



AUGUST 2015

This month we focus on iconic hotels in the Winelands and Cape Town, that define the essence of luxury, refinement and exceptional service.



Babylonstoren is all about soothing the soul, healing the mind and feeding the senses. It celebrates the simple pleasures of farm life but with designer cred (the interiors were conceptualised by Karen Roos, former editor of South African *ELLE Decoration*). Its farm-to-table menu of freshly plucked ingredients from the garden, and the new bamboo treatments offered in the spa add to the holistic experience.



Delaire Graff Estate & Spa

The Spa is now one of only a handful of treatment centres in South Africa to offer an LED (Light Emitting Diode) facial developed by NASA. This technology creates reactions in the skin at a cellular level. Another new development is the opening of its newest boutique, VanaShree with an exotic range of handbags and accessories, created by founder, Vanashree Singh.



New Restaurants in Franschhoek

The Werf Restaurant at Boschendal is situated in the beautifully revamped original Manor House. Acclaimed chef, Christiaan Campbell, presents innovative country-style cuisine. Another new buzz is the Foliage Restaurant where chef Chris Erasmus' passion for wild ingredients married with traditional Cape cookery, come to the fore. Delicious experimental cooking.



The Cape Grace Hotel

An experience in itself - melding the modern comforts of a luxury hotel with traditional Cape culture. Currently the Chamonix Tasting Menu at Signal Restaurant is the 5th in the series and Executive Chef Malika van Reenen has conjured up a faultless menu. When booking the Cape Grace don't forget to consider their promotions and packages which offer great value-adds.



Ellerman House & Villas

has completed its refurbishment. Edwardian architecture blends effortlessly with city chic interiors. Colour pallets match the ocean views and the indigenous garden. While its bathrooms have also been modified to match the new contemporary look. Its 2016 promotions have also been released. Please contact us for the full listing and details.



New Restaurants in Cape Town

Vicky Christina's Camps Bay is a Spanish-style restaurant which recently opened its doors on the Camps Bay strip. The eclectic decor complements the menu, where you'll find duck samosas and paella as tapas! And for those with a sweet tooth, My Sugar is a quirky new café in Sea Point where Kaylah Greenberg offers a mouth-watering selection of sweet temptations.

Please note: we encourage you to take a look at the Specials and Packages that are on offer from some of our partners through the Wilderness Window platform (under Associated Product / Information).

SPECIALS

Ellerman House & Delaire Graff are offering a lovely combo package which is based on four nights at Ellerman and three nights at Delaire, valid for new bookings and stays between 1 April 2016 to 15 December 2016. Guests receive the following on a complimentary basis:

At Ellerman - one hour couple massage, cheese and wine tasting and Cape Town Art Drive.

At Delaire – Stellenbosch Art Tour (bespoke studios), Estate art walk and three-course meal, plus one hour massage or facial treatment.

Unchartered Africa – Green Season Special: For each booking comprising 15 bed-nights and more for Jack's Camp, Camp Kalahari or Mobile Safari Expeditions travelling during the period between 1 November 2015 to 20 December 2015 and 1 January to 15 April 2016, an additional 10% commission will be given on the accommodation-only amount.

Franschhoek Country House and Shumbala Package: Book two nights in a Villa Suite and receive a complimentary three-course dinner, spa treatments to the value of R500, and sparkling wine and snacks on arrival. Book three nights in a Suite at Shumbalala and choose between a fourth night complimentary, or a complimentary upgrade to the Presidential Suite.

GENERAL UPDATES

Bidvest Car Rental has advised that the category codes / vehicle groups are changing as of 1 September 2015. All forward bookings already captured in its system on the old car group categories will automatically be converted on 1 September 2015.

New vehicles in fleet:

Group 5M - Ford Ranger 3.2 XLX or similar (4X4 Double Cab, automatic)

Group E - Toyota Corolla Quest (automatic)

Duba Plains Camp (Great Plains) is scheduled to close for a rebuild in 2016 (closure dates to be confirmed). Duba Expedition Camp was scheduled to open in August or September 2015, but it looks like this will be later due to EIA approval.

Makanyane Safari Lodge (Madikwe Game Reserve) will be joining the Sanctuary Retreats portfolio of luxury camps and lodges on 1 August 2015, it first lodge in South Africa.

Leeu Collection - Reservations are now open for these Franschhoek properties: Leeu House (ex Rusthof Guest House) is set to open on 1 December 2015; Leeu Estates to open in 2016 (tba). From 1 September 2015 Le Quartier Francais will also belong to Leeu Collection.

Arathusa is building four new water-facing Luxury Rooms, replacing four of the current Standard Rooms. They will not have private plunge pools, but due to their prime location, they will be sold at the same rate as the bush-facing Luxury Rooms. Also effective 1 September 2015, passengers flying into Skukuza from Johannesburg or Cape Town are now able to connect on a 'lodge-hop' to the Arathusa Airstrip directly.

	<p>The Victoria Falls Hotel has launched a brand new website - www.victoriafallshotel.com. See updated images, and links to useful downloads (map, floorplan, menus, etc) plus an online booking link to check availability. Please note the room name changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deluxe Stable Wing room is now called Stables Signature Wing room - Standard/Honeymoon/Junior Suite is now called Honeymoon suite (upstairs in Stables Wing) - Deluxe/Royal/Batoka Suite – are commonly rated <p>An African Anthology has advised that Kana Kana is no longer part of their portfolio as of 01 August 2015. Also, as of 1 Sept 2015 Kapama Karula will no longer have luxury tents or suites available. This means the camp has changed from 4 room types to only 2 room types being Superior Suites and Family Superior Suites.</p> <p><i>Terms & Conditions apply to above Specials and Packages. Please contact us for details.</i></p>
Shows and Events	<p>6 – 12 Sep The Merry Widow of Malagawi is a light-hearted theatrical and musical exploration of diplomatic intrigue, capitalism and how people protect their wealth and self interests. British soprano, Elizabeth Llewellyn, sings the role of Hannah Glawari and South African soprano, Filipa van Eck, sings Valencienne. Artscape Theatre.</p> <p>30 Sep – 03 Oct Sarafina! is a South African musical by Mbongeni Negema depicting students involved in the Soweto Riots in opposition to Apartheid. It represents a school uprising on 16 June 1976. Baxter Theatre.</p> <p>24 Oct Natalia Lavrova together with Vassily Primakov perform a powerful and emotional programme of works for two pianos. Baxter Theatre.</p> <p>Running currently till 21 Nov Shiza iKapa playing at The Theatre at the Rockwell, is a vibrant local song, dance and dinner experience. The three-course menu changes regularly and has been specially crafted to match the culture behind the story, with authentic flavours and traditional dishes from places like the Bo-Kaap.</p> <p>Open daily (except Wednesdays) Richard’s Supper Stage Restaurant, situated in Sea Point, offers an evening of fun, entertainment and a buffet dinner. The Musical Revue of Cape Stories from the Mother City is filled with unique humor, intoxicating rhythms and soulful songs that celebrate the challenges and triumphs of the people of Cape Town.</p>

For further information on any of the above or other [Associated Product](#), please email us directly.



www.wilderness-safaris.com
www.wildernesstrust.com
www.childreninthewilderness.com
© Wilderness-Safaris 2014