

THE  
MICATO GRAND  
SAFARI



# 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

# THE MICATO GRAND SAFARI

Kenya's Amboseli, Lewa Conservancy & Maasai Mara · Tanzania's Serengeti & Ngorongoro Crater

15 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

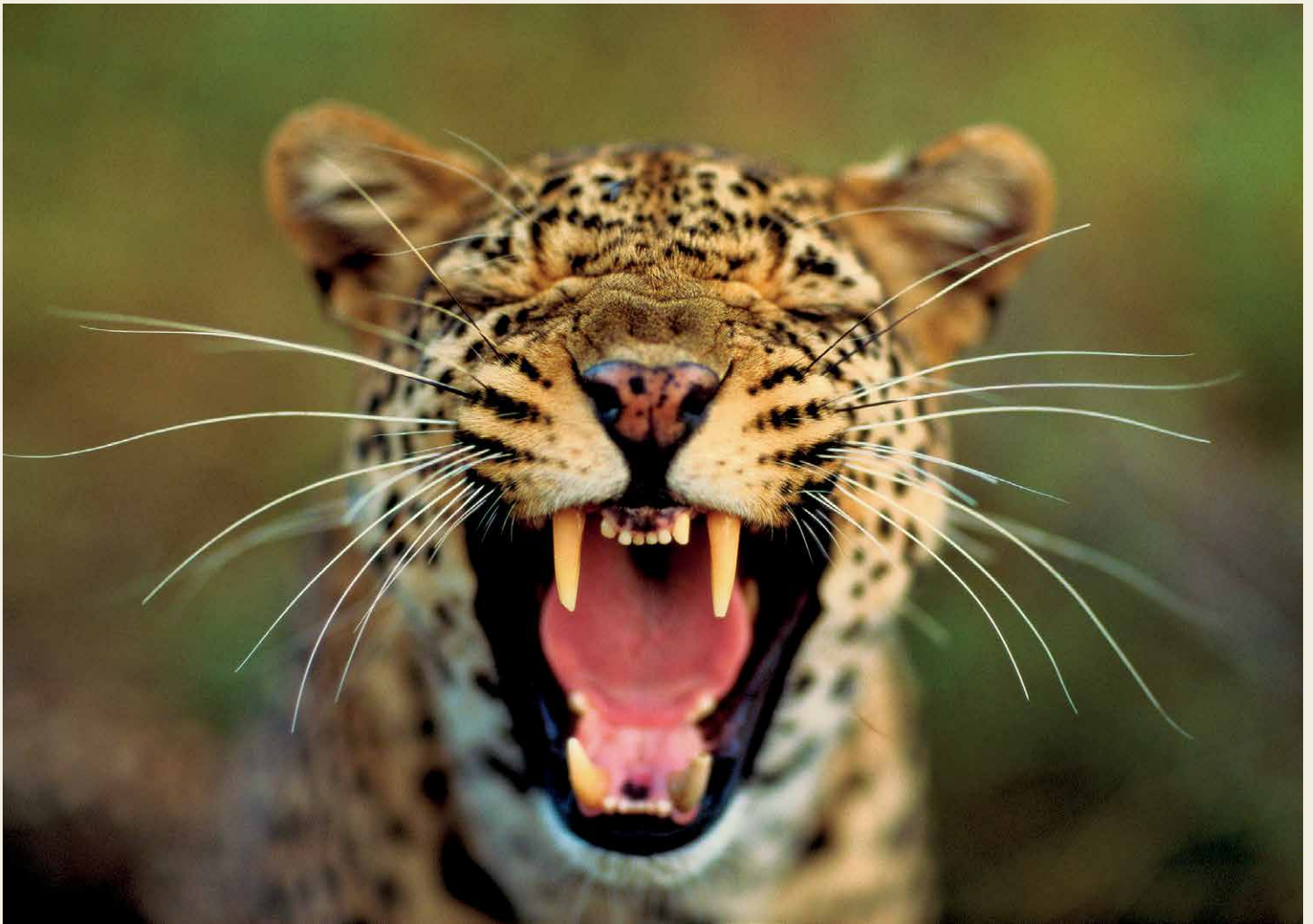
The grand, glamorous, unabashedly luxurious safaris favoured by princes and princesses, potentates, plutocrats, and ex-presidents (Teddy Roosevelt's epic 1909 safari was one of the first of its sumptuous kind) are central to East Africa's heritage as one of the world's most desired destinations. This *Grand Safari* is Micato's homage to those old and romantic days, to their indulgent and exquisite grace.

The *Micato Grand Safari's* six flights—be sure to see our praise for *Flying Over Africa* on page 9—make travel between game reserves and luxury camps a seamless, time-saving joy. And our stays in places like the airy Tortilis Camp in Amboseli; Bateleur or Mahali Mzuri in the Maasai Mara; the charmingly luxe Four Seasons Safari Lodge in the Serengeti; and the serene Lewa Safari Camp on the Laikipia Plateau bring us into close and comfortable contact with some of Africa's richest game lands and most stirring landscapes.



*Sitting [by a safari campfire] listening to the lions far out in the darkness was like returning to the really true world again—where I probably once lived 10,000 years ago.*

—Karen Blixen, in a letter to her mother, Ingeborg Dinesen



DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2 & 3 *Nairobi*

Upon arrival in the Kenyan capital, we'll be met by our Micato Safari Director and driven to **Hemingways**, a hotel that great lover of Africa would have savoured for its classic African ambience and old-school luxuries.

The next day, we'll pay a heart-sparking visit to Micato-AmericaShare's Harambee Centre, greet *Giraffa camelopardalis* at the Giraffe Centre, visit the former home of Karen Blixen, author—writing as Isak Dinesen—of *Out of Africa*, one of the most evocative books ever written about any earthly place. And we'll have lunch at one of Nairobi's star restaurants, then tour the excellent National Museum before returning to our hotel, serene Hemingways.

DAYS 4 & 5 *Amboseli*

We fly south this morning over the Athi Plains to the natural wonderland of Amboseli National Park. Mount Kilimanjaro, the still-glaciated monarch of Africa, presides over Amboseli, thrusting three dizzying miles above the park's grasslands. As Peter Matthiessen wrote in *The Tree Where Man Was Born*, "A snow peak in the tropics draws the heart to a fine shimmering painful point of joy."

**Tortilis Camp** is our base for a visit to a Maasai village and game drives in this almost incomparably rich animal kingdom. Our spacious, luxuriously furnished, thatch-covered tents nestle under the huge and reposeful Tortilis acacia trees from which the camp takes its name. Unwinding on our veranda, we might, like Isak Dinesen, watch a parade of elephants "pacing along as if they had an appointment at the end of the world."

## DAYS 6 & 7 *The Laikipia Plateau*

We'll spend our two nights on the airy Laikipia Plateau in one of two superbly designed, intimate camps, **Lewa Safari Camp** or **Loisaba Tented Camp**. Both offer vast, unending views over the animal-thronged Plateau, with sightings of wandering elephants, elegant leopards, rare Grevy's zebras, rhinos, wild dogs, and the full African roster of

\* 17,057-foot Mount Kenya, seat of Ngai, God himself, is the only mountain in the world to give its name to a country.

predators and prey (which we'll encounter in thrilling close-up during our game drives; those gorgeous leopards sometimes use our safari vehicles as cover as

they stalk). Both camps are centred in highly respected conservancies, protecting—in partnership with local communities—an area larger than 20 Manhattans, with massive, but Baryshnikov-nimble giraffes substituting for skyscrapers. And both bask in the aura of lordly Mount Kenya.\*

rewarding time with the local Maasai people, and make side trips to the Mara River and its tributaries for a gander at leviathan crocodiles and hippos. And we'll have sundowners in the gentle evening warmth of Ms. Dinesen's true world, breathing its clean and guileless air, watching Africa's showy stars come out to dazzle, feeling like we might have dallied in these parts, 10,000 years ago.

On our second day in the Mara, we'll sweep in a hot-air balloon above the *siringet*, or the "endless place," as the Maasai call this great land (normally an additional cost, ballooning is included on *The Micato Grand Safari*.) And at flight's end, we'll savour a sparkling breakfast; we'll already be a little giddied by the plain's beauty and our good fortune to be so welcome and at ease in its presence.

Tortilis Camp

## DAYS 8 & 9 *The Maasai Mara*

This morning we'll fly over the planetary rumple of the Great Rift Valley—it makes "the Grand Canyon look like a line scratched with a toothpick," John Gunther wrote in *Inside Africa*—to the Maasai Mara, the northern sector of the bigger-than-Belgium Serengeti–Maasai Mara ecosystem, unquestionably the earth's greatest haven for large mammals, more than 70 species of which go about their business in the oceanic Serengeti–Maasai Mara grasslands. Based from equally splendid **Bateleur Camp** or **Mahali Mzuri**, we'll game drive throughout the Mara, spend



DAYS 10 & 11 *The Serengeti*

We'll spend our two Serengeti nights in the **Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti**. The magnificently conceived Four Seasons is set on a fine collection of kopjes, looking out at what seems a golden eternity, with sunrise skies "banded with rose and lemon and the colour of flamingo wings," as Elspeth Huxley wrote. The vast plain, home of three million or more large mammals—elephants, cheetahs, gazelles by the gazillions, wildebeest, zebras, giraffes "floating across the plain" (thanks, Ms. Dinesen), lions, rhinos and more than 60 more

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



species inhabit the great grassland, its riverine forests, and bustling, set-piece kopjes, rock islands that pop up from the plain.

The Serengeti—and the Four Seasons—are the kind of African places that Micato loves to introduce our guests to, places that lull us into slowing down as we enter a world where nature expresses itself wholly and the tumults and furies of the larger world are stilled by a million-year calm.

DAYS 12 & 13 *Ngorongoro Crater*

We fly southeast from the unforgettable Serengeti to Lake Manyara—the lake that heart-stirringly erupted with thousands of flamingos in the film *Out of Africa*. Ernest Hemingway thought, and many of us think, that Manyara is Africa's loveliest lake. We'll have splendid views of the lake during lunch at the refreshing Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge, and perhaps have time to amble, maybe catching sight of some local predators and sprightly birds.

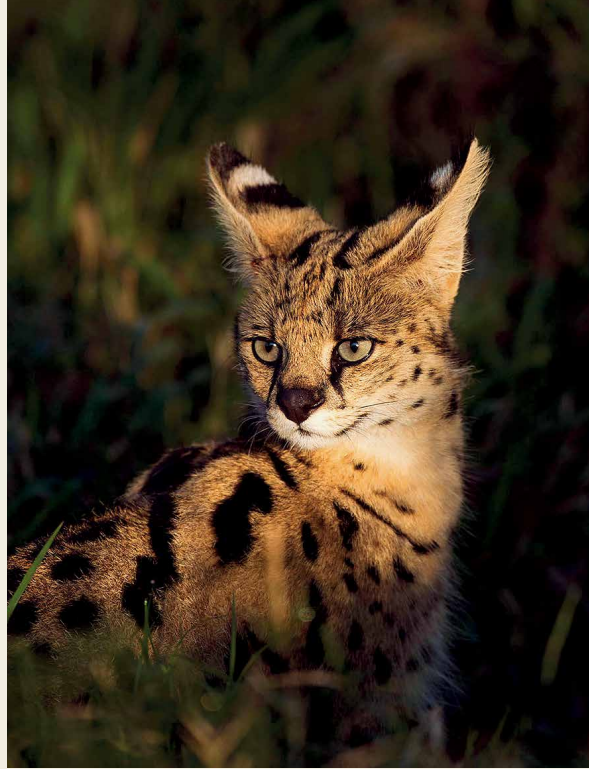
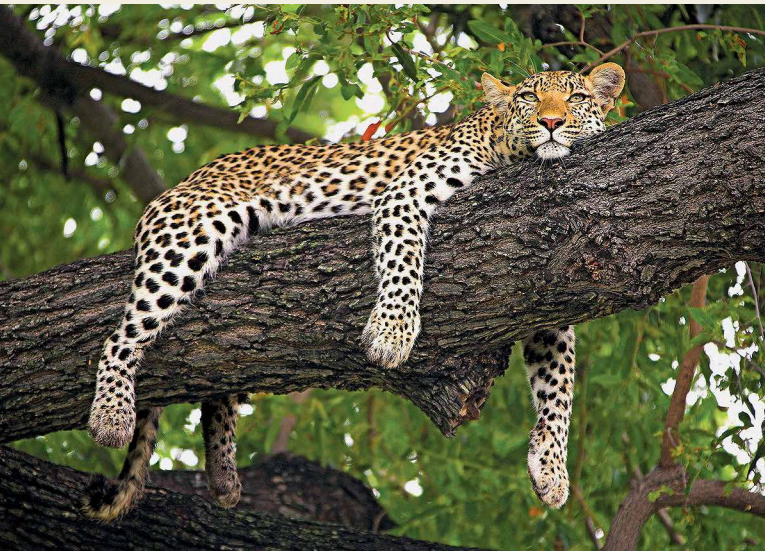
Now we make the beautiful drive across the Crater Highlands and up to the **Ngorongoro Lodge Melia**, set on the rain-forested rim of Ngorongoro Crater, one of our solar system's grandest geographic ornaments.

In *The Tree Where Man Was Born*, Peter Matthiessen captured one of the crater's enigmas: "How did the hippopotamus find its way up into the Crater Highlands, to blunder into the waters of Ngorongoro? Today one sees them there with wonder, encircled by steep walls." Indeed, meandering around the softly lush caldera floor, we may feel like Professor George Edward Challenger and Lord John Roxton in Arthur Conan Doyle's thriller *The Lost World*. True, we won't see any *Aardonyx* or *Zupaysauri*, but—as we often say—once you've really *looked* at a rhino, or contemplated the gigantic unlikeliness of an elephant, your old sadness at never having seen a dinosaur will be lightened.

*What an incredible experience! Thanks to Micato, my family and I enjoyed a trip we will never forget. We could not have asked for a friendlier, more knowledgeable team. It was truly the adventure of a lifetime.*

—Cal Ripken

*This tour was the most expensive travel adventure we had ever considered, and as we embarked we wondered if the cost would prove to be worth it. Let me assure you that we now not only believe it was worth every penny, but for the dollars spent, consider it a great travel value.* —Alan Kaufman



**DAYS 14 & 15 *Depart Nairobi***

After breakfast and a last look at the Edenic lands below, we'll drive to Lake Manyara and fly to Nairobi, where we'll have day rooms, and the services of our Safari Director and vehicle, at the **Four Points Sheraton**, and get a bite—meals and amenities as always included—before being driven to the airport for our late flights back to the Northern Hemisphere.

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

The *Micato Grand* 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.

**Tariff 2025**

Land arrangements, per person

	Jan-May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$33,850	\$34,850	\$37,500
Single Supplement	7,350	7,350	9,550
Internal Flights	3,150	3,150	3,750

(Nairobi / Amboseli / Lewa / Maasai Mara / Serengeti / Lake Manyara; Lake Manyara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

**2025 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Tuesday, returns Tuesday  
Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

**2026 Dates**

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Tuesday, returns Tuesday  
New rates and dates may apply

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

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

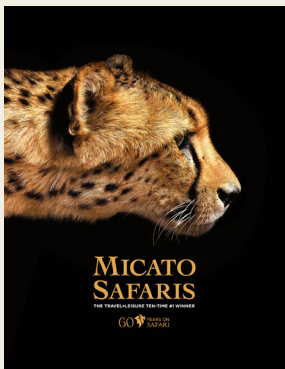
About Huru's important and effective work. And about its highly successful Skills Transfer Program, a targeted, practical programme that addresses East Africa's huge problem of youth unemployment, which disproportionately impacts girls; 65 per cent of the Skills Transfer Program's trainees have no income 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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