



AFRICAN DREAMS

CUSTOMIZED AFRICAN PHOTO SAFARIS

*If colorful landscapes, incredible wildlife encounters and fascinating people are what you are looking for,
Africa is your ideal destination.*



THE FINEST PHOTO SAFARI EXPERIENCE ON EARTH, ALONG WITH A PASSIONATE IDEOLOGY OF GIVING
BACK TO THE LAND WE LOVE AND SERVE.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

12DAYS

INCLUDES:

Accommodation
Airport transfers from
and to airports
All meals
Activities
Entrance fees
Global Rescue insurance

EXCLUDED

Gratuities
Personal items
All drinks, except
where noted
differently





WHAT YOU NEED TO GO TO SOUTH AFRICA

VISA

- » Canadians do not require a tourist visa to enter South Africa
- » All travellers will need a passport valid for at least 90 days following your departure date from South Africa. We strongly recommend traveling with 6 months validity on your passport at all times.
- » Citizens of Canada can refer to **www.passport.gc.ca** for forms and instructions for new passport applications and Canadian passport renewals.
- » **Make sure your passport has blank VISA pages.** Most destinations, including South Africa, require that you have adequate un-used pages in your passport, allowing for any necessary stamps upon arrival and departure. We recommend that you have at least six free pages in the Visas section of your passport before any international travel. Canadian citizens can get extra passport pages added to their passports at **www.passport.gc.ca**.

HEALTH

- » Due to the ongoing outbreak of Ebola virus disease in neighbouring countries you may be subject to a quick thermal scanner screening and/or a health questionnaire at the airports upon boarding or disembarking a plane.
- » Learn about potential entry requirements related to yellow fever
(<https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/south-africa#health>)

CLIMATE

- » The climate varies from region to region. Storms and flooding can occur throughout the country and at various times of the year. Flash storms can occur in Gauteng and North West provinces from November to April. There are heavy rains along the south coast from June to September and the Western Cape receives heavy rainfall between May and September. If you are traveling to these parts of South Africa during these times, pack accordingly.

ELECTRICITY

- » Socket outlets are largely the South African three round pin varieties, although you may also encounter European two pin sockets and British three rectangular pin sockets, of which all are 230V/50Hz. Most good lodges provide universal adaptors, although we recommend to bring your own.



Day 1/2/3/4:

You will fly into **CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA** AND THEN ONTO **GEORGE** THAT IS JUST ONE HOUR AWAY FROM **CAPE TOWN**. A staff member of **BUFFELDRIFT GAME FARM** will meet you at the airport and transport you to **BUFFELSDRIFT** that is about 1 hour from the airport. You will stay at **BUFFELDRIFT GAME FARM** next four days.

Buffelsdrift Game Lodge, your gateway to the untamed beauty of the Klein Karoo. Nestled just 6.5 kilometers outside of Oudtshoorn, the Ostrich capital of the world, Buffelsdrift Game Lodge offers a unique and understated elegance in luxury tented-accommodation, making it the perfect escape for those seeking a true African experience. With the majestic Swartberg Mountains as a backdrop and a waterhole at your doorstep, you'll be immersed in the untamed beauty of South Africa.

ACTIVITIES: Lions, elephants, bush Safari, Night drive, meerkat safari, cheetahs.

Includes: All meals, accommodation, activities, National park fees, bed levies, transfers from George airport and back.



Activities included: (you can choose when you want to do them)

CHEETAH EXPERIENCE:

Free-roaming Cheetah Experience

About the Activity:

In April 2020, we introduced our South African cheetahs to our guests. After two years of being on the Reserve and being a part of our family, our cheetahs are now adapted and have relaxed to their new environment. We are aiming to create a platform to educate tourists about this predator in its natural environment.

We aim to create conservation awareness through education and to give the visitor a once in a lifetime experience. Buffelsdrift Game Lodge is part of EWT's Cheetah Meta-population project and are wanting to contribute towards the existence and increase of the free-roaming cheetah population in their natural habitat in Southern Africa.

Cheetahs, like all other large predators, are heavily persecuted by livestock farmers. To conserve habitat for species such as the cheetah are a massive challenge to overcome. Buffelsdrift Game Lodge decided to contribute to this cause, by conserving the habitat for the cheetah and in so doing help to overcome the challenges that our cheetah meta-population faces. Track the free roaming cheetahs by vehicle and by foot in their natural environment at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge.

What to Bring

Sunblock

Hiking shoes (no sandals or flip flops)

Preferably long trousers

Hat

Small Backpack

Water

Binoculars / Camera

Appropriate medication for personal medical conditions



African Bush Safaris

About the Activity:

Here at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge, we offer Bush Safaris not only to our residents but to the public as well.

“We call it Bush Safaris, as our guides are trained to not only educate our guests on our wide variety of animals, but also about our bird and plant species..” – Andries van Schalkwyk | Director

During our bush safaris (game drives), you can expect to experience true Karoo vegetation from our open game viewing vehicles. Our wide range of animals includes Hippo, Giraffe, Eland, Zebra, Buffalo, Springbok, and much more. The duration of our bush safaris is $\pm$ 2 hours. About midway through the safari, there is a refreshment break at one of our scenic lookout points. These offer 360° panoramic views of the area as well as the Swartberg Mountains.

Duration of Activity:

2 Hours



Night Drive

About the Activity:

At Buffelsdrift Game Lodge we offer night drives not only to our residents but to the public as well. A night drive is a safari that happens at night with the help of powerful spotlights to see the different animals. The two-hour night drive offers guest an opportunity to spot the elusive “Shy five” of Buffelsdrift Game Lodge – caracal, genet, porcupine, aardvark and aardwolf.

The open game drive safari vehicle offers to witness other wildlife species such as hippo’s grazing, Giraffes, Buffalo, Cape Mountain Zebra, Sable, Eland and much more. About midway through the night drive, there is a refreshment break where you can enjoy the renowned Klein Karoo night skies. The advantage of a night drive is that it provides access to nocturnal species that are rarely seen during the day and there is a greater probability of seeing them hunt at night.

Duration of Activity:

2 Hours



Elephant Experience

About our Elephants

At a Directors meeting on 29 April 2022 a decision was taken, that with immediate effect, too no longer offer Elephant Walks as an Activity.

None of our elephants have been taken from the wild for captivity. The three elephants were orphaned when the adults were poached. Our elephants come from circumstances that if we did not intervene they would not be alive today. We did not choose this life for them but we rather chose to give them the best possible life within our means with the best possible love and care. All our elephant excursions have a most informative educational approach.

We are fortunate that they ended up here at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge as they are true gentle giants and have great personalities. Elephants are very affectionate and caring animals.

About the Activity

An early booking for an Elephant Experience is essential as our elephants are very popular. Clients should arrive 15 minutes prior to activity. Activity will automatically be cancelled if clients arrive 15 minutes after booked time and will have to wait for the next time slot. You are welcome to ask our elephant guides as many questions as you like.

Hourly from 09:00 to 15:00 depending on availability. You may take as many photos as you like while our qualified and skilled elephant guides share their knowledge with you of these gentle giants.



Meerkat Safaris

About the Activity:

Join us daily at dawn to witness these incredible wild habituated creatures emerging out of their burrows, just in time to soak up the sun before they head about their daily activities.

Meerkats are also referred to as the Suricate or in German as the Erdmännchen and are known to be part of the Mongoose family. They are small species of foraging mammals that's usually found inhabiting the harsh conditions of the open and arid, semi-desert plains in Southern Africa.

Meerkats are known for their upright stance and their sociable behaviour. Buffelsdrift Game Lodge is situated in the heart of the Klein Karoo and offers the ideal environment and vegetation for Meerkats to thrive.

The Meerkat Safaris at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge will bring you up close to these amazing animals. A trained ranger will meet our guests in the Lookout Lounge, where they will enjoy a warm cup of coffee and rusks, before heading to the Safari vehicle by which they will be taken to the Meerkat burrows. On the way to the burrows guests are usually lucky to spot some of the 22 species of animals on the reserve. As there are dangerous animals like Buffalo and Hippo on the reserve, the guests remain on the vehicle while waiting for the Meerkats to emerge at the break of dawn. The ranger will educate the guests on all the interesting facts and behaviour throughout the experience.

Please note:

Weather permitting. On sunny mornings our meerkats wake up on time, but conditions such as rain and cold overcast mornings can delay the meerkats to emerge from their burrows for the morning. Meerkats prefer clear sunny mornings. Thus, in the event of above mentioned weather conditions, there is a possibility that we will not see the meerkats or that the meerkat safari can be cancelled.

Currently Buffelsdrift Game Lodge has embarked on an extensive Meerkat research program. Volunteers at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge will be utilized to help the ranger with data collection and behaviour observations. For more information, visit our Volunteer Program.

General Guidelines:

These are wild habituated Meerkats and will not be touched or handled by humans, including the ranger. The distance from the Meerkats and the guests will at all times be determined by the ranger and respected by the guests. Maximum of 16 guests per vehicle. Maximum of 2 vehicles per day. No children under the age of eight years.



Lion Feeding Experience

About our Lions

After two years of intensive research and preparation, we received three young lions in January 2017. The decision to move the three lions was based on the fact that the area on the Game Farm where they were born was very small and the area at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge was large and would be more suited.

These cubs were born in captivity and can therefore never be released into the wild. The cubs, approximately 9 months old, two females and one male were relocated with the help of a local vet and the legal authorities, Cape Nature. The cubs were welcomed on Wednesday 4 January at their massive special erected camp at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge.

A portion of the funds accumulated from this project is used for conservation purposes and the support of a local school in our community.

About the Activity:

Guests will be transported in a game vehicle to the 5ha lion enclosure where they will see our lions (Shumba, Tonga and Safia) close-up from the elevated view point. A trained game ranger will feed the lions while guests view them. It is advisable to have a camera at hand. Furthermore, the game ranger will fully inform the guests regarding important aspects of lions in general.

General Guidelines:

These are wild Lions and will not be touched or handled by humans, including the rangers.

Maximum of 20 guests per Lion experience. Book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Duration of the Lion viewing experience may vary depending on their behaviour (± 1-2 hours)





Day 5/6/7/8:

After breakfast you will be transferred back to **GEORGE AIRPORT** for your flight to **PORT ELIZABETH** (This will probably be a connecting flight through Johannesburg or Capetown where you will have a layover, but we will do our best to get you there asap.) where the staff **ELEPHANT HOUSE** will meet you and transport you the lodge that is only 57 min from airport.

Beyond the citrus groves in the sun-drenched, evocatively named Sundays River Valley, lies Elephant House. A proudly South African, family-run lodge filled with broad smiles, home-cooked meals and good old fashioned hospitality. This is the place to while away hot summer afternoons poolside, to fall asleep reading on a deep verandah, to celebrate with sundowner cocktails after a day exploring the magnificent Addo Elephant National Park, and to nestle up with family and friends on a winter's night in front of a roaring fire.

ACTIVITIES: Morning and Afternoon Addo game viewing, Schotia tooth & claw safari, Amakhala Game Reserve, Bellevue Reserve Giraffe walk

Includes: All meals, accommodation, activities, National park fees, bed levies, transfers from George airport and back.



ELEPHANT HOUSE SAFARI CO. DRIVES

Our in-house field guide (with great experience with the elephants of Addo) conducts two safaris into Addo in our open Land Rover daily.



SCHOTIA “TOOTH AND CLAW” SAFARI

Schotia is a 40 minute drive from Elephant House, lying adjacent to Addo’s eastern boundary and is famous for its lion sightings.

This safari commences at 15:00 and ends after sunset at about 19:00, followed by a lovely cooked meal around the fire in Schotia’s boma. Typically guests are back at Elephant House by about 21:30.



AMAKHALA GAME RESERVE

This fantastic “big 5” reserve (a 40 minute drive from Elephant House) is home and headquarters to one of the world’s leading conservationists: veterinarian Dr Will Fowlds.

The reserve offers a very good half day safari starting at 09:30 for 10:00.



BELLEVUE RESERVE GIRAFFE WALKS

40kms from Elephant House is Bellevue Reserve which offers guided walks through the bush, one of the highlights being able to get reasonably close to giraffe.





Day 9/10/11/12:

After breakfast, you will be transferred to **PORT ELIZABETH AIRPORT** that is only 57min away. The staff of **PUMBA** will pick you up at the airport and transport you to the reserve. You will spend the next four nights in **PUMBA PRIVATE RESERVE**.

he history of Pumba Private Game Reserve & Spa starts in the Eastern Cape, then known as the Zuurveld. It was occupied by the Khoi, a nomadic pastoral people.

The farm was surveyed in 1813 and granted by the government to Piet Retief, who later became one of the prominent leaders of the Dutch farmers. These farmer, together with their families and livestock trekked northwards to escape British rule. As migratory farmers from the West came into contact and conflict with Xhosa tribes from the East, the Zuurveld, frontier of the Cape Colony, started what was to become the "Frontier Wars" in the early part of the 19th Century. In order to stabilise the Frontier, the Government stationed troops in the interior and Grahamstown was established as the chosen site for Military Headquarters.

ACTIVITIES: Game drives included (there is also a health spa on the premises on your own account.)

Includes: All meals, accommodation, game drives and selected beverages



Day 13:

Depending on your flight time, you will be transported back to Port Elizabeth airport for your flight home. The airport is only 57km from the reserve. You need to be at the airport three hours before your flight departs.

"Thank you for choosing African Dreams Photo Safaris to be your guide and friend on this wonderful journey. Have a safe trip back home and we hope to see you again in the future."

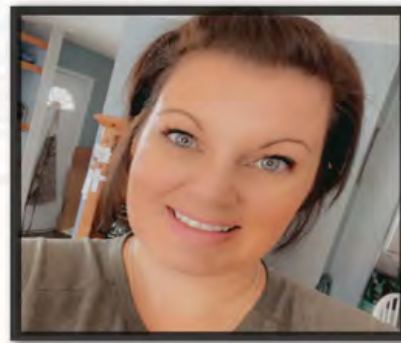
- Elaine



ELAINE & AL NESS

Owners

+1 (403) 877-2706
africandreams@telus.net



YOLANDI RUST

Marketing Director

+1 (306) 421-5184

www.africandreamsphotosafaris.com