



MORE Collection - Head Office/Reservations
T +27 (0)11 880 9992 | E res@more.co.za
www.more.co.za

Lion Sands
GAME RESERVE

Experiences Fact Sheet

LIFE-ENRICHING EXPERIENCES

Lion Sands Game Reserve is the quintessential African safari destination. Through our people and this place, we create experiences for guests to enrich their lives – whether they are looking for adventure, family time, romance, relaxation, or the chance to give back... Our purpose is to help you open your eyes and heart and reconnect with how 'wonder-full' life is.

GAME DRIVES

Duration: ±3 hours

Game drives, in open safari vehicles, head out each day at sunrise and again in the late afternoon. Lion Sand's natural animal population includes the Big Five, and the reserve is especially renowned for the quality of its leopard viewing – normally regarded as the most elusive of predators. Lion Sands is the only private sanctuary with a footprint in both Sabi Sand Nature Reserve and the Kruger National Park. The 31mi / 50km border between these wild spaces is unfenced, and the wildlife roams freely between them.

Being entirely private, Lion Sands offers you a very personal safari experience. You'll have minimal encounters with other people, which enables guests to spend more time with the animals, observing their natural behaviour.

- Includes: a hot beverage or sundowner stop in a scenic spot to appreciate being in the bush and in the moment
- Narina – Children 16 years and older are welcome on the twice-daily game drives
- Tinga – Children 6 years and older are welcome on the twice-daily game drives
- River – Children 10 years and older are welcome on the twice-daily game drives
- Ivory – Children 10 years and older are welcome on the twice-daily game drives
- Children of all ages are welcome on private game drives for guests of Fish Eagle Residence (Ivory Lodge) and Hinkwenu Residence (Tinga Lodge)

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BUSH WALKS

Duration: 1.5 to 2 hours, depending on guests' fitness levels

These are our after-breakfast walks on the wild side. Guests are immersed in the bush, rather than just observing it. All five senses are engaged, as they feel scrub crunch beneath their feet, touch the velvety acacia seed pod, hear the crack of a branch indicating they are not alone, and spot big game at eye level – exhilarating! Our expert guides will tailor walks to each of our guest's area/s of interest, focusing on mammals, birds, insects, plants, geology, etc.

- Children under 16 years are not permitted on the bush walks
- Guests should wear: neutral-coloured clothing, comfortable walking shoes, a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen
- Guests should bring along: a lightweight dry mac jacket, camera/smartphone, and binoculars

LOCAL COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES

Duration: ±3 hours

Guests of Lion Sands can visit the rural Huntington and Justicia B communities that lie on the outskirts of the Sabi Sand Nature Reserve and Kruger National Park. The tour includes visits to Henna Pre-school in Huntington and Jabez Pre-school in Justicia B. Guests meet the teachers, interact with the children and witness their challenges and the ongoing improvement efforts.

Children of all ages are welcome to accompany their parents.

MACK & MADI KIDS' ADVENTURE PROGRAMME

This offering is inspired by Rob and Britt More's first-hand experience of travelling with their twins, Mack and Madi. Along with the options and flexibility around accommodations and meals, we offer tailor-made activities for children (6-12 years, all ages in the residences) that provide a little extra freedom to explore and just be kids – and make family travel child's play. Our pledge is to show your children the wonders of our beautiful world and to introduce them to fascinating people – encouraging them to discover and learn through having FUN!

Activities keep young guests occupied with the wonders of the natural world, as well as with sports and crafts, during their stays. Just some of the fun includes family morning game drives, bush orientation, bug CSI, dung tracking, spoor casting, scavenger hunts, pool games, rock painting, beading, pizza making in the bomas, cookie baking and cupcake decorating in the kitchens, and stargazing. Parents are welcome to join in or sneak a few hours for themselves.

STARGAZING

During evening game drives or bush dinners (weather permitting), the field guides will share insights into the skies. The clear air and minimal light pollution of this remote African wilderness make it an ideal location for stargazing. Guests will see planets and stars they have never before noticed with the naked eye. The guides will point out the constellations that shift seasonally and those that are unique to the southern hemisphere.

A NIGHT IN A TREEHOUSE

The million-star Chalkley and Kingston (Sabi Sand) and Tinyeleti (Kruger Park) Treehouses are the ultimate bush bedrooms, where romantics, adventurers and solitude seekers alike can discover the magic of a night out in Africa – in complete luxury. Guests arrive at sunset to enjoy a sundowner and a picnic dinner, whilst watching animals wander past (at a safe distance), and fall asleep counting shooting stars. And they can rest easy knowing a field guide is always a radio call away.

- A Treehouse Experience is booked in conjunction with lodge accommodation
- A Treehouse stay is charged at a per person sharing per night rate, over and above the lodge accommodation rate
- Guests pack an overnight bag with their essentials, leaving the rest of their belongings back in their lodge suite
- Chalkley Treehouse, Kingston Treehouse and Tinyeleti Treehouse are suitable for families (two adults and two children, 10-15 years). Guests of all ages are welcome when staying at Fish Eagle Residence (Ivory Lodge) and Hinkwenu Residence (Tinga Lodge).

SPA AND WELLNESS USE

The hours between safaris are an ideal time to spend being pampered. A selection of indulgent therapies is offered by expert therapists in the quiet of the lodges' spas or open-air bush salas. Guests choose from massages, exfoliations, reflexology, and facials with TheraNaka skincare products and essential oils – all ethically formulated with the finest natural and organic ingredients – as well as manicures and pedicures.

Yogis will find no better place to stretch out any leftover tension than on their private decks overlooking the Sabie River, where the energy flows pure. For guests who wish to continue their fitness routines, Ivory Lodge and River Lodge each have a fitness centre with the essential, state-of-the-art equipment.

SHOPPING

MORE Gallery (located at Safari Lodge) offers a range of proudly African-produced high-end clothing, accessories, art, and mementos. "African designers possess a creativity and sense of style that is unique in the world and this is what want to showcase through the brand." – Britt More, the late co-founder of MORE Collection.

HELICOPTER FLIGHTS

Lion Sands has partnered with Mpumalanga Helicopter Company to take guests on exhilarating flights over the gorges, rivers, waterfalls, and dramatic rock formations of the province's escarpment and lowveld. From above, guests have the best perspective to view (and photograph) some of the land's natural wonders, including but not limited to: the Blyde River Canyon, Three Rondawels, Pinnacle Rock, Lisbon Falls, and Hippo Hollow. Three different flight experiences can be arranged through our team, with bookings availability- and weather-dependent.

GOLF

The nearby nine-hole Skukuza Golf Course is designed for all skill levels and is one of the world's most unique, being surrounded by a wildlife-rich sanctuary. Hippo, impala, warthog, and baboons often come out to spectate. There are no sand bunkers, although there are 'aerial bunkers' in the form of many trees on the course. Motorised golf carts and pull carts are available for hire, and there is a bar serving light meals and refreshments. Bookings, subject to availability, can be made with our team.

DAILY PROGRAMME

The times given below are guidelines and may change subject to weather or the lodge's discretion.
An idea of what to look forward to...

Summer (September to April)	Programme	Winter (May to August)
05h00	Wake-up call	06h00
05h30	Tea/coffee; game drive departs	06h30
08h30	Game drive returns; breakfast/brunch is served	09h30
At leisure	Bush walk, or other activities of personal preference	At leisure
13h00	Lunch is served	13h00
16h00	Afternoon tea	15h00
16h30	Game drive departs	15h30
19h30	Game drive returns; dinner is served	18h30