

SIBONGILE BOSCH

Barman, Bushmans Kloof, South Africa

Years on the Job 3 Into the Wild Sometimes we host dinners in a surprise location in the mountains of the Bushmans Kloof reserve. and I tend bar with an edited-down selection—it would be impossible to bring all of our wines to the mountain! Our staff performs gumboot dancing and African drumming while guests mingle before dinner. Cedar Mountains.

Clanwilliam; 800/735-

2478; bushmanskloof.co.za;

doubles from \$481.

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TOP 10 HOTELS AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

- 1 Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve & Wellness Retreat Cedar Mountains, South Africa 99.17
- 2 Giraffe Manor Nairobi, Kenya 98.61
- 2 Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve Sabi Sands, South Africa 98.61
- 4 Eagle Island Camp Okavango Delta, Botswana 98.33
- 5 Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at the First Residence Egypt 98.21
- 6 Governors' Camp Masai Mara, Kenya 97.22
- 6 Royal Malewane Kruger National Park, South Africa 97.22
- 8 Saxon Boutique Hotel & Spa Johannesburg, South Africa 96.43
- 9 Singita Sabi Sand Kruger National Park, South Africa 96.35
- 10 Kirawira Luxury Tented Camp Western Seregenti Tanzania 95.63

Alfresco dining at South
Africa's Bushmans
Kloof, the top hotel for
service in Africa.



JOHN LEWIS

Guest relations manager, Lodge at Kauri Cliffs, New Zealand

Planning Ahead If a guest is headed to Pink Beach or the 800-year-old Kauri Tree, I pack a bag with towels, bottled water, and a two-way radio in case of emergency. I also use the nightly cocktail hour to find out what everyone wants to do the

radio in case of emergency. I also use the nightly cocktail hour to find out what everyone wants to do the next day: horseback riding? Clay shooting? And I introduce guests to other guests. Many end up having dinner or playing tennis together. Tepene Tablelands Rd., Matauri Bay; 800/735-2478; kauricliffs. com; doubles from \$842.

TOP 10 HOTELS AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

- 1 Lodge at Kauri Cliffs Matauri Bay, New Zealand 95.00
- Farm at Cape Kidnappers Te Awanga, New Zealand 94.44
- 3 Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa Katoomba, Australia 92.11
- 4 The Langham Melbourne 91.03
- 5 Observatory Hotel Sydney 90.79
- 6 InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa French Polynesia 90.63
- 7 Huka Lodge Taupo, New Zealand 88.24
- 8 Lizard Island (formerly Voyages Lizard Island)
 Great Barrier Reef, Australia 87.50
- 9 Park Hyatt Sydney 87.29
- 10 Hayman Island Resort Great Barrier Reef, Australia 87.00



The lounge at New Zealand's Lodge at Kauri Cliffs.

METHODOLOGY Rankings are based on reader evaluations collected in the Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards survey. For hotels, scores are indexed averages of evaluations for the characteristic "Service," Readers were asked to rate candidates on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Excellent" and 1 means "Poor," Scores are rounded to the nearest hundredth of a point; in the event of an exact tie, properties or companies share a ranking. For the full survey methodology, go to TravelandLeisure.com/worldsbest.