

FROM CAPE TO DELTA

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.)

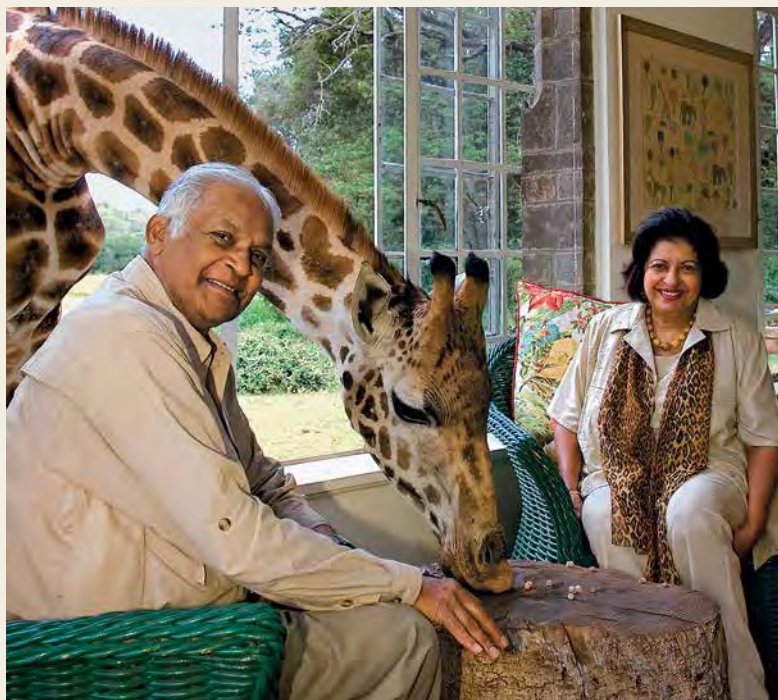
From the beginning we knew Micato would be unique. We are third generation Africans, and we began and built our company here in the well-known, well-loved land of our birth. We raised our children on a farm in Kenya, quite close to Karen Blixen's famous coffee plantation, seven or eight miles from the 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.)



FROM CAPE TO DELTA

13 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Cape Town and Johannesburg

One of Africa's many magics takes place where nature at its most vivid and eloquent meets one of humanity's highest arts: soothing, beautiful, joyfully expressive luxury. We tend to think of the two as unrelated, but they aren't, as *From Cape to Delta* so enjoyably proves. We look up to gorgeous Table Mountain from the exquisite One&Only Cape Town, and wander in lovely little towns and vineyards backdropped by regal mountains in the Winelands. And we're inspired by untroubled, unfiltered nature in Kruger National Park-adjacent Ulusaba Private Game Reserve and the storied Okavango Delta in a couple of Africa's finest luxury wilderness camps.

I think I could turn and live with animals. . . . I stand and look at them long and long. . . . Not one is respectable or unhappy over the whole earth.

—Walt Whitman,
Leaves of Grass



DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2–5 *Cape Town and environs*

Our days in Cape Town will be eventful, another reason to savour our hotel, the *Travel+Leisure* multi-award-winning *One&Only Cape Town* on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Other reasons: One&Only's renowned spa—to which you're invited as Micato's guest; its extraordinarily attractive interior design; its dedication to graceful hospitality; and the One&Only's location on the high-spirited waterfront, complete with bang-up views of Table Bay, Devil's Peak, Signal Hill, Lion's Head, and of course Table Mountain, which may be, as David Livingstone saw it in 1841, draped "with its beautiful table cloth of fleecy clouds."

Over the next few days we'll take the cable car to the top of Table Mountain, which, we're told, is six times older than the Himalaya and so strikingly flat because it was overlaid long ago by an ice sheet. We don't have to be told that the iconic colossus is gorgeous and fascinating, but we may be amazed to learn that Table Mountain is home to more plant species than the entire British Isles. The whole Cape Peninsula, of which Table Mountain is just an albeit monarchical part, is as exciting and eye-boggling to lovers of flora as the Louvre is to lovers of art.

We'll take a full-day tour of the scenically sublime peninsula, visiting the lighthouse atop rocky



One&Only Cape Town

Cape Point and the ultra-consequential Cape of Good Hope, where for the past 500 years European sailors finally turn left, toward the hoped-for riches of the East. We'll visit Cape penguins in their daily rounds, ramble in Victorian-flavoured Simon's Town, and at dinner tonight we'll be treated to thrilling South African interactive drumming, which must be seen and heard to be believed, and which will make true, bedazzled believers of us. And we'll revel in a full-day ramble in the Cape Winelands, visiting wineries like Ernie Els Wines and the four-generation Kanonkop Wine Estate, visiting shiny Dutch-heritage towns like Stellenbosch and Franschhoek and lazily





lunching at the toweringly regarded Delaire Graff Estate restaurant.

And during our stay we'll dine in the home of Micato's Capetonian friends and hosts, great purveyors of welcome and lore, and we'll pay an interactive visit to one of Micato-AmericaShare's projects in Cape Town.

DAYS 6–8 *The Okavango Delta*

It's nearly impossible for us to temper our enthusiasm for the "vast, mesmerizing oasis" of the miraculously beautiful Okavango Delta. Suffice it to

say—until you experience it—that the Delta is in the topmost rank of world wonders (and more sweetly accommodating than most). It's true throughout wilderness Africa, but here in the Okavango our friend Seamus O'Banion's observation rings especially true: "Safari invites us into a world with just two cheerily ticking clocks. There's a little clock for wake-up and let's go on a game drive, and there's a big clock, whose smallest increment is a hundred thousand years."

We fly to Johannesburg from Cape Town, then north to Maun, Botswana and then into the Delta



Ulusaba Rock Lodge

When I first thought about taking our groups to Africa, I was told by people I respect that I should deal only with Micato Safaris. I was told not only that you were the best, but also that you were unique in your ability to transfer the warmth of your operation to everyone you touch . . . and I must say that even my very high expectations were exceeded in every way! —Barry Wolpa



for three nights based from one of two superb Okavango Camps, **Gomoti Plains Camp** or **Sable Alley**, both models of everything a lovely, smartly designed, nature-graced Southern, or East, or Anywhere in Africa luxury safari camp should be. We explore the incredibly lush and wildlife-rich Delta by watercraft, 4-wheel drive vehicles, and on walks with Botswana's famously enthusiastic, deeply informed guides.

DAY 9 **Johannesburg**

From the Delta we fly to Johannesburg, where we're whisked out to the verdantly pacific Sandhurst suburb and the **Saxon Hotel, Villas and Spa**, a halcyon retreat where Nelson Mandela finished writing his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*.

DAYS 10 & 11 **Ulusaba Private Game Reserve**

A morning flight takes us to one of the jewels in Sir Richard Branson's brightly plumed African crown: **Ulusaba**, marvelously ensconced in a private game reserve adjacent to Kruger National Park. Our lodgings at Ulusaba are imaginatively integrated—this is a Branson property, after all—into a lush forest beside a river bed whose watering hole is highly favoured by Ulusaba's denizens. The Big Five and their equally fetching fellow fauna are in abundance in Ulusaba and Kruger, and our game

drives (between luxuriating in the lodges' wealth of amenities and exceptionally fine dining) are some of Southern Africa's most enthralling. Much like the Okavango, Ulusaba is a place where even the most mission-centered of us might conclude that our most productive use of time is an after-lunch nap before embarking on a lovely afternoon game drive topped off with sundowners looking out at golden, guileless infinity.

DAYS 12 & 13 **Departure**

After a morning game drive, exploring paradise one last time, we'll fly by charter aircraft to Johannesburg, connecting with our return flights home.





Thank you again for all the unexpected wonderful gifts and surprises we received on our safari. We have proof now that Santa Claus' headquarters is in Nairobi, not the North Pole.

—Shelly and Jim Fraser

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

From Cape to Delta can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles, etc. And when it comes to plus-size gentleness, the mountain gorillas of Rwanda give our elephants a good, cheery contest. A visit with them, joins a bunch of other well-constructed Options and Extensions, including a spectacular look at Namibia.

Tariff 2019

Land arrangements, per person

| | Jan-May | June-Dec. 10 | Dec. 11-31 |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|
| Double Occupancy | \$13,950 | \$15,950 | \$19,450 |
| Single Supplement | 3,950 | 4,150 | 7,950 |
| Internal Flights on Safari | 2,550 | 2,550 | 2,550 |

(Cape Town / Johannesburg / Maun / Okavango Delta / Johannesburg / Ulusaba / Johannesburg)

Connections may apply.

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

2019 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Friday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

2020 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Sunday, returns Friday

New rates and dates may apply

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



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

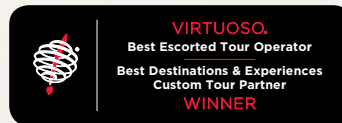


Porthole Cruise Magazine Best African Safari Tour Operator

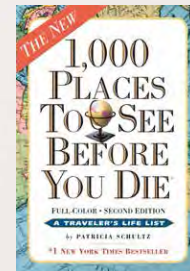


Best Tour Operator Africa/Middle East

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 with green blades, some in sharp focus and others blurred. The middle ground shows a vast, open plain with scattered acacia trees and shrubs. In the distance, rolling hills are covered in similar vegetation, leading to a hazy horizon under a soft, blue sky. A small, calm pond is visible on the right side of the middle ground.

Join us at home
in Africa