

THE HEMINGWAY WING 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.

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. 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.

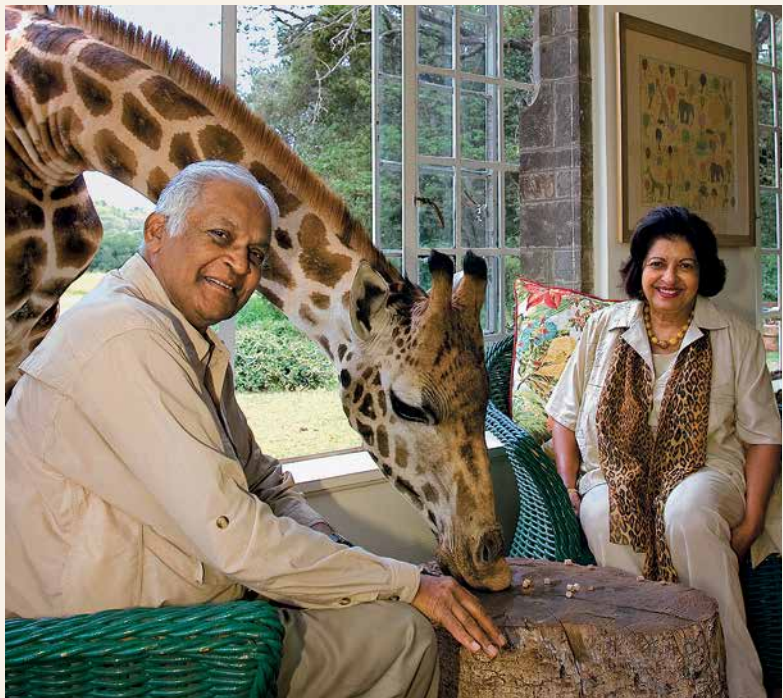
And so, I hope you'll enjoy an armchair safari with this brochure, and that you'll consider joining us for hilltop sundowners overlooking the guileless and gorgeous African game lands.

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

**PORTRHOLE
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

**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 (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 HEMINGWAY WING SAFARI

Kenya's Laikipia Plateau ▪ Maasai Mara ▪ Tanzania's Serengeti ▪ Ngorongoro Crater ▪ Lake Manyara

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

*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*

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.



*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*

DAY 1 Depart home

DAYS 2 & 3 Nairobi

We'll be met by our Micato Safari Director and whisked away to the serene, jet lag-banishing **Villa Rosa Kempinski**. We'll visit the impressive National Museum of Kenya, make a joyously inspirational visit to Micato-AmericaShare's Harambee Centre, visit the Giraffe Centre, lunch at one of Nairobi's most delightfully cutting-edge restaurants, and pay our respects at the home of *Out of Africa's* Isak Dinesen (who wrote as Karen Blixen; Hemingway said more than once that she should have received the Nobel Prize for literature instead of him).

DAYS 4 & 5 The Laikipia Plateau

We fly north from Nairobi to the Laikipia Plateau. It's a short, but momentous flight, taking us from Nairobi's urban whirl to a vast, animal-abounding wilderness graced with views of the more-than-iconic Mount Kenya and the monumental clouds that seem to drift up from its 17,000-foot summit. We are, gleefully, in the Africa we've been carrying around in our imagination since we were children. Our haven in this marvelous world-of-its-own is the excellent **Mutara Camp**, set high atop a cliff overlooking the Plateau, and the only camp (or lodge or pretty much any modern artifact) in the 20,000-acre Mutara Conservancy, a fruitful partnership between the local people and Mutara's diligently eco- and heritage-aware

owners. Spiraling down from the clifftop, we make game drives in Laikipia, encountering in solitude its fabulous plentitude of large (and cunningly small) mammals (all the Big Five, including some especially svelte leopards) 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: rhinoceros beetle, buffalo weaver, leopard tortoise, ant lion, and elephant shrew.)



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 **Olare Mara**

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

Kempinski, a small tented camp in the soothingly luxurious Kempinski style. Olare Mara's tents are built on wooden platforms on the banks of the Ntiakitiak River, giving us veranda views of hippos galumphing and elephants joyously bathing in the river. 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 speciality).

Olare Mara Kempinski



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 lovely Cape Dutch style cottages and suites of **The Manor at Ngorongoro**, set mellifluously in an Arabica coffee estate next to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. And then we'll wend our scenic way up from the Manor to the rim of the one of earth's wonders, the great, green, animal-nurturing caldera of a once catastrophically cranky, now beneficently mellow volcano, the planetarily unique Ngorongoro.

We're at Vail and Aspen altitudes of well over 8,000 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 a couple of thousand feet 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.)

DAYS 13 & 14 Depart, arriving home Day 14

We'll fly back to Nairobi and rest up — with our Safari Director and vehicle on call — before our late evening flights at a full-service, meals-included day room at the **Four Points Nairobi Airport**, with some time to shop, or just kick back and savour the first, fresh memories of a classic African safari.

* 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."





Make Your Safari a Private Classic

The Hemingway Wing 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 Dates

Door-to-door from home, including days en route

Departs Thursday, returns Wednesday | Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

2027 Rates

Land arrangements, per person

	<i>Nov, Jan-May</i>	<i>June-October</i>	<i>December</i>
Double Occupancy	\$30,450	\$34,550	\$35,950
Single Supplement	3,450	4,350	4,450
Internal Flights	3,350	3,750	3,750

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

2028 Dates

Door-to-door from home, including days en route

Departs Thursday, returns Wednesday | New rates and dates may apply

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

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

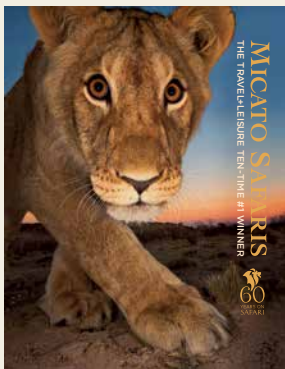
My mother died when I was two years old and my father died a year later. I lived with my Aunty in Nairobi, but she had seven children of her own and couldn’t afford to pay for my school fees, but I somehow got by. In the sixth grade, Micato-AmericaShare came looking for children from needy backgrounds, 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.)



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