

Travel Itinerary

3 night Wildlife Conservation Experience
AD Active Experiences



At a glance...

- 3 nights Somkhanda Kudu Bush Lodge – Full board basis

Day 1: Somkhanda Game Reserve

Transfer or self-drive to Somkhanda Game Reserve, under your own arrangements, arriving at around 15h00 this afternoon. (4 hrs by road from Durban).

A welcome drink and warm smile greets you on arrival at the community-owned Somkhanda Game Reserve.

Somkhanda is situated in an important biodiversity area, essential for migratory animals such as the endangered black rhino and wild dog. It is home to hyena, leopard and plenty of smaller nocturnal predators, as well as a large range of antelope, and 230 bird species. The project creates direct jobs for the community, and impacts positively on conservation. Located on a prominent ridge, the private Kudu Bush Lodge, enjoys panoramic views across the valley and hills beyond. There are 6 units in total: 2 separate units each with a deluxe/family suite and two standard en-suite units. Accommodation is simple and comfortable. Cosy central spaces include a central open-plan kitchen and entertainment facility with a sunrise deck. The dining room is a short walk away. Traditional South African dishes are enjoyed in an informal, relaxed environment, either al-fresco on the outdoors deck, or around the fire in the traditional boma area. The camp has a swimming pool, essential for cooling off during the summer months.

After settling in, relax and absorb the view from the deck overlooking the waterhole, or climb aboard your game vehicle and set off in search of the wild inhabitants. **Over sundowners and snacks, your host provides an overview of the vision and mission of Somkhanda, the current rhino numbers and conservation strategy, and explains what to expect on the rhino darting experience.**

Dinner at Kudu Bush Lodge.

Overnight Kudu Bush Lodge, on a full board basis.

Day 2: Somkhanda Game Reserve

The day starts with an **early morning game monitoring activity** - either elephant or wild dog – and **coffee and a snack in the field**. During this time the ground team will be locating their target animal and the vet and helicopter will arrive on site. After

a final briefing on the procedures, roles and responsibilities, the vet and pilot will take off and dart the first animal. As part of the ground support team, you follow by vehicle and as soon as the animal is down it is time for action. A limited window means the team works quickly to complete the task, and after administering the antidote, retreats to a safe distance to ensure the animal is up and ok.

Lunch at the lodge provides a chance to engage with the vet, pilot and management team, before you head out again to dart a second animal.

Note: Ideally 2 rhino will be darted today, however, please note that as this is a conservation operation, changes may be made due to necessity. The animals best interests are kept in mind, but guests are assured a full programme in the field.

This evening enjoy **a boma dinner** around a blazing fire.

Overnight Kudu Bush Lodge, on a full board basis.

Day 3: Somkhanda Game Reserve

This morning, enjoy coffee and snacks in the field while game monitoring. Monitoring the reserves elephant, wild dog and black rhino, are amongst the daily task of the field rangers, but this reserve is also home to leopard, buffalo, lion, and a variety of more common game species.

Return to the lodge for a late breakfast and a chance to relax, or enjoy another game drive.

Later this afternoon, another game monitoring activity is rounded off with sundowners and a short night drive.

Dinner at Kudu Bush Lodge.

Overnight Kudu Bush Lodge, on a full board basis.

Day 4: Somkhanda / Depart

As day breaks, head out for a **guided bushwalk before returning for breakfast.**

Depart on your onward journey, under your own arrangements.

Inclusions

- 3 nights accommodation Somkhanda's Kudu Bush Lodge
- All meals
- Game activities: bush walks & game drives

Exclusions

- Drinks
- Return transfers to Somkhanda