LUXURY
SAFARI HOMES

YOUR SAFARI COMPANION

Kruger
Information Guide

Explore from north to south.
Plan your day.
Discover the wildlife.



ENGLISH GUEST EDITION

October 2026

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Your Kruger companion

Tap a section to jump to it.

Welcome to Luxury Safari Homes 3

Prepare, park rules & gate times 4-6

Useful contacts 7

Plan a self-drive day 8

Park overview & north-to-south maps 9-14

Camps, landscapes & heritage 15-19

Your large-mammal checklist 20-22

Safari notes 23

Sources & contact 24-25

Keep this guide on your phone before you leave. The digital maps remain sharp when zoomed. The checklist can be filled in a compatible PDF reader or printed and completed by hand.

Maps run from Pafuri in the north to the Crocodile River in the south. For a day trip from Phalaborwa Gate, start with the central map on page 12.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Your home in the bush

A personal base near Phalaborwa Gate.



Villa Yingwe - up to 4 guests



Villa Mangwa - up to 6 guests

Welcome from Guido & Mireille

Luxury Safari Homes brings together private bush accommodation and personal travel guidance. Use this guide to prepare for Kruger, find the right map and keep your wildlife discoveries together.

Start with Phalaborwa

Our villas are positioned for exploring Kruger via Phalaborwa Gate. Ask us to help match your plans to the time you have, your interests and current park conditions.

Make the day your own

Leave space for quiet moments, birdlife and an unhurried stop. A short drive with time to watch is often more rewarding than a long list of destinations.

Guido & Mireille Bos
WhatsApp Guido: **+31 6 4126 4466**
www.luxurysafarihomes.com

Photo and accommodation information: Luxury Safari Homes website [1].

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Before you enter

A little preparation makes a self-drive day much easier.

Bring the essentials

Carry identification for every visitor, your booking or gate documents, a valid driving licence and the payment method required by SANParks. Check current entry fees, day-visitor arrangements and any road notices before departure.

Pack for time in the vehicle

Water, food or snacks, binoculars, a camera, spare batteries, a phone charger, a sun hat, sunglasses and sunscreen. Download this PDF before leaving so the maps remain available offline.

Fuel, food and breaks

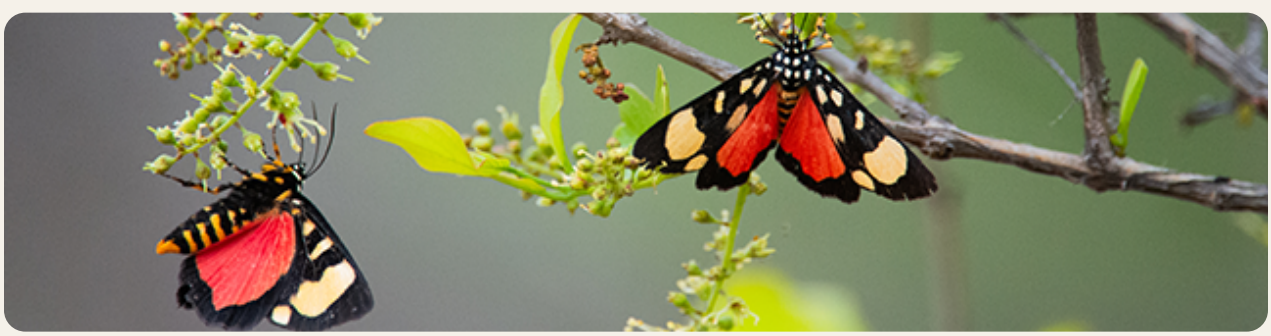
Begin with enough fuel. Larger rest camps may provide fuel, shops and food, but availability and operating hours vary. Plan your comfort stops around designated visitor facilities and confirm services locally.

Heat, seasons and health

Summer is December-February, autumn is March-May, winter is June-August and spring is September-November. Pack for both cool starts and hot afternoons.

Malaria precautions

Kruger is a malaria-risk area. Speak to a healthcare professional about appropriate prevention before travelling; reduce mosquito bites. Seek prompt medical advice for an unexplained fever during or after your visit and mention your travel history.



Visitor preparation: [2]. Health guidance: SANParks [5]. Check the weather forecast before departure.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy Kruger safely

Follow your entry permit, signs and instructions from park officials.

ON THE ROAD	AROUND WILDLIFE
Maximum 50 km/h on tar roads; 40 km/h on gravel. Slower limits may be posted.	Stay in the vehicle except at designated places. Keep doors closed and your body inside.
Use authorised roads only. Respect closed roads and no-entry signs.	Never feed, disturb or approach wildlife. Keep your distance and leave animals room to move.
Be out of the park, or inside your booked camp, by closing time.	Do not remove plants or animals. Keep litter in the vehicle.
Allow time for slow traffic, sightings and delays.	Respect other visitors and keep noise low.

Additional conditions

Check SANParks rules for pets, declared weapons, smoking, fires and vehicle restrictions. Bicycles, motorbikes and recreational equipment are subject to park rules. Day visitors may not bring alcohol into Kruger.

If you need help

Remain in a safe position. Record your road number, nearest junction or landmark and location if available. Contact the park emergency centre: **+27 13 735 4325**.



Sources: SANParks vital information, general rules and emergency contacts [3, 4, 6].

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Gate opening times

Entrance gates and camp gates have different opening times.

MONTH	PARK GATES	CAMP GATES	ALL CLOSE
January	05:30	04:30	18:30
February	05:30	05:30	18:30
March	05:30	05:30	18:00
April	06:00	06:00	18:00
May - July	06:00	06:00	17:30
August - September	06:00	06:00	18:00
October	05:30	05:30	18:00
November - December	05:30	04:30	18:30

Check the time on your permit

Times may change. Confirm the applicable hours at your gate on the day. Plan to finish early enough to absorb delays, rather than aiming for the final minute.

Returning through Phalaborwa

SANParks does not offer late admission at Phalaborwa Gate. Do not assume that an after-hours return can be arranged.

Restaurant, shop and fuel-station hours vary. Confirm opening times directly with the relevant camp before relying on a stop.

Source: SANParks entrance-gate operating hours [2], checked 28 October 2026. All times are local South African time.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Keep these contacts

Save the numbers before entering the park.

CONTACT	NUMBER
Luxury Safari Homes - Guido (WhatsApp)	+31 6 4126 4466
Kruger emergency call centre	+27 13 735 4325
Kruger administration	+27 13 735 4000
Phalaborwa Gate	+27 13 735 3547
Pafuri Gate	+27 13 735 5574
Punda Maria Gate	+27 13 735 6873
Orpen Gate	+27 13 735 0237 / 0238
Phabeni Gate	+27 13 735 5890
Paul Kruger Gate	+27 13 329 0990
Numbi Gate	+27 13 735 5133
Malelane Gate	+27 13 735 6152
Crocodile Bridge Gate	+27 13 735 6012

Camp contacts. Use the linked SANParks directory for additional numbers. For an incident, give your road number, nearest junction or landmark and your position if known.

Sources: Luxury Safari Homes [1]; SANParks gates and emergency directory [2, 6]. Checked 28 October 2026.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

A better day in the park

Build your day around the time you have, not the distance you can cover.

Start close to your gate

From Luxury Safari Homes, use Phalaborwa Gate and the central map on page 12. Identify your outward road, a rest stop and your return route before entering. Ask us for help choosing a plan that fits your day.

Distance is only part of the journey

For an initial planning allowance, divide kilometres by 25 to estimate slow driving hours. Add time for wildlife, food, toilets, slow traffic and a return buffer. This calculation is a planning aid, not a promised arrival time.

DISTANCE	SLOW DRIVING ALLOWANCE
25 km	About 1 hour before stops
50 km	About 2 hours before stops
75 km	About 3 hours before stops

Choose your turnaround time

Work backwards from the gate-closing time on your permit. Turn back early enough to cope with delays. Do not plan to make up lost time by driving faster.

Pause with a purpose

Try a river outlook, a designated picnic site or a rest camp. Check sighting boards where available, but let the animals set the pace. Use only open public roads and authorised stopping places.

Distances shown above are arithmetic planning examples, not route measurements. Current road notices: [7].

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Kruger at a glance

North at the top. Five regional maps follow.



01 / Far north

Pafuri and Punda Maria.

Page 10

02 / Northern bush

Shingwedzi and Mopani.

Page 11

03 / Your starting area

Phalaborwa, Letaba and Olifants.

Page 12

04 / Central grasslands

Satara and Orpen.

Page 13

05 / Southern Kruger

Skukuza, Lower Sabie and the southern gates.

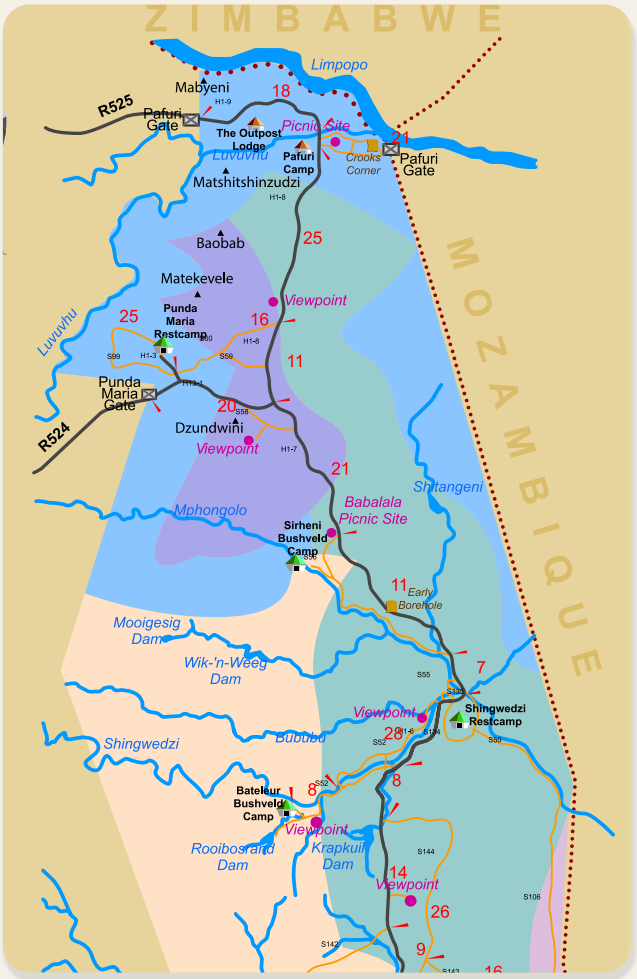
Page 14

Digital map: Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za [8]. Map age is unspecified; verify road access locally.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

01 / Pafuri & Punda Maria

River country and northern sandveld



How to use this section

Use Pafuri and Punda Maria as the main orientation points. The Luvuvhu and Limpopo river area forms the far-northern landscape. This is a separate expedition from Phalaborwa, rather than a casual extension to a short day trip.

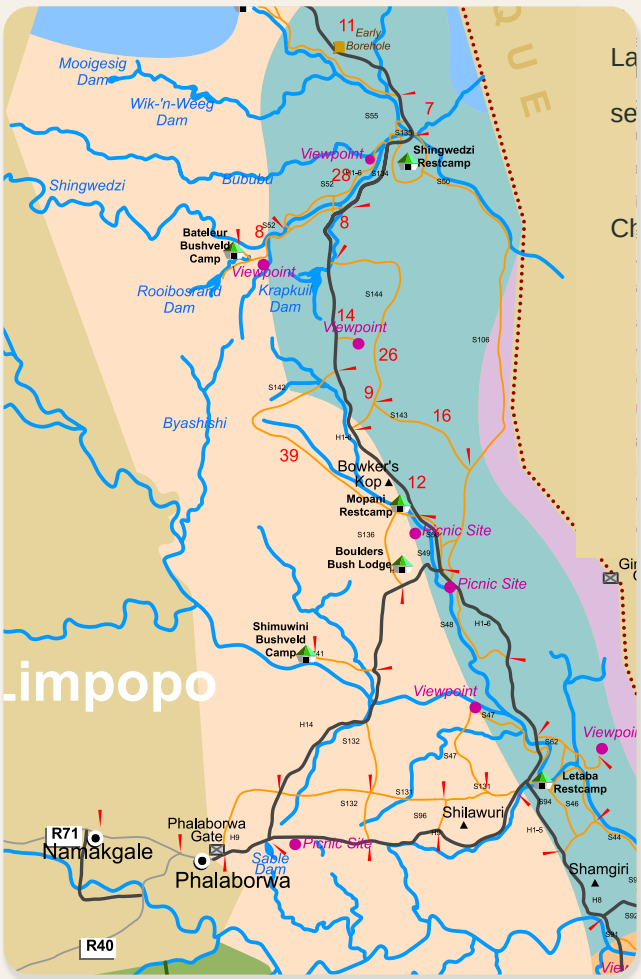
Map reading: blue lines mark rivers; roads, gates and camps are labelled in the source map. Coloured landscape zones show broad vegetation areas. A marked road or facility does not establish that it is currently open.

Map detail: vector crop of Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za [8]. Current park signs and notices take priority.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

02 / Shingwedzi & Mopani

Mopane country, rivers and dams



How to use this section

Locate Shingwedzi, Mopani and their connecting roads before adding side loops. A river drive, a camp stop and a generous return allowance make a more manageable plan than trying to cover every marked road.

Map reading: blue lines mark rivers; roads, gates and camps are labelled in the source map. Coloured landscape zones show broad vegetation areas. A marked road or facility does not establish that it is currently open.

Map detail: vector crop of Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za [8]. Current park signs and notices take priority.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

03 / Phalaborwa & Letaba

The starting area for Luxury Safari Homes guests



How to use this section

Find Phalaborwa Gate first, then follow the public road network towards Letaba or the area you have chosen. Olifants is shown farther south-east. Decide your stopping points and turnaround time using current gate information.

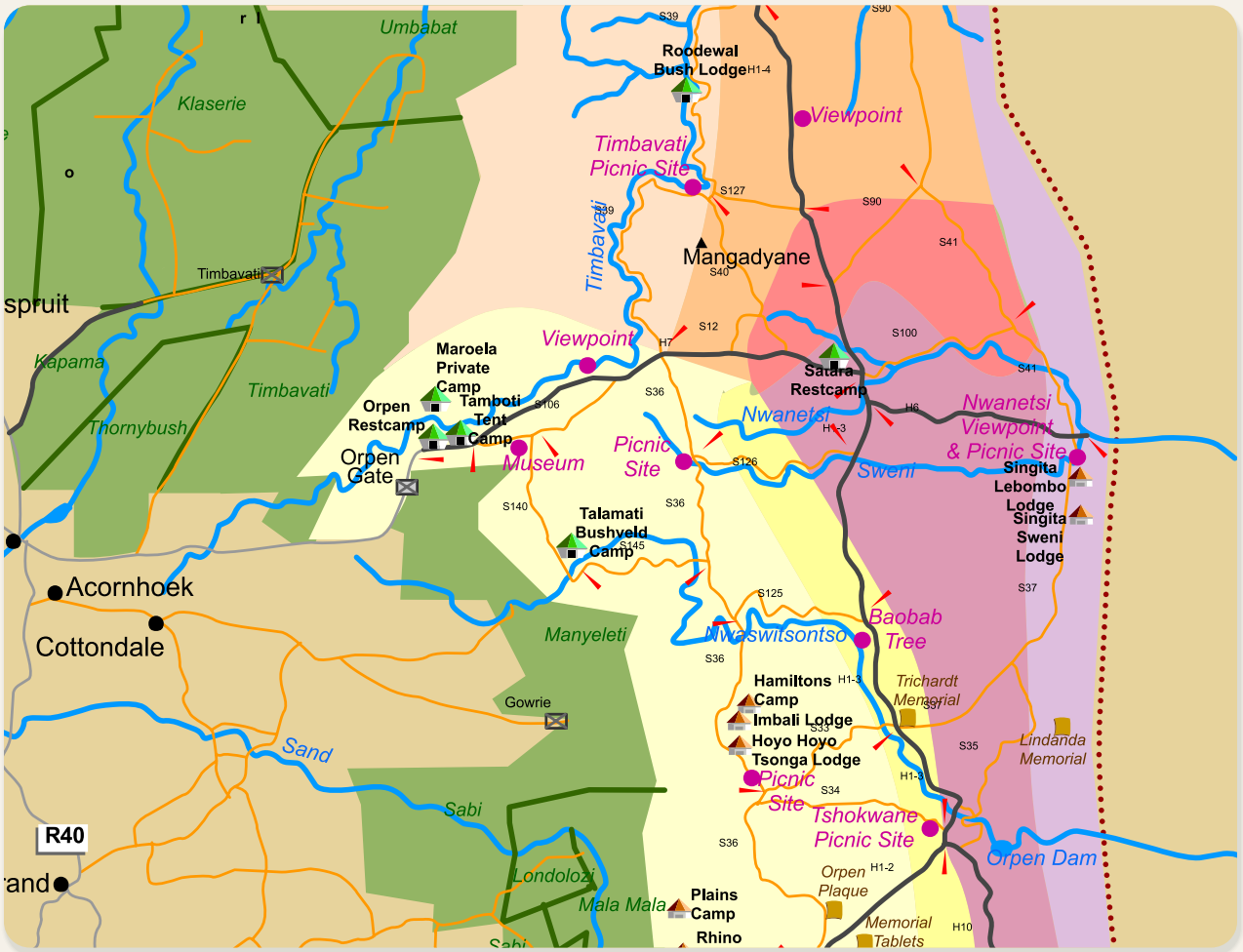
Map reading: blue lines mark rivers; roads, gates and camps are labelled in the source map. Coloured landscape zones show broad vegetation areas. A marked road or facility does not establish that it is currently open.

Map detail: vector crop of Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za [8]. Current park signs and notices take priority.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

04 / Satara & Orpen

Open country in the central park



How to use this section

Satara and Orpen anchor this section. The H7, S100 and Timbavati-area roads appear in the original guide as places to explore. Check actual distances and access before committing to a loop; sightings are never guaranteed.

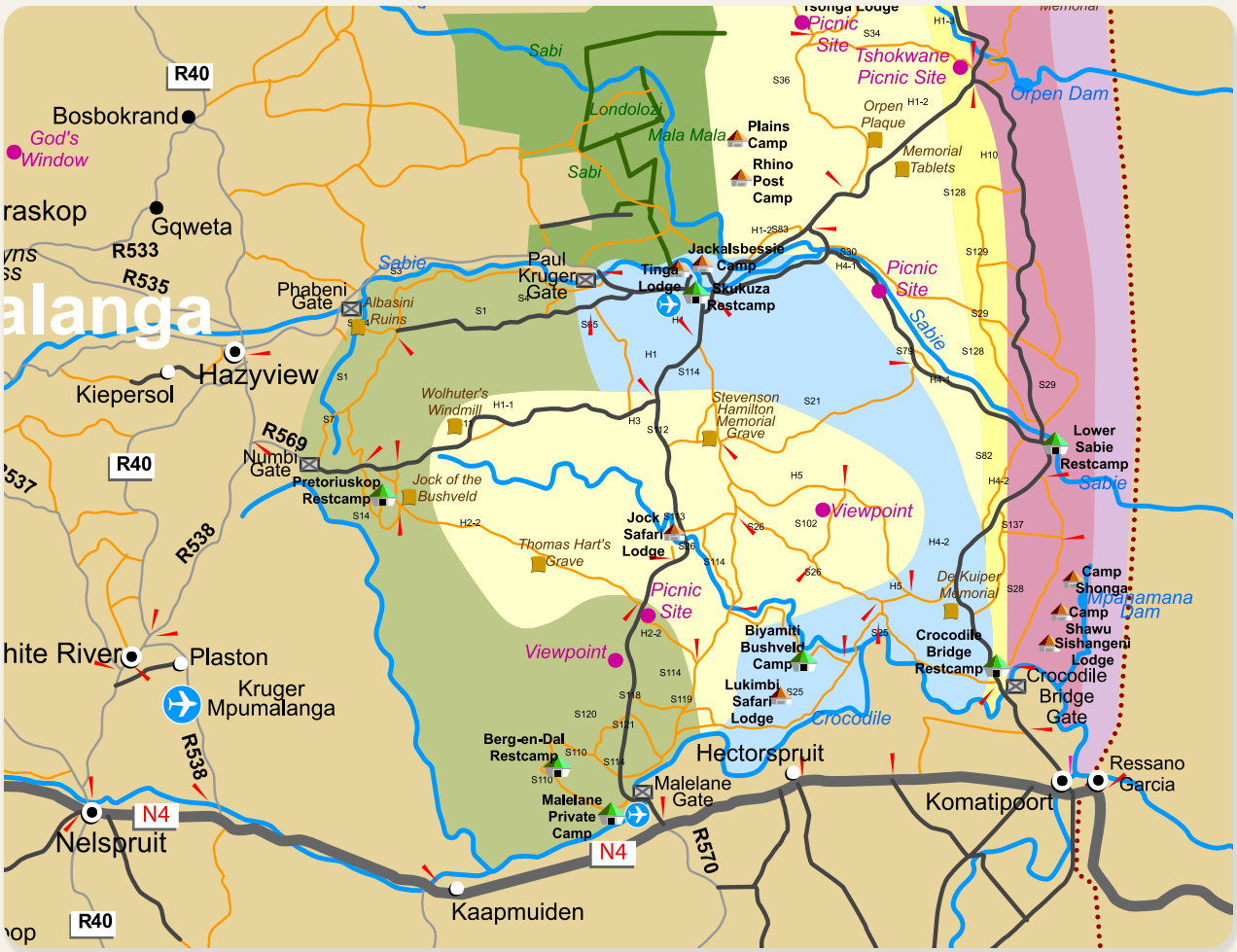
Map reading: blue lines mark rivers; roads, gates and camps are labelled in the source map. Coloured landscape zones show broad vegetation areas. A marked road or facility does not establish that it is currently open.

Map detail: vector crop of Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za [8]. Current park signs and notices take priority.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

05 / Southern Kruger

Sabie and Crocodile river landscapes



How to use this section

Use Skukuza, Lower Sabie, Pretoriuskop, Berg-en-Dal and Crocodile Bridge as the main reference points. This region is best planned around its own entrance gate or an overnight itinerary, rather than assuming a quick return to Phalaborwa.

Map reading: blue lines mark rivers; roads, gates and camps are labelled in the source map. Coloured landscape zones show broad vegetation areas. A marked road or facility does not establish that it is currently open.

Map detail: vector crop of Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za [8]. Current park signs and notices take priority.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Northern & central camps

Places to pause, refuel or plan an overnight stay.

Punda Maria & the far north

A quieter northern base for the Pafuri area, riverine scenery and birdwatching. Allow a full day when exploring the far north from a nearby base.

Shingwedzi

A northern camp on the Shingwedzi River. River drives, birdlife and the seasonal character of the landscape shape the experience here.

Mopani & Tsendze

Mopani overlooks Pioneer Dam in mopane country. Tsendze is a rustic camping option south of Mopani; check current facilities when booking.

Letaba

A shaded river camp with views across the Letaba River. A useful place to pause while exploring the Phalaborwa-Letaba area.

Olifants & Balule

Olifants offers an elevated river outlook. Balule is a small, rustic alternative nearby. Confirm access and facilities directly with SANParks.



Camp directory: SANParks [10]. Facilities, activities and availability require current confirmation.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Central & southern camps

Choose stops that fit your route and available time.

Satara

Open plains and the S100 and S39 roads are useful map references in this area. Wildlife sightings are unpredictable; treat these as areas to explore, not promises of particular animals.

Orpen, Tamboti & Maroela

These camps connect to the H7 route towards Satara. They offer different accommodation styles; confirm the current options when booking.

Skukuza & Lower Sabie

Both are associated with the Sabie River. Skukuza is a major visitor hub; Lower Sabie offers a setting associated with river views and birdlife.

Pretoriuskop & Berg-en-Dal

Pretoriuskop sits among granite outcrops; Berg-en-Dal lies in a rocky, wooded landscape. The atlas includes both areas and their connecting roads.

Malelane & Crocodile Bridge

Southern bases near the Crocodile River. Use the surrounding road network, including the H4-2, to orient your drives.



Confirm facilities, restaurant and fuel hours directly with SANParks [10].

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Read the landscape / 1

Soils, rocks and vegetation change as you travel south.

Sandveld

Sandy soils and diverse vegetation, especially in the far north. Baobabs, fever trees and riverine vegetation give this area a distinctive character.

Mopane on granite

Granite country with mopane, bushwillow and thorn trees. Vegetation can limit visibility; scan the open edges and river crossings.

Mopane on mixed soils

Wooded, gently rolling terrain with mopane and bushwillow. Look for movement and tracks as well as animals standing in the open.

Stunted mopane grassland

Drier, more open areas with low mopane. The openness can make distant animals easier to notice.

Olifants rugged veld

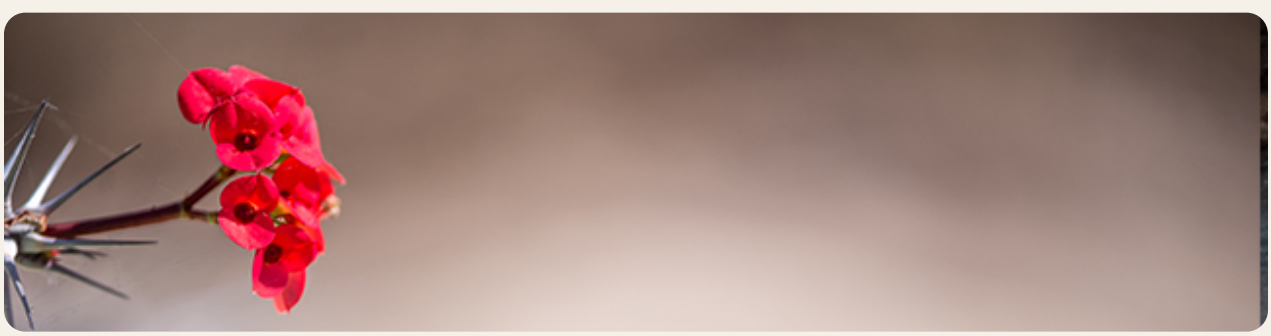
Rocky ground, mixed woodland and varied grazing. River views and changes in elevation add to the scenery.

Lebombo hills

Low, dry rhyolite hills and rocky outcrops along the eastern side. Thorn thickets and exposed rock create a different landscape from the plains.

Mixed woodland with sweet grazing

A mix of open feeding areas and woodland, with knobthorn and marula prominent in the original habitat descriptions.



Habitat categories extracted and rewritten from the supplied Tinkers map. Vegetation is not a sighting guarantee.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Read the landscape / 2

Soils, rocks and vegetation change as you travel south.

Open basalt grassland

Open savanna associated with productive grazing. Take time to scan both nearby herds and distant movement.

Northern wooded savanna on shale

Woodland and thorn thickets with grazing between the trees. Bushwillow, knobthorn and marula are useful landscape cues.

Southern wooded savanna on shale

A second shale-savanna category in the source, including leadwood, marula, bushwillow, knobthorn and thorn thickets.

Thorn and marula woodland on granite

Rolling granite terrain with mixed grazing and woodland. Bushwillow, thorn trees and marula form part of the vegetation mix.

Mixed woodland and thorn thicket

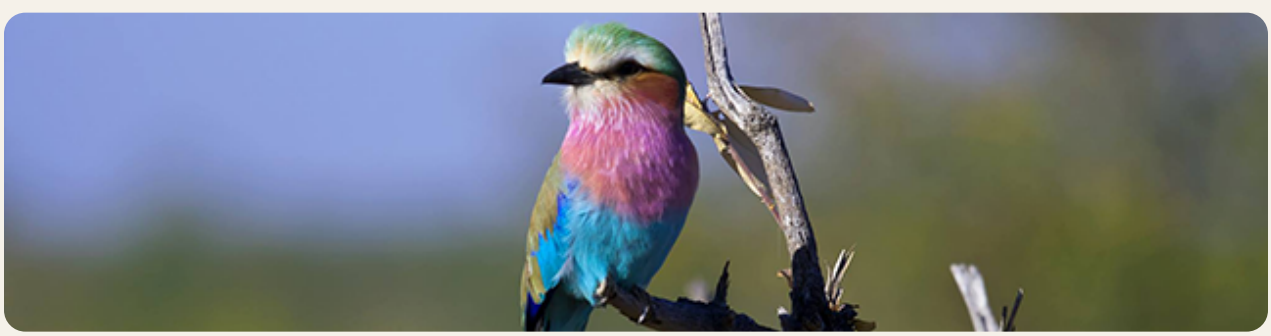
Dense patches alternate with more open areas, including the Sabie and Crocodile river landscapes. Riverbanks reward patient observation.

Pretoriuskop sourveld

Granite outcrops rise from sourveld grassland. Tall grass and woodland can hide animals, so keep your expectations flexible.

Malelane mountain bushveld

Rolling hills and rocky slopes with sweet grazing and knobthorn. The landscape offers a different setting from the flatter central plains.



Habitat categories extracted and rewritten from the supplied Tinkers map. Vegetation is not a sighting guarantee.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

History & seasons

A wildlife landscape with a much longer human history.

Before the national park

The source guide describes Stone Age artefacts, San rock art and later Iron Age settlement. Archaeological places and historical markers form part of Kruger's story; observe them without disturbing or removing anything.

YEAR	MILESTONE
1898	Sabie Game Reserve established.
1902	James Stevenson-Hamilton appointed game warden.
1926	Sabie and Shingwedzi reserves incorporated into Kruger National Park.
1927	The national park opened to the public.

Pack for the season

Summer (December-February) brings warm conditions and rain-season planning. Autumn is March-May, winter June-August and spring September-November. Bring layers for early starts, sun protection and water for the day.

What to arrange locally

Confirm current fuel, shop and restaurant hours at each stop. Guided drives and walks should be booked through the relevant operator or camp. Border travel requires its own documentation and access checks.

Historical milestones and seasonal structure adapted from the supplied guide. Current conditions and availability vary.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Your large-mammal checklist

A personal record of what you actually observe.



Name / travel group

Visit dates

How to use it

Tick a species only when you are confident of the identification. Add the date and road or place in the space alongside it. Keep uncertain observations in your notes rather than forcing a name.

Focus on the larger mammals

The next two pages focus on larger safari mammals: elephants, big cats, antelope and other recognisable species. Mice, bats, shrews, snakes and other small animals are not part of this checklist. Some listed mammals are uncommon; sightings are never guaranteed.

Fill digitally in a PDF reader that supports forms, then save your own copy. You can also print the pages. Keep precise locations of sensitive wildlife private.

Selected larger mammals: SANParks [9]. Photograph supplied by Luxury Safari Homes.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Sightings / 01

Aardvark - Impala

SEEN	MAMMAL	DATE / ROAD / LOCATION
☐	Aardvark	
☐	African buffalo	
☐	African elephant	
☐	African wild dog	
☐	Black rhinoceros	
☐	Black-backed jackal	
☐	Blue wildebeest	
☐	Brown hyena	
☐	Burchell's zebra	
☐	Bushbuck	
☐	Bushpig	
☐	Cape porcupine	
☐	Caracal	
☐	Chacma baboon	
☐	Cheetah	
☐	Common duiker	
☐	Eland	
☐	Giraffe	
☐	Grey rhebok	
☐	Hippopotamus	
☐	Honey badger	
☐	Impala	

Tick a confirmed sighting and add the date and place. Keep sensitive wildlife locations private.
Selected larger safari mammals, based on SANParks [9]. Common names standardised for guest use.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Sightings / 02

Klipspringer - White rhinoceros

SEEN	MAMMAL	DATE / ROAD / LOCATION
☐	Klipspringer	
☐	Kudu	
☐	Leopard	
☐	Lichtenstein's hartebeest	
☐	Lion	
☐	Mountain reedbuck	
☐	Nyala	
☐	Oribi	
☐	Pangolin	
☐	Red duiker	
☐	Roan antelope	
☐	Sable antelope	
☐	Serval	
☐	Sharpe's grysbok	
☐	Side-striped jackal	
☐	Southern reedbuck	
☐	Steenbok	
☐	Tsessebe	
☐	Warthog	
☐	Waterbuck	
☐	White rhinoceros	

Tick a confirmed sighting and add the date and place. Keep sensitive wildlife locations private.
Selected larger safari mammals, based on SANParks [9]. Common names standardised for guest use.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Moments to remember

Date, place, behaviour, weather or a question for your guide.

NOTE 01

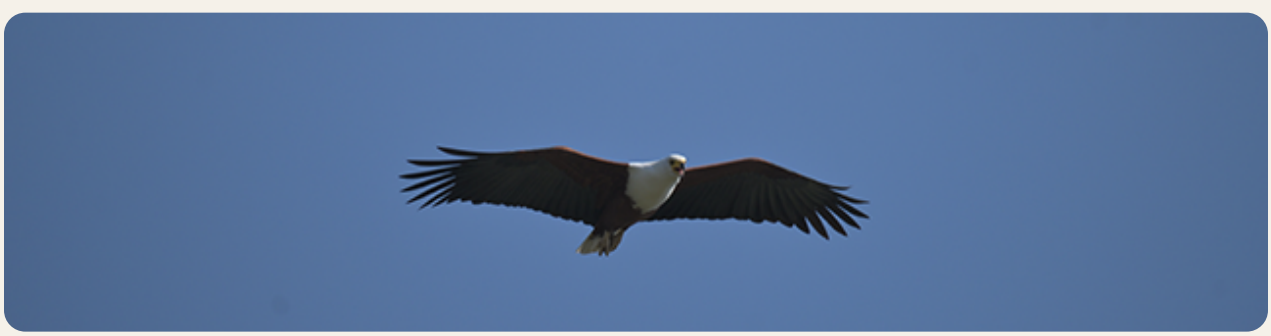
NOTE 02

NOTE 03

NOTE 04

NOTE 05

NOTE 06



Save an edited copy to keep your entries. Avoid sharing exact locations of sensitive species.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Sources & useful links

Guest edition | 28 October 2026.

Information and presentation

Practical information, camp notes, habitat categories and historical context have been extracted and rewritten in the Luxury Safari Homes layout. Old scanned pages, advertisements, animal-identification plates and outdated contact tables are not included.

Digital cartography

The overview and five regional views adapt the downloadable vector map from Siyabona Africa / krugerpark.co.za. Tar roads are emphasised and external private-lodge labels and symbols are omitted; the geography and public road layout are retained. The map's publication date is unspecified; it is an orientation aid, not evidence of current road or facility access.

Tap to open a source

[1] Luxury Safari Homes - homes, photos and contact

[2] SANParks - gate contacts and opening times

[3] SANParks - vital visitor information

[4] SANParks - rules and regulations

[5] SANParks - malaria information

[6] SANParks - emergency contacts

[7] SANParks - current park notifications

[8] Siyabona Africa - downloadable digital map

[9] SANParks - source for the mammal selection

[10] SANParks - camp directory

Additional source: the supplied Tinkers Kruger Park map by Andy & Lorrain Tinker. The larger-mammal selection is based on the SANParks-derived checklist. Decorative photographs supplied by Luxury Safari Homes: butterflies, elephant, flower, ground hornbill, lioness, aardvark, roller and eagle. Cover and villa images are from the LSH website; logo supplied by the owner.

Independent Luxury Safari Homes guest guide. Current SANParks instructions and gate permits take priority.

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Let us help you plan

Private bush homes. Personal travel guidance.



LUXURY SAFARI HOMES

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