

Africa Food and Accommodations Newsletter

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NAPLES *Luxury Travel* ADVISORS, Inc.

Travelers are astounded at the level of sophistication regarding the accommodations, cuisine and hospitality. Whether in the bushveld, Capetown, Johannesburg, the coast, Garden Route or the wine lands you will be pleasantly surprised. Most of the Lodge's have wonderful spas to help you relax between morning and afternoon game drives.

While a picture is worth a 1000 words, there are no calories in the photos. Please enjoy the photos from my trips. If you have any interest in Africa, I would be delighted to help you plan your dream trip whether it is to South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda or Namibia. I hope to go back in 2019 as the Singita group is currently developing a gorilla camp!

Ulasaba

This is Sir Richard Branson's private game reserve. I was given the honour of staying in his private 2 story villa with 2 guest suites called the Cliff Lodge which is part of Rock Lodge. It was very private and a short walk from the main camp. However there were over 140 stairs on the boardwalk to get there. Maybe it wasn't an honour, at least for Florida flatlanders when you forgot something at the Lodge. There is also The Safari Lodge located down the hill on the river.

Ulusaba sits entirely within the Sabi Sand Reserve near Kruger National Park, surrounded by 13,500 hectares (about 33,000 acres) of open bush. The hills of Ulusaba are spectacular as they rise above the surrounding terrain, offering a view unsurpassed anywhere else in the reserve.

Ulusaba is a family-friendly safari destination and was voted as the number 1 resort in Africa in the Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards in 2016 and was ranked as the third best resort in the world! In 2017,







Clockwise: The dramatic entry to the Cliff Lodge Suites. Some of the stairs. The spacious sleeping and sitting area. Part of the dressing room and bathroom. Lovely and tasty appetizer. A gorgeous salad. Sometimes you feel like a burger and fries. A Hummus appetizer. The recessed seating area with the sleeping area above. The lower seating area. The stairs and boardwalk. Oh my more stairs.



Clockwise: The spectacular hills of Ulasaba. The main Rock Lodge. This shows how the wonderful design blends in with the natural surroundings.

exudes the romance and beauty of a bygone age. There are 6 luxury suites, 2 Royal suites each with 2 bedrooms and Africa House and exclusive use villa with 6 bedrooms. The lodge is located in the Thornybush Private Game Reserve on the Western Border of The Greater Kruger National Park.

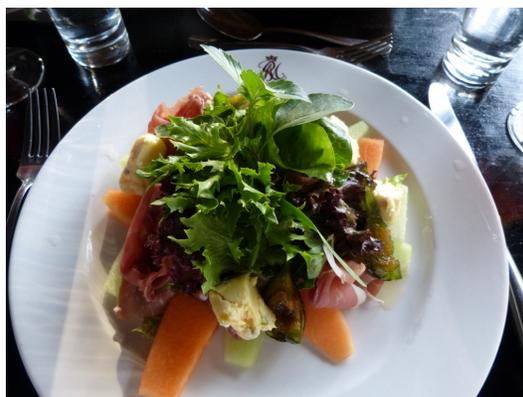
It is part of the Royal Portfolio. When I visited we stayed in a 5400 square foot 2 bedroom 2 bathroom villa. The decorating and cuisine was only exceeded in perfection by the complimentary in suite liquor cabinet. This safari lodge was voted one of the top 50 resorts in the world in 2017 by Conde Nast.







Clockwise: The main lodge. Entryway to the main lodge. The large living room of my 2 bedroom suite with a waterbuck coming for a visit. Living room. One of the bathrooms of the Royal Suite. Our outdoor deck with large dining table and Oriental carpet. Part of our outdoor Bedouin tent dinner. The bush dinner in a comfortable Bedouin tent. The 2nd bedroom. The master bathroom. The living room, liquor cabinet and dining room. Royal Malewane Spa pool.



Clockwise: Both the cuisine and presentation are carried out with perfection. Dinner salad. Omelet with bacon. Grilled rack of Karoo lamb. dinner salad.

A private exclusive use 7 bedroom villa on the property of Royal Malewane. I have had several families stay here as it offers private game viewing and guests can have the private chef cook on site or have the flexibility to use the main lodge. Again you can see the talent of Liz for furnishings and art.





Clockwise: Africa House before entering the courtyard. Courtyard entrance with 2 day beds and central fountain. Part of the kitchen area. Living room, dining room and the manager Andrew. An en suite bathroom. A large comfortable bedroom. The living room with outdoor kitchen. Another colorful bedroom. Large outdoor dining table for the entire family. Private outdoor plunge pool.

La Residence in Franschhoek

The 30 acre vineyard property with exquisite hotel of The Royal Portfolio, This the perfect place for exploring vineyards before or after spending time on safari. On the Conde Nast Gold List. There are 11 Suites at the hotel ideal for couples while the 5 Vineyard Suites

undulating countryside and an atmosphere of complete tranquility.

La Residence's chefs present seasonal menus: dishes are made from the best local ingredients and produce freshly picked from La Residence's own kitchen's vegetable and herb garden. La Residence restaurant's dining area is reminiscent of a manor hall, resplendent with dazzling chandeliers, black and white flooring and vast fireplaces. For something a little different, indulge in your own personalized cookery demonstration at our Chef's Table, a beautiful marble table in our La Residence restaurant dining hall.

Also part of The Royal Portfolio is the newest Capetown luxury Hotel, the Silo-Best Boutique Hotel 2018 Jetsetter and Birkenhead House in Hermanus on the coast.







Clockwise: Entrance to La Residence. A colorful hotel suite. A spacious luxurious bedroom. A spacious bathroom. The vineyard and mountain view. A salad served in the The Great Hall dining room. Claudia in the Great Hall that transports you into a world of exquisite beauty, opulence and grandeur. An afternoon snack on the balcony. The breakfast buffet is served along with options from the morning menu. An appetizer at dinner. A delicious bisque with prosciutto covered bread stick. The Great Hall entrance. Another large bathroom. Another well decorated suite. A balcony perfect for an afternoon rest or dining.

Singita

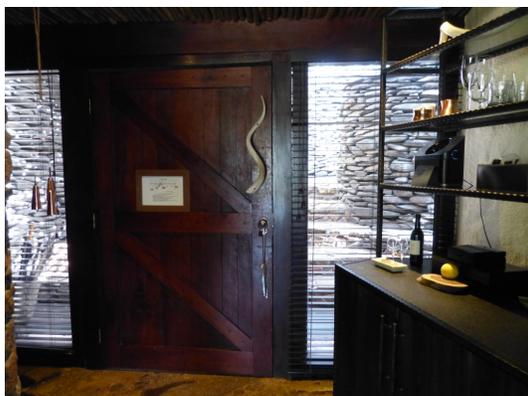
The Singita Luxury Safari Lodges portfolio is a bespoke conservation model supporting wildlife and communities in three African nations in vast Private Wilderness areas featuring 12 lodges. They also have safari lodges in Tanzania, Zimbabwe and soon Rwanda. Singita was voted #1 in Africa in Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards in 2015.

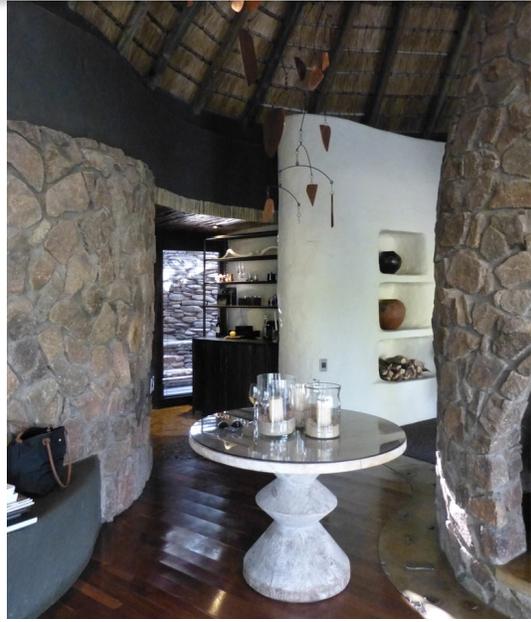
The Kwitonda Lodge opening in 2019 will be located in the dense cloud forests of Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park, which lies along the Virunga Mountains and its chain of ancient volcanoes, is a place of exceptional natural beauty and great ecological significance. This relatively small protected area is home to one third of the world's remaining mountain gorillas; one of the most critically endangered animal.

Singita Ebony and Singita Boulders both have 12 suites (2 family suites) and are located in the Sabi Sand area and Singita Sweni in the Lebombo Concession in Kruger National Park. Boulders is more modern and Ebony is more vintage Africa. One of the most luxurious and comfortable properties with the Ebony Camp being a member of Relais and Chateaux. Each suite has a double-sided fireplace, complementary minibar. Your opulent suite has all the toiletries and amenities you need - plus: indulge in spa treatments and a fully-equipped gym. There is a private viewing deck with a heated plunge pool in every suite at Singita Boulders Lodge.

Accommodating up to 12 guests, Singita Castleton House is an authentic exclusive use private safari home within the world-renowned 45,000 acre Singita Private Game Reserve in South Africa.

Singita







Clockwise: The door of a Land Rover. Part of the sitting area of a guest suite. The doorway to our suite from outside. Central entrance area. More of the large comfortable sitting area. The bathroom vanity with double sinks. An omelet is a great way to start the day. A BLT at lunch. The wine cellar where wine tastings are held. A wrap for lunch. Caprese salad. Eggs Benedict a better way to start the day. The spacious bathroom with tub. The pool and pool deck. More of the living area with the double sided fireplace. Inside the front door with minibar and coffee/tea station. The thatched roof of the main lodge. Inside door and foyer with complimentary minibar.

Little Mombo

This is a very special tented camp in Okavonga Delta in Botswana with only 3 tents although it is connected to the 9 tented camp Mombo by an elevated walkway. Either are available for guests or as an exclusive use for family groupings. Both Little Mombo and Mombo have been rebuilt and relocated in conjunction with Wilderness Safaris conservation agreement.

Little Mombo is a smaller, more intimate version of its sister camp, Mombo. Built under a canopy of jackalberry and sausage trees, overlooking a floodplain regularly visited by enormous concentrations of plains game and predators, the camp has its own facilities, including a dining area, boma, kitchen, lounge and pool.

World-renowned as "the Place of Plenty," Little Mombo's location on Chief's Island within Moremi Game Reserve attracts an enormous number and variety of animals, making it a hugely sought-after destination.





Clockwise: My very spacious tent with the entrance in the main living area connected to the sleeping area to the right and bathroom to the left. The lodge for meals and meeting before and after game drives (also has the bar.) Double headed shower. Amazing grilled scallops and risotto. An unexpected dessert. A tasty salad before dinner. A hummus appetizer in the glass with carrots. The throne for personal comfort. Claudia holding a broken tusk that was replaced on the ground.

The Mount Nelson Hotel

This Capetown classic is now a Belmond property and was formerly part of Orient Express. An oasis at the foot of Table Mountain on a large tranquil property long regarded as one of the city's top 5 star hotels. The rooms have been exquisitely restored and are comfortable and it is the perfect spot for high tea. The grand entrance installed to welcome the Prince of Wales in 1925. History surrounds you in this destination. Stroll gardens John Lennon once frequented to meditate. Know that a young Winston Churchill deemed it a "most excellent establishment". Sit at Nelson Mandela's favorite table.



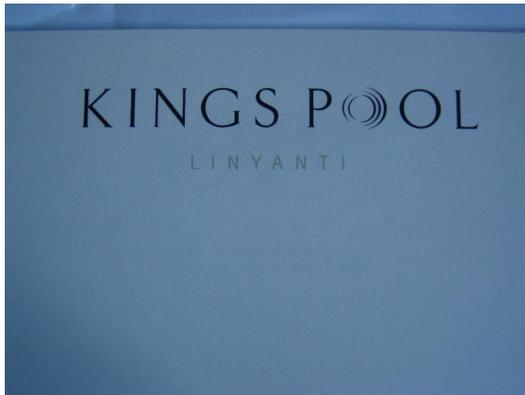
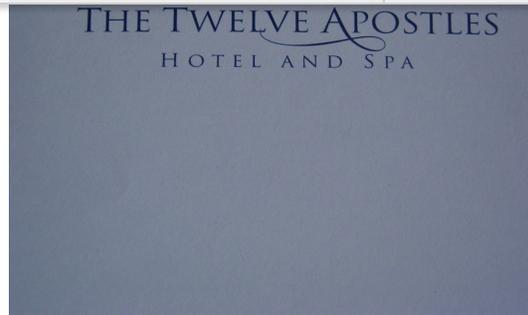
Clockwise: The Grand Entrance. Selections from high tea.

I have personally stayed at the following hotels and camps:

Jao Camp, Kingspool, Keekorok Sopa Lodge, Sabi Sabi Earth Lodge, River Lodge, Lion Sands Tinga Lodge, Camp Jabulani, Grootbos, The One & Only Hotel, the 12 Apostles, the Westcliff Hotel, Amboselli Serena Lodge, Kilaguni Serena Lodge Tsavo West, Samburu Serena Lodge, Tarangire Sopa Lodge, Ngorogoro Crater Lodge, The Norfolk Hotel, Lake Navaisha Sopa Lodge, Serena Safari Lodge, Lake Manyara Serena Lodge, Mt. Kenya Safari Lodge and the OR Tambo Intercontinental Hotel.

I have visited the following hotels and camps:

The Saxon Hotel, The Fairmont Hotel, Castleton Camp (exclusive use only), Karula Lodge, Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge, Sabi Sabi Selati Lodge, Sabi Sabi Little Bush Camp, Lion Sands Ivory Lodge.



Allow me to help you plan your Africa trip as obviously I am passionate about safaris, experienced and one of the most knowledgeable advisors in southwest Florida.

I would be pleased to work with you to make your dream become a reality. The next newsletter will be about the accommodations and cuisine..



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