

THE YZ BUCKET LIST

101 things to do in Safari Africa

For newbies to the continent:

- 01 Witness the Great Migration (*of course this has to be #1!*)
- 02 Get a different perspective and take a hot air balloon ride over the Maasai Mara or the Serengeti
- 03 Stay in Cape Town for a few nights and tuck into the country's finest seafood
- 04 Walk up Table Mountain
- 05 Continue on to the Cape Winelands to soak up the stunning scenery
- 06 See and smell the African penguins at Simon's Town
- 07 Visit Robben Island for an injection of history
- 08 Take in the vast views of the Ngorongoro Crater from its rim
- 09 Stay in a barefoot beach retreat on the Zanzibar Archipelago
- 10 Dive with the gentle whale sharks in Mafia
- 11 Get the heart rate up with a thrilling great white shark cage dive
- 12 Visit the Apartheid Museum during your layover in Johannesburg
- 13 Witness the spray of 'The Smoke That Thunders' by air with a helicopter ride over Victoria Falls
- 14 Enjoy the wild beauty of the Cape of Good Hope
- 15 Meet some of the locals on a visit to a Maasai village
- 16 Tick off the Big Five checklist with phenomenal leopard sightings in the Sabi Sands
- 17 Drive along South Africa's famous Garden Route
- 18 Go whale watching around Hermanus
- 19 Travel in the dry season to watch epic wildlife sightings around the waterholes
- 20 Go on an afternoon walk with the San Bushmen and women

Been there and done the above? Try something like:

- 21 Climb Mount Kilimanjaro - but be aware this'll take about a week to accomplish
- 22 Jump (*carefully!*) into a mokoro for an immersive safari in the Okavango Delta

- 23 Be surrounded by grey giants and experience Chobe's incredible elephant population
- 24 Visit Amboseli for elephant-studded views of Mount Kilimanjaro
- 25 Overload the senses with a culinary tour around Zanzibar
- 26 Walk up the ochre-coloured slopes of Big Daddy dune in Sossusvlei
- 27 Brave the rapids and white water raft at Victoria Falls
- 28 Wine and dine yourself at Delaire Graff Estate, Stellenbosch
- 29 Take a scenic small plane flight over the Okavango Delta
- 30 Track leopards at Okonjima, the centre of AfriCat
- 31 Visit the township of Soweto
- 32 Be blown away by the panoramic views from a hot air balloon over the Namib Desert
- 33 Take charge and quad bike across the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans
- 34 Visit one of the glorious Singita properties
- 35 Follow in the footsteps of wild dog and track them in Linyanti
- 36 Stay in a mobile camp that follows the wildebeest migration in the Serengeti
- 37 Become part of the herd and walk with elephants in northern Botswana
- 38 Eat at The Test Kitchen in Cape Town (*advance booking essential!*)
- 39 Do a Nomad Tanzania safari
- 40 Swim up to the edge of Victoria Falls at Devil's Pool and hold on tight
- 41 Swap the car for a boating safari in Chobe
- 42 Take some change and go shopping for mementos in a local market
- 43 Experience the best game viewing in the Delta at a dry camp
- 44 Wait for the stars to come out and count the galaxies from your private veranda in Namibia
- 45 Travel to the Serengeti in February to watch the herds of the Great Migration drop their young during the three-week-long calving season
- 46 Embrace the harness and go bungee jumping off Bloukrans Bridge
- 47 Lead your taste buds on a journey to La Petite Colombe in Franschoek
- 48 Stretch the legs and go on a walking safari in the Serengeti from one of Alex Walker's Serian camps
- 49 Abandon luxury for unadulterated adventure with a fly camping safari at Sand Rivers in the Selous
- 50 Join the 'Save the Rhino' team to track and walk with desert rhino in Namibia's Damaraland
- 51 Have your breath taken away whilst having lunch at Singita Sasawka
- 52 Get a front-row seat along the Mara river in the northern Serengeti to watch a wildebeest river crossing
- 53 Feel like the only person in the world with a visit to Olduvai Gorge
- 54 Hold on tight and fly over Victoria Falls in a microlight flight
- 55 Stay two nights in a wet camp to appreciate Botswana's smaller wildlife

For safari veterans, maybe these are more your style:

- 56 Fish for the sharp-toothed tiger fish in Lake Kariba
- 57 Dust off your lenses and go on a photographic and birding-focused safari
- 58 Visit the boho-chic adventure camp Elephant Watch to see a successful conservation programme that goes above and beyond in its commitment to wildlife
- 59 Voluntarily be left in the bush by your safari guide and stay the night under the stars in a sleep-out or star bed
- 60 Try spotting the Elusive Five and encounter the curious meerkats in the remote South African game reserve Tswalu Kalahari
- 61 Take the luxurious Rovos Rail cross-country between Cape Town and Victoria Falls
- 62 Bring tissues and visit the Kigali Genocide Museum Centre in Rwanda
- 63 Witness another incredible migration - the zebra migration - across Botswana's Makgadikgadi Pan
- 64 Be persistent and patient in June and your reward might be to see the full unravelling of the Sardine Run, stalked by whales, sharks, birds, dolphins, and scuba enthusiasts alike
- 65 Visit one of the largest concentrations of rock engravings in Africa at Twyfelfontein
- 66 Float down the Rufiji river to be surrounded by the magnificent wildlife in the Selous Game Reserve
- 67 Take a day or two to help volunteer and make a difference to the country and people you are visiting
- 68 Break away from the big game for a little while and go on a safari in the Kalahari to look for scorpions, brown hyena, and other desert-inclined wildlife
- 69 Take up a paddle and canoe around Walvis Bay to spot seals, dolphins, pelicans, and flamingos
- 70 Career across the Okavango on horseback
- 71 Explore the grand English-style country house Shiwa Ngandu in Zambia
- 72 Grab your sense of adventure and go on an overland mobile safari through northern Botswana
- 73 Travel between mid-October and December to witness Zambia's colossal bat migration
- 74 Enjoy watching an elephant herd file one by one in their annual migration out of Tarangire National Park
- 75 Spend the day with the ancient hunter-gatherer tribe the Hadzabe people, who live near Lake Eyasi
- 76 Be one of very few people who have visited the remote yet entirely spectacular Katavi National Park
- 77 Go completely off grid and stay in a camp without Wi-Fi
- 78 Plan in advance (*about 18 months*) and have the breakfast of a lifetime at Giraffe Manor
- 79 Leave the stress of arranging and cooking Christmas lunch to the lodge and go on a safari over the festive period
- 80 Take in the scenery, culture, and history with a visit to South Africa's famous Battlefields
- 81 Join the research team to spend an extra 3 hours with a semi-habituated group of mountain gorillas

And finally...The YZ team dream list:

- 82 Take part in a Ride Mara Safari and explore the Maasai Mara on horseback – most of the wildlife will be unaware

of your presence, so you can get extremely close to the animals

- 83 A bushwalk like no other, set aside a few nights in Kenya to go on the Karisia Walking Safari - accompanied by camels
- 84 Take the Rovos Rail from Dar es Salaam to Angola
- 85 Track, by vehicle and on foot, the fastest-growing population of wild dog in Africa with a stay in Laikipia
- 86 Be thrilled by a scenic and open-doored helicopter ride between Linyanti and the Okavango Delta
- 87 Jump on the Wine Tram in Franschhoek and taste as many wines as possible in a day
- 88 Take a day trip from Entebbe to look for shoebills in the Mabamba Swamps
- 89 Get ready and go on a full-day hike through Bwindi Impenetrable Forest – not only is it the home of Uganda’s mountain gorillas, it is an ancient rainforest full of native birds, primates, plants, and trees that are often not seen elsewhere
- 90 Head to the Republic of the Congo’s national park Odzala-Kokoua to see the lowland gorillas
- 91 For ‘back to basics’ meets totally off the beaten track, spend a few nights in the Mwagusi area of Ruaha National Park
- 92 Meet Namibia’s fascinating northern tribe, the Himba people
- 93 Camp around Lake Natron for an early morning walk up Ol Doinyo Lengai
- 94 Leave your comfort zone and go walking with Stretch Ferreira through the elephant-heavy Mana Pools National Park
- 95 Visit the Quirimbas Archipelago for an uber-luxurious, post-safari beach retreat
- 96 Weave between the hippos, crocodiles, and swimming elephants as you canoe along the Zambezi river
- 97 Climb the forested slopes of Volcanoes National Park to encounter the mountain gorillas on a gorilla trek whilst staying at the mind-blowingly stunning lodge Bisate
- 98 Meet the legend Andrew ‘Moli’ Molinaro in Ruaha National Park
- 99 Pub-crawl Africa-style and go on a flying safari with a Schoeman along Namibia’s Skeleton Coast
- 100 Go on a walking safari through the Luangwa Valley
- 101 Stay at Greystoke and meet our closest cousins, the chimpanzees of Mahale Mountains National Park