

## ASSOCIATED PRODUCT

# GENERAL UPDATES

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August 2023

## AIRLINES

**Coastal Aviation, Tanzania** has launched a new route from Dar es Salaam to Pemba via Zanzibar. Departing daily from Dar to Pemba, guests can now fly from Arusha to Pemba with minimal connecting time in Zanzibar. The airline also has a revamped website with an enhanced look, and more comprehensive information – including flight bookings, destinations, and other necessary information. Visit the website at [www.coastal.co.tz](http://www.coastal.co.tz).

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## BOTSWANA

**African Bush Camps** has updated the transfer access to their Botswana camps. For 2024 all Best of Botswana 4, 6, 8 or 9-night packages will include a helicopter transfer between all camps to/from Maun. The only exception is the flight from Kasane, which will be by fixed-wing aircraft. The Best of Botswana 2023 packages have been updated too, now affording guests the choice to fly by helicopter between camps.

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## REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Over the past decade, the **Congo Conservation Company** has been on an incredible journey, pioneering tourism in Congo Brazzaville's remote and pristine Odzala-Kokoua National Park, dedicated to developing sustainable, impactful, and meaningful ventures in the region. Now on the verge of further growth and new adventures, CCC is delighted to introduce its new brand, website, and name: **Kamba, African Rainforest Experiences**. With Kamba, the aim is to deliver unparalleled encounters in the African rainforest, ensuring each experience is both enriching and ethically sound.

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## MOZAMBIQUE

**Anantara Bazaruto Island** is proud to introduce Sonhos Pool Bar Seaside Restaurant, for authentic and international flavours in a relaxed setting. Sip on refreshing Mozambican inspired cocktails, and South African and Portuguese wines in a picturesque location perched on the untouched shores of the archipelago.

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## SEYCHELLES

Under Seychelles' newly introduced **Tourism Environmental Sustainability levy**, all clients arriving in Seychelles as from 01 August 2023 will be required to contribute based on a per person, per night basis. The payment will be made in-destination, in Seychelles Rupees, and is payable directly to the respective hotel upon check in or check out. The levy will be charged based on the size of the hotel, as follows:

- Small hotels (1 – 24 rooms): SCR 25 per person, per night
- Medium-sized hotels (25 – 50 rooms): SCR 75 per person, per night
- Large hotels (51+ rooms, island resorts\*, yachts): SCR 100 per person, per night

\*Island resorts relate to establishments based on any island other than Mahé, Praslin, La Digue or Cerf Island.

**Note:** Children under 12, airline company staff, and Seychellois citizens are exempt from the levy.

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## SOUTH AFRICA

**Grootbos Florilegium Day Tour** is a new offering for guests NOT staying at Grootbos (i.e. in Hermanus or surrounds) who would like to visit the Florilegium Botanical Gallery, experience a nature drive through the reserve and finish off with a delicious lunch at Bellavista Restaurant (on the adjoining farm). Children 12 years and older are welcome on this tour.

**Mhondoro Safari Lodge & Villa** suites have been refurbished. The Luxury Pool Suites – previously known as Deluxe Suites – now offer private plunge pools, and one of the Luxury Pool Suites is now handicapped-friendly, with ramps installed from the pathway to the suite, and railings in the bathrooms for easier access. The Family Deluxe Suite now offers 2 bedrooms with 2 full bathrooms and an outside shower. The Honeymoon Suite now offers his & hers showers in the newly renovated bathroom, and the Executive Suite now offers a private plunge pool, while the rooms have been extended, creating more space.

**Lush Private Lodge's** new Superior Deluxe Suite offers complete privacy and exclusivity, as it's the furthest from the main lodge and guest areas; its outdoor private deck is also the largest of all the suites. This space offers a number of different guest experiences and seating areas, along with the possibility of intimate and unique wildlife experiences, thanks to the absence of deck railings and fences. The superior interior and exterior spaces, complemented by beautifully curated décor and furniture, create a thoughtful balance of luxury with an African feel, completely different to any of the other suites. This Superior Deluxe Suite affords guests the ability to make their stay truly exclusive, and lends itself perfectly to special occasions, and romantic, secluded getaways.

**Simbambili Game Lodge** will not be accepting bookings for the dates 06 – 14 August 2023. The lodge is undergoing a soft refurbishment, refreshing public-use spaces and elevating the aesthetics of this much-loved Sabi Sands safari lodge.

**Jackalberry Lodge** will be leaving the Thornybush Collection from 10 January 2024, but all rates and bookings for the rest of 2023 will be honoured. Its dedicated teams will continue to serve at the highest level of hospitality and provide exceptional safari experiences. We encourage you to update your Thornybush product portfolio accordingly.

Thulisa Kula has left **Singita** and Andrew Rosettenstein is the new International Sales Manager for Africa, Asia, and South America from August 2023. Andrew joined Singita six years ago, first as General Manager for Singita Sabi Sand, and currently as General Manager for Singita Kruger National Park. Andrew starts his new role with the Singita sales team on 15 August and will be based at the Singita Cape Town office from 08 January 2024.

**Kariega Lodges, Addo Area** took the opportunity to close certain lodges during the quieter month of June in order to complete some refurbishments. Some of Main, Settlers and River Lodge areas have been updated, with new images of the areas available on request.

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## TANZANIA

**Legendary Expeditions** has made some changes to its 2024 camp locations and operating dates.

- In October 2024, Songa Tented Camp will be moving to a new location in the southern Serengeti. Occupying what was once the location of Nyasi Migrational Camp South, Songa's new position puts guests in the midst of the Great Migration during calving season. Songa's season in Kogatende will continue until 07 October 2024, before packing up for the move south. It will be reopening in its new location on 15 December 2024, and will stay open until 31 March 2025.

- Nyasi Migrational Camp will be putting down roots in the northern Serengeti with its location in the Lamai Wedge. This location places guests in perfect proximity to one of nature's greatest spectacles: the Mara River crossings. Nyasi will be positioned in the south until 31 March 2024, and will reopen in the north from 01 June 2024.

**Nomad Tanzania's Entamanu Camp** has been revamped. Gone are the canvas tented rooms, and in their place beautiful, spacious wooden cottages. Locally sourced interiors deliver the usual Nomad flair and originality, whilst continuing its guarantee of minimal environmental impact. As before, no concrete was used in the build and living roofs have been added to ensure that guests can see, but not be seen.

**Ngorongoro Lodge**, a member of Melia Collection, opened on 01 July 2023. All 60 rooms have been designed with sweeping views of the crater. There are 34 standard rooms, 21 suites and 1 villa. The lodge offers two restaurants, one grill zone, an outdoor infinity pool, and spa. Activities available include a Maasai House & Boma visit, Balloon Safari, and full day Ngorongoro Crater game drives.

**Selous Safari Company** has announced the following update of its added value offering for the current season, from 01 June 2023 – 15 March 2024:

- Private 4x4 game drives for all guests at Siwandu and Jongomero camps (morning and afternoon) are now included in its 2023/2024 rates without supplement for all new reservations with immediate effect.
- Wi-Fi is available in all Tent Suites, and Beach Villas.
- Drinks are now all-inclusive, including premium brands (excluding French Champagne).

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## ZIMBABWE

### Wild Horizons

- **The Wallow Lodge** has introduced family-friendly rooms and updated its child policy. Children aged 7 – 16 (inclusive) are welcome at The Wallow Lodge, and will be accommodated at 50% of the adult sharing rate, rounded up to the nearest dollar. With family travellers in mind, two of the standard double rooms are now equipped with a roll-away bed to comfortably sleep two adults and one child. For 2024, the lodge will also be including a standard sunset cruise in the rate.
- **The Elephant Camp** and **Old Drift Lodge** have launched their Star Bed Suites, for an out-of-this-world experience. The three newly unveiled Star Suites available at each camp offer breath-taking panoramic views of the surrounding wilderness, and an opportunity to witness nature's splendour from the comfort of the suites. Thoughtfully finished with opulent décor and modern amenities, each suite provides the perfect blend of indulgence and serenity.

**The Palm River Hotel** in Victoria Falls has added an all-new gymnasium to their offering. The new facility opened in July and features a wide range of equipment to cater to fitness enthusiasts of all levels. Options include a three-station multi-gym weights machine, elliptical trainer, stationary bikes, rowing machines, yoga equipment, free weights and more. The gym is set within the hotel's on-site running/walking track that meanders through the natural bushveld protected within the hotel grounds.

**Insika Lodge** in Victoria Falls has joined the Africa in Focus portfolio. Insika is an isiNdebele word meaning "Pillar of Strength", and speaks to the wonder of the Victoria Falls, which shoots up a pillar of mist cloud. Insika Lodge opened its doors in early 2023 as a privately owned 40-room, eco-friendly boutique hotel. Situated 3km from town, Insika offers a nature-based setting that is close enough to town to enjoy all that Victoria Falls has to offer. The lodge offers complimentary transfers into the Victoria Falls town centre, and to the entrance of the Falls itself on a regular schedule. The main lodge area provides expansive decks and a plus-sized infinity pool overlooking a mopane woodland and waterhole, as well as a restaurant, wine cellar, fire pit and bar, deli, spa and conference facility.