

SAROVA  
**Stanley**  
A STORY TO TELL  
NAIROBI • SINCE 1902



*Foundations*  
OF AN ICON



CELEBRATING HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II'S  
PLATINUM JUBILEE

# 120 Years

A STORY TO TELL SINCE 1902

**F**rom June 2nd to June 5th Britain celebrated the Queens Jubilee with 70 years since Queen Elizabeth II was crowned in June 1952. The Sarova Stanley recalls with much excitement the auspicious occasion when the hotel was chosen to host the Queen of England and the Duke of Edinburgh during their world tour where she arrived in Kenya as a Princess and departed as a Queen.



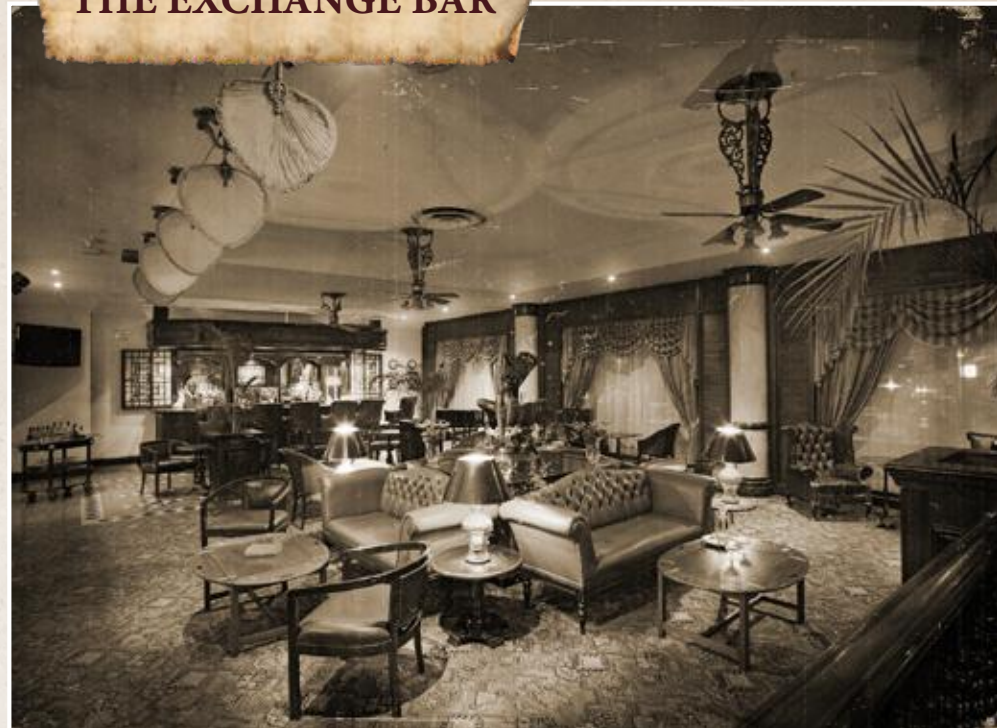
*Queen Elizabeth II was 25 years old when her reign began on February 6, 1952.*

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Having already carved its name into Kenyan history in 1902 as the first luxury hotel in the capital of Nairobi, the princess's arrival was indeed an honor and great care was taken to ensure her stay was gracious. This included the installation of vintage Punkah-type ceiling fans solely meant for the princess and whose mechanism could only be powered by men riding on bicycles. To date, these fans are delicately preserved and still functional at the Exchange Bar, fashioned as a distinguished gentleman's bar and lounge with 19th century décor reflecting its history.

## THE EXCHANGE BAR



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**S**tyle, elegant, and without a doubt rich in its own legacy, our story, filled with people and events that have had a profound effect on Kenyan and global history is showcased throughout the hotel. Beautiful black and white portraits that capture iconic moments experienced by eminent persons adorn our walls, including those of the Queen and her entourage during their stay. Our Heritage suites feature exclusive and tastefully designed rooms where various eminent persons have stayed. One of them, is named after Karen Blixen who is so well represented in the movie “Out of Africa” and regularly patronized the hotel. Our main café, The Thorn Tree Restaurant was the first pavement café in Nairobi and it has evolved around the famous “Thorn Tree” planted in the centre which became the bearer of messages that were stuck on its yellowish trunk to be plucked off by travelers even before the city was born.

## LEGACY OF THE OLD



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So many beautiful and captivating moments continue to be shared at the Sarova Stanley, 120 years on. The famous guided Heritage Tour provides a beautiful interpretation of the significance of each event and person that has shaped us and crafted the path for our unrivaled hospitality.


## KAREN BLIXEN SUITE



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