South Africa - Wait A Little - Wait A Little Ride and Dine Safari

ITINERARY

Day 1

You should fly to Johannesburg and then on to Hoedspruit. We can arrange transfers from Hoedspruit.

When looking at flights into Hoedspruit, we recommend the flight arriving c.13.00 to allow more time for your connection in Johannesburg. On departure, please choose the later flight leaving at c. 14:00 which gives time for your last morning ride.

You can also transfer to Wait A Little by road from Johannesburg OR Tambo International Airport (a journey of c. 5 hours). For this road transfer your flight should arrive into Johannesburg by 08:00. The shared transfer departs from Johannesburg between 09:00 and 10:00 and so there may be a short wait for other guests arriving at similar time.

Return flights from Johannesburg should depart after 19:00 to allow time for either a road transfer or internal flight back to Johannesburg OR Tambo International Airport.

On arrival at camp have a light lunch or afternoon tea (depending on your arrival time). The Wait A Little team, including Philip and Gerti, are there to welcome you and will introduce you to the safety procedures before you go on your first ride.

The orientation ride takes you through the area surrounding the camp as you unwind from your journey and forget yourself in the peace of the African bush. This is your chance to become accustomed to the horses and riding style. You may even see the first giraffe or zebra. Sundowners, looking out towards the Drakensberg Mountains, are a perfect prelude to the three course dinner, accompanied by South African wines, which awaits you back at camp.

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The first night, with all its fantastic sounds and noises, is probably the most exciting one.

Overnight Wait A Little. Wait A Little has four spacious tents on platforms overlooking the Makuthswe River.

Tents 1, 2 and 4 are double rooms that can be converted into twins. Tent 3 is larger with two double beds, but there is space to add a single bed too (making it ideal as a triple for friends to share), it also has two toilets (one inside, one outside).

There is also a bar and a swimming pool and the main area is equipped with a library with books on the local wildlife.

Day 2

Wake up to tea or coffee. After a light, continental breakfast, mount your horses and go on safari.

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The order of the day will depend on the weather, but usually you ride for about 3-4 hours in the morning and approximately 2-3 hours in the afternoon. After returning from the morning ride a big lunch awaits with homemade quiches, pizzas or pancakes, freshly baked bread and lots of green salads, meats and cheeses.

After lunch there is the chance to relax with a siesta. Spend your well-deserved rest in your room or at the swimming pool or maybe by reading one of the books from the camp library.

Afternoon tea and coffee prepare you for your next adventure. The afternoon ride ends at a beautiful sundowner spot.

Overnight Wait A Little.

Day 3

Another exciting day awaits exploring the bush on horseback.

This afternoon unwind at camp perhaps with a siesta by the pool.

Overnight Wait A Little.

Day 4

Waking to the rich colours of the sunrise you get ready for a long ride. You enter the Greater Makalali Game Reserve, dominated by huge open plains, where you might find yourself cantering next to giraffes, zebras or wildebeest. Spectacular views over large distances show you the way to Clive's Camp, your base for the next two nights.

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The afternoon siesta is followed by a game drive perhaps for further sightings of the big cats you saw earlier. The drive continues into the night, where, with luck, some of the nocturnal wildlife will be seen. Bushbabies, owls, maybe even a leopard.

Overnight Clive's Camp. Clive’s camp is an open and spacious lodge, with a lovely swimming pool and a very comfortable braai area. The rooms are well furnished and most have outdoor verandas to relax upon.

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Day 5

Today is a full day's ride along the Makuthswe River where you might find hippos and crocodiles. Many animals prefer the river systems like Nyala, Kudu and Bushbuck. Elephants love digging in the sand for fresh water if the river is not in season and lions often try and find an easy snack.

After your return mid afternoon relax at camp watching Robin cook, enjoying a massage or simply just jump in the pool to refresh after a long ride.

Later have a 4 x 4 game drive to watch wildlife getting active after a warm African day and nocturnal animals awakening to get ready for the night.

You return to camp after dusk. Enjoy the campfire under the night sky as well as the "Out of Africa" atmosphere and listen to the voices of the night. A perfect way to end an exciting and unique day.

Overnight Clive's Camp.

Day 6

Today you have a lovely ride towards XiDulu camp with hopefully plenty of sightings along the way.

XiDulu camp is surrounded by a huge open plain where giraffe, wildebeest, zebra, kudu, warthog and a big herd of eland can often be seen. Plus the occasional swimming elephant! As with all the other Makalali camps, accommodation at XiDulu camp is in private chalets, each equipped with an en-suite bathroom, outdoor shower and a private veranda for your relaxation.

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The afternoon siesta is followed by a game drive as you search for the more elusive nocturnal wildlife.

Overnight XiDulu. XiDulu Camp is stunning. The big dam in front of the camp has a resident pod of hippos and the camp is surrounded by a huge open plain where giraffe, wildebeest, zebra, kudu, warthog and a big herd of eland can often be seen. Plus the occasional swimming elephant!

The individual chalets are comfortably furnished with large double beds, en-suite bathrooms and private veranda areas.

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Day 7

Today you might go exploring, cutting through the veldt at a canter, twisting and turning around the trees – what Philip calls bushwhacking - and your surefooted horse carries you nimbly through the undergrowth. You might even spend the whole morning tracking black rhino, which are plentiful in this area.

Later in the afternoon you could join another game is drive or simply enjoy the beauty of the lodge.

Overnight XiDulu.

Day 8

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Today promises to be another full day in the saddle as you make your way across the reserve for the return to Wait A Little. Lunch is a saddlebag picnic along the way.

At home, the Wait A Little team eagerly awaits your exciting tales, which are the perfect accompaniment to one last, sad farewell sundowner on Wait A Little's open plain. The African fever is sure to have taken hold and the goodbyes can be hard. But it mustn't be pre-empted, for there is one last sumptuous dinner to be enjoyed, when Gerti chooses something special – perhaps game fillets, such as Kudu or Eland.

Overnight Wait A Little.

Day 9

Today will be your last full ride around Wait A Little. You may have a chance to get those last amazing shots of the animals which have managed to escape the camera so far!

The afternoon brings the sad task of having to choose what your last afternoon activity will be.

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Overnight Wait A Little.

Day 10

An early wake up will get you on the horses quickly, so you can enjoy a final short ride.

You will be transferred to Hoedspruit airport.

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