



Singita Castleton

SABI SAND RESERVE, SOUTH AFRICA

This is the closest you'll get to an old-school homestead safari – any closer and you might as well have Hemingway falling about drunk while you shoot the faces off the game. Castleton is the latest offering from those masters of African luxury, Singita: an exclusive-use house in Sabi Sand, the former family home of the grandfather of Singita founder Luke Bailes. Deliciously private, sensationally set, the house has had a thorough overhaul from those clever chaps Cécile & Boyds, which means a lovely sense of place, but none of that overkill vintage safari nonsense. It's airy, it's beautiful – six cottages and a main house, with botanical prints on the walls and colonial-style antiques standing smartly next to linen trunks. Sit out on the wide, wide verandas or by the pool and gaze upon the watering hole, bump out into the bush with your personal guide or whack some balls around the tennis court. At night there are shivery white wines and South African fare from the country-style kitchen, and then it's back out under the diamond-sprinkled, ebony heavens, for a digestif, a marvel and a tiny taste of being lord of the savannah. **WEBSITE** singita.com **BOOK IT** Scott Dunn (scottdunn.com; 020 8682 5070) offers three nights on an exclusive basis, from £15,435, for up to eight people, fully inclusive.