

WILDERNESS PRODUCT

NEWS & UPDATES

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April 2024

NEWSFLASH

We are thrilled to announce that Wilderness Kulala Desert Lodge will reopen on 14 June 2024, with the main area being restored after a fire at the end of February 2024. Availability has been reopened for bookings from 14 June 2024 onwards.

Your dedicated Travel Designer will be in touch in due course regarding all relevant arrangements.

GENERAL REMINDERS

Wilderness Packages & Promotions

A reminder of the extension of our Wilderness Packages & Promotions, which have been extended to 2025. All the information is available for download here.

- The Best of Botswana packages are valid from 11 January 2024 to 30 April 2025 3 nights
 Qorokwe/Chitabe, 2 nights Vumbura/Jao or Kwetsani and 3 nights King's Pool. Only King's Pool would be
 discounted in this package.
- The Best of Botswana Packages now include Kasane (travel from Maun/Kasane to Maun/Kasane).
- Single supplement rules have been added to all the relevant options for shoulder & low season, extended to 2025 (Single Supplement for Botswana & Rwanda excluding festive, peak season and May. For all other regions, it is only high and festive that it applies).
- The Honeymoon special has been extended to end 2025.
- The Free Flying Zimbabwe 6- & 8-night offers have been added for 2025, including Hwange Mana Pools leg, valid April 2025 20 Nov 2025.
- The Kids Stay Free offer has been extended to end 2025.
- The Gorilla Trek on Us offer will also include Sabyinyo, Bisate and Bisate Reserve. This offer will run until 31 May 2024, and has been extended to apply again from 01 November 2024 to 31 May 2025.

Existing offers running until end 2024 / beginning 2025

- Stay Longer, Pay Less Valid until 05 January 2025.
- Tanzania Opening Offer at Wilderness Usawa valid until 31 December 2024.
- Free Flying Botswana Valid until end of 2025.

REGIONAL UPDATES

BOTSWANA

Mokoro activity – NG25 camps

All camps in the Jao Reserve have started offering guests the mokoro activity (reminder that Tubu Tree and Little Tubu are still closed for the rebuild). Boating activities have not resumed yet.

NAMIRIA

Water Levels and boating on the Kunene River

Wilderness Serra Cafema's boating activity on the Kunene River is currently on hold as the water level is too high. Other activities on offer include nature drives, a full-day outing to Marienfluss Valley with picnic lunch, quad-bike excursion, Himba community visit and birding.



TANZANIA

Wayo Africa product name changes

Wayo Africa has updated its property names to better align with its refined product offering.

- Wayo Walking Camp has been rebranded to Wayo Little Green Camp
- Wayo Trekking Camp has been rebranded to Wayo Walking Camp
- These changes to the product celebrate Wayo's ability to now offer short, daily walking safaris in every camp across the portfolio, while also safeguarding Wayo Walking Camp's unique and specialist product.
- Updated fact sheets are now available on the document library tab of each camp on the Wilderness Window.

WILDERNESS AIR

Free Flying offer extended – Botswana & Zimbabwe

As of April 2024, Free Flying for Botswana is valid until 31 December 2025 as the extension and Free Flying for Mana Pools is valid until 20 November 2025.

Zimbabwe

- Option 01 Book a minimum of 06 x nights at a combination of any of our Hwange or Mana Pools Wilderness camps/lodges in Zimbabwe, and receive a free flight between Hwange and Mana Pools on Wilderness Air.
- Option 02 Book a minimum of 08 x nights at any combination of our Livingstone, Hwange and Mana Pools Wilderness camps in Zambia and Zimbabwe, and we will include the flights from Victoria Falls to Hwange, Hwange to Mana Pools and Mana Pools to either Harare or Victoria Falls with Wilderness Air.

DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COMPANY (DMC) - GENERAL NEWS

AIRLINES

Kenya Airways & Virgin Atlantic codeshare agreement

Kenya Airways and Virgin Atlantic, both members of the SkyTeam alliance, have unveiled a strategic codeshare partnership.

- Virgin Atlantic will place its code on Kenya Airways' London flights, providing passengers with seamless access to Kenya Airways' extensive network of destinations in Africa and beyond.
- Kenya Airways will place its code on Virgin Atlantic flights to Caribbean destinations, including the Bahamas, Barbados, and Grenada, opening travel opportunities for customers of both airlines.
- Through the synergy of their respective strengths and networks, the goal is to enhance the travel experience for customers, providing them with expanded choices, enhanced convenience, and seamless connectivity to vital destinations worldwide.
- In addition to enhanced connectivity, the codeshare agreement will offer enhanced reciprocal benefits to members of Kenya Airways' frequent flyer programme Asante Rewards, and Virgin Atlantic's frequent flyer programme, Flying Club.
- Asante Rewards members will be able to accrue miles on Virgin Atlantic flights, while Flying Club members will enjoy the same privilege when travelling on Kenya Airways flights.

FlyNamibia & Airlink Partnership

The launch of thrice-weekly direct flights between Windhoek and Victoria Falls with Airlink's franchise partner FlyNamibia offers exciting new opportunities for travellers to enjoy multi-destination bush, Falls and desert itineraries.

- Launched on April 4th, the new connection between Windhoek's Hosea Kutako (WDH) and Victoria Falls International Airport (VFA) grows Airlink's reputation as southern Africa's leading regional airline.
- The timing of the mid-morning and mid-afternoon flights connects travellers seamlessly between major hub airports and popular bush/safari destinations and vice-versa, as flight times are ideally scheduled for international and regional arrivals and departures.



FEATURED PRODUCT

Boulders Beach voted second in the world – Beach Atlas Golden Beach Awards

Boulders Beach has been voted second in the world in the Beach Atlas Golden Beach Awards for 2024! Other notable South African beaches are Bloubergstrand at #33 and Clifton Beach at #68.

On a side note, Skeleton Coast in Namibia was voted #09.

Criteria that make a beach remarkable and eligible for the awards, as set out by Beach Atlas:

- Beaches that embody the traditional postcard-perfect image with fine golden sands, clear blue waters, and picturesque landscapes.
- Inclusive beaches that ensure every visitor feels represented and comfortable, regardless of their background, identity, or abilities.
- The diversity of natural beachfronts, from lakes and riverbanks to unique formations. It also highlights the abundant flora and fauna, underlining the ecological richness of these environments.
- Party & Lifestyle epitomising beachside luxury with its exclusive resorts and upscale ambience.
- Community they are not just tourist attractions but places where local culture and community life flourish.
- Cultural Significance beaches with historical importance or a strong presence in pop culture, including those immortalised in cinema. The awards highlight shores that have earned a cultural reputation that extends beyond their natural beauty.

Recommended Activity – we have a myriad of activities around the South African beaches, and your Travel Designer will provide recommendations according to your interests.