

JOBURG Life. & TRAVEL



escape

Escape the winter chill with elegant high tea at Four Seasons Hotel The Westcliff Johannesburg, where champagne, pastries and panoramic city views create a luxurious afternoon retreat.



explore

Constance Le Chaland has arrived, bringing nature-led luxury, refined gastronomy and holistic wellbeing to the untouched south-east coastline of Mauritius.



experience

The Royal Countess Zingara returns to Johannesburg's Melrose Arch with La Dolce Royal, an extravagant dinner-cirque spectacle of aerial artistry, music and magic.





holden manz wine estate

Franschhoek's Hidden Gem



holden manz wine estate

www.holdenmanz.com

021 876 2738

Tasting Room | 5* Country House | Global Wine Delivery | Picnics | The Franschhoek Kitchen

Your Inside Track to Jozi's Best

Ready to unlock the soul of the city? Joburg Uncovered is your ultimate guide—where to eat, play, and uncover the magic of Joburg. Think rooftop cocktails, pop-up galleries, live music, exclusive events, and more. Whether you're a savvy local or a first-time explorer, Joburg Uncovered gives you the keys to the city's vibrant heartbeat. Dive in—Jozi is waiting. Discover more and sign up to our newsletter www.lifebrands.co.za/joburg-uncovered



HIGH TEA & HERITAGE AT FOUR SEASONS THE WESTCLIFF

Winter afternoons take on a luxurious charm at Four Seasons Hotel The Westcliff Johannesburg, where elegant high tea experiences overlook the city's treetops and rolling hills. Guests can indulge in beautifully crafted pastries, fine teas and champagne in one of Johannesburg's most iconic luxury settings. The tranquil gardens, sophisticated interiors and impeccable service make it an ideal escape from the pace of the city. Whether celebrating a special occasion or simply embracing a slower winter afternoon, the experience captures understated luxury at its finest.

www.fourseasons.com

SWAN LAKE RETURNS TO JOHANNESBURG IN GRAND STYLE

Johannesburg's winter cultural calendar reaches a high note this season with the return of Swan Lake at Montecasino's Teatro August 7 to August 21, 2026. Bringing together sweeping orchestral music, dramatic staging and world-class ballet, the production promises an elegant evening of escapism and sophistication. Ideal for date nights, client hosting or simply dressing up for a glamorous night out, the experience captures the timeless romance of classical theatre.

www.webtickets.co.za



IMMERSIVE ART & ASTRONOMY AT THE WITS DIGITAL DOME

Johannesburg's newly reimagined Wits Anglo American Digital Dome offers one of the city's most unique cultural experiences this winter. Combining immersive digital art, astronomy, music and visual storytelling beneath its iconic domed ceiling, the venue transports visitors into extraordinary worlds through cutting-edge projection technology. Evening shows range from cosmic journeys and orchestral experiences to contemporary visual installations, creating a sophisticated and visually spectacular night out. The Digital Dome has quickly become one of Johannesburg's most talked-about experiential destinations.

digitaldome.wits.ac.za

A WORLD OF WONDER AWAITS AS THE ROYAL COUNTESS ZINGARA

The Royal Countess Zingara brings her enchanting dinner-cirque spectacle, La Dolce Royal, to Johannesburg's Melrose Arch from 20 June 2026. Set within the iconic mirrored Spiegel tent, the production blends world-class acrobatics, music, theatre and immersive storytelling in a feast for the senses. Featuring acclaimed South African and international performers, the show promises an unforgettable journey through wonder, imagination and spectacle.

boxoffice@zingara.co.za



IF YOU MISSED
LAST YEAR,
DON'T DO
THAT AGAIN

DESIGN, DÉCOR AND THE ULTIMATE VIP EXPERIENCE

Decorex Joburg 2026 is back this winter Thursday, 30 July to Sunday, 2 August 2026, with an elevated showcase of luxury interiors, architecture, décor and contemporary lifestyle trends. Hosted at the iconic Sandton Convention Centre, the event has evolved far beyond a traditional design expo, now attracting tastemakers, creatives and luxury brands from across the country. From curated installations and premium hospitality lounges to wine tastings and beautifully styled spaces, the VIP experience offers a sophisticated day out immersed in design inspiration and modern luxury living.

www.decorex.co.za

A BOLD NEW ERA FOR BALLET THE BACCHAE COMES TO JOBURG

This July, Joburg Ballet and UJ Arts & Culture present The Bacchae: An African Choral Ballet — a groundbreaking world-first production reimagining Euripides' legendary tragedy through a powerful South African lens. Opening at Joburg Theatre from 3–12 July, the production forms part of Joburg Ballet's milestone 25th Anniversary Season.

Directed by acclaimed creative Jay Pather, with choreography by Mthuthuzeli November and an original score by celebrated composer Neo Muyanga, the full-length ballet combines dance, live orchestral music and the commanding voices of the UJ Choir in an immersive theatrical experience.

Exploring themes of power, excess, spirituality and rebellion, the production transforms an ancient myth into a strikingly contemporary African narrative — blending bold choreography, choral tradition and visual spectacle into one of the most anticipated cultural events of the season.

Tickets via webtickets.co.za



ROOFTOP COCKTAILS & CITY VIEWS

AT ALTO234

Perched atop The Leonardo, Alto234 offers one of the highest urban bar experiences in Africa.

The sophisticated rooftop setting combines sweeping skyline views with signature cocktails, elegant small plates and a glamorous atmosphere that feels worlds away from the bustle below.

Particularly magical at sunset, Alto234 has become a favourite for stylish after-work drinks, celebrations and elevated winter evenings. With panoramic views stretching across Johannesburg, the experience captures the city's contemporary luxury lifestyle at its most striking.

www.alto234.co.za



NINE YARDS REDEFINES JOHANNESBURG'S SOCIAL SCENE

Johannesburg's newest lifestyle destination, Nine Yards, is becoming the city's most stylish meeting place. Set within a beautifully reimagined green precinct in Parktown North, the space blends contemporary dining, wellness, fashion, art and design into one effortlessly cosmopolitan experience. Visitors can spend entire afternoons wandering between artisanal cafés, galleries, boutique retail spaces and beautifully landscaped courtyards before settling in for cocktails or dinner. From yoga mornings at The Venue Nine Yards and brunch at Salvation Cafe Nine Yards to long lunches at Doppio Bistrot Nine Yards, Nine Yards captures the sophisticated, community-driven energy shaping Johannesburg's evolving cultural and social scene this winter.

www.nine-yards.co.za



WINE, FOOD & WINTER INDULGENCE AT THE PICK N PAY WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

Returning to Johannesburg 8th of August, the Pick n Pay Wine & Food Festival transforms The Wanderers Club into a sophisticated celebration of South Africa's finest wines, gourmet food and live entertainment. Guests can sample award-winning wines from more than 70 leading estates while enjoying artisanal food experiences, Cap Classiques, Champagne and beautifully curated tasting lounges. Stylish yet relaxed, the festival attracts Johannesburg's fashionable wine-loving crowd for a weekend of indulgence and socialising.

www.pnpwineandfoodfestival.co.za



STAY, DINE & UNWIND AT THE PEECH

Hidden within the leafy surrounds of Melrose, The Peech Hotel offers a sophisticated winter retreat where boutique luxury, exceptional dining, and relaxed city living come together. Known for its understated elegance and warm hospitality, the intimate Johannesburg hideaway provides the perfect setting for couples and travellers seeking a stylish seasonal escape.

The hotel's Winter Stay & Dine experience invites guests to slow down and indulge in the comforts of the season. Elegant suites, tranquil garden spaces, and thoughtful touches create an atmosphere of complete relaxation, while cosy lounges and beautifully designed interiors add to the charm of the experience.

Dining remains a highlight at The Pot Luck Club Johannesburg, where bold flavours, inventive small plates, and expertly paired wines turn every meal into a memorable occasion. Mornings begin with leisurely breakfasts overlooking lush indigenous gardens, while evenings are best spent lingering over cocktails and exceptional cuisine.

Perfectly positioned between Sandton, Rosebank, and Melrose Arch, The Peech combines urban convenience with the feeling of a secluded boutique sanctuary — offering one of Johannesburg's most refined winter staycation experiences.

thepeech.co.za



BREAKFASTS, BRUNCHES & BOTANICAL ESCAPES AT TRUFFLES ON THE PARK

More than simply a restaurant, Truffles On The Park has become one of Sandton's most sought-after lifestyle dining destinations. Known for its scrumptious breakfasts, long champagne brunches and sophisticated celebrations, the venue offers a tranquil escape overlooking Mushroom Farm Park.

From elegant lunches and seasonal gatherings to intimate private dining experiences and stylish corporate events, Truffles effortlessly blends refined dining with a relaxed botanical atmosphere. Chic interiors, exceptional cocktails and thoughtfully crafted menus continue to attract Johannesburg's fashionable crowd.

trufflesbistro.co.za



CREATIVITY COMES ALIVE AT KAMERS/MAKERS

Johannesburg's creative scene takes centre stage as KAMERS/Makers returns to Central Square Menlyn Maine, Pretoria, from 27–31 May, celebrating the best in South African design, fashion, décor, beauty, artisanal food, and craftsmanship. The popular lifestyle event brings together talented makers and entrepreneurs in a vibrant showcase of local creativity.

More than just a shopping experience, KAMERS/Makers features gourmet food, local wine and cocktails, live entertainment, interactive experiences, and inspiring installations. From handcrafted jewellery and statement fashion to contemporary homeware and wellness products, the event highlights the innovation driving South Africa's creative economy.

www.kamers.co.za



La Motte: Beyond the Vineyards

Set in the heart of the Franschhoek Valley, La Motte Wine Estate continues to redefine the modern Winelands experience through exceptional wine, celebrated cuisine, immersive farm activities, and timeless Cape heritage. Surrounded by mountain views and centuries of history, the estate offers visitors a beautifully curated destination where every detail speaks to craftsmanship, culture, and country living.

Renowned for its award-winning wines, La Motte invites guests to explore **elegant** tastings within its refined Tasting Room, where contemporary design meets the warmth of traditional hospitality. Culinary experiences remain central to the estate, from the relaxed atmosphere of the Artisanal Bakery & Garden Café to the bold open-fire cooking at L'Ami Family Brasserie and the immersive storytelling of JAN Franschhoek.

Beyond the dining table, La Motte embraces authentic farm living with experiences designed to slow the pace and reconnect visitors with the land. Guests can wander **scenic** hiking trails through vineyards and fynbos, browse the beautifully curated Farm Shop and Spens pantry, or enjoy hands-on workshops celebrating breadmaking, art, and local craftsmanship. The estate's creative Ateljee further reflects its commitment to South

African art, culture, and meaningful connection.

Blending luxury with authenticity, La Motte remains one of the Cape Winelands' most compelling destinations — a place where fine wine, **seasonal flavours**, art, nature, and farm experiences come together in effortless harmony.

Discover more la-motte.com



Effortless Indulgence in the Heart of Franschhoek

In the picturesque Franschhoek Valley, Franschhoek Cellar stands as a refined yet relaxed destination where wine, food and atmosphere come together with understated ease.

Set along the valley's iconic route, the cellar captures the essence of **contemporary** country living—balancing heritage with a fresh, modern sensibility. It's a space designed for unhurried enjoyment, where guests are encouraged to settle in, savour the moment, and experience wine culture without formality.

At the heart of the offering is a thoughtfully curated wine portfolio, showcasing a range of styles that reflect both tradition and innovation. From crisp whites and **expressive** Rosés to structured reds and elegant sparkling wines, each pour is an invitation to explore the depth and diversity of the region.

Beyond the tasting experience, the cellar extends into a welcoming lifestyle destination. Seasonal menus, generous platters and curated pairings elevate the visit, while expansive indoor and outdoor spaces create the perfect setting for everything from casual gatherings to celebratory occasions.

Versatile yet **distinctive**, the cellar effortlessly transitions between a daytime retreat and a vibrant social space. Whether arriving for a relaxed tasting, a leisurely lunch or a special event, the experience feels both elevated and approachable.

In a valley celebrated for its world-class wine estates, Franschhoek Cellar distinguishes itself through its balance—offering a destination that is as polished as it is inviting, and as memorable as it is easy to return to.

www.franschhoekcellar.co.za





PAARL WELCOMES SMEUL AT ZOMERLUST

Following an elegant renovation and thoughtful refresh, Zomerlust Boutique Hotel has reopened its doors in the heart of Paarl. Under the creative direction of interior designer Misi Overturf, the historic property now combines timeless Cape heritage with refined contemporary comfort across 15 individually styled rooms and suites.

Set between the vineyards of the Boland and the dramatic Du Toitskloof Mountains, the hotel offers a tranquil escape where rich history, warm hospitality, and exceptional food come together.

At the heart of the experience is SMEUL Restaurant, helmed by acclaimed chef Kevin Grobler. Returning to his hometown roots, Grobler brings his signature fire-led cooking style to Paarl, celebrating local produce and bold South African flavours in a menu inspired by heritage, seasonality, and sustainability.

Whether visiting for a countryside stay, long lunch, or immersive culinary experience, Zomerlust invites guests to slow down and savour the spirit of the Cape.

SMEUL Open daily. Bookings via Dineplan. Zomerlust Boutique Hotel, 193 Main Road, Hoog-en-Droog, Paarl
www.zomerlust.co.za

A WEEKEND OF FRENCH FLAIR IN THE WINELANDS BASTILLE 2026

Prescient Investment Management returns for a fourth consecutive year as Title Sponsor of this prestigious event which transforms the picturesque village of Franschhoek into a vibrant celebration of French heritage, fine wine, and festive indulgence. Drawing visitors from across the country and beyond, the beloved annual event promises a weekend filled with exceptional food, world-class wines, lively entertainment, and unmistakable French flair.

Steeped in centuries-old Huguenot history, Franschhoek's charming streets come alive in a sea of blue, white, and red as guests embrace the spirit of celebration.

At the heart of the festivities lies the iconic Bastille marquee, where visitors can sample some of the region's finest wines alongside artisanal cuisine and local delicacies. Beyond the festival grounds, Franschhoek's celebrated restaurants, boutiques, galleries, and wine estates off

Blending old-world charm with contemporary Winelands luxury, Bastille 2026 promises an unforgettable celebration of culture, cuisine, and community in one of South Africa's most beautiful destinations.



A WINTER SYMPHONY ARRIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's cultural calendar is set to come alive this winter as four acclaimed international ensembles prepare to tour the country in a spectacular celebration of music, artistry, and global collaboration. From stirring orchestral performances to electrifying choral productions, audiences can expect a season filled with unforgettable live experiences across Johannesburg, Cape Town, Stellenbosch, and beyond.

Showcasing an exciting mix of classical mastery, contemporary interpretation, and cultural storytelling, bringing together world-renowned musicians, conductors, and performers from around the globe.

Among the standout performances is the return of internationally celebrated choirs and symphony orchestras whose global reputations continue to captivate audiences worldwide.

South Africa's renowned theatres and concert halls will provide the perfect backdrop for the tours, reaffirming the country's growing status as a destination for world-class performing arts.

The winter season offers a rare opportunity to experience extraordinary talent on local stages without leaving the country. Whether drawn to the elegance of orchestral music, the emotional resonance of choral harmony, or the energy of international live performance, audiences are in for a remarkable celebration of sound this winter.

Tickets www.quicket.co.za/events
 OR www.classicalmovements.com

LA MOTTE REDEFINES THE WINE CLUB EXPERIENCE

La Motte Wine Estate has unveiled an elegant new offering for wine enthusiasts with the launch of its exclusive Collectors Club — a refined membership experience designed for those who appreciate exceptional vintages, curated experiences, and the artistry behind fine wine.

Created as an intimate extension of the estate's celebrated lifestyle philosophy, the Collectors Club offers members access to carefully selected seasonal wine collections personally curated by Cellarmaster Edmund Terblanche. Each quarterly release reflects the rhythm of the estate and celebrates the beauty, craftsmanship, and storytelling synonymous with La Motte.

Beyond the wines themselves, membership unlocks a world of exclusive privileges. Members enjoy priority access to new releases and rare vintages, invitations to private gatherings and curated estate experiences, complimentary tastings, and access to the estate's sought-after Vinoteque featuring older and limited-edition wines. The club also extends into La Motte's broader world of culture and creativity, offering early access to exhibitions, workshops, and seasonal events hosted at the estate's Ateljee.

Designed to bring collectors closer to the heart of the Franschhoek estate, the initiative reflects La Motte's ongoing commitment to heritage, artistry, and authentic connection. With each seasonal delivery, members are invited to experience the changing moods of the Cape Winelands through wine, culture, and immersive storytelling.

Blending exclusivity with timeless Winelands elegance, the La Motte Collectors Club offers far more than membership — it presents an invitation into a carefully curated world of fine wine and refined living.

la-motte.co.za



SOUTH AFRICA BLOSSOMS ON THE WORLD STAGE

South Africa once again captivated international audiences at the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show, earning widespread acclaim for a breathtaking exhibit inspired by the remarkable landscapes of the Cape Floral Kingdom. Showcasing indigenous flora, sculptural artistry, and vibrant natural textures, the installation stood out as one of the highlights of the 2026 event.

Featuring dramatic proteas, delicate fynbos, and immersive storytelling through design, the display celebrated the country's extraordinary biodiversity while underscoring the importance of conservation and sustainability. Judges and visitors praised the exhibit for its originality, craftsmanship, and emotional impact.

As one of the world's most influential horticultural showcases, the Chelsea Flower Show attracts leading designers and growers from across the globe, making South Africa's achievement another proud moment for the nation's creative and botanical excellence on the international stage.



Owners Cottage at Grande Provence

This peaceful sanctuary offers a true sense of escape, while remaining conveniently close—just under an hour from the energetic centre of Cape Town. It is a place where the pace slows naturally, inviting guests to step into the quiet elegance and enduring character of the Cape Winelands.

Set among the timeless beauty of Cape Dutch architecture, The Owner's Cottage at Grande Provence Heritage Wine Estate offers an exclusive five-star retreat designed for privacy, comfort, and understated luxury. Accommodating up to 10 guests in spacious en-suite rooms, the Cottage is nestled within a tranquil cluster of historic buildings surrounded by landscaped gardens and sweeping vineyard views.

Guests can unwind beside the swimming pool, enjoy the secluded poolside deck, or gather in the elegant loggia and entertainment areas—spaces designed for both relaxation and refined social moments. The Cottage is available for exclusive use, offering a fully private escape, or can be reserved on a bed-and-breakfast basis through individual room bookings. Beyond the accommodation, guests are invited to immerse themselves in the estate experiences.

Curated wine tastings and bespoke pairing journeys highlight the distinct character of the cellar's award-winning wines, while dining across the estate ranges from elegant seasonal menus to relaxed bistro-style cuisine—each thoughtfully crafted to complement the wines of the estate.

For reservations:

ownerscottage@grandeprovince.co.za

T: +27 (0)84 237 6330





Constance Le Chaland

A NEW ERA OF LUXURY ARRIVES ON MAURITIUS' WILD SOUTH-EAST COAST

A new chapter in Indian Ocean luxury has unfolded on the shores of Mauritius. Constance Hotels & Resorts has officially welcomed Constance Le Chaland into its prestigious portfolio, following the signing of a hotel management agreement between Constance Hospitality and the Currimjee Group's IKO (Mauritius) Hotel Ltd.

Set along the untouched coastline of Le Chaland on the island's south-east coast, the reimagined property promises a **refined** escape shaped by nature, authenticity and the signature Constance approach to understated luxury. The partnership unites two deeply rooted Mauritian groups, combining the heritage and long-term vision of the Currimjee Group with the globally respected hospitality expertise of Constance Hospitality.

Designed as a sanctuary immersed in its natural surroundings, Constance Le Chaland embraces organic architecture, open spaces and seamless integration with the landscape. The result is a tranquil coastal retreat where luxury feels instinctive rather than excessive, allowing guests to slow down, reconnect and fully absorb the **beauty** of the Indian Ocean.

The experience centres around the Constance philosophy of "True by Nature", where hospitality and environmental consciousness exist in harmony. Guests can expect inspiring encounters with Mauritius' rich flora and fauna, contemplative shoreline walks and immersive experiences that celebrate the island's wild beauty.

Gastronomy remains a defining element of the property, with eight restaurants and bars showcasing refined cuisine

inspired by local terroir and crafted with meticulous attention to detail. Constance's celebrated wine culture takes centre stage, with curated cellar experiences and expertly paired discoveries **elevating** every dining moment.

Wellbeing is woven throughout the guest journey, from mindful movement and restorative sleep to holistic spa rituals and nourishing cuisine. The property's spa offering includes seven treatment spaces, couples' rooms and outdoor pavilions designed for complete renewal and relaxation.

Positioned within the Luxury tier of the Constance Hotels & Resorts collection, Constance Le Chaland joins an iconic portfolio that includes Constance Belle Mare Plage, Constance Moofushi and Constance Ephelia.

The resort features 170 rooms, suites and villas, an infinity pool, a 25-metre pool and direct access to an unspoilt beachfront. Under Constance Hospitality's management, the property is set to become one of Mauritius' most compelling new **luxury destinations**, combining elevated service, sustainable vision and deeply personal experiences in one of the island's most pristine coastal settings.

For more details: www.constancehotels.com



FRANSCHHOEK COUNTRY HOUSE & VILLAS



Surrounded by vineyards and with beautiful mountain vistas, this exclusive boutique hotel offers luxury rooms, opulent suites and an acclaimed restaurant – in a setting reminiscent of a village in Provence.

WINTER SPECIALS AVAILABLE.

www.fch.co.za | +27(0)21 876 3386

Where Winter Slows Down, Beautifully

ERINVALLE ESTATE HOTEL & SPA

As the cooler months settle over the Cape, the Winelands take on a quieter, more contemplative beauty – crisp mornings, welcome layers, and the unmistakable pull of a fireside retreat. Just a short drive from Cape Town, Erinvale Estate Hotel & Spa offers a refined countryside escape that feels both familiar and indulgent, perfectly timed for winter school holidays and long weekends that call for something more considered.

Set within serene Somerset West, against the dramatic backdrop of the Helderberg Mountains, Erinvale is a destination rich in heritage and character. Once part of Adriaan van der Stel's original Vergelegen Wine Estate, the 56-room property has evolved into a contemporary sanctuary where understated luxury meets a deep sense of place.

This winter, the invitation is simple: linger a little longer. The seasonal 'Stay 3, Pay 2' offer is designed to slow things down ... Think unhurried breakfasts, restorative spa treatments, and afternoons spent exploring nearby estates or simply retreating to the comfort of your luxury room.

Dining remains at the heart of the experience, with seasonally driven menus celebrating local produce across the boutique hotel's three restaurants – from relaxed, fireside fare to more refined culinary expressions at its flagship, Bloom. Guests are spoilt for choice, with wine forming a natural cornerstone throughout. Thoughtfully curated wine lists showcase a cross-section of South Africa's diverse wine regions, offering guests a journey through the country's vinous landscape without leaving the estate. Surrounded by celebrated neighbours such as Vergelegen, Morgenster, and Lourensford Wine Estate, each stay brings a sense of discovery – without needing to venture far.

Families are warmly welcomed, with the hospitality even extending to four-legged companions thanks to select dog-friendly rooms, ensuring no one is left behind. Thoughtful touches, including reduced rates for children, make family stays effortless, while the estate's wide-ranging offering caters to every pace and preference. From golf and spa indulgence to nearby trails and a vibrant weekend night market, along with activities such as padel courts, putt-putt, art jamming at Lourensford Wine Estate, or an environmental tour or wine tasting at Vergelegen Wine Estate, it's your holiday – so you decide how much (or how little) you'd like to get up to.

Whether wrapped in winter stillness or warmed by brighter days, Erinvale Estate Hotel & Spa offers the ultimate seasonal retreat. Book the Stay 3, Pay 2 offer now and experience winter in the Winelands at its most indulgent.

Winelands Winter Special: Escape, Relax and Stay a Little Longer – Erinvale Estate Hotel & Spa. erinvale.co.za



Closer. Wilder. More Personal.

THE EASTERN CAPE SAFARI REDEFINING LUXURY

Why Lion Roars' Eastern Cape lodges keep appearing at the top of every safari shortlist.



Take back winter with incredible winter promotions. Lion Roars Hotels and Lodges invites local travellers to enjoy up to 60% off for an all-inclusive safari at their Hlosi and Bukela Game – places where the pace slows, and every moment feels personal.

WHY THE EASTERN CAPE – AND WHY NOW

There's a growing shift toward closer-to-home, high-value travel – experiences that don't require long-haul planning, yet still deliver depth and distinction. The Eastern Cape is increasingly emerging as that answer. Malaria-free, easily accessible, and less congested than traditional safari regions, it offers something many travellers are now prioritising: space, pace, and consistency of experience.

Winter (May to July) only sharpens this appeal – clear, golden days, active wildlife, and a quieter, more intimate safari rhythm.

THE LODGES

Set within the malaria-free Amakhala Game Reserve, just 40 minutes from Gqeberha, Hlosi Game Lodge and Bukela Game Lodge offer two distinct safari experiences – each defined by what guests remember most.

Part of the family-owned Lion Roars Hotels & Lodges group,

these properties reflect what the brand has become known for: a sense of genuine connection, where guests arrive as strangers and leave feeling part of the pride.

As Chief Commercial Officer Vincent Bouwer explains, "Guest enjoyment and the relationships we build are at the heart of everything we do. It's incredibly rewarding to see this reflected not only in the consistent five-star reviews, but in the personal, often handwritten notes we receive from guests after their stay."

Both lodges maintain exceptionally high guest approval ratings, backed by a consistent flow of five-star reviews. Beyond the numbers, it's the depth of feedback that defines them, experiences that stay with guests long after they've returned home. At family-friendly Hlosi, the experience is striking: "We watched 20 elephants at the pool... you're completely in the middle of nature," recalls one guest – while a major drawcard is also the focus on immersive safari experiences for all ages.

Open views across the Bushman's River valley, wildlife moving freely past the lodge, and guides who are repeatedly described as "knowledgeable," "intuitive," and "fun to be with" create a safari that feels both effortless and engaging. It's a lodge that consistently delivers – particularly

favoured by families and first-time safari travellers.

Bukela deepens the experience with a refined sense of space and attention to detail.

GETTING THERE

Access is refreshingly simple.

- 40 minutes from Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) Airport
- Direct flights from Lanseria with FlySafair
- Scenic Garden Route drive from Cape Town

For those extending the journey, coastal stops like Lion Roars Hotels & Lodges' Plett Quarter Hotel and Robberg Beach Lodge offer a natural contrast – reinforcing the sense of a well-paced, considered itinerary.

BOOK NOW WITH SPECIAL CODE FOR LIFE READERS In a landscape of choice, it's often the guest voice that cuts through. And here, it's consistent: immersive wildlife, exceptional guiding, and a level of care that turns a stay into something memorable.

Discover a safari that lingers long after you've returned home. Unlock incredible deals now by visiting www.lionroars.com or book on +27 (0)21 424 1530 res4@lionroars.com. Quote Rate Code: LIFESADC to unlock extra value.



Jock

SAFARI LODGE

FITZPATRICK'S AT JOCK

Beat the crowds and retreat to a newly refurbished private haven in the heart of the Kruger.

Fitzpatrick's at Jock blends elegant comfort with the thrill of an authentic safari experience. With just three exclusive-use bedrooms, the refreshed villa now offers an elevated level of indulgence and serenity- the perfect standout highlight for any family or small-group safari itinerary.

T +27 (0) 13 010 0019 E reservations@jocksafarilodge.com
www.jocksafarilodge.com

UNTAMED • UNTOUCHED • UNFORGETTABLE

LETAMO

QWABI
PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

BY
NEWMARK

A FAMILY SAFARI, CLOSER TO HOME

Set just a few hours from O.R. Tambo International Airport, LETAMO at QWABI Private Game Reserve brings safari within easy reach of the city. Designed with families in mind, the lodge balances space, comfort, and thoughtful details, from spacious suites to dedicated children's experiences that make travelling together feel effortless.

Winter is one of the most rewarding times to visit, with clearer sightings and crisp days spent out on Big 5 game drives across 11,000 hectares of private reserve. Back at the lodge, generous shared spaces, a kids' club, and relaxed dining create an easy flow between time together and time to unwind.

Experience Authentic



NEWMARK
• HOTELS & RESERVES •

For bookings and enquiries, contact:
reservations@newmarkhotels.com
+27 21 427 5901 www.newmarkhotels.com



Escape to the Cape Winelands this Winter at Lynx Wine Estate

Winter is a truly special time in Franschhoek. As the vineyards slow down and the mountains turn lush and green, Lynx Guesthouse becomes the perfect retreat for cosy and relaxed getaways.

With 17 beautifully appointed rooms, the guesthouse combines warmth, comfort, and understated elegance. Start your mornings with a slow breakfast overlooking the vineyards before spending the day exploring the Winelands or **unwinding** by the fireplace with a glass of wine.

Enjoy long **winter lunches** with fresh dishes thoughtfully paired with our estate wines, and spend your evenings with intimate dinners in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Whether you're planning a **romantic** escape, a weekend with friends, or a peaceful winter retreat, Lynx Guesthouse is your home away from home in the heart of the Cape Winelands.

Reserve your table and room in advance and experience the charm of winter at Lynx Wine Estate.

reservations@lynx-collection.com
www.lynx-collection.com



Fly Smart, Pack Smarter WITH THULE

As airlines place increasing focus on the safe transport of lithium-powered devices, travellers are paying closer attention to how they pack their technology. From laptops and tablets to power banks and chargers, modern travel demands solutions that keep valuable electronics protected, organised and compliant with airline regulations.

With the International Air Transport Association (IATA) encouraging passengers to carry lithium batteries and power banks in cabin luggage, choosing the right travel gear has never been more important. This is where Thule's range of thoughtfully designed travel accessories comes into its own.

For anyone tired of tangled cables and misplaced chargers, the Thule Subterra PowerShuttle and Thule Aion Travel Organiser offer a simple solution. Designed to neatly store cords, adapters, earphones and power banks, they make security checks easier and ensure essential tech is always within reach.

Protecting larger devices is equally important. The Thule Gauntlet 5 Protection Sleeve and Thule Gauntlet 5 Attaché provide durable, impact-resistant protection for laptops and tablets, helping safeguard devices from the knocks and bumps that often come with life on the move. Their structured design allows travellers to work seamlessly between airports, meetings and destinations without compromising protection.

For frequent flyers, Thule's carry-on collection combines smart organisation with premium protection. The Thule Subterra 2 Convertible Carry-On and Thule Aion Carry-On Spinner feature dedicated laptop storage, intuitive compartments and durable construction designed to meet the needs of modern travellers.

Every Thule product is engineered with durability and performance at its core, undergoing rigorous testing to withstand the demands of global travel. Whether embarking on a business trip, weekend escape or long-haul adventure, Thule helps travellers pack smarter, stay organised and keep their technology protected every step of the way.

www.thulestore.co.za



THE CORNER HOUSE RESIDENCE
FRANSCHHOEK

Experience
relaxed elegance

Our *charming* boutique hotel is located on a quiet avenue only a few minutes walk from the main street and scenic heart of the village. Our experienced team focuses on a balance between the *warmth* of a family home and modest *elegance* and comfort. *Unwind* in the peaceful surroundings and *relax* by the sparkling swimming pool. *Explore* our artisanal breakfasts overlooking the lush garden, *enjoy* a complimentary sundowner wine tasting, or *indulge* in an in-room spa. Join us and *experience* the magic of the Franschhoek Valley.

+27 (0)63 674 1040 bookings@thecornerhouse.co.za @cornerhousefhk

www.thecornerhouse.co.za

Nature's Greatest Comeback Story Unfolds at Grootbos

A rare natural phenomenon is transforming the landscapes of Walker Bay as Grootbos Private Nature Reserve enters an extraordinary Superbloom Season — a once-in-two-decades revival of the Cape's remarkable fynbos biome. Following recent wildfires in the Overberg region, the reserve has erupted into colour, revealing one of nature's most breathtaking cycles of regeneration.

What was once a charred landscape is now flourishing with delicate orchids, vibrant fire lilies, striking irises, proteas, ericas, and countless rare botanical species emerging from beneath the ash. Seeds that remained dormant underground for decades have been awakened, creating an **unforgettable** floral spectacle rarely witnessed in a lifetime. Across rolling hills, ancient milkwood forests, and dramatic coastal stretches, the Cape Floral Kingdom is once again alive with beauty, resilience, and renewal.

Set within one of the most biodiverse floral regions on Earth, Grootbos offers guests an immersive connection

to this remarkable ecological rebirth. Guided botanical safaris, open-air 4x4 nature drives, scenic hiking trails, horseback **adventures** through the reserve, and marine experiences along the coastline allow visitors to witness the landscape from every perspective. Each experience is carefully designed to celebrate the reserve's extraordinary biodiversity while fostering a deeper appreciation for conservation and sustainability.

Luxury accommodation within the reserve provides a front-row seat to the Superbloom. Elegant suites, panoramic ocean and mountain views, world-class cuisine inspired by indigenous ingredients, fireside evenings,

and holistic wellness experiences create an atmosphere of complete tranquillity and indulgence. Every element reflects Grootbos' commitment to refined hospitality rooted in nature.

More than simply a seasonal event, the Superbloom stands as a powerful reminder of nature's resilience — a fleeting yet extraordinary moment where destruction gives way to remarkable beauty. For travellers seeking something truly unforgettable, Grootbos offers the rare opportunity to witness one of South Africa's most spectacular **natural wonders** in full bloom.

www.grootbos.com

CELEBRATE SUPERBLOOM SEASON WITH US

Witness a spectacular, once-in-two-decades fynbos revival in 5-Star luxury. Book your front-row suite to the elemental rhythms of a biome in bloom, as wildfire-activated floral gems reanimate Grootbos' ancient landscapes.

South African residents enjoy up to 50% off stays from May to September 2026.



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