

ASSOCIATED PRODUCT

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SOUTH AFRICA

May 2025

GENERAL UPDATES

Cape Grace has revealed a new golf partnership with De Zalze Golf Estate in the Stellenbosch region (course is exclusive, by invitation only). Additionally, they keep on enhancing their offering:

- Food & Beverage – Wine dinners; bespoke afternoon tea with creative collaborations; soon to be launched Art & Tea Tours with the Art Curator
- Newly launched Champagne & Oyster Bar in Heirloom – in collaboration with Moët & Chandon
- Bascule: live entertainment on the weekends, new cocktails being developed and launched all the time
- Art collection has been expanded
- Virtual tour – great tool for selling one room over another <https://www.capegrace.com/virtual-tour/>

Cape Cadogan Boutique Hotel is thrilled to announce the opening of its Stable Suites on 27 April 2025. This new room category combines the charm of the property's historic past with modern, luxurious comfort. The name Stable Suites honours the area's history when coach houses and homesteads lined the Kloof Street neighbourhood. The 10 Stable Suites will be the largest at Cape Cadogan, starting from 60m² (646ft²) and offering interleading, triple, and two-bedroomed options ideal for families. Each suite features a separate lounge, bar area, and some offer a private courtyard or Juliet balcony for added charm.

RockFig Safari Lodge is excited to announce the upcoming development of a new luxury lodge, set to open in mid-Jan 2026. The new lodge promises a blend of luxury and natural beauty, providing an unforgettable experience. Please note that the current lodge will close on 07 January 2026 and operations will shift to the new lodge from 16 January 2026. For bookings between 01 to 07 January 2026, guests will still be accommodated at the current lodge at 2025 rates. Located near the current site, the new lodge will offer an enhanced guest experience with unique features, including:

- Expansive indoor and outdoor spaces for relaxation and connection with nature
- Exclusive onsite amenities, including a spa and gym
- Private plunge pools in each suite with views of a nearby waterhole
- Elevated design and comfort with modern, elegant suites that offer stunning views of the African bush

One&Only Cape Town updates:

- Nobu Cape Town restaurant is temporarily relocating to the exclusive poolside, while the iconic space undergoes a transformation. Guests can experience the same world-class Japanese-Peruvian cuisine in a breath-taking new setting. Effective 17 June to October 2025.
- One&Only's new Spa has recently launched with a blend of art and design. It has had a celestial-inspired transformation, drawing from the timeless beauty of the southern skies and the travel-inspired nature of the Southern Cross constellation. One&Only Spa's soothing tones of blues and greys greet guests and twinkling star-like lights has been crafted to create a wellness journey like no other.

Etihad Airways is planning to boost its services to South Africa from 30 March 2025. The airline will operate four flights per week between Abu Dhabi and Johannesburg, on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

From 01 August 2025, the airline will increase frequencies to daily. The flight schedule is as follows: Flight EY748 departs Johannesburg at 09h55 and arrives in Abu Dhabi at 19h50. The return flight EY747 departs Abu Dhabi at 02h20 and arrives in Johannesburg at 08h35.

Federal Airlines has launched a Londolozi direct service and bookings can be made directly, or through the FedAir online booking system. The flight departs from FedAir's private terminal (hangar), so all arriving guests will be transferred via their shuttle vehicles to the FedAir hanger facilities. The Meet & Assist team will hand guests over to the FedAir team, who will then take them across to their terminal.

Flight Times:

- Depart O.R Tambo (JNB): 11h30 → Arrive Londolozi (LDZ): 12h30
- Depart Londolozi (LDZ): 12h45 → Arrive OR Tambo (JNB): 13h50

SACAA Changes & Federal Air's Commitment. Due to new SACAA Regulation 139 Subpart 5, Federal Air has paused flights to unlicensed or unapproved runways until they meet updated safety standards. While compliance lies with runway owners, Federal Air is actively supporting their efforts and working closely with SACAA, who are now assisting with approvals as soon as they can. Along with others in the industry, they are lobbying in the background to get all runways approved as quickly as possible.

To ensure continued seamless service:

- **Approved runways:** Where available, flights will operate to the nearest licensed runway with road transfers arranged.
- **No approved runway:** Road transfers from Johannesburg to lodges will be provided, maintaining expected comfort and service.

Licensed and Approved Runways

- Ulusaba
- Sabi Sabi
- Singita
- Londolozi
- MalaMala
- Royal Malewane
- Garonga
- Kruger Mpumalanga Intl.
- Skukuza
- Hoedspruit Eastgate
- Phinda
- Thornybush
- Satara
- Ngala
- Arathusa
- Kapama
- Madikwe East
- Madikwe West

Affected Runways which are NOT Approved or Licensed (*subject to change once approved by SACAA*)

- Rockfig
- Thabazimbi
- Thabamati
- Hoedspruit Civil
- Manyeleti
- Elephant Plains

LATAM Airlines Brazil has expanded its codeshare agreement with South African carrier Airlink, adding four new African destinations to its network via Johannesburg. Brazilian travellers can now book single-ticket itineraries to Harare (Zimbabwe), Maputo (Mozambique), Windhoek (Namibia) and Dar es Salaam (Tanzania). This extension enables passengers departing from Brazil to travel to up to eight destinations in Africa with checked baggage included.

SPECIALS

Silvan Safari in the Sabi Sands has introduced a honeymoon offer: Stay 4 nights and pay for 3 nights, and you will receive an additional 30% off your third night. Included also is a 90-minute Anselia Signature Touch Massage for the couple. Valid 01 March 2025 to 28 February 2026 excluding Festive 20 December 2025 to 06 January 2026.

Also, a reminder about the Silvan Safari / Camissa House combo Special: Book 4 nights at Silvan Safari Lodge and 3 nights at Camissa House and receive a free night from each property.
Both valid for travel between 01 March 2025 and 28 February 2026 (excludes Festive period 20 December to 06 January).

Radisson Hotel Group has communicated various updates:

- Winter Specials – at Radisson Blu Hotel, Durban, Umhlanga | Radisson Hotel, Cape Town, Foreshore | Radisson Red Hotel, V&A Waterfront, book 4 nights and get 15% discount, book 5 nights and get 20% discount (valid for static rates only), for stays between 01 May to 31 August 2025.
- Winter Special – at Radisson Collection Hotel, Waterfront Cape Town, Stay 3 Pay 2 nights (valid for static rates only) for stays between 01 April to 31 August 2025.
- The Radisson Boutique Hotel OR Tambo is now open. Nestled within the grounds of the Radisson Hotel & Convention Centre OR Tambo Airport, this hidden gem offers a unique blend of boutique intimacy and world-class amenities.
- Radisson Collection Hotel, Waterfront Cape Town has announced phase three of their refurbishment journey, which focuses on the Collection rooms and is scheduled to begin on 23 June with an anticipated completion date of 15 September 2025.
- Radisson RED Hotel, V&A Waterfront Cape Town has a brand new and updated reception area.
- Radisson Hotel Foreshore, Cape Town, offers the newest rooftop destination – ELVN11 Rooftop Restaurant & Bar. It is operated independently from the hotel and offers sophisticated dining, expertly crafted cocktails and breath-taking sunsets in an elevated setting

La Fontaine Boutique Hotel or Avondrood Guest House are offering a stay 2 or more nights and enjoy a complimentary 3-course dinner at Allora Restaurant (drinks excluded). The offer is applicable for stays from 01 May to 31 August 2025.

Marataba Fly-In Promotion:

Book 3 nights at Marataba Mountain Lodge or 4 nights at Marataba Safari Lodge and enjoy free return flights with Federal Airlines from Marataba to Johannesburg.

- Valid for new bookings only
- Maximum 5 rooms/10 guests per booking
- Promo cannot be combined with any other offers

- Use code "Marataba Fly In" when booking
- Valid for travel until 31 May 2026 (excluding peak period from 20 December to 03 January)
- Minimum 2 adults required
- Free flights are for adults only (children will need to pay applicable flight fares)
- Excludes landing fees, park/conservation fees, and impact levy
- Excludes transfers between Thabazimbi Airport and Marataba

Last Word has a Stay 4 nights at Last Word Madikwe and they add 2 complimentary nights at any of their Cape Town properties. This offer is valid between 01 May 2025 and 31 October 2025 (T&Cs apply; the offer is valid for international guests only).

Lion Sands Ivory Lodge is offering a limited time offer:

- Book a minimum 3-night stay at Ivory Lodge and receive a 15% discount on the rate
- Valid for all new bookings travelling from 27 September 2025 to 19 December 2026
- The booking window would be 23 April 2025 to 30 June 2025
- Offer is subject to availability

Newmark Hotels has launched an exciting combo deal that brings together the Wild and the Waterfront.

- Enjoy 4 luxurious nights at the iconic Victoria & Alfred Hotel in Cape Town, valid for all room types (subject to availability).
- Then experience 4 unforgettable nights at Qwabi Private Game Reserve, choosing between the Babohi or Letamo lodges, with a Stay 4, Pay 3 offer.
- Booking period: Now until 31 August 2025.
- Travel period: Valid for stays between 21 November and 21 December 2025.

FIRST-HAND FEEDBACK

Destination:	Santé Wellness Retreat & Spa, Western Cape Winelands
Participants:	Alex Rautenbach, Brendan McCarthy, Prudence Boikanyo, Pulane Moleli, Zalien Minnies, Chantel Kolbe, Nothemba George, Andrea Daniels
Suits which type of traveller:	For the discerning traveller; best for adults or couples seeking a quiet, peaceful and upscale wellness retreat, and winelands base. Kids over 12 years are welcome.
Recommended activities:	<p>The Spa is large and has an incredible offering that incorporates Hammam, Rasul, Hydrotherapy bath, Vinotherapy baths, Vichy shower, Kniepp therapy Steam rooms, saunas, indoor heated pool & Jacuzzi, a magical labyrinth, Fitness Centre and a state-of-the-art Health Optimising Centre.</p> <p>For those not interested in the Spa offering, they also have mountain bikes to explore their massive estate which is surrounded by beautiful mountain ranges; they have a lovely indoor hydro pool, and a large outdoor swimming pool.</p>

	Would recommend staying here at the end of a busy safari itinerary, to recharge and rest before the long-haul flight. They have various fabulous wellness packages on offer.
Cuisine & Offering:	We were treated to a delicious brunch. All meals are created using only real, unrefined foods, without the use of sugar, dairy, gluten, preservatives, colourants and additives. Nutritionally healthy cuisine with sensational flavours and aromas.
Highlights during visit/stay:	<p>We were blown away by the high-tech Health Optimising Centre. It is based on the latest and best technologies from all over the world. An all-encompassing assessment of the function of the cells, organs and regulation systems, using a combination of state-of-the-art medical assessment technologies is the starting point. The Bio-Centre focuses on rebalancing of one's biological energy field, using electromagnetic waveforms to stimulate the body's own healing capabilities.</p> <p>The proportions of the hotel are very large, reminded us of the Saxon. Each room is extremely spacious with a lounge area and beautiful bathroom. There are 10 Retreat Suites and a 5-bedroomed Villa.</p>
Caveats:	Not for families with young children. You are in the Winelands, but outside of the towns. So, you would need a car / transport to drive into town or explore the area.



Destination:	The Hazendal Hotel and Spa, Western Cape Winelands
Participants:	Brendan McCarthy, Prudence Boikanyo, Pulane Moleli, Zalien Minnies, Chantel Kolbe, Nothemba George, Andrea Daniels
Suits which type of traveller:	The Hazendal Hotel is perfect for families or couples seeking relaxation; it features luxury amenities like a Hammam spa and Wonderdal for kids. Located near the Stellenbosch vineyards, it offers an exceptional wine-tasting experience paired with gourmet cuisine.
Recommended activities:	<p>The Spa offers a range of treatments, including massages, facials, and detox wraps, with state-of-the-art facilities such as a nail studio, treatment rooms, and a Hammam room.</p> <p>For those not interested in the spa, there's a daily Art Tour at 16:00. Guests also enjoy gym access, a complimentary bottle of wine, a heated pool, golf facilities, and access to both the putting park and Padel court. It's an ideal place to unwind after a safari or before a long-haul flight.</p>

Cuisine & Offering:	Upon arrival, we were greeted with refreshing drinks and a taste of their Chenin Blanc wine. The Hazendal Hotel offers various dining options: The Restaurant in the hotel focuses on fine cuisine, the Deli is a tapas-style experience, The Eatery offers open-fire cooking, pizzas, and craft beer. There is also a bar, clubhouse and great picnics. A highlight is the Sensory Experience, which includes a cellar tour and tutored wine-pairing in the elegant subterranean Wine Library. Each wine is paired with a flavour-packed micro plate presented in a beautiful ceramic and glass tower.
Highlights during visit/stay:	We were impressed by how they have preserved the historical buildings and vintage cars, as well as the owner's collection of cigars and spirits in the Cigar Lounge. For movie lovers or gamers, the Cinema Room is a great option. My highlight was the beautifully decorated Library reading room, along with the diverse art throughout the corridors and gallery. Golf enthusiasts will enjoy the Pro Shop. Private wine tastings.
Caveats:	You are in the Winelands, but outside of the towns. So, you would need a car / transport to drive into town or explore the area.

