



# FACT SHEET





## INTRODUCTION

Nestled near the seasonal Sand River, in a beautiful forested thicket, Umkumbe Bush Lodge is situated in one of the most sought after safari destinations in Southern Africa. This brand new family-run lodge is located in the wildlife rich Sabie Game Reserve which forms part of the Greater Kruger and shares unfenced borders with famed Kruger National Park.

This beautifully designed bush lodge can accommodate up to 10 guests in 5 tented style suites, 4 of which are standard and 1 luxury. Elevated on a wooden deck, each suite has it's own private balcony and is fully equipped for a comfortable safari retreat.

Built around a weeping boer-bean, the main lodge overlooks a variety of habitats - a winding drainage line leading to the seasonal Sand River, a forested thicket and a section of open savanna. Guests can wildlife watch, relax and take in the wilderness surrounds in between activities and meals.

Reflecting the beauty of the African bushveld, Umkumbe showcases elegant interiors, from locally handwoven baskets and wooden carvings to delicately dried foliage finishes.

Experience an authentic South African safari and take time to disconnect from the hustle and bustle of modern living. Here in the heart of the wild you can reconnect with nature at Umkumbe Bush Lodge.

## AT A GLANCE/FACILITIES

- Umkumbe is brand new stylish bush lodge located in the revered Sabie Game Reserve in South Africa's Greater Kruger Region.
- Accommodating up to 10 guests in 5 tented style suites > 4 Standard Suites - Appleleaf, Marula, Jackalberry, Tamboti & 1 Luxury Suite - Leadwood)
- Named after different indigenous trees found in the region, the stylish and spacious tented suites are all

positioned on private raised wooden decks nestled in nature.

- The luxury Leadwood suite is totally secluded and has it's own private view of the drainage line below. It also boasts a bathtub, his/hers sinks and an outdoor shower. It is also the only room which can accommodate up to two children.
- Suite facilities include a tea/coffee station, standing fan, air con, hand luggage stand, hair dryer, mosquito net, safe, bathroom amenities, changeable twin/ double bed configurations and a private seating area on a raised wooden deck.
- Built around a beautiful Jackalberry tree, the main lodge features a well-stocked bar, a large pool and sun lounge area, tea/coffee station, various secluded lounge areas, wildlife lookout points, open-air dining area, beautiful garden grounds, a public restroom, upstairs games room and a classic boma/campfire.
- Breakfast and lunch will be served alfresco at the main lodge on private tables and the evening dinner will be hosted in the boma area around a central roaring fire. (Subject to weather conditions)





- The Umkumbe cuisine consists of South African styled, simplistic yet delicious dishes which aim to showcase the best of local and seasonal produce.
- Reflecting the beauty of the African bushveld, Umkumbe showcases elegant interiors, from locally handwoven baskets and wooden carvings to delicately dried foliage finishes.
- Sharing traverse with Umkumbe Safari Lodge, this scenic part of the Sabie has a beautiful mix of environments from winding riverbeds and woodland to open savanna and riverine thickets. This wilderness reserve is home to the big-five as well as a huge diversity of different flora and fauna to discover.
- This reserve is better known for it's exceptional predator viewing, most often leopards and lion prides but there are also occasional sightings of cheetah and the rare African wild dog.
- The lodge overlooks a winding drainage line and is shaded by a canopy of indigenous trees which encircle the camp. There is also a wooden platform which looks out to an open savanna area/waterhole which often attract a variety of species.
- There are 2 daily game drives included in a safari stay at Umkumbe. The morning safari will stop for a scenic coffee pit stop and on afternoon drive, guests can enjoy a classic safari sundowner and snacks.

## ON SAFARI

Sharing their wealth of knowledge with you, your guide can teach you all about life in the WILD, everything from the intricate life cycles of dung beetles, to an array fascinating big-five facts. Trackers skilfully read the signs in nature and work with the guide to locate an array of life, from prowling big cats to boisterous buffalo herds.

There are two daily game drives per day, timed to take advantage of the when the bushveld is most active and alive. Starting with a sunrise safari in the early morning, which will include a quick coffee stop in a scenic location.

The afternoon drive departs when the day starts to cool,

leaving ample time to find sightings for that iconic golden hour light. The last moments of sunset can be taken in whilst enjoying an authentic African sundowners stop, what will it be? A classic G&T, a crisp Savanna or a fine South African wine, take a peek in the Umkumbe bar and order your safari tippie prior to game drive departure.

The afternoon drive continues a little after dark, with a handy spotlight helping to reveal the nocturnal wildlife starting to stir.

Game drive times may vary according to seasons, game activity and spontaneous safaris may also go out in response to animal activity near the lodge. All game drives take place in 4x4 Land Cruisers which are open, roofless and all-terrain, ideally designed to maximise the game-viewing experience.

## A TYPICAL DAY AT UMKUMBE BUSH LODGE

Check in is from 2pm and check out time is 11am. Below is a typical time guide for a safari stay at Umkumbe. Meals and game drives are at set times, but the daily safari schedule will vary depending on the time of year. Meals are served in a variety of locations throughout the lodge, for breakfast and lunch guests will dine on the open-air lodge deck.

The evening dinner will be served in the boma under the night sky and around a flickering fire. (Subject to weather conditions)

	Summer	Winter
Wake-up (Coffee/Rusks)	5:00	5:30
Morning Game Drive Departs	5:30	6:00
Return To The Lodge	8:30	9:30
Breakfast Is Served	8:30	9:30
Lunch Is Served	14:00	14:00
Afternoon Game Drive Departs	16:30	15:30
Return To The Lodge	19:30	18:30
A Boma Dinner Is Served	19:30	18:30



## LOCATION & GETTING THERE

Umkumbe Bush Lodge can be found in a secluded forested thicket, just above the seasonal Sand River, below an open savanna and has a winding dry drainage line that encircles the lodge. Draped with dappled light from a canopy of giant boerbeans, jackalberries, marulas and tamboti trees, it's a prime location for variety of wildlife.

The camp is easily accessible via car, with easy self-drive routes from Johannesburg, or by flying into the closest airport which is Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport (KMIA) in Nelspruit. Driving from JHB takes +- 6 hours and the flight takes approximately 1 hour from OR Tambo. (See DIRECTIONS PDF for further location information).

Road transfers from KMIA to Umkumbe can be arranged and will take approximately 2 hours.

### UMKUMBE GPS Co-ordinates

24° 52' 24" S 31° 32' 41" E



## CHILD POLICY

Children aged 5 and over are welcome at Umkumbe Bush Lodge. Children over 12 pay the full adult rate. Children under 12 pay 50% of the adult rate. Only the Luxury Tent can accommodate up to 2 children.

## WEATHER

South Africa's Kruger region is considered a year-round destination and has two distinct seasons depending on your desired safari experience. MAY - OCTOBER is the dry season and is regarded as one of the best times for game-viewing opportunities as all life is drawn to the remaining water-sources. Wildlife is more easily spotted in the thinning foliage and open areas during this time of year. You guessed it, it gets chilly in Winter so remember your beanies, scarves and varied safari attire for those crisp early mornings and evenings on safari. These months we relish the crackle of our cosy boma fire and enjoy alfresco fireside dining on clear and starry nights.

The summer rains bring life and colour back to the bushveld from NOVEMBER - APRIL and offers more of a scenic experience on safari. This time of year life abounds the veld as many animals give birth, providing a predator's paradise. The bush is beautiful this time of year with every viridescent shade imaginable, replenished waterholes and flourishing wildlife. The thicker vegetation just means you may have to search a little harder, but bird-watching proves effortless as migratory birds are around for the summer. This time of year the temperatures can reach their 40's, humidity can get quite high and downpours are expected, these don't usually last long and often provide spectacular skies and thrilling thunderstorms.

## WILDLIFE

South Africa's Kruger region is home to an abundance of amazing species to search for on safari. This iconic wildlife destination is home to the big-five; leopard, lion, buffalo, elephant & rhino. Exceptional game-viewing is



almost guaranteed, but like any wilderness area it's all about being in the right place at the right time and every day is different.

Did you know the Kruger region has over 500 different bird species, 148 mammals, 118 Reptiles, 35 Amphibians, 53 fish and 1,990 differing trees, grasses, shrubs, sedges and succulents? Some of the most common and sought after wildlife sightings to be had here include: elephant, lion, leopard, cheetah, African wild dog, spotted hyena, white rhino, hippo, zebra, giraffe, buffalo, kudu, waterbuck, sable, nyala, impala, blue wildebeest, crocodile, warthog, caracal, vervet monkey, baboon, serval, pangolin, mongoose, honey badger, civet, black-backed jackal, side-striped jackal, steenbok, bushbuck, klipspringer, African wild cat and genets to name but a few.

This region is also a bird-lovers paradise, being home to over 500 species throughout the year, you're bound to tick off a few top species or two. Keep an eye out for: martial eagles, kori bustards, ostrich, lilac-breasted rollers, brown-headed kingfishers, giant eagle owls, red-billed quelea, oxpeckers, grey herons, African fish-eagles, white bellied sunbirds, bee-eaters and barbets. A pair of quality binoculars and zoom lens is always a good idea if birding is high on your list.

## WHAT TO PACK

Need some help with your Africa Travel packing list?

We've listed a few essential suitcase items and inspiration:

We recommend packing a variety of lightweight, neutral-coloured items. Think shades of sand, beige, tan, khaki, brown and green. You want to blend into the bush when out in nature.

- **Winter Essentials:** Beanies, scarfs, jackets and lots of layers
- **Summer Essentials:** Swimsuit, raincoat and mosquito repellent
- Suitable walking shoes/Sandals
- **Sun Protection:** Sunscreen, hat, water, UV protected sunglasses
- Antimalarials & Insect repellent (Consult doctor prior to departure)
- Binoculars/Cameras/Devices/Chargers
- Face-mask/Buff Scarf/Sanitiser/Personal First Aid Kit
- **Must-read books to bring:** Lebombo Journals, Jock Of The Bush-veld, Elephant Bloodline & A Game Ranger Remembers

## MALARIA

Before travelling, we encourage our guests to consult their medical practitioner for malaria advice in preparation for their visit to South Africa. The risk of malaria is low here but the region does lie within the malarial belt so it's always best to be on the safe side especially if travelling during or just after the Summer months in South Africa.

