

Safaria

4 DAY GUIDED KRUGER PARK SAFARI THE IVORY TRAIL



OVERVIEW

To Safari is to Journey. It's a voyage of discovery out in the African savanna. Its not a destination, it has no ending and it cannot be described or explained. It's one of the true origins of adventure and it evokes emotions that take you to life's living edge. To Safari in the Kruger National Park is to explore a wilderness that has been protected for over a 100 years and witness one of earths last natural treasures. Our Safaria - Overnight Kruger Park Safaris have been designed to take you deep into the heart of Kruger with the guidance of an expert who will share a wonder-filled story board of its history, heritage and of course diverse wildlife. Its your Safari. Its your Story. We just want to help you tell it.

Journey through the Central Grasslands to the Northern stretches of Kruger over 4 Days

For guests that want to visit the Kruger National Park and have 4 Days to do so, we have created the Northern Kruger Safari that takes you on a journey of the old "Ivory Trail" in search of solitude and Big Tuskers. This Safari will offer you wonderful insights into alternative eco-zones that showcase Kruger's expansive diversity. On your Safari you will be guided by and Expert on the area, staying in authentic Kruger accommodation and having your very own private Open Safari Vehicle. There is no better way too experience Kruger.

Your Safari will take you deep into the heartland of the Northern Kruger National Park. This is an area that is somewhat off the beaten track offering tranquility and a beauty that you cant find anywhere else. With lovely old Camps and accommodation, quiet dusty tracks and a sense of timelessness, this region is Kruger in its purest form. The Letaba area is named after the river that Camp is situated on. Well located between Satara and Mopani guests will have the opportunity to really experience the Park and search out a wide variety of wildlife and bird species.

INCLUDED:

- 3 Night accommodation in a 2 Sleeper Bungalow in one of the Northern Kruger Park Camps
- 4 Full Day Guided Safaris
- Expert Guide & Private Luxury Open Safari vehicle
- KNP Conservation levy
- Meals

EXCLUDED:

- All alcoholic beverages *see note below
- Items of personal nature
- Gratuities
- Travel insurance

NB: Pre & Post Night Safari Accommodation. We recommend guests stay in Hazyview the night before departure as well as the return night

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Food and beverage is included. Each camp has a restaurant that is open daily from 7h30am to 21h00pm with a menu that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Each camp also has a well stocked shop with a variety of food and beverage items that can be bought based on your personal requirement. In between the camps there are also many wonderful "bush kitchens" serving a daily menu of tasty meals.

* Feel free to request a menu *

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in the Central & Northern Kruger National Park will be dependant on availability over the period of travel. With our preference on staying at Satara Camp in the Central Region and Letaba Camp in the Northern Region we select the best and most appropriate based on bungalow or guest house availability. Your guide will take you on a journey of the history and heritage of the area and the camp and share with you the wonder and wildness of the Park.

Bungalows range from a single room with 2 single beds and bathroom to Guest Houses that can accommodate up to 10 guests with either their own bathroom on suite or sharing. Each Bungalow is fully furnished and serviced daily with bed linen, towelling and the necessary amenities. Each Bungalow is based on a self-catering basis and is equipped with a basic kitchen and braai (barbecue) area on the patio. All rooms and living areas are equipped with ceiling fans and air-conditioning units.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: JOURNEY INTO THE CENTRAL GRASSLANDS OF KRUGER

Guest collection is from Hazyview Town near the Phabeni and Paul Kruger Gates.

Guests can either self-drive, request a transfer from Johannesburg or fly into KMIA Airport in Nelspruit for collection

and transfer to their Camp accommodation in the Kruger Park. Check-Into Bungalow is from 14h00pm but we recommended getting into the Park as soon as possible to make the most of the day. As soon as we enter the Park we are already on Safari and will enjoy a game drive to our Overnight Camp for the next 3 nights and 4 days. Our accommodation is

always dependant on availability but our preference is to Satara Camp which is in the Central Region of the Park. Perfectly located in perhaps the best game viewing area in Kruger, Satara is surrounded by fertile plains that attract many grazers and predators. Travelling from the Southern Gates to Satara Camp can take as long as 8 hours with

stops so we recommend leaving as early as possible on your day of arrival.

On arrival at the Camp your guide will Check you into your Bungalow and explain the Camp and surrounding area. Guests can enjoy a late lunch or grab a take-away from the Camp restaurant before setting off at 15h00pm for the afternoon Sunset Safari in the surrounding area. The itinerary is very flexible and will be based around preference and comfort. The main objective is to get as much game viewing time as possible to maximise the opportunity for special sightings.

As the Sun sets and its warm rays slowly fade, our sunset Safarras head out onto the African plain in the late afternoon from 15h00pm. The time of day when the adventurers and traders of old Africa would outspan and plan their camp for the evening. An Afternoon Safari is a time of day to go in search of thirsty elephants and lazy leopards. When lions slowly begin to rouse and open their eyes and frogs, crickets and nightjars save their breath for the evening symphony. Sunset Safari is a time between two worlds with golden lighting and soft orange hues. Our first afternoon Safari will takes us along the fabled S100 Loop via N'wantesi Picnic site and back via the H6. This route takes us through a strip of Ecca shale rock with sweet grazing grassland that has a high frequency of Lion and general game species.

Guests will return to Camp at final sun-down around 18h00pm where they can either return to their Safari Bungalow or go straight onto having an early dinner at the main Camp restaurant. After dinner guests will enjoy their own personal time in Camp. Your guide is available to have dinner with you should you request.

DAY 2: CROSSING THE MIGHTY OLIFANTS RIVER

Early morning wake up call for your Sunrise Safari at 05h00am. We depart Camp with coffee, tea and rusks on board vehicle at 05h30am and make our way on our Sunrise Safari using a network of roads towards Olifants Camp roughly 50km. Using the S90 which is known as the "old Main Road". The southern portion of the road is a vast open grassland that attracts herds of Wildebeest (Gnu), Zebra and Elephant. The open plains are a true feast for the eye and after the first rains this water logged area breaks out with wild flowers. This road is also particularly good for birding and is a favourite habitat for Ostrich, Bustards, Korhaans and other small shy game birds. Traversing many seasonal water courses the road finally ends at Balule Camp which is just before the mighty Olifants River and Olifants Camp.

Breakfast is enjoyed on the restaurant patio high up overlooking the Olifants River as it meanders east towards the Mozambique border. This wide angel view makes for the perfect backdrop with many great sightings from its vantage point. After breakfast we enjoy a leg stretch walking along the look-out edge before heading off.

Our journey after breakfast take us on the H1-5 between the Olfants River and Letaba Camp. This is a stretch of roughly 30km that is generally accepted as the division between the North and the South. This specific area is nestled between both the Olifants River and Letaba River and offers a completely different ecosystem to the South. With less open grassland this area is now dominated by the Mopane Tree and attracts more browsers than grazers. With wonderful views along the Olifants river guests will encounter a variety of species

along the water including, Waterbuck, Hippo and shy browsers such as Kudu, Nyala and Bushbuck.

On arrival at Letaba Camp your guide will Check you into your Bungalow and explain the Camp and surrounding area. Guests can enjoy a late lunch or grab a take-away from the Camp restaurant before setting off from 15h00pm for the afternoon Sunset Safari in the surrounding area.

The afternoon sunset drive will take a very alternative route onto the western side of the Letaba River along the S46 in search of large Elephant Herds. This road traverses dense Mopane thicket but has beautiful loops along the river and is truly one of the most beautiful stretches of Kruger. Special sightings on this road include large Elephant Tuskers, Leopard and Spotted Hyena.

Guests will return to Camp at final sun-down around 18h00pm where they can either return to their Safari Bungalow or go straight onto having an early dinner at the main Camp restaurant. After dinner guests will enjoy their own personal time in Camp. Your guide is available to have dinner with you should you request.

DAY 3: EXPLORING THE MOPANE SHRUBLAND

Early morning wake up call for your Sunrise Safari at 05h00am. We depart Camp with coffee, tea and rusks on board vehicle at 05h30am and make our way on our Sunrise Safari towards Mopani Camp on the H1-6 also using the S48 and S49 loops . This is a very scenic drive with pleasant views and obvious changes in eco-systems. This road is particularly rewarding for larger Buffalo and Elephant herds and offers the best

opportunity to find Big Tuskers on the Old Ivory trails of Northern Kruger.

Breakfast is enjoyed on the restaurant patio high up overlooking Pioneer Dam which is sure to attract game whilst enjoying your meal. This wide angel view makes for the perfect backdrop with many great sightings from its vantage point. After breakfast we enjoy a leg stretch and a swim in the pool before beginning our journey back to Letaba.

Our journey back to Letaba takes us along the same route which provides great game viewing during the mid to late morning as there are several drinking pans along the way. On arrival back to Camp guests can enjoy lunch at the camp restaurant as well as some personal time around the Camp pool or at their Bungalow. Letaba Camp is known as the Camp that you don't have to leave because of the wonderful setting along the rivers edge. The Camp is covered by a beautiful tree top canopy which allows for wonderful walks and birding as well as visit to the must see Elephant Museum.

The afternoon sunset drive leaves Camp around 15h00pm and will take a very alternative route onto the western side of the Letaba River to Mingerhout Dam. This road is a particularly scenic drive with beautiful trees lining the banks offering a change from the Mopane vegetation. Special sightings on this road include Leopard.

Guests will return to Camp at final sun-down around 18h00pm where they can either return to their Safari Bungalow or go straight onto having an early dinner at the main Camp restaurant. After dinner guests

will enjoy their own personal time in Camp. Your guide is available to have dinner with you should you request.

DAY 4: SUNRISE SAFARI AND CHECK-OUT

Early morning wake up call at 05h00am. This is a fairly long day on Safari so we need to leave as early possible. Our aim is to be back at the drop off point by 16h30pm latest. We depart Camp with coffee, tea and rusks on board vehicle at 05h30am and make our way back to

Satara Camp for our morning breakfast stop around 09h30am. After breakfast our route takes us back to Skukuza for a final lunch stop and then onto either Paul Kruger or Phabeni exit gate at the pre-arranged time. Transfers are available to either the Airport, next destination in the area or Johannesburg. Should you be travelling directly back to Johannesburg after your Safari then it is very important to indicate if this will be via road transfer or airport flights as this effects your Park exit time.

OUR SAFARI STYLE

Safaria's Privately Guided Kruger Park Safaris have been created to provide our guests with an authentic, educational and exciting Kruger Park Safari experience. Our expert guides take you on a journey through the Kruger National Park sharing with our guests the diversity of the savanna, its species as well the Parks history and heritage. Our Safaris are unlike "tours" in that they are an un-rushed, story-filled experience that is personalised to every guest. Every Safari is specific tour our guests requirements and each drive is tailored around the specific region and its history, heritage and diversity. Your Guides main objective is to bring you as close as possible to the many wonders of Kruger and share with you their passion through wonder-filled stories , personal experiences and favourite places.



MAIN SAFARI ROUTES

With 1,700km of roads available to explore, the Park has provided us with a wonderful network of roads that access some of the best areas in the Park. When establishing our routes on Safari, we follow a simple

principle of looking for beautiful scenery, nutrient rich soils and staying close to water. Preferred vegetation, grasses and water support the bulk of the game and provide the perfect environments for grazers, browsers and in turn the predators.

The Southern Region of Kruger is predominantly based on granitic soils with pockets of the western boundary lending to basaltic substrate that offers the best grazing. The main rivers in the south are the Sabie and the Crocodile river which flow all year round and are incredibly productive for game viewing in the winter months. With the highest rainfall in the Park and positioned on well drained granitic soils, the Southern "sour veld" and offers a variety of eco-zones from mixed savanna woodland to riparian forrest and thorn-thicket. Species of interest in the South include both species of Rhino, Wild Dog and Cheetah. Of particular interest and often overlooked, the South is home to a few small heard os rare antelope such as Reedbuck, Sable Antelope and Liechtenstein Hartebeest. Seeing these animals is a particular highlight and whilst the may not

be part of the famous 5 they a far rarer with population of less than 50 animals in the entire region.

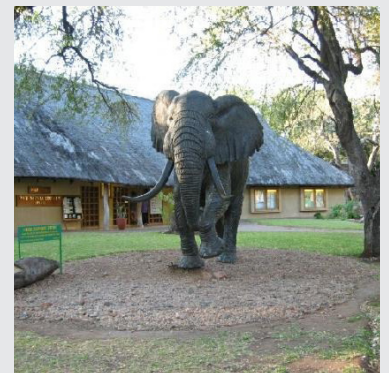
The Central Region of the Park between Tshokwane and Satara is widely regarded as the best Lion country in the Park. Supporting the largest grassland eco-zone, this area attracts large herds of grazers and for that reason is believed to home 25% of the Parks Lion population. The area is predominantly based on basaltic soils offering sweet nutritious grasses. These vast expanses provide great visibility particularly in the late winter. This is also a wonderful birding area for Raptors and Ground Birds alike.

North of Satara the bush slowly starts to change to a more stunted mixed woodland with the Mopane tree as the dominant species. What the North lacks in general game population sizes, it makes

up for in beauty, tranquility, diversity and adventure. The North is a far more traditional Safari experience and our personal favourite. Away from the busyness of the South, you find yourself on long expansive roads with very little company other than yourself and remote African savanna. This region of the Park is also home to the largest breeding herds of Elephant and Buffalo. The North is historically known as the "old Ivory Trail" and still today is famous for its large Elephant "Tuskers" and is home to 70% of todays big bulls. This is one of our prime focuses in the North and we work together with the Elephant Museum at Letaba Camp to document and provide feedback on sightings. One has to work a bit harder for predators in this region but every route is one that takes your breath away and there is always something around every corner.

HOW WE PLAN OUR SAFARI ROUTES

Every day we plan our routes the night before using that days intelligence to best inform our decisions. We use local knowledge and the basic principle of staying close to water and prime grazing areas to go in search of game. Our routes are also based on the historical value of the region so that we can bring you closer to understanding who has been here and whats happened over the last 150 years. Our morning drives are usually around 4 hours and afternoon drives around 3 hours. Dependant on our overnight camp accommodation we may also journey for full days which means being on the open vehicle for more than 10 hours but with food and comfort break stops every 3 hours.



MEET ANDREW, YOUR PRIVATE GUIDE.

On your journey you will be guided by Andy Wags. His knowledge of the Park has been gathered from 2 generations before him, his own personal experiences and nearly 150 reference guides on Kruger and its wildlife. His Safari style is one of wonder-filled story telling backed with fact and ancient wisdoms. His educational style approach is tempered according to his clients appetite for information. One thing which becomes quite apparent is his love and passion for Kruger which will be sure to captivate you daily. He also never seems to run out of information. One of his guests has even link-end him to having a "David Attenborough" like ability to sharing. As a private guide his objective is to both share all his knowledge of the Park as well as personally escort you over the duration of your stay. He will handle all of the administrative responsibilities as well as your personal care and safety.

Andrew was recognised and nominated in 2018 for a South African Tourism - Lilizela Award for Best Guide.

