



News, Specials and Updates

DECEMBER 2015

**Highlights of 2015** – As 2015 draws to a close, our focus is on three exciting products that opened their doors to travellers this year and that have so far delivered exceptional guest experiences and are set to continue on this path in 2016.



**Makanyi Private Game Lodge (Timbavati, South Africa)**

Makanyi Lodge opened its doors in June 2015. The deck at the Main Lodge offers stunning views over the dam, and is the perfect place to unwind and watch amazing wildlife scenes unfold before your eyes. All of the seven luxury suites also overlook the dam and each has its own relaxation area, a beautiful bathroom with spacious shower and separate bathtub, a private deck with loungers and an outdoor shower. Suites are all well equipped with Premium Africology amenities, complimentary Wi-Fi, telephone, hair dryer, mini bar, and Nespresso coffee machines. Guests can participate in game drives, bush walks, stargazing, fishing, photo safaris or art safaris. Alternatively you can indulge in a spa treatment, cool off in the pool or, for the more active, enjoy a work out in the gym.

Stay 4 / Pay 3 nights and Stay 6 / Pay 5 nights and Stay 8 / Pay 6 nights' offers available in 2016.

**Leeu Collection (Franschhoek, South Africa)**

Set in the picturesque village of Franschhoek, the Leeu Collection gives new meaning to the concept of leisure. Leeu Collection comprises a number of entities which include Leeu House, Leeu Estates, Mullineux & Leeu Family Wines and Le Quartier Français Hotel. Leeu House, a family friendly 12 room boutique hotel officially opened to guests on 1 December 2015. The hotel is an oasis of comfort and luxury that combines the tranquil feel of a country guesthouse with vibrant village life. All bedrooms are individually styled with en-suite bathrooms that have marble floors and free-standing baths. We are eagerly awaiting the opening on Leeu Estates in mid-2016 which will offer an exclusive boutique hotel, winery, and wellness spa. What is more, the Leeu Collection will also add a Microbrewery to their portfolio early next year.

**Angama Mara (Maasai Mara, Kenya)**

This new owner-run safari lodge opened on 14 June 2015. Inspired by the Swahili word for 'suspended in mid-air', Angama Mara is located high above the floor of Africa's Great Rift Valley, overlooking Kenya's famous Masai Mara. The architecturally dramatic guest areas were inspired by Nairobi's Muthaiga Club, and famously featured in the movie *Out of Africa*. The lodge consists of two intimate camps, each with fifteen tented suites. Days are as action-packed or as gentle as guests choose them to be. The Mara Triangle is a mere 25-minute drive from the lodge, and guests can experience hot air ballooning, walking, or cultural visits to Masai villages – or simply do nothing at all.

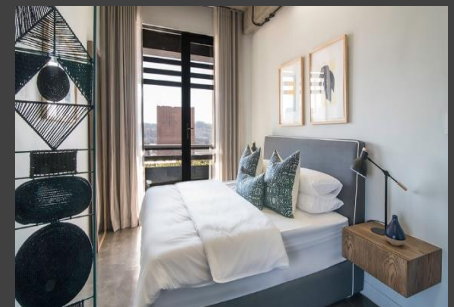
Stay 4 / Pay 3 nights available 1 Jan – 30 Jun 2016, and 01 Nov – 17 Dec 2016.

## Hot off the press!

Wilderness Safaris Segera Retreat and Angama Mara are very excited to offer a fabulous Kenya Package. In the spirit of the famed "Out of Africa," explore two unique areas of Kenya that beautifully combine diverse wildlife, dramatic scenery, fascinating people and valuable conservation efforts. Your journey begins as you fly by private charter to the Laikipia Plateau where woodlands, grasslands and fertile riverbeds nestle between the iconic Mount Kenya and Great Rift Valley. Then travel to the legendary Masai Mara for a quintessential African safari encompassing abundant wildlife, endless grassy plains and towering escarpments. Contact your Journey Specialist for more details and to make a booking.



## Monthly Features



### Restaurant of the month

#### The Conservatory

Keeping with our featured supplier, Leeu Collection, our restaurant of the month is The Conservatory at Leeu house. Set in the vibrant epicentre of Franschhoek village, guests can enjoy leisurely meals in The Conservatory, or al fresco on the terrace. Lunch and dinner menus offer delightful, innovative cuisine, prepared by the talented culinary team, headed by executive chef Oliver Cattermole.

### Tour of the Month

#### Connoisseur's Winelands Tour

Head to the winelands for a leisurely exploration of historic towns, liquid delights, gastronomic wonders and home-grown hospitality. Learn about the industries colourful history and traditions and savour the wonderful wines that showcase the unique terroirs of the Cape in a myriad of styles, from classic old world favourites to fruit-driven "early drinking" new world wines. Enjoy a sumptuous lunch at one of South Africa's top restaurants.

### New Product

Newmark Hotels, Reserves & Lodges has been awarded the contract for the hotel that forms part of the 15-storey Hallmark House in the exciting Maboneng precinct in downtown Joburg, due to open in September 2016. Hallmark House was built originally in the 1970s as a diamond-polishing centre. The complex comprises a mix of residential and hotel apartments; the hotel will have 46 apartments on two storeys and there will be two restaurants one on the ground floor and The Grande on the roof top.

## Specials & General Updates

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

### SPECIALS:

The Four Seasons Westcliff Hotel is offering a Stay 3 Pay 2 special from 10 December 2015 to 16 January 2016. The special is also available for Easter weekend on 21 March to 01 April 2016 and during SA Winter, 25 June to 24 July 2016.

Camp Jabulani is offering a Zindoga Villa promotion. For bookings of 4 to 6 people travelling together, Camp Jabulani will provide a complimentary upgrade to the presidential Zindoga Villa. A completely self-contained facility, the Zindoga Villa is a palatial replica of Camp Jabulani's style and elemental premise. Two individual suites are connected by a joint lounge and dining area. Each unit has a massive bedroom with bathroom en-suite (including glass enclosed shower), expansive wooden deck, and a private heated plunge pool. One of the suites also has an adjoining charming twin room, with private bathroom, for two children sharing.

Radisson Blu Hotel Waterfront is offering 15% and 20% discounted rates off long stays. Stay 3 nights and save 15%, or stay 4 nights and save 20%. Valid from 4 April to 31 August 2016 (excluding 18 – 21 April 2016). Minimum 2 nights stay. Subject to availability

Ghoha Hills is offering an early bird booking offer for shoulder season. Book by 29 February 2016 and save 50% on your 3<sup>rd</sup> night.

### UPDATES:

Great Plains Botswana camps have suspended all water activities in the Duba and Selinda concessions due to low levels.

The NEW Victoria Falls International Airport terminal opened to passengers on 2 December 2015 and although operational, will only be officially opened by the President on 13 December 2015. The state-of-the-art \$150 million Victoria Falls International Airport is expected to accommodate 1.5 million passengers a year.

Sabi Sands Conservation Contribution Policy effective 01 January 2016. All lodges within the Sabi Sand Reserve have jointly and collectively agreed to the introduction of a contribution which will go towards anti-poaching, general conservation and community initiatives within the reserve. These initiatives will be executed and managed by the Sabi Sand Wildtuin Nature Conservation Trust. The R100.00 per person per night contribution (non-Vatable) will either be added to guests' invoice for accommodation payable prior to arrival, or to their extras account payable on departure from the lodge.

The Mantis Collection and Val de Vie Estate have purchased the Pearl Valley Golf and Country Estate in Franschhoek and aims to create a 'super estate' under the two brands. The acquisition includes the entire first phase of the Pearl Valley, the Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, the clubhouse, a hotel site on which the Mantis Collection Pearl Valley Hotel will be developed, a 20-hectare equestrian farm and approximately 80 serviced and unsold plots as well as 150 un-serviced residential plots. The hotel will be developed by early 2016, with the first phase including 40 rooms and a conference centre.

*Terms & Conditions apply to above Specials and Packages. Please contact us for details.*

## Shows and Events

### Open daily (except Wednesdays)

**Richard's Supper Stage Restaurant**, situated in Sea Point, and 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.

### 3 December 2015 - 31 January 2016

#### **Swan Lake on Ice (Johannesburg)**

The Imperial Ice Stars return to South Africa with a dynamic new interpretation of this award-winning masterpiece. This production of SWAN LAKE ON ICE features new effects and costumes, as well as exhilarating new choreography from Artistic Director Tony Mercer, widely regarded as the world's leading creator of theatre on ice.

### 2 January 2016

#### **Cape Town Minstrel Carnival (Cape Town)**

The Cape Town Minstrel Carnival, takes place every year at new year when thousands of musicians, singers, dancers and tailors connected to them, gear themselves for the traditional 'Kaapse klopse' or 'Coon carnival'. The origin of the carnival stretches back to the 19th century and has its origins in the time of slavery in Cape Town, when the original citizens of District Six were allowed their one day off on January 1st. The event, which has developed a distinct Cape flavour, is also supposed to have ties to the minstrel entertainers who stopped off in Cape Town on huge American ocean liners, over 100 years ago.

### 5 – 7 February 2016

#### **Stellenbosch Wine Festival (Stellenbosch)**

The three-day lifestyle Festival will showcase hundreds of Stellenbosch wines from award-winning producers to small boutique wineries. Savour the Stellenbosch lifestyle during the presented by Pick n Pay. Sample some of the best wines in the country, indulge in gourmet food offerings by top restaurants, enjoy live music and take part in fun outdoor activities in picturesque surroundings.

### 6 February 2016 – 27 March 2016

#### **Robertson Wine Valley's Hands-on Harvest Festival (Robertson)**

The 8th edition of the festival will still take the format of a boutique event that offers wine aficionados and budding vintners a chance to experience the magic of harvest for a day. Activities include Grape Picking, Barrel tastings, Stomping your own grapes, Grape vs Wine Tasting, Play day, Harvest inspired menus, Live Distilling .... and much more.

### 19 – 21 February 2016

#### **Cape Town Art Fair (Cape Town)**

Cape Town boasts a vibrant arts scene, driven by the top galleries on the African continent. Thanks to its diverse cultural heritage and geographic beauty, Cape Town is a compelling destination for both art world professionals and collectors alike. The Cape Town Art Fair showcases a diversity of work that represents the forefront of cutting edge innovation which brings contemporary art from Africa to the world, and the world to Cape Town.

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



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