

JEWELS
OF
SOUTH
AFRICA



A full-page photograph of a savanna landscape. In the foreground, a herd of elephants, including several adults and young calves, stands in a grassy field. Some elephants are partially submerged in a body of water at the bottom of the frame. The background is filled with dense tropical vegetation, including large palm trees with fan-like fronds. The overall scene is vibrant and lush.

Southern Africa

Classic Safaris

*So geographers in Afric-maps . . .
Place elephants for want of towns.*

—Jonathan Swift, *On Poetry: A Rhapsody*

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: 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 Henry the trip far exceeded our expectations. He delighted us with his enthusiasm, his knowledge and love for the animals. Throughout the trip we experienced many instances of his caring, charming, witty and humble personality. 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.
- Micato's full time, safari-expert staff—their average tenure is 11 years—is ready to address questions, make recommendations, go over every detail.
- Itineraries perfected by our large in-country staff's generations of experience and the generational knowledge that comes from living in Africa.
- Small-group, non-groupy safaris averaging 12 guests, and as few as two. And on Custom Safaris, sky's the limit.
- All tips included, even to Safari Directors and Driver Guides.
- 100% guaranteed departures on our more than 400-a-year scheduled Classic Safaris, even for parties of two.
- Safari Directors—all Silver and Gold certified—accompany every Micato safari from beginning to end.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Free valet laundry service, everywhere, every day (and complimentary, custom-designed luggage to put it in).
- 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.
- The finest, well-stocked safari vehicles, Wi-Fi equipped, with guaranteed window seats for all.
- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- And this could go to 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 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

**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

**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

JEWELS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town & Cape Winelands · Phinda Private Game Reserve ·
Thornybush Private Game Reserve · Sabi Sand Game Reserve

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

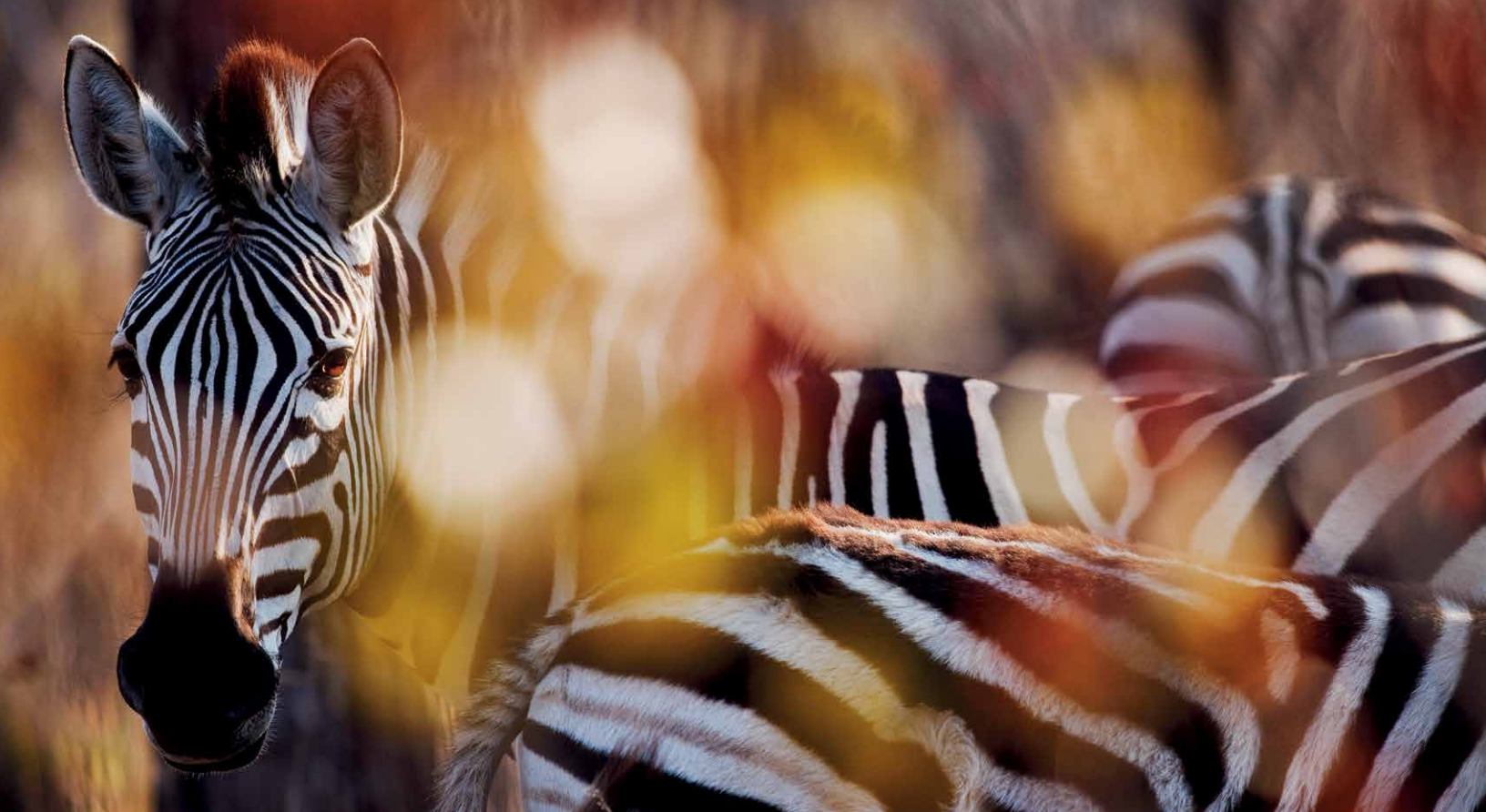
We honour four especially radiant gems on this wonderfully eventful, under-two-week safari: sparkly Cape Town and its Winelands, Phinda Private Game Reserve's seven marvelously varied ecosystems, and the classic safari landscapes of the Thornybush Game Reserve and the Sabi Sand Private Game Reserve, both private reserves on the unfenced border of the far more visited Kruger National Park.

Adding to *Jewels of South Africa's* luster: our Cape Town hotel, the historic, lushly gardened Mount Nelson; the Phinda Reserve's Forest Lodge and its hilltop Mountain Lodge (we frequent one or the other according to the seasons); the Sabi Sand's quietly, but nonetheless emphatically luxurious Tengile River Lodge; and the equally luxe and serene Saseka Tented Camp, like Tengile, set on a serene river bend. (And another gem, easily added as a safari extension: Victoria Falls, the world's most stupendous waterfall—see page 144).

*Haste, haste has
no blessing.*

—Kiswahili proverb





DAY 1 *Depart home*

DAYS 2–4 *Cape Town and environs*

“The whole town,” Captain Cook wrote in 1771 about Cape Town, “may be considered as one great inn fitted up for the recreation of all comers and goers.” The great voyager may as well have been writing yesterday: Cape Town is one of the world’s jazziest, most fascinatingly multicultural and downright beautiful cities. Our base is the

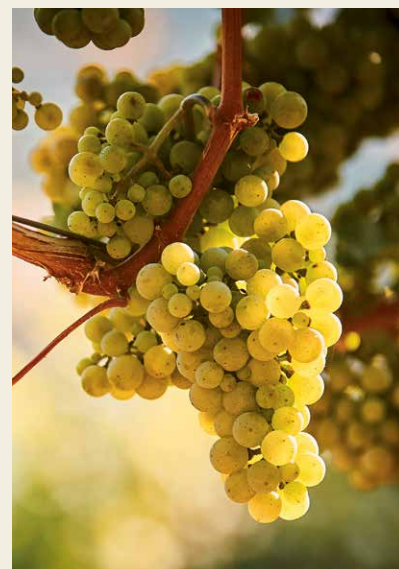
iconic Pink Lady, the **Mount Nelson**, from which we gaze at Table Mountain (which we’ll ascend via the famed Aerial Tramway). We’ll drive down the grand and wild Cape Peninsula to the Cape of Good Hope, around which the world’s history once turned, paying a visit to Micato-AmericaShare’s Red Hill Community Centre along the way. And we’ll motor into the Cape Winelands for wine-tasting, leisurely lunch-taking, and view-imbibing in one of the most salubrious spots in a region rich with human and natural splendour.*

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

DAYS 5 & 6 *Phinda Private Game Reserve*

We fly northeast across South Africa’s gargantuan geographies to the private Phinda Reserve’s seven distinct habitats—woodlands, grasslands, wetlands, rolling hills, rivers, seasonal marshes and pans, and a hauntingly beautiful sand forest—Africa’s last sand forest—all home to a superb wildlife medley (which includes the Big Five and 436 bird species).

We’ll settle, depending on the season, into one of two outstanding camps: either the **Phinda Forest Lodge**, set in that marvelous forest, with “glass bubble” suites that bring us into cozy contact with the sweetly enveloping forest, or the **Phinda Mountain Lodge**, set on a hilltop with wrap-around views of the verdurous Lebombo foothills. Each lodge features beguiling infinity pools, festive



outdoor dining under South Africa's intense but friendly stars, birdsong and the twittering of bush babies, and deep tranquility as we rest up from our game-driving forays into Phinda's remarkable microregions.

DAYS 7 & 8 *Thornybush Game Reserve*

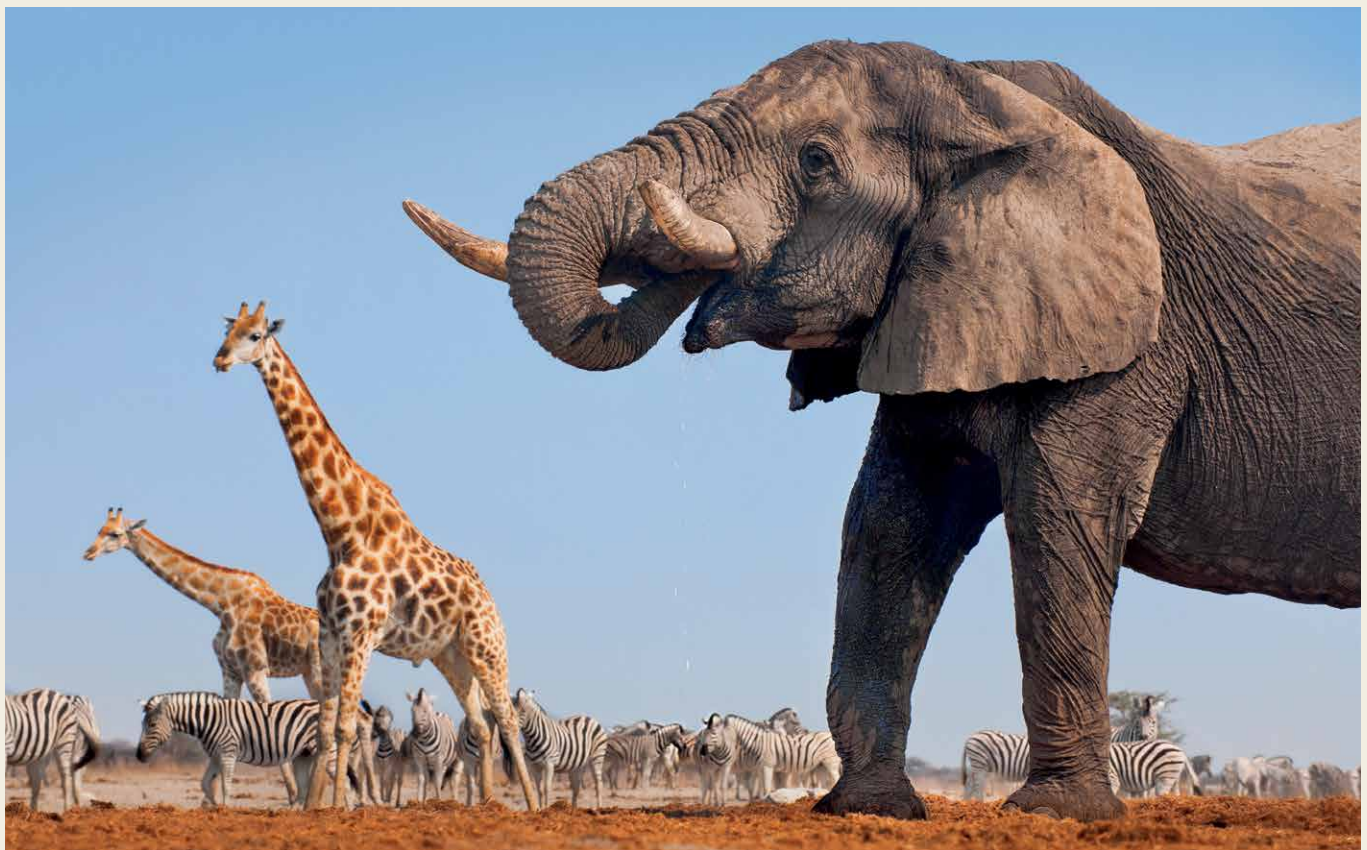
Thornybush's setting is classically African: more than 34,000 sweeping acres on a private nature reserve sharing a fenceless border with famous Kruger National Park—so for our footloose animals, that's no border at all. Big 5 encounters are both the standard and the standout experience here (including sightings of the endangered, marvelous-looking pangolin, well-protected in Thornybush).

Set on a beautiful curve of the meandering Monwana River, **Saseka Tented Camp** has just nine luxurious, stylishly decorated tents, each with glass doors opening onto a river-view deck complete with a pool and outdoor shower. (Those tents are exemplars of our adage that tents in Micato's Africa resemble the tents of our youth as a fresh-from-the-factory Bentley resembles a Model T.)



Our guides were not only magically knowledgeable about every possible thing you could want to discover about the wildlife that popped up at every turn, they were funny, human, and real.

—Dr. Jean Marmoreo and Bob Ramsay



DAYS 9–11 *Sabi Sand Game Reserve*

The very private, very beautiful Sabi Sand Game Reserve is one of our favourite African places. Adjacent to Kruger National Park, the 240-square-mile Sabi Sand is home to all of Kruger's famously rich roster of animals—including, of course, the Big Five—who wander freely between Sabi Sand and the much more humanly thronged national park.

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

Our domicile in this surpassingly lovely corner of Africa is the conveniently modern (and solar-powered) **Tengile River Lodge**, set in a riverside forest, with only nine soothingly secluded, thoughtfully luxurious suites, each with a private plunge pool.

DAYS 12 & 13 *Depart for home, arriving Day 13*

We fly to Johannesburg, and on to full-service, meals-included day rooms at the **InterContinental**, whose spa and indoor pool beckon, before our Safari Director accompanies us to the adjacent—it's only 250 feet away—international airport for our flights home.

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

—Hannah Reinmuth, Virtuoso Travel Consultant

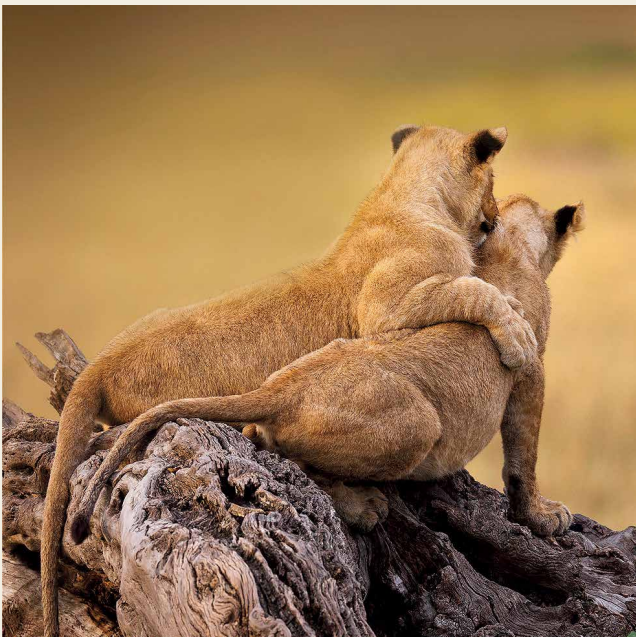




Tengile River Lodge

Make Your Safari a Private Classic

Jewels of South Africa 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.



2026 Rates

Land arrangements, per person

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Nov	December
Double Occupancy	\$34,950	\$36,950	\$44,950
Single Supplement	7,850	8,150	14,450
Internal Flights	3,950	3,950	3,950

(Cape Town / Nelspruit / Phinda / Nelspruit / Thornybush / Skukuza / Johannesburg)
Connections may apply.

2026 Dates

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

Departs Sunday, returns Friday | Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

2027 Dates

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

Departs Sunday, returns Friday | New rates and dates may apply

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

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 Micato One for One Commitment

For almost 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.

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 almost 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



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



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 70 computers 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 a 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 new library is staffed with trained librarians, a computer centre, and a welcoming community meeting place. Its Literacy and Numeracy Programme meets for two 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.

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, or email us at Inquiries@AmericaShare.org.



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 2,800,000 to date—which have been distributed in free Huru Kits to more than 460,000 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; three pairs of underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; two resealable waterproof bags 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 upward of 25,000,000 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 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.

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 nonprofit 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 and Geoffrey Knowles

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

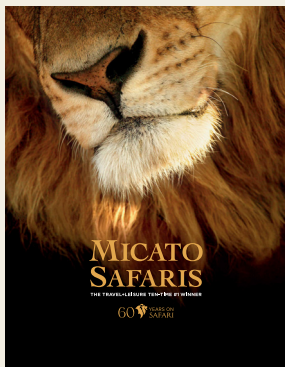
My mother died when I was two years old and my father died a year later. I lived with my Aunt in Nairobi, but she had seven children of her own and couldn’t afford to pay for my school fees, but I somehow got by. In the sixth grade, Micato-AmericaShare came looking for children from needy backgrounds,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