

# Inspiration

HOTELS  
 REVIEWS

## Bed rest

In the spotlight: a Peech in Johannesburg, vegan high tea in Cape Town, Limpopo bush nights and a bath to die for in Zimbabwe

### REVIEWS



**Mhondoro Safari Lodge and Villa**, Welgevonden Game Reserve, Vaalwater, Limpopo

**Best for:** *a pool with a view*  
 In a malaria-free reserve with sizeable populations of elephant and rhino, Mhondoro Villa is old-school safari luxury dressed in contemporary clothes.

**Staying in:** The food is outstanding and from the deck – or the pool – you get a first-class view of the water hole. There is also an underground water-level hide. Why go out?

**Going out:** This is Big Five country and the six-sleeper private villa comes with its own ranger, who'll find the best game viewing, even on foot if you want. Just ask.

**Book it:** R45,000 per night for four; [mhondoro.com](http://mhondoro.com)



**Amalinda**, Matobos, Zimbabwe

**Best for:** *real novelty*  
 Genuine back to nature stuff; Amalinda is carved out of the Matobos boulders.

**Staying in:** The lodge meanders through those boulders, with dining and other public rooms on various levels, hidden among the branches and the rocks. Suites are essentially luxurious semi-caves you'll be loathe to leave.

**Going out:** Matobos is back in the limelight, that otherworldly, granite landscape that is home to ancient art, Cecil John Rhodes' grave and a park full of game. Self drive, ride or go by Land Rover.

**Book it:** From US\$484 per person per night; [amalindacollection.com](http://amalindacollection.com)



**The Twelve Apostles**, Cape Town

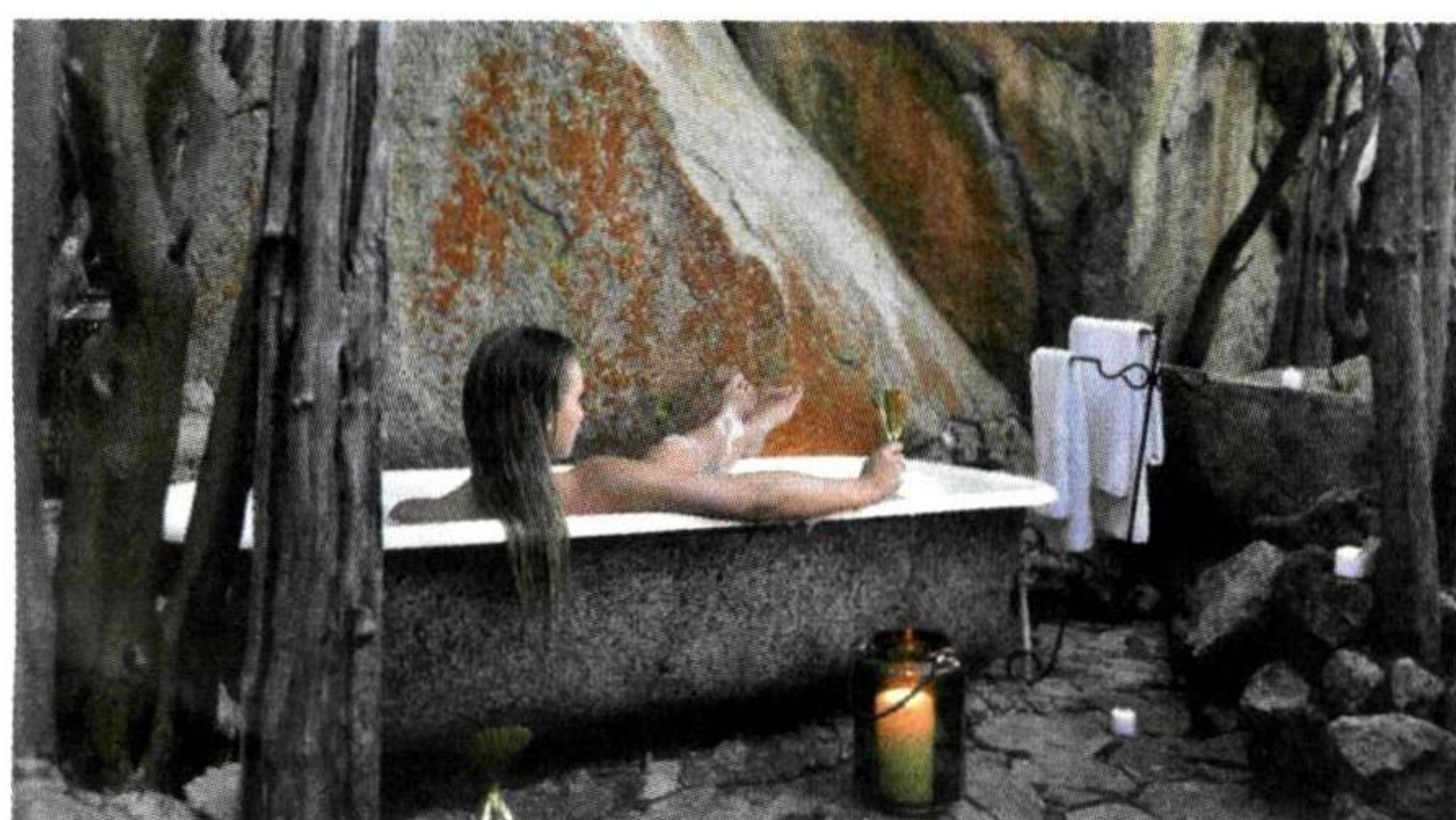
**Best for:** *health and wellness*

Away from Camp's Bay mayhem, in Table Mountain National Park, the 12A, as it's fondly known, mixes thick pile tradition inside with concrete contemporary on the Atlantic view decks.

**Staying in:** The spa draws a global clientele, the gin lab at the Conservatory attracts the locals and a new vegan high tea supplements the vegan tasting menu.

**Going out:** *Go au natural:* dive suitless – if you dare – with mantas in the kelp forests over the road (see page 32) or head to Sandy Bay for butt-naked tanning.

**Book it:** From R4,960 per person per night sharing; [12apostleshotel.com](http://12apostleshotel.com)



### THE HOTELIER

**IT'S CLEARLY A TREND IN HOTELS** that socialising is back in vogue; be it brunch at communal tables, sundowners around a fire-pit, outdoor movie nights (thebioscope.co.za), garden yoga (yogaworks.co.za), or secret sunrise sessions (secretssunrise.com). A great way to bring like-minded travellers together.

**SIZE MATTERS; IT'S THE ABIDING LUXURY.** The Peech is often lauded for its generously sized rooms and bathrooms, yet it also offers intimate, peaceful and interesting design spaces throughout the hotel and gardens. It's what makes us genuinely unique.

**MY JO'BURG? IF I'M OFF DUTY,** I like to stock up on artisanal products such as Polish cured meats by Wiktor at Victoria Meats at the Neighbourgoods Market in Braamfontein on a Saturday morning ([neighbourgoodsmarket.co.za](http://neighbourgoodsmarket.co.za)). I'm also fond of a slow wander around the galleries on the Keyes Art Mile in Rosebank ([keyesartmile.co.za](http://keyesartmile.co.za)).

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