

# NEW YORK

April 2013

## Animal Collective

*Two- and four-legged ways of traversing the globe.*

### Wadi Rum by Camel

Follow in Lawrence of Arabia's sandy footsteps by riding a camel through the Mars-like desert of Wadi Rum, 40 miles east of the Jordanian port Aqaba. Bedouin chief Saleem Alzalabieh runs two-night treks (*from \$190 per person; jordantracks.com*) that roam the golden expanse along dramatic canyons inscribed with ancient Nabataean carvings. The trip includes traditional meals like chicken roasted underground; sleeping in a carpeted tent; and, come dawn, catching the moon-soaked silhouette of the otherworldly landscape (Wadi Rum, after all, means "Valley of the Moon" in Arabic).



From left: Kruger National Park, Wadi Rum, and Oudtshoorn. Photo: Courtesy of Micato Safaris (elephants); Courtesy of Jordan Tracks (Wadi Rum); Michel Recan (ostrich)

### Kruger National Park by Elephant

**Micato Safaris** runs elephant-back jaunts inside South Africa's Kapama Private Game Reserve (*from \$210 for three hours; micato.com*). Wildlife conservationists will match you with an elephant based on temperament (both yours and the pachyderm's), hoist you up, and you're off—treated to elevated views of treetops, giraffes, and lilac-breasted rollers flying overhead. Choose between an afternoon or sunset ride, or opt for a nighttime elephant safari where you move through the Bushveld under star-smattered skies, then tuck your ride into its stable at Camp Jabulani, a home for rescued elephants since 1997.

### Oudtshoorn by Ostrich

Big birds are big business in this town of 80,000, tucked in a valley on South Africa's Western Cape, and the best way to get up close and personal with them is to pay a visit to one of the area's many ostrich farms. The 75-year-old Highgate Ostrich Show Farm (*off R328; highgate.co.za*) lets visitors feed, pet, and even ride the 300-pound creatures. Like a mechanical bull, the bareback turns usually last a minute or less before guests slide off the bird and into the arms of a guide. Each hour-long tour (*from \$12*) ends with a local jockey ostrich race, and most include a meal of ostrich specialties: liver pâté, egg, biltong (like jerky), and steak.