

THE HEART OF KENYA  
AND TANZANIA



# 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.*

—Elsbeth Huxley, *The Flame Trees of Thika*





*Dear Friends,*

We recently won our tenth first-place *Travel+Leisure* award for World's Best Safari Outfitter (I'm proud to say that no other company has more than three wins), but among all our many accolades, perhaps the most heartening is also from *Travel+Leisure*: "The Pintos treat their guests like well-loved, out-of-town relatives."

Micato's dedication to expert, familial service is the legacy of our founders, my parents Felix and Jane (pictured below in Nairobi). Willingness to go many extra miles to ensure that a Micato safari is the trip of a lifetime—as it is for so many of our guests—is the rock on which Felix and Jane built our family-owned, family-operated company, and why every member of the Micato team will become your welcoming family—from the Safari Director who will be with you from touchdown to takeoff, to our large staffs in the U.S. and East and Southern Africa.

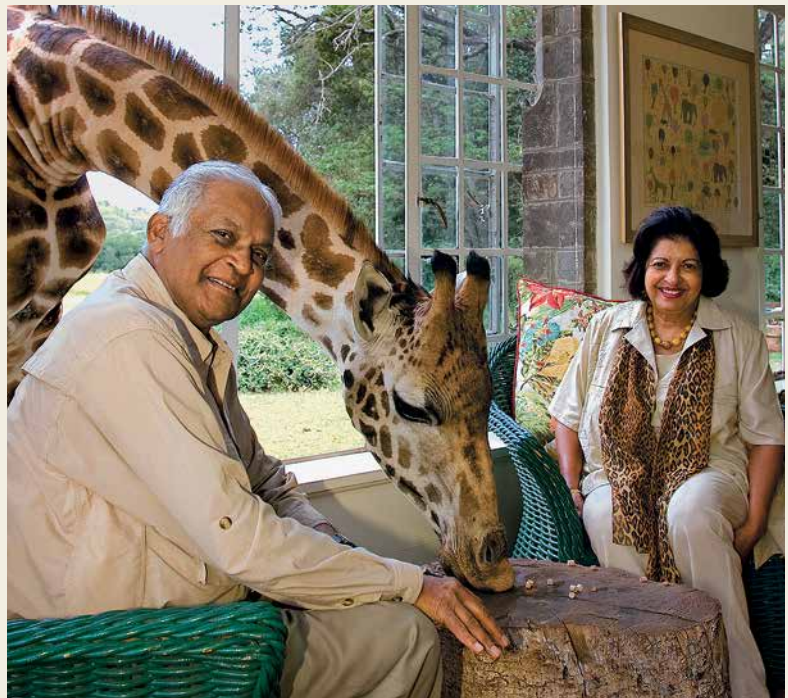
And so, I hope you'll enjoy an armchair safari with this brochure, and that you'll consider joining us for hilltop sundowners overlooking the guileless and gorgeous African game lands.

We'll clink our glasses in celebration of the safari life Isak Dinesen said "makes you forget all your sorrows and feel as if you had drunk half a bottle of champagne—bubbling over with heartfelt gratitude for being alive."

Sincerely,



Dennis Pinto  
Managing Director



*Micato's founders, Felix and Jane Pinto (and a friend) pictured near their suburban Nairobi home*







# 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





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

— Travel+Leisure

## The Many Micato Differences

How does a safari company amaze and excel for 60 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.

- *Travel+Leisure* has named us #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter nine times. No other company comes close.
- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Share a meal with our founders, Felix and Jane Pinto, at their suburban Nairobi home.
- Itineraries perfected by generations of experience and local knowledge.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Safari Directors—all Silver and Gold certified—accompany every safari from beginning to end.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.
- 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 are included. In Southern Africa, spirits are often included, too.
- Free valet laundry service, everywhere, every day (and complimentary, custom-designed luggage to put it in).
- Small-group, boutique safaris of fewer than 18 travellers, and only 12 in Southern Africa.
- 100% guaranteed departures on our scheduled Classic Safaris, even for parties of two.
- The finest, well-stocked safari vehicles, Wi-Fi equipped, with guaranteed window seats for all.
- Surprises. We're famous for them. You'll be amazed.
- And—this could well be at the top of the list—we pay for an African child's education for every safari we sell.





# A Day on Safari

## 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*







# 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.





# THE WORLD'S Most Awarded SAFARI COMPANY

**TRAVEL+  
LEISURE**

World's Best  
Value Winner

**TRAVEL+  
LEISURE**

Trips of  
a Lifetime

**PORTHOLE  
CRUISE MAGAZINE**

Best African Safari  
Tour Operator



Legacy in Travel  
Philanthropy Award

**TRAVEL+  
LEISURE**

**Global Vision Award**

Development, Youth Education  
Micato One for One  
Commitment



Best Tour Operator  
Africa / Middle East



**Virtuoso Winner**

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

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

World Tourism Award • 43-Time Winner, Travel Weekly Magellan Awards, including Gold for Best Tour Operator, Best Education Program, Best Social Media, Best Consumer Brochure, and Best Trade Website • Travvy Award: Gold, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Africa and Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Adventure • Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMIA) Adrian Awards: Leadership in Corporate Social Responsibility; Gold, Best Trade Brochure and Best Consumer Brochure, multiple years; HSMIA and National Geographic Traveler Gold Winner, Leader in Sustainable Tourism • 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



# THE HEART OF KENYA AND TANZANIA

Tanzania's Tarangire, Ngorongoro Crater & Serengeti • Kenya's Maasai Mara

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 to the green Crater Highlands, weaving our way to the serene and view-rich **Oldeani Mountain Lodge**, from which we’ll make a full-day game drive into the 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 **Serengeti Explorer**, 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 Sabarigo 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.

Your Safari Director will discuss with you a variety of individualized activity choices at every safari location.

*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 at full-service, meals-included day rooms at the **Norfolk** or the **Four Points Sheraton**, with our Safari Director and vehicle at the ready for outings before our flights home.

### *Make Your Safari a Private Classic*

The Heart of Kenya and Tanzania can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your friends or family group's own Safari Director, private bush flights, private vehicles, with the freedom to set your own schedules, to enjoy private meals in the bush, and many etceteras. In short, while your Private Classic will follow the set itinerary of any of our Classic Safaris, it offers the exclusivity and flexibility of a Custom Safari, at a lower cost.



*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 2024

Land arrangements, per person

	Jan-Mar	May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$18,750	\$17,750	\$19,250	\$19,750
Single Supplement	2,050	1,450	2,050	2,150
Internal Flights	2,150	2,150	2,150	2,150

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

### 2024 Dates

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

Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

### 2025 Dates

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

New rates and dates may apply

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



THE MICATO  
*One for One*  
COMMITMENT



FOR EVERY GUEST ON SAFARI  
WE SEND A CHILD TO SCHOOL



*Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.*

— Nelson Mandela

**H**undreds of thousands 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 36 years, Micato-AmericaShare has been a passionate advocate for East African children and their families. Under the Micato One for One Commitment, simply by signing up for a Micato safari, every guest on every safari sends a child to school—year after year.

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."



# Micato-AmericaShare

For more than 36 years—with intensified dedication during the pandemic—Micato’s tribute to our birth continent has been our nonprofit, Micato-AmericaShare. In the next seven pages we’ll tell you what AmericaShare does, but first, here’s why:

It all began with one little boy, 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, “AmericaShare is the why of why we exist.”

## 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 that child to graduate high school (and beyond, if the spirit is willing). Many lives, on both sides of the Atlantic, have been changed by this programme.

## 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





*I will never forget my first experience of visiting Harambee Centre! It surpassed my expectations; above all I felt very safe around that space despite the fact that everyone was a stranger when I got in but as I was leaving, I felt warm and I thought to myself this looks like a neat family that I would like to be part of.*

— Aisha Omar



Centre—made possible by our dear friends Bernard Wharton and Jennifer Walsh and scores of caring safari-goers—serves Mukuru residents with a Community Centre; a beautiful, 25,000-volume library—with more than 57,000 yearly visitors—and a flourishing second library, both made possible by Suzie and Bruce Kovner through a grant by the Kovner Foundation; and a digitally up-to-the-minute Computer Centre.

## Harambee's Computer Centre

A big, bright room, equipped with over 60 computers, visited more than 40,000 times since its inception, Micato-AmericaShare's Harambee Computer Centre—enabled by Dr. Derrick Rossi—offers Mukuru residents free computer access and digital skills training through a series of eight-week classes in Word, PowerPoint, and Excel basics.

The Centre has joined with a group of young professionals to offer classes in graphic design, and makes the math tutorials of the online Khan Academy available to students before their pivotal year-end exams. Intel East Africa's mobile computer learning truck is also a visitor to Harambee.

## More Milestones

The dynamic, 25,000-volume Harambee Centre Library is the proud recipient of the Best Community Library Award by the 50-year old Kenya Association of Library and Information Professionals.

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.

## Learn More

At our website, [AmericaShare.org](http://AmericaShare.org), or email us at [Inquiries@AmericaShare.org](mailto:Inquiries@AmericaShare.org).





# The Red Hill Library and Community Centre

Tucked away on the verdant seaward side of the glorious Old Cape Road, south of Cape Town, past the imposing Steenberg Mountains and lovely Simon's Town, on the way to the Cape of Good Hope, is the community of Red Hill, whose 1,500 makeshift households are blessed with wonderful views, bright community spirit, and not much in the way of community services.

"Micato-AmericaShare's educational outreach in East Africa inspired us to find a community in South Africa where we can have a lasting impact," says Lorna Macleod, AmericaShare's co-founder and executive director. "And at Red Hill, we knew we had found our place."

That place is AmericaShare's Red Hill Library

and Community Centre, a joyful place for a town with a single part-time clinic, 37 per cent unemployment, and no school for its more than 2,000 school-age kids, who, if they attend school, have to take long bus rides to state schools in the vicinity.

## Red Hill's Present and Future

Accomplished in close partnership with the Red Hill Development Forum and the Red Hill Literacy Project, this bright new library is staffed with trained librarians, a computer centre, and a welcoming community meeting place.



*Knowledge is like a garden. If it is not cultivated, it cannot be harvested.*

—African proverb

Goals for the future: Bringing in IT professionals to train Red Hill's teens and adults; a broad variety of new classes; more librarians; reaching our goal of 2,500 books and a dozen computers; further expansion of the Centre with a second floor; more joy and learning to the Red Hill community.

## Most of Micato's...

....safariers to the Cape Peninsula will visit the Red Hill Library and Community Centre, and many of them will be inspired to help it bring more light to the community. They'll want to make donations like books, computers, or funds for a new building.

So: if you'd like to visit Red Hill, either before or after your Micato safari, or if you're just inspired by what you're seeing and reading on these pages, send an email to [Inquiries@AmericaShare.org](mailto:Inquiries@AmericaShare.org).



*This collaboration with Micato-AmericaShare has brought light to our community. Scholars are able to do their homework and research in the library, which provides a great environment for their education and homework clubs. The Forum is also benefitting from having a productive space in which to meet. This project has uplifted the entire community by making resources available to everybody.*

—Luyando Lombo, Red Hill Development Forum member







# Huru Means Freedom

East African girls who can't afford sanitary pads very often avoid school during their periods, losing as much as an entire month each school year. The consequences are significant: girls who miss school or work fall behind, drop out or quit, perpetuating a grim cycle of poverty and gender inequality.

Micato is a major donor and proud supporter of Huru, founded in 2008 by AmericaShare's co-founder Lorna Macleod. Huru manufactures reusable sanitary pads—more than 2,100,000 to date—which have been distributed in free Huru Kits to more than 300,000 girls in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

But Huru Kits have proven to be a simple, sustainable, and wonderfully practical way to alleviate this world-wide problem.

Each Huru Kit consists of a colourful drawstring backpack with eight reusable pads; three pairs of underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; a resealable waterproof bag for safe storage of used pads; and educational materials on HIV prevention and reproductive and sexual health.





*Since Huru pads came we are comfortable and we do not feel left out. We are able to attend classes without fear or shame. It brings so much joy to know there are people on earth living far away from you who can rescue you.*

— Charity, age 16

All Huru pads are locally produced by women and men from underserved communities, and are designed for the resilient girls and women who use them. Each pad lasts a minimum of 24 months, making them a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to expensive disposables.

The crucial and heartening bottom line: Huru Kits have saved girls 24,000,000 school days (and counting) that otherwise would have been lost. Independent evaluation shows that girls who receive Huru Kits are three times less likely to miss school during their periods.

## Learn More

About Huru's important and effective work. And about its highly successful Skills Transfer Program, a targeted, practical programme that addresses East Africa's huge problem of youth unemployment, which disproportionately impacts girls; 65 per cent of the Skills Transfer Program's trainees have no income whatsoever. Huru's informative website is accessible 525,600 minutes a year at [HuruInternational.org](http://HuruInternational.org). And its phone number is: 212-340-7115.

*We educate women because it is smart. We educate women because it changes the world.*

—Drew Gilpin Faust, first female president of Harvard University





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