

BOTSWANA'S  
TIMELESS  
WILDERNESS



A herd of elephants is gathered in a lush savanna landscape. In the foreground, a body of water is filled with yellow water lilies. The elephants are of various sizes, including several adults and young calves. The background is dominated by tall palm trees with large, fan-shaped fronds. The overall scene is vibrant and natural.

# 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.



## 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.

# 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.



## 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



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

# BOTSWANA'S TIMELESS WILDERNESS

Botswana's Okavango Delta, Moremi Game Reserve & Chobe National Park  
Zambia & Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls

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

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

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

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

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



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

—Paige D. Koerbel  
Regional Vice President, Renaissance Hotels

DAY 1 *Depart home*

DAY 2 *Johannesburg*

After arriving at O. R. Tambo International, we'll be escorted to the **Saxon Hotel, Villas and Spa** in Johannesburg's tree-lined suburb of Sandhurst. This quietly luxurious hotel has much to be proud of but says, touchingly, that its greatest "boast" is that the father of modern South Africa, Nelson Mandela, chose the Saxon as his sanctuary at which to complete his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*.

DAYS 3 & 4 *The Okavango Delta*

Our base in the miraculous Delta is beautifully shaded **Kiri Camp**, tucked away in a vast private concession. The intimate camp has many charms: unflashy luxury, great dining, and extraordinarily well-designed tents, each raised on a platform with a private deck overlooking the hippo-thronged Delta waters. While here we'll game view by canoe in the Delta's waterways, and take guided bush walks. All the classic African headliners are to be seen, sometimes unexpectedly. "One of the Okavango's delights,"





Frans Lanting writes, “is the sheer surprise of seeing an elephant emerge from underwater.”

#### DAYS 5 & 6 *Moremi Game Reserve*

A jaunty helicopter flight takes us southeast to a heart-stirring sanctuary, Elephant Havens, where we’ll delight in the impish behaviour of young, orphaned elephants. After our visit and some lunch we’ll helicopter to the Khwai River and *Monachira Camp*, whose thoughtfully-realized tents open onto the floodplains and a marvelous variety of animals who wander these environs insouciantly, delighting us as we watch. And, among Moremi’s myriad charms, it gives us the chance to see the huge African night sky that ever captivated Elspeth Huxley, a sky “bristling with innumerable stars, as close-packed as the quills on a porcupine.”\*

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

#### DAYS 7 & 8 *Chobe National Park*

A quick flight takes us northeastward to *Savute Elephant Lodge*, amid towering acacia trees in one of the continent’s greatest gamelands, the Savute Channel. This mighty waterway nurtures Chobe National Park, as it flows to and from the vast wetlands of northern Botswana. Our superbly appointed tented suites are raised above the ground on pillars to give our game viewing a lift. Off the main building, a waterhole attracts the area’s star residents, herds and herds of elephants, who gather to drink. Our worthy reasons to head into the bush, beyond seeking game, will be to take in a collection of ancient San Bushman rock paintings that date back more than 1,500 years.



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



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

Here we'll repeat something a Micato friend once said: "Victoria Falls is billed as one of the world's greatest waterfalls, but, as a matter of fact, it's one of the world's greatest anythings." In other good news: we'll be staying in the grand, colonial-era **Victoria Falls Hotel**, within walking distance of the incredible cataract.



**DAYS 11 & 12**

*Depart, arriving home on Day 12*

We fly to Johannesburg, with full-service, meals-included day rooms at the **InterContinental** before our ever-in-attendance Safari Director accompanies us to the airport for flights homeward.

## Make Your Safari a Private Classic

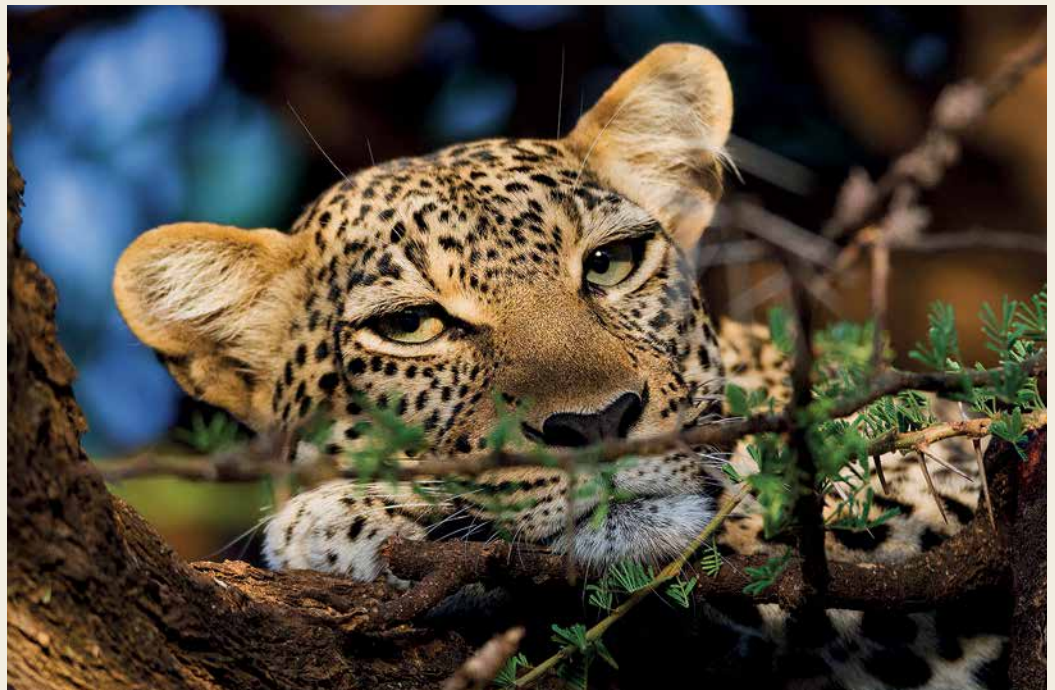
Botswana's Timeless Wilderness can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your friends or family group's own Safari Director, private vehicles, with the freedom to set your own schedules, to enjoy private meals in the bush, and many etceteras.



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

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

—Scott J. Mermel



## 2027 Rates

Contact your Safari Specialist for 2027 Rates.

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

## 2027 Dates

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

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

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

## 2028 Dates

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

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

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

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

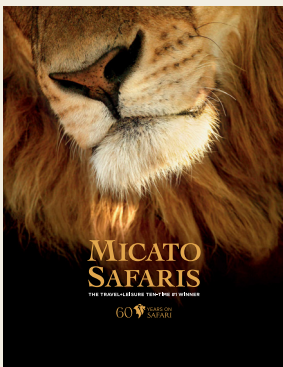
My mother died when I was two years old and my father died a year later. I lived with my Aunty in Nairobi, but she had seven children of her own and couldn’t afford to pay for my school fees, but I somehow got by. In the sixth grade, Micato-AmericaShare came looking for children from needy backgrounds,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



Join us at home  
*in Africa*



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

[CLICK HERE](#)