



ASSOCIATED PRODUCT

GENERAL UPDATES

The Blue Train has resumed all services. However, please note their disclaimer below:

The Blue Train shall not be held responsible for circumstances beyond its control which may lead to interruptions, early terminations, delays, or cancellations of a particular trip. Such circumstances may include, but not be limited to, instances of vis major/force majeure and/or casus fortuitous (natural causes such as floods and other natural disasters, fortuitous and unforeseen events, etc.). In such an event, the parties shall work in good faith to secure a postponement of the affected bookings. However, in the event of a cancellation, the Blue Train will refund all deposits and pre-payments made in respect of such bookings.

It is highly recommended that guests take out travel insurance to adequately cover any eventualities, as well as a trip cancellation protection insurance, in the unlikely event of a late cancellation or loss, with an insurance agent.

Delaire Graff Lodge and Spa

- Will be closed from 15 May to 15 September 2023 to undergo a refurbishment.
- The new kitchen at Indochine Restaurant is now offering an Indian Thali (a traditional tasting) menu.

Cape Grace has announced the appointment of their new General Manager, Mr Leon Meyer.

The Bay Hotel has advised that renovations to their bathrooms, pool deck and spa have commenced, and are scheduled for completion in October 2022.

Grootbos is delighted to announce that its **Grootbos Botanical Art Gallery** opened on 1 September 2022.

Shamwari – General Maintenance closure dates

- Shamwari Eagles Crag and Riverdene will be closed from 23 April to 13 May 2023.
- Shamwari Long Lee Manor will be closed from 19 May to 08 June 2023.
- Shamwari Bayethe and Saril will be closed from 09 June to 29 June 2023.
- Shamwari Sindile will be closed from 02 July to 22 July 2023.

Sun International has announced that SOHO Hotel will revert to its original name, **Sun City Hotel**.

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African Synergy is excited to announce the addition of Cheetah Plains in the northern Sabi Sands and Sala Beach House in Ballito to their portfolio.

More Family Collection

- Lion Sands Tinga Lodge now welcomes children of 6 years and older.
- Lion Sands Narina Lodge welcome guests from the age of 16 years and older.
- More Quarters Neighbourhood Hotel has introduced two daily scheduled transfers to and from the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town.

Airlink and Federal Airlines have announced a commercial partnership aimed at ensuring sustainable air access by linking key Lowveld airports, such as Skukuza (SZK) and Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport (KMIA), with popular commercial wildlife lodges in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve and northern KwaZulu-Natal.

Airlink

- Has resumed its flights from Johannesburg to Richards Bay, effective from September 2022.
- Has recommenced its direct flights between Cape Town and Maputo, three times a week.

Tanda Tula has announced the launch of its daily flights between Hoedspruit Airport and Pafuri in the north of Kruger National Park, which will be operated by either Absolute Aviation or Maverick Air.

Morukuru Family has announced that the Morukuru Farm House will be closed from 18 January to 25 February 2023 for a refurbishment.

Mashatu Game Reserve

- Pont Drift Border Post, as well as the Platjan Border Post, are now open.
- Mashatu Lodge will be closed from 4 January to 23 March 2023 for a refurbishment.

Natural Selection is excited to introducing their newest Botswana camp, North Island Okavango, opening June 2023.

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Kwando Safaris is excited to introducing their newest Botswana camp, 4 Rivers, opening June 2023.

An African Anthology is excited to announce the addition of its new Kadizora Deluxe Villa, which features two en-suite bedrooms.

Bush Ways Lodges is delighted to announce that Deception Valley Lodge has joined its portfolio.

Zambezi Queen Collection has advised that their flagship houseboat, the Zambezi Queen, will undergo a refurbishment in early 2023 – the exact dates will be communicated in due course.

The Amalinda Collection is excited to announce the return of Linda and Dave Bennett to the Amalinda Family.

Victoria Falls Safari Spa is happy to announce that the largest and first purpose-built spa in Victoria Falls has officially opened its doors for business.

Ongava Game Reserve

- Little Ongava and Ongava Lodge will be closed from 28 January to 17 February 2023 for their annual maintenance.
- Anderssons and Ongava Tented Camp will closed from 18 February to 10 March 2023 for general maintenance.

Okonjima Nature Reserve

- Due to high demand, the Pangolin Tracking activity is only available to guests staying a minimum of two nights.
- Okonjima Bush Camp will be closed from 6 January to 18 January 2023 for a softs refurbishment.

Wolwedans has advised that Desert Lodge will be closed until the end of March 2023.

Catamaran Charters has expanded its offering to include the Lüderitz Coast and Mining Concession, which includes access to the Bogenfels and Diamonds, E-Bay Diamond History, as well as two-day Bogenfels tours.

N/a'ankuse in Namibia has advised that they will no longer offer their Ancient San Skills activity.



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Mason's Travel has advised that their courtesy office at Mahé Airport, Seychelles, will be closed from 15 August 2022 until mid-November 2022.

Elewana Collection in Kenya has advised the temporary closure of AfroChic Diani from 23 October 2022 to December 2023 for an exciting renovation and refurbishment programme.

Sanctuary Retreats has advised that Sanctuary Kusini will be closed from 1 December 2022 to 31 March 2023.