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SOUTH AFRICA

Personalized Safaris

There is no ordinary day!

TOURS

WILD ENCOUNTERS - Simbambili Lodge

Day 01

Upon arrival at Eastgate Airport you will be transferred to the lodge for three nights, including all meals and game activities. After an orientation and lodge briefing, enjoy a 1 to 1½ guided walk (or game drive) before an evening game-drive with spot-light, returning for a hearty dinner back at camp.

Day 02 - 03

The focus for the following two days will be on walking safaris and game drives in open vehicles. The daily routine may look something like the following. An early start after tea and biscuits, you walk for around 4 to 5 hours. This is geared to guests' ability, desires and to the wildlife encountered en route. You will learn the folklore of the area, the medicinal uses of various plants and trees and to interpret the wilderness through which you walk. Guest safety is paramount, your guide carries a weapon at all times and a first aid kit and is in constant radio contact with base camp. Guests return to camp late morning for a delicious brunch. Following a siesta and afternoon tea, an afternoon game-drive (or another walk) brings you in contact with the phenomenal wildlife that is found within this reserve. A night game-drive ends back at camp in time for an alfresco star-lit feast.

Day 04

There will be another guided walking safari this morning, or alternatively a game drive. The option is up to you and extremely flexible. After brunch, you are transferred back to Eastgate Airport to connect with your ongoing flight arrangements.

WILD ENCOUNTERS – Thornybush Main Camp

Day 01

Upon arrival at Eastgate Airport you will be transferred to the lodge for three nights, including all meals and game activities. After an orientation and lodge briefing, enjoy a 1 to 1½ guided walk (or game drive) before an evening game-drive with spot-light, returning for a hearty dinner back at camp.

Day 02 - 03

The focus for the following two days will be on walking safaris and game drives in open vehicles. The daily routine may look something like the following. An early start after tea and biscuits, you walk for around 3 hours. This is geared to guests' ability, desires and to the wildlife encountered en route. You will learn the folklore of the area, the medicinal uses of various plants and trees and to interpret the wilderness through which you walk. Guest safety is paramount, your guide carries a weapon at all times, a first aid kit and is in constant radio contact with base camp. Guests return to camp late morning for a delicious brunch. Following a siesta and afternoon tea, an afternoon game-drive (or another walk) brings you in contact with the phenomenal wildlife that is found within this reserve. A night game-drive ends back at camp in time for an alfresco star-lit feast.

Day 04

There will be another guided walking safari this morning, or alternatively a game drive. The option is up to you and extremely flexible. After brunch, you are transferred back to Eastgate Airport to connect with your ongoing flight arrangements.

WILD ENCOUNTERS – Chapangu Lodge

Day 01

Upon arrival at Eastgate Airport you will be transferred to the lodge for three nights, including all meals and game activities. After an orientation and lodge briefing, enjoy a 1 to 1½ guided walk (or game drive) before an evening game-drive with spot-light, returning for a hearty dinner back at camp. Chapangu offers a very flexible programme tailored around guests' requirements. Activities include local game viewing either by guided walks or game day and night drives.

Day 02 - 03

The focus for the following two days will be on walking safaris and game drives in open vehicles.

A typical Chapungu day starts with an early-morning wake-up call with tea, coffee and rusks on the veranda. Then you're off with a Shangaan tracker and guide in search of game. After an exciting drive it's time for a hearty brunch, followed by several inviting options: relaxing with a good book, cooling off in the pool, observing game and birds from a hide overlooking the water-hole, or going on an accompanied bush walk. Tea is served at mid-afternoon and then the evening drive sets out, using a Spot-light to seek out nocturnal species such as the shy genet and the magnificent leopard. Back to the lodge, where the beating of drums summons you to a delicious five-course dinner complemented by fine South African wines.

Day 04

There will be another guided walking safari this morning, or alternatively a game drive. The option is up to you and extremely flexible. After brunch, you are transferred back to Eastgate Airport to connect with your ongoing flight arrangements.

ELEPHANT TRAILS SAFARI – Plain's Camp

Day 01

Upon arrival at KMI Airport you will be met and transferred to the lodge for three nights, including all meals and game activities. After an orientation and lodge briefing, enjoy a 1 to 1½ guided walk before an evening game-drive with spot-light, returning for a hearty dinner back at camp.

Day 02 - 03

A typical day during a walking safari here includes: After an early start and a cup of fresh coffee and home made rusks (a South African tradition!) guests set out on their morning walk, following rhino trails and elephant paths. Guests will be briefed the night before on the do's and don'ts while walking, our wilderness guides hold the highest guiding qualification available in South Africa. The concession is noted as an excellent game viewing area and good sightings can be expected.

Returning to camp the walkers enjoy a leisurely brunch.

A relaxing few hours can then be spent on a siesta or around the pool overlooking the plain and waterhole. Here breeding herds of elephant are often sighted. Following high tea, guests set out again in the late afternoon for a walk or a game drive, finishing off with sundowners watching an African sunset. Night drives are also a wonderful way to enjoy nocturnal species.

Day 04

There will be another guided walking safari this morning, or alternatively a game drive. The option is up to you and extremely flexible. After brunch, you are transferred back to KMI Airport to connect with your ongoing flight arrangements.

ELEPHANT TRAILS SAFARI - Ngala Lodge

Day 01

Upon arrival at Hoedspruit Airport you will be met and transferred to the lodge for three nights, including all meals and game activities. After an orientation and lodge briefing, enjoy a 1 to 1½ guided walk before an evening game-drive with spot-light, returning for a hearty dinner back at camp.

Day 02 - 03

The focus for the following two days will be on walking safaris although open vehicles are also available for game drives, especially after dark. The daily routine may look something like the following. An early start after tea and biscuits, you walk for around 4 to 5 hours. This is geared to guests' ability, desires and to the wildlife encountered en route. You will learn the folklore of the area, the medicinal uses of various plants and trees and to interpret the wilderness through which you walk. Guest safety is paramount, both the ranger and tracker are armed at all times, are in constant radio contact with base camp and carry a first aid kit. Guests return to camp late morning for a delicious brunch. Following a siesta and afternoon tea, an afternoon game-drive takes guests to the starting point for their next adventure – another scenic 1 to 1½ hour late afternoon walk. A night game-drive ends back at camp in time for an alfresco star-lit feast.

Day 04

There will be another guided walking safari this morning, or alternatively a game drive. The option is up to you and extremely flexible. After brunch, you are transferred back to Hoedspruit Airport to connect with your ongoing flight arrangements.

INCLUSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

What **Is** Included on tours in South Africa

- Road transfers as specified
- Accommodation on a shared basis
- All meals as specified
- Activities at safari lodges and camps
- Any excursion as specified
- Services of the lodge guides and staff
- Park fees

What **Is Not** Included on Adventures Into Botswana A, B & C

- All international scheduled flights and their departure taxes
- All domestic scheduled flights and their departure taxes
- All items of a personal nature
- All insurance
- Visas and their respective fees
- All other drinks
- Any new Government tax · Gratuities to staff
- Any meal, activity or excursion, which is not specified

PARKS

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK (source - www.game-reserve.com/south-africa_kruger-park.html)

This enormous and magnificent park is one of the most popular public-entry game parks in the world. Its density of permanent game is unrivalled with hundreds of different species; 507 birds, 336 trees, 147 mammals, 114 reptiles, 49 fish and 34 amphibians!

Few visitors leave South Africa without visiting Kruger Park or one of the private reserves along its border (see section on Private Reserves near Kruger), but it is also frequented by locals in their own vehicles, as you can drive yourself around and stay overnight in one of the many public restcamps. There are also a few exclusive private lodges that have taken been granted concessions within Kruger.

The far north of the park is the wildest and most difficult area to access and because of this, it has alluring qualities for the real adventurer. However, the central and southern parts of the park have the best facilities for visitors, with an excellent network of roads and game-viewing waterholes.

With greater ecological co-operation across African borders, several countries bordering South Africa have agreed to take down some fences, and those between Kruger and Mozambique's Limpopo National Park and Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou, have been demolished to create the Greater Limpopo Transfronteir Park. This unique political innovation is creating a colossal wilderness area extending 15,000 miles (24,000km).

ANIMALS & BIRDS

Sighting the "Big Five" has become something of a quest for many people when on safari, and Kruger National Park has more than its fare share of these, with an estimated 1,800 lion, 9,125 elephant, 25,000 buffalo, unknown number of leopards and 2,300 black and white rhino. These animals became the 'Big Five' because they are the five most dangerous animals to hunt - when injured they attack! It should certainly not be a pre-requisite of a safari to see these or even a priority, as there are plenty of other fascinating animals and birds in the African bush.

With approximately 500 bird species, some of them unique to this area, there is enough on the ground and in the air to keep anybody's binoculars busy. Some of the biggest and most impressive birds to be seen here are the ground hornbill, martial eagle, lapet-faced vulture, kori bustard and saddle-billed stork.

SEASONS

Rainy Season: The subtropical climate has hot rainy summers starting in October and ending around March. The summer rains transform the arid park into a lush flowering paradise, but the increased foliage does make animals harder to see.

Dry Season: The winter months from April to September are extremely pleasant with warm dry days and cold nights. Traditionally, the best game viewing is in winter as the vegetation becomes sparse and water is restricted to rivers and artificial waterholes.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK SPECIALITIES

- Animal density and variety
- The " Big Five"
- Self drive safari
- Exclusive private lodges
- Wonderful subtropical climate
- Plenty of birds
- Very safe safari environment

FACTS

The Park was established in 1926

The surface area of Kruger National Park is 7,580 miles² (19,633 km²)

There are almost 254 known cultural heritage sites in the Kruger National Park, including nearly 130 recorded rock art sites.

This is a malarial area

Off road driving is prohibited

Night drives can be booked in advance in a guided vehicle

CAMPS AND LODGES

CHAPANGU LODGE

Authentically furnished in colonial splendour, handpicked pieces fill the lodge and its five air-conditioned en suite tents, enhancing the ambience and comforts typical of a bygone era. Enjoy scenic views from the vantage of our elevated deck with an active water hole in close proximity. Whether it is around the fire in the boma or from the classically appointed dining room, savour Chapungu's culinary delights. This home from home experience will see every guest leave as a friend.

NGALA LODGE

The Ngala Reserve, situated within the Timbavati Game Reserve adjacent to the Kruger National Park, shares the Kruger's exceptional bio-diversity and thus the Ngala Lodge is a wonderful base from which to sally forth on safari. Ngala is Shangaan for lion, and the reserve is home to one of the highest concentrations of lion in South Africa. Huge breeding herds of elephant favour the dense Mopane forests and frequently wander through the camp. You may see the elusive leopard, the cheetah, big herds of buffalo and white rhino. Ngala is also home to many unusual species, such as aardvark, pangolin, Cape hunting dog and caracal. The reserve is now run jointly by Conservation Corporation Africa and the Kruger National Park in a landmark agreement that has proved to be an entirely successful symbiotic relationship between the private sector and government organisation.

The Ngala Lodge is unashamedly luxurious and sophisticated. Breakfast and lunch are served in the wonderfully spacious central lounge and dining facility where cool green slate floors combine with high thatch. Chairs to sink into, richly woven rugs and artefacts collected from throughout the continent give an authentic "old Africa" feel. This is the place to unwind, to reminisce on the events of the day and to listen to tales of the wild from the Ngala rangers. Dinner is eaten in the romantic candle-lit courtyard beneath twinkling stars and the lacy canopy formed by the indigenous trees. Lovely crystal, silver and Villeroy and Bosch china match the standards set by the cuisine. You may select from a superb table d'hôte menu prepared by the cordon bleu chef.

The lodge has twenty luxurious bush cottages, complete with en-suite bathrooms, with bath and shower facilities. They are decorated superbly, in keeping with the "old Africa" theme. Set quietly away in a secluded part of the camp, Ngala's Safari Suite is the ultimate in luxury. A private sundeck overlooks a waterhole from where you may watch the animals come to drink in complete privacy. The lovely bathroom has a pristine white 1920's roll-top bath and twin sun-drenched shower overlooking the canopy of surrounding trees. There is an additional bathroom, a private garden and swimming pool.

PLAIN'S CAMP

Built in true pioneer tradition Plain's Camp reflects the ambience of a 19th century naturalist's rest. Offering four African explorer-style en suite tents nestled in an Acacia Knobthorn thicket, the camp overlooks the spectacular Timbitene plain, abundant in game best viewed from the revitalizing plunge pool. An Africana book collection and treasures from another era weave this spell of olden days. It's stylish, comfortable and very romantic.

This four day wilderness experience can be tailored to suite each client as it's an extremely flexible programme. Any combination of multi-day walks, game drives or primitive sleep-outs can be accommodated. Activities take place in a private 12 000 hectare wilderness area in the Kruger National Park. Here, the property shares a common boundary with the famous Mala Mala Game reserve for 14 km's, and ensures walkers a great opportunity to see an abundance of game.

SIMBAMBILI GAME LODGE

Simbambili Game Lodge is a highly individual destination for discerning travellers and is situated in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve, part of the world renowned greater Kruger National Park. Nestled inconspicuously among dense stands of Knobthorn and Jackalberry trees, lies individually hand-crafted suites sensitively designed to blend in with the environment. These 8 suites are carefully positioned to enhance guests' privacy. Sophisticated yet simple, each suite has spectacular views from the en suite bathrooms and salas or private plunge pools. The views look out over extensive savannah grassland that teems with wildlife. All this is complemented by elegant cuisine, a selection of fine wines from the cellar and by the warmth of true African hospitality.

THORNYBUSH MAIN LODGE

Thornybush Game Reserve's exclusive Main Lodge with 20 stylish air-conditioned suites and extensive living areas over looks the seasonal Monwana River. From within the suites, each with full en suite facilities, outdoor shower and private decks, sweeping vistas can be enjoyed over the savannah and an extremely busy water hole. This lodge has been rated as 5-star by the South African Tourism Grading Council. Between exciting safaris take a moment to browse in the intimate library or simply relax at the pool with your favourite cocktail as you bask in Africa's glorious sunshine.

PRICES FOR 2005

Based on Double Occupancy
Supplement for a Private Room is in ()

TOURS	OPERATES	PRICE JAN. 1 - APR. 30	PRICE MAY 1 - JUL. 31	PRICE AUG. 1 - OCT. 31
WILD ENCOUNTERS (4 Day Safaris)				
Simbambili Lodge	Upon Request	\$2448 (\$898)	\$1930 (\$691)	\$2448 (\$898)
Thornybush Main Camp	Upon Request	\$1962 (\$760)	\$1616 (\$599)	\$1962 (\$760)
Chapangu Lodge	Upon Request	\$1156 (\$437)	\$1070 (\$380)	\$1156 (\$437)
ELEPHANT TRAILS (4 Day Safaris)				
Ngala Lodge	Upon Request	\$1557 (\$185)	\$1465 (\$163)	\$1557 (\$185)
Plains Camp	Upon Request	\$1388 (\$0)	\$1388 (\$0)	\$1388 (\$0)