



## Zibadianja

Okavango Delta, Botswana

Colin Bell, the hero behind the mighty Wilderness Safaris, gone back to his roots with this camp. On the eastern fringe of the vast 300,000-acre Selinda Reserve, it's blissfully isolated and so wild there are still parts of it where no man has walked. It's old school. There's no frippery. Just Africa. Barely nine months old, it's colonially smart, with four huge tented pavilions in the shade of jackalberry trees. Each one has Persian rugs, an enormous bed, a freestanding copper bath and – best of all – in the middle of the bathroom a golden globe of a fireplace that roars and warms up the tent on chilly mornings. Book with friends, but grab room number one for yourself – it has more privacy. Out there floodplains and savannahs are home to herds of roaming elephant, migrating buffalo, big cats and wild dogs. As you sip Amarula by the campfire, local girls will serenade with sweet, soft Setswana song. On this seriously secluded safari, you get the real blood and guts of the continent, as well as all of its considerable charm. **Website** selindareserve.com. **UK reservations** Africa Travel Centre (tel: 0845 450 1541). **Rates** Double, from £1,120, full board. ▶

## Sasaab

Samburu National Game Reserve, Kenya

Hot African magic is what you'd expect from safari legends Tanya and Mikey Carr-Hartley and this lodge is an instant hit. Calvin Klein and Donna Karan have dropped in and it's Liz Earle's favourite place. Sasaab has real African heart, but also theatre and thrills. In the dust of this sunburnt landscape, a crocodile snaps at a baby elephant crossing the river.

At dusk, a leopard roars in the near-darkness.

And the nine tented rooms are beautiful – light, airy, whitewashed, arabesque. Tanya has a wickedly cool glamour and Mikey a tremendous natural wit. So, safari perfection in one happy valley. **Tel** 00 254 2089 2234. **Website** sasaab.com.

**Flight reservations** virgin-atlantic.com.

**Rates** Double, from £640, full board.

