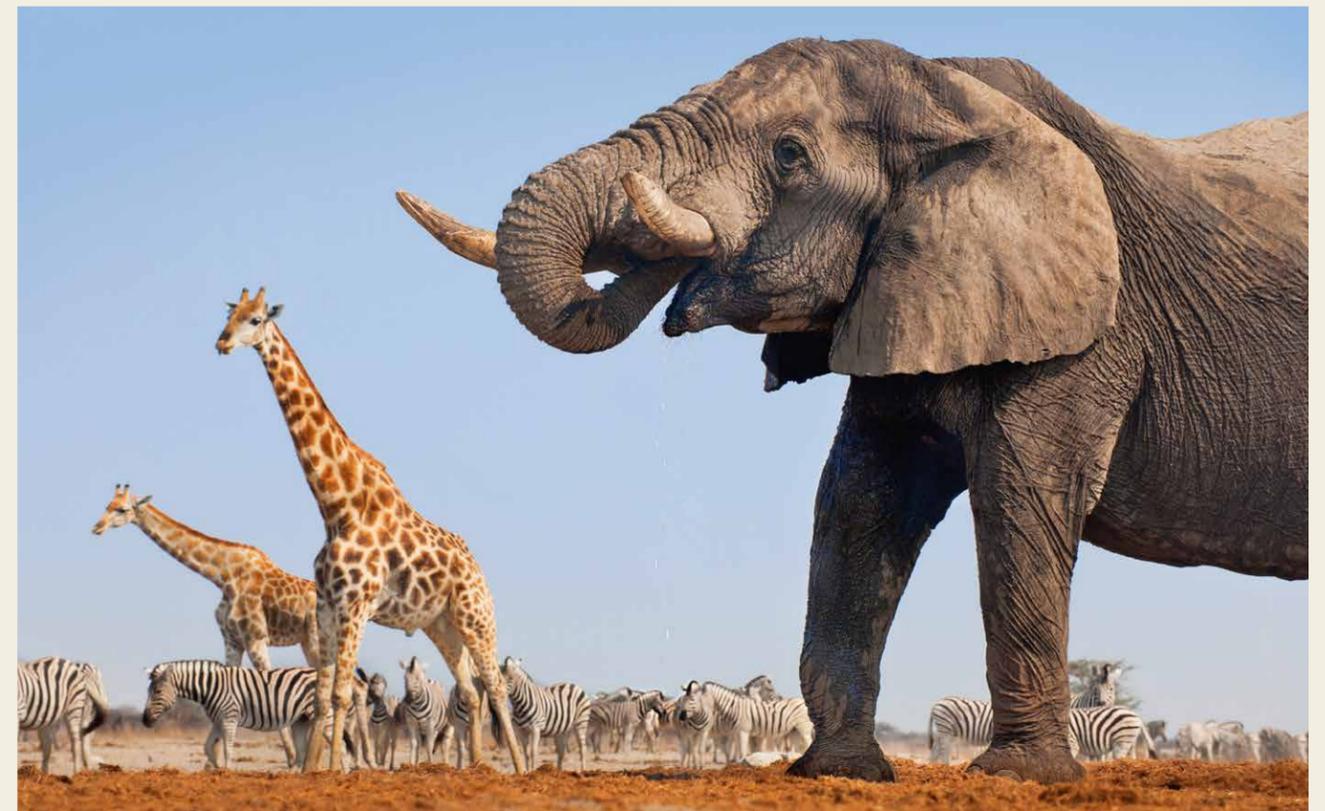
DAYS 6–9 *Singita Kruger National Park*

Singita’s concession in talismanic Kruger was granted in 2001 in recognition of its fervent and effective commitment to conservation, and its dedication to creating an absolutely minimal environmental footprint. Singita’s 33,000-acre concession is an isolated haven of untroubled wilderness where a unique and species-rich wildlife population thrives across four distinct ecological zones, all of which we’ll get to know and admire during our leisurely, wonderfully extended stay. Singita Kruger’s two lodges, *Singita Lebombo* and *Singita Sweni*, were built to reflect its “touch the earth lightly” philosophy, which is entwined with every aspect of the lodges’ daily life. It is one reason these lodges are so respected and honoured—the other major reasons being their beauty and unobtrusive luxuriousness. In any case, Singita Kruger was recently voted by *Travel+Leisure* as the third-best hotel on planet Earth, an encomium that needs no expansion.



*For Micato, it’s not about luxury (though there was that to spare), it’s about authenticity. Our guides were not only magically knowledgeable about every possible thing you could want to discover about the wildlife that popped up at every turn, they were funny, human, and real.*

—Dr. Jean Marmoreo and Bob Ramsay



DAYS 10 & 11 **Victoria Falls**

“Poor Niagara,” Eleanor Roosevelt supposedly said upon viewing Brazil and Argentina’s Iguazu Falls. Had she gazed on Victoria Falls—the greatest curtain of water on earth, 60 tumultuous feet higher than its South American rival—the famously articulate First Lady might have been struck speechless. Victoria Falls is a waterfall like no other, and during our stay at the legendary **Royal Livingstone Hotel** (another perennial *T+L* best) we’ll get to know the Falls, helicoptering over them on the famed Flight of Angels, savoring early-morning, coffee-sipping views from our room’s veranda of the almost 1,000 feet of mist that rise from the watery cauldron to lazy afternoon sundowners near its dramatic precipice, contemplating what

the greatest travel writer of all time, Richard Halliburton, called “a hurricane of bursting water . . . that seems to fall *up*, not down.”

DAYS 12 & 13 **Departure**

We fly from Livingstone to Johannesburg, and on to a day room in the **InterContinental** at Johannesburg’s airport, and connect with our international flight home, arriving on Day 13.

*Most memorable was the attention to detail, the personal service and thoughtful gifts from our hosts Felix and Jane Pinto. This is what wins awards as well as loyal clients. I can honestly say that this was the finest tour my husband and I have ever taken.*

—Hannah Reinmuth, Virtuoso Travel Consultant



Singita Lebombo Lodge



**Make Your Safari a Private Classic,  
Or Add an Amazing Extension**

The *Travel+Leisure* World’s Best Safari can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. And, since once you’re on safari it’s hard to leave, you might want to extend your journey with a short trip to Rwanda to see the mountain gorillas, head over to Zanzibar for some beach safariling, or visit the grand Namibian deserts. See pages 152-159 for more ways to deepen your African experience.



**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | December 15-31 | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$24,500       | \$21,500        |
| Single Supplement          | 4,150          | 2,500           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 2,100          | 2,100           |

(Cape Town / Johannesburg / Kruger / Nelspruit / Livingstone / Johannesburg)

Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**2019 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Friday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 06 – Jan. 18 | Apr. 28 – May. 10 | July 21 – Aug. 02   | Oct. 27 – Nov. 08 |
| Jan. 13 – Jan. 25 | May 12 – May 24   | July 28 – Aug. 09   | Nov. 17 – Nov. 29 |
| Jan. 27 – Feb. 08 | May 19 – May 31   | Aug. 11 – Aug. 23   | Nov. 22 – Dec. 04 |
| Feb. 10 – Feb. 22 | May 26 – June 07  | Aug. 18 – Aug. 30   | Dec. 22 – Jan. 03 |
| Feb. 24 – Mar. 08 | June 02 – June 14 | Sept. 01 – Sept. 13 | Dec. 29 – Jan. 10 |
| Mar. 10 – Mar. 22 | June 16 – June 28 | Sept. 15 – Sept. 27 |                   |
| Mar. 24 – Apr. 05 | June 30 – July 12 | Sept. 29 – Oct. 11  |                   |
| Apr. 14 – Apr. 26 | July 14 – July 26 | Oct. 13 – Oct. 25   |                   |

**2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Friday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 05 – Jan. 17 | Apr. 26 – May. 08 | July 19 – July 31   | Oct. 25 – Nov. 06 |
| Jan. 12 – Jan. 24 | May 10 – May 22   | July 26 – Aug. 07   | Nov. 15 – Nov. 27 |
| Jan. 26 – Feb. 07 | May 17 – May 29   | Aug. 09 – Aug. 21   | Nov. 22 – Dec. 04 |
| Feb. 09 – Feb. 21 | May 24 – June 05  | Aug. 16 – Aug. 28   | Dec. 20 – Jan. 01 |
| Feb. 23 – Mar. 06 | May 31 – June 12  | Aug. 30 – Sept. 11  | Dec. 27 – Jan. 08 |
| Mar. 08 – Mar. 20 | June 14 – June 26 | Sept. 13 – Sept. 25 |                   |
| Mar. 22 – Apr. 03 | June 28 – July 10 | Sept. 27 – Oct. 09  |                   |
| Apr. 12 – Apr. 24 | July 12 – July 24 | Oct. 11 – Oct. 23   |                   |



## FROM CAPE TO DELTA

13 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Cape Town and Johannesburg

One of Africa's many magics takes place where nature at its most vivid and eloquent meets one of humanity's highest arts: soothing, beautiful, joyfully expressive luxury. We tend to think of the two as unrelated, but they aren't, as *From Cape to Delta* so enjoyably proves.

We look up to gorgeous Table Mountain from the exquisite One&Only Cape Town, and wander in lovely little towns and vineyards backdropped by regal mountains in the Winelands. And we're inspired by untroubled, unfiltered nature in Kruger National Park-adjacent Ulusaba Private Game Reserve and the storied Okavango Delta in a couple of Africa's finest luxury wilderness camps.

*I think I could turn and live with animals. . . . I stand and look at them long and long. . . . Not one is respectable or unhappy over the whole earth.*

—Walt Whitman,  
*Leaves of Grass*



DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2–5 *Cape Town and environs*

Our days in Cape Town will be eventful, another reason to savour our hotel, the *Travel+Leisure* multi-award-winning **One&Only Cape Town** on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Other reasons: One&Only's renowned spa—to which you're invited as Micato's guest; its extraordinarily attractive interior design; its dedication to graceful hospitality; and the One&Only's location on the high-spirited waterfront, complete with bang-up views of Table Bay, Devil's Peak, Signal Hill, Lion's Head, and of course Table Mountain, which may be, as David Livingstone saw it in 1841, draped "with its beautiful table cloth of fleecy clouds."

Over the next few days we'll take the cable car to the top of Table Mountain, which, we're told, is six times older than the Himalaya and so strikingly flat because it was overlaid long ago by an ice sheet. We don't have to be told that the iconic colossus is gorgeous and fascinating, but we may be amazed to learn that Table Mountain is home to more plant species than the entire British Isles. The whole Cape Peninsula, of which Table Mountain is just an albeit monarchical part, is as exciting and eye-boggling to lovers of flora as the Louvre is to lovers of art.

We'll take a full-day tour of the scenically sublime peninsula, visiting the lighthouse atop rocky



One&Only Cape Town

Cape Point and the ultra-consequential Cape of Good Hope, where for the past 500 years European sailors finally turn left, toward the hoped-for riches of the East. We'll visit Cape penguins in their daily rounds, ramble in Victorian-flavoured Simon's Town, and at dinner tonight we'll be treated to thrilling South African interactive drumming, which must be seen and heard to be believed, and which will make true, bedazzled believers of us. And we'll revel in a full-day ramble in the Cape Winelands, visiting wineries like Ernie Els Wines and the four-generation Kanonkop Wine Estate, visiting shiny Dutch-heritage towns like Stellenbosch and Franschhoek and lazily



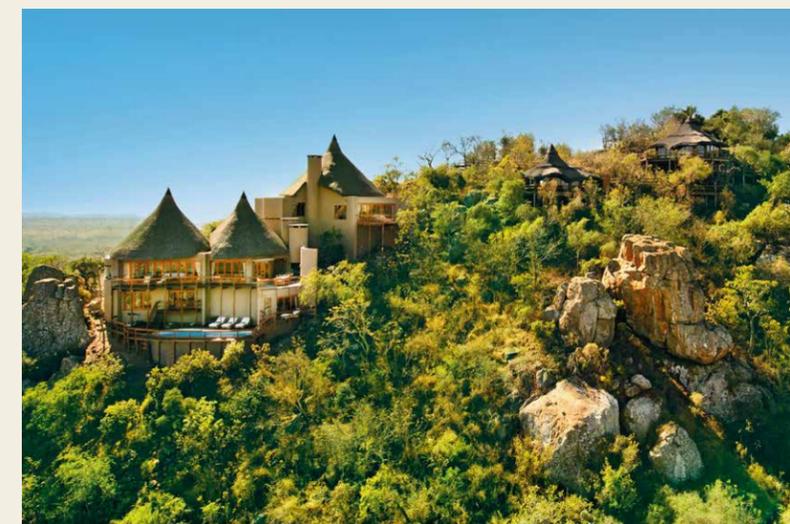
lunching at the toweringly regarded Delaire Graff Estate restaurant.

And during our stay we'll dine in the home of Micato's Capetonian friends and hosts, great purveyors of welcome and lore, and we'll pay an interactive visit to one of Micato-AmericaShare's projects in Cape Town.

DAYS 6–8 *The Okavango Delta*

It's hard to be more enthusiastic about the "vast, mesmerizing oasis" of the Okavango Delta than we are just to the right of here, on page 131. Suffice to

say—until you experience it—that the Delta is in the topmost rank of world wonders (and more sweetly accommodating than most). It's true throughout wilderness Africa, but here in the Okavango our friend Seamus O'Banion's observation rings especially true: "Safari invites us into a world with just two cheerily ticking clocks. There's a little clock for wake-up and let's go on a game drive, and there's a big clock, whose smallest increment is a hundred thousand years." We fly to Johannesburg from Cape Town, then north to Maun, Botswana and then into the Delta



Ulusaba Rock Lodge

*When I first thought about taking our groups to Africa, I was told by people I respect that I should deal only with Micato Safaris. I was told not only that you were the best, but also that you were unique in your ability to transfer the warmth of your operation to everyone you touch . . . and I must say that even my very high expectations were exceeded in every way!*

—Barry Wolpa



for three nights based from one of two superb Okavango Camps, **Gomoti Plains Camp** or **Sable Alley**, both models of everything a lovely, smartly designed, nature-graced Southern, or East, or Anywhere in Africa luxury safari camp should be. We explore the incredibly lush and wildlife-rich Delta by watercraft, 4-wheel drive vehicles, and on walks with Botswana's famously enthusiastic, deeply informed guides.

#### DAY 9 **Johannesburg**

From the Delta we fly to Johannesburg, where we're whisked out to the verdantly pacific Sandhurst suburb and the **Saxon Hotel, Villas and Spa**, a halcyon retreat where Nelson Mandela finished writing his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*.

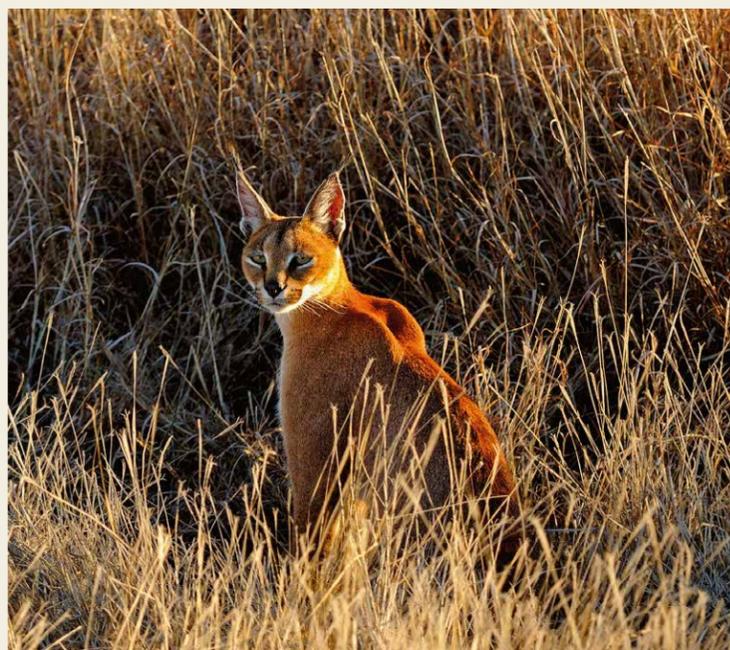
#### DAYS 10 & 11 **Ulusaba Private Game Reserve**

A morning flight takes us to one of the jewels in Sir Richard Branson's brightly plumed African crown: **Ulusaba**, marvelously ensconced in a private game reserve adjacent to Kruger National Park. Our lodgings at Ulusaba are imaginatively integrated—this is a Branson property, after all—into a lush forest beside a river bed whose watering hole is highly favoured by Ulusaba's denizens. The Big Five and their equally fetching fellow fauna are in abundance in Ulusaba and Kruger, and our game

drives (between luxuriating in the lodges' wealth of amenities and exceptionally fine dining) are some of Southern Africa's most enthralling. Much like the Okavango, Ulusaba is a place where even the most mission-centered of us might conclude that our most productive use of time is an after-lunch nap before embarking on a lovely afternoon game drive topped off with sundowners looking out at golden, guileless infinity.

#### DAYS 12 & 13 **Departure**

After a morning game drive, exploring paradise one last time, we'll fly by charter aircraft to Johannesburg, connecting with our return flights home.



*Thank you again for all the unexpected wonderful gifts and surprises we received on our safari. We have proof now that Santa Claus' headquarters is in Nairobi, not the North Pole.*

—Shelly and Jim Fraser

### **Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

*From Cape to Delta* can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles, etc. And when it comes to plus-size gentleness, the mountain gorillas of Rwanda give our elephants a good, cheery contest. A visit with them, and a bunch of other well-constructed Options and Extensions, including a spectacular look at Namibia, appear on pages 152-159.

#### **Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | Jan-May  | June-Dec. 10 | Dec. 11-31 |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$13,950 | \$15,950     | \$19,450   |
| Single Supplement          | 3,950    | 4,150        | 7,950      |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 2,550    | 2,550        | 2,550      |

(Cape Town / Johannesburg / Maun / Okavango Delta / Johannesburg / Ulusaba / Johannesburg)  
Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

#### **2019 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Friday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

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| Feb. 03 – Feb. 15 | May 19 – May 31   | Aug. 18 – Aug. 30   | Nov. 03 – Nov. 15 |
| Feb. 17 – Mar. 01 | June 02 – June 14 | Aug. 25 – Sept. 06  | Nov. 17 – Nov. 29 |
| Mar. 03 – Mar. 15 | June 16 – June 28 | Sept. 08 – Sept. 20 | Dec. 15 – Dec. 27 |
| Mar. 17 – Mar. 29 | June 30 – July 12 | Sept. 15 – Sept. 27 | Dec. 22 – Jan. 03 |
| Mar. 31 – Apr. 12 | July 14 – July 26 | Sept. 29 – Oct. 11  | Dec. 29 – Jan. 10 |

#### **2020 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Friday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 05 – Jan. 17 | Apr. 12 – Apr. 24 | July 26 – Aug. 07   | Oct. 04 – Oct. 16 |
| Jan. 12 – Jan. 24 | May 03 – May 15   | Aug. 09 – Aug. 21   | Oct. 11 – Oct. 23 |
| Feb. 02 – Feb. 14 | May 17 – May 29   | Aug. 16 – Aug. 28   | Nov. 01 – Nov. 13 |
| Feb. 16 – Feb. 28 | May 31 – June 12  | Aug. 23 – Sept. 04  | Nov. 15 – Nov. 27 |
| Mar. 01 – Mar. 13 | June 14 – June 26 | Sept. 06 – Sept. 18 | Dec. 13 – Dec. 25 |
| Mar. 15 – Mar. 27 | June 28 – July 10 | Sept. 13 – Sept. 25 | Dec. 20 – Jan. 01 |
| Mar. 29 – Apr. 10 | July 12 – July 24 | Sept. 27 – Oct. 09  | Dec. 27 – Jan. 08 |





# BOTSWANA'S TIMELESS WILDERNESS

12 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Johannesburg

If we had to pick the most miraculous African place of all, it might well be the Okavango Delta, where the 1,000-mile-long Okavango River gives up on its search for an outlet to the sea and seeps life-givingly into the sands of one of the world's most uncompromising deserts, creating a vast and mesmerizing oasis. As Frans Lanting wrote in his elegiac book *Okavango: Africa's Last Eden*, "The [Delta's] very existence in the middle of the Kalahari Desert is nothing short of miraculous . . . like a dream."

Botswana's wilderness is expansive and—to our scurrying senses—timeless and the Okavango isn't its only dreamy place. Our under-two-week safari takes us to three others, right up near the top of African marvels: the lush and pacific Gomoti Plains Camp, the exemplary Moremi Game Reserve, quite close to another phenomenon of miraculous rarity, Victoria Falls.

*The word wonderful does not fit into science, for from one point of view every natural occurrence is as wonderful as another. But we are justified in using the term when we meet a phenomenon which is such an exception to the ordinary rules of nature that it appears to be a miracle.*

—Eugène N. Marais,  
*The Soul of the Ape*



To say that I am impressed with your company and operation is a vast understatement. I had lofty expectations for our safari and Micato surpassed those—in a big way. In my mind it would be a travesty for you not to win the Travel+Leisure award for the next ten years.

—Paige D. Koerbel  
Regional Vice President, Renaissance Hotels

DAY 1 *En route*

DAY 2 *Johannesburg*

After arriving at O.R. Tambo International, we'll be escorted to the **Saxon Hotel, Villas and Spa** in Johannesburg's tree-lined suburb of Sandhurst. This luxury hotel has much to be proud of but says, touchingly, that its greatest "boast" is that the late Nelson Mandela chose the Saxon as his sanctuary at which to complete his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*. Tonight, we'll also enjoy dinner at the home of Micato family friends.

DAYS 3 & 4 *The Northern Okavango Delta*

Our base in the miraculous Delta is the secluded, beautifully shaded **Kadizora Camp**. Intimate and lovingly fashioned, Kadizora has many charms: unflashy luxury, great dining, extraordinarily well-designed tents (and we think its large fire pit is a near-matchless place to watch Africa's piercingly expressive stars).

Among the camps in the Delta that offer optional hot air ballooning, Kadizora is notable for its variety of game-viewing experiences, from canoeing in the Delta's serene waterways,



to guided walking safaris, to four-wheel drive excursions in the neighboring plains. All the classic African headliners are to be seen, sometimes unexpectedly. "One of the Okavango's delights," Frans Lanting writes, "is the sheer surprise of seeing an elephant emerge from underwater."

DAYS 5 & 6 *The Southeastern Okavango*

A quick flight takes us southeastward to **Gomoti Plains Camp**, where the river of that name, a thick tendril of Okavango lushness, is bounded by savannah giving way to desert, offering us another exceptionally varied look at intertwined ecosystems and the charismatic animals that call them home. Because of Gomoti's untroubled remoteness, much wildlife filming and research has been done here, of lions, elephants, buffalo, and especially of the area's large coterie of African wild dogs, sometimes called painted wolves.

Gomoti Plains Camp, set pacifically along the banks of the Gomoti River, accommodates us with tents set on raised wooden decks and decorated to mirror the water and land themes that define the exquisite and heart-liftingly rare Okavango.

DAYS 7 & 8 *Moremi Game Reserve*

Another short flight takes us north to the Khwai River and **Machaba Camp**, designed in classic 1950s safari style, so well suited to its surroundings that animals wander down to the river insouciantly, delighting us as we watch, sundowner in hand, from our tents. And, among Moremi's myriad charms, it gives us the chance to see the huge African night sky that ever captivated Elspeth Huxley, a sky "bristling with innumerable stars, as close-packed as the quills on a porcupine."\*

\* People ask us about books. Africa has a great and deep literature, but if you read Isak Dinesen's *Out of Africa*; Elspeth Huxley's *The Flame Trees of Thika* and her sometimes overlooked *The Mottled Lizard*; Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's bracing *A Grain of Wheat*; and Beryl Markham's *West with the Night*, you will be extremely enchanted and informed. (Of course, our pre-departure materials include a well-scouted reading list.)



Whatever was promised in the brochure was far surpassed in our actual experiences. There is no way we can sufficiently praise our Safari Director and drivers—far and away the most knowledgeable, intelligent, and caring we have ever encountered. —Fran and Paul Heller



**DAYS 9 & 10** *Victoria Falls*

We don't like to repeat ourselves—to gild any lilies, perhaps especially an *Agapanthus africanus*, treasure of our home continent—so we hope you won't mind if we direct you to a torrent of praise for Victoria Falls and the *Royal Livingstone Hotel* over on page 151. Here we'll repeat something a good friend of ours once said: "Victoria Falls is billed as one of the world's greatest waterfalls, but, as a matter of fact, it's one of the world's greatest *anythings*."



**DAYS 11 & 12** *Johannesburg and onward*

We fly from Livingstone to Johannesburg, and on to a day room in the *InterContinental* at Johannesburg's airport, and connect with our international flight home, arriving on Day 12.

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension**

Botswana's *Timeless Wilderness* can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. And a bunch of other well-constructed Options and Extensions appear on pages 152-159, including a dalliance with the mountain gorillas of Rwanda and the magnificent landscapes of Namibia.



**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | April–May | June–Oct. | Nov.–March |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$14,250  | \$16,950  | \$13,250   |
| Single Supplement          | 2,650     | 3,950     | 1,350      |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 800       | 800       | 800        |

(Johannesburg / Maun / Camp to Camp / Kasane / Livingstone / Johannesburg) Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**2019 Dates**

12 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Saturday, returns Wednesday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 05 – Jan. 16 | Apr. 27 – May 08  | Aug. 03 – Aug. 14   | Oct. 26 – Nov. 06 |
| Jan. 19 – Jan. 30 | May 11 – May 22   | Aug. 17 – Aug. 28   | Nov. 09 – Nov. 20 |
| Feb. 09 – Feb. 20 | May 25 – June 05  | Aug. 24 – Sept. 04  | Nov. 23 – Dec. 04 |
| Feb. 23 – Mar. 06 | June 08 – June 19 | Aug. 31 – Sept. 11  | Dec. 21 – Jan. 01 |
| Mar. 16 – Mar. 27 | June 22 – July 03 | Sept. 14 – Sept. 25 | Dec. 28 – Jan. 08 |
| Mar. 30 – Apr. 10 | July 06 – July 17 | Sept. 28 – Oct. 09  |                   |
| Apr. 13 – Apr. 24 | July 20 – July 31 | Oct. 12 – Oct. 23   |                   |

**2020 Dates**

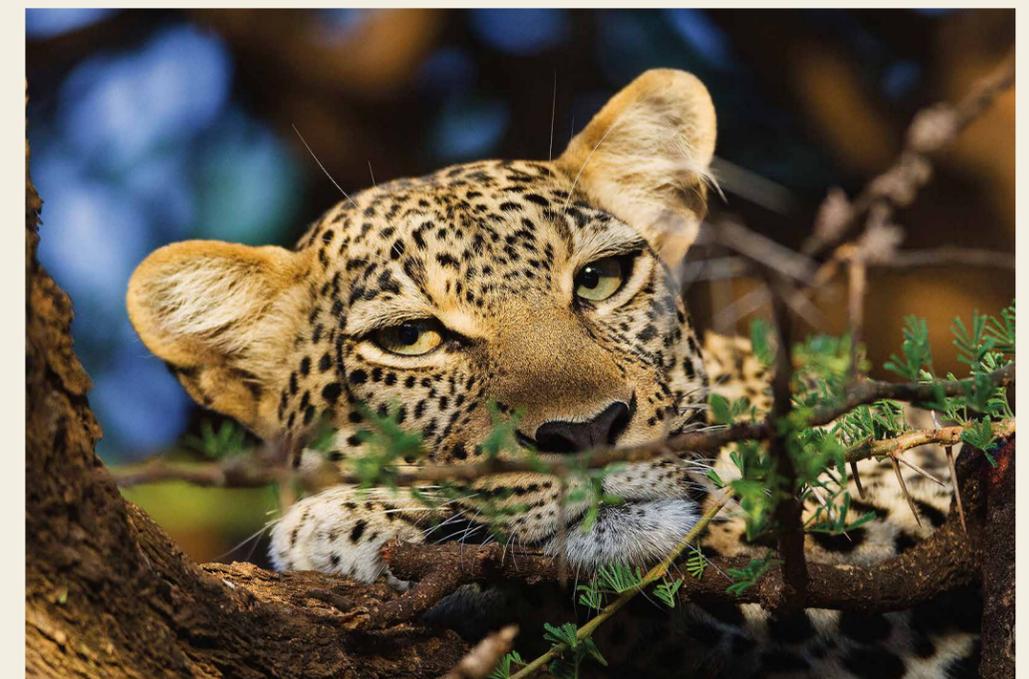
Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Saturday, returns Wednesday

New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 04 – Jan. 15 | Apr. 25 – May 06  | Aug. 01 – Aug. 12   | Oct. 24 – Nov. 04 |
| Jan. 18 – Jan. 29 | May 09 – May 20   | Aug. 15 – Aug. 26   | Nov. 07 – Nov. 18 |
| Feb. 08 – Feb. 19 | May 23 – June 03  | Aug. 22 – Sept. 02  | Nov. 21 – Dec. 02 |
| Feb. 22 – Mar. 04 | June 06 – June 17 | Aug. 29 – Sept. 09  | Dec. 19 – Dec. 30 |
| Mar. 14 – Mar. 25 | June 20 – July 01 | Sept. 12 – Sept. 23 | Dec. 26 – Jan. 06 |
| Mar. 28 – Apr. 08 | July 04 – July 15 | Sept. 26 – Oct. 07  |                   |
| Apr. 11 – Apr. 22 | July 18 – July 29 | Oct. 10 – Oct. 21   |                   |

We were continually delighted by the little extras that you provided. I've never been on a packaged trip like this where literally everything—beyond what your brochure promoted—was covered. What an absolute pleasure.

—Scott J. Mermel





# WILDERNESS AND WINELANDS

12 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Cape Town

South Africa prides itself on its many spectacular and varied worlds, from Cape Town's urban verve to wild, sun-lit dominions like the famed Sabi Sand Game Reserve, to pastoral (and culinary and oenophilic) masterpieces like the sublime Cape Winelands.

*Wilderness and Winelands* pays superbly paced tribute to those worlds in a mere but bountiful 12 days. We begin at one of Sir Richard Branson's most thrilling creations, Ulusaba Safari Lodge in the Sabi Sand. Then we're off to an idyll at Branson's Mont Rochelle, in the heart of the cheery and pacifying Winelands. We end in a jazzy upbeat at Cape Town's glamorous One&Only, named Africa's number one hotel in a recent *Condé Nast Traveler* Reader's Choice poll.

*I never knew of a morning in Africa when I woke up that I was not happy.*

—Ernest Hemingway,  
*True at First Light*





in the bush (some are built tree-house style); we watch from our private veranda as animals stroll by on their way to the nearby watering hole, we swim in the lodge's pool, dine al fresco (or restaurant style, or in our room), pay visits to Ulusaba Reserve's well-populated animal troupes and solo stars by four-wheel drive vehicle or on guided walks, and maybe amble over to the the Lodge's Aroma Boma Spa, which specializes in "Africology," using time-honoured local materials like rooibos, aloe, marula and African potato.

#### DAYS 6 & 7 *The Cape Winelands*

We fly from Ulusaba's private airstrip to Cape Town via Johannesburg and drive due west into the Winelands and our hotel, **Mont Rochelle**, another picture-pretty Branson gem, luxuriously well-wrought, serene and welcoming, with the promise of "...a soft and golden morning, alert with the praise of birds," as the great Elspeth Huxley wrote about a different, but wonderfully similar African place.

#### DAY 1 *En route*

#### DAYS 2 *Johannesburg*

Upon arrival in Johannesburg, we'll be met and escorted to O.R. Tambo Airport's **InterContinental Hotel** for an overnight stay. After a relaxing dinner, we'll have a trip briefing.

#### DAYS 3-5 *Sabi Sand Game Reserve*

"At Ulusaba, we have set out to create the most beautiful game reserve in Africa," says Sir Richard Branson. You're holding a brochure brimming with beautiful safari lodges, camps, and game reserves, and we have our own favourites, but there's no doubt that Branson & Co are giving **Ulusaba** their best effort, which—as you know—entails a lot of creative, sumptuous, high-spirited *best*.

We fly to Ulusaba Private Game Reserve—in the vast Sabi Sand Reserve, adjacent to Kruger National Park—on a short scheduled charter flight and immediately begin to savor its distinctive mix of down home hospitality and thoughtful luxury. Our rooms at Ulusaba are designed to give us an intimate feel for life



Ulusaba



We spend the next couple of days exploring the Winelands, South Africa's scenic treasure, graced with bang-up views that—with all due respect—out-drama Napa and Sonoma. We wander in the sparkingly kempt Dutch colonial towns of Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, dropping in on family-owned vineyards, lunching at the renowned Delaire Graff Estate and indulging in inspired pairings of locally-sourced fare and wines whose grapes are so expertly ripened Delaire has achieved South Africa's coveted First Growth status. We might also wish to ogle the spectacular floral gardens with more than 350 indigenous plants and stop by the estate's boutique for a look at the exquisite Graff Diamonds. And we'll spend an afternoon at the Waterford Wine Estate in the gorgeous Blaauwklippen Valley, followed by—depending on our mood—a little more wine or chocolate tasting, or a visit to the Franschhoek Motor Museum.

#### DAYS 8-10 *Cape Town*

Cape Town has proudly vaulted to the top tier of the world's favourite cities. In 2014 it was ranked the world's number one Place to Go in the *New York Times'* annual list. Cape Town's cultural, artistic, and culinary life is perhaps Africa's most bubbly, and our hotel, the magnificent **One&Only**, right on the fizzy Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, is stage center on one of the continent's greatest shows.

The great city is graced with a theatrical setting in a natural amphitheater giving way to Table Bay, ringed with Devil's Peak, Signal Hill, Lion's Head, and the massively regal, ever-enchanting Table Mountain, the viewful top of which we'll reach via one of the planet's most astonishing aerial cableways. We'll give Cape Town a thorough and fascinated look—and drop in for a hands-on visit to one of Micato-AmericaShare's projects in what

*Up close and personal encounters with the animals and people of Africa are just a few of the highlights of a Micato tour. . . . Part of the allure of travelling with Micato is that the company, through its One for One program, pays one child's school fees, all the way through high school, for each client who books a trip.* —Michael Shapiro, *The Oberoi Group Magazine*



locals like to call the Mother City. And we'll make the magnificent drive down the Cape Peninsula, traveling through the Cape Floristic region, a unique bit of natural magic, home to more than 6,000 plants found nowhere else in the world, ending at the imposing and world-historic Cape of Good Hope, for more than half a century one of the world's most important waterways. Along the way, we'll pay our respects to the the gaily tottering penguins at Boulders Beach, and enjoy lunch at Harbour House, on the shores of Kalk Bay, looking up an impressive 6,500 feet at Du Toits Peak.

*The entire trip rated a "10" in every respect. Micato's people are able, knowledgeable and sociable. John was the ideal Safari Director, and he related perfectly with each member of our family, from age 9 to 74!*

—Nancy and Rusty Sharp

And throughout our Cape Town stay, our Micato Safari Director will be close by, introducing us to the city's iconic and lesser-visited sights, proudly showcasing a city and region that, as the *Times* says, "takes your breath away."

**DAYS 11 & 12** *Departure and arrive home*

After a great O&O breakfast, we'll have ample time to pack and freshen up at leisure before we're escorted to Cape Town International for our flights homeward, arriving on Day 12.

*I am hard pressed to think of any reason why one would not use Micato. Their vehicles are absolutely the finest and their guides are considered the best in the business, even by other operators. It is a company that does not use third parties, but has its own organization to answer every wish, provide special opportunities, and resolve any emergency.*

—Priscilla Alexander  
Former President, Protravel

**Make Your Safari a Private Classic,  
Or Add an Amazing Extension**

Wilderness and Winelands can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. Why not jump over to spectacular Victoria Falls or amazing Namibia, since you're not far, or visit the mountain gorillas of Rwanda? More tempting Options and Extension appear on pages 152-159.



**Tariff 2019**

Land arrangements, per person

|                            | December 15-31 | Balance of Year |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Double Occupancy           | \$16,950       | \$13,950        |
| Single Supplement          | 5,550          | 3,650           |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 1,500          | 1,500           |

(Johannesburg / Ulusaba / Johannesburg / Cape Town)  
Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

**2019 Dates**

12 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Wednesday, returns Sunday  
Every date is a guaranteed departure

|                   |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 02 – Jan. 13 | Apr. 10 – Apr. 21 | July 24 – Aug. 04 | Oct. 02 – Oct. 13 |
| Jan. 09 – Jan. 20 | May 01 – May 12   | Aug. 07 – Aug. 18 | Oct. 09 – Oct. 20 |
| Jan. 30 – Feb. 10 | May 15 – May 26   | Aug. 14 – Aug. 25 | Oct. 30 – Nov. 10 |
| Feb. 13 – Feb. 24 | May 29 – June 09  | Aug. 21 – Sep. 01 | Nov. 13 – Nov. 24 |
| Feb. 27 – Mar. 10 | June 12 – June 23 | Aug. 28 – Sep. 08 | Dec. 11 – Dec. 22 |
| Mar. 13 – Mar. 24 | June 26 – July 07 | Sep. 11 – Sep. 22 | Dec. 18 – Dec. 29 |
| Mar. 27 – Apr. 07 | July 10 – July 21 | Sep. 25 – Oct. 06 | Dec. 25 – Jan. 05 |

**2020 Dates**

12 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Wednesday, returns Sunday  
New rates and dates may apply

|                   |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 01 – Jan. 12 | Apr. 08 – Apr. 19 | July 22 – Aug. 02 | Sep. 30 – Oct. 11 |
| Jan. 08 – Jan. 19 | Apr. 29 – May 10  | Aug. 05 – Aug. 16 | Oct. 07 – Oct. 18 |
| Jan. 29 – Feb. 09 | May 13 – May 24   | Aug. 12 – Aug. 23 | Oct. 28 – Nov. 08 |
| Feb. 12 – Feb. 23 | May 27 – June 07  | Aug. 19 – Aug. 30 | Nov. 11 – Nov. 22 |
| Feb. 26 – Mar. 08 | June 10 – June 21 | Aug. 26 – Sep. 06 | Dec. 09 – Dec. 20 |
| Mar. 11 – Mar. 22 | June 24 – July 05 | Sep. 09 – Sep. 20 | Dec. 16 – Dec. 27 |
| Mar. 25 – Apr. 05 | July 08 – July 19 | Sep. 23 – Oct. 04 | Dec. 23 – Jan. 03 |

The image shows the interior of a tented camp. The structure is made of light-colored wood and is covered with a fine, white mesh fabric that hangs from the ceiling, creating a canopy effect. In the foreground, a bed is partially visible, covered with white linens and a large, textured, light-colored shag rug. In the background, there is a stone fireplace with a dark mantel. On the mantel, there are several lit candles in glass holders. To the right of the fireplace, there is a small, round, white table with a decorative base, holding more candles. A light-colored armchair is positioned next to the table. The overall atmosphere is warm and rustic, with natural light filtering through the mesh walls.

# MICATO Lodges and Camps

Whether our travellers embark on a Classic Safari, Private Classic, or a hand-crafted Custom adventure, Micato relishes selecting magnificent properties for the journey. These charming Southern Africa hotels, resorts, camps, and lodges vary in style and locale from chic urbanity to ever-entrancing tented camp luxury. (For more Custom standouts, see our expanded collection at [Micato.com](http://Micato.com).)

*Southern Africa*

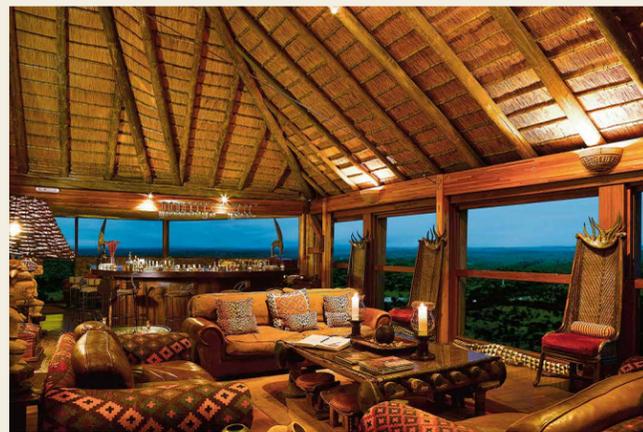
## Singita Private Game Reserve

SABI SAND GAME RESERVE  
AND KRUGER NATIONAL PARK,  
SOUTH AFRICA

There is a reason that Singita was named the top hotel in Africa and voted best in the world more than 15 times. Each of its four camps provides unrivalled, air-conditioned luxury in an unspoiled landscape. Lebombo is sensory immersion, a glass-walled haven of elaborate simplicity. Embodying an earthy elegance, Sweni is distinctly African and completely serene. Boulders' rough-hewn, rock-and-timber aesthetic is infused with such lavish luxuries as private, heated plunge pools. Exceptional quality and refinement pervade the graceful and exclusive Ebony Lodge. Modern and nostalgic, romantic and sexy, cozy and airy, colonial and African, Singita's lodges are luxurious worlds within a wild land. While the camps have diverse environments and decor, they all share Singita's unfailing commitment to impeccable, unmatched service. And alluringly set within two different reserves with some of the best game viewing in the world, plus first-rate cuisine and sumptuous amenities, the Singita lodges offer a quintessentially African safari experience.



Singita Sweni Lodge



Ulusaba Private Game Reserve

## Ulusaba Private Game Reserve

SABI SAND GAME RESERVE, SOUTH AFRICA

A private game reserve, Ulusaba affords boutique hotel comfort at the threshold of South Africa's wilderness splendour. Owned by Sir Richard Branson and featuring his flair for mixing luxury with adventure, the camp has an attentive staff and superb facilities—including a world-class spa, gymnasium, tennis courts, wine cellar, and luxurious rooms—that make it an ideal location from which to spy passing predators or explore nearby, wildlife-rich Kruger National Park.

## Royal Malewane

THORNYBUSH RESERVE, SOUTH AFRICA

Perched on the edge of famed Kruger National Park, this colonial-style lodge evokes a bygone era of rustic elegance. Rich antiques and Persian rugs create an air of refinement, and the vast bushveld provides a beautiful and unrefined backdrop. Air-conditioning and fireplaces ensure comfort in the Royal Malewane's deluxe suites, which accommodate a mere 20 guests. After a long day of big-game discovery, a relaxing spa and gourmet meal await.



Tswalu Kalahari Private Game Reserve



Royal Malewane

## Tswalu Kalahari Private Game Reserve

KALAHARI DESERT, SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's largest private game reserve—it's larger than eight and a half San Franciscos—Tswalu Kalahari hosts a maximum of 30 guests at a time in its two properties. The Motse's eight spacious and secluded *legae* (little houses) nestle at the foot of the Korannaberg Mountains, facing westward across the grasslands of the Kalahari. And the five luxury suites of Tarkuni—home of the Oppenheimer family, Tswalu's owners—are testimony to the family's superb taste, in both scenery and design.

## Camp Jabulani

KAPAMA RESERVE, SOUTH AFRICA

Truly a part of the African bush, Jabulani is a harmonious melding of structure and scenery. Rich, warm woods complement crystal and silver—a perfect balance of natural and designer influences. We enjoy game drives and commune at camp with a spunky resident herd of mama and baby elephants. Grace notes, such as deluxe spa treatments and private plunge pools, are welcome luxuries, and an in-room fireplace adds ambience to the entrancing African night.



Camp Jabulani



Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge

## Sabi Sabi Game Reserve

SABI SAND GAME RESERVE,  
SOUTH AFRICA

Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge is a polished but homey African jewel. Its air-conditioned, magnificently appointed thatched-roof suites—decorated with fine original African art—offer unendingly interesting views of the bush and a popular water hole. Sabi Sabi is linked to nearby Kruger National Park by a much-frequented game corridor, which helps keep gene pools fresh and makes game viewing in Sabi Sabi especially compelling.

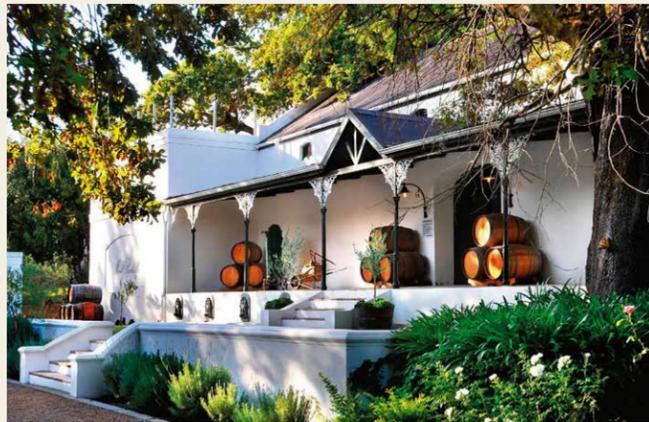
The Silo



## The Silo

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

The new and sublime Silo has become an instant Cape Town landmark. Overlooking the buzzing Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, the 28-room hotel is a brilliant reimagining of a complex of old grain elevators, creatively refashioned by the famous London-based Heatherwick Studio. Each view-rich room is eclectically and colourfully decorated to contrast serendipitously with the clean industrial lines of the old silos.



Mont Rochelle

## Mont Rochelle

FRANSCHHOEK, SOUTH AFRICA

Another of Sir Richard Branson's African gems, Mont Rochelle is a serene and soothing 22-room hotel nestled in some of South Africa's most deliciously pastoral scenery: personality-rich mountains above, farmland and lovely vineyards all around, the famously sweet town of Franschhoek nearby. Mont Rochelle's fine restaurants—the Country Kitchen and stellar Miko—and its Bransonian insistence on cheerful excellence have rocketed the hotel to South Africa's top ranks.

## One&Only Cape Town

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

A jewel in a city positively brimming with them, the One&Only is wonderfully situated in the soft shadow of Table Mountain, within easy ambling distance of the fizzy Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. Its rooms and suites are warmly modern and commodious, its serve is peerless, and its three restaurants—Isola (set on the hotel's inner island), cosmopolitan Reuben's, and Nobu (the great Nobuyuki Matsuhisa only African outpost)—are some of Africa's culinary capital's finest.

One&Only



Selinda Camp

## Selinda Camp

SELINDA RESERVE, BOTSWANA

On the banks of a spillway in a private, pristine reserve, Selinda is one of Africa's finest luxury-encounter wilderness camps, its superbly-realized nine tented villas a study in polished wood and safari chic. From our doorstep the lush Delta is easily explorable by watercraft, vehicle, or on foot, while the temptations of a quiet swim or in-room massage beckon back at camp.



Jack's Camp

## Jack's Camp

KALAHARI DESERT, BOTSWANA

Years ago, a certain piece of land so entranced Jack Bousfield that he set up camp there. Today, that place along the otherworldly Makgadikgadi Salt Pans is Jack's Camp, a remote oasis in a rugged crossroads of wildlife. This lavish camp introduces us to the desert's denizens, especially the Bushmen of the Kalahari. Infused with an explorer's sensibility, Jack's Camp is an indulgent escape in a captivating landscape.

## La Residence

FRANSCHHOEK, SOUTH AFRICA

At the heart of a private working farm, La Residence is intimate and lush. The soothing ambience of each room feeds into the next, from the mellow glow of gold bathroom fixtures to the thick Persian carpets that line the rooms. The countryside is at our doorstep. We indulge in a horse-drawn wine-and-cheese tour, or try paragliding or quad biking, returning in the evenings to the last rays of the warming sun and an encounter with Franschhoek's famed farm-to-table cuisine, served with a smile.

La Residence



## Zarafa Camp

SELINDA RESERVE, BOTSWANA

Set in the shade of a red ivory forest, Zarafa Camp is an eco-friendly hideaway offering a personalized luxury camp experience. Accommodating only eight guests, the camp's four 1,000-square-foot marquis tents each feature enchantingly rustic decor, complete with custom-crafted furniture and a copper fireplace. Outside, the veranda offers a private plunge pool, lounge, and breathtaking views of the Zibadianja Lagoon. Zarafa entwines exquisite privacy with princely comforts.

Zarafa Camp





Duba Plains

## Duba Plains

### THE OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA

Intimate—only five rooms and a two-bedroom suite—Duba Plains Camp rests pacifically in the heart of the Okavango Delta. Designed by the renowned film maker and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Dereck Joubert to blend seamlessly into the Delta's lush forests, Duba Plains pays tribute to the miraculous, animal-abounding Okavango with traditional Botswanan grace and cheery panache.

Vumbura Plains



## Gomoti Plains Camp

### OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA

Gomoti Plains Camp prides itself on honoring its superb location on the Okavango's Gomoti River by presenting a classic safari experience. Its 10 luxury tents and common area are raised on wooden decks in the old style and overlook the waters and woodlands of this particularly wildlife-rich part of the great Delta, which we explore on guided walks and in mokoro canoes, visiting remote islands and wending along fig-tree-lined channels. Game drives on drier land give an even deeper look at Gomoti's freely abounding animals.

Gomoti Plains Camp



## Vumbura Plains

### OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA

One of the jewels of the luminous Okavango, Vumbura Plains has some of the Delta's most expansive views, from its raised lounge, dining, and bar area, and from its 14 spacious, softly luxurious rooms, each with an indoor and outdoor shower and en-suite bathroom, a private plunge pool, and a lounge area open on three sides for unimpeded vistas of the lush floodplains and the Delta's animal citizens as they go about their daily routines.



Kadizora Camp

## Machaba Camp

### MOREMI RESERVE, BOTSWANA

Visitors to Machaba Camp are charmed by its extraordinarily airy and fresh tents, by its eventful and rewarding game drives in the Moremi Reserve, by the reserve's profound quietude and riverine beauty, but they invariably praise the blissful, only-in-Africa experience of sitting at ease on the veranda of their tent, watching elephants, hippos, lions, giraffes, and a host of less-celebrated but equally fascinating animals as they pay a visit to the Khwai River in the warm evening.

Machaba Camp



## Kadizora Camp

### OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA

Viewfully set overlooking a vibrant floodplain in the watery wonderland of the Okavango Delta, Kadizora Camp is an exceptionally intimate and beautifully imagined camp (and the only Okavango camp to offer optional hot air ballooning). Its 12 secluded, airily spacious tents—sheltered by giant trees—all feature a serene sitting area, en suite bathrooms, and wood-paneled decks for game-viewing across the aqueous plain. Kadizora's bar, lounge, and dining area horse-shoe around an inviting fire pit, linked by a wooden walkway to the camp's pool.

Sable Alley



## Sable Alley

### THE OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA

Set beside a hippo-, elephant-, and Cape buffalo-favoured lagoon in the Okavango's 495,000-acre Khwai Private Reserve, Sable Alley is a new and brilliantly conceived camp whose canvas-walled, 600-square-foot suites combine old-fashioned safari ambience with up-to-the-second modern conveniences.



Sossusvlei Desert Lodge

## Sossusvlei Desert Lodge

NAMIB DESERT, NAMIBIA

The Sossusvlei Desert Lodge is a remote hostelry near an otherworldly wonder: the gargantuan Sossusvlei Dunes. The lodge's spacious stone-and-glass villas—enfolded by ancient mountains—feature elegant interiors and spectacular views through massive windows. We explore this rugged landscape by foot or on quad bikes, and relax on a private veranda looking across to the almost glowing, barely believable dunes. And when night falls, we gaze at a matchless celestial spectacle from the lodge's observatory.

## Okahirongo Elephant Lodge

NAMIB DESERT, NAMIBIA

Blending effortlessly into its stark surroundings, Okahirongo complements the desert's hypnotic beauty. Each of its seven chalets is an example of detail-driven, eco-friendly design: rich honey-and-ochre decor, locally carved furniture, plus a private gazebo with queen-size daybed. We visit with the local Himba tribe and explore arid wilds on foot or by vehicle, spying unique desert-adapted creatures. Or we simply get away from it all in the infinity pool or one of the cozy open-air lounges.



Okahirongo Elephant Lodge

Hoanib Valley Camp



## Hoanib Valley Camp

KAOKOLAND, NAMIBIA

Namibia's grandly stark landscapes—craggy mountains, oceanic deserts, sky-scraping sand dunes—are justly famed, and Hoanib Valley Camp is right smack spectacularly in the middle of one of the country's grandest scenic wonders, Kaokoland. The camp's six luxury tents blend beautifully with their environment; the camp is solar powered and cheerfully eco-minded; and desert-adapted wildlife—rhinos, elephants, giraffes and lions—abound.



Shipwreck Lodge

## Royal Livingstone Hotel

LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA

An old-fashioned, colonial-style redoubt, fully up-to-the-second, one of *T+L's* Best Hotels in the World, the Royal Livingstone would be a sought-after destination even if it weren't within strolling distance of ceaselessly stunning Livingstone. An African icon, the Royal Livingstone underwent a many-million-dollar upgrade recently, and its charms have been burnished to a shine for another few decades to come.

## Shipwreck Lodge

SKELETON COAST, NAMIBIA

A uniquely designed lodge in a unique natural setting—the dramatic Skeleton Coast—Shipwreck Lodge has quickly become one of Namibia's most sought-after destinations. Its ten rooms recall the shipwrecks that line the coast, though their bright modernity and luxury would have tempted marooned sailors to settle in for good after their dunking. Wildlife excursions, a view-rich main lodge, and a top-notch restaurant, all in a gloriously wild setting, provide an amazing, indeed unique experience.

Royal Livingstone Hotel



Victoria Falls Hotel



## Victoria Falls Hotel

VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE

A classic colonial-era masterpiece, the Victoria Falls is within walking distance of the gargantuan cataract. Built in 1904, it was the first and finest of the Falls' hotels, and, after a complete and thoughtful renovation, it's back at the top of the list. High tea on the hotel's veranda, with Victoria's mist creating rainbows in the near distance, is an unforgettable treat.

# East Africa Options and Extensions

## ZANZIBAR



### DAY 1 *Nairobi or Arusha to Zanzibar*

A flight takes us to our choice of enchanting accommodations: a hotel in the exotically historical Stone Town district or a romantic beach resort outside of town.

### DAY 2 *Stone Town and Spice Plantations*

After breakfast looking out at the Indian Ocean, we take a walking tour of ancient Stone Town, a World Heritage Site renowned for its fabulously colourful marketplace. After a languid lunch, we'll head out to a plantation where cinnamon, cardamom, and intense Arab coffees are grown. And, of course, we'll see cloves—the gold of Zanzibar—perhaps the world's most desired spice.

### DAY 3 *Jozani Forest*

We head east across the island, through set-piece villages and lush island vegetation to enchanting Jozani Forest, home of the rare red colobus monkey and the unusual tree-dwelling hyrax.



### DAY 4 *Departure*

Before heading outbound, we'll probably have a chance to do some last-minute shopping, perhaps for that fantastically carved teakwood chest that caught our eye, or a supply of intensely scented pomanders, reminders of a sojourn in what many insist is an earthly outpost of paradise.

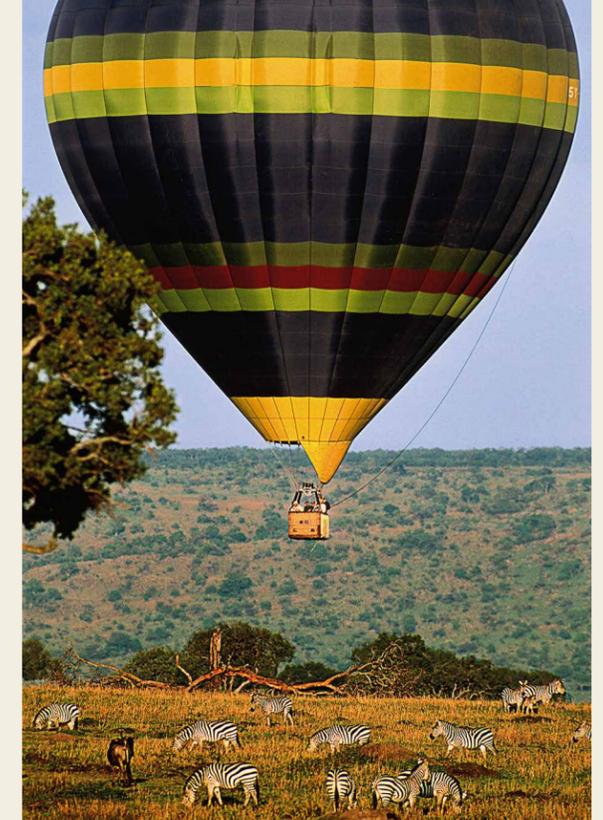
#### Tariff 2019 | Land arrangements, per person

|                                     | Park Hyatt   | Baraza       |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Double Occupancy, Full Board        | from \$1,750 | from \$2,650 |
| Single Supplement                   | 700          | 1,100        |
| Round-Trip Airfare Nairobi/Zanzibar | from \$650   | from \$650   |

## BALLOONING OVER AFRICA

If you've ever taken a ride in a hot-air balloon, you know. And if you haven't, you are in for an indelibly jolly experience. We try to avoid repeating ourselves, but as we put it earlier in this brochure: "Wafting over the Mara in the piercingly fresh and golden morning, floating over elephants and hippos, feeling a mild and worthy intoxication-by-grandeur, is one of those things that, having done, we wonder how on earth we ever contemplated not doing." (And then there's a post-flight champagne breakfast in the bush, a cheery way to softly come back to earth.) Available in Maasai Mara and the Serengeti as well as the Okavango Delta.

**Tariff 2019** | One spectacular morning: \$490 Maasai Mara  
 \$520 Serengeti  
 \$525 Okavango Delta





*The animal has secrets which, unlike the secrets of caves, mountains, seas, are specifically addressed to man.* —John Berger, *Why Look at Animals?*

**LEFT** The Pinto family, photobombed by a gorilla.

## TRACKING MAJESTIC MOUNTAIN GORILLAS

### DAYS 1 & 2 *Kigali and Parc National des Volcans, Rwanda*

Talk to someone who's paid a visit to the mountain gorillas of Rwanda's highlands and you are likely to hear near-rhapsodic praise for a rare, beautiful, and often very moving experience.\* Our carefully orchestrated visits begin in Kigali, revitalized Rwanda's charming capital, which we'll tour before heading northwest to the Virunga Volcanoes, a stately chain of jungle volcanoes that top out at Mount Karisimbi's 14,787 feet, higher than any Rocky or Sierra Nevada. We'll settle into the superb *Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge*, a fine base for our wanderings in these almost supernaturally verdant precincts.

\* A friend of ours turned a leafy corner in the mountains and came across a mother gorilla giving birth. "My general optimism quotient—maybe illogically, but very forcibly—rose about 70 percent," he said. "I will carry that memory, and maybe some of that optimism, with me forever."

of the park's 12 habituated (meaning they aren't frightened by us) families of mountain gorillas; no more than eight people are allowed to visit any given family for more than an hour each day. Seeing a 450-pound male saunter by only a few yards away is something you'll want to tell your grandchildren's children about.

### DAY 3 *Burera and Ruhondo Lakes*

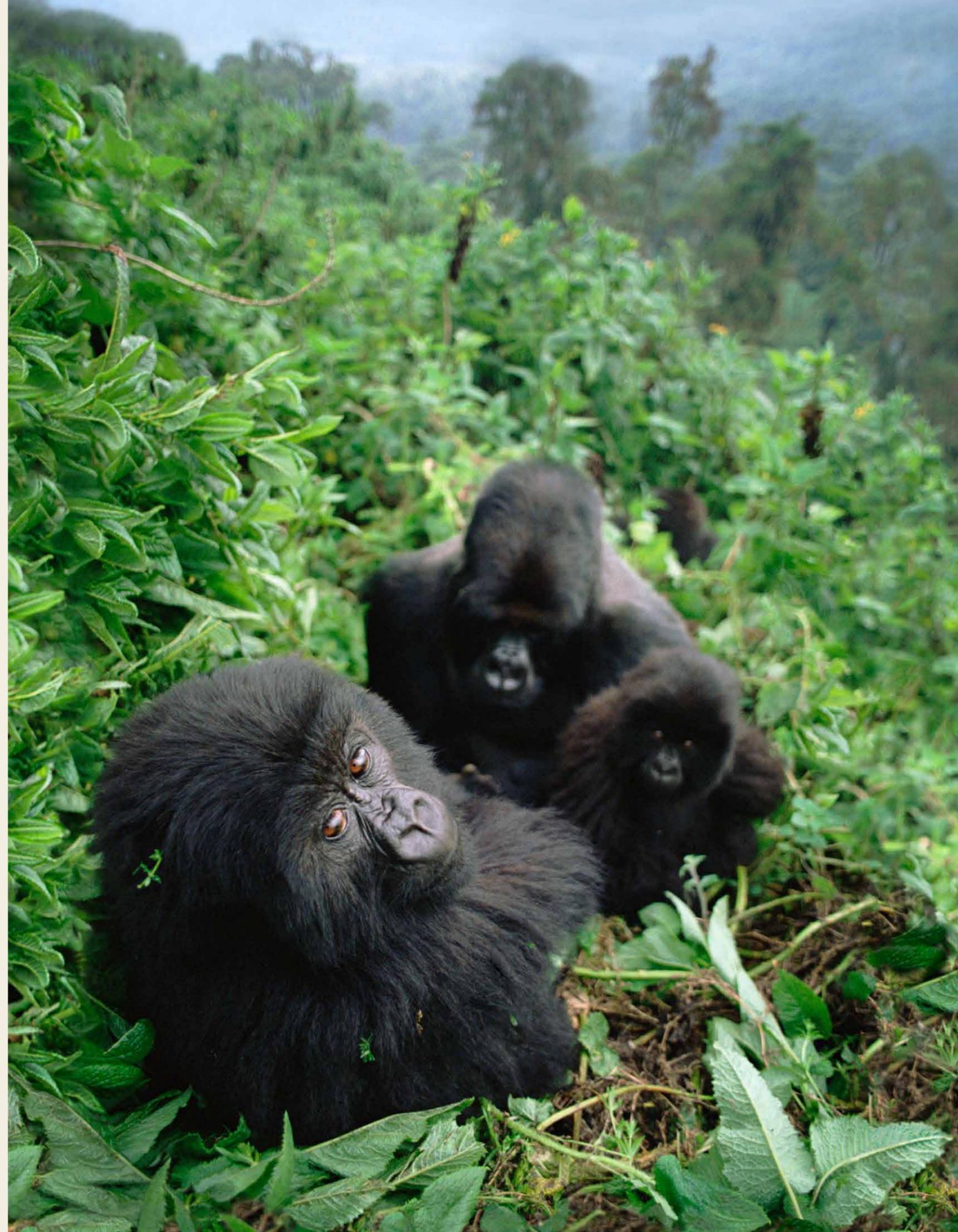
We'll pay our respects to a different gorilla family today, noting the subtle cultural differences between clans. Later we'll explore the twin lakes of Burera and Ruhondo, blue beauties in a sea of green, and mingle with local folks at a bustling food market in Ruhengeri.

### DAY 4 *Depart Kigali*

We'll make the drive to Kigali for our homeward flights. (One final note: travellers who'd like to visit more of our primate relatives should ask us about easy-to-arrange side trips that put us in contact with chimpanzees and colobus monkeys.)

#### **Tariff 2019** | Land arrangements, per person

|                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Double Occupancy                | From \$3,950 |
| Gorilla Permits (nonrefundable) | 3,000        |



# Southern Africa Options and Extensions

## CAPE TOWN SOJOURN



### DAYS 1 & 2 *Cape Town and environs*

Not much has changed in the intervening four centuries to undermine Sir Francis Drake's praise of Cape Town's situation as "the most stately thing and the fairest Cape we saw in the whole circumference of the earth." (Of course, the town on the Cape was yet to be, so the local Khoisan people had the natural spectacle all to themselves for another six decades or so before the Dutch arrived and began town-making.) We are fervent admirers of Cape Town and of the superb *One&Only*. Set on the high-spirited Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, the One&Only is a fine place to begin our explorations of this

grand, cosmopolitan city (whose praises we sing on pages 120, 126, and 139). From there we venture to the Cape Peninsula, a nature lover's dream (its *fynbos* ecosystem is a unique bit of natural magic). We'll drive out to the Peninsula's southern tip, the dramatic and historically momentous Cape of Good Hope, and we'll head over to Boulders Beach, where the hoots of the peninsula's baboons are replaced by the trills of penguins, who somewhat mysteriously set up shop here only a couple of decades ago. And we'll stroll in the old-style streets of Simon's Town before returning to the One&Only, where we'll have dinner on our own (all meals on the *Cape Town Sojourn* extension are included except dinners).

### DAY 3 *Cape Town and the Winelands*

A day of estate touring and wine tasting in the Winelands' sunny and exuberantly fertile valleys tucked between towering, beautifully sculpted mountains laced with mist (to put it mildly). We'll lunch at Delaire Graff Estate, which houses a world-class art collection, and we'll have the chance to wander through some of the district's resolutely quaint villages, like famous Franschhoek ("French corner" in Dutch, a small sign of the Western Cape Province's multicultural history).

### DAY 4 (OPTIONAL) *Cape Town*

We've slotted in an optional extra day in Cape Town on the principle that most people are quite

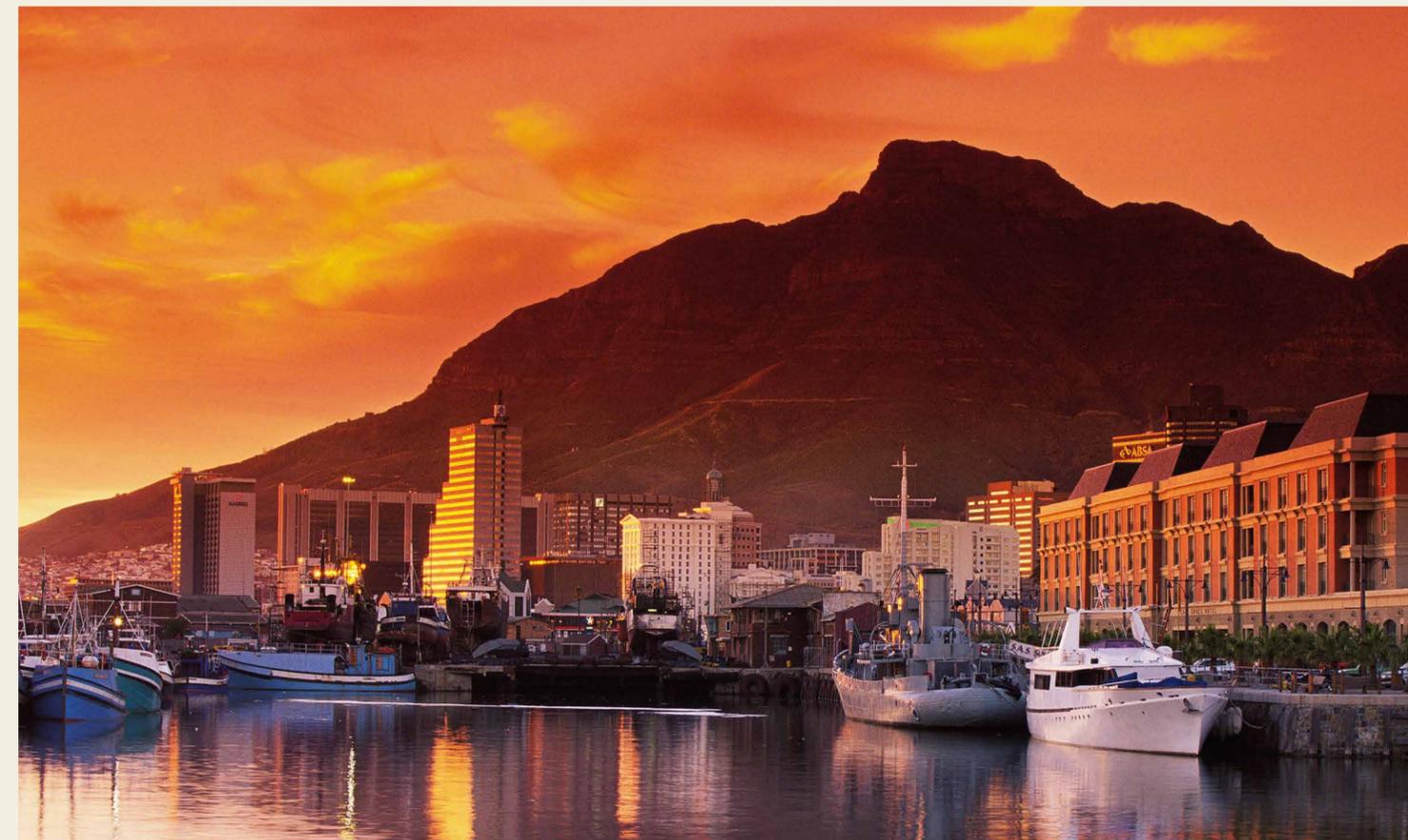
reluctant to leave it. A ferry from the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront will take us across Table Bay to Robben Island for an instructive look at the prison where Nelson Mandela and former South African president Jacob Zuma were confined during the old apartheid government. And we'll pay an inspirational visit to one of Micato-AmericaShare's projects in Cape Town.

### DAY 5 *Depart Cape Town*

... reluctantly.

### Tariff 2019 | Land arrangements, per person

|  | 3 Nights     | 4 Nights     |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Double Occupancy                       | from \$2,650 | from \$3,150 |
| Single Supplement (based on 3+ guests) | \$1,250      | 1,300        |



*Micato rules supreme in the world of safaris very simply because of their attention to detail and their ability to anticipate and coordinate the most fantastical adventures.*

—Blair Underwood



## VICTORIA FALLS

Like the Grand Canyon, or the Taj Mahal, Victoria Falls is one of those earthly sights that surpass the eagerest of expectations. Far and away the world's most massive cataract, Mosi-oa-Tunya, the Smoke that Thunders, flings "a large lakesworth of water 360 feet straight down every minute of every day, right before our delighted eyes" (as we say over in *African Splendour*, page 92).

### DAYS 1 & 2 *Victoria Falls*

On arrival our Micato Travel Director and driver will take us to one of a couple of hotels we've chosen for their ambience and proximity to the Falls. Either the elegant Royal Livingstone, one of *Travel+Leisure's* Best Hotels in the World, or the elegant, colonial era Victoria Falls Hotel, in a pacific little corner of Zimbabwe; an "incredible hotel," one visitor called it, "with stunning views and just a 10-minute walk to the Falls."

In the evening, we'll take a sundowner cruise on the lushly banked Zambezi, a normally

easy-going river that enjoys a madcap escapade at the Falls before dutifully heading to its outlet in the Indian Ocean.

The next day we'll helicopter over the Falls, an experience it's impossible to describe without harkening back to something David Livingstone—the first, albeit earthbound Westerner to see the Falls—wrote in 1855: "A scene so lovely [it] must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight." And in the afternoon we'll take a walking tour of the Falls from a variety of vantage points, getting close to its endless but untroubling thunder, gleefully wonderstruck by one of the most stupendous sights we humans are privileged to see.

### DAY 3 *Depart Victoria Falls*

Onward to home, Africa, or the world.

#### Tariff 2019 | Land arrangements, per person

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Double Occupancy  | from \$3,450 |
| Single Supplement | 950          |

## NAMIBIA

No place on the planet—we're going out on a very sturdy limb—displays such a beautifully, bracingly dramatic meeting of sea and land as Namibia's fabled Skeleton Coast. The Atlantic is in full-bore majesty here, tirelessly crashing on the undulating sands of the Namib Desert. "The beauty is unrelenting, and almost too much; you experience a kind of aesthetic overload," Clive Crook recently wrote in the *Atlantic*.

This short jaunt is easily arranged as an extension for any of our Southern African Safaris, or, for that matter, any of our African journeys.

### DAY 1 *Arrive Windhoek*

We'll be met and accompanied to the Olive Exclusive, a delightful boutique hotel that pays homage to Namibia's regions in each of its uniquely designed suites. If time permits, we may take a tour of surprisingly charming, mile-high Windhoek.

### DAYS 2 & 3 *The Skeleton Coast*

A morning flight takes us northwest, from Namibia's capital to the untempered Atlantic and vast natural theater of the Skeleton Coast. Carefully avoiding aesthetic overload, we'll drive to the spectacular Shipwreck Lodge, a brand-new

bit of architectural bravura: each of the Lodge's 10 units are designed to resemble one of the shipwrecks strewn on the Coast's sands. We'll take an afternoon drive in this immense, lonely wilderness, to the roaring dunes—so called for their unusual sound effects—for a sandy scramble and sundowners.

The following day we'll venture over to the lively Mowe Bay seal colony, visiting the *Suiderkus* and *Karimona* shipwrecks en route, all the while entranced by a stark terrestrial masterpiece, on the lookout, one visitor reminds us, "for tok-tokkie beetles, and the oldest and strangest oddest desert plant in the world, the living fossil *Welwitschia*, and maybe even a regal desert elephant enjoying a little slip and slide on the dunes."

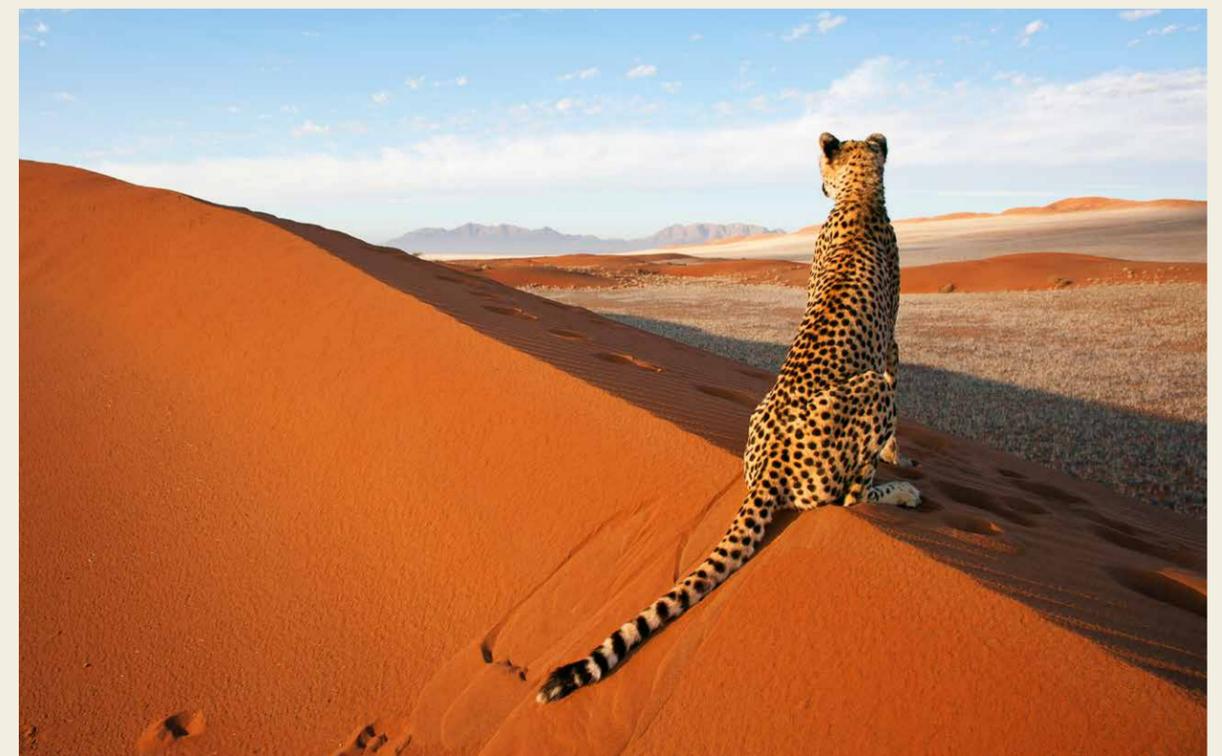
### DAYS 4 *The Skeleton Coast*

Fly to Windhoek for outbound flights.

#### Tariff 2019 | Land arrangements, per person

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Double Occupancy  | From \$4,950 |
| Single Supplement   | 450          |
| Round trip charter flights Windhoek / Mowe Bay / Windhoek | \$3,700      |

Photograph courtesy of the Naankuse Foundation · Naankuse.com





## TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RESPONSIBILITY AND BINDING ARBITRATION

Rates quoted in this brochure are valid through December 15, 2019, and include:

### Accommodations

First-class hotel accommodations based on twin-bedded rooms with private bath or showers—the categories assigned to hotels reflect the opinion of Micato Safaris.

### Meals

Three meals daily per the itinerary, based on evening arrivals on Day 2. Regional wines, beer and bottled water are included with meals.

### Air Transportation

Your travel agent should arrange international flights or Micato can refer you to its preferred purveyor of air tickets. Internal African flights on safari must be purchased through Micato.

### Luggage

Micato provides a safari bag that guests are urged to travel with. On certain flights within Africa, strict luggage restrictions apply; details are provided in tour documentation. Luggage and personal effects are at "owner's risk" throughout the tour unless insured.

### Wi-Fi and Laundry

Where available, Wi-Fi and laundry service are included in the Tour rates.

### Taxes

The tour program includes hotel taxes as imposed by city and state governments, entrance fees to National Parks and Game Reserves, and airport taxes for intra-country flights. International airport taxes are not included.

### Not Included in Quoted Tour Rates:

Cost of obtaining passports, visas, travel insurance, excess baggage charges, items of a personal nature such as communication (calls, faxes, emails, etc.), international airport departure tax (to be paid in U.S. dollars or acceptable foreign currencies), and deviations from the tour.

### Registration

A deposit of 20% (30% for a Custom trip) at the time of booking. The balance or final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

### Cancellations

Cancellations received by Micato 90 days or more prior to departure are subject to a \$500 per person cancellation fee; cancellations received 89–60 days prior to departure are subject to a fee of 20% of the total retail tour rate; 59–30 days is 50% of the tour rate. Cancellations received 29 days or less are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

### Arrangements

Quoted tour rates include planning, handling and operational charges, based on the current rate of exchange and tariff as of December 2018. In the event of an increase in foreign exchange or tariff rates, energy or fuel surcharges, or other increases, etc., except for increased governmental taxes which can be assessed at any time, rates are subject to revision up to the time of your final payment to us.

### Guaranteed Departures

Micato guarantees departure of all group programs once a deposit is paid excepting only cases of force majeure. This includes any major world event that adversely affects international travel patterns as well as circumstances beyond Micato's control.

Please Note: If a minimum number of travellers is not reached, Micato may provide local guides in each location in place of a Micato travel or safari director. Extensions are locally guided.

### Responsibility

Taicoa Corporation d/b/a Micato Safaris, its employees, shareholders, officers and directors (collectively "Micato") does not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip, including, for example, lodging facilities, transportation companies, local ground or safari operators, including, without limitation, various entities which may utilize the Micato name, guides, entertainment, food or drink service providers, equipment suppliers, etc. As a result,

Micato is not responsible for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity. In addition, Micato is not responsible for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any person or entity it does not own or control, nor for any act or inaction of any third party not under its control.

Without limitation Micato is not liable for any direct, indirect, consequential, or incidental damage, injury, death, loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity of any kind which may be occasioned by reason of any act or omission beyond its control, including, without limitation any willful or negligent act, failure to act, breach of contract or violation of local law or regulation of any third party such as an airline, train, hotel, bus, taxi, van or safari operator, local groundhandler or guide, whether or not it uses the Micato name, financial default or insolvency of any supplier which is to, or does supply any goods or services for this trip. Similarly, Micato is not responsible for any loss, injury, death or inconvenience due to delay or changes in schedule, transportation delays or cancellations or the failure of any transportation mechanism to depart or arrive timely or safely, overbooking of accommodation, default of any third party, attacks or bites by animals, pests, or insects, injury or death while on activities sponsored by lodging facilities or by other third parties, sickness, the lack of appropriate medical care, evacuation to same, if necessary, weather, strikes, acts of God or government, acts of terrorism, or the threat thereof, force majeure, war, quarantine, epidemics, or the threat thereof, criminal activity, or any other cause beyond its control. In addition, guest holds Micato harmless from its own negligence and assumes all risk thereof.

The right is reserved to alter or cancel the itinerary, at Micato's sole discretion, as it may deem necessary or advisable. Micato reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any passenger on any of its tours if, in its sole discretion, it deems accepting or retaining any such passenger as creating a health or safety risk to any person or being detrimental to the tour. In the event any passenger is removed from a trip, Micato's only obligation is to refund to that person that portion of the payment allocable to unused services.

Guests are urged to review the important information provided by the United States Department of State and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's country specific information available at <http://www.state.gov/travel> and <http://www.cdc.gov>

Changes in the Responsibility clause can be made only in writing signed by an officer of Micato.

**Photography:** Micato may take photographs or film of its trips and trip participants, and participant grants Micato express permission to do so and for Micato to use such for promotional or commercial use without payment of any compensation therefor.

**Unused Services:** There is no right to a refund for any unused services.

**Binding Arbitration:** I agree that any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning my trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) New York law and will take place in New York, NY. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.

Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, you (and we) are waiving our right to a trial by jury.



Inquiries@Micato.com • Micato.com

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“...undoubtedly the finest safari company...”



*Micato is undoubtedly the finest safari company I have ever been involved with for any of my film shoots in Africa. Their organization and friendliness are outstanding, and the Pinto family's involvement and obvious love distinguish them further.*

— **Jack Hanna,**  
Director Emeritus, Columbus Zoo,  
and Emmy Award-winning host of  
*Jack Hanna's Wild Countdown*

# Join Us in India

## *Micato's Ancestral Home*

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Our roots in India are deep and our love for it is great. Mark Twain called it “the most extraordinary country that the sun visits on his round” and his praise is as fresh as ever.

For the past 25 years Micato has showcased the subcontinent in high, elegant, and knowledgeable style. For a look at our sparkling brochure, pop over to our website—or call—and ask for a copy.





Join us at home  
*in Africa*