

## THE RESERVE

Mateya Safari Lodge is situated in the spectacular 80 000-hectare malaria- free Madikwe Game Reserve. Madikwe Game Reserve is one of South Africa's finest and largest wildlife sanctuaries, 90km north of Zeerust in the northwest of the country. The park is predominantly made up by open grasslands, dotted with rocky outcrops and lone mountains. It is unique because of its position geographically between the Kalahari on the border of Botswana and the traditional bushveld of South Africa.

Development of the Reserve and reintroduction of game began in 1991. Madikwe's Operation Phoenix is the code name for the largest reintroduction of game undertaken by man in any Game Reserve in Africa. Operation Phoenix took place over six years and involved moving more than 8 000 animals into the Madikwe Game Reserve.

The reserve is home to the Super 7 (lion, buffalo, elephant, leopard, black and white rhino, cheetah and wild dog), in addition to which there are brown and spotted hyena, red hartebeest, tsessebe, eland, gemsbok, springbok and large herds of plains game as well as over 350 bird species.

## YOUR JOURNEY TO REACH US

Mateya Safari Lodge can be accessed by private air charter directly to the lodge, on the scheduled air services or by road.

Transfers are excluded from the daily rate but can be arranged at an additional cost.

The Madikwe Game Reserve Gates open at 06h00 and close at 18h00.

### **Air Transfers**

We can arrange scheduled flights or private charters for your trip.

Flights can only be operated during daylight hours. Restrictions apply. (No jet engines allowed)

Federal Airlines offers daily air shuttle services operating from OR Tambo (Johannesburg)

International Airport to Madikwe Game Reserve.

Transfers from the Madikwe Airstrip to the Lodge are complimentary.

- o Runway: Runs East to West
- o Latitude: 24.733001 S
- o Longitude: 26.407431 E
- o Elevation: 3319ft
- o Length: 1 400m
- o Surface: Tar

### **Road Transfers**

Registered, professional transfer companies, with all insurances and indemnities in place, are used for Road Transfers. Road worthy, comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles are used. Please contact our reservations team for further information and we will gladly assist with transfers through our reliable partners.

### **Self-Drive**

It's approximately a 4 to 4.5 hours' journey from Johannesburg & Pretoria. About 3.5 hours from Johannesburg & Pretoria to the Park Gates, depending on the route and traffic, followed by an additional hour to reach the lodge of which is spent driving inside the reserve. Please be advised that guests driving to the lodge who arrive after sunset will not be allowed to self-drive in the reserve. The lodge will send a representative to escort guests to the lodge.

We do not suggest using a GPS system after Zeerust / Sun City to reach the lodge. Google Maps do not yet supply accurate directions to get to the lodge. Reservations can assist with directions depending on where you are coming from.

## **THE LODGE**

Mateya is a member of the US based Virtuoso Hotels & Resorts Program, bringing together the world's finest properties - and the very best they have to offer.

The lodge accommodates 10 guests in five individually designed air-conditioned luxury suites.

Each suite features hand-crafted mahogany furnishings, a luxurious en-suite bathroom with a secluded open-air shower, a fireplace, mini bar and tea/coffee making facilities and a private deck with rim-flow pool. Guests can enjoy the luxury of total privacy, savouring the wonderful sights and sounds of their own secluded slice of Africa.

The lodge offers one of the world's finest collections of African art, a bush boardroom with WIFI and internet facilities, a curio boutique, gym, and a spa offering a complete range of full body relaxation therapies. Guests can relax in the lounge, elevated deck areas and African interest library, while admiring a superb collection of African art.

Whether soaking up the afternoon haze from their private rim-flow pool deck or taking their place at the spectacular Fire Core dining venue for an evening of fine cuisine, accompanied by wines selected from the 8000-bottle wine cellar, each and every feature will leave Mateya's guests with the pleasure of having indulged in a truly magical experience.

## **THE EXPERIENCE**

### **Game Viewing:**

Accompanied by experienced guides and trackers, guests can venture on game drives in custom-built 4X4 vehicles, or track on guided walking safaris through the reserve.

Each adventure is tailored to guests' interests, with a maximum of four guests per vehicle. This ensures the fulfilment of their ideal safari experience.

Private game drives can be arranged on request and are charged at: R 7 000.00 per day for 2025 and 2026 bookings, subject to availability.

Persons 16 years and over are permitted on bush walks.

Guests over the age of 60 years need to have a medical certificate from their doctor confirming that they are medically fit to partake in the walk.

Game walks are upon management's discretion to refuse anyone whom they may deem unsafe / unsuited to participate in these activities.

### **Madikwe Game Reserve Rhino Conservation Project:**

Rhino Conservation activities are available as a guest experience. Fees are as follows:  
2026 – R 82 000.00

## **Dining:**

Enjoy a dining experience under African skies on the main lodge's viewing deck or in the dining room overlooking the plains.

For a more intimate dining experience or special occasions, the Wine Cellar, with an ambience of elegance offers a unique dining experience.

Depending on the weather the "Fire Core" offers another unique bush dining experience under a dazzling canopy of stars.

Our large selection of South Africa's finest wines offers the perfect complement to your meal.

To give us the opportunity to design appropriate menus, we ask that you advise us of any specific dietary requirements prior to arrival.

## **Weather and Seasons:**

### **October – April (Rainy Season)**

Summer months are warm with occasional thunderstorms, usually later in the afternoon.

The highest rainfall months are between November and February.

Many species give birth to their young around the start of the rains, so the bush is alive with new-born animals.

### **May to September (Dry Season)**

The winter months in Madikwe can be dry, the temperature will be mild during the day, but colder in the mornings and evenings with night temperatures dropping to 2°C and day temperatures averaging 23°C.

Our waterhole gets busier as the dry season continues.

## **We recommend packing the following:**

- o Cotton clothing in neutral colours is recommended for game drives and bush walks. It is best to avoid white clothing for walks.
- o **For Summer Months:** casual summer clothes (shorts and cool shirts) and a light jersey/sweater for the cooler mornings and evenings.
- o **For Winter Months:** lighter clothing for daytime, but gloves, beanies, scarfs and warm jackets/windbreakers or fleeces are essential in winter as it can get extremely cold on game drives in the early morning and evening (though not usually wet at this time of year).
- o Please note that in the event of rain during a game drive, waterproof ponchos will be provided for guests' comfort.
- o Formal wear is not required for dining at our lodge
- o Comfortable walking shoes/track shoes/hiking boots for walks; and sandals to wear around the lodge.
- o Swimming costume/bathing suits, sun block, sun hat, sunglasses, lip balm. Mosquito repellent is provided for all our guests, but you may like to bring your own if you have a personal preference.
- o Binoculars, camera and video camera, spare memory cards and charging equipment. (Two pairs of binoculars are provided per game drive vehicle)
- o The lodge is located in a remote area and therefore guests should remember to bring a sufficient supply of any prescription medication.

## **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

We accept Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club and American Express cards.

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