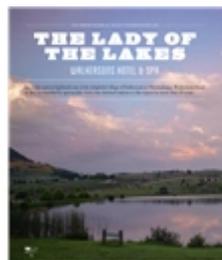


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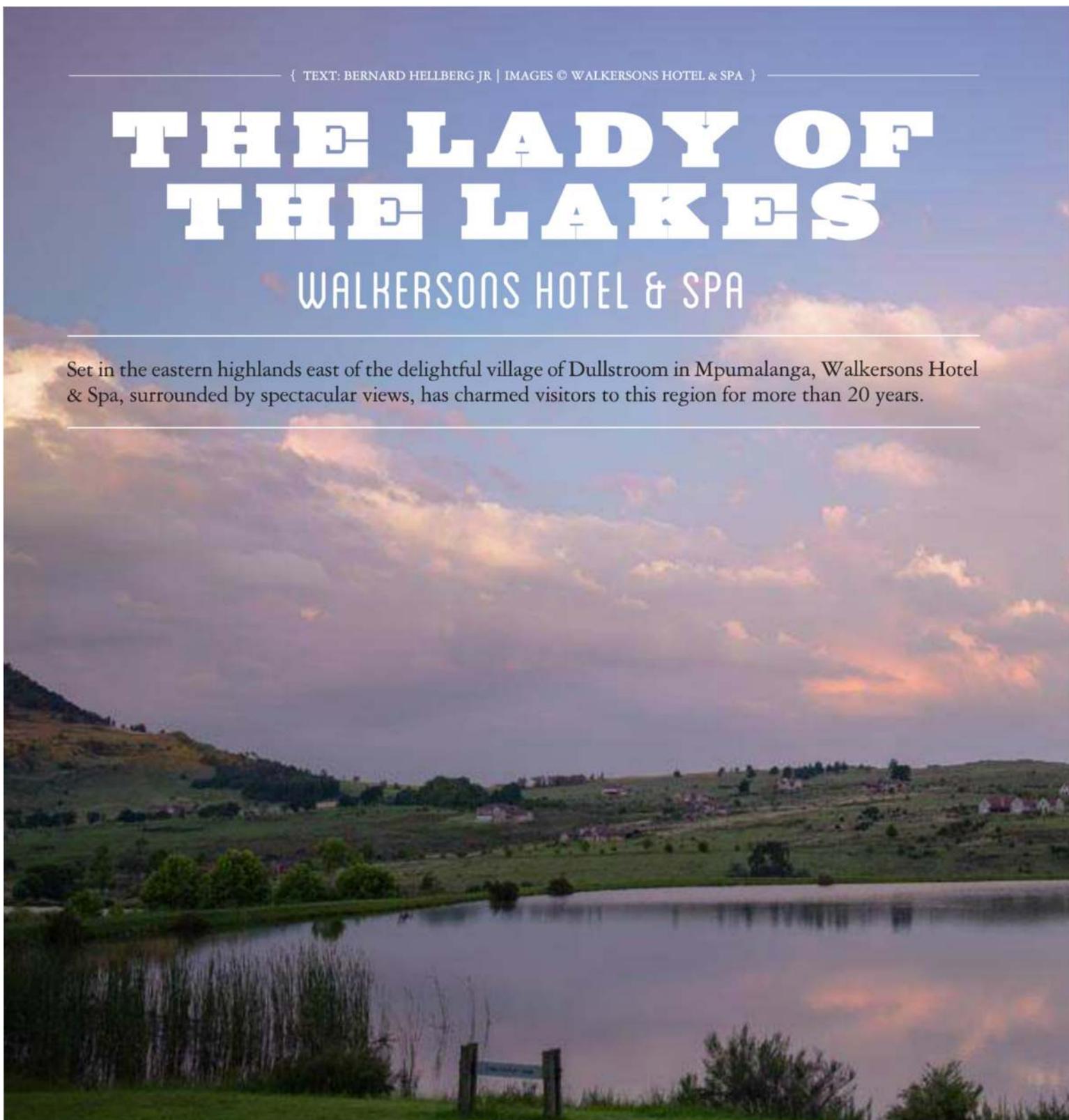


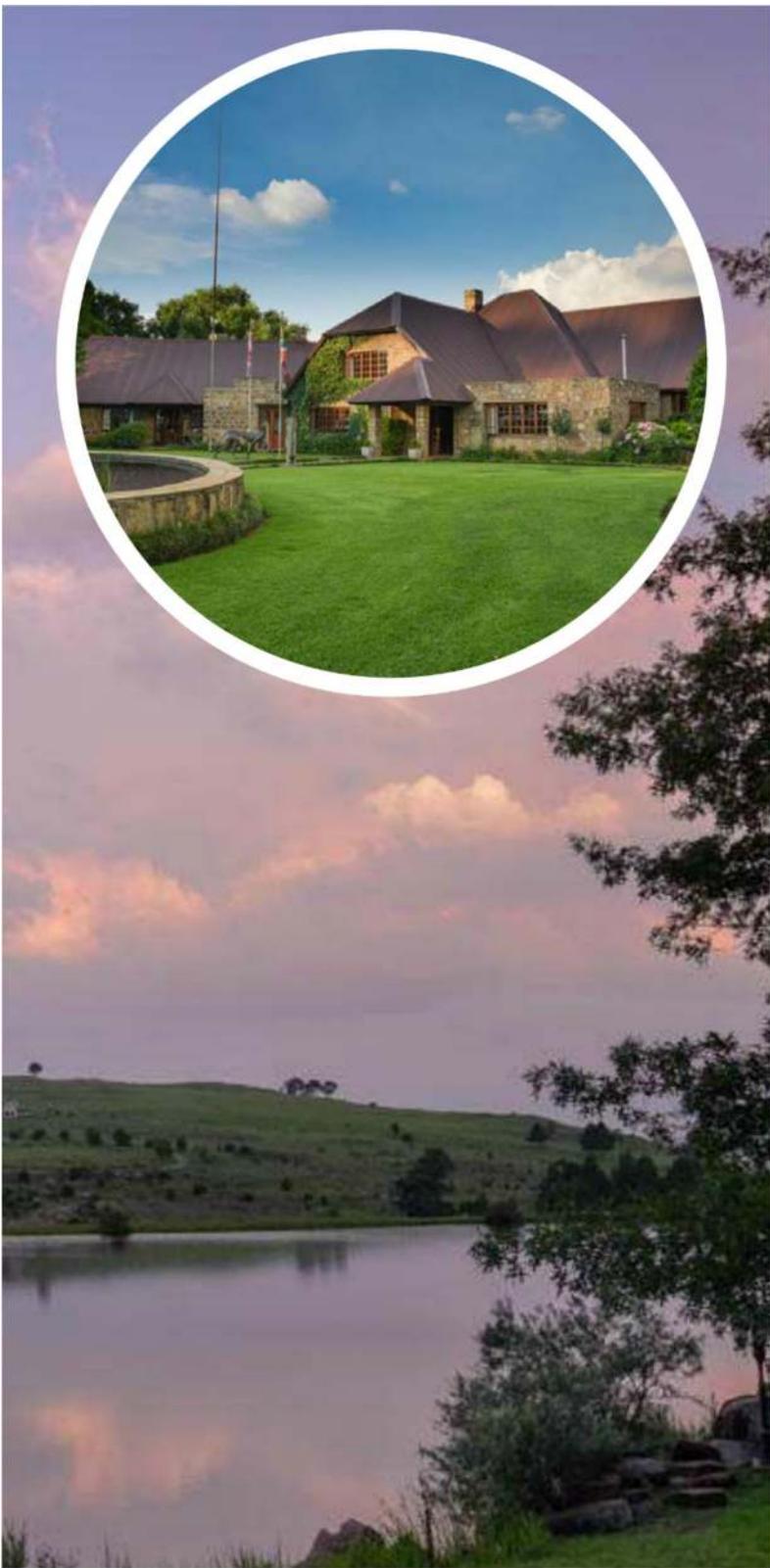
{ TEXT: BERNARD HELLBERG JR. | IMAGES © WALKERSONS HOTEL & SPA }

THE LADY OF THE LAKES

WALKERSONS HOTEL & SPA

Set in the eastern highlands east of the delightful village of Dullstroom in Mpumalanga, Walkersons Hotel & Spa, surrounded by spectacular views, has charmed visitors to this region for more than 20 years.





✕ The region evokes memories of King Arthur's Camelot. As Arthurian scholar Norris J Lacy said: "Camelot, located nowhere in particular, can be anywhere." I like to imagine that it has been found, here, among the high hills of central Mpumalanga, almost halfway between the hurry of Gauteng and the peaceful wilderness of the Kruger National Park.

Often described as a "grand country lady", Walkersons is a classic interpretation of the quintessential country lodge – the original owners' vision was of a Scottish manor.

LUXURY LODGINGS

The hotel recently received a subtle revamp to revitalise those high standards of luxury that today's travellers take for granted. Now this haven of tranquillity has a refreshed culinary vision with lighter dining options, a renewed focus on self-catering accommodation, and a more welcoming attitude to children. Walkersons' future is bright and fresh, and the old-world charm of its elegant dining rooms and welcoming terrace, Peggy's Bar and the lovely lawns that lead to a hidden swimming pool, add to a home-away-from-home ambience.

The elegant experience continues in the stylishly appointed and luxurious bedroom suites, with their en-suite bathrooms and large verandas, as well as some of the largest and most comfortable beds that I have ever experienced. Generous in proportion and adorned with multiple-thread-count linen, sleeping becomes the act of restoration it's meant to be, preparing the body and reinvigorating the soul.

The hotel offers excellent accommodation with 27 standard rooms, 12 Lakeside suites and 11 slightly larger Luxury Lakeside suites. The Manor Suite boasts two bedrooms that sleep up to four, while the Honeymoon Suite is the ultimate luxury retreat with an extra-long, king-size four-poster bed, separate his 'n hers bathrooms, twin showers, a Jacuzzi and a wood-burning fireplace. In every room, a large flat-screen television and other amenities complete the experience.

And for those who prefer the independence of self-catering, there are seven fully furnished, spacious self-catering cottages, each with its own unique character and with either a soothing lakeside, or a spectacular mountain view. A recent addition is Whispering Waters, with four luxury bedrooms, each with an en-suite bathroom, a Jacuzzi, immense entertainment area and balcony with its own golf cart and mountain bikes for guests to enjoy at leisure.



DINING DEVINE

Extending the five-star feel into The Flying Scotsman, the resident chefs indulge Walkersons guests with a five-course evening menu and sumptuous breakfast spread. As an establishment, the quality of each dining experience is legendary in the greater Dullstroom region, making Walkersons the destination de rigueur for anyone seeking a fabulous experience in the area. And if a lighter meal is desired, you can take in the views and experience the relaxed side of dining from Walkersons' new menu served at The Terrace.

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

The tranquil Walkersons environment belies the numerous outdoor activities available to hotel guests. Although we chose to relax and imbibe the atmosphere during our stay, several walking and hiking trails give one the opportunity to enjoy the natural environment – and maybe even spot a blesbok, zebra or duiker

along the route. Also on offer are mountain biking trails – bikes are available to use – or you can try fly-fishing in Walkersons' famous trout dams, with equipment available and friendly staff to show you the ropes.

Pure indulgence is part of the experience at Walkersons. Besides the plush accommodation and world-class dining, the Walkersons Spa also deserves a visit. Recently refurbished, the facility has three treatment rooms and a steam room, where single or couple's treatments can be enjoyed.

Walkersons Hotel & Spa is arguably one of the finest establishments of its kind in South Africa. My recommendation to experience its unique brand of old-world luxury and charm holds firm! One simply cannot pass this gem by without at the very least a daytime visit, although it is truly a place where one should enjoy an extended weekend getaway.

For more information contact +27 13 253 7000, email reservations@walkersons.co.za or visit www.walkersons.co.za. ✕