

ASSOCIATED PRODUCT

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May 2024

BOTSWANA

African Bush Camp's Migration Expeditions has been permanently closed as of 01 April 2024. In light of this closure, Linyanti Expeditions' opening dates have been extended to include 01 May to 30 November 2024, and 01 April to 30 November 2025. Linyanti Expeditions has also been added to the Honeymoon Special offer for 2024 and 2025 where one partner pays 50% of the accommodate rate and there are a complimentary 30-minute couples' massages, a private dinner setup, romantic room turndown and sparkling wine experiences. African Bush Camps is also discontinuing the complimentary 20-minute scenic helicopter flight at Khwai Leadwood and Khwai Lediba that was previously offered on a 3-night stay (1 flight per stay). This change will take effect from 01 January 2025. The complimentary flight will still be available at Linyanti Bush Camp and Linyanti Ebony. All existing bookings for 2025 will be honoured.

KENYA

Asilia Africa has advised that they will be increasing the Asilia Conservation Charge from USD5 per person per night to USD10 per person per night from 01 June 2024, applicable to all new bookings travelling after 01 June 2024. The Conservation Charge contributes financial support to various non-profit community development and conservation organisations in the areas where Asilia camps and lodges are located. 100% of the funds raised will continue to be funnelled directly into positive impact initiatives and implementing partners' projects. As this increase is significant, and to further amplify the impact of these guest contributions, the Nawiri Group has pledged to match all Asilia Conservation Charge contributions from 01 June onwards, thus quadrupling guests' impact from the previous USD5 to USD20 for each night they stay in an Asilia camp.

&Beyond is excited to announce their new property Suyian Lodge is scheduled to open in July 2025. Nestled in 44,000 acres of private wilderness in the Laikipia region of Kenya, the lodge will have only 14 suites, including a family suite, ensuring an intimate and unforgettable safari.

NAMIBIA

Ultimate Safaris is happy to introduce the opening of the new Onduli Spa, for the enjoyment of guests staying at both Onduli Ridge and Onduli Enclave. The Spa is equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure and consists of a guest waiting area, treatment room (which can accommodate 2 guests, should couples' therapies be requested) a bathroom and a small deck. Guests staying at Onduli Enclave have the option of in-suite or in-villa treatments.

Big Sky Lodges has made a number of enhancements to their offering at **Ai Aiba Lodge**, adding Nespresso coffee machines, mini-bar fridges and block-out curtains in all rooms. All restaurant staff are now barista-trained, and uncapped fibre wi-fi is available in the main area. A new guided mountain bike activity on Specialized Turbo Levo E-bikes has also been added. Finally, they will also be adding a new Conservation Levy of NAD150 per person per night in 2025.

Okonjima Collection has announced some updates to their policies and offerings at the Bush Suite, effective immediately, and now welcome children of all ages. As part of this update, children will be permitted to participate in an amended game drive experience (excluding tracking and other specialised activities). We believe this adjustment will enrich the family-friendly atmosphere of the private Bush Suite.

Pelican Point Lodge

Arrival and departure information:

Escorted self-drives with a 4x4 are a complimentary service adding to the guests' experience. For self-driving guests with a 4x2, a pick-up must be pre-booked and their vehicle parked at their own risk.

Pick-up time: The complimentary, escorted self-drive experience on arrival day departs from the meeting point to the lodge at 15h00 and is automatically confirmed upon booking.

Meeting point:

Co-ordinates: 22°58'18.86" S, 14°29'14.81" E

A dynamic-zoom Google map showing the meeting point and Pelican Point Lodge will be provided upon booking confirmation

Fly in guests:

Complimentary pick-up at Walvis Bay airport on ETA of the flight, subject to pre-booking. Supplements for pick-up at the Swakopmund and Arandis airports apply as per the rate sheets under 'other extras'.

Ondili Namibia has advised that Full Board Plus rates are the only rate bookable at Kalahari Red Dunes, Etosha Oberland and Namib Outpost. This rate includes all meals and all local drinks (premium brands excluded). Guides are on a Full Board rate, excluding drinks. Namib Outpost has re-opened its doors after completely renovating and refurbishing. They have added a second pool and shaded spaces, as well as the Namib Lounge as an extra pool bar in the main area, and a spa overlooking the serenity of the Namib Desert. All suites have been upgraded and now boast additional living room space, large terraces, private decks, outside showers and star-gazing beds.

Onguma has introduced the following changes with immediate effect:

Children: 7yrs and above are allowed to join on the game drives. 7yrs and below must take a private vehicle.

Mokuti Airstrip transfers: included free of charge.

Groups Policy: the terms & conditions have changed. Onguma will honour existing confirmed bookings.

Young Explorers Walk: now offered in the mornings and afternoons.

Onguma Sunrise Drive: a new game drive on Onguma Nature Reserve, priced the same as the Sundowner Drive.

Changes to note for 2025:

Camp Kala: Now includes a 60-minute spa treatment in per-person-per-night price.

B&B Rate: This will no longer be offered at Bush Camp and Forest Camp due to it not being utilised very often.

Conservation Levy: This has changed from a Rhino Levy to a Conservation Levy and has increased for 2025.

Europcar cannot secure Group P (Nissan X-Trail) fleet for the remainder of 2024; therefore this group will remain closed until further notice.

Wolwedans Collection Desert Lodge is on schedule for the reopening of Desert Lodge on 01 June 2024.

Renovations are progressing smoothly, and 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 maximize the surrounding views.

Boulders Camp has extended the exclusive-use-only date validity. This offers arrivals on any day of the week, while per-person rates are available between 1 April and 30 November with fixed arrivals. All stays at Boulders require a minimum of 3 nights.

Namibia2Go introduced an after-hour pick up service and charge. They do not hand over vehicles after 17:00. If guests want an after-hour vehicle pick up from Namibia2Go, there will be an additional charge and the vehicle will be handed over at The Weinberg.

SOUTH AFRICA

Kwandwe Private Game Reserve is now able to book helicopter transfers to and from Port Elizabeth and East London airports. Note that rates are on request.

AtholPlace Hotel & Villa in Sandton will re-open as a hotel on 1 August 2024. Until that time, it will continue operating as AtholPlace House & Villa, with the two exclusive-use options, AtholPlace House or AtholPlace Villa. AtholPlace House will be closed for refurbishment from 16 June to 31 July 2024, reopening as AtholPlace Hotel on 1 August 2024. AtholPlace Villa will remain open throughout.

For stays from 1 August 2024 onwards you can book one or more rooms at AtholPlace Hotel, or you can book the 4-bedroomed AtholPlace Villa, which will remain exclusive-use only, exactly as it is now. Existing bookings for AtholPlace House post-1 August 2024 will remain in place, and rates will be honoured.

AtholPlace Hotel will not have a restaurant as such; instead it will offer an all-day dining menu (available between 11:00-21:00 hrs) with a selection of comfort food options (think soups, pastas, salads and something sweet) with room service available as well. Alternatively, the team will gladly assist with recommendations and bookings for nearby restaurants.

Morukuru Family Madikwe – effective 6 May 2024, the Morukuru Goodwill Foundation Conservation & Community levy for new bookings at Morukuru Family Madikwe will be increased to R 300 per adult per night and R 150 per child under 16, per night. Existing bookings at Morukuru Family Madikwe will not be affected.

ZIMBABWE

African Bush Camps Somalisa Expeditions has elevated the expedition experience with the addition of a swimming pool. The pool has been strategically placed in front of the elephant pool to offer views of the bush.

TANZANIA

Asilia Africa has advised that they will be increasing the Asilia Conservation Charge from USD5 per person per night to USD10 per person per night from 01 June 2024, applicable to all new bookings travelling after 01 June 2024. The Conservation Charge contributes financial support to various non-profit community development and conservation organisations in the areas where Asilia camps and lodges are located. 100% of the funds raised will continue to be funnelled directly into positive impact initiatives and implementing partners' projects. As this increase is significant, and to further amplify the impact of these guest contributions, the Nawiri Group has pledged to match all Asilia Conservation Charge contributions from 01 June onwards, thus quadrupling guests' impact from the previous USD5 to USD20 for each night they stay in an Asilia camp.

MOZAMBIQUE

Kisawa Sanctuary on Benguerra, has until further notice, closed its Ocean One Bedroom Residences due to damage received during the storm that occurred in March 2023.