

# PALM BEACH ILLUSTRATED®

## Road Rules

+ARTS PREVIEW

NEVER  
EVER  
GIVE  
UP

On  
with  
The  
Show!

Top  
Cultural  
Events

The mind doesn't  
know what the  
body can do

Here Come  
The Plantagenets

ROBERT O'SULLIVAN, MICHAEL COLL, CHRIS HITSMAN, CHAD WILKINSON

Grit + Bikes  
+ Pain + Luck = glory



# Escape



## Insider's South Africa

*A luxury African safari is the greatest travel story ever told. PBI's travel editor is 21 years deep into his Africa adventures. Here, he shares his insider advice for penning your own South African fairy tale.*

BY PAUL RUBIO



DISCOVER THE WONDERS OF SOUTH AFRICAN SAFARIS AT ROCK LODGE AT ULISEA (TOP LEFT) OR SINGATA LESOMBO LODGE (INSET AND TOP RIGHT).

36.076

# Escape



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: SINGITA LEBOMBO LODGE; MATEYA WALKING SAFARI; A TWIST ON SUSHI AT SINGITA; ELEPHANTS IN FRONT OF MATEYA SAFARI LODGE AND INTERIOR OF SUITE; GAME DRIVES AND INFINITY POOL AT SINGITA.



## 1. CATCH THE PRIVATE SIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S PREMIER NATIONAL PARK

Kruger National Park is the undisputed crown jewel of South Africa's parklands and game reserves. But given the surfeit of lodges and game reserves. But given the surfeit of lodges and public camps located within Kruger, there are days when vehicles seem to outnumber even the impalas. Enter Singita Lebombo Lodge ([singita.com](http://singita.com)), a 13-suite, high-design safari lodge on the eastern edge of the park with exclusive rights to a massive swath of Kruger (33,000 acres to be exact). Singita's concession extends through four eco-zones, with the lodge itself perched above the N'wanetsi River. This euphoria-doused landscape happens to be prime rhino and big cat real estate

and home to two of the world's 13 wild white lions; I was lucky enough to see one on my last safari. Twice-daily game drives are nothing short of exhilarating, but creating private moments with fauna is the true luxury. Add to the fold architecturally stunning open-plan suites, world-class amenities (like a full spa, a lounge-lined swimming pool, a stocked wine tower for oenophiles, and a glass-enclosed, restaurant-sized kitchen), plus a food and wine program that would impress the most demanding of gourmands, and you quite possibly have the superlative safari experience in all of South Africa.

## 2. EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA'S WILDS ON FOOT

While it may be the fifth largest in the country, Madikwe Game Reserve remains South Africa's best-kept secret. The relatively young reserve is composed of reclaimed farmland along the South Africa-Botswana border and, in 25 years, has blossomed into thriving hill country where rhinos, elephants, cheetahs, and lions roam. At the core of this conservation narrative lies the five-villa Mateya Safari



JONATHAN COBURN OF VISUALS UNLIMITED  
JACK BROOKHAYN

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: BATHROOM WITH A VIEW AT ROCK LODGE AT ULUSABA; DURBAN SKYLINE; SPA AT THE OYSTER BOX; RHINOS IN SABIE SANDS; EXTERIOR AND PRIVATE DINING AT ULUSABA.

Lodge ([maeyasafari.com](http://maeyasafari.com)), which oozes classic safari glamour and celebrates the gamut of pan-African art through interior design, all the while offering one of the most riveting experiences in Africa: the walking safari. If willing, you can leave the Land Rover behind and head into the bush on foot, alongside Maeya's expert rangers. Watching the shenanigans of an elephant herd from a vehicle is amazing, but witnessing this spectacle at eye-level—and completely exposed—well, that's another experience altogether. Nature enthusiasts, scientists, and intellectual types will appreciate guides who impart near doctorate-level knowledge as part of the Maeya visit.



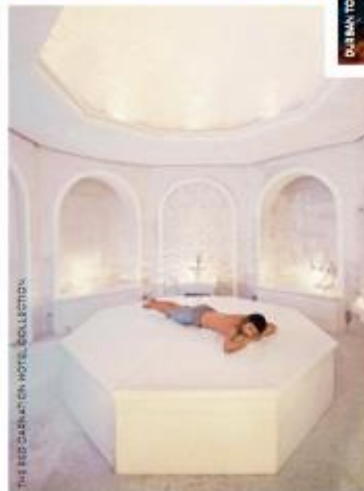
DURBAN TOURISM BOARD

### 3. GUARANTEE PRIZE-WORTHY WILDLIFE SHOTS

Though social media has made it more instantaneous, sharing brag-worthy wildlife imagery has long been a rite of passage for safari-goers. While location, seasonality, savvy



PAUL BRIDGEMAN



THE OYSTER BOX HOTEL, BOULEVARD

guides, positioning, and plain ole luck will always play a role in obtaining such snaps, the robust and diverse year-round populations of Sabie Sands Game Reserve (buffering the southwestern region of the Kruger National Park) brand it perhaps the most predictable spot in South Africa for wildlife photography. Base yourself at the eight-unit Rock Lodge

at Ulusaba ([vrynlmtmededuton.com/en/ulusaba](http://vrynlmtmededuton.com/en/ulusaba)), Sir Richard Branson's private safari concession (part of the greater Sabie Sands reserve), and prepare to saturate memory cards by day and luxuriate by night. Set high atop a rocky outcrop, the lodge delivers sublime panoramic views of the surrounding wildlife-speckled grasslands from en suite terraces, multilevel viewing decks, an outdoor pool, a spacious lounge, and even a state-of-the-art gymnasium. With an endless pour of fine wine, decadent snacks, and Michelin star-level cuisine never far from reach, Ulusaba equally pleases the sybarite less attached to the camera and more interested in the pampering aspects of safari.

### 4. TAKE A CITY BREAK IN DURBAN

Break up the South African safari chronicles with time in the waterfront capital of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban ([durbanexperience.co.za](http://durbanexperience.co.za)), where an unlikely mix of authenticity and urbane sophistication erupts over a city rife with golden beaches,

# Escape

ANANTARA BAZARUTO ISLAND RESORT



eclectic art galleries, and delightfully chaotic street markets. Seek posh accommodations in the coastal suburb of Unhlanga, home to The Oyster Box ([oysterboxhotel.com](http://oysterboxhotel.com)), which channels timeless elegance retrofitted to meet today's luxury standards. (Be sure to try the hammam and dine at the over-the-top Champagne breakfast buffet with more than 50 dishes.) Or check in to neighboring Beverly

Hills Hotel ([isogastin.com](http://isogastin.com)), where each room doles out uninterrupted views of Indian Ocean blues from a private balcony. While in Durban, feed into the foodie craze of bunny chow (curry stuffed in a hollowed-out bread loaf), shop for spices and incense at Victoria Street Market, and explore traditional Zulu homesteads in the Valley of 1,000 Hills. Visit the African Art Centre to admire and purchase an exquisite work from aspiring artists affected by economic hardship or HIV/AIDS.

## 5. MEET THE NEIGHBORS: MOZAMBIQUE

Though dreamy, safaris entail intense days in the bush, and reaching South Africa requires

long-haul flights and jet lag adjustment. Consider starting on a relaxing note in the proximate Bazaruto Archipelago in neighboring Mozambique. Flight schedules on Airlink ([flyairlink.com](http://flyairlink.com)), the regional feeder airline under South Africa Airways, work well with U.S. arrivals into Johannesburg, getting you to the beach town of Vilanculos within hours of landing. From there, hop on a boat to Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort ([bazaruto.anantara.com](http://bazaruto.anantara.com)), a private paradise blessed with jewel-toned waters, a palm-laced coastline, towering interior sand dunes, untouched coral reefs, and underwater deserts. By day, amble along the beach for hours without seeing another human and laze retreat to your villa for the sunset as dolphins dance in the distance and dhow boats return to the Mozambique mainland. Gorge on sublime seafood and request to "Dine by Design," where private meals are served on a sandbar. You'll soon be relaxed, recharged, and ready to take on the African bush. <<

# current

PROMOTION AND EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2017

## THE ANN NORTON SCULPTURE GARDENS

The Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens hosts the inaugural Sculpture in Motion: The Art of Pre- and Post War Automobile Innovation on Saturday, November 18. Presented by Sentient Jet, this one of a kind event showcases the history and design of classic pre- and post war automobiles with tours and special presentations by automotive experts throughout the day and a VIP cocktail reception that evening. Sculpture in Motion is sponsored by Gunster and Palm Beach Illustrated, with John Barnes, founder of The Cavallino Classic, serving as the event's guest curator. For more information and to purchase tickets, please call 561-832-5328 or visit [ansg.org](http://ansg.org).

2051 South Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach  
561-832-5328 | [ansg.org](http://ansg.org)



1932 Ford L-29 Cabriolet Patrick Cronan