## BOTSWANA'S TIMELESS WILDERNESS

outhern Africa Classic Safaris

So geographers in Afric-maps . . Place elephants for want of towns.

Jonathan Swift, On Poetry: A Rhapsody

Dear Griends,

We recently won our tenth first-place *Travel+Leisure* award for World's Best Safari Outfitter (I'm proud to say that no other company has more than three wins), but among all our many accolades, perhaps the most heartening is also from *Travel+Leisure*: "The Pintos treat their guests like well-loved, out-of-town relatives."

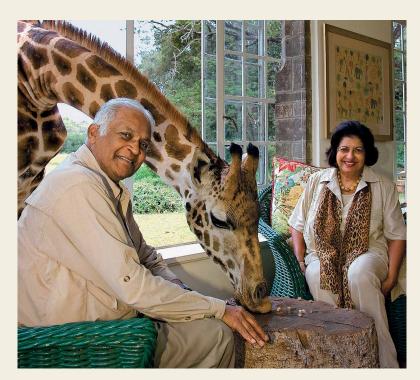
Micato's dedication to expert, familial service is the legacy of our founders, my parents Felix and Jane (pictured below in Nairobi). Willingness to go many extra miles to ensure that a Micato safari is the trip of a lifetime—as it is for so many of our guests is the rock on which Felix and Jane built our family-owned, family-operated company, and why every member of the Micato team will become your welcoming family from the Safari Director who will be with you from touchdown to takeoff, to our large staffs in the U.S. and East and Southern Africa.

And so, I hope you'll enjoy an armchair safari with this brochure, and that you'll consider joining us for hilltop sundowners overlooking the guileless and

gorgeous African game lands. We'll clink our glasses in celebration of the safari life Isak Dinesen said "makes you forget all your sorrows and feel as if you had drunk half a bottle of champagne bubbling over with heartfelt gratitude for being alive."

Sincerely,

Dennis Pinto Managing Director



Micato's founders, Felix and Jane Pinto (and a friend) pictured near their suburban Nairobi home



# Your Safari Team in the Bush

#### Safari Directors: Guides, Helpers, Friends

And they're 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.

In addition to a thorough education in the theory and on-the-savannah practice of our state-of-thescience safety protocols, every Micato Safari Director in Kenya has earned prestigious Gold or Silver certifications from the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association. Seasoned professionals, most of whom have been with us their entire careers, graduates of Kenya Utalii College or Tanzania's College of Wildlife Management, they're creative choreographers of safari: guiding flexible, alwayson-the-lookout forays into the bush, lecturing on flora and fauna, deftly handling logistics, and imparting fascinating nuggets of African history and local folklore. They will also become dear friends.

And the same highest standards and credentials and affable, unstinting service—apply to Micato Safari Directors in all the East and Southern African countries in which we safari.

From the minute we stepped off the airplane in Nairobi, to the moment we said good-bye to our Safari Director Henry the trip far exceeded our expectations. He delighted us with his enthusiasm, his knowledge and love for the animals. Throughout the trip we experienced many instances of his caring, charming, witty and humble personality. He gracefully took care of all travel needs - airport check-ins, boarding passes, border crossings, hotel check-in/out, many wonderful surprises, and overall hand holding. — Elisabeth Brown





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

- Travel+Leisure

# The Many Micato Differences

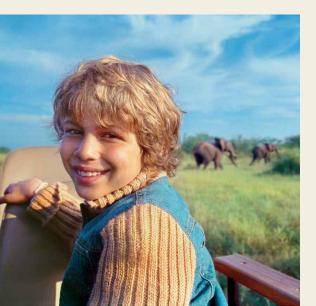
How does a safari company amaze and excel for 60 years? By a cheerfully relentless dedication to service and innovation. With painstaking discernment, profound expertise, and the generosity of spirit that arises from a family's bedrock commitment to hospitality.

- *Travel+Leisure* has named us #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter nine times. No other company comes close.
- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Share a meal with our founders, Felix and Jane Pinto, at their suburban Nairobi home.
- Itineraries perfected by generations of experience and local knowledge.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Safari Directors—all Silver and Gold certified accompany every safari from beginning to end.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.

- 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 are included. In Southern Africa, spirits are often included, too.
- Free valet laundry service, everywhere, every day (and complimentary, custom-designed luggage to put it in).
- Small-group, boutique safaris of fewer than 18 travellers, and only 12 in Southern Africa.
- 100% guaranteed departures on our scheduled Classic Safaris, even for parties of two.
- The finest, well-stocked safari vehicles, Wi-Fi equipped, with guaranteed window seats for all.
- Surprises. We're famous for them. You'll be amazed.
- And—this could well be at the top of the list—we pay for an African child's education for every safari we sell.







# 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.



# THE WORLD'S Most Awarded SAFARI COMPANY



World's Best Value Winner



Legacy in Travel Philanthropy Award



TRAVEL+

#### TRAVEL+ LEISURE

**Global Vision Award** 

Development, Youth Education Micato One for One Commitment

### PORTHOLE CRUISE MAGAZINE

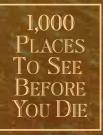
Best African Safari Tour Operator

### TRAVELAGE WEST WAVE

Best Tour Operator Africa / Middle East



Virtuoso Winner Best Sustainable Leadership Best VAST (Active) Operator Best Escorted Tour Operator Best Destinations & Experiences Custom Tour Partner Family and Celebration Partner Virtuoso Performance Award



#1 New York Times Travel Guide Preferred East Africa

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

Global Travel Collection, Best Community Involvement • World Tourism Award • 52-Time Winner, Travel Weekly Magellan Awards, including Gold for Best Tour Operator, Best Education Program, Best Giving Back Initiative, Best Social Media, Best Consumer Brochure, Best Marketing Campaign, Best Direct Mail, and Best Trade Website • Travvy Award: Gold, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Africa and Silver, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Adventure • Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMAI) Adrian Awards: Leadership in Corporate Social Responsibility; Gold, Best Trade Brochure and Best Consumer Brochure, multiple years; HSMAI and National Geographic Traveler Gold Winner, Leader in Sustainable Tourism • 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

## BOTSWANA'S TIMELESS WILDERNESS

Botswana's Okavango Delta & Moremi Game Reserve · Victoria Falls

12 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Johannesburg

f we had to pick the most miraculous African place of all, it might well be the Okavango Delta, where the 1,000-milelong Okavango River gives up on its search for an outlet to the sea and seeps lifegivingly into the sands of one of the world's most uncompromising deserts, creating a vast and mesmerizing oasis. As Frans Lanting wrote in his elegiac book *Okavango: Africa's Last Eden*, "The [Delta's] very existence in the middle of the Kalahari Desert is nothing short of miraculous . . . like a dream."

Botswana's wilderness is expansive and—to our scurrying senses—timeless, and the Okavango isn't its only dreamy place. Our under-two-week safari takes us to three others, right up near the top of African marvels: the lush and pacific Gomoti Plains Camp, the exemplary Moremi Game Reserve, quite close to another phenomenon of miraculous rarity, Victoria Falls. The word wonderful does not fit into science, for from one point of view every natural occurrence is as wonderful as another. But we are justified in using the term when we meet a phenomenon which is such an exception to the ordinary rules of nature that it appears to be a miracle.

—Eugène N. Marais, The Soul of the Ape



To say that I am impressed with your company and operation is a vast understatement. I had lofty expectations for our safari and Micato surpassed those—in a big way. In my mind it would be a travesty for you not to win the Travel+Leisure award for the next ten years.

> —Paige D. Koerbel Regional Vice President, Renaissance Hotels

#### day 1 En route

#### DAY 2 Johannesburg

After arriving at O. R. Tambo International, we'll be escorted to the *Saxon Hotel*, *Villas and Spa* in Johannesburg's tree-lined suburb of Sandhurst. This quietly luxurious hotel has much to be proud of but says, touchingly, that its greatest "boast" is that the father of modern South Africa, Nelson Mandela, chose the Saxon as his sanctuary at which to complete his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*.

#### DAYS 3 & 4 The Okavango Delta

Our base in the miraculous Delta is beautifully shaded *Camp Okavango*, tucked away in serene isolation on lush Nxaragha Island. Intimate, recently and lovingly rebuilt, the camp has many charms: unflashy luxury, great dining, and extraordinarily well-designed tents—including a two-bedroom family tent—each raised on a platform with a private deck overlooking the hippo-thronged Delta waters.

Camp Okavango is notable for its variety of game-viewing experiences, from canoeing and





motorboating in the Delta's waterways, to guided bush walks on neighbouring islands. All the classic African headliners are to be seen, sometimes unexpectedly. "One of the Okavango's delights," Frans Lanting writes, "is the sheer surprise of seeing an elephant emerge from underwater."

#### DAYS 5 & 6 The Southeastern Okavango

A quick flight takes us southeastward to *Gomoti Plains Camp*, where the river of that name, a thick tendril of Okavango lushness, is bounded by savannah giving way to desert, offering us another exceptionally varied look at intertwined ecosystems and the charismatic animals that call them home. Because of Gomoti's untroubled remoteness, much wildlife filming and research has been done here, of lions, elephants, buffalo, and especially of the area's large coterie of African wild dogs, sometimes called painted wolves.

Gomoti Plains Camp, set pacifically along the banks of the Gomoti River, accommodates us with tents set on raised wooden decks and decorated to mirror the water and land themes that define the exquisite and heart-liftingly rare Okavango.

#### DAYS 7 & 8 Moremi Game Reserve

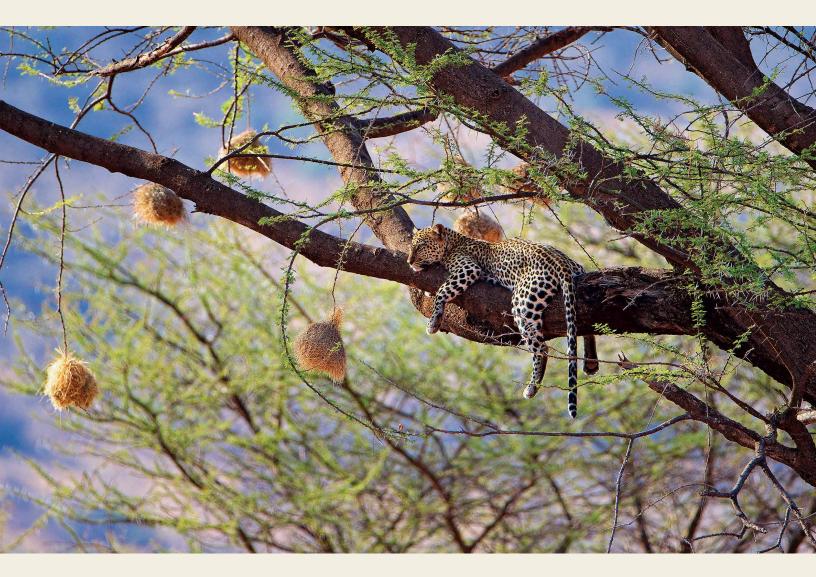
A jaunty helicopter flight takes us north to the Khwai River and **Machaba Camp**, designed in classic 1950s safari style, so well suited to its surroundings that animals wander down to the river insouciantly, delighting us as we watch, sundowner in hand, from our tents. And, among Moremi's myriad charms, it

People ask us about books. Africa has a great and deep literature, but if you read Isak Dinesen's Out of Africa; Elspeth Huxley's The Flame Trees of Thika and her sometimes overlooked The Mottled Lizard; Ngūgī wa Thiong'o's bracing A Grain of Wheat; and Beryl Markham's West with the Night, you will be extremely enchanted and informed. (Of course, our pre-departure materials include a well-scouted reading list.)

gives us the chance to see the huge African night sky that ever captivated Elspeth Huxley, a sky "bristling with innumerable stars, as close-packed as the quills on a porcupine."\*



Whatever was promised in the brochure was far surpassed in our actual experiences. There is no way we can sufficiently praise our Safari Director and drivers—far and away the most knowledgeable, intelligent, and caring we have ever encountered. —Fran and Paul Heller



#### DAYS 9 & 10 Victoria Falls

We don't like to repeat ourselves, so we hope you don't mind if we direct you to a torrent of praise for Victoria Falls over on page 132. Here we'll repeat something a Micato friend once said: "Victoria Falls is billed as one of the world's greatest waterfalls, but, as a matter of fact, it's one of the world's greatest anythings." In other good news: we'll be staying in the grand, colonial-era **Victoria Falls Hotel**, within walking distance of the incredible cataract.

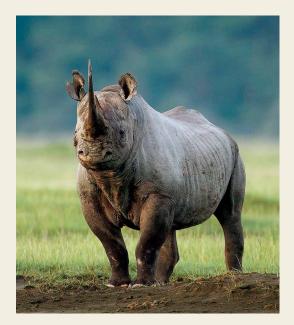


#### DAYS 11 & 12 Johannesburg and onward

We fly to Johannesburg, with fullservice, meals-included day rooms at the *InterContinental* before our ever-in-attendance Safari Director accompanies us to the airport for flights homeward.

#### Make Your Safari a Private Classic

Botswana's Timeless Wilderness can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your friends or family group's own Safari Director, private vehicles, with the freedom to set your own schedules, to enjoy private meals in the bush, and many etceteras. In short, while your Private Classic will follow the set itinerary of any of our Classic Safaris, it offers the exclusivity and flexibility of a Custom Safari, at a lower cost. For a deeper look at Private Classics, see pages 66 and 67.



Your Safari Director will discuss with you a variety of individualized activity choices at every safari location.

We were continually delighted by the little extras that you provided. I've never been on a packaged trip like this where literally everything beyond what your brochure promoted was covered. What an absolute pleasure.

-Scott J. Mermel

#### Tariff 2025

Land arrangements, per person

	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Oct	Nov-Dec	
Double Occupancy	\$21,950	\$23,950	\$26,550	\$21,950	
Single Supplement	1,950	3,550	5,150	3,450	
Internal Flights	3,250	3,250	3,450	3,250	

(Johannesburg / Maun / Camp to Camp / Kasane / Victoria Falls / Johannesburg) Connections may apply.

#### 2025 Dates

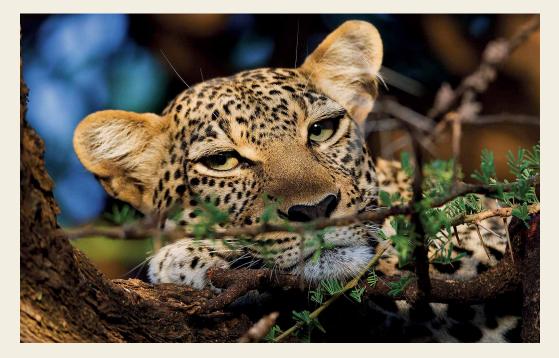
Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Saturday, returns Wednesday Every date is a guaranteed departure

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

#### 2026 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Saturday, returns Wednesday New rates and dates may apply

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



THE MICATO One for One

# COMMITMENT

FOR EVERY GUEST ON SAFARI WE SEND A CHILD TO SCHOOL

#### 

undreds of thousands 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 Micato One for One Commitment

For almost 40 years, Micato-AmericaShare has been a passionate advocate for East African children and their families. Under the Micato One for One Commitment, simply by signing up for a Micato safari, every guest on every safari sends a child to school—year after year.

Thousands of Kenyan children are able to attend school thanks to our guests who join us in this commitment. 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

For almost 40 years—Micato's tribute to our birth continent has been our nonprofit, Micato-AmericaShare. In the next six pages we'll tell you what AmericaShare does, but first, here's why:

It all began with one little boy, 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, "AmericaShare is the why of why we exist."

### 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 that child to graduate high school (and beyond, if the spirit is willing). Many lives, on both sides of the Atlantic, have been changed by this programme.

### 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 I will never forget my first experience of visiting Harambee Centre! It surpassed my expectations; above all I felt very safe around that space despite the fact that everyone was a stranger when I got in but as I was leaving, I felt warm and I thought to myself this looks like a neat family that I would like to be part of.



—Aisha Omar

Bernard Wharton and Jennifer Walsh and scores of caring safari-goers—serves Mukuru residents with a Community Centre; a beautiful, 25,000-volume library—with more than 57,000 yearly visitors—and a flourishing second library, both made possible by Suzie and Bruce Kovner through a grant by the Kovner Foundation; and a digitally up-to-the-minute Computer Centre.

### Harambee's Computer Centre

A big, bright room equipped with over 70 computers, visited more than 100,000 times since its inception, Micato-AmericaShare's Harambee Computer Centre—enabled by Dr. Derrick Rossi—offers Mukuru residents free computer access and digital skills training.

During a 12-week training programme, 120 students undergo a comprehensive curriculum designed to enhance their computer skills and proficiency in various Microsoft applications, with a module on CV (curriculum vitae) writing. As this is written, more than 300 students are on our waiting list for future classes, and we hope to increase the number of programmes we offer, as the need and demand is great, and the potential rewards for our students is huge.

### More Milestones

The dynamic, 25,000-volume Harambee Centre Library is the proud recipient of the Best Community Library Award by the 50-year old Kenya Association of Library and Information Professionals.

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.

### Learn More

At our website, AmericaShare.org, or email us at Inquiries@AmericaShare.org.



# The Red Hill Library and Community Centre

Tucked away on the verdant seaward side of the glorious Old Cape Road, south of Cape Town, past the imposing Steenberg Mountains and lovely Simon's Town, on the way to the Cape of Good Hope, is the community of Red Hill, whose 1,500 makeshift households are blessed with wonderful views, bright community spirit, and not much in the way of community services.

"Micato-AmericaShare's educational outreach in East Africa inspired us to find a community in South Africa where we can have a lasting impact," says Lorna Macleod, AmericaShare's co-founder and executive director. "And at Red Hill, we knew we had found our place."

That place is AmericaShare's Red Hill Library

and Community Centre, a joyful place for a town with a single part-time clinic, 37 per cent unemployment, and no school for its more than 2,000 school-age kids, who have to take long bus rides to state schools in the vicinity.

## Red Hill's Present and Future

Our bright new, ever-growing library, led by a trained librarian and volunteers who help students with their homework, is a welcoming community meeting place, and our Literacy and Numeracy Programme, designed to equip Red Hill kids with the skills they'll need as they enter the educational system, meets every day for two hours. The Centre's Computer Lab offers classes to community members of all ages, focussing on Google Classroom assignments, Typing.com, and Tynker coding. And the beautiful, ocean-view Umbono Wempunelelo—View to Success Deck—has become an integral part of Red Hill's commitment to meeting the needs of young, energetic minds. The deck's combination of fresh air and sunlight enhances learning experiences, promotes improved focus, creativity, and overall wellbeing.

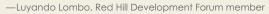
## Most of Micato's...

... safariers to the Cape Peninsula will visit the Red Hill Library and Community Centre, and many of them will be inspired to help it bring more light to the community. They'll want to make donations like books, computers, or funds for a new building.

So: if you'd like to visit Red Hill, either before or after your Micato safari, or if you're just inspired by what you're seeing and reading on these pages, send an email to Inquiries@AmericaShare.org.



This collaboration with Micato-AmericaShare has brought light to our community. Scholars are able to do their homework and research in the library, which provides a great environment for their education and homework clubs. The Forum is also benefitting from having a productive space in which to meet. This project has uplifted the entire community by making resources available to everybody.







# Huru Means Freedom

African girls who can't afford sanitary pads very often avoid school during their periods, losing as much as an entire month each school year. The consequences are significant: girls who miss school or work fall behind, drop out or quit, perpetuating a grim cycle of poverty and gender inequality.

Micato is a major donor and proud supporter of Huru, founded in 2008 by AmericaShare's co-founder Lorna Macleod. Huru manufactures reusable sanitary pads—more than 2,300,000 to date—which have been distributed in free Huru Kits to more than 320,000 girls in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Huru Kits have proven to be a simple, sustainable, and wonderfully practical way to alleviate this worldwide problem. Each Huru Kit consists of a colourful drawstring backpack with six reusable pads; three pairs of underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; two resealable waterproof bags for safe storage of used pads; and educational materials on HIV prevention and reproductive and sexual health.



Since Huru pads came we are comfortable and we do not feel left out. We are able to attend classes without fear or shame. It brings so much joy to know there are people on earth living far away from you who can rescue you.

— Charity, age 16

All Huru pads are locally produced by women and men from underserved communities, and are designed for the resilient girls and women who use them. Each pad lasts a minimum of 24 months, making them a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to expensive disposables.

The crucial and heartening bottom line: Huru Kits have saved girls 24,000,000 school days (and counting) that otherwise would have been lost. Independent evaluation shows that girls who receive Huru Kits are three times less likely to miss school during their periods.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) recently entered a groundbreaking partnership with Huru to provide more than 22,000 women in 43 workspaces in Kenya's crucial garment and horticulture industries with Huru Kits and educational sessions on menstrual health and sexual and reproductive health topics, and awareness campaigns for 13,600 supervisors to combat menstrual stigma.

## Learn More

About Huru's important and effective work. And about its highly successful Skills Transfer Program, a targeted, practical programme that addresses East Africa's huge problem of youth unemployment, which disproportionately impacts girls; 65 per cent of the Skills Transfer Program's trainees have no income whatsoever. Huru's informative website is accessible 525,600 minutes a year at HuruInternational.org. And its phone number is: 212-340-7115.

We educate women because it is smart. We educate women because it changes the world. —Drew Gilpin Faust, first female president of Harvard University







You have me longing for more... ...please mail me your entire, beautiful brochure!

CLICK HERE