

DESTINATIONS



A-LIST TRAVEL

Stalwart of the local travel industry and Sales & Marketing Director for American Express Foreign Exchange, Blacky Komani says packing your common sense is an essential ingredient for happy travels.

• **Favourite international destination?**

I absolutely love Buenos Aires in Argentina. The people are so friendly and welcoming.

• **Favourite local destination?** Apart from Ronnie's Sex Shop [a pub] in the Klein Karoo, I'd say Motlatse (Blyde River) Canyon in Mpumalanga. The place is breathtaking and has such a calming effect on me.

• **Favourite city?** Undoubtedly New York City! After spending six years there as a representative of South African Tourism, I could still go back and spend many more years.

• **Best place in the world to eat?** Tank Restaurant in Cape Town. I also love Soho in New York – eating outside in summer is the best.

• **Never leave home without?** Common sense and local currency – in that order!

• **Travel tips?** Always travel light. Stop comparing destinations – just enjoy what each one has to offer. Be nice to the New York cab drivers – they may not speak English, but they sure as hell expect you to tip them, otherwise *groot k*kl!* Make sure that you have local currency at all times. Try new things.

• **Never again?** Caracas Airport in Venezuela! Looks like a military base, and it's pretty frightening when the lights go out – which happened to be the case when I was there.

Edited by Denise Slabbert



Destination: **TSHUKUDU, PILANESBERG**

Refurbished last month, Legacy's super-luxe Tshukudu Bush Lodge is tucked against the mountainside in the heart of the Pilanesberg National Park and is within easy striking distance of Sandton (less than two hours' drive). The R5-million face-lift was undertaken by Joan King, the interior designer behind Tshukudu's original look some 25 years ago. It sees modern glamour contrasting with the bush backdrop, a look that's particularly appealing for savvy globetrotters who are looking for something light years beyond the *Out of Africa* look. **Details:** From R6 095 a night for a single, fully inclusive; R8 710 a night for couples, fully inclusive; tel 0800-468-357; www.legacyhotels.co.za



Destination: **ROCKWELL ALL-SUITE HOTEL, CAPE TOWN**

Queensgate Hotel & Leisure recently launched The Rockwell All-suite Hotel Apartments in the trendy De Waterkant area. Their design was inspired by the early 1900s buildings of Lower Manhattan. On offer are sophisticated self-catering apartments (one bedroom or two) close to all the Mother City's top amenities. **Details:** From R1 470 (single rate B&B); tel (021) 421-0015; www.therockwellapartments.co.za



Destination: **VICTORIA & ALFRED HOTEL, CAPE TOWN**

Newmark Hotels is giving their iconic V&A Hotel at the Waterfront a R5-million spruce-up, including six new executive suites. Pamper yourself and a partner with a Wellness Package brimming with VIP treatment – sparkling wine, fine dining, spa treatments and massage, chauffeur-driven airport transfers and more. **Details:** R4 915 for a double (mountain facing). Rates valid until 31 August 2009; tel (021) 419-6677; www.vahotel.co.za