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The very best hotels in Africa: The Gold List 2024

by FurtherAfrica — July 16, 2024 in Africa, FA, Telecom, Tourism, Travel, Weekend Reading Time: 5 mins read





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Whether or not investment comes from the public or private sector, hotel development and operation contribute to economic growth through job creation, income generation and empowerment, and poverty reduction.

Numerous hotel brands are establishing solid foundations on the continent. The big ones are predominantly South African-owned, such as Tsogo Sun, which caters to travelers from around the globe. Hotels rely on local farmers for agricultural products (poultry, beef, fish, etc.) and on local manufacturers of agro-allied products, such as fruit juice, dairy, and alcoholic/non-alcoholic beverages.

The choice of accommodation during vacation can make or break a trip, meaning selecting the right hotel can markedly impact the overall travel experience. Home to some of the most enthralling wildlife and landscapes on the planet, Africa has no shortage of options when it comes to hotels, so if you need a place to stay on your next vacation, these are the winning choices this year:

1. Noka Camp – Lapalala Game Reserve, South Africa

Noka Camp is nestled on a cliff overlooking the Palala River so that guests may hear hippos, zebras, or other wildlife from the lodge. The exclusive facilities bring together raw nature and state-of-the-art technology in a balancing act that works just perfectly - the villas are equipped with mechanisms that enable automatic doors to open and close seamlessly. NokaCamp is aimed at couples and small groups, with five private villas, each with its own outdoor lounge area and infinity plunge pool. It's ungated, so expect a visit from the wild inhabitants of the reserve at any time of the day or night.

2. La Mamounia – Marrakech, Morocco

Largely regarded as one of the best hotels globally, La Mamounia has 135 rooms, 71 suites, and 3 riads for rent. It's been around for tens of years and is in pristine condition. The sprawling gardens are ripe with citrus trees, ancient olive groves, sweet-scented rose blossoms, and Moroccan veggies, offering a lovely respite from the busy city of Marrakesh. Wi-Fi is provided complimentary. Still, don't allow yourself to feel vulnerable to malware. data theft, and security breaches and try these travel data plans from Holafly to stay connected with your family and friends.

3. Polana Serena Hotel – Maputo, Mozambique

Erected in 1992, the Polana Serena is a must-see historical landmark built by the Portuguese authorities, who wished to transform colonial Lourenço Marques into the Monte Carlo of Africa, which isn't surprising given southeast Africa's role on the continent. The hotel offers standard accommodation in the Polana Mar wing and sumptuous accommodation in the Main Building. Faithful to the Serena philosophy, Polana Serena merges architecture with



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4. SALT of Palmar - Mauritius, East Africa

The first *SALT* had to be in Mauritius, a paradise destination that promises unforgettable travel experiences, from natural wonders to thrilling adventures. *SALT of Palmar* couples modern comfort with genuine charm, so it embodies where form meets function with flair. And with local makers creating the furniture, art, and finer details, the Mauritian influence is unmistakably clear. Guests can enjoy many activities, such as windsurfing, snorkeling, and hiking. Those keen to explore the island are lucky because the hotel provides a guidebook created by the locals, not to mention bicycles for hire.



Image by Jörg Angeli

5. La Maison Arabe – Marrakesh, Morocco

Located in the heart of Marrakesh, *La Maison Arabe* has a rich past, graced by the presence of royalties and dignitaries like Sir Winston Churchill or Queen Ingrid of Denmark. This hotel is a 10-minute walk from the Jamaâ El Fna Square, a one-of-a-kind concentration of Moroccan cultural traditions accomplished through musical, religious, and artistic expressions. *Les Trois Saveurs* restaurant offers French, Moroccan, and Asian dishes with a modern twist in the dining area or the terrace overlooking the swimming pools and gardens.

6. La Clé De Montagnes - Franschhoek, South Africa

La Clé De Montagnes makes available rooms and suites in the Grange, Manoir, and Colonial Villas, as well as the spacious La Galerie. The charming village of Franschhoek is, without a doubt, South Africa's premier wine and food destination, about one hour from Cape Town – gourmet dinners are available on request, while fine spirits like Pinot Noir and Cabernet are complimentary. Kids of all ages are welcome, and sandboxes, garden toys, and babysitting services are available.

7. Lux Marijani Zanzibar – Zanzibar Island, Tanzania

Lux Marijani Zanzibar is an upscale resort paradise tucked away in a not-too-touristy location full of lush and fragrant gardens and a décor with skillfully carved hardwoods. It offers superb views of the Indian Ocean, home to vibrant coral reefs, whales, dolphins, and many fish species, but visitors who don't want to soak up the ocean views can indulge in the ultimate pool experience. Unfortunately, pets aren't allowed on the property. Lux Marijani Zanzibar is within a 10-minute walk of Mapenzi Beach and Pwani Mchangani Beach. Kiwengwa Beach and Muyuni Beach are also within a 3-minute walk away.

8. &Beyond Sossusvlei Desert Lodge – Namib-Naukluft National Park, Namibia

The lodge is located within the &Beyond Sossusvlei Private Desert Reserve, the largest private natural reserve in Southern Africa, which spans 12,715 hectares. You can see all the beautiful stars in the evening and find tranquility as you walk through the desert, the oldest in the world, which invites reconnection with yourself and nature. The architecture and elegant interiors are a testament to the otherworldly desert landscape that's so unusual, strange, and stunning. Besides stargazing and living dunes experiences, guests can enjoy scenic helicopter flights, e-biking, and hot air ballooning.

9. Mövenpick Hotel Gammarth Tunis – La Marsa, Tunisia

Mövenpick Hotel is located in Gammarth, in the suburbs of Tunis, commanding a view of the Mediterranean bays and the hills of Sidi Bou Said. Located in an exclusive residential area, the hotel can be reached by car from Tunis Carthage Airport without much difficulty and earns high marks for its attentive, professional staff, not to mention its sophisticated and serene atmosphere. Saint Louis Cathedral and Carthage National Museum are a 10-minute car ride from the hotel.

10. Ngoma Safari Lodge - Chobe National Park, Botswana



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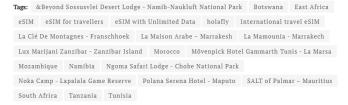
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Centre of excellence to boost Africa industrialization inaugurated in Addis **Ababa**















A Centre of Excellence opened in Addis Ababa to promote sustainable industrialization, agricultural modernization, and skills development across Africa.

During his mission to China, UNIDO Director General Gerd Müller, Luo Zhaohui, Chairman of the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), and Ethiopian Minister of Industry Melaku Alebel officially inaugurated the China-Africa-UNIDO Centre of Excellence located in Addis Ababa.

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The centre is a pioneering tripartite initiative, to promote sustainable industrialization, agricultural modernization, and skills development across Africa.

The initiative is the first tripartite flagship program of its kind, between Ethiopia, CIDCA and the UN agency, according to UNIDO.

In his address, Director General Müller emphasized the significance of the centre, stating, "The Centre of Excellence symbolizes a new era of cooperation and innovation, bringing cutting-edge low-carbon technologies and expertise to Africa."

Chairman of CIDCA, Luo Zhaohui on his part highlighted that the centre is a key implementation of President Xi Jinping's initiatives to support African development.

Melaku Alebel stressed Ethiopia's commitment to sustainable development and appreciated the support and cooperation with China and UNIDO.

The Joint Declaration for the Centre of Excellence Programme that was signed on this occasion highlights the ambitions for a long-term development of the programme.

The Centre aims to align with strategic frameworks such as the African Union's Agenda 2063 and Ethiopia's Ten-Year Development Plan, contributing to the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As part of the overall programme, Director General Müller signed agreements with CIDCA for two major projects in Ethiopia which will support mechanized agriculture systems and upgrade the national livestock value chain, improving the agri-business sector and increasing market access in Ethiopia.

Müller also participated in the Second High-Level Conference of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development, hosted by CIDCA.

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In his keynote speech, he emphasized the critical role of sustainable industrial development in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, stressing that sustainable industrialization is a key factor in ending hunger and poverty, providing clean energy for all, and ensuring environmental protection and climate change mitigation.

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