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Over 90 percent of Madagascar's wildlife cannot be found anywhere else on Earth.



Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo's capital, is the second-largest French-speaking city in the world.

# Habari



## Photography Elegance And Luxury

Photos by Nigerian fashion photographer Oye Diran exude elegance and luxury. With a sharp eye for lighting, he juxtaposes detailed motifs with characteristic splashes of colour. Much of his work focuses on the beauty of African women. A self-trained artist, he has honed his skill through books, online video tutorials and plenty of practice.

~ Instagram: @oye\_diran

The country of Cape Verde is a horseshoe-shaped cluster of 10 islands and 8 islets.



## Nairobi

South Africa is home to the Comrades Marathon, the world's largest ultramarathon. The event takes place in the KwaZulu-Natal province.



### Food Italians Are Here. With Their Pizza

How do you tell good pizza from bad pizza? The answer could be at Pizzeria Il Portico, the new pizza joint at Lavington Mall. They have mozzarella. They leave their dough overnight. Their thin crust doesn't bend when you lift it off the plate, which they say, is the mark of a good pizza. And their technique is from northern Italy. The space is small and cosy. They have Italian wine. They have passion and confidence that their pizza is the best in town.

### Coffee Kesh Kesh Roastery

Coffee has become more than a beverage in Nairobi; it's morphing into a sub-culture of its own. There isn't a better illustration than Kesh Kesh, the Eritrean coffee shop in Hurlingham. It's a place that has turned coffee-drinking into a ceremony. Kesh Kesh is a place to celebrate coffee. It's a place for friends and family.

~ keshkeshroastery.com



### Talking tables Chef at The Hilton

There is a fine-dining restaurant at the new Hilton Garden Inn near Jomo Kenyatta International Airport called the Garden Grille. It can easily pass off as just another hotel restaurant that takes itself too seriously until the chef lays it down. The executive chef is called Nicholas Matu and he does some sort of mumbo jumbo thing with his cuisine. First, there aren't too many places that gets their soup down pat like Garden Grille. Try out the wild mushroom soup with black truffle oil and parmesan air. There is also a flair with which Matu plays with ingredients to create a culinary jamboree. If you're a meatlover then take a stab at their braised short ribs of beef with butterbean paste.

~ hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com

### Sports Arena One

Behind Valley Arcade, a small mall in Lavington, there are three small football pitches. [They close at 11p.m.] There is also a gym – Curve Studio – a women-only fitness studio. And Fraiche, a health bar for those freshly squeezed juices and healthy smoothies. It's the ultimate space for urbanites who are looking to work out while also having fun and looking cool. Naturally.

~ arenaone.co.ke



Nairobi page text: Jackson Biko

“Let go of the old light. That is what the evening is for”

– Nayyirah Waheed (Poet) –

After 10 years of absence, black rhinos have been reintroduced to the Akagera National Park in Rwanda.



## What's On

Most tourists in Tanzania flock to the nature areas in the north, but there are many regions to the south worth visiting, such as Kitulo National Park.

### Sport Ironman in The Heart of South Africa

Ironman races are famous around the world for their gruelling 3.86-km swim, 180-km bike ride, and a marathon. Ironman athletes interested in a unique African bush edition can participate in the Bela Bela Triathlon, which will take place on 4 August in the heart of South Africa's Limpopo province.

~ eu.ironman.com



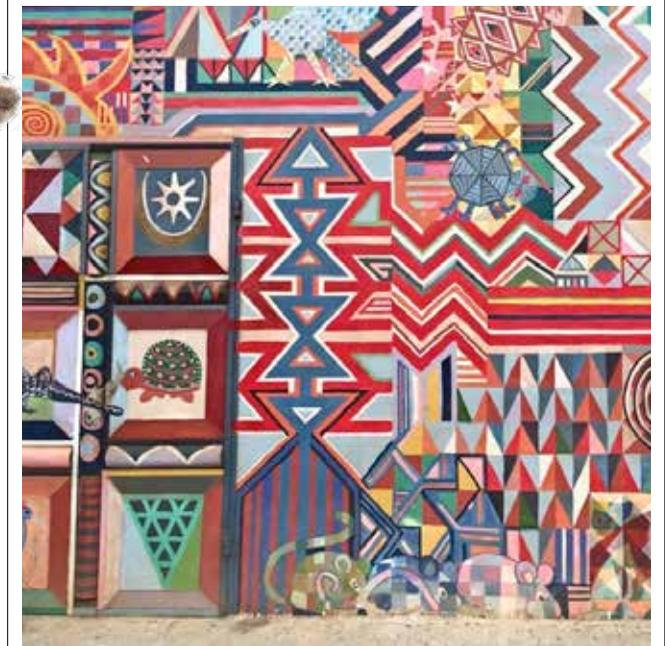
“Loving you was like going to war, I never came back the same”

– Warsan Shire –  
Somali Poet

### Art Nubuke Foundation

This art space in Accra, Ghana aims to make the appreciation of art, culture, heritage and history accessible to all. Its artistic programme includes exhibitions, talks, film screenings, performances, seminars and workshops. The Nubuke Foundation is definitely worth a visit if you find yourself in Ghana's vibrant capital.

~ nubukefoundation.org



### Food festival Oysters for All

From 29 June to 8 July, oyster enthusiasts will gather at the annual Knysna Oyster Festival in the coastal town of Knysna, the heart of South Africa's breathtaking Garden Route. But the festival is more than just oysters. It's also South Africa's premium sport-and-lifestyle gathering, offering a diverse and exciting programme with more than 100 fun family activities over 10 days.

~ oysterfestival.co.za

Habari text: Eva de Vries

During the 16th and 17th centuries, Togo and the surrounding region were known as “the slave coast”.



## Column

Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, is nicknamed the “City of Acacias”, after its avenues that are lined with acacia trees.



Jackson Biko

# Kelvin Klein

If you're from northern Europe (or North Dakota in the US) you will not believe this is our winter, because it could be your best summer. But you have landed smack in the middle of our coldest period of the year. Be warned, temperatures will “plunge” (a word newspapers will use with abandon during this time, if you are brave enough to read one) to 14°C. Can you believe that? A few years ago, our July temperature dropped to 11°C and I was sure the end of the world had come. It was so cold that I felt ice droplets develop on my liver. We became mean as a people; grim, inward-looking, and quick to anger. We became very Finnish, but perhaps minus the anger bit, I suppose. It's also during this time that I saw a backpacker – probably from Colorado – prancing about in sandals and shorts (gulp), very happily ambling along the cold streets of Nairobi with a big jolly smile, eating maize (corn in the US) as he peered at his map along with his hippy girlfriend. I thought he was either cuckoo or a magician. He reminded me of those people who walk barefoot on a bed of fire.

On my first trip to Europe, a decade ago, I landed in Berlin at the end of February, the tail end of winter. It must have been 2°C outside. I was so cold that sometimes I'd check to see if I still had my nose on my face. I wondered how these Germans could walk around with their noses exposed like that without them falling off. Was there a special ointment they were applying? The Germans were so blue...er white, yes, but also blue. The air felt so harsh with that cold and everybody walked with their heads bowed. Even the German dogs. Poor little pretty things. I wondered how their noses were fairing given that dog noses are always so wet. That was the only time I could understand someone carrying their dog, like those little old ladies who shuffle down streets, holding fluffy dogs under their arms.

In July, Nairobi feels like this even though it never gets below 11°C. It's all gloom. At 15°C we all peer out of windows suspiciously, afraid of the cold, wondering if the Second Coming is here. “Is that Jesus walking through that thick mist of cold? Wait, that can't be him, he never leaves without his

staff.” That's just the strange yoga teacher from Belarus walking his beard. Unlike Europeans, we avoid bars generally at this time. We tend to go to bars because we are happy, not because we are miserable. All the cafés with outside seating will also be avoided. We drink lots of tea during this time, because, well, we are a British colony. We also eat porridge. We sleep in socks and hoodies. And all we talk about on the radio is how cold it is, how global warming is going to kill us all. Then our most dramatic peers start wearing gloves to work.

Thankfully this cold period only lasts 30 days, but because of global warming, it now seems to start earlier and stay longer. But the sun normally comes out and the whole city perks up again. We go back to our usual lives of talking about politics

“I saw a backpacker prancing about in sandals and shorts (gulp)”

and we flock to the cafés with outside seating that we had avoided. On our streets, we meet backpackers with their shirts off, trodding along in the heat in their sandals and long hair. Funny thing is, if you are white and shirtless in the streets of Nairobi in June, you're not crazy, you're eccentric and free, and curious, and you have the sun in your pockets. But if you're white and shirtless in July (our winter) you are definitely mad. Of course this kind of person would quote track-and-field coach, and cofounder of Nike, Inc. Bill Bowerman, who said, “There is no such thing as bad weather, just soft people”.

Illustration: Hannah Wieslander

Former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill referred to Uganda as the “Pearl of Africa” for its magnificent beauty.



## Arts & Culture

Botswana is home to the world's densest population of elephants. The best place for spotting the majestic creatures is Chobe National Park.



Food

### African Luxury Chocolate

West African countries produce more than 70 percent of the world's cocoa, but most of it is exported to foreign countries. Priscilla and Kimberly Addison, two sisters from Ghana, are using their country's precious beans to produce their own artisanal African chocolate. It's called '57Chocolate.

~ [57chocolategh.com](http://57chocolategh.com)

### Tradition Mwaka Kogwa

Every July, people travel from across Tanzania to participate in Mwaka Kogwa, a unique celebration that involves whipping each other with banana stems. This traditional ritual is part of the Persian or Shirazi New Year, which is still celebrated by East African descendants of Persia migrants. The four-day festival takes place in Makunduchi, a small town on the southeastern tip of Zanzibar Island.



### Festival Feel The Summer

Take a break from the traffic and feel the warm summer vibes at this year's Abuja Summer Festival in Abuja, Nigeria. There's something for everyone: music, playgrounds, movies, waterslides and much more. It's a perfect summer adventure for families, friends and couples. The event is scheduled for 4-5 August at Jabi Lake Park.

~ Facebook: [@abujasummerfestival](https://www.facebook.com/abujasummerfestival)

### Market Pop Up & Chill

With Nairobi becoming more and more artsy by the day, here's yet another hip summer event to add to your calendar: The Pop Up & Chill Handmakers Market. You can shop for funky wares that are handmade by local artisans, chefs and woodworkers. The market has everything from decorative artwork to organic peanut butter, furniture and leather bags.

~ Facebook: [@popupandchill](https://www.facebook.com/popupandchill)



### Our picks African Movies

With so many new African films to see, it's hard to choose. Here are four artistic films we love by some of the fiercest producers of black cinema from across Africa.



#### Liyana | Swaziland

In this animated film, a Swazi girl named Liyana embarks on a dangerous journey to rescue her young twin brothers. The film was created by five orphaned children in Swaziland under the guidance of acclaimed

South African storyteller Gcina Mhlope.



#### Kalushi | South Africa

This is the true story of Solomon, a 19-year-old street salesman from Mamelodi, a township outside the South African city of Pretoria. After being

brutally beaten by apartheid police during the 1976 Soweto uprisings, Mahlangu goes into exile and joins the liberation movement.



#### Watu Wote | Kenya

Kenya has been targeted by Al-Shabaab terrorists for over a decade and the anxiety and mistrust between Muslims and Christians is growing. But in December 2015, Muslim

bus passengers proved that solidarity can prevail. Based on true events and nominated for an Oscar.



#### The Royal Hibiscus Hotel | Nigeria

In this Nollywood romantic comedy, Ope is struggling to make it as a chef in London. She dreams of opening her own Afro-fusion restaurant, but after some setbacks, she decides to head home

to Lagos to reinvigorate her family's hotel. She doesn't know yet that her parents are planning on selling the establishment.

Africa contains **30 percent of the world's minerals**: just under half of the world's diamonds and one fifth of the world's gold.



# Gadgets

**Namibia gets** is name from the Namib Desert, one of the world's oldest deserts. Some scientists believe that its sands are more than a million years old.



## Future furniture Beach Cocoon

*Beach Cocoon is a relaxing inflatable chair that comfortably adapts to your body.*

This piece of futuristic furniture was selected as one of the 453 designs shown at the 2017 exhibition, "salone satellite 20 years of new creativity" in Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan.

For indoor and outdoor use, Beach Cocoon was created by Pascalina Design Studio from Belgium and costs US\$1,290.

Use: beach, swimming pool, garden, terrace, house, hotels, events.  
Inflation: the chair can be inflated in five minutes using an electric air blower. A compact air blower is included.

~ [designboom.com](http://designboom.com)



## Sunglasses

# For Your Eyes Only



### Ray-Ban Round Metal

Ray-Ban's classic round-frame style has recently become one of their most popular styles for festivals, holidays or just looking cool on Instagram. We can't get enough of the G-15 green lens. On-trend and flattering for anyone with an angular or strong bone structure.

~ [ray-ban.com](http://ray-ban.com) US\$153



### Maui Jim Breakwall

The ultra-light, rimless frame that's perfect for fast-action sports or everyday wear. These sunglasses have a high-grade nylon frame, for superior comfort and durability, and impact-resistant lenses. Patented PolarizedPlus2® lens technology removes 99.9 percent of glare.

~ [Karibu](http://karibu.com) US\$160



### Ted Baker Agnes 1297

This classic fashion frame suits all face shapes and the tortoiseshell backed with cream is a colour blend that flatters all skin tones. Offers 100 percent UV protection and a filter category of three. It's got everything you need to look stylish.

~ [Karibu](http://karibu.com) US\$80



### Tom Ford Andrew

Titan of tailoring, Tom Ford appears to have designed these simple but stylish Andrew shades specifically with the suited gentleman in mind. Smart and seriously versatile, this pair of sunglasses will look as good on the morning commute as at a summer garden party or wedding.

~ [tomford.com](http://tomford.com) US\$395



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