

Singita

SINGITA KWITONDA LODGE FEATURES ON COVETED TRAVEL + LEISURE IT LIST FOR BEST NEW HOTELS IN THE WORLD



February 2020 – Singita Kwitonda Lodge in Rwanda has been selected in the Travel + Leisure 2020 ‘It List’ of Best New Hotels in the World. Opened in August 2019, the lodge, named after a legendary silverback gorilla, is set on 178 acres on the edge of Volcanoes National Park, with which it shares a 1.2km border. It’s the only lodge in such close proximity to the Park, which is home to more than half of the world’s endangered mountain gorillas.

Singita Kwitonda Lodge and the adjacent Kataza House – an exclusive-use villa – reflect Rwanda’s rich cultural heritage and natural beauty. The creative inspiration provided by the magnificent ‘gentle giants of the forest’ translates to an authentic and sophisticated African experience, layered with rich textures, tones and décor elements. Breathtaking natural surrounds are integrated into the entire guest experience, punctuated with soothing touches such as large picture windows overlooking three volcanoes, in- and outdoor fireplaces, private heated plunge pools and in-room massage beds.

As with every one of Singita’s 15 lodges and camps in Africa, sustainability underpins all operations at Singita Volcanoes National Park. It was also a key driving force in the design and development of

Kwitonda and Kataza House. The One Planet Living sustainability framework – a set of 10 principles that guide all of Singita’s decision-making on the ground – ensures that it treads lightly on the land.



Kwitonda’s farm-to-table food journey celebrates Rwandese cuisine and features fresh produce from the lodge’s on-site Akarabo Garden & Nursery. Singita’s presence in Rwanda supports the company’s 100-year purpose to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations and to date, the nursery has provided approximately 250,000 indigenous forest shrubs, bamboo shoots and trees for Singita’s extensive reforestation initiative in the area. In time, Singita’s long-term reforestation and rehabilitation of the land surrounding the lodge aims to increase the natural habitat of mountain gorillas in the Park.

Singita Founder and Executive Chairman, Luke Bailes says: “It was an absolute dream to expand our conservation footprint into Rwanda – a beautiful country with a remarkable conservation success story. Contributing to the country’s enormous conservation efforts is both a privilege and a serious responsibility. We are proud to receive such prestigious recognition for our lodge from Travel + Leisure, which is a respected authority on travel globally.”

For 2020, Travel + Leisure's trusted network of travel pros, writers and editors selected truly standout properties from 32 countries in pursuit of “memorable, game-changing new hotels of the year” for its annual ‘It List’. According to Travel + Leisure, “The 72 selected hotels are top of their game, adding something new to the conversation, hitting the sweet spot between hotel hospitality and vacation-rental hominess.” View the full list here: <https://www.travelandleisure.com/slideshows/it-list-the-best-new-hotels>



Note to Editors:

Singita is a conservation and ecotourism brand that has been preserving African wilderness for the past 27 years, offering guests exceptional safari experiences at 15 luxury, award-winning lodges and camps across six regions. In partnership with non-profit Funds & Trusts who implement strategic conservation projects in each region, Singita’s 100-year purpose is to protect and preserve large areas of African wilderness for future generations.

Reservations can be made as follows:

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