

THE TRAVEL+LEISURE WORLD'S BEST SAFARI

Southern Africa

So geographers

in Afric-maps . . .

Place elephants for want of towns.

—Jonathan Swift, *On Poetry: A Rhapsody*



Dear Friends,

Little did we think 50 years ago that the small enterprise we had just inaugurated would become one of the world's premier safari companies. (In our minds, of course, Micato is unquestionably the world's absolute *best* safari company—fortunately, many well-informed minds agree, as our awards and accolades indicate.)

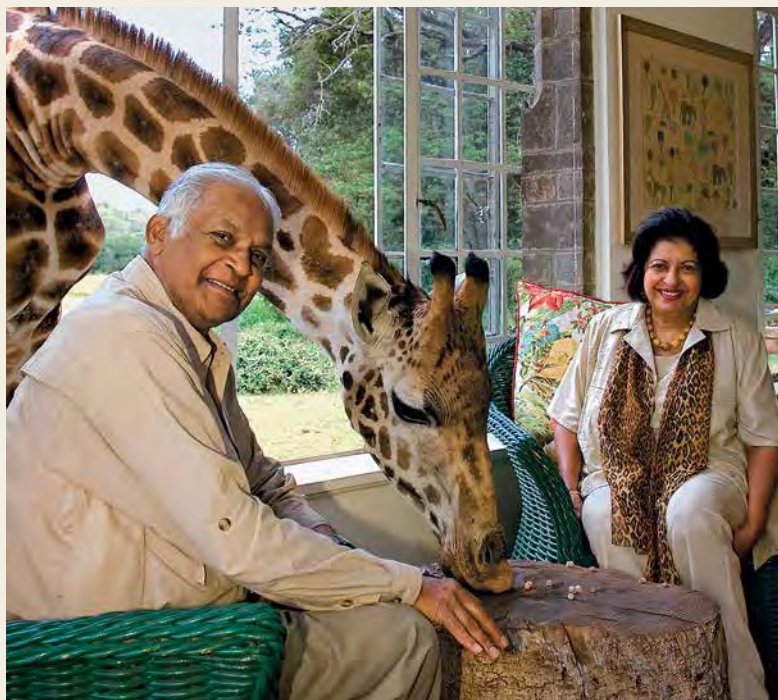
From the beginning we knew Micato would be unique. We are third generation Africans, and we began and built our company here in the well-known, well-loved land of our birth. We raised our children on a farm in Kenya, quite close to Karen Blixen's famous coffee plantation, seven or eight miles from the Ngong Hills. So, you see, when you travel with Micato you're travelling with more than just a company—you're travelling with our family.

Indeed, that's what sets Micato apart and makes our safaris feel so different. You'll find yourself charmed by Africa's generous spirit, spellbound by the peace and beauty of its natural world, delighted by the gentle luxury of life on safari, and you'll be enveloped in warmth and friendship. Every member of the Micato affiliate companies—the Safari Director who'll accompany your safari, your Driver Guides, all our Africa staff, our son and daughter at Micato USA, and many others in Africa and America—will become your family. This is how we have conducted our lives, this is how we built our company, this is why we say, please join us at home in Africa, for a safari that will surpass your most eager dream.

Sincerely,

Felix and Jane Pinto

Founders, Micato Africa



Your Safari Team in the Bush

Safari Directors: Guide, Helper, Friend

And with you every step of the way. Safari Directors meet you upon landing in Africa and are with you until the moment you depart, always nearby and on prompt call around the clock—not just during business hours.

Every Micato Safari Director in Kenya has earned the prestigious Silver-Level certification by the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association and are seasoned professionals, most of whom have been with us their entire careers. Graduates of Kenya Utalii College or Tanzania's College of African Wildlife Management, they guide forays into the bush, lecture on flora and fauna, deftly handle logistics, impart fascinating nuggets of African history, Swahili, and tribal folklore. They will also become dear friends.

In Southern Africa, Micato Safari Directors meet the same high standards, while wildlife explorations are led by Game Rangers and Trackers stationed at each camp. Safari Directors offer a deep knowledge of the region's natural history and are fluent in South Africa's cultural history, current affairs, local art, and culinary and winery scenes—you

name it. But their real talent lies in their ability to make the logistics of travel calm and effortless for Micato travellers.

Driver Guides, Tops in Their Field

It bears repeating: While most companies offer only Driver Guides, Micato groups safari with a team of Driver Guides and a Safari Director. In Kenya, our Driver Guides hold a minimum Bronze-Level certification from the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association and many are Silver certified. Micato is one of the few safari companies that still operates an in-house training school with classes in conservation, the latest discoveries in paleoanthropology, guest relations refreshers, and many etceteras, including CPR training in which every Safari Director and Driver Guide is fully certified.

Having a Safari Director and a Driver made such a difference. I learned so much... felt sorry for [guests] not on a Micato safari!

—Sarah Wille





Why
Choose
Micato?

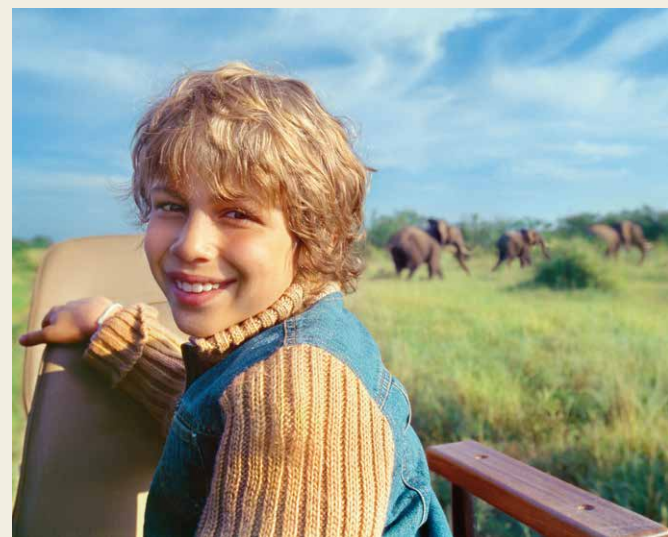




Here Are The Many Micato Differences

How does a safari company amaze and excel for more than 50 years? By a cheerfully relentless dedication to service and innovation. With painstaking discernment, profound expertise, and the generosity of spirit that arises from a family's bedrock commitment to hospitality.

- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Small-group, boutique safaris of fewer than 18 travellers, and only 12 in Southern Africa.
- 100% guaranteed departures, even for parties of two.
- All tips included, even to Safari Directors and Driver Guides.
- All meals included. And we unhesitatingly pick up the tab for meals in any local restaurant on all Custom Safaris.
- At mealtimes, regional wines, beer, and bottled water included. In Southern Africa, spirits are often included, too.
- Unique Micato Moments abound on every safari, from bush cocktails to walking safaris.
- Free Wi-Fi and valet laundry service included everywhere.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Itineraries perfected by generations of experience and local knowledge.
- Safari Directors who accompany every East Africa safari. And exceptionally well-versed Driver-Guides.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.
- Surprises. We're famous for them. You'll be amazed.
- The Pinto family, at your service, in Africa and in the U.S.
- And—this could well be at the top of the list—we pay for an African child's education for every safari we sell.



The Pintos treat their guests like well-loved, out-of-town relatives.

— *Travel+Leisure*



A Day on Safari





Early-Morning Game Drive

The sun rises early and eagerly on the savannahs, and after some tea, coffee, and pre-breakfast snacks, we venture into what the great lover of Africa Peter Beard called “a paradise caressed by light and air in their most special forms.”

Back at the lodge, we tuck into an English-style breakfast, or perhaps we enjoy an acacia-shaded picnic in the bush.

Exploring Africa's Intimate Landscapes

“Whole landscapes seem alert,” Peter Matthiessen wrote about Africa in *The Tree Where Man Was Born*. He may well have been thinking of our alertness in these landscapes, a charged, joyous concentration “like a marvelous childhood faculty restored.”

We roam the savannahs and forests with our eyes, searching for their treasures—*Look! There, a cheetah!*—and the land is no longer mere scenery, an object to look at and admire, but a living thing that invites intimacy and engagement. We know about our species that the more we engage with something, the more likely we are to develop a fiery affection for it.



Sundowners and Sunsets

After a festive lunch, with talk of sightings and amazements (high on the list of safari surprises: the fresh and tasty food), we have time for reading, music, maybe a profound nap followed by a swim, and then it's off for an afternoon game drive.

After a lovely dinner back at camp, and some time around the campfire, we're off to bed. And in the morning we may agree with author Elspeth Huxley that there is no “sleep so perfect as that stirred but not broken by the thrilling vibrance of a lion's roar.”

Africa always brings us something new.

—Pliny the Elder, *Historia Naturalis*

Flying Over Africa

You may remember—it's hard to forget—the scene in the film version of *Out of Africa* when Denys Finch Hatton (played by Robert Redford) lands his Gipsy Moth near Karen Blixen's (Meryl Streep's) farm. She rushes out to the spiffy little biplane, and Finch Hatton doesn't take off his flying goggles, he barely throttles back his engine, he just says, "Get in," and thus begins one of cinema's great moments: a heart-firing poem of a swooping flight over the incomparably eloquent landscapes of East Africa.*

Isak Dinesen, Blixen's nom de plume, remembered her many African flights as "the most transporting pleasure of my life. . . . Every time I have gone up in an aeroplane and looking down have realized that I was free of the ground, I have had the consciousness of a great new discovery. 'I see,' I have thought, 'This was the idea. And now I understand everything.'"

It's as true today as it was in the 1920s: flying low and easily over the continent in small planes

is a matchlessly intimate way to appreciate its subtle and dramatic colours, its tectonic dramas, and its cavalcade of creatures. We fly over villages, waving to their residents, and in a few moments, we're on the ground, shaking their hands. One of our guests said it well: "For me, flying over Africa is about as *flying* as flying gets."

Our Custom Safaris offer as many flights as your personalized itinerary calls for, and we—and our guests over the years—think the flights that link lodges and camps on our Classic Safaris (six on *The Micato Grand Safari*, for instance, and five on *The Stanley Wing*) are safari highlights, airy dalliances with Africa's incomparable landscapes.

* Before she climbs into the plane, Blixen asks Finch Hatton, "When did you learn to fly?" And he answers with a Redfordian grin, "Yesterday." Rest assured our pilots have hundreds upon hundreds of times more experience than that—and many of them have movie-star smiles. (As for the welcome practicality of flying in Africa, see *Bush Flights with a Difference*, page 31.)



TANZANIA SPECTACULAR

10 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Arusha

*W*e bow to the fact:
Many of us are firmly engaged in a very busy world, a world in which time away from the busyness is precious. And so we offer this safari to three major contributors to the East African mystique: the classic game lands of Tarangire, the Ngorongoro Crater, and the fabled Serengeti—all in a mere but marvelous 10 days. We begin with the sudden, serendipitous serenity of the Arusha Coffee Lodge, and then we're off on a carefully choreographed safari, with two nights in each of the three camps and lodges we've chosen for their warmth of spirit, their invigorating calm, their location, their refreshing lack of busyness.



*When you have caught
the rhythm of Africa,
you find it is the same
in all her music.*

—Isak Dinesen,
Out of Africa



DAY 1 *En route*

DAY 2 *Arrive in Arusha*

The Arusha Coffee Lodge, an old-fashioned island of quietude tucked away in a plantation, is a great place to unwind after the rigours of long flights. Arusha is only 3 degrees south of the equator, but its 4,500-foot elevation encourages floral luxuriance and gentle airs. So we'll be more or less surrounded by enthusiastic greenery as we sit on our Plantation Suite's veranda—perhaps after a relaxing swim—looking up at massive Mount Meru, a 14,977-foot volcanic colossus that looms beneficently over this quintessentially African city.

DAYS 3 & 4 *Tarangire*

After a breakfast topped off by some of the freshest and best coffee we'll ever imbibe, we'll be briefed by our Safari Director and set off on a marvelously African drive to Tarangire and our home for the next couple of nights, *Tarangire Treetops*. Our first experience of luxury life in the bush couldn't be more spectacular. Treetops' main lodge, built around a thousand-year-old baobab, is only the beginning. The lodge's 20 famous, lovingly crafted tree houses, elevated for sweeping views of the park, are extraordinarily large, airy, and utterly magical.

And from our tree house's balcony, we look out at Tarangire's wonderfully varied landscapes of rocky outcrops, rolling hills, and golden savannah generously strewn with acacias and baobabs, home to just about the entire cast of wild African characters—and some rare stars, like kudu and oryx—in addition to 2,500 or so elephants. We'll spend a day in the bush discovering the big game and spying dozens of species of birds cavorting in the trees of Tarangire, and, if we're still keen to see more all-star creatures, we can go out on a night drive, always a revelation.



DAYS 5 & 6 *Ngorongoro Crater*

The drive from Tarangire to the world-wondrous Ngorongoro Crater takes us north, past Lake Manyara, into the Crater Highlands, and up to the reposeful cabins of *Neptune Ngorongoro Luxury Lodge*.

We'll drive to the crater for an extraordinarily rewarding game drive, exploring the caldera's 100 square miles, spotting lions, elephants, black rhinos, just about all of East Africa's faunal celebrities, and return to the lodge for quiet, view-besotted sundowners on our cabin's private terraces, followed by a lovely dinner overlooking one of the world's most magical places.

DAYS 7 & 8 *The Serengeti*

We end this short, but undeniably spectacular, safari in the Serengeti. "There is a lightening of the spirit," Cyril Connolly wrote about the vast plain. We're invited to a rare, deep-rootedly serene idyll. The sky is huge and blue and as pure as the day the earth was born. (And on the southern horizon, over the Crater Highlands—"That's Ngorongoro, just behind that

big green mountain," we'll say knowledgeably, affectionately—clouds pile up in grandly crazy towers, looking like computer-generated special effects.) The Serengeti's kopjes are the creation of a cosmic bonsai master, and on a flat brown rock atop one of them, a lion rolls over and warms its fluffy white belly in the sun.

We'll spend two idyllic Serengeti nights in *Migration Camp*, tucked away in kopje-esque rocks just above the Grumeti River. The main lodge has a split-level lounge, a swimming pool, and a dandy restaurant, and each of Migration Camp's 20 tents is encircled by a deck, a private sanctuary from which to gaze out at the natural extravaganza below and beyond. Those of us who can't quite believe that hippos really exist—that's how otherworldly they sometimes seem—are delighted that rumbling pods of them disport on the Grumeti, along with many single-minded crocodiles; the great migration funnels into a crossing of this river, and the crocs bide their time like the pleistocenic beasts they are.



Micato rules! —Heidi Klum



DAYS 9 & 10 *Depart and fly homeward*

After a final game drive, we'll head back to **Migration Camp** for breakfast. Maybe we're close to sighting the Little Five, and need just a little luck to complete the list. These mini-masterpieces include the rhinoceros beetle, buffalo weaver, leopard tortoise (not so mini, really; they can weigh as much as three standard bowling balls), ant lion, and the extremely shy elephant shrew, which weighs not much more than an elephant's tear.

In any case, it's time to say goodbye to the Serengeti and Tanzania's spectacular bush. We fly back to Arusha, relax in day rooms at the **Arusha Coffee Lodge**, maybe take a pre-flight swim, and board our homebound planes in the evening, arriving back home.



I can watch elephants (and elephants alone)

for hours at a time. . . . There is mystery behind that masked gray visage, an ancient life force, delicate and mighty, awesome and enchanted, commanding the silence ordinarily reserved for mountain peaks, great fires, and the sea.

—Peter Matthiessen, *The Tree Where Man Was Born*



At each camp we would meet other travelers and the talk would eventually come around to their safari company. When they heard about the quality service we were experiencing, you could see them turn green with envy. To say that this was the best trip I could ever have expected is an understatement. I cannot find a flaw in your system.

—Jim Paul

***Make Your Safari a Private Classic,
Or Add an Amazing Extension***

Tanzania Spectacular can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. In any case, you may want to—very easily—extend your safari: Cape Town beckons, and so do Zanzibar and Victoria Falls.

Tariff 2019

Land arrangements, per person

	May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$9,000	\$10,350	\$11,350
Single Supplement	1,650	1,950	2,350
Internal Flights on Safari	550	550	550

(Lake Manyara / Serengeti / Arusha)

Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

Make this a Private Classic Safari: Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

2019 Dates

10 Days Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Tuesday
Every date is a guaranteed departure

Jan. 06 – Jan. 15	May 26 – June 04	Aug. 18 – Aug. 27	Nov. 10 – Nov. 19
Jan. 13 – Jan. 22	June 02 – June 11	Aug. 25 – Sept. 03	Nov. 17 – Nov. 26
Jan. 20 – Jan. 29	June 09 – June 18	Sept. 01 – Sept. 10	Nov. 24 – Dec. 03
Jan. 27 – Feb. 05	June 16 – June 25	Sept. 08 – Sept. 17	Dec. 01 – Dec. 10
Feb. 03 – Feb. 12	June 23 – July 02	Sept. 15 – Sept. 24	Dec. 08 – Dec. 17
Feb. 10 – Feb. 19	June 30 – July 09	Sept. 22 – Oct. 01	Dec. 15 – Dec. 24
Feb. 17 – Feb. 26	July 07 – July 16	Sept. 29 – Oct. 08	Dec. 22 – Dec. 31
Feb. 24 – Mar. 05	July 14 – July 23	Oct. 06 – Oct. 15	Dec. 29 – Jan. 07
Mar. 03 – Mar. 12	July 21 – July 30	Oct. 13 – Oct. 22	
Mar. 10 – Mar. 19	July 28 – Aug. 06	Oct. 20 – Oct. 29	
Mar. 17 – Mar. 26	Aug. 04 – Aug. 13	Oct. 27 – Nov. 05	
May 19 – May 28	Aug. 11 – Aug. 20	Nov. 03 – Nov. 12	

2020 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Tuesday
New rates and dates may apply

Jan. 05 – Jan. 14	May 24 – June 02	Aug. 16 – Aug. 25	Nov. 08 – Nov. 17
Jan. 12 – Jan. 21	May 31 – June 09	Aug. 23 – Sept. 01	Nov. 15 – Nov. 24
Jan. 19 – Jan. 28	June 07 – June 16	Aug. 30 – Sept. 08	Nov. 22 – Dec. 01
Jan. 26 – Feb. 04	June 14 – June 23	Sept. 06 – Sept. 15	Nov. 29 – Dec. 08
Feb. 02 – Feb. 11	June 21 – June 30	Sept. 13 – Sept. 22	Dec. 06 – Dec. 15
Feb. 09 – Feb. 18	June 28 – July 07	Sept. 20 – Sept. 29	Dec. 13 – Dec. 22
Feb. 16 – Feb. 25	July 05 – July 14	Sept. 27 – Oct. 06	Dec. 20 – Dec. 29
Feb. 23 – Mar. 03	July 12 – July 21	Oct. 04 – Oct. 13	Dec. 27 – Jan. 05
Mar. 01 – Mar. 10	July 19 – July 28	Oct. 11 – Oct. 20	
Mar. 08 – Mar. 17	July 26 – Aug. 04	Oct. 18 – Oct. 27	
Mar. 15 – Mar. 24	Aug. 02 – Aug. 11	Oct. 25 – Nov. 03	
May 17 – May 26	Aug. 09 – Aug. 18	Nov. 01 – Nov. 10	



THE WORLD'S
Most Awarded
SAFARI COMPANY





Unprecedented Nine-Time Winner of *Travel+Leisure's* award for #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter

Travel+Leisure Hall of Fame



Travel+Leisure World's Best Value



Tourism Cares Legacy in Travel Philanthropy Award



Unprecedented Five-Time Winner of *Condé Nast Traveler* World Savers Award
Three Education, Two for Doing It All

Member of the World Savers Hall of Fame



Travel+Leisure Trips of a Lifetime



Travel+Leisure Global Vision Award
Development, Youth Education
Micato One for One Commitment

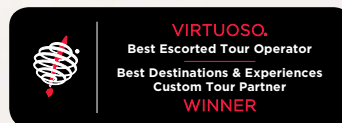


Porthole Cruise Magazine Best African Safari Tour Operator

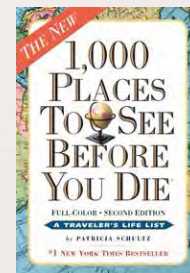


Best Tour Operator Africa/Middle East

TravelAge West WAVE
Best Tour Operator
Africa / Middle East



Virtuoso
Best VAST (Active) Operator
Best Escorted Tour Operator
Best Destinations & Experiences
Custom Tour Partner
Virtuoso Performance Award



1,000 Places to See Before You Die
#1 *New York Times* Travel Guide
Preferred East Africa
Tour Operator

Sorry for the fine print, but here are some other Micato Awards and Accolades:

World Tourism Award, 2017 • Travvy Awards: Gold, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Africa, 2016, 2018; Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Adventure, 2016, 2018; Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Family, 2016; Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Luxury, 2016 • Travel Weekly Magellan Awards: Gold, Best Tour Operator, 2017, 2015; Silver, Best Tour Operator, 2016; Gold, Best Marketing Campaign, 2009, 2011, 2015; Gold, Best Consumer Brochure, 2009, 2012-2013, 2016-2017; Gold, Best Trade Brochure, 2009-2012, 2016-2017; Silver, Best Trade Brochure, 2010-2011, 2013-2014; Gold, Best Travel Website, 2012, 2014, 2017; Silver, Best Travel Website, 2013, 2015 • Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMIA) Adrian Awards: Gold, Best Trade Brochure, 2012, 2014-2016; Gold, Best Consumer Brochure, 2012, 2014-2016; HSMIA and National Geographic Traveler Gold Winner, Leader in Sustainable Tourism, 2013 • Ubuntu Tourism Award • Travel Weekly's World Travel Market Global Award • Tanzania Tourist Board Cruise Development Award • TORCH (Together Our Resources Can Help) Inspiration Award, to Lorna Macleod, head of Micato-AmericaShare • William D. Littleford Award for Corporate Community Service • Travel Agent magazine's Tour Operator of the Year: Leaders in Luxury—Dennis Pinto • LuxuryLink.com's World's Best Luxury Tour Company • National Geographic 50 Tours of a Lifetime.

If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.

—Mother Teresa

An unimaginable number of Kenyan children don't attend school because their families are too poor to pay even the most nominal school fees. In principle, primary education is free in Kenya, but myriad fees often put it beyond reach: parents are obliged to buy their child's desk; to pay for term exams, the wood for cooking fires, and a portion of the cooks' salaries. Then there are schoolbooks, uniforms, writing supplies, and notebooks. All this adds up to many, many thousands of eager and worthy children staying at home.



The One for One Commitment

For more than a quarter of a century, Micato-AmericaShare has been a passionate advocate for East African children and their families. The Micato One for One Commitment sends a child to school—year after year—for every safari we sell.

Thousands of Kenyan children are able to attend school thanks to our guests, who join us in The One for One Commitment by signing up for safari. Every child deserves an education, and we're overjoyed to be contributing to this unalienable right.

LEFT: A typically exuberant classroom, led by Peter Mithamo at a school near the Micato-AmericaShare Harambee Centre. Anastasia Pinto summed up the African ethos when she said, "African people will give away their last dollar or loaf of bread to someone who needs it more."

Micato-AmericaShare

The Boy Who Started it All...

It all began with one little boy, thirty years ago.

He was going from person to person in a Nairobi shopping centre with a note from his school headmaster. The note said that he was an orphan and needed to raise 700 shillings for a school uniform before he could come to class. He had only collected 100 shillings. The boy approached Micato's Lorna Macleod. She read the note and handed him the 600 shillings—the equivalent of \$15. Tears running down his face, the boy stood there for a moment, said "God bless you," and dashed away.

At that moment Lorna realized that Micato was an ideal bridge between some of the poorest people on the planet, and some of the wealthiest, our travellers. So we gave that bridge a name: AmericaShare, and have been helping to change lives for the better ever since.

We're proud of our accolades and of the life-sparking joy our safariers routinely experience, but as our Managing Director Dennis Pinto often says, "Micato-AmericaShare is the why of why we exist."



The Harambee Centre

The heart of Micato-AmericaShare's Kenya operation is Harambee Centre, a multi-building oasis of calm and purpose in the midst of Mukuru, one of Nairobi's largest slums (where a staggering 60,000 or more children can't attend school).

Harambee Centre—made possible by our dear friends Bernard Wharton and Jennifer Walsh and scores of caring safari-goers—comprises a Community Centre for Mukuru residents; a beautiful, 13,000-volume library for all of Mukuru (made possible by Suzie and Bruce Kovner through a grant by The Kovner Foundation); a digitally up-to-the-minute Computer Centre (also enabled by the Kovner Foundation); a basketball court; a special-needs classroom; a fresh-water well (Mukuru has no assured water supply); the Gorretti Nursery School, which cares for upwards of 150 children (Micato-AmericaShare contributes to the students' daily meals for these children, which is often their only meal for the day); and a cottage factory for Huru International.

For much more on **Micato-AmericaShare** and all our efforts to **give back** to our home continent, visit Micato.com and click **About Micato**



Huru International

Girls in East Africa who can't afford sanitary pads very often avoid school during their periods, losing as much as an entire month each school year. Micato is a major donor and supporter of Huru International, founded in 2008 by AmericaShare founder Lorna Macleod. Huru manufactures reusable sanitary pads, which have been distributed in Huru Kits to more than 150,000 girls in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Each kit consists of a colourful drawstring backpack with eight reusable pads; underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; a resealable waterproof bag for the safe storage of used pads; and educational materials on HIV/AIDS prevention and sexual and reproductive health. Huru Kits have saved girls 3.5 million school days that otherwise would have been lost.

Sponsorship

It's not unusual for inspired safari guests to decide on the spot (or back home for that matter) to sponsor a child to attend boarding school. This programme places a child in a carefully vetted boarding school, and provides every resource

necessary for a child to obtain a high school diploma. Many lives, on both sides of the Atlantic, have been changed by this programme. Email Inquiries@AmericaShare.com to learn more.

More Milestones

The Harambee Centre Library was recently awarded the Best Community Library in Nairobi by the Kenya Library Association.

To its post-graduates, Micato-AmericaShare offers scholarships that cover the cost of acquiring trade skills or semi-professional certifications or professional degrees.

We partner with Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity to bring eye clinics to the community. VOSH doctors examine and treat thousands of children and adults, and donate thousands of prescription eyeglasses.

Lacrosse, a game not played in Kenya, was introduced in Mukuru in June 2014 through an AmericaShare Project by teenager Ian Macleod with support from private donors, businesses, and the International Lacrosse Federation.

A wide-angle photograph of an African savanna landscape. The foreground is dominated by tall, golden-brown grasses. The middle ground shows a valley with scattered trees and a small blue pond. The background features rolling hills under a clear sky.

Join us at home
in Africa