

Zululand & Elephant Coast Safari: Itinerary

Take a journey with us, travelling slowly through the wilder parts of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Here, all of the fascinating locations are within short distance of one another and driving is limited. You will visit various wilderness areas, stretches of coast, and cultural hotspots. Each offers unique experiences and promises an expedition to be remembered.

DAY 1

- Leave Durban in the morning
- Drive through sugar cane fields to Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve
- Arrive at Base Camp in preparation for our wilderness trail
- Spend the afternoon walking through wild bush, viewing game
- **Camp out under the stars Distance: +-300km**

We spend three nights within the iMfolozi Wilderness area, which is devoid of any infrastructure and consists of 30 000ha of wild bush teeming with wildlife. We embark on the trail with two experienced guides who lead us in search of wildlife sightings. We camp under the stars around a campfire, experiencing wilderness as it has been for thousands of years.

DAY 2

- Take breakfast
- Morning walk, having lunch picnic-style én-route
- Afternoon walk, searching for a place to set up camp
- Eating dinner cooked on an open fire
- **Camp out under the stars**

DAY 3

- Similar itinerary as previous day
- **Camp out under the stars**

We leave Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve and head north into the Mkhuze area. Similarly, this reserve is full of game (including the Big 5), and we spend our days on game drives and visiting bird hides overlooking waterholes where game come to drink. We picnic in the bush, and stay in luxury tented safari camps.

DAY 4

- Take breakfast
- Morning walk back to Base Camp
- Game drive out of the reserve and travel up to Mkhuze
- Have lunch én-route, before heading into Mkhuze Game Reserve
- Check into camp, with an afternoon game drive
- **Stay at Mantuma Camp Distance: +-150km**

DAY 5

- Morning game drive
- Enjoy a hearty breakfast out in the bush
- Arrive back at Camp to spend the day at rest (walks, relaxing, and swimming pool)
- Afternoon game drive looking for wildlife
- **Stay at Mantuma Camp** **Distance: +-100km**

From here, we travel further into the bush for another two nights at one of South Africa's last remaining true wildernesses. Here, at Tembe Elephant Park, we find one of the last remaining populations of great Elephant tuskers and other fascinating wildlife. This community-owned park is also a fantastic cultural experience.

DAY 6

- We enjoy a morning game drive, or an optional bush walk
- Enjoy a hearty breakfast before we leave
- We take a short trip before arriving at Tembe Elephant Park
- We check in to the lodge
- This lodge is run by the local Tembe tribe, and they cater to our every need
- Afternoon game drive searching for the elephants
- **Stay at Tembe Elephant Park** **Distance: +-100km**

DAY 7

- We enjoy a morning game drive
- Enjoy a hearty breakfast
- Relax during the heat of the day. The lodge is set in pristine bush and features the comforts of a lounge, swimming pool, and bar
- We enjoy an afternoon game drive
- Return to camp for dinner and evening entertainment
- **Stay at Tembe Elephant Park**

From here we travel over to the coast, in this remote area of KwaZulu Natal, visiting Kosi Bay. A series of lakes eventually leads out through an estuary into the Indian Ocean. We are able to spend a few days exploring the beach and many of the fascinating places and activities on offer.

DAY 8

- We take a morning game drive
- Enjoy breakfast before packing up and driving to the coast
- We check in to Kosi Bay Nature Reserve, and have the afternoon to relax
- Enjoy a sunset cruise on the Kosi Bay lake system, spotting hippos and birdlife
- **Stay at Kosi Bay** **Distance: +-50km**

DAY 9

- Enjoy a relaxed morning and breakfast
- We pack supplies and head out to the estuary mouth
- Spend the day on miles of sandy coastline, beautiful forest, and the estuary
- Enjoy an array of optional activities (snorkelling, canoeing, fishing, cultural tour of fish traps)
- Dinner
- **Stay at Kosi Bay** **Distance: +-50km**

We continue down the coast to our final stop within isiMangaliso Wetland Park, the tiny seaside town of St. Lucia. Set alongside a massive estuary, and within pristine coastal bush, this piece of paradise puts the cherry on top of our tour.

DAY 10

- Enjoy a relaxed morning and breakfast
- We pack supplies and head out to St. Lucia
- Spend the day on miles of sandy coastline and take a walk along the estuary
- The evening sees us take a sunset boat cruise along the wild estuary to spot hippos
- Dinner
- **Stay at St. Lucia** **Distance: +-250km**

DAY 11

- Enjoy a relaxed morning and breakfast
- We pack supplies and head back to Durban via the scenic route
- Spend the morning and lunch at an authentic Zulu village, Shakaland
- Flights home from King Shaka airport
- **Distance: +-250km**