

ASSOCIATED PRODUCT

GENERAL UPDATES

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February 2025

AIRLINES

AirKenya has had the privilege of offering seamless safari itineraries connecting the Masai Mara with Uganda's national parks over the past few years. They have been able to showcase the immense beauty and wildlife of two diverse landscapes with one seamless connection through AirKenya Express and AeroLink Uganda.

Unfortunately, the traffic on the route has plateaued and the numbers cannot sustain a scheduled operation. As a result, AirKenya has made the difficult decision to discontinue its scheduled services.

To ensure minimal disruption, they have put the following arrangements in place for 2025:

- **June, July, and August:** Early bookings are encouraged, though reservations will continue as normal.
- **September, October, and 15 to 31 December:** New bookings were suspended on 14 February 2025. All reservations made by this date will be honoured under existing terms and conditions.
- **Final Flights:** The last scheduled service on this route will operate on 31 December 2025.
- **Minimum Passenger Requirement:** The minimum passenger numbers to operate the route remains 4 passengers per sector.

NAMIBIA

The Windhoek Country Club Resort has announced the construction of a new Pool Deck Bar & Restaurant, which began in January 2025, and is expected to be completed by September 2025. The pool will be closed from June to September.

SOUTH AFRICA

Fancourt is excited to introduce its brand-new golf course, *The Links Experience*. Designed by the legendary golfer and course architect Gary Player, this exclusive nine-hole course promises a unique and thrilling experience. Opening 28 March 2025, it will be available for hotel guests to enjoy, with bookings made through the hotel reservations team. To play *The Links Experience*, guests must first play at least one of the other three renowned courses (Outeniqua, Montagu, or The Links) and can add this onto any existing or new reservation.

The Peech Hotel welcomed The Potluck Club, led by renowned chef Luke Dale Roberts, as it relocated to The Peech Hotel in Melrose on 11 February 2025. Known for its contemporary style and lush gardens, The Peech replaced its fine-dining restaurant, Basalt, with The Potluck Club. The restaurant underwent a soft refurbishment that blended the styles of both brands, offering guests the opportunity to enjoy al fresco dining in the hotel's beautiful gardens.

Southern Sun Rosebank refurbishment is progressing well and is due to be complete by the end of March. Several updates are underway:

- 212 refurbished bedrooms (includes 19 suites, 88 twin rooms and 2 paraplegic)
- New restaurant, Fresh, which is a 189-seater (buffet dining)

- New outdoor furniture and umbrellas at Zen Garden (seats 40) and Pool
- One conference room has also been refurbished

More Quarters Neighbourhood Hotel has announced the closure of the hotel on 02 May 2025. In response, Cape Cadogan Boutique Hotel will expand with 10 new Stable Suites, These additional suites will offer superior accommodations, including inter-leading, triple, and two-bedroom options, perfect for families or those seeking larger, private spaces. The More Quarters Residence will now become the second Cape Cadogan Residence.

Motswari Private Game Reserve Main Camp will be undergoing a bathroom refurbishment. To ensure minimal disruption, the renovations will be carried out gradually, with only one or two rooms being worked on at a time. The refurbishment began on Friday, 07 February 2025, and is expected to be completed by mid-May 2025 at the latest.

The Blue Train's pre-departure lounge will now be hosted at Irene Country Lodge from now until 31 December 2025. Kindly take note that the check-in procedure will start from 10h00 until 11h30. Please ensure that all transfers are redirected to Irene Country Lodge instead of Pretoria Station.

ZIMBABWE

Mbano Manor Hotel Victoria Falls, as of 01 February 2025, will no longer form part of the Mantis Collection or operated under the Mantis Brand. This decision was reached amicably and in the best interest of both the Mantis Brand and Mbano Manor Hotel Victoria Falls.

Wild Expeditions introduces **Muddy Teak**, located about 1 km from Camp Hwange. This exclusive-use property, opening on 01 May 2025, is nestled in the heart of a private concession area, renowned for its rich wildlife and stunning views. Guests can enjoy flexible schedules, tailoring activities, meals, and downtime to their preferences. Whether it's a game drive, night safari, or a guided walk, Muddy Teak's design ensures comfort while offering an immersive wilderness experience. Operating from May to November each year, Muddy Teak is committed to sustainable tourism and conservation, actively supporting the preservation of Hwange National Park and local community initiatives.

TANZANIA

Zuri Zanzibar has announced some changes to their 2025 rates and offers:

- For all 2025 reservations (existing and future), the half-board rate package will now be inclusive of complimentary unlimited coffee & tea, unlimited ZURI water (sparkling & still), daily minibar refills (stocked with snacks and non-alcoholic beverages).
- The Honeymoon Package has been adjusted for the remainder of 2025 from a minimum 5-night stay to only a minimum 3-night stay, and still inclusive of a complimentary bottle of sparkling wine, 20% discount on a 1-hour couple's massage, 1 x complimentary dining experience, VIP gift upon arrival, 1 x sundowner set-up served on the beach. Valid for 1 year after civil wedding (certificate required).
- For guests on all-inclusive meal plan, a 50% discount will be offered for the Bahari BBQ Beach Dinner Experience to enjoy a unique beachfront dinner under the stars.
- Its Festive Season Policy will apply on rates from 23 December 2025 to 09 January 2026. During this period STO rates are not available and only Rack rates will apply. Special payment and cancellation terms will apply for bookings between 27 December 2025 and 02 January 2026, with a 90-day cancellation period.

MOZAMBIQUE

Kisawa Sanctuary on Benguerra Island have advised that they have gone 100% solar, and upgraded their Wi-Fi infrastructure, implementing a high-speed, ultra-reliable system. Also, their festive minimum stay has been reduced from 7 nights to 5 nights. Furthermore, they are in the final stages of launching a new, immersive Wellness Retreat, available for stays from 01 March onward.