



Africa is open for business at last ... so we thought we'd share some positive news....



### The third <u>OurAfrica.Travel</u> virtual trade show will return between 22 March and 1 April 2022.

The easy-to-use platform will officially launch on 8 March, offering 11 preparation networking days to set up meetings. All virtual meetings will again be pre-scheduled directly by participants using the purpose-built diary. Meeting slots will be available 24/7 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to accommodate the different time zones across the globe. Fridays (25 March and 1 April) will be allocated for informal meetings. Tour Operators and travel designers are welcome to **register now** for free attendance.

### WHAT'S NEW FOR '22?

The virtual trade event is set to be bigger and better for 2022 with some enhancements on the platform. Over 215 exhibitors have already confirmed their participation including African Bush Camps, Great Plains Conservation, Lemala Camps & Lodges, The Liz McGrath Collection, Machaba Safaris, The Mantis Collection, MalaMala, The More Family Collection, Tswalu Kalahari, &Beyond and Virgin Limited Edition to name just a few. Some of the new first-time exhibitors include Mosetlha Bush Camp & Eco Lodge and Travessia.

### PITCH-PERFECT

Travel writers and journalists are also welcome to register to explore editorial and press trip opportunities. A **media page** has been added to the website where news and potential story angles will also be shared closer to the time.

Last year's show was a resounding success with almost 24,000 one-on-one meetings taking place over two weeks across various time zones – connecting over 1,100 buyers from around the globe to 340 exhibitors from Africa and the Indian Ocean islands. We look forward to reconnecting with you all again this month! https://ourafrica.travel. Follow us on social media on #ourafricatravel #strongertogether.



Organisers Allie Hunt and Storm Napier celebrating the return of OurAfrica.Travel

### **DESTINATION TRAINING WEEK**

A NEW and exciting addition to the show, in partnership with The Africa Hub, is the opportunity for tour operators, travel designers and media to expand their knowledge in preparation for their meetings by joining in an informative **"15 Minute Focus" Destination Training Week** which will run from 14 – 18 March 2022. Each day at 2pm (GMT) there will be four 15-minute country overviews from The Africa Hub's destination experts. The briefings are FREE – all participants need to do is register with The Africa Hub. These sessions will also be available as recordings for those registered.







# **TUK SOUTH FOR RANGERS**

The Tuk South crew is currently on a mission to drive two 8HP Piaggio Tuk Tuks around 7000 kms from Kenya to Cape Town, raising awareness of and funds for wildlife rangers. Poverty levels soared due to the lack of tourism during the pandemic -and so too did poaching. Wildlife rangers saw a drastic increase in their workload - despite many of them having their salaries slashed.

Jasper, Josh, Ivo and Robbie, four conservation minded adventurers living in Kenya, decided to do something proactive to help - and came up with a crazy plan to embark on a daring and bone rattling expedition to tell stories and raise awareness of the plight of those on the frontline, protecting wildlife.

The crew is about to depart Tanzania to Malawi - but will be travelling through seven countries over the coming months and sharing their adventures on social media as they go. These stories will form the backbone of a documentary they aim to make on Covid's impact on conservation and the rangers who protect it.

There are a number of ways you can show support "For Rangers" via their <u>website</u> – but if you enjoy a laugh, follow @joshporters on TikTok or their other social platforms and check out their <u>trailer here</u>.

# MOSETLHA, MADIKWE

Jonny Motsieloa, a Specialist Guide at **Mosetlha Bush Camp & Eco Lodge** in South Africa's Madikwe Game Reserve, was recently voted one of the world's top specialist guides at the Wanderlust Travel Awards held in London. From over 3000 guides nominated, Jonny took the Bronze – flying the flag proudly for Africa - as one of the **Top 3 Specialist Guides in the World.** 

The 45-year old guide and father of three has loved nature all his life - and grew up in the Madikwe area as the son of a local farm labourer and stay-at-home mother. Jonny, now a Senior Field Guide at Mosetlha, started working in the Reserve as a security guard in 1997 until he was given the opportunity to attend the Mafisa Training Programme to qualify as a guide – his dream job! Mosetlha is nestled right at the heart of the Big 5 malariafree Madikwe and is the park's only genuine eco lodge with an incredibly light footprint. The camp is unfenced, rustic and intimate with just 10 cabins – and remains proudly off grid to ensure an authentic bush experience. The lanterns by night and donkey boiler for hot showers only add to the magic! https://www.thebushcamp.com













## SALA BEACH HOUSE

Watch this space... a fabulous new beach property is opening later this year...

Introducing Sala Beach House - a brand new 10-bedroom boutique hotel on Thompsons Bay in Ballito, KZN.

The main house features 4 guest rooms and 3 Suites with 180-degree sea views. A private bungalow with its own swimming pool has 3 rooms for families or guests wanting their own space.

There will be 3 pools on site and a spa. The ambience is intended to offer guests a relaxed, coastal feel centred on wellness. Guests will be able to unwind and feel right at home with professional and authentic five-star service.

The property leads onto a small swimming friendly beach with its own lifeguards. A protected tidal pool is about 90m long and offers an array of marine life. Beyond that a hole in the wall leads to some secluded coves to explore the rocky shores. Nearby are a variety of activities from surfing, deep sea fishing and micro lighting to golf.

Sala is just 20 minutes from King Shaka Airport and is a great beach option to combine with safaris in the Zululand reserves, 3 hours away. Sister-property Ghost Mountain Inn twins beautifully.

# FACTS & FIGURES...

Did you know that 3rd March is the UN's World Wildlife Day - the most important global annual event dedicated to wildlife. The theme for 2022 is "Safeguarding key species for ecosystem restoration". Over 8,400 species of wild fauna and flora are critically endangered,



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