South Africa—the Great Karoo. Great Karoo plateau, South Africa Britannica.com the very heart of the Cape Karoo, which again is the very heart of South Africa. Typically, in 1856 Thomas Mayne Reid wrote The Bush Boys or, The History in the Wild Karoos of Southern Africa. A century later, its reputation continued. The Great Karoo - African Safari Destinations: Luxury Bespoke Travel Karoo, the story of the karoos of South Africa—the Great Karoo, the Little Karoo and the far corners of the North West Cape and Namaqualand.