

# private safari houses of africa

For small groups of friends or families who prefer to dictate their own pace than be tied to the less flexible timetables of public lodges and camps, this innovative safari concept may just be the answer.

Hidden away in the highlands of Kenya, the thickets of the Eastern Cape, and along the banks of the Zambezi and Luangwa rivers are a very exclusive selection of safari houses that recall an era when a journey into the bush was a private group adventure set to the rhythms of African time. These properties can only be booked on an exclusive basis, regardless of numbers, making it your house, your guide, your land rover and your chef, so activities and meals happen exactly when you want them to do so.



Chongwe River House, Zambia



## Chongwe River House, Lower Zambezi, Zambia

This uniquely designed house, built entirely of ferro walls and wild wood, is set at the end of a massive winterthorn grove on the banks of the peaceful Chongwe River with spectacular views of the Lower Zambezi escarpment. Its setting is not only beautiful, but also ideal for a wide variety of wildlife.

The four large en-suite bedrooms are each entered through a tunnel, giving the feel of walking through a cave, whilst the huge main sitting and dining area looks out over the pool deck to the river and mountains beyond. Wildlife is constantly in view from the house, but private guides and armed scouts are on hand should you be tempted by a bush walk, canoe safari or night game drive.



## Luangwa Safari House, South Luangwa, Zambia

Lying on the banks of a seasonal lagoon in the Luangwa Valley against the backdrop of the Chindeni Hills, this stunning new house can accommodate up to eight guests. A masterpiece of design and natural materials, its setting is ideal for a wide variety of game which use the area to feed and water.

Each of the four en-suite bedrooms is very individually designed and has a balcony or terrace, whilst elsewhere the house has a sizeable main living area, a terrace with large plunge pool and a magnificent treetop viewing deck in the middle of the lagoon. Activities and meals happen when you want them to, and you have your own guide, armed scout, chef and house manager.



## Tangala House, Upper Zambezi, Zambia

This large, stylish and unique family home is located on the banks of the Zambezi River overlooking the Zambezi National Park, 15km upstream from the magnificent Victoria Falls. Herds of elephant come to drink on the opposite bank, hippos and four beautifully appointed bedrooms, three of which are en-suite, together with attractive other rooms including a comfy sitting room and childmami are regularly seen and heard, and there is fantastic birdlife.

The house has a playroom. A spacious thatch veranda leads to the swimming pool, garden and private river frontage. Tangala is ideal for a family holiday, coming fully serviced and staffed by Tongabezi Lodge with a wide variety of activities available for adults and children alike.



## Shiwa Ng'andu, Northern Zambia

Tucked deep into the wooded hills of a remote corner of northern Zambia, overlooking a lake, this gracious 1920s brick and Italianate-style manor house with its formal garden is a testament to one man's vision of utopia. The house's history, as witnessed in Christina Lamb's 'The Africa House', make a stay here all the more attractive.

The house, which can accommodate 6 to 8 guests in great comfort, is decorated throughout in exquisite period style with some fascinating memorabilia. It offers a range of activities, including 4WD game drives, nature walks, bird watching, fishing, horse riding and boating on the lake. A number of rare animals may be seen here, the bird life is excellent.



### Wolwedans Private Camp, NamibRand, Namibia

It's setting, hidden in the quiet seclusion of an idyllic valley within the NamibRand Nature Reserve, means Wolwedans Private Camp guarantees exclusivity and absolute privacy. This is one of Africa's most breathtaking places, with diverse desert landscapes and a wide variety of wildlife.

The camp comprises two spacious suites with private bathrooms, a veranda and a living area with kitchen - the perfect getaway for a honeymoon couple or family of four. You can either self-cater here or the camp can be booked with all services and activities included - a private chef and a personal field guide.



### Okonjima Villa, Waterberg, Namibia

Nestled among the Omboroko Mountains on the plains west of the Waterberg Plateau, this grand African house is the first of its kind in Namibia. Situated just a short drive from Okonjima's main camp, the villa is quite simply stunning, and offers a perfect base to explore this beautiful area.

There are a total of four bedrooms, each with private terrace for spectacular views or sleeping under the stars. The 'main house' also features a spacious living area, a magnificent infinity pool and an open sala. The villa has its own hostess, chef, guide and safari vehicle, and can comfortably accommodate parties of up to eight adults and five children with extra beds in the rooms.



### Phinda, Maputaland, South Africa

Lying in the lush Maputaland region of northern KwaZulu-Natal, bordering the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park, Zuka Lodge and the new Phinda Homestead offer an exclusive and sophisticated base on the Phinda private game reserve. Here, seven distinct habitats shelter an abundance of wildlife.

Ideal for families, Zuka Lodge has just four thatched Zululand bush cottages with verandas overlooking a busy waterhole. The Homestead is a stylish, airy new lodge with breathtaking vistas of the bush. There are four luxurious suites and amenities include a sparkling swimming pool. Each property has a personal butler, chef, ranger/host and private 4WD vehicle to ensure the perfect stay.



### Ngare Nite, Lewa Downs, Kenya

Ngare Nite offers a rare opportunity for 'old Africa hands' to indulge their love of the bush whilst, at the same time, sharing it with friends and family. This charming and very picturesque homestead has wonderfully expansive views across Lewa, and sleeps up to ten comfortably.

The homestead has a staff of six and comes with two land cruisers. Guided by local Masai, the vehicles are yours to drive where and when you want, not just within the confines of the reserve but beyond, for instance, to the fascinating Masai community of Il Ngwesi. You will also need the vehicles for shopping trips to the nearby frontier town of Nanyuki - an adventure in its own right!



### Jembisa, Waterberg, South Africa

Built originally as a family home, and still owned by the family, Jembisa has a wonderful atmosphere of relaxation and comfort. Situated in its own private game reserve in the Waterberg region, one of South Africa's premier wildlife areas, this beautiful bush home is eminently suitable for families.

There are five luxury en-suite bedrooms, three with private balconies, plus a children's bunkroom. The rest of the house is very comfortable with an Afro-colonial ambience, and outside there is a shady veranda, a large viewing deck and a natural saltwater pool. Activities include game drives and bush walks on the reserve, which is a beautiful unspoiled wilderness, with prolific wildlife.



### Uplands Homestead, Kwandwe, S/Africa

Situated on the private Kwandwe Game Reserve the heart of the malaria-free Eastern Cape, Uplands Homestead is a gracious restored 1905 farmhouse, which can accommodate a party of six. 49,000 acres of farmland here were restocked with wildlife, which today can be found in prolific numbers.

The farmhouse has three spacious and beautifully appointed bedrooms, together with a cosy sitting room and elegant dining room. Throughout your stay a butler will cater to your needs and a private chef will prepare delicious meals and local specialities. A private ranger and open 4WD vehicle are at your disposal for tracking the 'big five' through this stunning wilderness.



### Eagle Cottage, Laikipia, Kenya

Perched high above the Ewaso Nyiro River on the edge of the Laikipia Plateau overlooking the plains towards Mt. Kenya, Eagle Cottage, which is perfect for families, is attached to Sabuk Lodge. This remote hideaway lies on 1,500 acres of private land, which is home to a remarkable variety of wildlife.

The cottage, a traditional open-fronted thatched rondavel crafted from local stone and ancient woods, has two en-suite bedrooms, an adjoining sitting room, a private verandah with spectacular views and it's own private swimming pool. Activities include day and night game drives or walks with local guides, camel safaris, swimming in rock pools and picnics.



### Oi Malo House, Laikipia, Kenya

Built on a rugged escarpment on the edge of the Laikipia Plateau in Kenya's North Eastern Province, and lying on a privately owned 5,000-acre game sanctuary, Oi Malo House offers accommodation exclusively for parties of up to twelve guests. It is perfect for a group of family or friends.

Built in rock and olive wood with thatched roof and décor inspired by Samburu culture and the landscape, the main house and two cottages provide six spacious en-suite rooms. There is a beautiful sitting/dining room, an infinity pool and large terrace with spectacular vistas. Activities include game drives or treks with Samburu guides, horse or camel rides, fishing and riding tyres on the rapids!