



Go2Africa's Award-Winning Safari Travel Specialists Share Travel Trends and Hotel Openings in Africa for 2024

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Cape Town, South Africa (November 1, 2023): Travel operator Go2Africa is pleased to share their top travel trends and the exciting hotel openings in Africa for 2024. With new luxury safari camps opening and destinations catering to every type of traveler, from honeymoons to family trips, there has never been a better time to visit Africa. The Go2Africa team of experts has been committed to curating exceptional travel journeys since 1998, with 100% of the revenue remaining in Africa to support local communities and conservation projects. With an entire team of African-born and raised specialists, including eleven named Conde Nast Traveler's Top Travel Specialists in 2023, travelers can trust their expertise. Whether it is your first trip to Africa or you are planning to get further off the beaten path, travelers can start planning now with confidence that every detail from A to Z will be taken care of with 24/7 on-safari support.

Maija DeRijk-Uys of Go2Africa shares, "It's been a privilege to connect people from all over the world with the beauty and wonder of Africa. We have been at the forefront of trends, new openings, and developments, all while enabling the promotion of sustainable tourism practices that benefit local communities and protect wildlife and the environment. For a quarter of a century, our team of specialists has been constantly exploring and researching the best safaris, properties, and experiences for our travelers so they can plan with ease when they work with Go2Africa."

#### Travel Trends

#### **Wellness Travel**

Whether you are practicing yoga, meditating in the midst of African plains, indulging in a spa treatment, or taking a dip in the azure waters of a private beach (immersing yourself in the healing properties of the natural world) – the ultimate goal is to return home feeling healthier, happier, and more relaxed than when you arrived. Go2Africa has handpicked some top wellness retreats for 2024, offering wellness and farm-to-table dining experiences. Gibbs Farm in Tanzania is a welcoming retreat on a working farm. Healthy, home-cooked meals and fresh garden vegetables prevail. Visit the working coffee plantation, dairy farm, and piggery, and perhaps enjoy an interactive experience as you lend a hand in milking the cows, feeding the pigs, or joining the farm's coffee roasters to experience traditional coffee roasting methods. Babylonstoren offers 200 acres of working farmland, where guests can visit the extensive fruit and vegetable garden. It is currently the vineland's best locally sourced concept and includes meals made with fresh, wholesome ingredients. Sterrekopje offers more than a stay; it is a journey filled with slow-paced rhythms and rituals. Through grounding activities, holistic treatments, and seasonal farm-to-table feasts, you gently come back into your body, re-weaving your innate soil-to-soul connection. We call it ancestral luxury, conscious living.

# **Hands-on Wildlife Management**

There has been an increasing interest in hands-on wildlife experiences where travelers can get involved with behind-the-scenes collaring, vet shadowing, and endangered animal monitoring experiences. Many of the Go2Africa Trips With A Purpose include wildlife conservation at a Positive Impact project supporting local communities, environmental work, or wildlife conservation. They include an additional financial contribution from Go2Africa towards specific projects. Examples include:

Gorilla Trekking for a Cause: This incredible 6-day <u>Trip with a Purpose</u> gives travelers the chance to enjoy one of Africa's most beloved countries, Rwanda. Experience local culture and learn about the mammoth efforts to save endangered mountain gorilla populations while partaking in the humbling gorilla trekking experience. When travelers book this trip, a portion of the proceeds goes to the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, which opened its campus in February 2022. Travelers can visit and tour the campus before or after their gorilla trek.

#### **Community Engagement**

Go2Africa is proud to work with and support a fantastic collection of independent, innovative, and inspiring community development projects. They are committed to playing a part in building an inclusive and prosperous future for all where travel spending has a tangible, positive impact. They assist in equipping schools with learning materials, building resources, and nutrition for students and providing scholarships for secondary and tertiary institutions with invaluable mentoring programs. Below are examples of how travelers can partake.

Education for a Future: This 10-day luxury community and wildlife safari takes one into the heart of Africa, where days are spent immersed in local African culture, learning about what is being done to empower the people of the continent and enjoying big game viewing. On a tour of Victoria Falls and

Zimbabwe Community Wildlife Safari, guests can visit Maunga Village and experience a full day in Hwange National Park to visit a sewing group run by women who repurpose old items into beautiful new gifts. This trip offers the opportunity to meet people on the ground benefiting from tourism while supporting their primary schools and small businesses. When this safari is booked, Go2Africa will donate to the Maunga Village Primary School near Livingstone to improve the school's facilities and provide learners with access to food.

# **New Openings**

### **Tanzania**

The reimagined safari lodge, Serengeti Explorer, the first property under <u>Elewana's Explorer</u> brand, will open in January 2024. Sitting high up on the Nyaboro Hills overlooking the endless plains for which the Serengeti is famed, it is the perfect place to see and access the Great Migration. Thanks to its prime location, guests will have access to one of the world's most iconic wildlife ecosystems. There will also be multiple restaurant options, including a chef's table in the wine cellar, an art gallery, a kids' bushcraft center, yoga and fitness facilities, an outdoor cinema, and a photo lab.

#### Botswana

In the heart of Botswana's Okavango Delta, African Bush Camp's new <u>Atzaro Okavango Camp</u> will open for visitors in March 2024. The camp, powered entirely by solar energy, offers "savanna meets delta" adventures and unique year-round wildlife encounters with elephants, buffalo, lions, leopards, giraffes, lechwe, and hippos. Each luxurious tent comes with air conditioning, private plunge pools, and Wi-Fi, ensuring that you never have to compromise on modern amenities while enjoying the serenity of the African wilderness.

In one of the last truly wild corners of Africa, <u>Tawana</u>, Natural Selection's newly built camp, sits entirely unfenced, allowing the wildlife to wander right through the heart of the camp, With a beautiful riverside location on the Gomoti River, guests will find a high concentration of large herbivores, antelope and predators including healthy populations of lion, leopard, and African wild dogs in close proximity to the lodge.

# Uganda

Opening its fifth lodge in May 2024, <u>Volcanoes Safaris</u>, Kibale Lodge will be perfectly positioned for chimpanzee trekking in Kibale National Park in Uganda. With a community of over 1,500 chimpanzees, it is one of Africa's best parks to view chimpanzees. This expansion complements the existing circuit of Volcanoes Safaris' four great ape lodges. It will offer a seamless safari across Rwanda and Uganda, letting guests experience the unique gorilla, chimpanzee, and wildlife of the Albertine Rift.

Plan your safari with Go2Africa now.

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<u>Go2Africa</u>, part of the Nawiri Group, is a multi-award-winning and B Corp-certified travel specialist based out of Cape Town and Nairobi. Driven by a passion for positive change, Go2Africa curates unforgettable African safari holidays that leave a lasting impact. Celebrating over 25 years, they have first-hand knowledge and relationships with over 1000+ carefully selected partners across Southern and Eastern Africa. With the most accredited and awarded safari specialists recognized by Conde Nast Traveler and Travel & Leisure, travelers are in expert hands.

## For more information:

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