

Kruger Walking Safari

4 days | Starts/Ends: Johannesburg



On this unique safari, go in search of wildlife in Greater Kruger National Park on foot, with morning game walks led by specialist rangers and afternoon game drives, allowing you to get closer to the Big Five.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Greater Kruger National Park - one of the largest privately owned nature reserves in South Africa.
- Walking safaris allow you to see interesting facets of the bush that go unnoticed on games drives such as looking at animal tracks.
- Game drives allow you to get a lot closer to the large animals including the Big Five!

What's Included

- 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- 3 nights mid range accommodation
- Return shuttle transfer from Johannesburg airport on days 1 and 4 in a sedan vehicle or a minibus
- Afternoon game drives in Greater Kruger NP - in an open 4x4 vehicle

- Morning walking safaris in Greater Kruger NP
- Services of experienced rangers

What's Not Included

- Entrance Fees: ZAR100pp park concession fee, paid in ZAR
- International flights and visas
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Drinks and items of a personal nature

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Johannesburg - Greater Kruger NP

Johannesburg - Greater Kruger NP. At OR Tambo International Airport, please proceed to the bus terminal building where you will be met by your driver in front of the Magic Bus Office at 06h45. Alternative pick up points are available, please read the Arrival Info which you will find after the itinerary, on these Trip Notes. You must specify which pick up point you would like at time of booking.

The journey to the Greater Kruger Reserve takes approximately six hours on tarred roads with well-maintained and clean service stations along the way. Two comfort stops en route allow you to stretch your legs and purchase drinks and snacks. On arrival you will be collected at the drop off point, and driven to the camp where you will meet your

ranger who will explain the rest of the day's activities.

Departure time: 06:45 am from OR Tambo airport

Approximate arrival time: 12:30-1:30 pm at Hoedspruit **Overnight - Greater Kruger NP (D)**

Days 2-3 : Greater Kruger NP



Johannesburg - Greater Kruger NP - breakfast. The following 2 days will start with an early wake up call - usually around 5 am. This is so we can get out in the park for when the animals are at their most active. This tends to be at dawn and dusk when it is generally cooler for them. We'll take tea/coffee and a light breakfast before departing on our morning game walk, returning to the lodge in time for brunch.

On a typical walking safari you will be led by expert rangers who will brief you fully before departing. You will observe animal

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tracks, droppings and other indications of what animals have passed through during the night. It is a fantastic way to learn more about the wildlife and ecology than you ever would on a game drive. The game drives are beneficial because we can cover greater distances as well as allowing us to get closer to the big game.

After a few hours relaxing we take a light lunch and more tea before climbing aboard our safari vehicles for our afternoon game drive, stopping for sundowners at dusk before driving back through the park on a night game drive. Arriving back into the lodge in time to share our experiences over a pre dinner drink followed by dinner at the lodge. Finish the day with a tasty beverage around the camp fire before retiring for the night. **Overnight - Greater Kruger NP (B:2, L:2, D:2)**

Day 4 : Johannesburg



Greater Kruger NP - Johannesburg - breakfast. This morning we take one final walk before breakfast. Sniffing the typical scents of the bush you'll realize how much you've learned already! After breakfast it's time to pack up and we say our goodbyes and transfer you back to the city.

Departure time: 11.00 am from Hoedspruit
Approximate arrival time: 17.00 -18.00 pm at OR Tambo Airport

Note: Please do not book flights departing from OR Tambo Airport before 20.00hrs. Post tour accommodation in Johannesburg can be arranged upon request. (B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though

we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Africa On Foot

In the heart of the African bush, Africa on Foot is the perfect location for a fantastic safari experience. With just 5 chalets and a fantastic tree house for the more adventurous guest - the lodge is a very intimate experience. Boasting wi-fi connection, a comfortable lounge area and refreshing splash pool for when it's time to relax and cool off from the intense African heat. Africa On Foot is a class above the rest! Located in the heart of Greater Kruger's Klaserie Private game reserve.



Arrival information

On day 1 at OR Tambo International Airport, please proceed to the bus terminal building where you will be met by your driver in front of the Magic Bus Office at 06.45am. Please note: pick up times are subject to change, check your tour voucher before you travel.

Additional Pick Up Points:

- Emperors Palace
- Safari Club
- Shoestring Airport lodge
- Road Load ORT
- City Lodge ORT
- Airport Grand

It is essential that you confirm which pick up point you want to be collected from before departure, so that we can organise it for you. The pick up point and time will be on your voucher.

As this trip departs very early in the morning on day 1 and the shuttle bus is unable to wait for you if you are delayed for any reason, we **STRONGLY** recommend that you book pre tour accommodation at one of the pick up

hotels above. We can arrange this for you upon request, please contact us for rates.

Please Note

This tour is operated in conjunction with our trusted partner and you will join travellers from different operators, not solely On The Go.

The Kruger Walking Safari is a non-participation lodge safari. Non participation meaning that you will not be required to assist with the preparation or cooking of food and general safari duties. As this safari can depart any day of the week you are unlikely to be travelling with any other On The Go passengers. You will travel (unescorted) in a public shuttle bus between Johannesburg and Greater Kruger where you will be met by a representative of the lodge and transferred to your accommodation. All of your game activities will be run by the lodge and their guides.

Please advise us of any special dietary requirements in advance.

Travelling Times and Distances

All travelling times are affected by road conditions, border crossings, detours and weather conditions, therefore on certain days travelling times may be longer than anticipated especially where there is a lot of distance to be covered. Please keep in mind that the time it takes to travel 100 km in your home country is not equivalent to the time it takes to travel 100 km on African roads, therefore we encourage you to sit back and enjoy the spectacular scenery Africa has to offer. Where possible additional stops will be made to ensure your travelling comfort at all times.

Accommodation

The camp has five chalets and a tree house where more adventurous guests can sleep under the stars. Two of the chalets are family units. The camp facilities include a main area which houses a comfortable lounge area with two sitting areas and a library. The dining room has a large table where, as per safari tradition, everyone dines together to enjoy

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each other's company and share stories of the day's game sightings.

There is also a boma area with camp fire, perfect for warming you up with your coffee before the morning walk, or for enjoying evening drinks around the fire. In addition guests will experience a traditional South African braaivleis cooked over the open fire. The Greater Kruger area can get very hot in summer and thankfully the camp has a beautiful pool with decking area where guests can relax and siesta during the midday heat between game activities.

To truly immerse yourself in the rustic bush experience, all chalets are equipped with lanterns while plug points in the main area can be used to charge your camera batteries.

Maroela Chalet: Maroela is a family chalet and has a double bed, twin beds and an en-suite bathroom. It sleeps a maximum of four guests.

Ghwarrie Chalet: Ghwarrie has one double bed, en-suite toilet and outside shower. It sleeps a maximum of two guests.

Rooibos Chalet: Rooibos has one double bed and an en-suite bathroom. It sleeps a maximum of two guests.

Hardekool Chalet: Hardekool is a family chalet and has a double bed, twin beds and an en-suite bathroom. It sleeps a maximum of four guests.

Tjankbos Chalet: Tjankbos has twin beds, en-suite toilet and outside shower. It sleeps a maximum of two guests.

Boomhuis: The Treehouse has two twin beds, a downstairs lounge area and outside bathroom and shower. It sleeps a maximum of four guests.

The Walks

Each Walking Safari begins with a comprehensive demonstration on how to behave when encountering animals. All Walking Safaris are led by qualified rangers who have had intensive specialized training in approaching dangerous game. In addition to allowing you to view the larger mammals on foot, the rangers will give you an insight

into the bush that will surprise you. They will explain the animal tracks and what animals passed through during the night, in addition to the sophistication of termite mounds and other interesting facets of the bush that go unnoticed on game drives. The chance to walk amongst wildlife allows you to fully immerse yourself in African smells and sounds. The main aim of a Kruger Walking Safari is to help you appreciate the nature around you, and to provide you with detailed explanations of spoors, vegetation and the ecology in general - an unsurpassed wildlife experience that you are guaranteed to remember for the rest of your life.

The Afternoon Game Drives

One of the main aims of going on safari is to go on a game drive. On game drives you are able to get a lot closer to big game. The animals are generally habituated to the vehicle. This means that they are used to the vehicle approaching them and know that it never causes them harm. This enables you to get within five to ten meters of the large animals - and safely! All game drives are conducted in open 4 x 4 Toyota Land Cruisers. No roof allows you 360 degree views, perfect for wonderful photographic and video opportunities. The afternoon game drives generally leave at 4pm and stop for sundowners, and then continue into the night drive on your way back to camp.

The Night Game Drives

The night drives allow guests the opportunity to see the nocturnal animals not encountered during the day. Your chances of seeing leopard in particular are a lot higher at night and with a bit of luck you might even encounter the predators such as lion and leopard hunting. During the night drives, your tracker uses a powerful spotlight to search for nocturnal animals. Expect to see a wide variety of animals not normally seen during the day, including leopards, hyenas, aardvarks, bat-eared fox, porcupines, bush babies, bushbucks, mongoose, genet cats and nocturnal birds like owls and nightjars.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

South Africa Country Guide

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Africa.

UK, Australian, USA and Canadian citizens do not require a tourist visa for South Africa for stays of up to 90 days.

Since 16th January 2017 all New Zealand passport holders have been required to obtain a visa prior to travelling to South Africa.

Nationalities who don't require a visa are able to get an entry stamp at the border on entering South Africa. Please contact your local South African embassy to find out if you require a visa prior to entering SA. If you are subject to visa requirements, you must apply and receive your visa before your departure for South Africa, visas are not issued at South African ports of entry.

The border crossings we use in South Africa include:

Noordoewer (South Africa/Namibia border)
Groblerberg/Martin's Drift (South Africa/Botswana)
Lebombo (South Africa/Mozambique)
Oshoek (Swaziland/South Africa)

Under 18s Travelling To Or Through South Africa

Parents travelling with children (under 18) into or out of South Africa, or transiting in South Africa will be asked to show the child's unabridged (full) birth certificate which lists the child's details and both parents' details. The abridged (short) birth certificate which only lists the child's details won't be accepted. Uncertified copies of birth certificates or copies of the parents/guardians identification will not be accepted. A parental consent affidavit (PCA) must have a certified copy

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of the parent's/guardian's identification (ie passport) attached to it.

Where only one parent is accompanying a child, parental or legal consent for the child to travel (eg an affidavit from the other parent or – if applicable – a death certificate) is required and there are other requirements for children travelling unaccompanied or with adults who are not their parents.

If you are travelling with children (under 18) it is essential that you contact the South African High Commission or the South African Department of Home Affairs for further information relating to these regulations. If you do not carry the correct documentation you will not be allowed to enter the country. Obtaining the correct paperwork is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours.

Please note: From the 11th November 2019, only a valid passport will be required for foreign minors travelling to South Africa.

Health & Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to South Africa from your local health practitioner and ensure that all you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide tetanus, diphtheria, polio, hepatitis A (for stays over 4 weeks) and hepatitis B (for stays over 3 months) are recommended.

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers over one, coming from infected areas.

A low malaria risk occurs in northern parts of Mpumalanga (as well as Kruger National park, northern and northeastern parts of KwaZulu-Natal). If travelling to these regions and/or the countries north of South Africa, where there is a high malaria risk, we strongly recommend that you take anti-malaria medication. Precautionary measures to take to prevent contact with mosquitoes include: insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and wear long sleeve clothing and long trousers in the evenings.

Currency

The currency in South Africa is Rand (ZAR; symbol R)

1 Rand = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of R200, 100, 50, 20 and 10. Coins are in denominations of R5, 2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10 and 5 cents.

Obtaining local currency within South Africa is very easy. ATMs are widely accessible and very reliable and offer the best rates of exchange. International credit cards are accepted in almost all shops, restaurants, hotels and game reserves.

Bureau de changes offer a quick and commission free service but are only found in the main centres such as Cape Town and Johannesburg. Travellers cheques can be changed at banks. These should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Please note that proof of identity may be requested in some instances, so it's useful to carry a passport or some form of photo identification. Travellers cheques can be difficult to exchange and tend to attract high commission fees.

Banking hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1530, Sat 0830-1100.

Rand can be used in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa, so if you are travelling on one of our overland safaris ample money for these three countries can be obtained prior to beginning your trip in Cape Town or Johannesburg. The Rand and Namibian dollar are tied to each other on an equal level and can be used interchangeably in Namibia. The Rand can also be easily converted to Pula in Botswana at good rates.

Time & Voltage

Time Zone - South Africa is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed

Standard voltage is 220-230V. Primary sockets require a 'Type M' - South African, electrical plug which has three thick circular pins. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Climate

Climatic conditions generally range from Mediterranean in the south western corner of the country to temperate in the interior plateau, and subtropical in the northeast. A small area in the northwest has a desert climate. Most of the country has warm, sunny days and cool nights. Rainfall generally occurs during summer (November-March), although in the southwest, around Cape Town, rainfall occurs in winter (from June-August). Temperatures are influenced by variations in elevation, terrain, and ocean currents.

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