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April 2024

AIRLINES

Proflight Zambia has introduced a three-times weekly service run from Lusaka Airport to Chunga Airstrip in the Kafue National Park starting from the 01 June to the 31 October 2024. Chunga Airstrip services a few lodges namely Ila Safari Lodge, KaingU Safari Lodge and Fig Tree Bush Camp.

BOTSWANA

Machaba Safaris is excited to announce the opening of Monachira Camp, which will be situated on the edge of the Monachira Channel in the north-east of Moremi Game Reserve, Okavango Delta. The camp will have 8 luxury tents accommodating a maximum of 2 guests each, and 2 family units that will accommodate a maximum of 4 guests each. They will also offer motorised boating excursions on the Monachira River system, relaxing mokoro excursions, island nature walks and short game drives. The camp is scheduled to open in May 2025.

NAMIBIA

Gondwana is happy to share the opening of their exclusive new retreats – The Epika Etosha Pod, and The Nest Kalahari Pod.

The Nest

Embark on an extraordinary journey to The Nest, hidden in the captivating red Kalahari, north-east of Mariental. This exclusive oasis offers a lavish all-inclusive escape designed for two, inspired by the timeless traditions of the Khoisan people. A stay promises opulence and indulgence. Delight in unparalleled relaxation with a plunge pool overlooking a private waterhole, where the majestic presence of giraffes and oryx, under a blanket of unpolluted stars, creates an unforgettable backdrop. Opening on 01 November 2024, bookable now!

The Ekipa

Indulge in a fully inclusive experience at The Ekipa, a luxury sanctuary tailored for two exuding an aura of mystery and ancient tradition. Situated just 10km south of the Andersson Gate to Etosha National Park, The Ekipa offers privileged access to a harmonious blend of culture and wildlife. Effortlessly venture into the legendary Etosha National Park, where the Earth's surface is adorned with a delicate blanket of white dust, promising unforgettable encounters with iconic African wildlife. Opening on 1 November 2024, bookable now!

Onguma Tented Camp

The seven luxury tents have had an extensive makeover, with new canvas fly sheets and the addition of an extended deck with more shade, to accommodate new wood-fired hot tubs. Etosha-stone-walled outside showers have also been added. Inside the tents, the suites all have new furniture, as well as a Nespresso coffee station, kettle and Smeg bar fridge with complimentary decanters of whisky, cognac and gin. The main guest areas have also enjoyed a refresh.

The feel is very similar and we know it's a firm favourite for many, but they have added new features and enhanced some of the facilities for maximum comfort under canvas.

Due to the popularity of the all-inclusive experience, Tented Camp will also move to this broad basis with an optional butler service now available for guests who like an extra bit of pampering and personalised attention.

Wolwedans Collection is on schedule for the reopening of Desert Lodge on 01 June 2024. Renovations are progressing smoothly, and we eagerly anticipate welcoming guests back to what we believe is one of the most breathtakingly situated camps in the world. Each of the 10 tented rooms will now boast its own 'Wolwedans Chiller' (small pool), along with a new tent layout and stunning interiors designed to maximise the surrounding views.

Boulders Camp: The exclusive-use only date validity has been extended. This offers arrivals on any day of the week, while per person rates are available between 01 Apr and 30 November with fixed arrivals. All stays at Boulders require a minimum of 3 nights.

SOUTH AFRICA

Park Inn Foreshore Cape Town in the City Bowl has been rebranded as a Radisson Hotel and is now known as Radisson Hotel Cape Town Foreshore.

Singita Ebony Lodge in Sabi Sands has reopened after being closed for a few months for renovation, and has seen changes to the architectural layout and an exciting update of the interiors. At the heart of the lodge is a new Conservation Room, giving guests the opportunity to learn more about the incredible living heritage of the area. The wine cellar has been moved and a new lounge has been added for guests to enjoy. A new Bar-Deli area offers guests fresh food and beverages of their choice at any time of the day and the new layout has created more seating options and greater access to the gardens and views of the Sand River and beyond. Interior design has moved away from animal prints to a mix of earthy tones and varied textures.

MalaMala Game Reserve airstrip will be undergoing maintenance starting from 09 April 2024 up to and including 12 May 2024. MalaMala has arranged with Londolozi that their airstrip will be used as the alternative airstrip for the duration of maintenance taking place. During this period, MalaMala will manage guest transfers between their lodge and the Londolozi airstrip, with driving time is estimated at 20-minutes, at no additional cost.

Saxon Hotel, Villas and Spa has always been known for its elegance and comfort. It is great to hear that their revamping is still ongoing. They are renovating key areas such as the lobby, reception area, Piano Lounge, Olive Bar, and Qunu Restaurant, demonstrating their commitment to maintaining the highest standards of sophistication and comfort. With their 25th birthday approaching, these updates will surely add to the celebration and enhance the overall guest experience.

Peermont D'oreale Grande has shared the exciting news that they are currently undergoing a refurbishment. They will no longer be able to accommodate families of 3 to 4 people in a single room at the Peermont D'oreale Grande once the refurbishment is complete. For families requiring accommodation for more than 2 persons, they recommend booking rooms which interlead, to ensure a comfortable stay for all guests. The interleading rooms offer the space and amenities necessary to accommodate larger families while maintaining the standards of comfort and quality. These enhancements will ultimately contribute to a more enjoyable and memorable experience for all guests once the refurbishment is complete.

Cape Town Helicopters has added some unique experiences to their offering. Amongst others, the following new tours can be booked in conjunction with Wilderness Cape Touring:

Napoleon's Secret – Klein Constantia: After a full Peninsula scenic flight, land at Klein Constantia and enjoy a historical tour of one of the Cape's first wine farms. Learn about its ties to Jane Austen, George Washington and Napoleon Bonaparte and his love for their flagship Vin de Constance, followed by lunch in the Bistro, before flying back to the V&A Waterfront.

Klein Jan, Tswalu – The epitome of fine dining in the heart of the Kalahari. Board their King Air B 200 for a 2-hour flight to the Kalahari in the Northern Cape, where guests relish a dining experience like no other, by famed Michelin-starred chef, Jan Hendrik van der Westhuizen.

!Khwa tuu San Experience, Yzerfontein – Enjoy a 30-minute flight along the West Coast, before landing at !Khwa tuu in Yzerfontein. Taking a step back in time, guests are immersed in the life and history of the San Bushman, the first people to inhabit Southern Africa.

ZIMBABWE

Victoria Falls River Lodge has added two new Malachite Tented Suites at Malachite Lodge, adding to the first six that opened in June last year. Other building upgrades that recently took place at Victoria Falls River Lodge include a brand-new kitchen for Rapids View Villa. This exclusive villa opened in April last year, and the new Rapids View Villa kitchen is a standalone kitchen built near the villa with the sole purpose of preparing meals and snacks for the villa guests.

Wild Horizons have announced they will be opening a new property in Victoria Falls in June 2025 called Waterfalls Lodge. The 3-star hotel will feature 60 rooms, crafted with simplicity, sustainability and comfort in mind. Commanding an enviable spot on the doorstep to Africa's Adventure Capital, the lodge is a three-minute walk to town and a five-minute drive to the rainforest. The hotel also offers swimming pools, spacious gardens and a spa. Guests will be able to have meals at the on-site restaurant or take the option of swapping out meals at the Lookout Café at the Falls.

TANZANIA

Chem Chem is adding air-conditioning to their camps and lodges. Each tented suite at Chem Chem Lodge is set to have a wall air-conditioning unit, while Little Chem Chem and Forest Chem Chem will provide portable air-conditioning units on request. Chem Chem Lodge and Little Chem Chem will also be adding coffee machines and in-suite fridges to provide fresh-brewed coffee in the mornings and refreshing cool drinks in the midday heat.

Ikuka Safari Camp has recently added a new 9-seater Land Rover to its fleet of game drive vehicles. A larger vehicle is a great addition for families to share their wildlife moments together. They are also currently working on the addition of another plunge pool, increasing to 3 pools in total, along with the main centrally situated infinity pool.

MOZAMBIQUE

Santorini: After an extensive refurbishment, Villa da Praia will now be re-opening on 1st June 2024, even bigger and more beautiful! A new luxury suite brings the total number of suites in the villa to four. With extraordinary, uninterrupted azure ocean views, this stylish exclusive-use villa promises the pinnacle of bespoke travel in Mozambique.
