

THE MICATO GRAND SAFARI



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*

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."

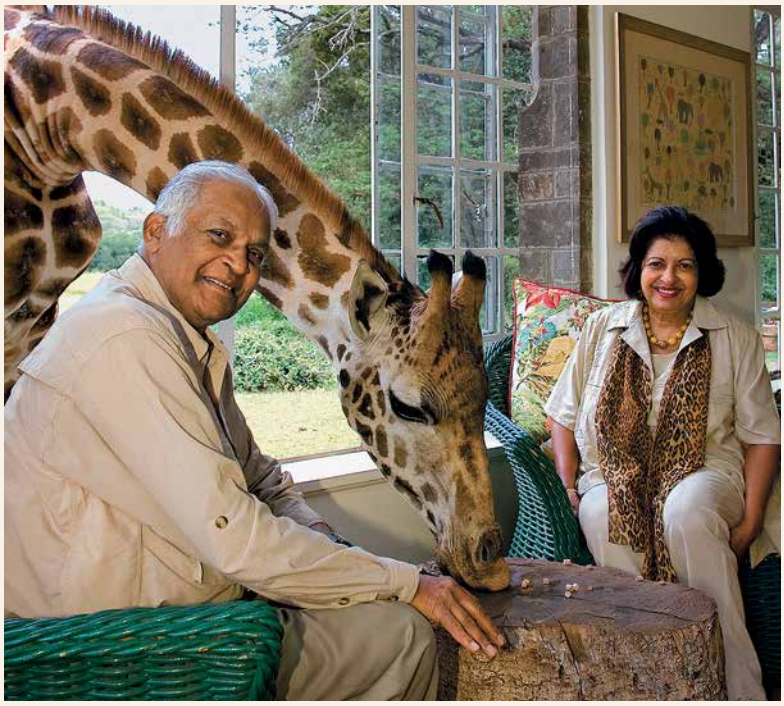
Micato's dedication to expert, familial service is the legacy of our founders, my parents Felix and Jane. Their willingness to go many extra miles to ensure that a Micato safari is the trip of a lifetime—as it is for so many of our guests—was the rock on which Felix and Jane built our family-owned, family-operated company and remains our guiding principle today. It is also 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 founders Felix and Jane Pinto, with a friend, in Nairobi



Your Safari Team in the Bush

Safari Directors: Guides, Helpers, Friends

And they're 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.

In addition to a thorough education in the theory and on-the-savannah practice of our state-of-the-science safety protocols, every Micato Safari Director in Kenya has earned prestigious Gold or Silver certifications from the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association. Seasoned professionals, most of whom have been with us their entire careers, graduates of Kenya Utalii College or Tanzania's College of Wildlife Management, they're creative choreographers of safari: guiding flexible, always-on-the-lookout forays into the bush, lecturing on flora and fauna, deftly handling logistics, and imparting fascinating nuggets of African history and local folklore. They will also become dear friends.

And the same highest standards and credentials—and affable, unstinting service—apply to Micato Safari Directors in all the East and Southern African countries in which we safari.

From the minute we stepped off the airplane in Nairobi, to the moment we said good-bye to our Safari Director, the trip far exceeded our expectations. He delighted us with his enthusiasm, his knowledge and love for the animals. He gracefully took care of all travel needs — airport check-ins, boarding passes, border crossings, hotel check-in /out, many wonderful surprises, and overall hand holding. Elisabeth Brown





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 ten times. No other company comes remotely close.
- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Itineraries perfected by our large in-country staff's generations of experience and the generational knowledge that comes from living in Africa.
- 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 Typical 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 and our Safari Director hop into our uniquely designed safari vehicles for an exploration of what the great lover of Africa Peter Beard called "a paradise caressed by light and air in their most special forms."

The multitude of free-ranging animals, going about their ancient and immediate business, untroubled by our presence, is astounding. Our Safari Director knows the hangouts and comings and goings of the animals, where that big lion pride is getting ready to go to work, the daily routes of the elephant clans, the two cheetah siblings who're having a territorial dispute with a grumpy leopard.

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



At the Lodge

One of safari's subtle charms is the opportunity to mix the excitements of game drives with the pleasures of relaxation—by the lodge's pool, reading that book we don't have time for at home on the veranda of our tent, taking a comfy nap, or, if we're in an active mood, choosing from one of the many activities our Safari Director will brief us on and arrange (and which vary from camp to camp): guided mountain biking; jogging with a Maasai, or taking a specially-arranged helicopter jaunt over the game lands.



Afternoon Game Drive and Sundowners

After a festive lunch, with talk of sightings and amazements (high on the list of safari surprises: the fresh and tasty food), we take an afternoon game drive, on the lookout for what seems a never-ending cavalcade of magnificent animals found nowhere else on earth. And as the sun lowers, we'll suddenly come across a serene clearing or a hilltop overlooking guileless infinity, and enjoy classic sundowner cocktails and snacks before heading back to a lovely dinner at camp and some time around the campfire before heading off to bed.

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 Hemingway 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 practicalities—and Micato-exclusive 44lb baggage allowance—on bush flights.



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

TourismCares™

Legacy in Travel
Philanthropy Award

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

Global Vision Award

Development, Youth Education
Micato One for One
Commitment

TravelAge West wave
EDITOR'S PICK

Best Tour Operator
Africa / Middle East

WORLD TOURISM AWARD

Micato-AmericaShare

For philanthropic
work that has
improved many
thousands of lives

Virtuoso Winner

Best Sustainable Leadership
Best VAST (Active) Operator
Best Escorted Tour Operator
Best Destinations & Experiences
Custom Tour Partner
Family and Celebration Partner
Virtuoso Performance Award
Luminary Award Winner

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:

Luxury Lifestyle Award: Top 100 Travel Agencies & Tour Operators of the World • Shorty Global Impact Award for Fighting Poverty: Huru International Global Travel Collection, Best Community Involvement • World Tourism Award • 73-Time Winner, Travel Weekly Magellan Awards, including Gold for Best Tour Operator, Best Education Program, Best Giving Back Initiative, Best Social Media, Best Consumer Brochure, Best Marketing Campaign, Best Direct Mail, 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 (HSMAI) Adrian Awards: Leadership in Corporate Social Responsibility; Gold, Best Trade Brochure and Best Consumer Brochure, multiple years; HSMAI 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 MICATO GRAND SAFARI

Kenya's Amboseli, Laikipia Plateau & Maasai Mara ▪ Tanzania's Serengeti & Ngorongoro Crater

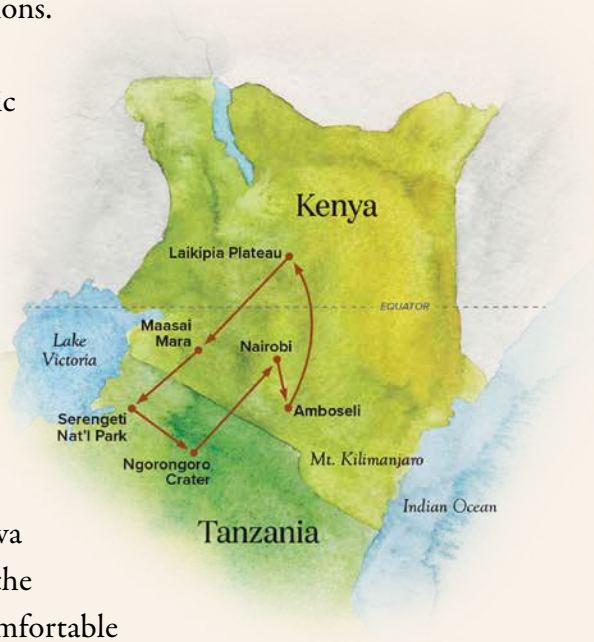
15 days door-to-door | Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

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

The grand, glamourous, 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 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 Mahali Mzuri in the Maasai Mara; the charmingly luxe Four Seasons Safari Lodge in the Serengeti; and the serene Lewa Safari Camp or Loisaba Tented Camp on the Laikipia Plateau bring us into close and comfortable contact with some of Africa's richest game lands and most stirring landscapes.



DAY 1 Depart home

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 pay a heart-sparking visit to Micato-AmericaShare's Harambee Centre, greet *Giraffa camelopardalis* at the Giraffe Centre, 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 have lunch at one of Nairobi's star restaurants, then tour the excellent National Museum before returning to our hotel, serene Hemingways.

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 The Laikipia Plateau

We'll spend our two nights on the airy Laikipia Plateau in one of two superbly designed, intimate-camps, **Lewa Safari Camp** or **Loisaba Tented Camp**. Both offer vast unending views over the animal-thronged Plateau, with sightings of wandering elephants, elegant leopards, rare Grévy's zebras, rhinos, wild dogs, and the full African roster of predators and prey (which we'll encounter in

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

thrilling close-up during our game drives; those gorgeous leopards sometimes use our safari vehicles as cover as they stalk). Both camps are centred in highly respected conservancies, protecting—in partnership with local communities—an area larger than 20 Manhattans, with massive, but Baryshnikov-nimble giraffes substituting for skyscrapers. And both bask in the aura of lordly Mount Kenya.*

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

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 **Mahali Mzuri,** we'll game 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). And at flight's end, we'll savour a sparkling 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.





DAYS 10 & 11 The Serengeti

We'll spend our two Serengeti nights in the **Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti**. The magnificently conceived Four Seasons is set on a fine collection of kopjes, looking out at what seems a golden eternity, with sunrise skies "banded with rose and lemon and the colour of flamingo wings," as Elspeth Huxley wrote. The vast plain, home of 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 more than 60 more species inhabit the great grassland, its riverine forests, and bustling, set-piece kopjes, rock islands that pop up from the plain.

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

The Serengeti — and the Four Seasons — are the kind of African places that Micato loves to introduce our guests to, places that lull us into slowing down as we enter a world where nature expresses itself wholly and the tumults and furies of the larger world are stilled by a million-year calm.

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 Lodge Meliá**, set on the rain-forested rim of Ngorongoro Crater, one of our solar system's grandest 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 unlikeliness of an elephant, your old sadness at never having seen a dinosaur will be lightened.

DAYS 14 & 15 Depart, arriving home Day 15

After breakfast and a last look at the Edenic lands below, we'll drive to Lake Manyara and fly to Nairobi, where we'll have day rooms, and the services of our Safari Director and vehicle, at the **Four Points Nairobi Airport**, and get a bite — meals and amenities as always included—before being driven to the airport for our late flights back to the Northern Hemisphere.





Make Your Safari a Private Classic

The Micato Grand Safari can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your friends or family group's own Safari Director, private vehicles, with the freedom to set your own schedules, to enjoy private meals in the bush, and many etceteras.

2027 Rates

Land arrangements, per person

	Nov, Jan-May	*June-October*	*December*
Double Occupancy	$38,950	$42,950	$44,750
Single Supplement	7,550	9,750	9,950
Internal Flights	3,500	4,150	4,150

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

2027 Dates

Door-to-door from home, including days en route
Departs Tuesday, returns Tuesday | Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

2028 Dates

Door-to-door from home, including days en route
Departs Tuesday, returns Tuesday | New rates and dates may apply

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



Hundreds 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 Micato One for One Commitment

For over 40 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 this commitment. Every child deserves an education, and we're overjoyed to be contributing to this unalienable right.

Micato-AmericaShare

For over 40 years — Micato's tribute to our birth continent has been our nonprofit, Micato-AmericaShare. In the next six 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.

School 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 a carefully vetted boarding school, and our School Scholarship Programme provides every resource necessary for many hundreds of children to graduate high school (and beyond, if the spirit is willing). Sponsors and students are kept in touch by letters, deep relationships are built, and many lives are changed. As one of our sponsors wrote, "You start out writing a check, but what you get back is the joy of seeing the impact, the happiness. Our sponsee George, getting ready to attend university, is a joyous human being."

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 informal settlements (the word slum doesn't do justice to the stubborn hope and vitality of those settlements). Harambee Centre serves Mukuru—where a staggering 60,000 children are unable to attend school—with a Community Centre; a beautiful 30,000-volume library (with more than 60,000 yearly visitors); a secondary, specialized library; and a Computer Centre with more than 120 computers, laptops, and tablets and a 12-week programme in digital skills training.

The Red Hill Library and Community Centre

AmericaShare's Red Hill Library and Community Centre, on the seaward side of the glorious Old Cape Road, south of Cape Town, is joyful place considering it's 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 bright, cheery library is staffed with trained librarians, a computer centre, and a welcoming community meeting place. Its Literacy and Numeracy Programme meets for 3 ½ hours daily, kids are taught basic and advanced computer skills on its expanding bank of computers, and its beautiful, ocean-view Umbono Wempunelelo — View to Success Deck — has become an integral part of Red Hill's commitment to meeting the needs of young, energetic minds by engaging the kids in outdoor learning activities.

Learn More

At our website, AmericaShare.org, or email us at Inquiries@AmericaShare.org.

5 to 1

The number of students in many Kenya public schools who share a single textbook

$10

The average cost of a textbook in Kenya

1 Million

The number of Mukuru resident visits to Harambee Centre Library and computer centre



8X Higher

The likelihood a child in the Sponsorship Programme will go on to college, compared to the national Kenyan average

200,000

The number of computer sessions to date



Huru Means Freedom

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 2,700,000 to date—which have been distributed in free Huru Kits to more than 450,000 girls in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

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 six reusable pads; two pairs of underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; two resealable waterproof bags for safe storage of used pads; and educational materials on life skills.

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.

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

450,000+

The number of girls who have received Huru Kits throughout East Africa

2.7 Million+

The number of Huru Reusable Sanitary Pads produced to date

24 Months

The minimum number of months each Huru Pad lasts

The crucial and heartening bottom line: Huru Kits have saved girls upward of 32,400,000 school days 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.

Huru also leverages its extensive network to reach girls most in need, through its menstruation and reproductive health app, and by sending Huru teams to schools, rescue centres, and community hubs, distributing essential supplies and providing vital education to girls and young women, not only about menstruation, but sexual hygiene and awareness.

Almost 900,000 girls have benefited from those distributions and education sessions, and the much-visited app.

Learn More

About Huru's important and effective work. And about its highly successful Skills Development 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 Development Program's trainees have no income whatsoever. Huru's informative website is accessible 525,600 minutes a year at HuruInternational.org.

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

Drew Gilpin Faust, first female president of Harvard University





My Ambitions Were Given a Chance to Shine

Micato-AmericaShare and Huru Success Stories

From *The New York Times*

Not long ago, Pulitzer Prize-winner Nicholas Kristof and journalist Trisha Mukherjee travelled to Africa. The result: "The Shame That Keeps Millions of Girls Out of School," a *Times* op-ed column in which Mukherjee writes: In Nairobi's bustling settlement of Mukuru, Celestine Wanza, 18, used to tear off a piece of her mattress to use as a pad, a workaround common in Kenya. Ms. Wanza is charming, sharp and quick to speak up when her classmates are shy — the kind of student any teacher would want. For years, she stayed home while menstruating. But once she had to attend school for an exam. Blood seeped through the cloth shred and onto her clothes, sending her running home. That day, Ms. Wanza decided she had had enough. Asking around, she learned of Huru International, a non-profit that provides free kits of six thick, washable pads, along with panties, instructions and an odor-proof storage bag for when water is scarce. When I ask whether she still misses school because of her period—even one day a month — she proudly shakes her head no.

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

From Scholarship Sponsors

Caroline Wainaina [who was in university when this was written] has been our "adopted daughter" for six years now. The depth of her thankfulness, her gratitude and joy are sustaining for both of us, but we don't want to take credit. All we did was give her some financial stability to use her considerable talents to shine. If truth be told, her success is really all about her, not us. We feel so lucky to be part of her life.

Juliet Walters

I am fortunate to sponsor two children, Evalyne Lucinda, and Dennis Mburu. It was their letters that really made me feel connected to them. Their personalities shone. People would be surprised by the effect that being a sponsor has on one's daily life. I want to thank them for adding to my life, and for widening my perspective.

Albert Herrera

Irene [Nduta Njuki] had been living in a ghetto with her grandmother and uncle. She is very bright and loves academics, so going to a boarding school offers her protection, good medical attention, direction, and most of all, hope. I want Irene in my family's life. Her example is one of overcoming adversity and pressing on to succeed. It is women like her who will change the world.

Bonnie Scripps

From Micato-AmericaShare Scholarship Students

I am proud to say that Micato-AmericaShare has been nothing but a blessing to me.... Later this year I will begin my studies at Nairobi's Multimedia University. If it were not for Micato-AmericaShare I surely could not have had a future to dream about. My ambitions were given a chance to shine.

Edwin Odwori

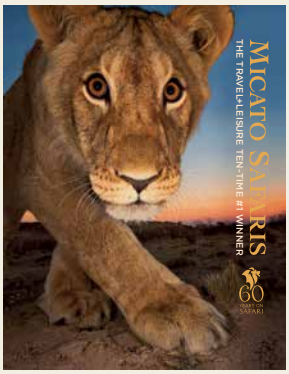
My mother died when I was two years old and my father died a year later. I lived with my Aunty in Nairobi, but she had seven children of her own and couldn't afford to pay for my school fees, but I somehow got by. In the sixth grade, Micato-AmericaShare came looking for children from needy backgrounds, and I was enrolled in a boarding school near Nairobi, with all the tuitions and school items I need thanks to AmericaShare....[After graduating from high school] in 2013, I entered the Bachelor Degree of Medicine program at the University of Nairobi, again with AmericaShare's full support.

Dr. Justus Omondi Okeyo

(At the time of this writing Justus is a resident Obstetrician Gynecologist at Kenyatta National Hospital, Kenya's largest teaching and referral hospital. He's also pursuing, with Micato-AmericaShare support, a Master of Medicine in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Nairobi.)







You have me longing for more...
...please mail me your entire, beautiful brochure!

CLICK HERE