For operators and media

Brochure Copy

Our description of Makakatana at 50, 100, 300 and 500 words, for brochures, itineraries, websites and press. Use whichever length fits.

In one line

> Makakatana Bay Lodge: 8 suites on the Western Shores of Lake St Lucia, family-run and the only privately owned lodge inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park.

50 words

Makakatana Bay Lodge is the only privately owned lodge inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Morrison family has lived beside Lake St Lucia for more than a century and still runs the lodge. Its 8 suites are the base for days on the lake, at the beach and in the bush.

100 words

Makakatana Bay Lodge is the only privately owned lodge inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Morrison family has lived on the Western Shores of Lake St Lucia for more than a century, and has welcomed guests here since 1999.

Life here follows the lake: a day cruising the Narrows among hippo and crocodile, a day on an empty Indian Ocean beach, solar eco-boats at sunrise and sunset, and wetland nature drives in search of elephant, buffalo, rhino and leopard. There are just 8 suites, and stays are Fully Inclusive.

300 words

Makakatana Bay Lodge is the only privately owned lodge inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. It sits on the Western Shores of Lake St Lucia in KwaZulu-Natal, where the Morrison family has lived for more than a century. They opened the lodge in 1999 and, 4 generations on, still own and run it.

There are just 8 suites. Tucked into the wetland forest, the raised suites have en-suite bathrooms, private decks and outdoor bathrooms. Winding boardwalks connect the main lodge and boma to the swimming pool and waterside deck overlooking Lake St Lucia.

Life here follows the lake, Africa's largest estuarine system. One day is spent cruising the Narrows among hippo, crocodile and birdlife; another crossing to the Eastern Shores for a swim, a snorkel and a picnic on an empty Indian Ocean beach. Closer to home, solar eco-boats slip across the bay in near silence at sunrise and sunset.

On land, wetland nature drives go in search of elephant, buffalo, rhino and leopard, and stop for a sundowner as the light fades. After dark, night drives find a different wetland: hippo grazing out of the water, genet, civet and owls.

Each season has its own reward: the dry winter months bring the best game viewing, summer brings the migrant birds, and from June to November whales pass offshore.

Evenings begin around the boma fire, to the sound of hippo in the shallows and birds settling over the water. On request, dinner can be served privately on the waterside deck. Stays are Fully Inclusive, so meals, local drinks and the scheduled activities are all taken care of.

500 words

Makakatana Bay Lodge is the only privately owned lodge inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. iSimangaliso means "miracle and wonder" in isiZulu, and the park protects more than 1.3 million hectares of lake, wetland, forest and coast.

The lodge sits on the Western Shores of Lake St Lucia, where Jock Morrison settled more than a century ago. His family opened the lodge in 1999 and, 4 generations on, still own and run it.

There are just 8 suites: 5 Luxury Suites, 2 Family Suites that sleep 4, and a Honeymoon Suite for 2. Tucked into the wetland forest, the raised suites have en-suite bathrooms, private decks and outdoor bathrooms. Winding boardwalks connect the main lodge and boma to the swimming pool and waterside deck overlooking Lake St Lucia. Children are welcome in the Luxury and Family Suites.

Life here follows the lake, Africa's largest estuarine system. The boat safari spends a full day on the Narrows, cruising among hippo, crocodile and the birdlife the lake is known for, with a picnic lunch in the park. The beach safari crosses the lake to the Eastern Shores and carries on to the Indian Ocean for a day of swimming, snorkelling and a picnic on an empty beach, back in time for high tea. Closer to home, solar eco-boats slip across the bay in near silence at sunrise and sunset, and the hippo and birds carry on as though nothing has arrived.

On land, wetland nature drives explore the Western Shores in search of elephant, buffalo, rhino and leopard, and the afternoon drive stops for a sundowner as the light fades. After dark, night drives find a different wetland: hippo grazing out of the water, genet, civet, serval and owls. Birders can set out early with a guide for a bush breakfast, and a longer stay can add a day in Hluhluwe–iMfolozi, Africa's oldest proclaimed nature reserve, for the full Big Five.

Each season has its own reward: the dry winter months bring the best game viewing, summer brings the migrant birds, and from June to November whales pass offshore.

As the light goes, guests gather around the boma fire to the sound of hippo in the shallows and birds settling over the water. On request, dinner can be served privately on the waterside deck. The family's story is part of the place too: the Old Crab House, which Jock built in the 1930s to send the lake's crabs to Durban by train, is now held in the roots of a strangler fig.

By day the lodge runs on solar power, and so do the eco-boats. Stays are Fully Inclusive, so meals, local drinks and the scheduled activities are all taken care of. The lodge is about 2h40 by road from King Shaka International Airport and 1h30 from Richards Bay.

book@makakatana.com · +27 (0)87 059 9015 · makakatana.com