ESTABLISHED 1918

TRANS AFRICA SAFARIS

LUXURY TAILOR-MADE TOURS

SOUTH AFRICA ● BOTSWANA ● NAMIBIA ● ZAMBIA ● ZIMBABWE ● EAST AFRICA ● INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS

Dear friends,

I'm sure by now, you've all been exposed to so much news about the world's economic downturn, that you have become somewhat anesthetized to all this negative information. Well, I think we're all aware that the year ahead will be challenging, but there is no doubt that there are still many people out there who have the means and inclination to travel and we need to endorse the decision of these clients that it is 'okay' to travel and give the others a good reason to take a holiday – be it for a special birthday, anniversary, family get-together, trips of a social / community responsible nature, etc. Also, there are without doubt, a fantastic slew of special and value-added offers on the market and we are endeavouring to make our tour proposals as appealing as possible. Many suppliers have extended special offers to us and we intend to take advantage of these and in so doing offer your clients much more "bang for their buck."

Happy Valentines and best regards,
André Botha

Trans Africa Safaris is proud to be a founding member of the newly-established The Travel Alliance. Currently comprising six Virtuoso On-Sites, the purpose of the alliance is for its members to cross market and share best practices.

The Travel Alliance is an association of award-winning destination specialists, recognized internationally for their enlightened trip planning, insider access and exceptional guides. Leveraging the talents of like-minded tour operators across many countries, *The Travel Alliance* dedicates itself to delivering tailor-made itineraries of uncompromising quality. We invite only the best of our peers to join the alliance, and then constantly monitor performance to ensure its continued excellence. As separate companies within individual countries, we have changed the way people travel. As a world-wide travel alliance, we offer you the same expertise across the globe.

www.thetravelalliance.com

MEMBERS:
● Entrée Destinations ● I.C. Bellagio ● Imperial Tours ● MadeforSpain
Southern Crossings ● Trans Africa Safaris

www.entreedestinations.com ● www.icbellagio.com ● www.imperialtours.net ● www.madeforspain.com ● www.southerncrossings.com ● www.transafricasafaris.com

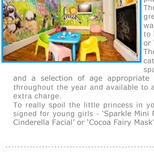
Royal Portfolio opens Africa House

Africa House, a villa that Liz and Phil Biden, owners of Royal Malewane, have built for their private use in the African Bushveld, is a five-minute walk, or a two minute drive from Royal Malewane.

The main building boasts generous spaces, covered verandah and infinity pool that overhangs a pristine riverine system where game abounds.

Each of the six en-suite bedrooms with private outside showers open onto their own deck looking over the African Bush. The furnishings can be described as eclectic. Bright coloured silks and leathers have been used and expensive antiques, Persian rugs and objects d'art add to the exotic look of this villa. Hand made linen is used throughout.
The villa has its own game drive vehicle, ranger, tracker, chef and housekeeping staff and offers the same services and standards as Royal Malewane. Guests are welcome to make use of the Royal Malewane shop and award winning spa.

Mount Nelson – Magic for the Whole Family



Situated in the heart of Cape Town's cultural centre, the hotel's nine acre exotic garden setting makes it perfectly suited to accommodating grown-ups craving the luxury of seclusion and serenity, and little ones who need a secure and spacious place in which to play and explore.
The super-sized (and supervised) Oasis swimming pool is a great place to cool off. For curious kids, educational garden walks with hotel horticulturist Paul Rice can be arranged, and to help instill eco-awareness, a visit to the hotel's vermiculture or 'worm farm' project is a must.
The children's activity centre is a colourful hive of activity. Located on the ground floor of the Main Hotel building, this space contains a range of thrilling educational games, toys and a selection of age appropriate educational DVD's. The fully supervised centre is open throughout the year and available to all resident hotel guests between the ages of 0 and 12 at no extra charge.
To really spoil the little princess in your life, the new Libirsa Spa offers treatments specially designed for young girls - 'Sparkle Mini Pedicure' (complete with glittery polish), 'Lavender and Aloe Cinderella Facial' or 'Cocoa Fairy Mask' is a sure bet to get any little angel's face glowing.

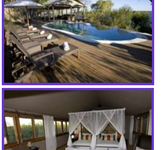
Cycling on Safari at Singita

Late last year, Singita introduced an exciting new dimension to its renowned safari experience, featuring mountain biking as one of the many guest activities on offer at Singita Lebombo & Sweni lodges in the Kruger National Park and Singita Ebony & Boulders lodges in the Sabi Sand. While bicycles are no new invention, the use of them for game viewing in wilderness areas, certainly is.
Singita offers a small fleet of state-of-the-art Giant mountain bikes and helmets to allow guests, accompanied by an experienced guide and tracker, the opportunity to explore less travelled areas of the reserve.
In keeping with their philosophy to 'touch the earth lightly' this activity allows guests to experience wild Africa "on the ground," significantly reduces the impact on the environment and provides a great work out.

Family Suites
Both Boulders and Ebony now offer two family suites which are in the same style as the existing lodge suites. Suites at both lodges are connected by a common dining/lounge area making them ideal for families or friends travelling together. These suites can be sold as a small 'lodge within a lodge' and can operate independently of the main lodges.
The suites offer an en-suite master bedroom and a second smaller en-suite bedroom with twin beds ideal for triples or young children.

Wilderness Safaris' Toka Leya Camp, Zambia

Situated in the western sector of the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, this 'Classic' camp is approximately 12km from Victoria Falls.



The camp has 12 safari-style tents – 9 twin and 3 family units which are positioned to offer quiet seclusion. The dining and bar areas are under a canopy of trees and offer panoramic Zambezi vistas. Tents and public areas are connected by raised walkways and the camp offers a swimming pool and health & beauty spa.

Activities include a tour of the Victoria Falls on the Zambian side, game drives within Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park, river cruises, fishing excursions, guided nature walks and tours in Livingstone town.
Other activities on offer in the area at an additional charge include sunset cruises, helicopter flights, micro-lighting, canoeing, jet boating, and white-water rafting.

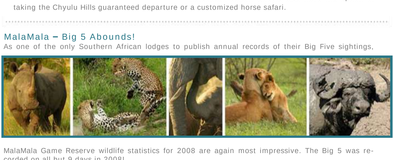
Game drives into the Mosi-oa-Tunya Park offer sightings of general game species such as buffalo, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest and impala as well as a rich diversity of birdlife.

Great Plains' Ride Kenya

Ride Kenya's Amboseli tented horseback safari takes a maximum of 8 guests at any one time affording guests an intimate, high-quality experience. The seven days/six night Amboseli guaranteed departure safari, allows experienced riders to enjoy fabulous fast-paced riding, wonderful food and service with a chance to explore an amazing landscape, all in traditional safari style. The ride begins in the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjaro and traverses 120 miles of pristine East African wilderness before finally arriving in the beautiful Chyulu Hills. Guests have an option to extend their stay at Ol Donyo Wuas - a finalist in this year's "Tourism for Tomorrow 2009 Awards" - before or after their horseback safari. Guests also have the option of taking the Chyulu Hills guaranteed departure or a customized horse safari.

MalaMala – Big 5 Abounds!

As one of the only Southern African lodges to publish annual records of their Big Five sightings,

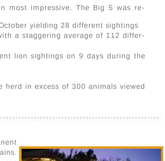


MalaMala Game Reserve wildlife statistics for 2008 are again most impressive. The Big 5 was recorded on all but 9 days in 2008!

- Rhino were seen every single day of the year - with 15 October yielding 28 different sightings
- Leopard were seen on all but 3 days during the year, with a staggering average of 112 different leopard sightings a month
- A 98.2% success rate of lion sightings - with 45 different lion sightings on 9 days during the year
- Elephant eluded rangers on just 1 day of the year
- Buffalo were seen on 363 days of the year, with a large herd in excess of 300 animals viewed an average of 20 times a month

&Beyond's Xudum & Xaranna in Botswana

Both lodges are situated on the edge of the permanent Okavango Delta with sweeping views of the vast floodplains. The 25 000 hectare (62 000 acre) area of pristine wilderness is shared by only 18 guests and as a combination camp, Xudum offers both water and land game viewing experiences.



Accommodation at Xudum and Xaranna comprises nine sleek en-suite safari tents with breathtaking views over the channel. Each tented suite also boasts a romantic sala and a private plunge pool. The inventive, layered guest areas with dramatic decks offer 180° views of the surrounding wilderness yet remain discreetly within the tree line.

Activities include morning, afternoon & night game drives in open 4x4 safari vehicles, boating and mekoro (traditional dug-out canoe) adventures in the Delta, and guided walks. The area is excellent for birdwatching.

Uthando – for the 'Love' of South Africa

Uthando, meaning 'love,' is a non-profit organization aimed at providing a platform and sustainable infrastructure for the upliftment and support of the country's most destitute and marginalized communities. Through the support of individuals, groups and organizations, Uthando seeks to raise funds for a broad range of innovative grass-roules, community-based empowerment projects, directed towards mitigating conditions of poverty, hunger, HIV/AIDS, unemployment, domestic violence, homelessness, poor education and other forms of deprivation and suffering.
Uthando offers a variety of tours and field trips around the Cape Town and the surrounds. These tours are noncommercial, authentic and interactive with a portion of the tour fee going directly to the projects visited.
From every tour booking, Trans Africa Safaris makes a donation to Uthando and has also undertaken to offer their tours to our clients.

The projects supported by Uthando, although facing, what at times seems like insurmountable adversity, are fortified by the fundraising efforts of Uthando – an excellent example of "Traveling Philanthropy."

© 2009 Trans Africa Safaris. All Rights Reserved