



*Inspiring new ways*



**December 2014**

**Four places where the rich and famous stay in South Africa, that is the focus of our December edition. These are four amongst many. South Africa is known for its top quality hotels and resorts. If money were no object, where would you check-in? Here is our pick of some of South Africa's favourite jet-set establishments. After all it is Christmas time.**

**Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel, Cape Town**

Affectionately known to locals as 'the Nellie', this hotel is the undisputed grande dame of Cape Town. While many rich and famous people have passed through its portals, the staff here will never breathe a word about their guests. The Mount Nelson first opened its doors in 1899 and it was where the British Royal Family stayed during their 1947 tour of South Africa. One of its great traditions is afternoon tea in the lounge. You never know which famous figure you might encounter, tucked away in an armchair between the potted palms and the petits four.

More information: [www.belmond.com/mount-nelson-hotel-cape-town/](http://www.belmond.com/mount-nelson-hotel-cape-town/)





### **Singita Ebony and Singita Boulders, Mpumalanga**

No visit to South Africa would be complete without going on safari and, in this respect, there are many luxury lodges to choose from. One name, Singita, crops up regularly in all the listings. Both Singita Ebony and Singita Boulders lodges are located in the private Sabi Sand Reserve on the bank of the Sand River on the edge of the Kruger, offering excellent access to big-cat country. It seems this is where Paris Hilton spotted her 'tiger' in Africa. These lodges also recently featured on the *Condé Nast Traveler* 2014 list of best hotels in Africa and the Middle East.

More information: [www.singita.com](http://www.singita.com)

### **The Oyster Box, Durban**

The Oyster Box is where Princess Charlene (née Wittstock) held a reception for her South African friends after she married Prince Albert of Monaco. Princess Charlene used to live in KwaZulu-Natal when she was still a swimmer on the South African Olympic team, thus her attachment to this colonial hotel with its unsurpassed location, right next door to the balmy Indian Ocean.

More information: [www.oysterboxhotel.com/](http://www.oysterboxhotel.com/)



### **The Cape Grace, Cape Town**

Topping the Trip Advisor list for best hotels in South Africa in 2014, the Cape Grace is where the likes of actress Meryl Streep stay when in Cape Town. Ideally located in the heart of the V&A Waterfront, this hotel is renowned for its outstanding service, beautiful rooms, great views of Table Mountain, exceptional food and easy pedestrian access to major tourist attractions in a safe and secure area.

More information: [www.capegrace.com](http://www.capegrace.com)



## FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA – December 2014



### 50 Miler Canoe Marathon 2014 - KwaZulu Natal, Durban

**When:** 6 & 7 December 2014

**Where:** Durban

**More information:** [www.50miler.co.za](http://www.50miler.co.za)

This two-day event offers paddlers from around the country the opportunity to experience the thrill of the rapids, weirs and obstacles along a route that hosts the annual Dusi.



### Kirstenbosch Summer Sunset Concerts

**When:** 23 November 2014 – 5 April 2015

**Where:** Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden

**More information:** [www.sanbi.org/events/kirstenbosch](http://www.sanbi.org/events/kirstenbosch)

Billed to take over Cape Town's historic and stunning botanical gardens every Sunday from 23 November 2014 to 5 April 2015, the ever-popular outdoor live music series returns with a vast and varied line-up that's likely to appeal to all music lovers.



### MZANSI FELA FESTIVAL 2014

**When:** 1-15 December

**Where:** Pretoria

**More information:** <http://www.statetheatre.co.za/>

The SA State Theatre's annual Mzansi Fela Festival is back again. The Mzansi Fela Festival has become one of the most anticipated festivals of the year in the Tshwane Metropolitan. The festival presents some of the most exciting music, theatre, dance, comedy and poetry in South Africa. Launched in 2007 the festival has grown in leaps and bounds from being "Mzansi on Stage" to "Mzansi Fela Festival" presenting the arts and diversity of our country.



### MORE EVENTS

- ☒ Shongweni Christmas Market 2014 (16 Dec) [www.shongwenimarket.co.za](http://www.shongwenimarket.co.za)
- ☒ Summer Fest (1 Dec 2014 -1 Jan 2015 ) [www.suninternational.com](http://www.suninternational.com)
- ☒ Nedbank Golf Challenge (4 – 7 Dec ) [www.nedbankgolfchallenge.com](http://www.nedbankgolfchallenge.com)
- ☒ Spier's Festival of White Lights (5 Dec) [www.spier.co.za](http://www.spier.co.za)
- ☒ Summer Swing Golf @ The Els Club (3 Dec) [www.ernieelswines.com](http://www.ernieelswines.com)

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