

travelista

Wander woman Sophy Roberts
fast-tracks international intelligence
on where to be and what to see

→ In 1997, east African safari was redefined by the opening of **Ngorongoro Crater Lodge** (www.andbeyond.com; from £690) in **TANZANIA**. The aesthetic – wooden textures, beaded chandeliers, leather-backed

chairs – was conceived by the South African architect and interior design duo Silvio Rech and Lesley Carstens, who became the game-changers of the safari industry, designing North Island in the Seychelles (2003) and their most recent achievement, Chinzombo in Zambia (2013). Now the lodge has gone through a top-to-toe overhaul. The new design has upped the luxury quotient: a chandelier-bedecked dining room, wine cellar worthy of a French château, as well as crystal, silverware and crockery adorned with the lodge's crest.



Above: the saltwater pool at Rancho Cleo, Costa Rica. Below: a guest bedroom at Ngorongoro Crater Lodge, Tanzania