





NAIROBI IN 24 HOURS HERE'S HOW TO DO IT...

WHAT A DIVE!

MOZAMBIQUE FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS





On the cover: Leopard by Mark Dumbleton/ Remembering Leopards

msafiri

ENRICHING LIFE'S JOURNEYS MSAFIRI IS THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF

KENYA AIRWAYS - THE PRIDE OF AFRICA

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PLEASE NOTE:

Information on events and opening times in this issue is particularly susceptible to change. Readers are advised to contact outlets to check availability before planning visits or booking travel.



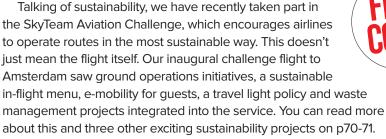
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KAP

DEAR READER

Welcome on board your flight with Kenya Airways. I'm extremely proud to announce that KQ has reported an after tax profit for the first half-year of 2024 of Ksh513m. This is the first time we have been able to do so since 2013 and highlights the success of our strategic turnaround plan, Project Kifaru, which emphasises customer obsession, operational excellence, financial discipline, innovation and sustainability.



Further, KQ Holidays – our new online platform that offers personalised getaways – is a significant step forward in providing comprehensive travel solutions that cater for the modern-day traveller. The initial stage of the relaunch focuses on iconic destinations such as New York, Cape Town, Paris, Dubai, Victoria Falls and our own Mombasa and Nairobi. Your kind of holiday is now just a click away. Enjoy your flight and thank you for flying the Pride of Africa.



ALLAN KILAVUKA GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KENYA AIRWAYS

PS: Did you know there's also a digital issue of msafiri, which can be read anytime, anywhere? To ensure you receive every issue, direct to your inbox, join our mailing list at www.msafirimag.com.

WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS 2023

Kenya Airways won Africa's Leading Airline - Economy Class and Africa's Leading Inflight Magazine for msafiri at the 2023 World Travel Awards. The awards recognise travel excellence across the tourism industry.









MADE TO MEASURE

At **Ashut**, every creation begins with a simple idea: the best products are those made specifically for the people who use them. This belief is at the heart of our Made to Measure philosophy, a commitment that runs through everything we do, whether it's crafting furniture or designing storage solutions. It's more than customization; it's a way of ensuring that every detail speaks to the needs and aspirations of our clients.



- Convenient stores.
- Supermarkets.
- Pharmacy outlets.

has been quietly working away, manufacturing game-changing, innovative high-quality products with unmatched precision and finesse.

For over 43 years, we have scaled the ladder of

growth and innovation from a small office along Kirinyaga Road run by three visionary partners to a 7-acre plant along Nyahera Road, Industrial Area, creating over 400 jobs.

We are BOLD we encourage calculated risks, opening us up to greater ideas.

ELEGANCE is our trait, delivering our services with simplicity and innovation.

INTEGRITY is our shield; Our word is our promise, and our promise is our truth.

These are the ethos that drive our organization. Walk with us through a world of promise and delivery in its perfection.

CUSTOM WAREHOUSE SOLUTIONS



- Pallet racking.
- Multi-tier shelving systems.

Heavy-duty racking.



Office and school furniture are meant to fit the specific needs of each space, whether it's an executive office that demands sophistication or a classroom designed for engagement. Every piece is Made to Measure with intention, ensuring that the space becomes a natural extension of its function.



SCHOOL FURNITURE & LOCKERS



Ashut extends the same approach to more practical spaces like warehouses, where efficient storage is key to a well functioning operation. It also extends to our shopfitting solutions, where we build with the understanding that retail is as much about experience as it is about products. A shop must invite customers in and guide them effortlessly through its offerings.

MECHANICAL/MANUAL OPTIMIZERS



And then there's the matter of organization, which is essential to maintaining efficiency in any professional setting. Ashut optimizers are the quiet backbone of an orderly office. Yet, like everything else we create, they are tailored to your exact specifications. These storage solutions are built not just to hold documents but to seamlessly integrate into your workspace, ensuring everything has its place and is easily accessible.

HOMES & LUXURY FURNITURE



When you consider a home, it's not just a structure, it's a personal reflection of the people who live in it. Our approach to home and luxury furniture is deeply rooted in Made to Measure, ensuring that each piece is crafted to match your unique taste. From elegant living room sets to bespoke bedroom furniture, our focus is on delivering quality that is as individual as you are.





The agricultural sector, a major backbone of our country, has been our focus since 1995. Over the years, Ashut has evolved from offering basic tools like shovels and garden rakes to producing essential equipment such as wheelbarrows, milk cans, milk scoops, and milk buckets.

Datini products are designed to meet the daily needs of farmers and agribusinesses, providing reliable tools that enhance efficiency and support successful operations.





DRUMS

 \star

Ashut's commitment also extends to one of our core industrial products—DRUMS. Serving the fruit pulp, paint, lubricants, and edible oils industries, our products ensure the safe storage and transport of goods for some of the leading brands in these sectors.





Renovation is often one of the most daunting tasks for home owners and business owners alike.

Whether you're looking to renovate your home, give your business a facelift, or restore a sentimental piece of furniture that's seen better days, and throwing it out isn't the solution you are looking for.

What's your play? Do you go the traditional way and tear everything down, shutting down your business just for a makeover?

Why should your business suffer any downtime?

Imagine a high-quality product that feels like authentic materials. It is fireproof up to 100°C, waterproof, and can be applied to any product or surface, over any groove or pattern, bringing a whole new meaning to renovation and makeover.

0//

Enter Luxewrap by Ashut, a product that is luxurious as it sounds. With Luxewrap, there's no need to halt your business operations. Enjoy a mess-free installation with no dust or lingering paint odours, and an installation time that will impress any renovator.





With a wide range of finishes, from metal and wood to marble and glitter, Luxewrap will perfectly capture your brand's colors while delivering elegance.



You don't have to part with cherished or valuable items, our advanced wrapping technology revitalizes them without the need for replacement. Backed by a 5-year warranty, Luxewrap is the perfect blend of style and convenience for your home or commercial makeover.

Our Showrooms

Nyahera Rd. Off Lunga Lunga Rd Industrial Area.

> Binaa Complex, Opposite Hillcrest School, Karen.

> > Ashut.com

Contact Us

0780707386/0715416844

enquiries@ashut.com

Ashut Engineers





"Unmatched customization is our strength. We deliver high-quality solutions across diverse industries, building a legacy of trust and excellence. Let us bring your vision to life."







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Corporate and Investment Banking

Supporting your growth to distant shores

That's how we are invested in your story.

When your business looks to grow beyond its borders, you need a banking partner that can take it there. A partner with the global footprint and nuanced market insights that can close distances and connect your story to opportunities across borders.

We are invested in your story and we invite you to write it with us.

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Your story matters



TOP 5 NEW ATTRACTIONS

DUBAI DREAMING

Look out for special offers on KQ flights to Dubai at kenya-airways.com, and check out these hot new openings when you get there...

FIND OUT MORE: VISITDUBALCOM

Real Madrid World

The world's first football theme park, Real Madrid World at Dubai Parks and Resorts features over 40 experiences and attractions. The venue is divided into three zones - Champions Avenue, Celebration Plaza and Stars Avenue. Discover new heights and follow the club's journey on the region's first wooden roller coaster, Hala Madrid, or conquer the Stars Flyer, the world's tallest amusement ride at 140m.





Arte Museum Dubai

Spanning almost 2800sq m, this Dubai Mall gallery contains works across 14 zones under the theme of 'Eternal Nature'. The venue, designed by Korean digital design company d'strct, uses production-mapping, multi-image control and sensor-based interaction systems to help visitors appreciate exhibits as closely as possible with the help of technology. After you are done browsing, sit back at the Arte Tea Bar and sample tea-based mocktails.



Cloud 22

Located in the iconic Atlantis The Royal, Cloud 22 promises exclusivity and indulgence, unlike anything you have experienced before. The rooftop pool destination is available only to in-house hotel guests, guaranteeing a dip among VIPs and A-listers. Come here for unmatched views of the Arabian Gulf and Palm Jumeirah, which you can take in lounging in one of the duplex cabanas or the submerged sunbeds in the 28m-long infinity pool. There's nothing more relaxing than soaking up some sun, with delicious French-Mediterranean favourites on the side.



GLITCH

An entertainment destination in Al Ghurair Centre, GLITCH features over 30 indoor games for all ages. Take on a ninja warrior-style course, zoom down a 10m-high slide or defy gravity on a climbing wall; there's something for everyone. Take the family for a round of bowling or buckle up for SkySurf, the city's first roller glider experience where you can 'float' around the venue.

STUTTGART

03/06/1959



COPING WITH EXAM SEASON

PASS MARKS

Are your children national exams candidates?

Josaya Wasonga has some advice for parents...

n Kenya, academic certificates are a matter of life and death... and afterlife. Doubt me? Read our obituaries. We want earthly and heavenly beings to know the deceased was learned. This is why we list all their papers. It's the Kenyanness in us.

And these papers are tied to national exams. Which Kenyan parents worship. You would think the must-have pass demanded by angels at the Pearly Gates are academic result slips.

"Waiteth a second," Chief Cherub says, while flipping through the lifesize Record Book. "EVERYBODY
IS A GENIUS.
BUT IF YOU JUDGE
A FISH BY ITS
ABILITY TO
CLIMB A TREE,
IT WILL SPEND
ITS WHOLE LIFE
BELIEVING IT
IS STUPID"
ALBERT EINSTEIN

"You don't need to check if my name is in there," Transitioner brags. "I have papers."

Chief Cherub stops flipping through the Record Book. He casts questioning glances at the slips that Transitioner is handing him.

"Transitioner, does thou not knoweth that thou cannot bribeth thy way in?" Chief Cherub cautions in a crestfallen tone.

"My bad," Transitioner blurts. Seriously, though, seeing as papers cannot open some gates, below is a guide to help parents keep their heads during their kids' academic transition tests.

TELL THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT

All African parents lie about their academic performance. We always try to look like geniuses. Until our child asks us for help with trigonometry homework. Then all our grey hairs break loose.

National examination time is the opportune moment for parents to tell their children the truth. Coming clean will not make you be seen as a failure,

but it will humanise you. By doing that, you are teaching your child a lesson about upholding integrity in all their affairs. Which will prevent them from falling for a Mwakenya. You are also teaching your child that eating humble pie does not cause constipation, but it propagates a clean conscience.

BE A PARENT. NOT A PERSECUTOR

"I am not beating you, but the stupidity out of you," our teachers and old folks would tell us if we flunked exams, while turning us into real life piñatas. Theoretical physicist Albert Einstein said it best: "Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will spend its whole life believing it is stupid." Fact: No child is stupid. Fact: Children learn differently. Fact: Corporal punishment breeds dread, not excellence.

REALITY VERSUS FAITH

Reality cannot be whitewashed.
A consistent past academic
performance, impressive or otherwise,
is a real indicator of how your child
will do in the big one. If you have been
tracking your child, you may know
that, for instance, unless a miracle or
a Mwakenya happens, they will get
Daudi Mkuki. That is Swahili for David
Spear. Which is slang for D-minus.

Mwakenya is a nickname for any answer sheet that exam candidates use to cheat. Originally, Mwakenya was a 1980s underground socialist movement that fought to liberate Kenya from one-party dictatorship.

Long subtopic short? Have faith in your child, but grab a firm hold on reality. That said, employ Einstein's wisdom to guide your fishes to

flourish in their ecosystems.

Here's the thing. Exams
are not a matter of
life and death. But?

There's nothing wrong in
"papering" our obituaries
to high heavens. After all, we
are Kenyans... and we even make
angels sigh, "Lord have mercy!"





Discover the African Paradise!























A World of Wonder

Welcome to Safari Park Hotel & Casino, popularly renowned as the African Paradise, nestled in the heart of Nairobi, Kenya.

Safari Park Hotel & Casino combines tasteful African architecture with 203 lavish rooms, creating an oasis of serenity, sparkling water gardens; complete with an inland beach and landscaped gardens. It boasts a multitude of indigenous trees with an astonishing diversity of birds and butterflies.

Set in 40 acres, the Safari Park Hotel & Casino is THE LARGEST conference & events venue in Nairobi, and a household of international conferences in Africa. It has over 20 conference and meeting facilities, each with pre-function space and break-out areas. Indulge in the utmost luxury as you explore the various specialty restaurants, each promising an unforgettable diversified culinary experience.



NOTES TO MY FUTURE BETTER SELF

3 THINGS ABOUT CHANGE I WISH I KNEW EARLIER

Change brings about different seasons and stages. It's imperative for movement, growth and development

WHERE THERE IS NO CHANGE. THERE IS NO GROWTH

A friend once told me that at one stage in his career, he thought he enjoyed his business because it was constant. The environment, customers, suppliers, schedules, expenditure and profits had been pretty much the same for five years. He bragged that he had not changed the salaries of his employees in that duration. Then he noticed that his competitors had become more successful than he was. They began poaching his employees! Slowly, the demand for his products took a downward turn, along with his profits. He initially blamed his competitors for undercutting him and pushing him out of business, only to realise that his unwillingness to dance to the tunes of change is what drove him out of business. When

competitors upgraded their equipment and upskilled their employees to produce better products, he resisted, citing it as unnecessary expenditure.

When people were repackaging and advertising, he claimed his

products sold themselves.
Constant can be deceptive.
Failure to change with the times resulted in stagnation of his business. He is still trying to catch up with his competitors. But time and opportunities never stand still to wait for you to work on growth.

"... it is not the strongest of the species that survive, but the most responsive to change."

CHARLES DARWIN

CHANGE IS INEVITABLE, PROGRESS IS NOT

Have you ever changed jobs, roles or relationships hoping for more fulfilment, only to look back after some time and realise that you are doing the same thing, only at a different place with different people?

While it is true that there is no growth without change, change may not always bring growth. Are you thirsty for growth and are thinking a change in jobs, roles or departments might be your lucky charm? Hold on a bit. While change is inevitable, growth is optional. It is a choice. You have to be intentional and pragmatic. You cannot just move with the flow of change; you have to take charge of your ship and steer it towards a determined destination. If you do not sit at the table to grab the opportunities brought about by the waves of change, you will find yourself a stagnant slave to the tides of change; tossed and turned, tired and irrelevant.



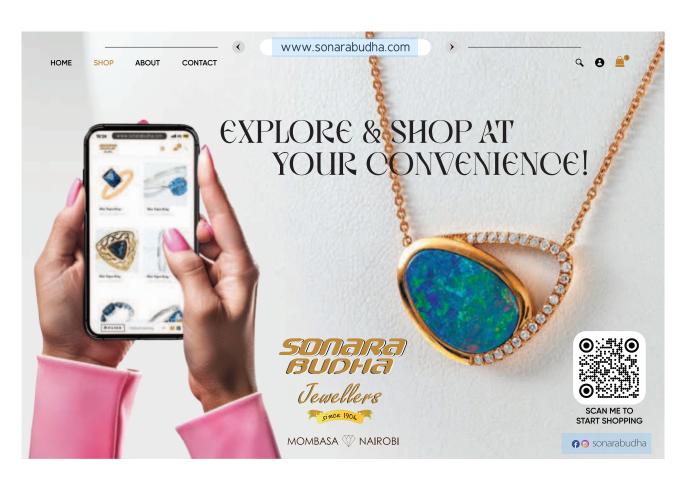
Bahari haiishi zinge (SWAHILI PROVERB)

UNEXPECTED EVENTS AT SEA NEVER END. BE READY TO ADJUST TO LIFE'S CHANGES AND CHALLENGES.

ADAPT OR PERISH

Sometimes, you will hear the winds of change softly blowing towards you; a whisper here, a rumour there. You might smell its aroma from afar or feel it lightly tap your back. Other times, it will wake you out of a deep slumber, like a dream that refuses to go back to its land of sleep, leaving you metagrobolised. No matter its means of arrival or timing, you will have to keep moving to survive. While some situations will require you to change course or tack, others will require you to change speed, learn a new skill set, unlearn or acquire a habit, go out of your comfort zone, relocate, or bring down or build up relationships. Should you stall, the avalanche of change will crush and finish you. Life is indeed a battleground.









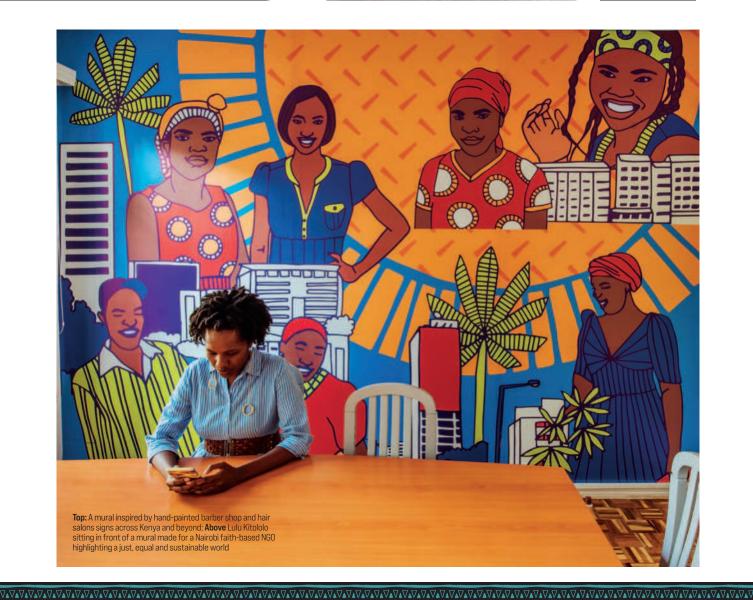
CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS

ART OF THE DEAL

Art has been an integral part of African society for eons, featuring on rocks, papyrus and street walls. Today, artists express themselves through oil, canvas and murals. We look at three artists and their eye-catching craft



"When my older siblings were in school, the family friend helped me develop a love for art. I would connect strawberries to make a train. I cut off the sleeves of my clothes and made patterns to dress dolls"











At first, Katuti wanted to do fashion design, but while waiting to commence her studies, she kept herself busy through art. "I am very passionate about creating," says the self-taught artist. "A friend suggested I try selling what I was drawing and, to my surprise, I sold my first pieces. Since then, fine art became my career."

Katuti's style ranges from realism to semi abstract art (working with acrylics on canvas), pen and ink, mosaics and fabrics. She has been a professional artist for more than 25 years, but Katuti has suffered from imposter

"While there is a gradual appreciation of art, selling it is still a challenge. Many feel the prices are out of reach"

syndrome, doubting her abilities –despite others vouching for her work.

"Thankfully, my children, friends and clients have helped me realise that I own it," says Katuti, who is inspired by her surroundings and from African experiences.

It is difficult for her to say exactly how much a piece costs as pricing depends on style, size and materials used, but even the smallest piece can fetch about \$200. Like other artists in Africa, most of the challenges faced by







artists relate to people's perception of their work, especially in relation to other pressing needs.

"While there is a gradual appreciation of art, selling it is still a challenge. Many feel the prices are out of reach."

KATHY_KATUTI_ART

Left:

 ${\sf Kathy}\,{\sf Katuti}\,{\sf with}\,{\sf one}\,{\sf of}\,{\sf her}\,{\sf colourful}\,{\sf acrylic}\,{\sf portraits}$

Top

Machakos' Bus Station in Nairobi by Kathy Katuti – a scene showing a typical vehicle plying Kenya's rural roads

Ahove

Sharing is caring – a family ride – by Kathy Katuti

Right, to

Gilbert Kafuuma holding a watercolour painting inspired by western Ugandan traditional attire (busuuti)

Right:

New style art by Gilbert Kafuuma: a portrait made from stacked layers of plywood, cut using laser technology

GILBERT KAFUUMA

Kafuuma was born in Kampala, but spent his early years in Masaka, in Uganda's midwest. He later joined St Mary's College, Kisubi, for six years of secondary school before pursuing an architecture degree at Uganda Martyrs University. He became

exposed to art through his parents, both of whom were practicing artists and lecturers.

"Architecture was more challenging and engaging," says Kafuuma. "It helped me apply my animation and art skills and have a structured approach to design principles through clear processes and sound problemsolving techniques."



After working in the animation industry since 2012, Kafuuma has been handling his own productions in the creative industry since 2021, working with different media, including crafts, sculpture, painting with oil, laser, acrylic and watercolour.

He loves the challenging world of art. Each commissioned piece is different and requires a different approach. "Art is a venture that requires unique skills and expertise. I have honed and amassed different skill sets that have come in handy at every assignment and giving me a competitive edge," he says.

His small watercolours sell for \$250, while a minute of animation can fetch up to \$2,000. Apart from the cost- and time-intensive nature of the work, Kafuuma says one of his biggest challenges is convincing a prospective client.

GIKAGILBERT







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1. Loisaba Conservancy in Laikipia on 20 January 2023. Today, due to Kenya's successful conservation efforts, there are an estimated 1004 black rhinos. 2. Rangers monitor newly arrived eastern black rhinos as they settle into their new home at Loisaba Conservancy in Kenya. 3. A black rhino is captured at 01 Pejeta conservancy and transported to Loisaba Conservancy in Laikipia. 4. A transmitter is put into a black rhino that will be transported to Loisaba Conservancy in Laikipia. This cutting-edge technology, provided by Earth Ranger, allows the team to monitor the rhinos with solar powered tags. The post release monitoring of rhino during translocation exercises is benefitting from advancements in technology with the use of transmitter devices that allow for regular updates of the rhino's location. This gives incredible insight into the behaviour of rhino as they settle into their new environments and allow for adaptive management of current and future translocations. 5. The convoy carrying black rhinos arrives at Loisaba Conservancy in Laikipia. The nearby communities are anticipating better security and more economic opportunities that the eastern black rhino will provide. 6. The Kenya Wildlife Service team quickly sprang into action and saved a rhino's life after it stopped breathing at 01 Pejeta Conservancy in January 2024.

18-day operation, 21 black rhinos, including 10 bulls and 11 cows, were translocated from Nairobi National Park, OI Pejeta, and Lewa conservancies to Loisaba. This effort was carried out by capture and veterinary experts from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and conservation NGOs The Nature Conservancy, Space for Giants, and San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance.

The animals were carefully moved over a period of three weeks and released into a fenced sanctuary covering nearly half the

conservancy, marking the first time the species has been present at Loisaba since 1976. The rhinos now roam an expansive 58,000-acre territory, with 25,000 acres dedicated exclusively to their conservation.

The translocations were prompted by the fact that Kenya's 16 black rhino sanctuaries are running out of space — a remarkable turnaround from rampant poaching in the 1970s and '80s that reduced the country's rhino population from 20,000 to fewer than 300. This heartbreaking decrease is mostly attributed

to poaching. Outstanding conservation efforts across the country have seen these numbers crawl back up to 1004 last year.

Kenya's black rhino population has more than doubled since 1989 and is now about halfway to its goal of 2000 individuals, the minimum number necessary to ensure the long-term survival of the species in the face of threats including climate change, disease, poaching, and loss of habitat.

Listed as critically endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of





Mountain Bongo TRAGELAPHUS EURYCERUS ISAACI
This strikingly beautiful antelope, with a chestnut
coat adorned with white stripes, is found
only in the highland forests of Kenya.

Nature (IUCN), there are fewer than 5000 black rhinos remaining worldwide. The black rhino population in Kenya, decimated by poaching in the 1980s, has made a remarkable recovery and is now the third largest in Africa, after South Africa and Namibia. The reintroduction of black rhinos to Loisaba adds to the network of 17 rhino sanctuaries across Kenya, symbolising a significant victory in the fight against poaching and the efforts to conserve this iconic species.

Bringing rhinos back to Loisaba is more than just a remarkable conservation success story – it

is the restoration of part of the local communities' natural heritage. These efforts to conserve the mountain bongo and black rhino are not just about saving individual species but about maintaining the ecological balance and biodiversity of Kenya's landscapes. The success stories of these rewilding projects highlight the importance of collaboration between conservation organisations, governments, and local communities in ensuring a future for these magnificent animals.

AUTHOR PROFILE

HELEN OYEYEMI

Oyeyemi is a Nigerian-British author whose dazzling prose and exciting stories have earned her a reputation as one of Africa's leading writers





BOY, SNOW. BIRD

In Boy, Snow, Bird, her 2014 novel, we see glimpses of Oveyemi's talent. The book (a loose

retelling of the story of Snow White) is written in a breathless first person and opens with a girl called Boy Novak, the daughter of a ratcatcher living in Manhattan during the 1940s. At twenty, she moves to Flax Hill in Massachusetts. All she knows is that it was the last stop on the bus from New York, and that "people make beautiful things" there.

Later, Oyeyemi introduces us to the other two titular characters: Snow, Boy's step-daughter who is soft and mild and ticks all the boxes of traditional femininity that Boy never did; and her daughter Bird, whose birth triggers a reconfiguring of the family dynamic. When Bird is born, Boy sends Snow away from the house, continuing a pattern of mothers disappearing from their daughters' lives (Boy's mother died soon after her birth, and Arturo's mother sent away his sister).

In the background are rumblings of the political machinations of America at this time. There are mentions of Emmett Till. Frederick Douglass and some black kids talking about all this at the bookstore she runs in Flax Hill. In the novel, Oyeyemi keeps the reader riveted by flitting in and out of genres: historical fiction, drama, fairy tale and glimpses of magical realism.



WHAT IS NOT YOURS IS NOT YOURS

In this short story collection, Oyeyemi's pen dazzles, as she writes about a new employee being bullied by the popular clique at her new job. There are relationships whose infidelities come from unexpected parties; people separating from each other ("I'm leaving but everything that is between us will stay."), and characters with odd guirks, such as the one with a tattoo which changes every time we see it. There's also a puppet whose gender varies depending on which one the person it encounters most desires. Oyeyemi links some of the short stories to each other, as characters appear and reappear in different stories.



MR FOX

The New York Times called this novel a book with a "jaunty spirit and a sense of play" and The Guardian referred to it as a book moulded on "variations on the Bluebeard myth." St John Fox, the novel's eponymous narrator, has a muse only he can see: the British nurse: Mary Foxe. Over the course of the novel, she becomes more real. At first she's merely a voice Fox sees on the page of the book he's writing. but soon she becomes flesh and bone and imperils Fox's marriage.



THE ICARUS GIRL

First published in 2005, The Icarus Girl was Oyeyemi's debut novel. Written when she was 17. the book revolves around eight-yearold Jessamy "Jess" Harrison, who is the daughter of a British father and Nigerian mother. When she goes back to Nigeria, Jess makes a friend that only she can see: Titiola, who she calls TillyTilly with, as Oyeyemi describes, "narrow, dark eyes so dark that, to Jess, lying on the ground, they seemed pupil-less." As the novel progresses, Jess sees her fantasy friend's hand in all the things that happen to her... and a lot of them seem bad.

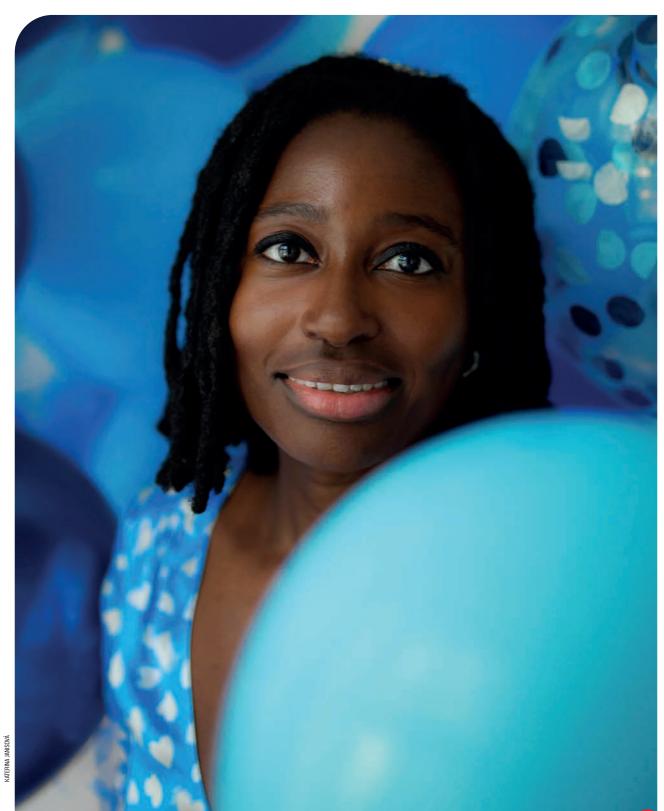


THE OPPOSITE HOUSE

In this novel, the follow-up title to The Icarus Girl, Maja, a black Cuban, attempts to figure out her identity and her place in the communities she inhabits. Meanwhile, Yemaya Saramagua, a minor god in multiple mythologies, lives in a house somewhere between Cuba and Nigeria. The narrative is woven around the two characters, and goes back and forth between their struggles and desires.

Born in 1984, Helen Oyeyemi was born in Nigeria and moved to London with her family when she was four. Her first book, The Icarus Girl, was shortlisted for the 2006 Commonwealth Writers' Prize. Her latest novel, Parasol Against the Axewas published in February 2024.





GADGETS FOR ADVENTURERS

DREAM TRAVELS

Check out these eight bits of serious kit to help you explore the world in style, no expense spared...

GARMIN INREACH MINI 2

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GARMIN FENIX 7 PRO SAPPHIRE SOLAR EDITION

This rugged smartwatch from Garmin's adventure range - features a built-in solar panel that charges the battery, ensuring that you stay connected for up to 22 days (requires three hours' sunlight per day). The best bit? This watch has full GPS mapping with Galileo satellite support. You can download maps of any country and view them on the high-resolution colour display, meaning you'll never get lost, even if your phone does! Plus, it's waterresistant up to 100 metres and has a built-in torch with a strobe for signalling to rescue services. US\$899.99 GARMIN.COM

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Fed up with digging around in your luggage for chargers and cables? Save space in your backpack with a tech kit, like this one, crafted from water-resistant ultra-microfibre vegan leather. Doubling as a wallet and a passport holder while on the go, it has plenty of room for an Amazon Kindle, plus elasticated loops for other travel essentials such as pens, SD cards, hotel keys and mosquito repellant. Perfect for long trips or weekend city breaks. US\$60 • MONOS.COM

FORD BRONCO 2024

Designed to look and feel at home anywhere, be it a lush forest or a rocky desert, Ford's latest retro-modern SUV is arguably the ultimate adventure truck. The 300+ horsepower beast features LED headlamps, futuristic 12-inch touchscreen display, optional 360-degree birds-eye view camera and wireless Apple CarPlay/Android Auto compatibility. Ford's Trail Control (cruise control for off-roading) allows you to focus on steering through tough terrain. Like to feel the breeze in your hair? There's an optional removable roof. FROM US\$39,000 FORD.COM



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You need a versatile backpack if you're going to explore the world. This affordable model, designed for adventure-seekers, is made from water resistant fabric and weighs in at just 700g. Features include generous back padding, utility pockets for all your gadgets, loops for a camera tripod or yoga mat, a water bottle holder, ventilated waist straps and a separate compartment for storing muddy boots.

US\$40 AMAZON.COM

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BIOLIGHT FIREPIT+

Gather 'round with the Biolight FirePit+, a revolutionary portable fire pit that's perfect for gourmet travels. The USB-rechargeable powerpack runs a fan for your fire for up to 30 hours at a time, injecting oxygen into the flames at 51 different points to ensure a smoke-free grilling experience! The 'X-Ray Mesh' around the sides allows you to see into the pit, which is useful for cooking hibachi-style fare over charcoal. Rated as one of the 'best inventions' by Time Magazine. US\$250 BIOLITEENERGY.COM



EASY CAMP MOONLIGHT BELL TENT

Love the thrill of exploring the wilderness and camping out under the stars? Anyone who enjoys living it up around a campfire will appreciate this roomy 7-person glamping tent. Made from breathable waterproof WeatherGuard fabric and featuring snazzy bunting it boasts ample space for cosy creature comforts. The sturdy centre pole structure makes for fuss-free pitching while the extra-large entrance allows for easy access. Just add a crate of beer or wine!

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Swarovski's high-tech binoculars render every detail in breathtaking accuracy. But here's the clever bit: they have built-in artificial intelligence.

This helps the user identify some 9 000 birds

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DONKEYS 🏈

ANIMAL WELFARE

A BRAY OF HOPE

Donkeys are thriving in a corner of Kenya where they once faced an uncertain future

oraa takes some measured steps towards the water trough, a playful youngster by her side. She has walked the steep incline for years and shows no signs of slowing down. On her back are two empty plastic containers which she will haul back home, this time, with water, a precious commodity in Olaimutiai village in Narok, southwestern Kenya.

Moraa is a working donkey, a valuable member of Josephine Mpatian's homestead. "I don't know how I would manage my activities without her," says Mpatian, gently patting Moraa on her back. "Here, the donkey is everything. As Maasai women, we take care of our donkeys the way our men take care of the cattle. If they are happy, we are happy."

Mpatian is not exaggerating. Moments after loading the two containers full of water on Moraa's back, a dozen other donkeys appear from different directions. But they are not here to ferry water containers. It is their day to be pampered.

In a small field a few metres from the water point, Amos Naikumi prepares a mixture of deworming medication that helps control internal worms and external parasites, such as fleas, while Isaiah Ngetich, a farrier, checks his tools, including clippers and files for trimming the animals' hooves.

"They do not like the medical bit," says Naikumi. "Donkeys associate men with harassment and that is why they are skittish when they see us with the medicine. But they don't mind the footwork."

Naikumi and Ngetich are from Farm Systems Kenya, an organisation that works with local farmers in improving animal welfare, including disease prevention and veterinary treatment. They also advise animal owners on provision of appropriate shelter, proper nutrition and humane handling of the animals.









Right Feeding time at Vivien Prince's home near Lake Elementaita Below:

The organisation is among those that have partnered with Brooke East Africa, a 90-year-old organisation started by Dorothy Brooke in 1934 to save languishing horses, donkeys and mules that had 'fought' alongside the British army in Egypt during the First World War. In Africa, Brooke works to improve equine welfare in Kenya, Somaliland, South Sudan, Tanzania and part of Northern Uganda.

"A donkey can transform a family's lifestyle," says Dr Raphael Kinoti, Brooke's East Africa regional director. "The horse transformed Europe. The donkey can transform Africa. In fact, the animal was first domesticated in Africa."

Yet, for them to transform a society, donkeys need special care as they are more likely to be overlooked when other livestock such as cattle, sheep and goats bask in the limelight due to perceived economic benefits.

Already, Brooke has scored a few wins for the more than a million donkeys in Kenya, including a push to ban donkey slaughter in the country. "Over 1,000 donkeys were slaughtered in Kenya before the ban came into place. We reckon that, had the practice continued, the last donkey in Kenya would have been slaughtered by 2024," says Kinoti.

Still, some of the 'prejudice' against donkeys



"I don't know how I would manage my activities without her. Here, the donkey is everything. As Maasai women, we take care of our donkeys the way our men take care of the cattle. If they are happy, we are happy"

JOSEPHINE MPATIAN







comes from their owners as well, a matter Brooke has been working hard to root out.

Kinoti recalls an incident in 2001 when he requested a farmer to release her donkey for an agricultural fair in Narok town. He even arranged for the animal to be ferried by truck to Narok. But the farmer was adamant that donkeys were made to walk and there was no way her donkey would be caught taking a ride in the back of a truck.

"You can ferry all the other animals you want on your truck. The donkey walks to the fair," the farmer insisted, relying on a local myth that says, were a donkey to ride in a vehicle, it would laugh so hard it would die! Not even Kinoti's promise of compensation (should the donkey die) could persuade the farmer to put the animal on the vehicle.

But such attitudes about donkeys are changing. At Mpatian's homestead, a group of women gather to simulate a donkey mourning ceremony, conducted when a donkey dies. It signifies the respect in which they hold donkeys here.

"First, we never kill a donkey, but should it die, we have a ceremony that includes singing for the donkey. We pour milk along the route leading to the burial site to signify that we had no ill feelings. We also smear oil on our hands to get rid of any evil spirits and to send it off in peace," says Mpatian.

Despite the good tidings for the donkeys in the region, Kinoti says they are not out of the woods vet. "We still have no structured veterinary services. such as artificial insemination, for donkeys. Donkeys take long to breed and thus need specialised care," says Kinoti, urging those that can to help support services such as training farriers.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BROOKE: ACTION FOR **WORKING HORSES AND DONKEYS** BY VISITING THEIR WEBSITE - THEBROOKE.ORG

Above: Vivien Prince and Bianca, one of the donkeys she

Rottom right A vouna donkey receives a back rub

now cares for

MEET PRINCE AND HER DONKEYS

On an expansive compound overlooking flamingo-filled Lake Elementaita in Kenya's Rift Valley, Vivien Prince is not short of good company. There are drivers and guides who, for decades, have helped her run her tour outfit, As You Like It Safaris.

Then there are her equine friends: Chepeto, Dennis, Naomi, Bianca and Romeo - donkeys that love carrots and back rubs. Chepeto could barely stand when she came to the sanctuary due to previous mistreatment. Dennis had his ears chopped off as identification. Others have just been neglected.

Prince, 77, was born and raised in Kenya and developed a love for riding at the age of six, competing in local amateur races. She is also a trained journalist and served as a racing correspondent for the Nation.

But all she wanted was to own a donkey. She ended up with more than 40, some from the Kenya Society for the **Protection and Care of Animals** (KSPCA) and others rescued

from mistreatment through the assistance of Brooke East Africa.

Prince is socialising the animals to be friendly and 'forget' past trauma and distrust for people. "No donkey should ever be allowed to see a whip or be pinched. Donkeys will do anything with compassion or love. They do not fear us here, not when we give them carrot treats," she says.

Prince has developed a close bond with some donkeys. Among her favourite is Mopsa, who she hopes to train as a service animal owing to what she terms as "her compassion".

"One day, Mopsa walked in through the back door, helped herself to some cabbages and left. The next day, she came back and opened the laundry door and got cabbages from where I had hidden them. She is among the most intelligent animals I have ever seen," says Prince as she strokes Mopsa on the veranda.

Prince has no rule book on donkey rearing, but uses the knowledge gained caring for horses. "My mother told me that if you have to do a job, do it well or don't touch it at all. I will take care of the donkeys to the best of my ability," she says.







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CAPE PENINSULA

Left:

Noordhoek Beach Above:

African penguins

and colourful beach huts at

Muizenberg

SHAEN ADEY

at Boulders Beach

The Cape Peninsula has some of the most beautiful beaches in the world but be warned: the water is chilly! The Atlantic and False Bay seaboards have different personalities. To optimise your beach-time catch sunrise on one of the False Bay beaches, then head west to the Atlantic seaboard for a dramatic sunset.

Muizenberg, on the False Bay coast, buzzes in the morning when its colourful beach huts, cool coffee bars, and consistent, rolling waves attract beachcombers, swimmers and local bodyboarders and surfers.

Scenic Boulder's Beach is famous for its resident African penguins. Take a mask and snorkel to check out kelp forests of the marine protected area. Little crabs, crayfish and even small sharks are regularly sighted and if you're lucky you might find a penguin swimming alongside you.

The long, desolate Noordhoek Beach is popular with horse riders, dog walkers and those seeking solitude. With its turquoise waters and striking granite boulders, Llandudno Beach could easily be mistaken for the Seychelles - until you dabble your toes in the freezing waters! It's a top sundowner spot, as is Camps Bay, which seduces visitors with its exotic palm trees, vibey beach bars and volleyball courts, and the nearby picturesque coves of Clifton.

You've a good chance of seeing baboons, ostrich and plains game as you walk the pristine beaches of the Cape of Good Hope reserve at the tip of the Cape Peninsula. Elusive Cape clawless otters are occasionally sighted. Be careful if planning a dip: big waves, strong currents and frigid temperatures are the norm.

SUNSHINE COAST

The Sunshine Coast, between Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth) and Gompo (formerly East London), enjoys more sunny days than anywhere else in the country so beach culture thrives. Gqeberha's Hobie Beach and Kenton-on-Sea's Shelly Beach are popular with families. Beads and porcelain washed up from ships wrecked off the rugged Wild Coast beaches north of Gompo attract beachcombers, while quaint hotels, local folk foraging for seafood and cattle on the beach provide interest for hikers.

SHAFN AREY



SOUTH AFRICA WHALE COAST Hermanus, on the Overberg's Whale Coast, has some of the most picturesque beaches in the Western Cape, all linked by a scenic coastal path from which you can spy the coast's famous seasonal visitors, southern right whales. FIONA MCINTOSH DURBAN The Durban beaches, particularly along 'The Golden Mile' promenade, are popular with early morning enthusiasts practising yoga, roller blading, running, cycling or taking a dip. The surf is consistent and coffee shops, sand sculptors, street hawkers and kids' parks and playgrounds mean that there's always a buzz. SHAEN ADEY

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CONSERVATION: PART 4



Above: STE WildTracks app is built on decades of tracking wild African elephants





n 2016, a bull elephant named Morgan made a remarkable and dangerous journey from the Boni Forest in Kenya to Somalia, a country once home to thousands of elephants. He was the first elephant known to venture into Somalia in decades, travelling over 200km, then spending less than 24 hours there before returning to Kenya. His journey made international headlines.

Thanks to technology, researchers from Save the Elephants (STE) were able to follow Morgan's three-week trek through some of the most remote and uninhabitable terrain without actually ever physically sighting him. Every move the bull elephant made was recorded through his GPS (Global Positioning System) tracking collar and transmitted in real time to the researchers sitting more than 800km away in Samburu National Reserve, northern Kenya.

The data from his collar revealed that he travelled not just the distance, but also that he covered those hundreds of kilometres in stealth mode, moving only at night and hiding by day – most likely as a survival strategy to traverse one of the most dangerous places for elephants in their range at the time. This raised the possibility that elephants in this high-risk area had become nocturnal. STE research has since proven that stealth movement is in fact a response to dangerous areas, meaning that data from tracking devices can help elephants inform wildlife departments when they are feeling under threat.

In essence, technology gave Morgan – and elephants in general – a voice.

For more than 30 years, Save the Elephants has been at the forefront of elephant research and technology, studying elephants in Kenya and unravelling the mysteries of elephant society. From tracking elephants like Morgan across vast landscapes, to

discovering they even have names for each other, STE's work bridges the gap between the elephant world and ours.

Their pioneering work with GPS tracking collars and the development of sophisticated tracking systems has provided researchers, rangers and conservationists with the tools to understand – and protect – elephants and other wildlife across the continent.

Tracking elephants has given researchers unprecedented insights into the decisions they make and helped STE to reveal and represent their needs. The data from tracking collars has given elephants a voice in how landscapes are planned, helping to prevent conflict now and into the future.

The insights have led STE to publish more than 220 peer-reviewed scientific papers deepening the world's understanding of elephants. From this data, they have identified wildlife corridors or migratory routes and are working to protect them in perpetuity.

With Africa's human population expected to grow to around 2.4 billion by 2050 and the elephant range continuing to shrink and fragment, scientists are now looking to the next wave of aviation technology, digital sensors, machine learning and artificial intelligence to help shed some light on the inner workings of elephant society.

STE has been among the first to embrace this latest cuttingedge technology – developing the use of drones and artificial intelligence as a revolutionary new behavioural monitoring platform, and specialised oblique cameras for more efficient wildlife aerial counts.

Their investments are providing valuable insights for elephant conservation and reaffirming just how intelligent and similar to humans elephants truly are. Artificial intelligence,







Above & Bottom: New technology is being developed for more effective wildlife aerial counts

Left: Lead author, Mickey Pardo (left), and STE researcher, James Mpapa (right),

'eavesdropping' on elephant conversations in Samburu National Reserve

for example, has recently played a major role in decoding the complex vocalisations of wild elephants.

A groundbreaking study conducted in northern Kenya with Save the Elephants, researcher Mickey Pardo and his team, discovered that elephants have a distinctive "vocal label" in elephant calls, similar to a human name, something not yet shown in any other mammals.

Special microphones and speakers able to capture and transmit the subsonic components of elephant rumbles were used, but it was only machine learning (a branch of AI) that could parse the complexity of the call to make this discovery, providing an unprecedented glimpse into animal cognition and the evolution of language.

It's too early to know whether these tentative first steps into understanding elephant language will help them. But Save the Elephants didn't know 15 years ago that discovering elephants were scared of bees could lead to the beehive fence (a powerful tool for subsistence farmers to protect their crops from elephants). Even if knowing that elephants have names never leads to an application, it certainly deepens human empathy with elephants, which is a victory in itself.

Artificial intelligence is opening up a new frontier in our understanding of the natural world; the discovery that elephants use names for one another is likely just the beginning of many more revelations to come.

With advancements in AI, genetics and new sensor technologies, organisations like Save the Elephants are poised to unlock even deeper insights into the fascinating lives of African elephants. (19)



For more information...

OR TO MAKE A

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THE ELEPHANTS, GO TO
SAVETHEELEPHANTS.ORG
OR SCAN THE QR CODE









fellow wildlife photographers if they would contribute their best image to a fundraising book that I would publish, with all profits going to wildlife conservation projects that helped protect elephants. I spent six months contacting photographers all over the world, one by one, to persuade them to sign up for the project. Happily, Jonathan & Angela Scott, who I had known and admired for a while, said yes straight away and that really helped with our credibility. Photographers of this calibre are contacted all the time to donate images and aren't able to say yes to everything, so when we received such a positive

What was your inspiration for Remembering Wildlife? It all began after I saw a poached elephant while on safari in Northern Kenua in 2014. Until that point, I hadn't appreciated just how bad elephant poaching was at that time and I was incredibly upset and angry when I learned about the crisis. Once I understood what was happening, I was determined to do something, anything, to help tackle the problem. I began asking

Remembering Elephants, by 'Wildlife Photographers United' was published in September 2016 with images donated by 65 top wildlife photographers. At that time, I thought it would be a one-off book but it was so popular, selling out within a couple of months, that I started to realise

response to the idea, a collaboration the likes of which had never really been done at that point, I was thrilled.

we might have the start of a series.

How do you choose which animals to feature? And what's next? There are so many species worthy of a book which highlights their story that it is difficult! I am lobbied constantly by people suggesting animals that are deserving of our attention, but I have to rely on my gut feeling. I try and mix things up, choose some less well-known species from time to time and keep the series fresh. I'm concentrating on producing this year's book, Remembering Tigers at the moment, so haven't made any decisions on 2025 yet. What I can say is that we won't run out of species to feature in



Top left: Fighting Bengal tigers in Bandhavgarh National Park, India

Far left: Southern white rhino, South Africa

Ahove: Cheetahs in Tiger Canvon Private Game Reserve South Africa

Left: Margot Raggett MBE on press for Remembering

future books any time soon.

How do you select the images?

Firstly, we ask past contributors if they have images they'd like to submit on the next species and also, we research specialists who concentrate on that particular year's animals. So, of course, we invited many new photographers from India for this year's book on tigers. We then have a big image selection day for the editorial team where we choose our favourites and then review if we feel we've chosen a good spread of images. There is also a competition for the chance for photos taken by the public to be featured in the book and we have external judges helping with that. The challenge nowadays, unlike that first year when we were just starting out, is that we have more photographers wanting to be part of it than we have space, so it is difficult to fit everyone in! At the end of the day, we just want the most beautiful images we can find.

How much money have you raised to date and what has it been spent on?

The Remembering Wildlife series has raised £1.16m (\$1.5m) from book sales so far, and all of that money has gone to 74 projects across 34 countries.

Examples of projects we've helped to fund over the years include collars to track dispersing male lions in the Maasai Mara, to try to warn communities when there are lions in their area; Gorilla Doctors, the world's only organisation providing hands-on medical care to wild gorillas; treating two rhinos that suffered horrific facial wounds as a result of horn poaching in South Africa, who both went on to successfully reproduce; the release of a captive sun bear in Borneo, including the funding of a satellite collar to track him; and an emergency fund in South Africa for vets treating wild animals caught in snares. In April 2024 some of that was used to treat a popular leopard, Maribye, who had been caught in a snare, suffering horrific injuries and, happily, he seems to be doing well.

Projects we have donated to in Kenya include a patrol vehicle and camping gear for rangers working for SORALO, elephant patrol units and monitoring 'big tuskers' by the Tsavo

Trust and establishing local wild dog ambassadors in the South Rift Valley.

You can find out more about the projects at remembering wildlife.com/ supported-projects

What is it about Remembering Wildlife that you are most proud of?

The moments I most enjoy are when we are able to give out grants to organisations struggling to find the funding for the work they do. There are so many heroes out there not getting the support they require and if we can help them make a difference, then all the hard work is worth it.

Is there an animal you'd love to feature, but you think just doesn't have the 'public appeal' or glamour of elephants, or tigers? Certainly, animals like hyenas or even birds like vultures are under threat and deserve books, but I worry about how popular a title on them would be, which is why I've hesitated on those so far. But never say never! We have a huge support base who promise to buy every book we make. And of course, our funds are supporting work in ecosystems that benefit all of the species in that area, not just our featured animal.

Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the species highlighted in the Remembering Wildlife series?

I have to have hope. Our supporters







Top: Elephant crossing the Mkuze River at Amakhosi Safari Lodge, South Africa Middle: Black rhino in Namibia Right:

Margot Raggett at Kenya's Mara Triangle HO with Head of Tourism David Arusa being shown snares set for bush meat that have been collected by

rangers











Top: Sloth bear, Tadoba National Park, India

Above: African wild dogs in Okavango, Botswana

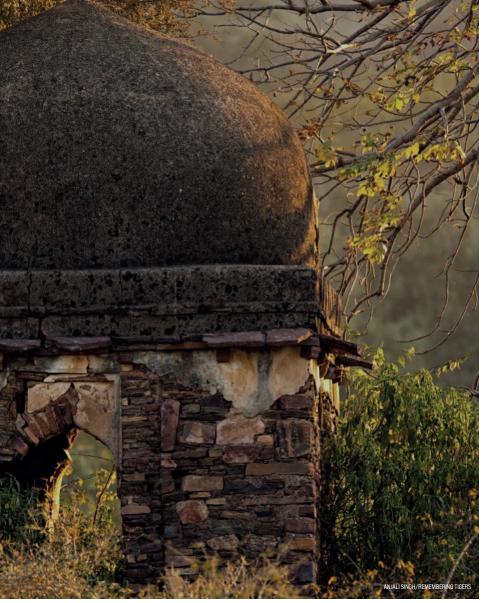
Top right: Indian leopard, Ranthambore National Park, India

Right:

Right:
Two lionesses,
including a very
rare white lion,
at Timbavati
Private Nature
Reserve,
Greater Kruger,
South Africa

Far right: Mother polar bear and two cubs, Svalbard, Norway





YTHAKOS KAZIPAS, FIEIMENBERINO BE-ARS

and the people we support with donations, who work every day to fight for the future of wildlife, give me optimism. I meet so many young people who are concerned about the state of the world and that also gives me hope that the next generation is engaged and cares about the planet.

We've raised awareness about some of the crises facing wildlife, and organisations we support tell me they are so grateful to us. That gives me the energy to keep going. We are just one hose trying to fight a forest fire, but without us, there would be one hose less. I just want Remembering Wildlife to get bigger and better.

Did you ever imagine the series would attract as much interest as it has?

Absolutely not. That first year, in 2016 – when I was working on the first book – I just thought that *Remembering Elephants* would be a one-off. I had no idea about the journey I was about to undertake in terms of my own learning curve and the different types of projects that we would be able to support. Over the last 10 years I have learned so much and met such incredible people that the series has given me back as much as I have given it.

How many photographers have supported the project, and are there any images – not mentioning favourites – that have really stuck in your mind? Over 280 photographers have now supported us and we've featured some stunning images of the natural world. I think when I look back, the ones that stay with me are often of the animals in their environment, showing a sense of place. So, an orangutan swinging from tree to tree, a tiger walking in the rays of sunshine in a forest, lions fighting in the Maasai Mara. And of course, the cover portraits are always totally mesmerising,

For aspiring wildlife photographers out there, who'd love to be part of RW, what tips can you give them to aspire to taking the kind of images that are

- that look in their eyes that we seek

really connects to your soul.



upgraded my gear.

included in the books? Firstly, take a look at the images in previous books for a sense of what we're looking for. Given our aspiration each year to make the most beautiful book ever seen on that species, we want beautiful images that would look stunning on a wall. We also want a real variety of images, so as well as straight portraits or landscapes, we also choose detail shots, or reflections for instance something a bit different that stands out.

What's your background? How did you get into wildlife photography? I caught the safari bug in 2004, when I took my first trip to South Africa. Six years later, I took my first proper pictures, when I signed up to a migration safari in the Maasai Mara with Jonathan and Angela Scott. Only realising the day before that I had booked a photographic safari, I bought a Nikon camera with a lens that only went up to 70mm. I took terrible pictures that trip, but, inspired by the Scotts, I was determined to get better

Remembering Wildlife has published eight books so far, with the ninth, Remembering Tigers, due for publication on 7 October 2024. Read more at rememberingwildlife.com

a career in wildlife photography. A few years later I became a regular 'Photographer in Residence' at Entim

up my job as CEO of a PR company in

London and decided to try and pursue

Camp in the Maasai Mara and also started to lead photographic safaris.

and signed up to a course in London and

Around the same time, in 2010, I gave

My corporate background, running a business, then working as a photographer and getting to know lots of other wildlife photographers – has given me the skill set to pull off the Remembering Wildlife series.

Above

Dominant four lions, Ndutu, Serengeti,

Right: Mountain gorilla, Volcanoes

Rwanda

Below: Mountain gorilla toddler, Virunga National Park, DRC.

Bottom right: Elephants in Mashatu Game Reserve, South Africa





















he most popular dive destinations are Ponta do Ouro, the Manta Coast, Vilankulo and the Bazaruto Archipelago in southern Mozambique and Pemba and the Quirimbas Archipelago in the north.

Ponta do Ouro (Point of Gold),
Mozambique's most developed
resort, is a two-hour drive south
of Maputo, and just across the border
from South Africa. Part of Africa's first
marine transfrontier conservation area,
the waters are renowned for their rich
biodiversity of marine fauna and flora and
unspoilt natural beauty. Well-equipped
dive schools, dolphin encounters, vibrant
villages and a host of adventure and
beach activities mean it's popular with
qualified and aspiring divers alike.

The easily accessible Manta
Coast, east of Inhambane, is arguably
Mozambique's most diverse dive
location. With manta rays, whale sharks
and turtles stealing the limelight it's
easy to overlook the smaller stuff, but
the variety of corals and marine animals
ensures that you'll never tire of exploring
its underwater world. Snorkelling tours
and ocean safaris, where you can swim

with whale sharks, are great options for non-divers to



experience the extraordinary marine life of the area. As with all wildlife encounters nothing is guaranteed, but it's not unusual to spy the marine Big Five – whales, whale sharks, dolphins, turtles and manta rays – all in one outing.

Vilankulo offers a quick, easy and affordable taste of the tropics while the exclusive island retreats of the nearby Bazaruto Archipelago seduce visitors with their swaying palm trees and sandy beaches littered with pansy shells. The diving is magnificent, with dugongs and seahorses among the sightings. There's also wonderful birding and the archipelago is renowned for its surf, rock- and fly-fishing.

Pemba and the picture-perfect tropical islands of the Quirimbas Archipelago in northern Mozambique have some of the best and most varied diving in Africa, with plenty of novice and advanced sites a short boat ride away. The warm, crystal-clear, turquoise waters and pristine coral reefs buzzing with brightly coloured reef fish will take your breath away. Resident dolphins are often seen on the way to the sites, while between July and October divers often hear, and occasionally see, migrating humpback whales. Nacala Bay, 300km south of Pemba, is off-the-beaten-track, but boasts some stunning diving.



VILANKULO ARCHIPELAGO

MANTA COAST

PONTA DO OURO

UIRIMBAS ARCHIPELAGO

Above middle: Eye to eye with a lionfish on Paindane Reef

Above right: Clownfish can be seen in anemones on most reefs in Mozambique

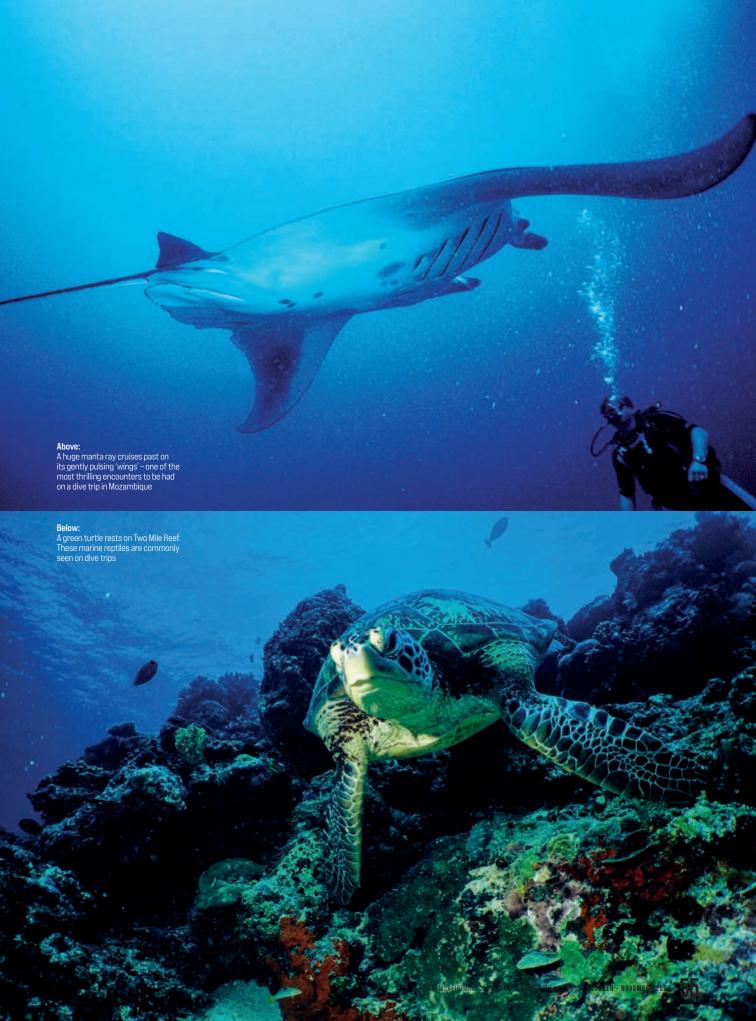
Right: Dive operator Jenny Stromvoll



Jenny Stronwoll

CO-OWNER OF A SMALL
BOUTIQUE DIVE CENTRE IN PONTA
DO OURO, JENNY STROMVOLL
HAS USED HER VAST KNOWLEDGE
OF SHARK BEHAVIOUR TO
DEVELOP SPECIALIST SHARKDIVING COURSES AND TO ASSIST
SCIENTISTS IN RESEARCHING THE
MARINE LIFE OF THE MAPUTO
SPECIAL RESERVE. HER TOP TIP:

"THE BEST TIME TO DIVE WITH Sharks is in Summer Months, November-April."



MOZAMBIQUE'S TOP 10 DIVE SITES

MANTA REEF

MANTA COAST BOAT LAUNCH MAXIMUM DEPTH: 28M

Manta Reef is renowned for its 'cleaning stations' where fish congregate to have parasites, bacteria and dead skin removed by cleaner fish and shrimps. As you peer over the canyon edge, huge manta rays, with a wingspan of 2m, swoop past so close you can see inside

of 2m, swoop past so close you can see inside their gills. This reef has everything: spectacular topography, abundant fish species and lots of tiny and rare critters. Since the top of the reef is at 18m, it's suitable for divers with basic open-water qualifications.

PINNACLES

PONTA DO OURO
BOAT LAUNCH
MAXIMUM DEPTH: 46M

A remote, deep site right on the edge of the continental shelf, the Pinnacles attracts huge shoals of barracuda, kingfish, wahoo and mackerel. Big potato bass patrol the reef and spotted eagle rays, manta rays and thresher sharks circle in the big blue. It's best dived in the summer months.

THE EDGE OF REASON

QUIRIMBAS ARCHIPELAGO BOAT LAUNCH MAXIMUM DEPTH: **30M**

This sensational dive off Medjumbe Island is on a

sheer wall that drops off from about 14m down to 800m – a deep, dark world of vast gorgonian fans and huge shoals of sweetlips and snapper. The wall is adorned with nudibranchs, sponges, anemones and sea stars. Rays and tiny cleaner shrimps are found in the numerous caves and overhangs.

BARRA LAGOON

MANTA COAST
SHORE DIVE
MAXIMUM DEPTH: 5M

Right on the edge of the mangrove swamps, this shallow dive is one of the Manta Coast's best-kept secrets. The swamps act as a crèche for juvenile reef fish and octopus, as well as a sanctuary for rarities such as dugongs. 'Muck diving' at its best.

THE CORNER, TWO MILE REEF

BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO BOAT LAUNCH, DRIFT DIVE MAXIMUM DEPTH: **20M**

A short, flat-topped barrier reef protecting the narrow channel between Bazaruto and Benguerra islands, Two Mile Reef offers several dive sites. all with abundant fish and coral life. The Corner. on the shallow side of the reef, is known for its beautiful coral gardens, scorpionfish, frogfish, paperfish and huge variety of nudibranchs. Sightings of turtles and morays eels are almost guaranteed

and you'll often see honeycomb rays and reef sharks. On an incoming tide, you complete your dive flying through the channel, where hundreds of unicorn surgeonfish and big-eye kingfish gather. Shallow and sheltered, The Corner is an ideal dive site for novice divers, photographers and snorkellers.

PAINDANE REEF

MANTA COAST BOAT LAUNCH, DRIFT DIVE MAXIMUM DEPTH: **32M**

Often referred to as Paindane Express, this is game fish central. When the prevalent strong current is running, expect a high-speed, heartpumping drift dive on which vou'll encounter fast-moving game fish, stingrays and sharks. Diving it on a slack current is a totally different experience, allowing you to appreciate the brilliant purple corals, gorgonian sea fans and fascinating caves, blowholes and swim-throughs. Paindane is a popular haunt of lionfish and its macro life is exquisite: a variety of nudibranchs and frogfish are camouflaged in the pink sponges, and harlequin shrimps hide in

coral heads. NACALA DROP-OFF

NACALA BAY BOAT LAUNCH MAXIMUM DEPTH: 38M

Nacala Bay's little-known sites are impressive. Nacala Drop-off consists of three separate pinnacles covered with delicate sea fans, whip corals, clams, mussels and oysters. The beautiful anemones and macro critters are enchanting, but it's the finale, a gentle glide over a great runway of colourful starfish, that you'll remember most.

FISH BOWL

BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO
BOAT LAUNCH
MAXIMUM DEPTH: 14M

Located in front of a gap in the reef, this shallow site experiences currents that attract large numbers of grey reef sharks to feed. Devil rays cruise with the sharks, huge groupers hide in the reef and turtles, guitar sharks and eagle rays are sometimes spotted. A highlight is swimming over a big patch of garden eels before ending the dive in a dazzling coral aquarium that brims with fish.

ATLANTIS

PONTA DO OURO BOAT LAUNCH MAXIMUM DEPTH: **47M**

A long reef, 3km from the shore, this is a deep dive

for advanced divers only.
The stand out features
are its big square boulders
(hence it's nickname,
Legoland) and uncommon
black and green tree
corals. Expect to see
lots of pelagic fish, eagle
rays, bull and reef sharks.
Great white sharks are
occasional visitors.

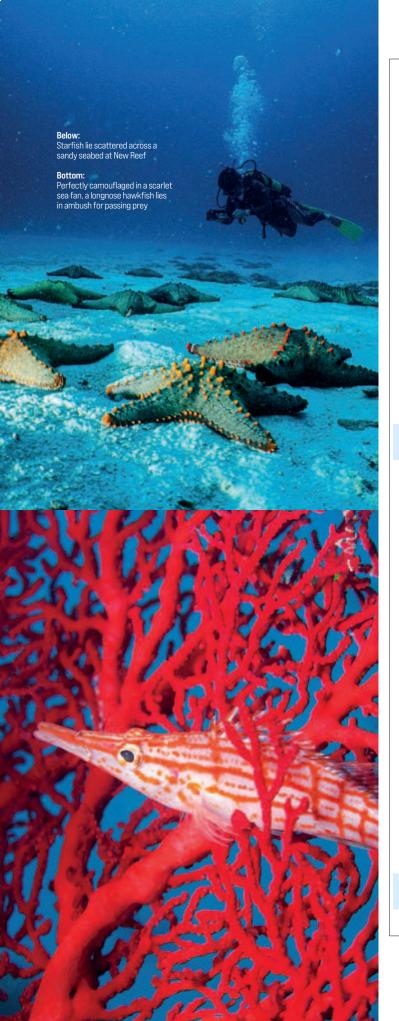
THE GAP

<u>PEMBA</u> <u>Boat Launch</u> <u>Maximum Depth</u>: **40M**

A 10-minute boat ride from shore. The Gap is a fairly sheltered site with excellent visibility so you'll often see turtles and curious Napoleon wrasse from the surface as you're kitting up. Drop down a wall covered in colourful soft corals, sponges and a multitude of butterfly fish, wrasse and shoals of tiny orange antheas until you reach a dramatic cliff adorned with big gorgonian fans to find the entrance to a long subterranean passage in the reef. Swim through if you dare, then ascend through big schools of colourful coachmen and curious batfish.



PIETER JACOBS, OWNER OF C.I. DIVERS IN PEMBA, HAS LOGGED OVER 7,000 DIVES AND KNOWS THE REEFS LIKE THE BACK OF HIS HAND. "WITH CALM, WARM WATERS, BEAUTIFUL BEACHES, PRISTINE CORALS, UNDISCOVERED REEFS AND AN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PEMBA HAS ALL THAT SOUTHERN MOZAMBIQUE, ZANZIBAR THE OTHER INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS OFFER SCUBA DIVERS – BUT WITHOUT THE CROWDS," HE SAYS. "THE PROXIMITY OF THE EDGE OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF MEANS THAT THERE ARE PLENTY OF NOVICE AND ADVANCED SITES WITHIN A 15-MINUTE BOAT RIDE OF THE BEACH."



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HOW TO MARKET

In part three of our practical Business School series, find out how effective

Read on for 10 key steps to getting noticed ...

YOUR TARGET AUDIENCE

Before you can effectively market your business, you need to know who your ideal customers are. Take the time to research and understand their demographics, preferences and pain points. This will allow you to tailor your marketing efforts to resonate with your target audience and increase the likelihood of converting leads into customers.

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2024 | WWW.KENYA-AIRW

BUILD A PROFESSIONAL WEBSITE

In today's digital age, your website serves as the online storefront for your business. Make sure it is well-designed, easy to navigate, and mobile-friendly. Include essential information about your products or services, contact details and compelling calls-to-action to encourage visitors to engage with your brand.

LEVERAGE SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media platforms are powerful tools for reaching and engaging with your target audience. Identify which platforms your audience frequents most and establish a presence there. Share valuable content, interact with followers and use targeted advertising to expand your reach and drive traffic to your website.



YOUR BUSINESS

marketing is key to standing out and attracting customers

INVEST IN CONTENT MARKETING

Content marketing involves creating and distributing valuable, relevant content to attract and retain a specific audience. Whether it's blog posts, videos, infographics, or podcasts, create content that addresses your audience's needs and interests while subtly showcasing your products or services. Consistent and valuable content can help position your brand as an authority in your industry and attract organic traffic to your website.

NETWORK AND COLLABORATE

Networking with other businesses and industry professionals can help you expand your reach and access new opportunities.
Attend industry events, join professional organisations, and participate in online communities relevant to your niche.
Collaborating with complementary businesses on joint promotions or partnerships can also help you reach new audiences and generate buzz around your brand.

STAY FLEXIBLE AND ADAPT

The business landscape is constantly evolving, so it's essential to stay agile and adapt your marketing strategies accordingly. Keep an eye on industry trends, monitor competitor activity, and be willing to experiment with new approaches.

Continuously seek feedback from customers and adjust your marketing efforts based on their preferences and behaviour.



UTILISE EMAIL MARKETING

Email marketing remains one of the most effective ways to nurture leads and maintain customer relationships. Build an email list of subscribers who have opted in to receive communications from your business, and regularly send them targeted, personalised emails. Provide valuable content, special offers, and updates to keep subscribers engaged and encourage repeat business.

Track the performance of your marketing efforts using key metrics such as website traffic, conversion rates, email open rates, and social media engagement. Analyse the data to identify what's working well and where there's room for improvement. Use this insight to refine your strategies and allocate your marketing budget more effectively.



How to build a

PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS WEBSITE

Building a professional business website is crucial for establishing credibility, attracting customers and driving growth. Here are key things to keep in mind as you embark on the journey of creating your business website:

INVEST IN QUALITY DESIGN:
Your website's design is the first thing visitors notice, so invest in a professional design that reflects your brand identity and values. Use clean layouts, consistent branding and high-quality images.

MAKE IT USER-FRIENDLY:
Ensure that your website is
easy to navigate and intuitive to
use. Organise content logically
to help visitors find what they're
looking for quickly.

OPTIMISE FOR MOBILE:
With the increasing use of mobile devices, it's essential

to ensure that your website is optimised for smartphones and tablets. Choose a responsive design that adapts to different screen sizes and resolutions to provide a seamless experience across all devices.

FOCUS ON PAGE SPEED:

Slow-loading websites can frustrate visitors and lead to higher bounce rates (leaving your site). Optimise your website's performance by minimising file sizes, leveraging browser caching and utilising content delivery networks (CDNs) to ensure faster page loading times.

PRIORITISE CONTENT:

Content is king when it comes to engaging visitors and driving conversions. Create high-quality, relevant content that provides value to your audience. Use clear and compelling messaging to communicate your brand's unique selling points.

INCLUDE CLEAR CALLS-TO-ACTION (CTAS):

Guide visitors towards desired actions, such as making a purchase, signing up for a newsletter, or contacting your business, by including clear and prominent CTAs throughout your website. Use persuasive language and design elements to encourage conversions.

OPTIMISE FOR SEARCH ENGINES (SEO):

Improve your website's visibility in search engine results by optimising it for relevant keywords related to your business. Incorporate keywords into your website's content, meta tags and headers, and focus on providing valuable, relevant content that satisfies user intent.

ENSURE SECURITY:

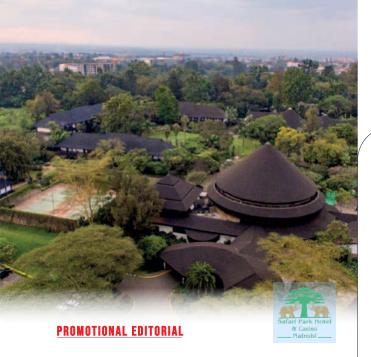
Protect your website and visitors' data by implementing security measures such as SSL encryption, regular software updates, and secure hosting.
Display trust indicators, such as security seals and privacy policies, to reassure visitors that their information is safe.

INTEGRATE ANALYTICS:

Install web analytics tools such as Google Analytics to track and analyse visitor behaviour on your website. Monitor key metrics such as traffic sources, user engagement, and conversion rates to gain insights into your website's performance and identify areas for improvement.

PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Make it easier for visitors to get in touch with your business by prominently displaying contact information, including phone numbers, email addresses and physical addresses. Also consider implementing contact forms or including a pop-up live-chat feature for added convenience.



AN OASIS OF CALM

Safari Park Hotel & Casino: luxury and elegance just 15 minutes from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

Indulge in a remarkable stay at Safari Park Hotel, where exquisite accommodation awaits you. Their lavish rooms redefine global standards in size and amenities with 203 guest rooms across nine blocks, catering to your specific needs. Choose from 167 Deluxe rooms, 21 Junior suites, 8 Business suites, 6 Executive suites, and a Presidential suite. Enjoy the luxury of private balconies, front and rear, offering breathtaking views of the beautifully manicured gardens, water features and birds chirping. The hotel also features serviced apartments.

CULINARY ADVENTURE

Prepare for an extraordinary dining experience at Safari Park Hotel.

• Chiyo: immerse yourself in Japanese and Korean cuisine,



from sushi to teppanyaki, expertly crafted at your table. Nyama Choma Ranch: enjoy succulent barbecued meats, traditional Kenyan steak and a vibrant stage show by Safari Cats Dancers and Acrobats. Winners Chinese Restaurant: savour spiced seafood, traditional Chinese dishes, and exquisite Szechwan feasts. Paradise Lobby Café: relax with fresh juices and homemade pastries. Hemingways Lounge and Bar: watch sports games on the big screen while enjoying a drink. Café Kigwa: a blend of New York deli and Parisian street café, offering a variety of international culinary delights. Korean Corner: specifically designed for our Korean and Japanese guests. La Piazzetta Italian Restaurant: delight in Italian pasta, wood-fired pizzas, antipasti and Italian wines. Bars: connoisseur of fine wines or handcrafted cocktails? They have you covered.

TRANQUILITY AND WELLNESS

The Safari Fitness Club offers a sanctuary for relaxation and wellness. Enjoy a spacious gymnasium, aerobics studio, two swimming pools, squash and tennis courts, a jogging track, steam room, sauna, Jacuzzi and a range of massage services.



The hotel specialises in crafting memorable weddings and special occasions tailored to your unique style and preferences. Their dedicated wedding planners ensure your day surpasses your expectations. They also offer packages for anniversaries, galas, events and more.

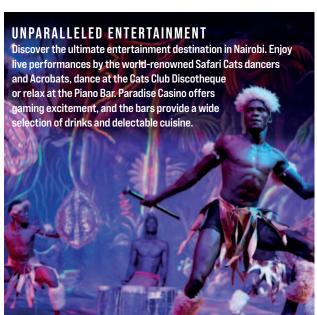


OUTSIDE CATERING SERVICES

The hotel is renowned for outside catering services, offering superior service and expertise for events of all sizes, wherever you desire.









48 HOURS IN NAIROBI

DISCOVER HOW TO SPEND TWO DAYS IN KENYA'S CAPITAL, INCLUDING A SAFARI IN NAIROBI NATIONAL PARK, A TOUR OF THE KIBERA NEIGHBOURHOOD AND AN EAGLE'S EYE VIEW OF THE CITY SKYLINE FROM THE KICC

airobi is the 'green city in the sun', with three natural forests within its boundaries. It is also described as the 'wildlife capital' of the world – the only global capital with wild animals roaming freely on its doorstep. Nairobi has much to offer, but a two-day tour will satisfy your curiosity about what makes the city tick.

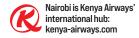
DAY 1: NAIROBI NATIONAL PARK AND KAREN

MORNING

Set off on an early morning game drive in Nairobi National Park, your gateway to the city's wild side. There are no guarantees, but you might chance upon the big cats – lions, leopards and cheetahs – in their natural environment. The cats are early risers and do not

tolerate latecomers to their morning hunts. Get to the park at the crack of dawn if you wish to join them for breakfast (from the comfort of your vehicle). Do not leave before visiting the lvory Burning Site where a pile of ashes from crushed elephant tusks and rhino horns stands





Street food Tired of formal hotel snacks? Venture out into the streets of Nairobi for mutura, a type of African sausage better enjoyed late in the evening. Mutura goes hand in hand with smokie kachumbari, a ready-to-eat smoked sausage made of pork, beef, chicken and garnished with a tomato and onion based salad.

as testimony to Kenya's aversion to poaching. to the David Sheldrick Trust located

Left:

Relow: Karen Blixen

Museum

bottom: Waiter at

Carnivore

feeding the orphan elephants

at the David Sheldrick Trust

restaurant and

Right, top to

Rhino in Nairobi

National Park

on the southern edge of the park (on condition you have booked the visit in advance). Watch as young, rescued elephants take their daily mud bath from 11am-12 noon. It gets comical as the baby elephants coil their tiny trunks around bottles of milk formula.

From the park, make your way

Wrap up the morning with a sumptuous lunch at the worldacclaimed Carnivore Restaurant. Enjoy the juicy meats roasted on traditional Maasai swords over a huge charcoal pit near the restaurant's entrance. Follow as an army of chiselled men move from table to table, swords laden with crocodile or ostrich meat. The feeding frenzy only stops when you 'surrender' by lowering the white paper flag perched atop the central tray.

AFTERNOON

While still within the 'wild' neighbourhood, drive up Langata Road to Karen, the suburb named after Karen Dinesen, the Danish girl of aristocratic birth and whose 1937 biographical work, Out of Africa, was turned into a Hollywood production by Meryl Streep and Robert Redford. A visit to her former home, now a museum, reveals a rich collection of Karen's items including her jewellery chest, original paintings, literary works, kitchenware and farm implements. Placed on the

floor in Karen's room are leather riding boots used by Streep in the movie, while a set dining table, donated by Universal Studios, adorns Karen's former living room. If your energy levels are still up, take a walk to Ololua Forest whose entrance is about 200m from Karen Blixen Museum. Enjoy the hiking trails within the forest as well as designated spots for birdwatching.



Monument commemorating the Ivory Burning of July 1989









DAY 2: KIBERA TO THE KICC

MORNING

Start your exploration in Kibera, one of Africa's most famous informal settlements. The rusty corrugated roofs mark the neighbourhood, but centuries ago, Kibera was a green zone going by its original name, 'Kibra', or forest, coined by the original Nubian inhabitants whose descendants still live here.

A tour of Kibera (arranged by local guides) starts at Adam's Arcade, an upmarket shopping centre bordering the slum. Kibera is surrounded by opulence, but has retained its down-to-earth

feel and has become a popular stop for global philanthropists. Meander through narrow alleyways lined with mud-walled homes warmed by the hearty laughter of a beautiful people. Your guide will take you through a list of Kibera's finest; some of Kenya's well-known musicians and sports people were either born or grew up here.

A word of caution: always follow the directions of your guide in relation to photography. Seek permission before clicking. Avoid exhibiting opulence. Rather than give cash to

residents, find out about a worthy social cause to support. Is it safe to walk here? Yes, with your knowledgeable guide.

From Kibera, head to Nairobi Arboretum adjacent to Kenya's State House and a tranquil place to rest in the city. Established in 1907 by Edward Battiscombe who served as Deputy Conservator of

> Forests, it was meant to be a trial plot for introducing exotic tree species. Walk, jog or just watch as some of the 100-plus bird species fly by.

Try and commit to memory some of the 350 species of both indigenous and exotic plants, many of



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DID YOU KNOW?

SOME OF
KENYA'S
WELL-KNOWN
MUSICIANS
AND SPORTS
PEOPLE WERE
EITHER BORN
OR GREW
UP HERE IN
KIBERA



Far left: A kick-about in Kibera

Above and left: Nairobi National Museum

Below left: Statue of Jomo Kenyatta (first President of Kenya) outside the KICC

Below: Nairobi city skyline with the distinctive tower

of the KICC

Can you squeeze in one more? Yes, a view of Nairobi from the top. Any Nairobian will tell you that the only location to do that is from the top of Kenyatta International Convention Centre. KICC is a key city landmark, a source of pride for Kenyans and a symbol of economic progress conceived a few years after independence in 1967 before opening its doors in 1973. The design mixes Kenya's traditions, aspirations and the environment with the iconic amphitheatre capturing the traditional African pitched house.

Enough about history. Take the elevator to the 28th floor, or your stamina permitting, the stairs to the helipad on the roof, a viewpoint to the city expanse and a popular spot for visitors. The metropolis of more than four million spreads out in all directions. The view from the top brings back to mind all the popular locations in Nairobi that captured your heart and others that might wait until the next visit.

which are labelled. Should you opt for a small picnic, be on the lookout for the cheeky vervet monkeys who are always happy to share your snacks.

AFTERNOON

To escape the midday heat, head to the Nairobi National Museum for a session of learning on Kenya's culture, nature, history and contemporary art. The museum was started in 1910 by nature enthusiasts who wanted a place to preserve their collections. Like many pre-independent institutions in Kenya that carried names honouring British colonial officials, the museum took on the name Coryndon Museum in honour of then Governor of Kenya

Colony, Sir Robert Coryndon. Learn everything you wanted to know about all things Kenyan.

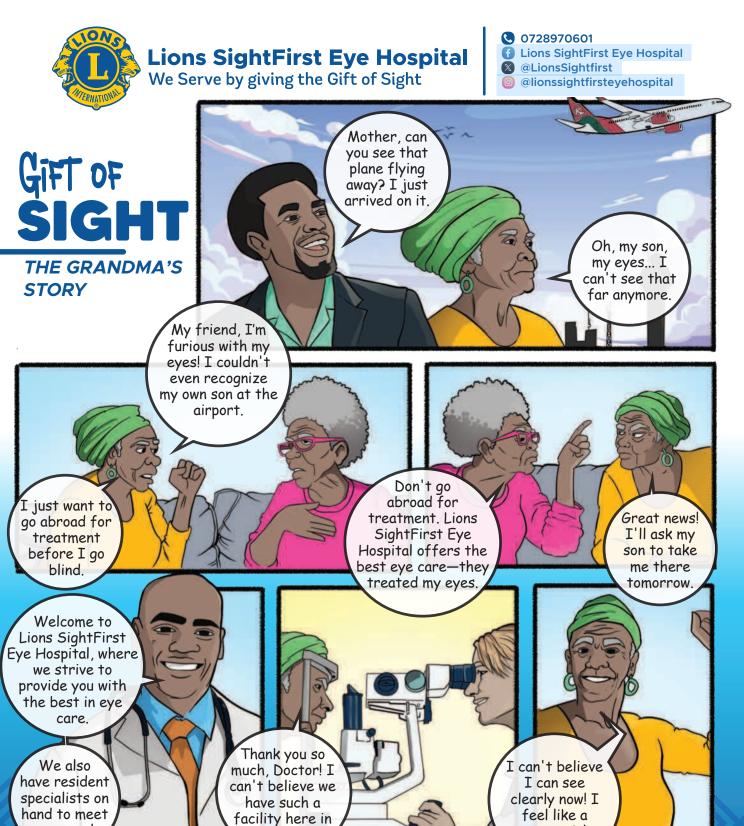
Next, walk a few minutes to Fairmont The Norfolk, one of Kenya's oldest hotels. Without the Norfolk, it may as well be there would be no Nairobi. It is Christmas Day 1904. Major CGR Ringer and Aylmer Winearls open a hotel next to nothing except a papyrus swamp. Here, all new arrivals to Nairobi gather. "men with money, ambition and foresight". On the hotel terraces, they found a colony, a land of promise, a land of plenty. Grab some afternoon tea at the terrace and reminisce over Lord Delamere's aims at lions across the hotel for target practice.

Getting around

Digital taxis such as Uber and Bolt are within easy reach and preferred for their punctuality. However, should your adventure bug bite, take the matatu, Nairobi's flashy public carrier and a disco on wheels. Its modus operandi may appear crazy but this is compensated for by unique art and graffiti.







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Sculpted in 1864 from Portland stone. the Flora Fountain takes its name from the Roman goddess of flowers. However, since 1960 the site has been known as Hutatma Chowk or 'Martyrs Square' to honour 105 people who lost their lives in an uprising and it has been declared a heritage structure. A statue of two torch-bearing patriots stands opposite the fountain. But in which city on Kenya Airways' network are we?

R TURN TO PAGE 80 FOR THE ANSWER

KQ contents

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COST MANAGEMENT

OPERATING
COSTS ROSE IN
LINE WITH CAPACITY
EXPANSION. BUT,
OVERHEADS FELL
BY THE SAME
PERCENTAGE



PASSENGER GROWTH

INCREASE IN PASSENGER NUMBERS TO **2.54 MILLION**



CAPACITY EXPANSION

INCREASE IN ASKS TO 7.991 BILLION AND A 14% IMPROVEMENT IN RPKS



REVENUE SURGE

GROWTH IN TOTAL REVENUE TO KSH91 BILLION, DRIVEN BY HIGHER PASSENGER NUMBERS



PROFITABILITY

IMPROVEMENT IN **PROFIT** AFTER TAX



KQ ANNOUNCES HALF-YEAR PROFITS OF KSH513M

AIRLINE REPORTS PROFIT AFTER TAX FOR FIRST TIME IN 11 YEARS

In announcing its half-year financial results, Kenya Airways has achieved a significant milestone in its journey towards profitability, as the airline reported a profit after tax for the first time since 2013.

For the half-year ending 30 June 2024, KQ achieved a profit after tax of Ksh513m (US\$4m), significantly up from the Ksh21.7bn loss reported in the same period last year.

The airline attributes the growth to its strategic turnaround plan, Project Kifaru,

"THIS
ACHIEVEMENT
UNDERSCORES
THE STRENGTH
AND RESILIENCE
OF KENYA
AIRWAYS AS WE
MOVE FORWARD
ON OUR PATH
TO SUSTAINED
PROFITABILITY"

MICHAEL JOSEPH CHAIR, KENYA AIRWAYS which emphasises customer obsession, operational excellence, financial discipline, innovation and sustainability.

KQ chair Michael Joseph said: "The impressive performance reaffirms the operational viability of our business and underscores the effectiveness of the collective efforts by our board, management and staff.

"This achievement underscores the strength and resilience of Kenya Airways as we move forward on our path to sustained profitability." Joseph added the airline remained focused on completing its capital restructuring plan to reduce financial leverage and enhance liquidity, thus ensuring a firm foundation for long-term growth and stability.

Group managing director and chief executive Allan Kilavuka welcomed the positive performance. "Our financial results are a clear indication that our strategic initiatives are delivering the desired outcomes," he said.

"We have focused on strengthening our core operations, enhancing our customer service and exploring new avenues for growth. This performance positions us in good stead to navigate the challenges of the aviation industry and prepare for future growth."

AIRLINE RELAUNCHES KQ HOLIDAYS

ONLINE PLATFORM OFFERS PERSONALISED GETAWAYS WORLDWIDE

Kenya Airways has relaunched KQ Holidays, an online platform that offers personalised getaways to iconic destinations around the world using the airline's flights.

Operating under the slogan 'My Kind of Holiday – A Click Away', the new platform allows guests to create, book and pay for tailormade holiday packages in real time.

Allan Kilavuka, Kenya Airways group managing director and CEO, said: "The new KQ Holidays platform is a significant step forward in providing comprehensive travel solutions.

"We understand the diverse needs of modern travellers and have designed this

platform for a seamless and personalised holiday planning experience."

The initial phase of the relaunch showcases 12 exciting destinations – Mombasa, Nairobi, New York, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Victoria Falls, Paris, Dubai, Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro, Dar es Salaam and Mumbai.

Julius Thairu, chief commercial and customer officer at Kenya Airways, added: "The new KQ Holidays is not just an update, it is a complete overhaul of how we plan our travels. We are saying goodbye to the days of juggling multiple websites and endless

comparisons while also cementing our commitment to personalised and hassle-free travel planning."

With the relaunch, Kenya Airways has expanded its role from being a leading airline to becoming a comprehensive travel solutions provider catering to a diverse array of travellers, from solo adventurers to couples, families and groups.

"We understand people travel for different reasons," added Thairu. "Some seek adventure, others relaxation, and many simply want to explore the world. KQ Holidays caters to all these dreams and more, offering a diverse range of experiences for every traveller."

Getaway: Traditional wooden dhows on Nungwi Beach, Zanzibar

LOYALTY PROGRAMME

THERE'S SO MUCH MORE TO BEING AN ASANTE REWARDS MEMBER...

Join Kenya Airways' Asante Rewards frequent flyer loyalty programme and, in addition to the usual benefits this brings – including reward flights – you'll receive discounts on many products and services too. Such as 10% off all you can eat of the finest Brazilian cuisine at Fogo Gaucho.

Tuck into up to 17 different cuts of meat at any of the three Fogo Gaucho restaurants in Nairobi, at Westlands, Kilimani and Panari. And there's more: you can enjoy group packages for nine persons and above – perfect for celebrations, corporate events and fun nights out with friends and family. There's also a free pick-up service within a 5km radius of the restaurant. The offer is valid until December 2025.

- For reservations plus free hotel pickup and drop off, call +254 701 111444; to learn more, visit: fogogaucho.co.ke
- To enrol and enjoy exclusive Asante Rewards member discounts, head to asante.kenyaairways.com or scan the barcode (right)



10% **OFF**





ASANTE LOUNGE REOPENS AT TERMINAL 1C, JKIA

Kenya Airways group managing director and CEO Allan Kilavuka has presided over the official reopening of the Asante Lounge in Terminal 1C at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), Nairobi. The newly refurbished lounge is a testament to the airline's commitment to enhancing customer travel experiences with improved facilities and services.

Above: KQ MD and CEO Allan Kilavuka (centre) officially reopens the airline's new Asante Lounge

KQ Medical relaunches JKIA branch

KQ Medical has officially relaunched its newly renovated clinic at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA). The facility on the ground floor of the parking garage is designed to serve the entire JKIA ecosystem, providing quality and affordable healthcare services. The centre also offers specialised services, including medical evacuation, on-board oxygen and stretcher services, passenger medical clearance, and both airside and landside ambulance services.



PLANE SIGHT		No. OF Planes	SEATS	SEAT PITCH	CRUISING SPEED	RANGE	MAX. TAKE-OFF WEIGHT
	Boeing 787 Dreamliner	9	Premier: 30 Economy: 204	Premier: 75" Economy: 32"	Mach 0.85 (1050kmh)	14,500km	227,930kg
on one	Boeing 737-800	8	Premier: 16 Economy: 129	Premier: 47" Economy: 32"	Mach 0.78 (963kmh)	5665km	79,015kg
The state of the s	Embraer 190	13	Premier: 12 Economy: 84	Premier: 38" Economy: 31"	Mach 0.82 (1013kmh)	2935km	51,800kg
	Boeing 737-300F	2	N/A	N/A	Mach 0.745 (920kmh)	2200km	62,822kg
	Boeing 737-800F	2	N/A	N/A	Mach 0.789 (974kmh)	3695km	79,000





SAFARICOM PARTNERSHIP

Kenya Airways and leading telecommunications company Safaricom have unveiled a strategic partnership aimed at enhancing the airline's operations, cybersecurity and customer experience. The collaboration will focus on improving connectivity, offering in-flight Wi-Fi, and advancing areas such as infrastructure inspection, security, loyalty programmes, data science, software development and agricultural aviation.

Above: KQ's chief information and data officer Fredrick Kitunga and Safaricom's chief enterprise officer Cynthia Karuri-Kropac Left: The KQ Medical team led by head of KQ Health Judith Maye Right: The Dreamliner will now service KQ's flights to Cape Town

FUEL CAPACITY (LITRES)	THRUST PER ENGINE	WING SPAN	LENGTH	HEIGHT
126,903	69,800lb	60.1m	56.7m	16.9m
26,020	26,300lb	34.3m	39.5m	12.5m
16,153	18,820lb	28.72m	36.24m	10.57m
20,124	22,000lb	28.9m	32.2m	11.1m
26,025	24,000- 27,000lb	35.8m	38m	12.54m

News



NEW ROUTES

KQ now operates daily flights to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, with the addition of a

Wednesday and Friday service. All five weekly flights to Douala, Cameroon, will operate nonstop, while the passenger service to Bangui, Central Africa Republic, has been suspended. For South Africa, the larger Dreamliner aircraft will now service the three weekly nonstop flights to Cape Town and the five weekly night flights to Johannesburg.



THE AIR IN AN AIRCRAFT IS DRIER THAN THE SAHARA

The humidity levels in an aircraft cabin range from 10% to 20%, whereas the humidity in the Sahara is around 25%. The is due to the high altitude at which planes fly, where the outside air is very dry. This dry air is brought into the cabin and pressurised, resulting in a lower humidity.

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KQ CARES

'SUSTAINABILITY' IS VERY MUCH THE WATCHWORD AT KENYA AIRWAYS. HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF HOW THE AIRLINE IS HELPING TO IMPROVE THE WELLBEING OF STAFF, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH IT OPERATES



The Aviation Challenge

Kenya Airways recently took part in the 2024 edition of SkyTeam's Aviation Challenge (formerly The Sustainable Flight Challenge). The airline alliance's initiative, now in its third year, seeks to award airlines that are operating routes in the most sustainable way.

KQ's challenge began on 4 September with a sustainable flight on its Nairobi to Amsterdam route. At the time of going to press, the airline was set to fly a further three flights – to New York, Paris and London – as part of the initiative.

The theme for this year was to 'Integrate Sustainability' across all aspects of the business and the challenge flights included ground operations initiatives, a sustainably curated in-flight menu, e-mobility for guests, a travel light policy and waste management projects.

Allan Kilavuka, KQ's group managing director and CEO, said: "Kenya Airways recognises that sustainability is a collective effort. In collaboration with customers, suppliers and partners, KQ is fostering an ecosystem where sustainable practices are shared, scaled and refined across the aviation industry."



He added the airline had adopted a systems-thinking approach to integrate seamlessly sustainability into all facets of its operations, encompassing data analysis, decisionmaking, reporting and operations.

Earlier this year, Kenya
Airways was one of the African
airlines selected to lead the
International Air Transport
Association's Sustainable
Aviation Fuel (SAF) Registry.
This recognition follows KQ's
pioneering use of SAF on a long-haul flight from Africa to Europe in
October 2023.

SAF is expected to account for up to 65% of the carbon mitigation required to achieve net zero carbon emissions in air transportation by 2050.

Left:

KQ cabin crew get ready for the Aviation Challenge take-off

Below left:

Welcome on board a sustainable flight

KQ IS
FOSTERING
AN
ECOSYSTEM
WHERE
SUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES
ARE SHARED,
SCALED AND
REFINED
ACROSS THE
AVIATION
INDUSTRY"

ALLAN KILAVUKA KQ'S GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CEO





Left: KQ Cycling Club members in their new Five Star gear Below right: KQ staff hand over beehives

to Olteyani Mixed Primary

School, Ngong

PEDAL POWER

In today's fast-paced world, prioritising employee wellbeing is no longer a luxury, it's a necessity - and this is one of the key factors behind the KQ Cycling Club. This employeeled initiative, established as part of the company's Reignite culture transformation programme, aims to foster a healthier, more engaged workforce while highlighting the power of teamwork and community spirit.

Tom Shivo, chief people officer at the airline, explains: "We believe physical fitness is a cornerstone of employee engagement and sports play a vital role in our wellness strategy. Beyond just cycling, we encourage participation in activities like soccer, basketball, marathon running, hiking and swimming.

For Tony Gitonga, one of the club's founders, it has been very much about personal growth. "The club has been a gamechanger for me. Not only has my physical fitness improved, but I've also built strong friendships with colleagues I wouldn't have met otherwise," he said.

KQ's cyclists are gearing up for their most ambitious challenge yet: a gruelling five-day expedition from Nairobi, Kenya, to Arusha, Tanzania, scheduled for October. As well as being a test of physical and mental resilience, the ride will also include a CSR initiative stop in Kajiado County, where staff will work together to give back to the community.

Supporting this endeavour is Five Stars Apparel, a local women-led business specialising in stylish sportswear inspired by African culture, which will provide the official cycling kits for the club's members.

REFORESTATION

KQ has long supported efforts geared towards land restoration, halting desertification and building drought resilience. Between 2007 and 2013, the airline spearheaded an ambitious reforestation project that has transformed the landscape of Ngong Forest in Kajiado County, Kenya. Together with other key stakeholders, KQ planted around one million trees, achieving a notable 80% survival rate.

This initiative has done more than just replant trees, though, it has rejuvenated an entire ecosystem, revitalising local water sources and wildlife populations. The dense forest that now stands in Ngong has become a sanctuary for various species, creating a balanced habitat where flora and fauna coexist harmoniously.

The community's involvement has been crucial to the project's success,



highlighting the importance of communal effort in environmental conservation. This sense of ownership has ensured the forest remains protected and continues to thrive.

Kenya Airways is not resting on its laurels, however. It is embarking on a renewed journey to plant a million trees annually in collaboration with staff and stakeholders. This ambitious plan includes extending the existing forest and introducing beekeeping to the area. Bees will not only help in pollination, enhancing the forest's health but also offer honey production, an excellent source of income for local residents.

Diversity and inclusion

As a signatory of the UN Global Compact (UNGC), Kenya Airways has been involved in several initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion, including inclusive hiring practices and accessible training programmes.

The UNGC is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations with 10 universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

As part of its sustainability agenda, KQ engages in community development projects, supporting education and

infrastructure improvements in local communities. The airline contributes to local employment by providing jobs and training opportunities, aiming to ensure people with disabilities have access to the workforce. It has updated its hiring procedures to accommodate people with disabilities and offers accessible training programmes, along with mentorship and internship support.

KQ also promotes an inclusive workplace culture. It also continues to work closely with organisations that support differently abled people, such as YALI (pictured left) to understand their challenges and continuously improve its policies and processes.





Three places to visit

Celebrating the destinations that Kenya Airways flies to...

GUANGZHOU, CHINA

Designed by Italian architect Joseph di Pasquale, the 33 story, 138m-high Guangzhou Circle takes its inspiration from the value of jade discs and numerological tradition in Feng Shui, as well as the number 8 and infinity symbol that feature strongly in Chinese culture. The unique inner hole is 48m in diameter.



Because its pronunciation 'ba' sounds similar to 'fa', meaning 'fortune', the number 8 is associated with wealth and success in Chinese culture.

Guangzhou

Bangkok THAILAND

Domestic routes

Regional routes

Guangzhou



LZF/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

SEYCHELLES

Found in a variety of habitats, from woodland to scrub and village gardens, and from sea level to high altitude, the Seychelles bulbul is endemic to the archipelago. Often seen in small, noisy groups, the midsized (around 25cm) grey bird boasts a black cap and a brightly coloured orange bill.

DOUALA, CAMEROON

Made from recycled metal, the La Nouvelle Liberté monument has become a symbol of the weighing 8 tonnes, it stands Sumégné, it is a tribute to the contemporary culture of the city and, as the name suggests, freedom.





VEMBER 2024 75

A CUT ABOVE

CLASSY CLASSICS AND STYLISH NEWBIES



RABANNE LADIES' MINIATURE COLLECTION

4 x miniatures

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FRAGRANCES

CALVIN KLEIN ETERNITY FOR **WOMEN AROMATIC ESSENCE**

Eau de Parfum 100ml

The sensual scent layers a silky coconut water accord atop herbaceous and floral lavender for a bold and alluring finish of creamy sandalwood, Modern, Irresistible. Experience the essence of Eternity. FRAGRANCE NOTES: Spicy - Floral

CALVIN KLEIN ETERNITY FOR MEN AROMATIC ESSENCE

Eau de Parfum 100ml

Addictive and intense, fresh juniper meets a creamy coconut accord, made with a dose of cardamom. The CK fragrance inspires sensuality and desire. Seductive. Sultry. Strong. Experience the essence of Eternity.

FRAGRANCE NOTES: Aromatic - Woody



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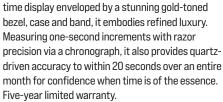
WATCHES

ANNE KLEIN ROSE CERAMIC WATCH

An elegant statement with its light pink mother-of-pearl dial and classic Roman indices. The sparkling bezel is set with premium crystals. The band is nickel-compliant rose-gold with light pink ceramic and a jewellery clasp. Water-resistant to 30m. Two-year limited warranty.



The product of meticulous design from artisanal watchmakers, this timepiece emphasises premium performance without sacrificing presentation. Featuring a unique matte gold face with date and 12/24-hour



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MICHAEL KORS

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Eau de Parfum 50ml

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FUTUSA

FURIOSA: A MAD MAX SAGA

Furiosa, played by Anya Taylor-Joy, is on a perilous journey across a post-apocalyptic wasteland, driven by a thirst for vengeance and survival.

Along the way, she faces difficulties and harsh challenges in a world ruled by chaos. As she battles for justice and redemption, her determination and strength shine through in Taylor-Joy's compelling performance. The film, which serves as the prequel to *Mad Max: Fury Road*, delivers intense action and brutal confrontations, showcasing the resilience of one of the wasteland's toughest warriors.

HOLLYWOOD NEW RELEASES



THE WATCHERS

The Watchers is an intense thriller directed by Ishana Night Shyamalan. Set in a remote

forest, the movie follows a 28-year-old artist who becomes stranded and discovers she is being watched by mysterious creatures. With a chilling atmosphere and gripping tension, it promises to keep audiences on the edge of their seats; perfect for fans of psychological thrillers and supernatural elements.



FIREBRAND

Firebrand delves into 16thcentury England, focusing on Katherine Parr, the sixth wife of

King Henry VIII. Played by Alicia Vikander, Katherine must navigate treacherous politics and her husband's erratic behaviour, portrayed by Jude Law. The film depicts her resilience in the dangerous Tudor court, where every alliance and decision could mean life or death.



INTERNATIONAL MOVIES



A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA - UN P'TIT TRUC EN PLUS (French)

Directed by Artus, this is

a heartwarming comedy-drama about a father and son on the run who take refuge in a summer camp for young adults with disabilities. Posing as a camper and his specialised educator, they face some unexpected challenges. What starts as a desperate escape becomes a transformative experience that changes their lives forever.



SO LONG FOR LOVE

(Chinese)

In this beautiful Chinese drama, Li Yan struggles with

the loss of her father and resentment toward her mother, who chose to end his treatment. She finds solace in Ke Le, a puppy she believes embodies her father's spirit. As she navigates conflict, growth and loss, Li Yan learns to understand her mother's decision and says a final goodbye to Ke Le.







BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE

Directed by Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah, Miami detectives Mike Lowrey (Will Smith) and Marcus Burnett (Martin Lawrence) team up once more for a high-stakes mission. A ruthless crime boss is out for revenge, forcing

the duo to face intense chases, explosive gunfights and personal challenges. As they confront danger together, their bond is tested, blending action, humour and heart as Mike and Marcus fight to protect the city while balancing family and friendship.





YOUNG SHELDON

A delightful look at the early life of Sheldon Cooper

of Big Bang Theory. The show follows nine-year-old Sheldon as he navigates high school while trying to fit into a world that doesn't quite understand him. Balancing his academic brilliance with family dynamics, Sheldon's quirks and intellect often lead to both comedic and heartwarming moments.



YOU

Directed by Greg Berlanti and Sera Gamble, *You* follows

Joe Goldberg (Penn Badgley), a charming yet obsessive bookstore manager who becomes dangerously fixated on those he falls in love with. Using social media and other methods to track his romantic interests, Joe's infatuation quickly turns into stalking and manipulation.



RISE OF THE BILLIONAIRES

The show documents the incredible

journeys of tech moguls such as Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk and Mark Zuckerberg, revealing how they built their empires and shaped the modern world. This gripping docuseries sheds light on the ambition, risks and controversies that marked their paths to success.



FEVER PITCH: The rise of the Premier league

Fever Pitch dives

into the incredible rise of the English Premier League, Through interviews with players, managers and industry insiders, the series explores the league's humble beginnings to its status as a global powerhouse, and includes iconic matches, rivalries and behind-the-scenes moments.



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

SAS JOINS AS SKYTEAM'S NEWEST MEMBER

SkyTeam is delighted to welcome SAS Scandinavian Airlines on board. With its global reputation for reliability, quality and service, SAS is a great fit for SkyTeam and shares our vision when it comes to delivering a more integrated and responsible travel experience.

ENJOY EVERY MILE

It's great news for existing SkyTeam frequent flyers and SAS EuroBonus members alike; mutual benefits, including the ability to earn and spend points, are available across most members.

EuroBonus Gold and Diamond Members are now SkyTeam Elite Plus members. This offers a host of perks including SkyPriority services at eight key airport touchpoints - simply look for the red SkyPriority sign – as well as lounge access at 750+ locations worldwide. EuroBonus Diamond. Gold and Silver (Elite) members also benefit from additional baggage allowance.

MORE TO EXPLORE

Stuck for travel ideas? New destinations are waiting to be discovered with enhanced connectivity and a seamless, elevated customer journey via SAS's key Scandinavian hubs in Copenhagen, Stockholm and

Oslo. SAS has recently launched a new route from Copenhagen to Atlanta, expanding travel options between Scandinavia and the US, while members Air France and KLM offer an extensive Nordic network.

And here's an interesting network fact: with SAS now part of SkyTeam, our network spans the northern and southernmost commercial airports in the world - Svalbard in Norway and Ushuaia in Argentina. Best get planning some Arctic and Antarctic adventures.

DRIVING CHANGE

We're also delighted that SAS is participating in SkyTeam's Flight Challenge this year. This annual friendly competition unites global airlines in a shared mission to help reduce aviation's environmental impact.

Discover everything our new member, SAS, has to offer at www.flysas.com.

SkyTeam is a 19-member airline alliance. Find out more about news, services and upcoming events on skyteam.com



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Garuda Indonesia

TA

R Kenya Airways

KLBA

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* NTTO



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Guess where answer (from page 67): **Mumbai, India**

An amalgamation of seven islands, Mumbai offers a host of attractions, including the Hutatma Chowk in the Fort business district in the south of the city. Also not to be missed are the iconic Gateway of India arch, the magnificent Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya museum and the striking Global Vipassana Pagoda. 🏵 For more information about flights to Mumbai, go to www.kenya-airways.com

PROMOTIONAL EDITORIAL

THE CHANGING FACE OF TRAVEL

How KATA is supporting travel professionals

he travel industry has seen a significant transformation over the years, and the role of travel agents has evolved dramatically as a result. From the days of paper tickets and in-person bookings to today's digital world, the industry's landscape has shifted due to the rise in technology and travellers' changing tastes.

In the past, travel agents were the gatekeepers of travel information. Travellers relied on agents to provide THE SUCCESS OF A MODERN TRAVEL ADVISOR LIES IN BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS destination insights, make bookings and coordinate the logistics of their trips. However, technology has reshaped this dynamic. Today, they can access online booking platforms and compare prices at the click of a button, bypassing the need for an intermediary. This shift posed an existential threat to travel agents.

This has seen their role evolve from being simple intermediaries to becoming travel advisors, offering personalised, expert advice. According to Nicanor Sabula, CEO of the Kenya Association of Travel Agents (KATA), modern travellers value the tailored experiences that advisors provide, which go beyond what online platforms can offer. A travel advisor's role now includes understanding a client's needs, providing recommendations, and offering expert knowledge about destinations, logistics and special requirements.

While technology has simplified the booking process, it also comes with challenges, such as the overwhelming amount of information available online – and this is where the expertise of a travel advisor becomes crucial, ensuring clients receive accurate information and avoid potential pitfalls. The success of a modern travel advisor lies in building relationships and understanding clients' needs.

KATA supports advisors by offering capacity development, partnerships with organisations such as IATA and mentor programmes to help them thrive in this changing landscape.

In the end, the shift from travel agents to travel advisors reflects the broader changes in the industry. Travel advisors who offer personalized, trusted and insightful guidance will continue to play a crucial role in ensuring that travellers have smooth, enjoyable and memorable experiences.





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