

The beautiful south

With the help of our friends at Africa Travel, we chart the greatest South African adventures around. How will you choose between them? Solution: visit them all

They've handpicked the world's best safaris, can steer you towards the finest hotels and book tables at the coolest restaurants. In short, Africa Travel know Africa like the back of their hand, plus everything is tried and tested to be sure they're happy to recommend it. Arrange your trip with the uber-efficient team in the London office (why not create a multiple destination itinerary?). And if you have questions out there, there's someone on the end of the phone round the clock in their Cape Town office. You write the script and Africa Travel make it happen.

TSWALU At a quarter of a million acres, this is South Africa's biggest (malaria-free) private reserve. Explore on horseback or via 4x4 and foot to see black-maned Kalahari lions, desert black rhino and even armadillos. The decadent camp sleeps only 30 and serves up spoiling spa therapies and fabulous food. This October, Tswalu has welcomed a litter of meerkat pups.

TATLER OFFER Africa Travel can arrange a four-night stay at The Motse from £3,945 per person sharing including British Airways flights. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel.

ROYAL MALEWANE AND AFRICA HOUSE

What awaits you at Royal Malewane? Smiling staff, a soothing spa, sumptuous suites so vast they're practically palatial and private pools all round (plus a 25-metre infinity pool in the spa). And it's all nestled within the wild and rugged beauty of the Greater Kruger National Park. Everyday is an adventure not just for you, but for the passionate rangers who excitedly take to the wheel of their 4x4s to track down the Big Five in action. Just two minutes from the main lodge stands Africa House, a private villa originally built for Royal Malewane's owners, which sleeps 12 and comes with just as many staff. Tempted?

TATLER OFFER Africa Travel can arrange a three-night stay from £4,550 per person sharing including British Airways flights. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel.



Royal Malewane

SABI SABI EARTH LODGE

6,000 hectares, 200 species of wildlife, 350 species of bird – Sabi Sabi talks a big game, and rightly so. 13, however, is the miniscule number of guest suites, so you have the place virtually to yourself. Track the Big Five on game drives with Sabi Sabi's eagle-eyed rangers – we hear there are cubs in both the lion and leopard camp at the moment. Back at the lodge doze off on white muslin-covered salas, explore the vast cellar's enormous wine collection, drink cocktails around the bar while looking out over the waterhole and soak up the melodies of the bush while dining alfresco. Sheer brilliance.

TATLER OFFER Africa Travel can arrange a three-night stay from £2,575 per person sharing including British Airways flights. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel.



Sabi Sabi Earth Lodge

LONDOLOZI

'It represents a model of the dream I cherish for the future of nature preservation,' Nelson Mandela said of his visit to the extraordinary Londolozi (Zulu for 'protector of all living things'). Come here to immerse yourself in the thick of Sabi Sand Game Reserve – one of the best locations for spotting leopards slink by and a great place to see elephants, lions, zebra and warthog, too. Despite its wild surroundings, the lodgings are pristine. Suites at the out-of-this-world Tree Camp (of which there are just six) are decorated with Ralph Lauren wallpaper and each have private swimming pools. Londolozi also boasts its own wellness centre – don't miss the fabulous yoga classes. Keep an eye on the camp's blog to get the latest news, be it the newest litter of leopard cubs or the jaw-on-the-floor collection of pictures of the week.

TATLER OFFER Africa Travel can arrange a three-night stay at Londolozi Tree Camp from £3,295 per person sharing including British Airways flights. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel.

Londolozi



Table Bay Hotel

TABLE BAY HOTEL

Often hailed as the best address in Cape Town, Table Bay Hotel is close enough to the city action, but far enough away to preserve a peaceful existence. There's a swimming pool on the roof, the Camelot Spa is dreamy and every one of the marble-finished rooms boasts picture-perfect views of either Table Mountain or the Atlantic Ocean (squint and you can see Robben Island in the distance). Can't-be-matched activities include learning to cook with native fynbo plants and snorkelling with Cape fur seals – a perfect way to mark the point where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet.

TATLER OFFER Africa Travel can arrange a five-night stay from £1,560 per person sharing including British Airways flights. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel.

KENSINGTON PLACE

Located in the leafy Cape Town suburb of Higgovale and overlooking Table Mountain, this contemporary boutique hotel houses just eight spacious – and meticulously designed – suites. It's all about personal touches here and the super-sharp concierge team will make sure your stay is second to none. Enjoy fabulous seasonal food (rustled up on demand by the expert chef) by the pool or on your own private terrace. If you end up having a late night exploring Cape Town, there's plenty of time for lie-ins in the exceptionally comfortable beds – breakfast is served all day long.

TATLER OFFER Africa Travel can arrange a five-night stay from £1,470 per person sharing including British Airways flights. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel.



Kensington Place

Locations are also combinable. To book, call 020 7843 3580 or visit africatravel.co.uk/tatlertravel
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