

CLASSIC-ESCAPES

Prepared for EO IGNITE DELEGATES

SAFARI ESCAPES

May 2022



Lookbook Overview

Visualize your journey



Summary

- 1) &Beyond Phinda Forest Lodge, Phinda Private Game Reserve
- 2) &Beyond Phinda Vlei Lodge, Phinda Private Game Reserve
- 3) &Beyond Phinda Homestead, Phinda Private Game Reserve
- 4) &Beyond Phinda Zuka Lodge, Phinda Private Game Reserve
- 5) Thanda Tented Camp, Thanda Private Game Reserve
- 6) Thanda Safari Lodge, Thanda Private Game Reserve



Phinda Forest Lodge

Property Overview

With its seven distinct habitats, Phinda Private Game Reserve is often described as ‘Seven Worlds of Wonder’, a magnificent tapestry of woodland, grassland, wetland and forest, interspersed with mountain ranges, rivers, marshes and pans. Showcasing one of the continent’s finest game viewing experiences, the reserve is home to Africa’s Big Five, as well as 436 bird species.

Set in a rare and beautiful sand forest, the glass walls of Phinda Forest Lodge’s 16 air-conditioned suites offer a sweeping view of one of the most unique ecosystems on the planet. A dense canopy provides privacy, and floor to ceiling windows invite the forest in, with the wonderful opportunity to view wildlife roaming outside your glass “bubble”, fluttering birds nesting in the foliage and the gentle rustle of forest sounds.

Experience & Activities

On the edge of the forest, just before a clearing that overlooks a small waterhole, lies the lodge’s sparkling rim-flow swimming pool, an ideal respite in between game drives. Expansive decks in the spacious guest area look out onto panoramic views of an open grassy meadow. In the evenings, when warm firelight welcomes you to the traditional African boma, wide-eyed bush babies watch inquisitively from the trees above during a lantern-lit feast beneath a canvas of stars.

Choose from a range of exciting Phinda adventures such as a specialist walking and tracking safaris, a sleep-out under the stars, an infrared Night Eye drive, and other participative conservation experiences such rhino notching or pangolin tagging. Also on offer outside of the reserve, within easy access of the reserve are Zulu village tours, Africa Foundation community visits, a Maputaland exploration, Maputaland beach trips, night turtle drives (seasonal), scuba safaris, or an incredible ocean safari that offers you a host of marine life sightings.

Phinda Forest Lodge

Accommodations

Suite

Each of the lodge's 16 suites are built on stilts, and appear to float between the forest floor and the towering trees in the intensely canopied rare sand forest. Each glass-encased suite was constructed without damaging or removing a single tree in the forest. The suites each feature a luxurious ensuite bathroom, with an indoor and outdoor shower, as well as a private deck offering glorious forest views.

Fast Facts

Highlights

A one-of-a-kind eco-lodge set within a rare and beautiful sand forest
Day and night game drives with expert guides in search of Big Five and other rare iconic wildlife encounters
Explore the African bush and its quaint fauna and flora on foot with an experienced guide
Assist our conservation team with a scheduled rhino, elephant or pangolin research experience
Visit nearby Zulu communities and gain insight into their daily lives

Quick facts

WiFi Available
Fitness & Wellness
Signature Safari Shop
Sparkling Lodge Pool
Swarovski Optik Binoculars
Wildchild Programme
Spacious Glass Suites
Outdoor Showers
Family Options
Laundry Included



Phinda Vlei Lodge

Property Overview

Phinda Vlei Lodge's unique location offers ever-changing game viewing from the comfort of your suite. Set on the edge of a sand forest, and overlooking a vast grassy meadow, each of the six thatched suites ensure exclusivity and incredible wildlife sightings. The air-conditioned suites each feature a beautiful, plantation-style bedroom, with a luxuriously spacious ensuite bathroom and dressing room that effortlessly blends a sense of old-world luxury with quirky, contemporary features.

The suite's interiors showcase a mix of curated antiques and collectables combined with bold fabrics. Take advantage of a private lap pool and game viewing deck that overlooks lush plains and observe antelope and other curious wildlife grazing nearby, as well as a variety of birdlife. Unwind in the beautiful surrounds of the main guest area, which also includes a handsome library, as well as a fire pit setting, ideal for pre-dinner drinks.

Experience & Activities

Choose from a range of exciting Phinda adventures such as a specialist walking and tracking safaris, a sleep out under the stars, an infrared Night Eye drive, and other participative conservation experiences such as rhino notching or pangolin tagging. Also within easy access of the reserve are Zulu village visits, Africa Foundation community visits, a Maputaland exploration, Maputaland beach trip, night turtle drives (seasonal), scuba safaris, or an incredible ocean safari that offers you a host of marine life sightings. Specialist safaris can be arranged in advance and focus on special interests such as birding.

Phinda Vlei Lodge

Phinda is home to a magnificent variety of wildlife, including the Big Five, but is best known for its large population of cheetah and black rhino. The sand forest is home to the shy suni and the rare red duiker, two tiny antelope that are seldom encountered elsewhere. A variety of incredible adventures are available, including twice-daily game drives, nature walks, conservation and community experiences, sleep outs, village tours, night drives, specialist safaris, as well as nearby ocean activities.

Accommodations

Suite

Each air-conditioned suite features a spacious room with a personal bar, a luxurious ensuite bathroom (each equipped with a bath, indoor and outdoor shower) and a separate dressing room. Take advantage of the private lap pool in each suite, as well as the game-viewing deck that overlooks a grassy wetland pan system, brimming with wildlife.

Fast Facts

Highlights

- An intimate and charming lodge with just six suites on the edge of the rare sand forest
- Day and night game drives with expert guides in search of Big Five and other rare iconic wildlife encounters
- Explore the African bush and its quaint fauna and flora on foot with an experienced guide
- Assist our conservation team with a scheduled rhino, elephant or pangolin research experience
- Visit nearby Zulu communities and gain insight into their daily lives

Quick facts

- WiFi Available
- Fitness & Wellness
- Laundry Service
- Swarovski Optik Binoculars
- Family Friendly
- Private Lap Pools
- Luxurious Suites
- Outdoor Showers



Phinda Homestead

Property Overview

Tucked into the edge of a dappled forest in the north of Phinda Private Game Reserve, lies Phinda Homestead, a gracious sole-use safari villa, complete with a dedicated ranger, tracker, butler and chef.

Phinda Private Game Reserve encompasses an impressive 28,555 hectares (70,560 acres) of protected wildlife land in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Showcasing one of the continent's finest game viewing experiences, the reserve is home to Africa's Big Five (lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino), as well as 436 bird species.

Experience & Activities

Blending seamlessly into the natural surroundings, and designed like a contemporary bush farmhouse, Phinda Homestead is an elegant and homely sole-use villa, ideal for both families and small groups. Four private bedrooms and spacious bathrooms fuse harmoniously with the cool, expansive, and inviting guest spaces. An interactive kitchen brings the lodge's private chef into the centre of the guest experience, while a fully equipped private gym and spa allow for relaxation between safaris. Game drive times, as well as meals, are tailored completely to the guests' preference to create a fully personalised safari.

Choose from a range of exciting Phinda adventures such as specialist walking and tracking safaris, a sleepout under the stars, an infrared Night Eye drive and other participative conservation experiences, such as rhino notching or pangolin tagging. Also on offer and within easy access of the reserve, are Zulu village visits, Africa Foundation community visits, a Maputaland exploration, Maputaland beach trip, night turtle drives (seasonal), scuba safaris, or an incredible ocean safari that offers you a host of marine life sightings.

Phinda Homestead

Accommodations

Suites

The four private bedrooms, each with a double or twin option, are split in half by the expansive lounge, dining room and interactive kitchen that brings the lodge's private chef into the centre of the guest experience. Each spacious suite features an ensuite bath with a large bath, indoor and outdoor shower.

Children's Suite

An additional fifth room, equipped with two bunk beds (four beds), is available, but may be subject to additional charges due to the number of people allowed on a private vehicle.

Fast Facts

Highlights

Sole-use private villa with a dedicated ranger, tracker, butler and chef

Private day and night safaris with guests private guide and tracker

Explore the African bush and its quaint fauna and flora on foot with an experienced guide

Assist our conservation team with a scheduled rhino, elephant or pangolin research experience

Visit Nearby Zulu communities and gain insight into their daily lives

Quick facts

WiFi Available

Fitness & Wellness

Laundry Service

Private Chef

Dedicated Butler

Swarovski Optik Binoculars

Sole-Use Villa

Private Villa Pool

Family Friendly

Wildchild Programme

Child Minders



Phinda Zuka Lodge

Property Overview

Encompassing an impressive 28,555 hectares (70,560 acres) of protected wildlife land in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, Phinda Private Game Reserve showcases one of the continent's finest game viewing experiences, and is home to Africa's Big Five, as well as 436 bird species.

Just four individual thatched Zululand bush suites make up this intimate lodge that can be reserved as a sole-use villa for private gatherings, or on an individual room booking. Phinda Zuka's overall ambiance is that of cool, coastal bush-style; embodying the sophistication of simplicity. The charming suites cluster around a popular waterhole where a diversity of wildlife is regularly seen and birdlife flourishes. Each suite boasts a luxurious ensuite bathroom, complete with a circular bath chamber, double showers and twin hand basins.

Experience & Activities

Choose from a range of exciting Phinda adventures such as a specialist walking and tracking safaris, a sleepout under the stars, an infrared Night Eye drive, and other participative conservation experiences such as rhino notching or pangolin tagging. Also on offer within easy access of the reserve are Zulu village visits, Africa Foundation community visits, a Maputaland exploration, Maputaland beach trip, night turtle drives (seasonal), scuba safaris, or an incredible ocean safari that offers a host of marine life sightings. Specialist safaris can be arranged in advance and focus on special interests such as birding.

Phinda Zuka Lodge

Phinda is home to a magnificent variety of wildlife, including the Big Five, but is best known for its large population of cheetah and black rhino. The sand forest is home to the shy suni and the rare red duiker, two tiny antelope that are seldom encountered elsewhere. A variety of incredible adventures are available, including twice-daily game drives, nature walks, conservation and community experiences, sleep outs, village visits, night drives, specialist safaris, as well as nearby ocean activities.

Accommodations

Suite

The four charming suites cluster around a busy waterhole where a diversity of wildlife is regularly seen and birdlife flourishes. Each suite boasts a luxurious ensuite bathroom, complete with a circular bath chamber, double showers (indoor and outdoor) and twin hand basins. Comfortable lounge chairs on private decked verandas allow for gentle contemplation or even an afternoon siesta.

Fast Facts

Highlights

- Intimate four bedroom lodge that can be booked sole-use or on a per room basis
- Private day and night game drives when booking as an exclusive-use lodge
- Explore the African bush and its quaint fauna and flora on foot with an experienced guide
- Assist our conservation team with a scheduled rhino, elephant or pangolin research experience
- Visit nearby Zulu communities and gain insight into their daily lives

Quick facts

- WiFi Available
- Swarovski Optik Binoculars
- Fitness & Wellness
- Sparkling Lodge Pool
- Dedicated Butler & Chef
- Wildchild Programme
- Luxurious Suites
- Exclusive-use Option
- Option Showers
- Family Friendly
- Laundry Included



Thanda Tented Camp

Property Overview

Thanda Safari is a world of wilderness and wildlife, matched with a deep commitment to Zulu culture and environmental conservation. Thanda means ‘Love’ in the language of the Zulu people, and Thanda Safari lives this ethos in the management of its 14 000-hectare reserve, its three unique properties, and its community partnerships. Experience the ultimate safari and game lodge experience with Thanda Safari, which has repeatedly been named the World’s Leading Luxury Lodge.

Thanda Tented Camp is on an exclusive use basis, with a minimum of 10 tents used. The shared areas include a large rim-flow pool, a spa tent, atmospheric Hemingway-style lounge and dining area featuring authentic African artworks.

Experience & Activities

An African safari is a life dream for so many, and Thanda Safari makes sure guests have an up-close, life-changing safari with the Big Five, South African private game reserve, including spending time with the conservation team. For those who want to experience the bush on foot, the property offers exclusive guided walks. And because they are part of the Zulu community, the property offers a range of Zulu cultural and community experiences in the neighbouring villages.

Thanda Tented Camp

Accommodations

Luxury Safari Tent

Thanda Tented Camp offers an authentic safari adventure with 14 luxury safari tents in an evocative bush setting, enhanced by flickering firelight and lanterns guiding guests way at night. This is bush living as nature intended: open and inviting with unparalleled closeness to the bush, its sights, smells and sounds. Each of the tents has a private sun deck and en-suite canvas bathrooms.

Jabula Tent

Jabula means 'Happiness' in isiZulu, and the romantic, private, beautifully spacious Jabula Tent within Thanda Tented Camp is all about happiness. Decorated in sophisticated safari chic, it is ideal for bridal couples, honeymooners, special occasion travellers as well as families wanting to be accommodated under one canvas roof. The Jabula Tent has a king-sized bed and separate lounge, en-suite bathroom, outdoor shower, splash pool and spectacular views of the reserve.

Fast Facts

Highlights

Located within a 14000 hectare reserve

Malaria free

Open safari vehicles with a maximum of 8 guests

Quick facts

Exclusive use property

15 tents

Maximum 30 guests

Wifi in main areas

Main swimming pool

Children over the age of 6 years are welcome

Spa



Thanda Safari Lodge

Property Overview

Thanda Safari is a world of wilderness and wildlife, matched with a deep commitment to Zulu culture and environmental conservation. Thanda means 'love' in the language of the Zulu people, and Thanda Safari lives this ethos in the management of its 14,000 hectare reserve, its unique properties, and its community partnerships. Experience the ultimate safari and game lodge experience with Thanda Safari, which has repeatedly been named the World's Leading Luxury Lodge.

Thanda Safari Lodge's shared areas are sumptuously African, including an inviting lounge, expansive deck and library overlooking a waterhole, private business area, cigar bar, impressive wine cellar and the Thanda Safari Spa.

Experience & Activities

An African safari is a life dream for so many, and Thanda Safari makes sure guests have an up-close, life-changing safari with the Big Five, South African private game reserve, including spending time with the conservation team. For those who want to experience the bush on foot, the property offers exclusive guided walks. And because they are part of the Zulu community, the property offers a range of Zulu cultural and community experiences in the neighbouring villages.

Accommodations

Bush Suite

Each of the nine bush suites is a tribute to African abundance, with a spacious lounge, majestic master bedroom, double-sided fireplace and an indulgent bathroom, with a beautiful bath, and an indoor and outdoor shower.

Thanda Safari Lodge

Fast Facts

Highlights

- Located within a 14,000 hectare reserve
- Big Five game viewing
- Bush walks
- Opportunities to get involved in conservation and community projects
- Malaria free
- Open safari vehicles with a maximum of 6 guests

Quick facts

- Nine suites
- Maximum 18 guests
- Wifi
- Air conditioned
- Private plunge pools
- Main swimming pool
- Children of all ages are welcomed
- Spa

About Classic Escapes

About Us.

We are completely unique travel specialists based in the beautiful city of Cape Town, South Africa. We have a conviction for connection but not the superficial kind; the magical moments that lift your heart, lighten your mind, and pull you into the present.

Our Process.

We take time to find out your needs and interests - your desired destinations and ultimate experiences - and combine it with exceptional service, our personal touch and attention to detail. From that we are able to tailor make your perfect itinerary, one that is a true reflection of your African dream. That's how we do travel, that's how we choreograph connection.

Our Ethics.

We pride ourselves in our personalised consultations, intimate client relationships, impeccable service and standards, sustainability support and the fact that we have visited every place we recommend.

About Classic Escapes

Our Promise.

It's the decade of firsthand experiences, knowing who is on the ground, and establishing close personal relationships with those people behind the scenes that give us the ability to create experiences and shape stories that very few can.

Our People.

Our team are passionate ambassadors for the African continent and want to share it with you in a way that is true to you and your loved ones. We believe that each journey is unrepeatable, and so as experienced travel advisors and creative thinkers we think outside the box to create unforgettable experiences for our clients.

Pieter & Caroline Geldenhuys