

AFRICAN INSIGHT ACADEMY

INSPIRE · EDUCATE · EMPOWER



SOMKHANDA CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE



Interactive Guest Experience:

Guests are welcome to take up their accommodation any time from 13h00 on the day of arrival. By prior arrangement (and additional cost) guests may arrive earlier and are welcome to relax at the main restaurant lodge area and enjoy lunch.

The afternoon programme starts at 15h00 with optional afternoon tea and snacks (cost included). At 15h30 we set off, unlike other safari lodges our experience is not the traditional game drive. Each afternoon our guests are involved in a specific wildlife monitoring or research activity objective which adds to the ongoing management of the reserve's wildlife populations. Each activity is a minimum of 3 hours long and is contextualised with a comprehensive briefing covering the "how, why and what."

During the activity you will encounter many other animals, so there is plenty of time and opportunity for guides to share interesting information and conservation facts to maximise the learning experience.

At sundown we stop to appreciate the sunset, enjoy a refreshment and snacks (included) before making our way back to the lodge to freshen up before dinner.

Our morning programme starts at 06h30 with a monitoring activity. Due to the early start we take flasks of hot water for tea and coffee as well as freshly baked muffins, yogurt and fruit on the vehicle returning to the lodge for "brunch." After breakfast guests can relax in camp, around the pool or do the short self-guided trail within the fenced lodge area. For the more active there are the following optional activities:

- Guided nature walk - daily
- Camera trap leopard monitoring project. (Mondays & Wednesdays). Accompany researchers into the field to retrieve images from camera traps strategically placed around the reserve for the purpose of capturing images of leopards (and loads of other interesting nocturnal animals). Back at base the images are downloaded and catalogued. Leopard images are scrutinized using the "spot recognition method" to identify individual animals.

On Saturdays and Sundays a team goes out into the community to assist with dipping cattle for ticks. Guests are welcome to forego the early morning activity to join this team. From time to time there are other interesting conservation management operations happening which guests are always welcome to join.

Weekly Wildlife Monitoring Schedule

AFTERNOON		MORNING	
Mondays	Wild Dogs	Mondays	Elephants
Tuesdays	Elephants	Tuesdays	Rhinos
Wednesdays	Rhinos	Wednesdays	Buffalos
Thursdays	Buffalos	Thursdays	Wild Dogs
Fridays	Wild Dogs	Fridays	Elephants
Saturdays	Elephants	Saturdays	Rhinos
Sundays	Rhinos	Sundays	Wild Dogs

** Note: This is our winter programme. Our summer evening programme starts 1 hour later and the morning programme starts 1 hour earlier.*

Fee includes: Kudu Lodge full board, 1 Game Drive / Bush Walk & Wildlife Monitoring activity per day as per attachment.

