



AFRICAN  
SPLENDOUR



# East Africa

*To depart on a safari is not only a physical act, it is also a gesture. You leave behind the worries, the strains, the irritations of life among people under pressure, and enter the world of creatures who are pressed into no moulds, but have only to be themselves; bonds loosen, anxiety fades, the mind closes against the world you left behind like a folding sea anemone.*

—Elsbeth Huxley, *The Flame Trees of Thika*





## 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.
- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Itineraries perfected by our large in-country staff's generations of experience and the generational knowledge that comes from living in Africa.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Safari Directors—all Silver and Gold certified—accompany every safari from beginning to end.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.
- All tips included, even to Safari Directors and Driver Guides.
- 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.
- Free valet laundry service, everywhere, every day (and complimentary, custom-designed luggage to put it in).
- Small-group, boutique safaris of fewer than 18 travellers, and only 12 in Southern Africa.
- 100% guaranteed departures on our scheduled Classic Safaris, even for parties of two.
- The finest, well-stocked safari vehicles, Wi-Fi equipped, with guaranteed window seats for all.
- Surprises. We're famous for them. You'll be amazed.
- And—this could well be at the top of the list—we pay for an African child's education for every safari we sell.





# A 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 venture into what the great lover of Africa Peter Beard called “a paradise caressed by light and air in their most special forms.”

Back at the lodge, we tuck into an English-style breakfast, or perhaps we enjoy an acacia-shaded picnic in the bush.

## Exploring Africa’s Intimate Landscapes

“Whole landscapes seem alert,” Peter Matthiessen wrote about Africa in *The Tree Where Man Was Born*. He may well have been thinking of *our* alertness in these landscapes, a charged, joyous concentration “like a marvelous childhood faculty restored.”

We roam the savannahs and forests with our eyes, searching for their treasures—*Look! There, a cheetah!*—and the land is no longer mere scenery, an object to look at and admire, but a living thing that invites intimacy and engagement. We know about our species that the more we engage with something, the more likely we are to develop a fiery affection for it.



## Sundowners and Sunsets

After a festive lunch, with talk of sightings and amazements (high on the list of safari surprises: the fresh and tasty food), we have time for reading, music, maybe a profound nap followed by a swim, and then it’s off for an afternoon game drive.

After a lovely dinner back at camp, and some time around the campfire, we’re off to bed. And in the morning we may agree with author Elspeth Huxley that there is no “sleep so perfect as that stirred but not broken by the thrilling vibrance of a lion’s roar.”



*Africa always brings us something new.*

—Pliny the Elder, *Historia Naturalis*







# 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**

Unprecedented Ten-Time Winner  
of Travel+Leisure's Award for  
#1 World's Best Safari Outfitter

Travel+Leisure Hall of Fame

**Condé Nast  
Traveler**

Unprecedented Five-Time Winner of the  
Condé Nast Traveler World Savers Award  
for Education and for Doing It All

Member of the World Savers Hall of Fame

**TRAVEL+  
LEISURE**

World's Best  
Value Winner

**TRAVEL+  
LEISURE**

Trips of  
a Lifetime

**PORTHOLE  
CRUISE MAGAZINE**

Best African Safari  
Tour Operator

  
**Tourism Cares™**

Legacy in Travel  
Philanthropy Award

**TRAVEL+  
LEISURE**

**Global Vision Award**

Development, Youth Education  
Micato One for One  
Commitment

**TRAVEL AGE  
WEST** *wave*  
EDITOR'S PICK

Best Tour Operator  
Africa / Middle East



**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

**1,000  
PLACES  
TO SEE  
BEFORE  
YOU DIE**

#1 New York Times Travel Guide  
Preferred East Africa



# AFRICAN SPLENDOUR

South Africa's Cape Town · Victoria Falls · Kenya's Maasai Mara  
Tanzania's Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater & Lake Manyara

17 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Cape Town and Nairobi

We're not sure why, but great journeys often involve great contrasts. *African Splendour* is a case in point. On the full 17-day safari (our 12 day version begins in Nairobi on day 7), we range through 34 degrees of latitude and four countries, but, most engagingly and contrastingly, we experience the diverse excitements of Cape Town's urban pizzazz, the watery colossus of Victoria Falls, and the wondrous game lands of the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem, where the wandering rains compel the planet's most momentous movement of big, interesting mammals. (And then there's the Ngorongoro Crater, which really can't be contrasted with any other place, because there really isn't any other place remotely like it, at least on our home planet.)

*Feeling the cool wind  
of the night and smelling  
the good smell of Africa,  
I was altogether happy.*

—Ernest Hemingway,  
*Green Hills of Africa*







#### DAY 1 *En route*

Flying to Cape Town. For optional 12-day safari, begin on day 7 in Nairobi.

#### DAYS 2–4 *Cape Town and environs*

After a late afternoon or early evening arrival in South Africa's second-largest and most scenic and snazzy city, we'll settle into Cape Town's grande dame hotel, the pink, very pretty, much-loved **Mount Nelson**. Nelly, as it's affectionately known, lies in the centre of City Bowl, the rocky amphitheatre that embraces Cape Town. During our two full days we'll make a massively scenic excursion to the Constantia Winelands for tastings and lunch—with a heartlifting visit to Micato-AmericaShare's Red Hill Library and Community Centre. We'll visit Cape Point Nature Reserve and the Cape of Good Hope (a dramatic point around which the world once spun), take a private tour of the world-wondrous Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden and ride the Aerial Cableway to Table Mountain's stroll-inviting flat top, centre stage of Cape Town's amazing natural and human extravaganza.

#### DAYS 5 & 6 *Victoria Falls*

A lovely flight northward via Johannesburg delivers us to Victoria Falls, Mosi-oa-Tunya, “The Smoke That Thunders,” not the highest or the widest but the world's grandest and most booming waterfall, a large lakesworth of water flinging itself 360 feet straight down every minute of every day, right before our delighted eyes.\*

We have a couple of days to appreciate the Falls, cruising on the Zambezi River, watching elephants and giraffes. We'll helicopter over the Falls on the Flight of Angels, and we'll wander from one misty vantage point to another, returning for sustenance and leisure to our stately **Victoria Falls Hotel** in Zimbabwe, within walking distance of the world wonder.

\* He had been intrigued by their towers of mist from many miles away, and when David Livingstone, the first Westerner to see the Falls, finally reached them in November, 1865, he was so moved that for the only time in his 32 years in Africa, he “vandalized” nature by carving his initials on a tree, as if to verify to himself that he had actually seen such a sight as Victoria Falls.



*Words are not adequate to describe the genuine attention to detail, down to the small gifts on the bed at night. Awaiting us on Valentine's Day was a pack of heart-shaped homemade cookies. That's class!* —Leo P. Lavellee

#### DAY 7 *Nairobi*

We fly northeast from Zimbabwe and Victoria Falls to Nairobi and **Hemingways**, a quietly ravishing haven for lovers of old-style panache mixed with modern amenities and great cuisine, wonderfully set in the lush suburb of Karen.

#### DAYS 8–10 *The Maasai Mara*

We fly west from Nairobi to the Maasai Mara, the northern, more verdant section of the single most salubrious wildlife habitat on this or any known planet, the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem.

Game drives in the Mara are especially fruitful....Our Mara headquarters is Sir Richard Branson's **Mahali Mzuri**, whose innovatively designed, yet very African tents "resemble the tents of our youth like a Gulfstream G650 resembles a Piper Cub," as we said a while back. Mahali Mzuri is auspiciously set next to one of the Mara's prime migration pathways.



#### DAYS 11 & 12 *The Serengeti*

Now—these are thrilling safari words!—into the Serengeti, amazing in its enormity, its almost infinite skies and long, golden reaches, its million-year quiet.

We'll make far-ranging game drives on the great plain and in its riverine forests, based from the stunningly deluxe **Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti**, set on rocky bluffs, giving us vast, endlessly stimulating views.

#### DAYS 13–15 *Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Crater*

A typically spectacular flight and pleasant drive deliver us to **The Manor at Ngorongoro**, a marvelous 10-cottage, 20-suite retreat set within a 1,500-acre Arabica coffee estate adjacent to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Those of us who began *African Splendour* in South Africa will recognize the Manor's elegant Cape Dutch style; those who haven't will simply be charmed. Our three nights at the Manor are a rare idyll.







We'll enjoy a restful afternoon (or a very active one; the Manor offers horsebacking, mountain biking, swimming in the Manor's pool, and estate walks, among other enjoyments), before a classic high tea and dinner in the private dining room or wine cellar.

And the next day we visit one of the earth's natural masterpieces. We've got a lot of affection for Ngorongoro, and here's the essence of the crater's tremendous charisma: 25,000 or so large and very viewable mammals—from apex predators to galumphing hippos—inhabit the

crater's 100-square-mile floor, and zigzagging up the old volcano's forested wall to its rim, and gazing for the first or fifth time at the lush lands and their inhabitants in the crater below, is a great moment in any traveller's life.

We'll descend to the crater and excitedly roam from morning to afternoon, stopping at mid-day for a charmingly luxurious bush lunch, before heading back to a serene evening at the Manor.

Now we encounter Lake Manyara. Africa is blessed with epic lakes (Tanganyika is the world's second deepest; all the Rift Lakes are gigantic

### ***Make Your Safari a Private Classic***

*African Splendour* 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. In short, while your Private Classic will follow the set itinerary of any of our Classic Safaris, it offers the exclusivity and flexibility of a Custom Safari, at a lower cost.



stunners), but many, including Ernest Hemingway, consider the smaller gem of Lake Manyara—with its diamond-white alkali rim, its million or so coral-coloured flamingos, and the deep sapphire waters at its centre—the loveliest

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

of all. After a relaxed (or active) morning at the Manor, we'll embark on a fine afternoon of game viewing around the lake (many tree-climbing lions frequent Manyara's Africa-embodiment scrublands, mahogany forests, and bird-thronged marshlands). And after cocktails and canapés in the bush, we head back to the Manor for a final night before regretfully getting ready to head home.

**DAYS 16 & 17 *Nairobi and flights home***

After flying back to Nairobi, we'll relax in a full-service, meals-included day room at the **Four Points Sheraton**, have a quiet dinner, and head out with our Safari Director to nearby Jomo Kenyatta Airport for our late evening flights home.



**Tariff 2025**

**Full Safari Land arrangements, per person**

	Jan-May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$35,550	\$36,550	\$37,650
Single Supplement	\$6,950	\$6,950	\$8,050
Internal Flights	3,850	3,850	4,650

**12-Day East Africa Only Land arrangements, per person**

	Jan-May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$24,950	\$25,950	\$27,550
Single Supplement	4,450	4,450	6,250
Internal Flights	2,450	2,450	3,050

(Cape Town / Johannesburg / Victoria Falls / Livingstone / Nairobi / Maasai Mara / Serengeti / Lake Manyara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

Business class supplements are available for some segments.



**2025 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home (Full Safari) | Departs Saturday, returns Monday  
Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

**2026 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home (Full Safari) | Departs Saturday, returns Monday  
New rates and dates may apply

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



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.

We're proud of our accolades and of the



life-sparking joy our safariers routinely experience, but as our Managing Director Dennis Pinto often says, "AmericaShare is the why of why we exist."

## 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 boarding school. This programme places a child in a carefully vetted boarding school, and provides every resource necessary for that child to graduate high school (and beyond, if the spirit is willing). Many lives, on both sides of the Atlantic, have been changed by this programme.

## 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 slums (where a staggering 60,000 or more children can't attend school). Harambee Centre—made possible by our dear friends





*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



Bernard Wharton and Jennifer Walsh and scores of caring safari-goers—serves Mukuru residents with a Community Centre; a beautiful, 25,000-volume library—with more than 57,000 yearly visitors—and a flourishing second library, both made possible by Suzie and Bruce Kovner through a grant by the Kovner Foundation; and a digitally up-to-the-minute Computer Centre.

## Harambee's Computer Centre

A big, bright room equipped with over 70 computers, visited more than 100,000 times since its inception, Micato-AmericaShare's Harambee Computer Centre—enabled by Dr. Derrick Rossi—offers Mukuru residents free computer access and digital skills training.

During a 12-week training programme, 120 students undergo a comprehensive curriculum designed to enhance their computer skills and proficiency in various Microsoft applications, with a module on CV (curriculum vitae) writing. As this is written, more than 300 students are on our waiting list for future classes, and we hope to increase the number of programmes we offer, as the need and demand is great, and the potential rewards for our students is huge.

## 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).





# The Red Hill Library and Community Centre

Tucked away on the verdant seaward side of the glorious Old Cape Road, south of Cape Town, past the imposing Steenberg Mountains and lovely Simon's Town, on the way to the Cape of Good Hope, is the community of Red Hill, whose 1,500 makeshift households are blessed with wonderful views, bright community spirit, and not much in the way of community services.

"Micato-AmericaShare's educational outreach in East Africa inspired us to find a community in South Africa where we can have a lasting impact," says Lorna Macleod, AmericaShare's co-founder and executive director. "And at Red Hill, we knew we had found our place."

That place is AmericaShare's Red Hill Library

and Community Centre, a joyful place for 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 have to take long bus rides to state schools in the vicinity.

## Red Hill's Present and Future

Our bright new, ever-growing library, led by a trained librarian and volunteers who help students with their homework, is a welcoming community meeting place, and our Literacy and Numeracy Programme, designed to equip Red Hill kids with



the skills they'll need as they enter the educational system, meets every day for two hours. The Centre's Computer Lab offers classes to community members of all ages, focussing on Google Classroom assignments, Typing.com, and Tynker coding. And the 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. The deck's combination of fresh air and sunlight enhances learning experiences, promotes improved focus, creativity, and overall wellbeing.

## Most of Micato's...

...safariers to the Cape Peninsula will visit the Red Hill Library and Community Centre, and many of them will be inspired to help it bring more light to the community. They'll want to make donations like books, computers, or funds for a new building.

So: if you'd like to visit Red Hill, either before or after your Micato safari, or if you're just inspired by what you're seeing and reading on these pages, send an email to [Inquiries@AmericaShare.org](mailto:Inquiries@AmericaShare.org).



*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







# 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 2,300,000 to date—which have been distributed in free Huru Kits to more than 320,000 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 24,000,000 school days (and counting) 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.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) recently entered a groundbreaking partnership with Huru to provide more than 22,000 women in 43 workspaces in Kenya's crucial garment and horticulture industries with

Huru Kits and educational sessions on menstrual health and sexual and reproductive health topics, and awareness campaigns for 13,600 supervisors to combat menstrual stigma.

## 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).

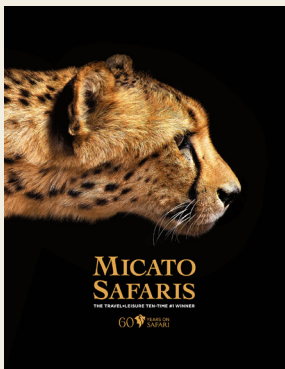
*We educate women because it is smart. We educate women because it changes the world.*

—Drew Gilpin Faust, first female president of Harvard University





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