



This page, clockwise from top left Singita Game Reserve, South Africa. Game viewing in South Africa. Up close and personal with zebra at Makweti. Le Prince Maurice, Mauritius. Susie Freeman. Paradise Cove, Mauritius. Ellerman House, South Africa. Opposite Makweti Safari Lodge



Best of both worlds

SUSIE FREEMAN, WELL KNOWN FOR CREATING SUPERB TAILOR-MADE ESCAPES, HAS HER OWN FAVOURITE COMBINATION – SOUTH AFRICA AND MAURITIUS

‘YOU CAN EXPERIENCE so much variety with these two destinations’, says Susie Freeman. ‘The beauty of The Cape and the buzz of big game viewing followed by the gentle pace of Mauritius with its friendly people and wonderful food evoking the island’s multi-cultural roots.’

Start the journey in South Africa’s mother city. Nestled below the majestic Table Mountain, Cape Town’s landscape goes from crashing surf to serene architecture and offers something for everyone. Excellent restaurants, boutique shops and lively hospitality make this a vibrant, cosmopolitan city – and with Franschhoek less than an hour’s drive away, the Winelands are in easy reach.

Susie has her favourite places to stay here, depending on your style. Ellerman House is a faithfully preserved historical gem, full of exquisite art, and combines discreet hospitality with an air of tranquillity. It also has an excellent cellar of vintage wine. Kensington Place is perched on the edge of Table Mountain and has a sleek, contemporary interior dotted with eclectic African artefacts. A vision of steel, stone and glass, Ezard House consists of 10 well-appointed suites overlooking Camps Bay. With a spa, rooftop hot tub and all mod cons, it’s luxurious cossetting all

round. For something a bit different, why not stay on a working farm. Constantia Uitsig has 16 pretty rooms and is just a 15-minute drive from the city – ideally situated for mountain and vineyard walks, golf and horse riding. The two restaurants here are well-renowned for their fine cuisine.

There are two not-to-be-missed areas in South Africa – the Cape Winelands and a game reserve. In Franschhoek, just east of Cape Town, you’ll find the charming Auberge du Quartier Français, a small, privately owned inn situated in the scenic Huguenot valley where eating, drinking and enjoying the stunning scenery is very much the order of the day.

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After the lovely scenery of the Winelands, it’s time for the thrill of finding the Big Five. Head for the Makweti Safari Lodge in the Welgevonden Private Reserve to see elephant, lion, leopard, rhino and buffalo, as well as much, much more. Susie suggests three days on safari, and here is particularly good as it’s malaria-free. There’s plenty of choice when it comes to five-star lodges; Ant’s Nest is family-run

and you can experience the bush on horseback, before enjoying the colonial stylishness of Tuningi (also excellent for children). Makweti is an ideal honeymoon choice as it has just five secluded suites. You may prefer to visit Kruger National Park, where Singita Private Game Reserve offers chic serenity. Wherever you stay, you can be sure of fabulous food, wine and top-notch service.

After the excitement of safari, the tropical magic of Mauritius awaits to cast her spell. Susie knows the island and its resorts inside out. On the east coast is the exclusive Le Prince Maurice, with its beautiful secluded suites and spacious health spa. There’s also the romantic Paradise Cove and the cool

contemporary elegance of The Residence. Whatever resort whets your appetite (and the food will be delicious wherever you stay) on this idyllic island you can rest assured you’ll be well looked after. Susie and her team will create your personalised, bespoke tailor-made itinerary, make all the necessary arrangements and even, if you wish, tell you what to pack. n



FURTHER INFORMATION
● To find out more about combining South Africa with Mauritius, get in touch with Susie Freeman ☎ 01488 668821 or visit www.susiefreemantravel.com

