“Jordan offers incredible experiences. You can stay in a Bedouin campsite for a meal, a day, or a night. Take a four-wheel-drive tour into the desert, following in the footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia. Stop at a tent shop and try a kohl eye lining; learn to tie (and buy) a Bedouin head scarf; and buy frankincense and myrrh, among other exotic scents.”

*LINDA S. SMITH, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA*

“Try to visit Victoria Falls during a full moon when the water levels are high (March through May) for a chance to see the ‘moonbows.’ Also, make sure to check out the nearby Elephant’s Walk Shopping and Artist Village for jewelry, sculpture, pottery, and more from Zimbabwean artists.”

*JESSICA OURISMAN, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND*

“Most travelers only overnight at Lake Naivasha, but spending a few days there will allow you to slow down and truly take in your surroundings. Try a safari by boat, horse, camel, or even hot-air balloon. Before returning home, carve out some time to relax on Kenya’s beautiful beaches.”

*KAREN PELINO, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA*
You’ll Always Enjoy

BREAKFAST FOR TWO DAILY • PREFERRED RATES & AVAILABILITY

BELMOND SAVUTE ELEPHANT LODGE
— CHOBE, BOTSWANA —

Perched on the banks of the now-flowing Savute Channel, Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge is a spectacular base from which to explore the area. Drama unfolds here daily with interactions between the high concentrations of elephants, the large lion prides and the many hyenas that inhabit the area. Savute is also unrivaled for its sightings of excellent predator and prey interaction during the drier months of August through October, and should be included on any Southern Africa safari.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Private dining experience on your room’s deck, once per stay.

HOTEL TIP
Be sure to take time to view the rock paintings, very rare artifacts left behind by the San Bushmen who once lived in the area.

Distance from Maun Airport (MUB): 40 minutes by light aircraft

ZAMBEZI QUEEN
— CHOBE RIVER, BOTSWANA & NAMIBIA —

Located on the Chobe River, the Zambezi Queen captures the spirit of elegance and adventure of a bygone era in a unique and contemporary setting. Enjoy unobstructed views from any of the 14 tastefully appointed suites featuring private balconies and air conditioning. On the top deck, floor-to-ceiling windows and sliding doors lead out onto the pool deck and offer superb wildlife viewing. With an estimated elephant population of around 120,000, the game viewing from this elevated vantage point is astounding. A variety of activities are offered, from game viewings, boma dinners and cultural village tours to tiger and bream fishing in season.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
R400 credit per person (R800 per cabin) for use in curio shop or toward spirits, once per stay.

HOTEL TIP
Included in your stay are game-viewing excursions on the Chobe River and a local village tour in Namibia’s Zambezi region.

Distance from Kasane Airport (BBK): 10 minutes

BELMOND KHWAI RIVER LODGE
— MOREMI GAME RESERVE, BOTSWANA —

Nestled on the edge of a leadwood forest, overlooking the vast Khwai River floodplains and beyond into the Moremi Wildlife Reserve, lies Belmond Khwai River Lodge. Situated in one of Africa’s most sought-after wildlife-viewing locations, the Lodge is renowned for providing access to impressive concentrations of large mammals, such as the elephant, buffalo and hippo, in addition to lion, leopard and wild dog. Day and night game drives are offered in open 4x4 vehicles. Belmond Khwai River Lodge is an ideal location for experiencing Botswana at any time throughout the year.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
30-minute massage, once per stay.

HOTEL TIP
Reserve a private vehicle, which offers you flexibility and the dedicated services of one of Khwai’s vastly experienced guides.

Distance from Maun Airport (MUB): 30 minutes by light aircraft
AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

BELMOND EAGLE ISLAND LODGE
– OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA –

Situated on the remote island of Xaxaba, shaded by a canopy of indigenous trees and ilala palms, Belmond Eagle Island Lodge overlooks a surrounding lagoon fed by the tranquil waterways of the delta. The area offers prolific birdlife and mammal game-viewing by boat and on foot, as well as the opportunity for a spectacular and mind-blowing game-viewing helicopter flight. The open sides of the helicopter allow you to take the most fantastic photographs and capture this experience forever.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Champagne mokoro (canoe) excursion.

HOTEL TIP
For a truly intimate safari experience, book the exclusive, very secluded private suite with extended deck and splash pool.

Distance from Maun Airport (MUB): 20 minutes by light aircraft

OL DONYO LODGE
– CHYULU HILLS (AMBOSELI REGION), KENYA –

Mount Kilimanjaro and some 275,000 acres of African savanna lie before you at Ol Donyo Lodge, Member of Relais & Châteaux, the standard-setter among East African bush lodges. Nestled on the slopes of the Chyulu Hills and skirted by Amboseli and Tsavo National Parks, Ol Donyo stands along the path of elephant migrations and boasts consistent wildlife viewing. Equally stunning is the 20-bed lodge, which offers some of the only villas in Kenya. In addition to 4x4 game drives and bush walks, you can join a horseback or mountain-bike safari, visit local Masai communities and track wildlife with the lodge’s scouts and scent hounds.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
50-minute massage for two, once per stay.

HOTEL TIP
For an incredibly romantic African experience, let the lodge staff set up a rooftop “star-bed” so you can sleep out under a blanket of stars.

Distance from Airport: not applicable

ANDBEYOND BATELEUR CAMP
– KICHLWA TEMBO, KENYA –

When your safari tent boasts private butler service, ceiling fans and a spacious bathroom en suite, you know you’ve arrived at a very special and romantic place. In fact, andBeyond Bateleur Camp is located close to the spot where the famous final scene of Out of Africa was filmed. Reflecting the ambience of 1920s and 1930s Kenyan safaris, this forest setting calls as much for relaxation as for exploration. In the morning and in the late afternoon, head out in open 4x4 safari vehicles, and then, in your downtime, take a dip in the deep lap pool or indulge in a Pan-African gourmet meal on the veranda.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Private dinner for two, once per stay; and personalized travel pack (including journal, shoulder bag, two luggage tags and voucher wallet) per couple.

HOTEL TIP
Book a hot-air balloon ride over the Masai Mara at dawn. Witness the great wildebeest migration river crossings, typically between July and October.

Distance from Private Airstrip: 30 minutes

EARLY CHECK-IN & LATE CHECKOUT when available • ROOM UPGRADE UPON ARRIVAL when available
Rustic adventure doesn’t get any more glamorous than at the Fairmont Mara Safari Club. Set along the banks of the hippo-favored Mara River in the heart of Africa’s most cherished wildlife reserve, its 51 tents feature four-poster beds and expansive decks; a number have outdoor showers. In addition to taking daily game drives, guests can join walking safaris, visit a local Masai community, go birding, ride BMW bikes or swim in the pool. Definitely plan a hot-air balloon ride over the Mara plains. Evenings are spent over African feasts served in a traditional boma, complete with dancing and music.

FAIRMONT MARA SAFARI CLUB
– MASAI MARA, KENYA –

MAHALI MZURI
– MASAI MARA, KENYA –

Sir Richard Branson’s Kenyan safari camp, Mahali Mzuri, opened in 2013 and offers an unforgettable safari experience in the Masai Mara ecosystem. Each of the 12 luxury tented suites sits on a raised platform and includes a spacious bedroom with an en-suite bathroom, sitting area and large deck overlooking the pristine landscape. The camp is located in the path of the great migration — on a typical game drive you’ll spot wildebeests, elephants, zebra, lions, buffalo, topi, hippopotamuses and many more! The impressive dining options include a wide selection of African and international dishes served in the main dining tent or out in the bush.

FAIRMONT THE NORFOLK
– NAIROBI, KENYA –

Founded in 1904 and still the traditional starting point for safaris, Fairmont The Norfolk has been host to heads of state, dukes and other royalty and European colonists through the years. Indeed, modern Nairobi has grown up and around The Norfolk, whose 170 guestrooms and suites provide a well-appointed base from which its guests explore city sights such as the Elephant Orphanage or the Giraffe Center in nearby Langata. Three hotel restaurants offer dining diversity — try a prized vintage on the cozy terrace of Cin Cin Wine Bar, then head to Tatu Restaurant for premium Kenyan Angus beef.
FAIRMONT MOUNT KENYA SAFARI CLUB
– NANYUKI, KENYA –

Set at the base of Africa’s second-highest peak, Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club feels as elite as it did in its 1960s heyday. Movie idol William Holden founded the club so friends like Ernest Hemingway and Winston Churchill could escape their worldly cares. Escape yours on 100 landscaped acres with stunning rose gardens, tranquil pools and croquet lawns. Visit the animal orphanage next door, and explore the surrounding reserve on mountain bike or horseback. Expect to be lavished with attention, treated to elegant repasts and cosseted in your royally decorated guestroom with fireplace.

Distance from Nanyuki Airport (NYK): 10 miles/16 km

SOFITEL CASABLANCA TOUR BLANCHE
– CASABLANCA, MOROCCO –

Called a “21st-century maison des arts,” Sofitel Casablanca Tour Blanche appears as a gleaming, 24-floor sculpture in the heart of Casablanca. Set opposite the Hassan II Mosque near the medina, this bespoke hotel seamlessly blends Moroccan ethos with contemporary French elegance. Expect dazzling views from most of its 171 accommodations; the 30 suites include butler service and benefit from a shower convertible to a hammam (steam system). After a Moroccan spa ritual, sit down to creative French fare at Brasserie La Tour restaurant.

Distance from Casablanca Airport (CMN): 22 miles/35 km

AMANJENA
– MARRAKECH, MOROCCO –

Everything about Amanjena is mesmerizing, including its 32 sunset-hued guest pavilions, each with a wood-burning sunken fire pit for romantic interludes and a terrace with a cozy cushioned seating area. The two-story maisons are like elegant Moroccan townhouses, each with inward-facing windows, a wall fountain and a marble-columned bathroom — there’s even a private swimming pool and garden. Slip away to the full-service spa with its truly Moroccan hammam and essential-oil massages; you’ll be invited to soak in a rose-petal bath and sip mint tea. Be sure to explore the numerous souks, with their countless treasures.

Distance from Marrakech Airport (RAK): 20 minutes

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
One-way or roundtrip private Nanyuki airport transfers.

HOTEL TIP
Book a William Holden Cottage, which offers private verandas and gardens along with outstanding views of Mount Kenya.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
$100 value food and beverage or spa credit, once per stay.

ADVISOR TIP
Mingle with the locals at the souk down the block, then enjoy a drink while watching the young and hip Casablancans in the lobby bar.
–Jean Pickard
Atlanta, Georgia

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
À la carte lunch for two (excluding beverages), once per stay.

ADVISOR TIP
For a memorable evening, have a romantic, private dinner in your courtyard surrounded by hundreds of candles.
–Jean Pickard
Atlanta, Georgia

EARLY CHECK-IN & LATE CHECKOUT when available • ROOM UPGRADE UPON ARRIVAL when available
FOUR SEASONS RESORT MARRAKECH
– MARRAKECH, MOROCCO –

Experience Marrakech refreshed at Four Seasons Resort Marrakech, located adjacent to the Menara Gardens, just a five-minute drive from the exotic energy of the ancient Medina. Here you’ll find a fresh Moroccan perspective: a calming resort with a light Moroccan touch. The inspiring retreat combines an impressive spa, landscaped pools, gardens and event space with a contemporary design that augments the sense of airy luminosity. Welcoming and uplifting, the resort offers couples, families and groups a stylish oasis within an intriguing ancient city.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Welcome amenity and $100 value spa credit, once per stay

ADVISOR TIP
This is a great place for families — from the pool and kids’ club to the sights and sounds of Marrakech, children are bound to have a ball!
–Sarah Warner
Fort Worth, Texas

Distance from Marrakech Airport (RAK): 10 minutes

KASBAH TAMADOT
– MARRAKECH, MOROCCO –

Kasbah Tamadot is a superb Moroccan retreat at the foothills of the Atlas Mountains just one hour’s drive from Marrakech. Here you’ll find relaxing comes easy and you are ideally situated to explore the mountains by foot or even by mule. Each of the 27 bedrooms, suites and Berber Tents is uniquely decorated with artifacts from around the world. Indulge yourself with a traditional Moroccan hammam, or take a dip in the outdoor infinity swimming pool. While the kids are enjoying a mule ride, you can explore the labyrinth of enchanting staircases and courtyards. Consider a Berber Tented Suite with private Jacuzzi and stunning views.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Hammam spa treatment for two, once per stay

HOTEL TIP
For an insider perspective, embark on an excursion to one of the nearby villages for tea in a traditional Berber home.

Distance from Marrakech Airport (RAK): 28 miles/45 km

LA MAMOUNIA
– MARRAKECH, MOROCCO –

Like Marrakech’s famed snake charmers, La Mamounia never fails to enchant. Surrounded by 20 lush acres of fragrant flowers, Barbary figs and olive trees, this legendary palace provides a serene oasis to discriminating world travelers. Rich tones, beautiful marble bathrooms and mood lighting define the 209 rooms, suites and riads, as do a cultured array of welcome amenities. Highly touted Le Marocain restaurant offers a flawless dining experience; join the chef for a master cooking class. The hotel pays homage to local culture with its impressive art collection and an annual literary prize.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
$100 value credit for spa treatments or food and beverage, once per stay; and, when booking a suite, room upgrade at time of booking, if available.

HOTEL TIP
Be sure to browse the boutique’s eclectic collection of gifts, which include La Mamounia’s own brand of olive oil and orange marmalade.

Distance from Marrakech Airport (RAK): 10 minutes
Encircled by luxuriant gardens and tranquil pools, Palais Namaskar offers an over-the-top oasis nestled in the Palmeraie and overlooking the Atlas Mountains. This ultra-exclusive enclave features 41 unique accommodations, ranging from spacious rooms with outdoor Jacuzzis to four-bedroom palaces with private butler service. Experiences are entirely tailor-made, from a candlelit lakeside dinner to private yoga classes and treatments in the feng shui spa. Have tea in a Berber house, join a personal shopper in Marrakech or ride a camel in the Sahara — you can even spend the night in Morocco’s first luxury mobile camp.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY**
VIP welcome with fruit and mineral water; and $100 value spa services credit, once per stay.

**HOTEL TIP**
The hotel offers courtesy car service to reach the city center and the Medina nearby, as well as complimentary sport activities with a coach on a daily basis.

**Distance from Marrakech Airport (RAK): 30 minutes**

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Built by the King of Morocco, the Royal Mansour Marrakech welcomes guests in exquisite fashion. Re-creating a traditional medina within the Old City walls, the resort comprises 53 elegant riads (Moroccan-style homes) with interior gardens. Each riad — ranging from 1,600 to a palatial 22,000 square feet in size — features countless bolts of silk and brocade, antique furnishings, handmade mosaic tiles and intricate woodwork. Twisting alleyways lead to tranquil Andalusian courtyards and a serene 27,000-square-foot spa. Two gastronomic restaurants and all-day dining are guided by three-Michelin-stars Chef Yannick Alleno.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY**
$100 value food and beverage credit, once per stay.

**HOTEL TIP**
Staff members access the resort’s riads through a series of underground tunnels, assuring you the most discreet personal service.

**Distance from Marrakech Airport (RAK): 15 minutes**

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As indulgent a setting as anyone could hope for, the 19th-century Dar Ahlam, Member of Relais & Châteaux, leaves fortunate guests enchanted and inspired. Set against a stunning Saharan panorama, this Skoura retreat features sumptuous suites and an expansive villa with mud-brick floors and adobe walls, decadent Moroccan cuisine, a swimming pool, hammam, Jacuzzi — even its own perfume parlor, with a selection of hand-cut soaps, body vinegars and massage oils. The riad, a traditional Moroccan house located in the midst of the resort, is dedicated solely to caring for the body through myriad pampering treatments at the wellness center.

**VIRTUOSO AMENITY**
50-minute massage for two, once per room.

**ADVISOR TIP**
Arrange a private picnic and dine on delicious local dates at your picnic table, which spans a babbling brook surrounded by pomegranate bushes.

-Kathy Bernstein
Chicago, Illinois

**Distance from Ouarzazate Airport (OZZ): 22 miles/35 km**
Moroccan Style

Sahara Tent Camp, Atlas Mountains, Jewish Heritage

Fly High, Go Deeper: An eight-day journey by private plane and helicopter provides an in-depth look at some of Morocco’s most select sites. Stay two nights at Kasbah Tamadot, Sir Richard Branson’s retreat in the Atlas Mountains — perhaps mountain biking in Mount Toubkal National Park or hiking through juniper and oak groves to take in the views from 5,740 feet. In Marrakech, explore the city with a renowned historian and spend two nights at the incomparable La Mamounia. Travel by helicopter to a remote Sahara tented camp, and then unwind in a traditional kasbah in the fertile Skoura oasis.

Royalty, Riads, and Romans: The splendors of Morocco’s four imperial cities of Rabat, Fès, Meknès, and Marrakech are contrasted against simpler pleasures — such as sunrise camel rides in the Sahara dunes and visits to rural Berber souks — on this 10-day private tour. Explore Roman ruins at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Volubilis, and discover the (more recently) historically significant city of Ouarzazate, backdrop for blockbusters from Lawrence of Arabia to Game of Thrones.

Jewish Heritage: A 13-day tour immerses you in the past and present of Judaism, from the Museum of Moroccan Judaism in Casablanca to the synagogues in Fès’s extensive Mellah (Jewish quarter) and the birthplace of prominent 18th-century scholar Rabbi Hayyim ben Moses Attar. A tradition unique to Moroccan Jews is making pilgrimages to the tombs of saints; visit one of the most important in the beautiful High Atlas town of Ourika. Because Jewish heritage ranges over the whole of the country, you’ll enjoy locales from relaxed seaside Essaouira to the biggest dunes in the Sahara at Erg Chebbi.
Moroccan Essentials: Spend 11 days exploring town-and-country Morocco in a sumptuous, private desert escape. This journey includes several private air transfers to speed you between opulent cities, including Marrakech and Fès, and to more remote sites, such as a luxury tented camp in the Sahara, the Roman ruins of Volubilis, and Berber villages in the Atlas Mountains. Learn to apply henna tattoos, take a cooking class, tour gardens, and soak up Moroccan hospitality at every turn.

Balloons over Marrakech: Travel in style via hot-air balloon over Marrakech and beyond for a day in the countryside. After your hour-long ride, enjoy mint tea and a quiet picnic lunch while taking in Atlas Mountain views. Drive onward over rough terrain through Agafay, “the desert of Marrakech,” to your Berber-style tent and relax in the tranquil ambiance — or go bold and try a camel ride. At dinnertime, enjoy live music, open fires, and stargazing until it’s time to head back to your hotel.

Garden Fragrances: Discover the enchanting Musée de la Palmeraie. Here, meet renowned ethnobotanist and perfumer Abderrazzak Benchaabane, developer of Soir de Marrakech perfume and your tutor as you uncork fragrances like musk, lavender, and jasmine to create your own signature scent.

Cross-Cultural Cooking: In the lush Amizmiz Valley, just 30 minutes outside Marrakech, join chef Tarik Harabida on his acres of olive trees and organic vegetable gardens for what is probably a first-of-its-kind lesson in Moroccan Jewish cooking. Prepare (and enjoy) the mint-infused salads, vegetable tajine, eggplant caviar, and other dishes developed by Moroccan Jews over two millennia; all ingredients, equipment, and workspaces are kosher.

Your Virtuoso travel advisor can arrange these exceptional experiences and more.

“SEEING FABLED MARRAKECH THROUGH AN ARCHITECTURAL LENS ENHANCES ITS BEAUTY. ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES IS TO VISIT THE LATE YVES SAINT LAURENT’S GARDENS WITH ITS CHIEF DESIGNER.”

– LOUISA GEHRING, VIRTUOSO ADVISOR, CINCINNATI, OHIO
AZURA BENGUERRA ISLAND
— BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO, MOZAMBIQUE —

Azura, the first eco-friendly resort in Mozambique, was hand-built by the local community and is operated in partnership with it. With just 17 villas, each sporting a personal infinity swimming pool, thatched roof and spectacular beachside location, Azura offers an enchanting seaside escape. Spend your days fishing, watching migrating whales and dolphins, and snorkeling or diving protected reefs. You can also relax on the beach and indulge in African spa treatments while a Mozambican butler-host looks after your every need. The island’s local people make for fascinating cultural encounters and the starry night sky is magnificent to behold.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
50-minute massage for two, once per stay.

ADVISOR TIP
Don’t miss the island-hopping excursion by private speedboat — the barbecue on Pansy Island will be the highlight of your stay.
—Gene Lashley
Atlanta, Georgia

Distance from Vilanculos Airport (VNX): 10 minutes

AZURA QUILALEA ISLAND
— QUIRIMBAS ARCHIPELAGO, MOZAMBIQUE —

Azura Quilalea Island is a hidden gem, a private, wholly uninhabited island paradise surrounded by the pristine waters of a marine sanctuary. The island has statuesque age-old baobab groves and stunning flora and fauna, with turtles nesting each year on the beaches. Azura at Quilalea is an eco-boutique retreat and consists of only nine seafront villas, accommodating 18 guests. This is paradise for lovers of marine life and offers snorkeling and scuba diving straight off the beach. Enjoy kayaking, deep-sea fishing, African spa experiences, exclusive picnics and beach dinners. All guests receive Azura’s trademark Mozambican butler/host service.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Choice of Guided Snorkeling Safari for two or $100 value Trading Store gift voucher, once per stay.

HOTEL TIP
To see humpback whales, visit between July and November. You’ll find nesting turtles from November to April, and dolphin pods year-round.

Distance from Pemba Airport (POL): 25 minutes

ANDBEYOND SOSSUSVLEI LODGE
— SOSSUSVLEI (NAMIBRAND NATURE RESERVE), NAMIBIA —

A sense of tranquillity overtakes one at andBeyond Sossusvlei Desert Lodge — inspired, no doubt, by the stillness of the dramatic Namib Desert. The ten stone-and-glass villas are equally serene, with split-level air-conditioned bedrooms, outdoor showers, custom-stocked bars and star-viewing skylights. After a day on a nature safari, dune drive or hike to view bushman paintings and take a dip in the springs-fed pool. Over sundowners, watch wildlife gather at a nearby watering hole, then sit down to exquisite Pan-African fare on the open deck or have a surprise dining location arranged. A resident astronomer unlocks the sky’s mysteries in the lodge’s observatory.

VIRTUOSO AMENITY
Private stargazing dinner for two, once per stay; and personalized travel pack (including journal, shoulder bag, two luggage tags and voucher wallet) per couple.

HOTEL TIP
For an adrenaline rush, grab one of the quad bikes and hit the trails, or float over the desert in a hot-air balloon; all are led by expert guides.

Distance from Private Airstrip: 6 minutes

You’ll Always Enjoy
BREAKFAST FOR TWO DAILY • PREFERRED RATES & AVAILABILITY