

5 NIGHT BUSH AND LAKE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE

1 night Rhino Post Safari Lodge 2 nights Plains Camp
2 Nights Kosi Forest Lodge

**KRUGER
NATIONAL
PARK**

**KWAZULU
NATAL**



1: Rhino Post Safari Lodge Kruger National Park

Rhino Walking Safaris is situated on a 12,000-hectare private concession in the Kruger National Park. It is approximately 10km northeast of Skukuza Rest Camp. The concession shares a 15km boundary with Mala Mala in the Sabi Sands Game Reserve, with game moving freely between the two reserves and comprises of environmentally sensitive areas, previously unexplored, with a huge diversity of both fauna and flora.

Rhino Post Safari Lodge is built on the banks of the dry Mutlumuvi riverbed using natural materials of stone, wood, thatch & canvas. Stilts raise the 8 spaciouly appointed suites along the riverbank, allowing views of the Mutlumuvi riverbed from your bedroom, bathroom and private deck. The suites are set out in an open plan style with wooden floors, thatched roofs, canvas walls and glass fronted doors and windows. Each en suite bathroom includes a deep, freestanding bath, 'his & hers' basins, a separate toilet and an outdoor shower surrounded by thick reed poles.

The raised walkways linking the spacious rooms to the main area, allows wildlife to walk through underneath, undisturbed by mankind.

After settling into your room, you will enjoy a high tea at the main lounge whilst overlooking the water hole, before departing for your afternoon/evening game drive.

Game drive safaris at Rhino Post are conducted in specially adapted open Land cruisers, with professional guides. In addition to the private wilderness concession, they make use of the Kruger Public Roads. The Kruger National Park has strict gate closing times (before sunset) for their rest camps and access gates. Rhino Post vehicles are however allowed to utilise certain public roads for night drives well after gate closing times. At sunset the game drive will stop for drinks while watching an African sunset, before continuing on into the night, spotting nocturnal animals.

You will return to the lodge in time to freshen up, enjoy a drink before a sumptuous dinner on the deck or in the dining room, as you recount the day's events, all the while accompanied by the night sounds of the bush.

2: Plains Camp - (Rhino Walking Safaris) Kruger National Park

After an early morning wake-up and an invigorating cup of fresh coffee or tea with muffins in our lounge, the game drive will depart. Midway through the morning you will stop in the bush for coffee/tea/fruit juice before continuing to look for Africa's finest wildlife. Upon returning to the lodge, enjoy a leisurely brunch. At about 11h30 you will check out of Rhino Post and be transferred through to Plains Camp.

Plains Camp is situated in the heart of the wilderness concession overlooking the spectacular Timbitene Plain & waterhole. Built in authentic pioneer tradition, it has the serenity of a 19th century naturalist's rest camp, nestled in an Acacia Knobthorn thicket. Plains Camp offers 4 comfortably furnished African explorer style tents, with en-suite showers, hot running water and the African Wilderness right on your doorstep. The concession is an environmentally sensitive area previously unexplored, with a huge diversity of both fauna and flora – an ideal setting for wilderness walking safaris in an internationally renowned Big Five area.

After settling into your tent and exploring the camp, high tea is served followed by a brief on the 'do's & don'ts' of bush walking by your guide. Rhino Walking Safari guides meet the stringent requirements of the South African National Parks and senior guides hold the highest guiding qualification possible in South Africa. After the brief, you will depart with your 2 armed guides for an introductory walk, returning to the vehicle in time for sundowners and enjoying a short night drive before returning to camp for a delicious home cooked dinner.

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3: Plains Camp - (Rhino Walking Safaris) Kruger National Park

After an early morning wake-up, fresh coffee, tea and rusks (a South Africa tradition!), you will depart with the guides for your safari walk. Nothing is predictable in the bush; therefore each safari offers a potentially new experience. Our guides will share their wealth of bush experience, which involves the identification of animals, trees, grasses, insects, and birds. The medicinal uses of plants, local folk lore and basic tracking & survival skills are also discussed.

All walking trails are enjoyed in the early morning and late afternoon to avoid the midday heat, with the average duration of the morning walk being between 3 and 4 hours. The Guide will structure the trail taking into account the fitness level of the group and any special requests. After a light snack on the walk, you will be served a well-deserved brunch on your return to the camp. Relax during the heat of the day, enjoying our small Africana book collection or the plunge pool overlooking the plain, which is often host to zebra, buffalo, giraffe, elephant, rhino and lion.

The afternoon safari activity is a short drive in the game vehicle to a specific location, after which you will depart on foot again for your trail. Upon returning to the vehicle, you will enjoy sundowners before returning to camp. Back at camp you will enjoy a sumptuous dinner, all the while accompanied by the night sounds of the African bush.

4-6: Kosi Forest Lodge iSimangaliso Wetland Park, KwaZulu Natal

After your final morning walk you will return to Plains Camp for a hearty brunch & shower before packing up and being transferred back to Rhino Post Safari Lodge for check out.

Kosi Forest Lodge is situated in the Kosi Bay Nature Reserve. This 16-bed wilderness lodge offers the unique opportunity of exploring a pristine wetland environment by vehicle, guided canoes and boats.

On arrival in the vibrant African town of Manguzi you will head for the Total Garage where you will be met by a Kosi Forest representative. After leaving your vehicle at the designated parking area you will be transferred in an open 4x4 vehicle to the lodge.

This transfer takes approximately 30 minutes.

When you awake in the morning at Kosi the suites are surrounded by beautiful trees which are a haven for prolific bird life. You will be welcomed by a flask of boiling water and the weather report for the day, allowing you to decide where you want to explore that day over a hearty breakfast.

The highlight for many at Kosi Forest Lodge is the canoe trip on the Kosi Lakes. The best time for this activity is in the early morning and lasts for approximately 2 hours. Guides escort you by canoe along the Sihadla channel where the bird life is very rewarding and the scenery peaceful and breathtaking.

You will return for a delicious lunch and a siesta before embarking on your afternoon activity.

On the afternoon you can enjoy a walk through magnificent Raffia Palms – the tallest in the world! Home to the Palm Nut Vulture and Pel's Fishing Owl, the area can be explored by birders at their leisure.

When you return from your afternoon activity you will have time to freshen up before coming through to enjoy a delicious meal on either the main deck or in the Boma. The lodge is charming and as it is not on mains electricity, the pathways and eating venues are lit by lanterns and create an intimate, relaxed atmosphere to enjoy the sounds of the night.

The Kosi Lakes are a series of inter-connected lakes which stretch over some 18km. The best way to see the waterways is by boat. The full day excursion leaves shortly after breakfast and travels through the lake system and estuarine waterways. The guides stop along the way and explain the traditional fishing traps and the traditions the Tsonga community have to live in balance with the lake system. A picnic lunch is served on the banks of the lakes. After lunch you will continue your site seeing arriving at the serene Bhanga Nek beach at the end where you can enjoy a refreshing swim.

Kosi Forest Lodge guests are accommodated in thatched bedrooms, on raised wooden decks, hidden in the sand forest. There is no electricity, but that's part of the charm! All beds have mosquito nets. The unique open-air, reed enclosed bathrooms with the bath and shower sunk into white forest sand, has been noted by many guests as one of the highlights of their stay.

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6: End of Arrangements

After your breakfast and morning activity you will check out of Kosi Forest Lodge and return to the pickup point at Manguzi.

Includes

Rhino Post Safari Lodge

1 Nights' accommodation, meals, teas and coffees. 2 game drives per day

Plains Camp

2 Nights' accommodation – with optional Sleep Out, brunch, high tea and dinner, teas and coffees, morning walks and afternoon game activity combination, soft drinks, house wine and local beers.

Kosi Forest Lodge

2 Nights' accommodation - breakfast lunch and dinner, teas and coffees, guided walk in raffia forest, guided canoe trip and 4x4 transfer from pickup point in Manguzi.

Excludes

Park fees, transfers, gratuities, laundry and items of a personal nature

Rhino Post Safari Lodge - All drinks

Plains Camp - Spirits and premium brand drinks

Kosi Forest Lodge - Motorized boat trip on Kosi Lakes System and 4x4 day trip to Kosi Bay Mouth. 4x4 vehicle driven turtle tracking tours. (Nov - Feb)

Note!

Extra days can be added at either lodge and other Isibindi Africa Lodges may be added to this itinerary.

Contact marketing@isibindi.co.za for your tailor made package.

Honeymoon Add On

All packages can be upgraded to a Honeymoon Package (see rates sheet for cost)

Includes

Rhino Post Safari Lodge - Sparkling wine on arrival, private dinner and in-room massage for both partners.

Kosi Forest Lodge - Sparkling wine on arrival, private activity where possible, private dinner and aromatherapy outdoor bath.