



Africa on Foot Wilderness Trails

FACT SHEET



AFRICA
ON FOOT
WILDERNESS TRAILS



INTRO TO



AFRICA ON FOOT WILDERNESS TRAILS

Africa on Foot Wilderness Trails is a one-of-a-kind mobile safari experience in South Africa. Designed for adventurers and nature lovers, this immersive walking safari offers an experience unlike any other.

AOF Wilderness Trails offers 3 nights of camping in the Maseke Balule Game Reserve, with each night spent in a different location. Days are spent walking through the 8,000-hectare reserve within the Greater Kruger Park, while evenings are enjoyed at a fully set up mobile campsite in a scenic wilderness setting.

The trails depart on specific days, including Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Although special arrangements can be made for alternative departure days based on availability.

A maximum of 8 guests, accommodated in 4 tents, are taken on the walking adventure of a lifetime.

A professional AOF Wilderness Trails trained guide and tracker team will lead an informative, thrilling, and unforgettable walk in the wild.

While guests are out exploring the Greater Kruger on foot, a ground team will ensure the next camp site is set up for your arrival.

A packed brunch will be enjoyed in the bush, while snacks and refreshments will be on offer upon arrival at camp. Evening game drives complete the experience, before campfire dinners and sleeping in a canvas dome tent.



“THIS IS ONE FOR THE ADVENTURERS AND NATURE LOVERS”

AT A GLANCE

- Exclusive mobile safari in the Greater Kruger’s Maseke Balule Game Reserve
- Big 5 game reserve
- Share unfenced borders with the Kruger National Park
- Set departure days which are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, but allowances can be made for alternative arrangements.
- 4 Canvas dome tents (each sleeping 2 people in Twin beds)
- Maximum capacity of 8 guests
- Not self-drive accessible, collection point at Chacma Bush Camp
- Environmentally friendly, pack up and go safari camping experience
- Children from age 16 years and over are accepted.
- Closed Anually from 01 December till 31 March due to weather conditions.

FACILITIES

- En suite bucket showers and chemical toilet facilities
- Standing hand basins renewed each morning and afternoon with warm water
- Central mess tent for kitchen and dining
- Campfire in the evenings
- Solar powered lanterns in the camp and one supplied per tent
- Outdoor dining area



LOCATION

Africa on Foot Wilderness Trails is located in the Maseke Balule Game Reserve in the Greater Kruger, situated between Hoedspruit and Phalaborwa in Limpopo Province. It is an 8000 hectare private game reserve, which shares open borders with the Kruger National Park. The Olifants River courses through the reserve, while prominent mountainous ridges and boulder koppies characterise the terrain, making it an incredibly diverse and interesting region to explore on foot

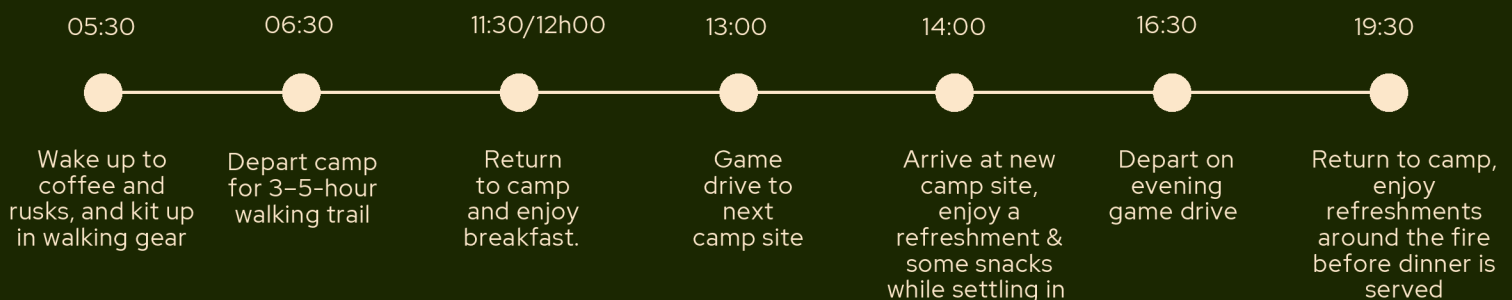
ACTIVITIES

- Full-day guided walking safaris in the Maseke Balule Reserve, Greater Kruger – 3-5 hour morning walk, brunch in the bush.
- Evening game drives in the 8000 hectare Maseke Balule Reserve
- Birdwatching
- Stargazing



A TYPICAL DAY AT AFRICA ON FOOT WILDERNESS TRAILS

Departure times for walking safaris depends on the weather and seasons. Summer time walks will depart earlier, while winter time departures will be later. A general summary of a day's activity is as follows:





ITINEARY

3 x Nights mobile safari in Kruger's Maseke Balule Game Reserve

Two walking trails per week:

- 1) Monday – Thursday
- 2) Thursday – Sunday

DAY 1

- Arrive at Chacma Bush Camp (Headquarters)
- Transfer to first campsite

Guests arriving via transfers from Johannesburg or Hoedspruit Airport will enter via the Grietjie Balule Gate, the entrance to the reserve, where they will be transported through the Maseke Game Reserve to the briefing point at Chacma Bush Camp.

The game viewer will depart with all excess luggage destined for the mobile camp. During this time, guests will be briefed by the guide and enjoy a lunch prepared by the chef.

After lunch, guests will be transported to the first camp site. Once settled in at camp, they will climb aboard the game viewer for an evening game drive before returning to a lantern-lit camp under the stars. Enjoy dinner before turning in for your first night camping in the wild.

DAY 2

- Full-day walking trail
- Sunset game drive

Wake up to coffee and a light breakfast of rusks, fruit, and yoghurt before kitting up and departing the camp for a 3-5 hour walk, followed by brunch prepared by the chef.

After brunch, guest can decide if they would like to continue walking or take a game drive to the second campsite where they can freshen up and relax.

Around 15h00, a snack board will be served, before the evening game drive. After the drive, you'll return to camp for a cosy fireside dinner, followed by a restful night's sleep under the African sky.

DAY 3

- Full-day walking trail
- Sunset game drive

Wake up to coffee and a light breakfast of rusks, fruit, and yoghurt before kitting up and departing the camp for a 3-5 hour walk heading towards the Olifants River where brunch is prepared and served by the chef.

After brunch, guests will enjoy a short walk to the camp on the banks of the river. Look out for hippos, crocs and listen for the call of the African fish-eagle. This scenic spot is the perfect place to spend the last night of trails.

A cheese board and snacks will be served at 15h00 before heading out on the evening drive in search for predators. Guests will depart on a sunset game drive, before returning to camp for dinner cooked over the fire and a night under the stars.

DAY 4

- Morning walk along the Olifants River
- Transfer back to Chacma Bush Camp

Wake up to the sunrise on the Olifants River and take in the splendour before departing for camp headquarters (Chacma Bush Camp).

After a continental breakfast, guests can enjoy a short walk along the river before being transported back to Chacma Bush Camp / Africa on foot Wilderness Trails base.





GETTING THERE

These are the options:

- Self-drive to Chacma Bush camp where you will park your car in a secure parking space.
- Fly from Johannesburg, Durban or Cape Town to either of Hoedspruit, Nelspruit or Skukuza Airport – *Transfers can be arranged through our reservations office at an additional cost.*
- Daily shuttle service from Johannesburg/OR Tambo that departs approx 6am and arrives at the Hoedspruit airport at approx 13h30pm, private transfer to be booked from the airport to the lodge at an additional cost – *Return shuttle also available and both transfers can be booked through our reservations office.*

CHILD POLICY

- Children 16 years and older are welcome to join Africa On Foot Wilderness Trails.

Please note: It is vital for safety that teenagers are well behaved on the bush walks and game drives however, participation is subject to appropriate behavior and remains at the discretion of the guide.

GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION:

WEATHER

The average mean rainfall for the year is 350mm, with most rainfall occurring during mid-summer (November February). The rainfall generally occurs in the form of thunder- storms where a downpour is experienced, very seldom lasting longer than a few hours. The average maximum temperatures range from 24°C in July to 31°C in January with the average minimum occurring in July at a temperature of 8.5°C.

GAME DRIVE VEHICLES

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 metres of the large animals – and safely! All game drives are conducted in open 4 X 4 Toyota Land Cruisers or Landrovers.

WHAT TO PACK

During the summer months the weather can be hot and sticky. You may want to bring a few outfits.

- Comfortable walking shoes, long trousers
- Sun hat, glasses and sunblock
- Cameras and binoculars
- Light, neutral coloured clothing
- Suitable backpack (Camping gear is provided)
- Warm jackets are essentials in winter (May – Oct)
- Beanie and gloves – the mornings are cold during winter.



MALARIA

Before travelling, guests are encouraged to consult their local doctors on anti-malarial medication and preparation, however a repellent stick or spray is effective and should be utilised.

WILDLIFE

Mammals: Some of the world's largest mammals find their home in South Africa, where elephant, giraffe, hippo, buffalo, and rhino reside in the wild Kruger Park and surrounding private game reserves. Game drives lead to unforgettable sightings of these large species, in addition to general game, such as zebra, impala, kudu, gnu, waterbuck, bushbuck, duiker, and steenbok, while nyala are frequent visitors to the camp itself.

Predators: Following in the footsteps of the herbivorous mammals are the carnivorous species of the South African bush. Lion, leopard, hyena, cheetah, African wild dog, and the Nile crocodile are some of the prominent predators residing in the Kruger. Smaller predators include jackal, mongoose, civet, and genet, honey badger, among others.

Birdlife: The Kruger habitat accommodates a complete smorgasbord of birder's delights. Water birds such as herons, storks, plovers, spoonbills, and sandpipers are common along dam edges; kingfishers, orioles, robins, chats, larks, cisticolas, and coucals are some of the veld and woodland birds around; while birds of prey are seen and heard throughout the day.



RESERVATIONS

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