



ASSOCIATED PRODUCT

FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

Banhoek Lodge – Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa

Located in the Banhoek Valley, this property was historically only booked for guides when guests were staying at Delaire Graff. It is a lovely guesthouse for visitors who are looking for budget accommodation, and is ideal for the self-drive European/Scandinavian market. Most of the seven rooms have views of the vineyards and are sunny and bright, and contemporary in style. It is quite close to the Helshoogte Road, so one can hear some road noise, but otherwise a good base from which to explore the region. Would combine well with Welgelegen GH or Four Rosmead.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

DeZeven Lodge – Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa

Located deeper in the Banhoek Valley than Banhoek Lodge, this property is nicely secluded, offering more privacy and spectacular views of the valley and mountains. The indoor/outdoor lounge and deck are very inviting, and surrounded by large windows. Rooms differ in size and décor. The largest ones are the pool suites. The rim flow pool is a nice size so you can swim proper laps, and has great views. They bottle their own wine, Lemoenkloef, which is excellent. Rates are very competitive and represent excellent value for money. They have a small menu for lunches and dinners as well as for in-house guests. Lovely boutique hotel for self-drive market. Would combine well with Four Rosmead or Kensington Place.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

Clouds Estate – Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa

Located right next to Delaire Graff, with good views of the valley and mountains. This property is a modern, contemporary-style boutique hotel. Quirky décor in the public areas. The rooms are spacious with views of the valley. Lovely gardens and pool area. They bottle their own wine under the Clouds label. They offer breakfast, lunch and dinner to in-house guests. There is also a private gate that leads straight to the Delaire estate, for guests that would like to have dinner at one of the Delaire restaurants. Good value for money. Would combine well with Kensington Place or Four Rosmead.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

Ludus Magnus – Franschhoek, Western Cape, South Africa

The owners are sports fanatics, and have built a rugby field, with an Olympic-size athletic running track around it. There are two Olympic-length pool lanes in the dam, and various mountain bike trails on the large estate. The main house has very compact bedrooms (all have a different themes and wallpaper). The public areas are large and modern. They also have exclusive-use villas (2 or 3 bedrooms), each very modern in design as well. There is a large swimming pool and they have created a beach area by the river that runs through the estate, and there are various function areas. Would appeal to a specific type of traveller (celebrities, famous sport people, bloggers). Would combine well with One&Only.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

Franschhoek Boutique Hotel – Franschhoek, Western Cape, South Africa

This property falls under the Lion Roars Collection, and forms part of a large retail shopping area that has an art gallery and restaurants. Conveniently located in the centre of town with contemporary styling in the rooms that have all the mod cons, if quite compact. Plenty of safe off-street parking. Nice entry-level style hotel in the middle of town. Light breakfast room, and cosy lounge for drinks. Combines well with a bigger chain hotel like Southern Sun.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

Please speak to your Travel Designer for more information



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La Providence – Franschhoek, Western Cape, South Africa

Wonderful new find in Franschhoek. Beautiful Cape Dutch style house with impressive entrance lane. Breath-taking view of the Franschhoek Valley and its vineyards, and only 5 minutes' walk from the town centre. There are 10 rooms, spread over 3 buildings. All similarly decorated in a contemporary style with lovely accent features. Rooms have either vineyard views or mountain views, and some have private plunge pools. The public area consists of a lounge area, breakfast room and a bar area that opens out to the lovely garden with large pool, and sunken boma. The managing couple used to work at Wilderness Safaris camps in Botswana, so completely understand our clientele and the service level that is expected. They are truly charming and very professional. This is a stunning boutique hotel, which can be highly recommend for all markets. Would appeal specifically to young, modern travellers. Rates are very competitive. Would combine well with Cape Cadogan, Camissa House or Queen Victoria Hotel.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

Sterrekopje – Franschhoek, Western Cape, South Africa

This is a very interesting property, and should be sold as a “mindful journey”. It can only be booked on either 3, 5 or 7 night packages. There are 11 rooms, each decorated individually and inspired by pieces of furniture or artefacts from the owners' travels. A combination of African, Moroccan and Eastern cultures. They have 50 hectares of gardens, with olive trees, vegetables, and grapevines. They have a farm-to-table, fresh approach to their cuisine. Guests are invited to join in activities in the garden, to enjoy various treatments and holistic baths, take part in pottery creation in the atelier, they can get involved in the kitchen, learn to bake bread etc. So it's all about reconnecting with nature, letting go of modern stresses, and finding an inner peace. It will appeal to guests that are yearning for a holistic type of stay. Children from 16 years or older are welcome. It's more of an adult retreat. Would combine well with Future Found Sanctuary in Hout Bay.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

La Cle Village – Franschhoek, Western Cape, South Africa

Consists of two separate estates. The one is La Cle Lodge which is a manor house with 5 rooms, and then a little way down the road, the other estate consists of 4 villas (they have between 2 – 4 bedrooms). Gorgeous large villas, with beautifully manicured gardens and large private pools. The villas should ideally be booked on an exclusive use basis, but can also be booked on an FIT basis (one can just book a room in a villa, but then guests would share the villa with other guests booked into the other rooms). Very centrally located, walking distance to the main road that runs through town. La Cle Lodge offers simple dinners as well, making use of locally sourced seasonal produce. Beautiful lounges, olde worlde style, which would appeal to more mature and discerning traveller. This is a 5-star product that would combine well with Cape Grace Hotel.

Alex Rautenbach – Product Manager

Kanonkop House – Knysna, Western Cape, South Africa

Kanonkop House is one of my personal favourite 5-star hotel experience on the Garden Route. It ticks the relevant boxes for an authentic Knysna holiday, with breath-taking views of the Knysna lagoon, the famous Knysna Heads, and walking, cycling and hiking activities. Uniquely designed, themed luxury rooms with personal touches from the owner. The hotel is very intimate and is the perfect romantic holiday spot – or it can be exclusively booked for multi-generational families, or friends travelling together.

Milady Tshandu – Senior Travel Designer, US Department



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Sala Beach House – Salt Rock, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

This brand new offering's location is the main highlight, and is magical as it has direct access to a beautiful (public) beach. It has a phenomenal on-site chef who had a lot of stories, which kept us entertained, and his food was exceptional. Great for all markets as a more exclusive, luxurious, yet affordable, boutique option to other properties in the area. There was also a cute little tidal pool for snorkelling – a lovely activity for both children and adults. Note that at the main lodge they currently do not allow children under 12 unless sole use is booked. However, children are welcome at their villa.

Noeline Geysler – Travel Designer, Private Guides Cape Town

Dominique Geysler – Product Manager

Mpho Lebakeng – Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Audrey Radebe – Travel Designer, Wilderness Safaris Partnerships

Ella Rambau – Travel Designer, US Department

Mbali Madonsela – Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge – Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

Lovely property and most suitable for repeat guests to South Africa, or guests who have already experienced a safari and are looking for something a little different, that is affordable. One should not go there expecting a Big 5 game experience and the park is open to the public, i.e. it is not private, but does boast of being one of the oldest national parks in Africa. The rooms have stunning views over the reserve, and the food was exceptional.

Noeline Geysler – Travel Designer, Private Guides Cape Town

Dominique Geysler – Product Manager

Mpho Lebakeng - Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Audrey Radebe - Travel Designer, Wilderness Safaris Partnerships

Ella Rambau - Travel Designer, US Department

Mbali Madonsela - Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Thonga Beach Lodge – Isimangoliso Wetland Park, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

You will need a 4x4 to reach this property but there is a parking area where you can leave your car if you do not have a 4x4 and the lodge will collect you and bring you into camp. Located directly on the beach with easy access, this property has loads to offer, especially in the way of activities – with diving (additional cost), turtle tracking (seasonal), fatbikes, sundowners and kayaking on Lake Sibaya, snorkelling, and a lot more. Would not sell this as a specific whale-watching property, but we did see whales while we were there during winter.

Noeline Geysler – Travel Designer, Private Guides Cape Town

Dominique Geysler – Product Manager

Mpho Lebakeng – Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Audrey Radebe – Travel Designer, Wilderness Safaris Partnerships

Ella Rambau – Travel Designer, US Department

Mbali Madonsela – Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

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Kosi Forest Lodge – Isimangoliso Wetland Park, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

This is an entry-level, adventure-style, budget camp located within Kosi Forest. You feel part of the neighbouring community as you drive through it to get to the lodge. You get to learn about their way of life and are educated about how they fish in a sustainable way. Exceptional activities on offer make this a minimum 3-night stay property with canoeing, snorkelling and boating, to name a few. The lodge is ideally geared for self-drive guests.

Noeline Geysler – Travel Designer, Private Guides Cape Town

Noeline Geysler – Travel Designer, Private Guides Cape Town

Dominique Geysler – Product Manager

Mpho Lebakeng – Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Audrey Radebe – Travel Designer, Wilderness Safaris Partnerships

Ella Rambau – Travel Designer, US Department

Mbali Madonsela – Travel Designer, EU/UK Department

Etosha Heights Safarihoek Lodge – Etosha Heights Private Reserve, Namibia

I visited Etosha Heights Safarihoek Lodge, which is set in the Etosha Heights Private Reserve and shares a 65 km border with the south-west corner of Etosha National Park in northern Namibia. The lodge is filled with exciting adventures and surprises, great panoramic views over the wilderness, and a variety of wildlife. It has a very serene atmosphere.

Renate America – Journey Specialist, Namibia

Anderssons at Ongava – Ongava Game Reserve, Namibia

As the name suggests, Anderssons at Ongava is situated on the Ongava Game Reserve, bordering Etosha National Park. It is very modern, stylish, luxurious and comfortable. As a fenced camp, one can enjoy walking around freely, especially if you are in your room and there is some action at the waterhole. It's a quick walk to see what is happening without worrying about wild animals. The camp also has an easily accessible underground photographic hide. The camp is perfect for families, and a wonderful add-on experience is to take a tour of the Ongava Research Centre. The information that they share is really very interesting, and full of exciting facts about the reserve, its conservation, fauna and flora, and so much more on the area. Activities mainly revolve around exploring the private reserve on guided drives, bush walks with experienced guides and visits to Etosha National Park.

Daleen Steyn – Remote Journey Specialist – Germany/Austria/Switzerland

Carlin Dentlinger – Journey Specialist – NU (USA & UK)

Habitas Namibia – Windhoek, Namibia

Habitas is a conservation project set in 50 000 hectares of nature and wildlife on the outskirts of Windhoek. The property offers a wellness experience, combining activities such as cultural experiences with music, game drives, bush dinners, yoga, bush meditation, tea-tasting, massages and spa treatments. There is also a communal fire pit and a swimming pool overlooking the landscape, where free-roaming animals, including rhinos, wildebeest and zebra can be spotted. The highlight for us was the food and service, which was exceptionally good. The choice of meat, fish and poultry was supplemented by vegetarian choices, salads, fruit and desserts. Staff was excellent. They really are passionate about what they do, always friendly and helpful. The game drives were amazing and gave us very informative info about each animal.

Marika von Solms Prinsloo – Product Manager, Namibia