

# SAFARI NEWS YOU CAN USE

## **MAY 2020 - INGWE PAN CAMP OPENS IN MANA POOLS, ZIMBABWE**



Machaba Safaris will be launching its new [Ingwe Pan Camp](#) in Zimbabwe's Mana Pools National Park on 1 May 2020. Ingwe Camp consists of 8 spacious eco-luxury canvas tents nestled beneath a grove of ebony trees on the southern edge of Ingwe Pan. The pan is one of the park's largest and is an essential waterhole that is very popular with leopards as well as herds of elephant and buffalo, lion, hyaena and numerous plains game. All tents are double/twin with ensuite bathrooms with both an indoor and out-door showers. The main living area consists of a spacious tent under a magnificent fig tree on the water's edge. Dining is under the stars and the covered area encompasses two comfortable seating areas, a tea station and casual bar. Mana Pools is synonymous with walking safaris and Ingwe won't disappoint! Having a private concession means the pan can also be explored by night which is a real bonus. In addition to the walks, Ingwe offers twice daily guided game drives with expert guides and fishing from canoes or from the bank is available on request. No stay is complete without a visit to the nearby Zambezi River for early morning tea, sundowners - or even a bush picnic or barbecue. The camp welcomes children over the age of 6 years.

[www.machabasafaris.com](http://www.machabasafaris.com)

## **MAY 2020 - GOMA SERENA HOTEL OPENS IN THE DRC**

Serena Hotels will launch the new Goma Serena Hotel in May 2020 in Northern Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The new waterfront hotel will have a Pan-African theme to it and offer 109 rooms, all with views of Lake Kivu - Africa's 8th largest lake. It will be the only 5-star hotel in this cosmopolitan city and is just 10 minutes from Goma Airport. It will boast a family-friendly Olympic-size swimming pool and a state-of-the-art spa. There are two national parks nearby — the Virunga National Park to the north and the Kahuzi-Biega National Park outside Bukavu, both of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. "Bucket List" experiences include trekking mountain gorillas, scaling the active Mt. Nyirangongo, water sports on Lake Kivu and connecting with locals through their rich song and dance culture.

[www.serenahotels.com](http://www.serenahotels.com)



## **JUNE 2020 - MASHATU EUPHORBIA VILLAS OPENS IN BOTSWANA**

Mashatu Euphorbia Villas will be opening in June 2020 in Botswana's Northern Tuli Game Reserve. The new, 5-star eco-camp enjoys panoramic views over the Majale River and the privately owned reserve below. This new "green" eco-camp has been designed with sustainability as its focus – using solar energy and state-of-the-art water processing systems and designed to blend in harmoniously with the bush. An intimate ambience is guaranteed - with just 16 guests in 8 private villas.



Inspired by the shapes and curves of the Mopani Tree's pod, the villas will have a warm, earthy glamour, with numerous relaxation/'unplug' areas and beautiful ensuite bathrooms. Each villa has its own outdoor shower, "loo with view" and heated plunge pool overlooking the ravine below. Dining promises to be a magical affair in a boma of illuminated Euphorbia Trees.

Mashatu is commonly referred to as "The Land of Giants" due to sightings of the largest herds of elephant on private land in Africa, the other giant species (giraffe, eland, ostrich, Baobab) and its exquisite, seemingly unending vistas. Expert Motswana guides (with an average of 14 years' experience on Mashatu) will host a maximum of 4 guests per safari vehicle, showcasing the daily sightings of lion, leopard, cheetah, elephant, hyena and a vast diversity of plains game. Mashatu is all about adventure – be it exploring by mountain bike, on foot, in the saddle or tucked away in the underground Matebole photographic hide. <http://mashatu.com>

## **JULY 2020 – KIRI CAMP OPENS IN BOTSWANA'S DELTA**

Machaba Safaris' will be opening its new Kiri Camp on the 1st July 2020 in the Okavango Delta. Kiri Camp will comprise just 8 luxury double tents and 2 luxury family tents, raised on beautiful wooden decks overlooking the floodplains. Tents are ultra-spacious with decadent ensuite bathrooms under the stars.



Tents are linked to the central guest lounge and dining areas as well as the swimming pool by natural pathways through the bush – with Machaba's firm focus, as always, on making a minimal impact on the environment. The camp is located in a community-run private concession so guests can also enjoy going off-road on their safaris, night game drives and nature walks.

Kiri is renowned for its lion and buffalo interactions and its large population of rare wild dogs. What is unique about this area is the seasonal inundation of water from the annual flood, creating vast floodplains of shallow water that are perfect for a tranquil mokoro ride. The Kiri River is also navigable by bigger boats, providing spectacular game viewing from the river. Walking and driving is permitted on the islands and when the floods recede, round off the perfect balance for a safari in the Okavango Delta. Kiri Camp is a 15-minute charter flight from Maun or a 60-minute charter flight from Kasane. [www.machabasafaris.com](http://www.machabasafaris.com)

## **JUNE & JULY 2020 - THE BLUE TRAIN'S SAFARI MAKEOVER**

In 2019 South Africa's legendary Blue Train reinvented its classic Cape Town/Pretoria journey, extending it to a 2-night "slow travel" experience. Now they have given their safari departures a complete makeover for 2020 – making it a round trip to the iconic Kruger national Park including sunrise & sunset Big 5 game drives, a boma dinner under the stars and even some traditional cultural dancing! Previously, The Blue Train offered a one-way, overnight journey from Pretoria to Hoedspruit (or vice versa) leaving guests to check into one of the Sabi Sands/Greater Kruger Lodges for a few nights.



**Now the train will be offering its safari departure as a RETURN ROUND-TRIP to the Kruger that will depart Pretoria mid-morning on Day 1, arrive at the Kruger National Park early the next morning for a full day guided safari including sunrise and sunset game drives.** The train will then depart at after dinner to head back to Pretoria, arriving around noon on day 3. Prices for the 3-day all-inclusive safari by rail will be R37,630 (about £2,050) per person sharing in a deluxe suite. Initially, there will only be two departures in 2020 namely: 18 - 20 June 2020 and 30 July - 01 August 2020. For more information visit [www.bluetrain.co.za](http://www.bluetrain.co.za)

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