



News on The Royal Livingstone, Bazaruto Island Resort, Avani Victoria Falls Resort, EcoTraining, Adventure Consults, Babanango Game Reserve, JW Marriott Masai Mara Lodge. Crowne Plaza Nairobi Airport, TopGuides Bush Camps, and Sierra Leone

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Dear Colleague,

For our American clients, we hope you had a super Thanksgiving.

I just returned from East Africa, where I visited the under-construction JW Marriott Masai Mara in Kenya and then the TopGuides Lolkisale Camp in Tanzania's Tarangire National Park.

The **JW Marriott Masai Mara** is coming along well and opening is scheduled for March 31, 2023. It's an amazing site with lovely views across the Mara. The tents, bathrooms, Jacuzzis, kitchen, pool and spa are almost finished, and the crew is working on the finishing touches. We have 17 standard tents (largest in Kenya), one honeymoon tent and a huge family tent. All rooms offer views of the Talek River and some also have views of a new manmade waterhole in the reserve (two hippos have already moved in!). While the camp is not yet listed on the JW Marriott website, our Nairobi team is already taking reservations for high season.

I also stayed at the **Crowne Plaza Nairobi Airport**. In addition to being very convenient to the airport terminal (just four minutes), they have a terrific spa and a rooftop pool and bar. If guests are arriving late or need a day room, I highly recommend it.

Now to **Lolkisale Camp** in Tarangire. In a word: "Wow!" It's situated by the Silale Swamp with great views of the surrounding savannah. It's in a really quiet part of the park — except for all of the wildlife passing by — elephants, zebras, buffalo, impalas. And we had amorous lions close by. Take a look at this gorgeous camp [here](#). Unfortunately, the TopGuides mobile camp was moving locations, so I'll visit that next time.

Look for a trip report next month!

Last but not least, we are thrilled to welcome the **National Tourism Board of Sierra Leone** to our portfolio of cool destinations in Africa. I will be visiting in early 2023 and can't wait to share my experience!

Please check out the rest of our November newsletter for the latest news and more details on our cool companies in cool places.

We wish you a very Happy Holiday Season ahead!

Best regards,



**The Emerging Destinations Team**

**Jane, Jenna & Ana**



**Upcoming Webinars**

## News at a Glance

### **Sierra Leone**

- We are pleased to welcome the **National Tourism Board of Sierra Leone** to our portfolio of cool destinations in Africa and other awesome places around the globe. Check out more information in our blog below!

### **JW Marriott Masai Mara Lodge, Kenya**

- Sam and Becky Turner, formerly with Mara Plains and Cottars, have been hired. We are building them a large home on the property where they plan on living with their two young children.
- Matthew Ngota, Sales & Marketing Director, is doing a sales trip to Denver in December. Please let [Jenna](#) know if you would like to see him!

### **Anantara Southern Africa, Mozambique & Zambia**

- Emerging Destinations Team Member Jenna Farber visited Anantara's The Royal Livingstone, Avani and Bazaruto Island Resort in November. Register for her webinar [here](#) to learn more!

### **Babanango Game Reserve, South Africa**

- Last month saw a significant event when [four orphaned Black Rhino were finally released](#) into the wild in their new home – Babanango Game Reserve – a first of this scale in using orphaned individuals to establish a new population in South Africa.
- Renowned for its exceptional service, talented chefs whip up daily feasts, camp managers recite stirring speeches around the firepit while resident guides recount ancient battles and expertly translate the intricacies of the Babanango ecosystem during game drives. [Check out our menus!](#)

## [EcoTraining, Southern Africa & Kenya](#)

- Your clients can spend 7 or 14 days in the magical Masai Mara, Kenya. Where the vast landscape and community embrace them wholeheartedly and where an unforgettable wilderness experience awaits. Learn more [here!](#)
- The EcoQuest course (7 or 14 days) provides an in-depth bush learning experience. It's aimed at those who are pressed for time but want an immersive wilderness experience while on Safari. It incorporates fun and exciting aspects of our Safari Guide course, such as ecology, animal tracks and tracking, and basic bush skills. Read more [here](#).
- 2023 Rates and Dates can be found [here](#).

## [TopGuides Bush Camps, Tanzania](#)

- Osero Exclusive – Use Mobile Camp is on the move and getting set up in Ndotu. The camp will be open to receive guests December 1, 2022 in Southern Serengeti Plains. For more information [click here](#).
- Lolkisale Camp in Tarangire National Park is open for guests year round. Find more information [here](#).
- Kids of all ages are welcome to our camps! [Check out](#) a sample family itinerary.
- Topguides is a specialist in photo safaris and the camps are positioned in less travelled locations making them perfect for photographers. Find a sample itinerary [here!](#)
- Please join us for our webinar, "TopGuides Bush Camps 101" tomorrow, December 1, 2022 at 11 am PST | 2 pm EST. Register [here](#).

## [Adventure Consults, Uganda & Rwanda](#)

- In the existing partnership with Rwanda Development Board, Nyungwe Management Company announced the new tourism pricing for Nyungwe, applicable 1st January 2023. Going forward, all Adventure Consults' safaris to Nyungwe shall reflect the new rates. Read more [here](#).

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Sierra Leone Tourism Joins Emerging Destinations

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[More here.](#)



### Nairobi Noshing



At Kitchen 9 Restaurant, both overnight guests and pop-in visitors can have a buffet breakfast, a late-night snack at Aroma, or a cocktail at Velocity Bar. Meanwhile, their Rooftop Pool & Bar is a great place to unwind, or you can opt for easy in-room dining.

[More here.](#)

### The Adventure Never Ends

Marvel at the majesty of Victoria Falls. Explore traditional villages. Get to know the local wildlife. The list of amazing things to do in Zambia never ends. All this and more at the Avani Victoria Falls resort, the closest hotel to the legendary cascade.

[More here.](#)





### *Matatane Wilderness Camp*

Matatane Camp, located in KwaZulu-Natal's culturally rich Zulu heartland, offers guests the chance to enjoy a rustic but comfortable "back to basics" value-for-money bush experience that connects them with the essence of the African Wilderness.

With the beautiful, malaria-free wilderness safely fenced off from the rest of the reserve to allow guests to indulge in walking, mountain biking and a range of other activities without the risk of encountering dangerous game, Matatane Camp enjoys breathtaking views of the Umfolozi River and is home to a number of wildlife species including zebra, giraffe, wildebeest and impala.

Whether it's coming together around the campfire to indulge in a traditional South African braai or hiking through Babanango's pristine wilderness, Matatane Camp offers a completely authentic bush experience.

### How to Become a Bird Nerd



If you are thinking, "*Why would I want to become a bird nerd?*" consider the following facts. First, birds can fly. On their own power! They are the last living relatives of dinosaurs. There are over 10,000 species — how's that for a bucket list challenge? They can be big or small, colorful or simple, predator or prey, adamant singers or the quiet type, active during the day or night-

time. [More here.](#)

## Royal Livingstone Spa

Recharge and beautify at the Anantara Livingstone Spa in the breathtaking surroundings of an African national park that includes Victoria Falls and the Zambezi River. [More here.](#)



## Location, Location, Location!



When JW Marriott set out to create their first-ever African safari camp, they chose the legendary Masai Mara with its annual Great Migration and year-round wildlife residents. [More here.](#)



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