

ACCESS & LOCATION



A Conservation Safari

SHAPED BY PURPOSE | DEFINED BY SPACE | COMMITTED TO PRESERVATION



OVERVIEW & DETAILS

Location

Kwandwe Private Game Reserve is situated in the heart of South Africa's malaria-free Eastern Cape.

- The closest airports are Port Elizabeth (PLZ) and East London (ELS).
- Daily scheduled flights operate from Cape Town and Johannesburg to both airports.
- From Port Elizabeth (PLZ), Kwandwe is approximately a 30 to 40-minute private charter flight or a 3 to 4-hour drive.
- Guests choosing to self-drive are encouraged to travel via the N2 and R67 routes. **We do not recommend travelling via the R350.**
- For added convenience, private air charters can be arranged from any destination in Southern Africa.
- Private transfers and chauffeured road transport can also be arranged throughout South Africa.
- Self-drive journeys can be beautifully combined with a scenic Garden Route itinerary.

Coordinates

Kwandwe Private Game Reserve, Heatherton Towers
Reception [GPS Coordinates on Google Maps](#): 33°08'46.2"S
26°31'32.9"E



Kwandwe Helicopter – Bel 505



Kwandwe Category 3 Tarrred Airstrip

TRAVELLING TO KWANDWE



KWANDWE

PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

 **Private Charter to Kwandwe**

 **Commercial Flights to Gqeberha (PLZ) or East London (ELS)**

Gqeberha: Transfer onwards to Kwandwe with fixed wing air transfer, road transfer or by Kwandwe Helicopter.

East London: Transfer onwards to Kwandwe with East London Air Services or by Kwandwe Helicopter.

 **Private Charter to Kwandwe**

Johannesburg or Cape Town to Shamwari, then transfer to Kwandwe via road, or Kwandwe Helicopter.

 **Self-drive**



AIR & ROAD TRANSFERS



HELICOPTER			01 Jan – 31 Dec 2026	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2027
Kwandwe Bell 505 Seats 1 – 4 passengers <i>Luggage restrictions apply for 1-3 pax on Kwandwe Helicopter. Please ENQUIRE for luggage restrictions 4 pax rate includes road transfer for luggage.</i>	From/To: Gqeberha (PLZ) From/To: East London (ELS)	40 mins	1-3 pax: R 32 400 <i>(single way)</i> 4 pax: R 35 900 <i>(single way)</i>	1-3 pax: R 35 700 <i>(single way)</i> 4 pax: R 39 200 <i>(single way)</i>
E'scape Airtours Charters & Transfers - Bell 407 Seats 1 - 5 passengers <i>Please ENQUIRE for luggage restrictions</i>	From/To: Gqeberha (PLZ)	40 mins	Price on request	Price on request
CHARTER			01 Jan – 31 Dec 2026	
Shamwari Air Services Scheduled Shuttle Flights Mon & Thu: Johannesburg - Shamwari and Shamwari - Cape Town Tue & Fri: Cape Town - Shamwari and Shamwari - Johannesburg				
Shamwari Beechcraft 1900D + road transfer to Kwandwe <i>Beechcraft: Up to 16 pax Road transfer: 1 - 12 pax Charged per seat Please ENQUIRE for luggage restrictions</i>	From: CPT/JHB To: Shamwari - Kwandwe	CPT: 1 hr 40 min/ JHB: 2hr 15 min Road: 1 hr 30 min	Price on request	Price on request
Beechcraft 1900D + helicopter transfer to Kwandwe <i>Beechcraft: Up to 16 pax Helicopter transfer: 1 - 4 pax Charged per seat Please ENQUIRE for luggage restrictions</i>	From: CPT/JHB To: Shamwari - Kwandwe	CPT: 1 hr 40 min/ JHB: 2hr 15 min Heli: 20min	Price on request	Price on request
East London Air Services <i>Various options available</i>	From/To: East London (ELS)	40 mins	Price on request	Price on request
Cape Town Aviation <i>Various options available</i>	From/To: Cape Town (CPT)	1hr 40 mins	Price on request	Price on request
ROAD TRANSFERS			01 Jan – 31 Dec 2026	01 Jan – 31 Dec 2027
ILLIOS	From/To: Gqeberha (PLZ)	1-3 pax	R 6 980	R 6 980
	(Per vehicle per way rate)	4 - 8 pax	R 7 580	R 7 580
	2-hours	9 - 12 pax	R 8 240	R 8 240

Road transfers departing Kwandwe to/from Gqeberha before 08h00 or after 16h00 are charged at an additional R 2 180 | R 2 200 (2026 | 2027) per way. Please note that with the constantly fluctuating fuel prices, the costs above are estimates and are subject to change without notification. Flight times are estimates and may vary depending on aircraft type and weather conditions. Please [ENQUIRE](#) about luggage restrictions and other destinations.



SELF-DRIVE TRAVEL ADVISORY – TRAVEL TIPS

Destination	Roads to Kwandwe are generally in excellent condition. We recommend self-drive via the R67. (We do not recommend travelling via the R350) and suitable for 2WD vehicles. Guests self-driving will park at HEATHERTON TOWERS , where secure parking is provided. You'll be transferred by safari vehicle to your lodge or villa.			
Approximate Driving Times	Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth)	2 hrs	160 km	99 miles
	East London	2.5 hrs	185 km	115 miles
	Plettenberg Bay	4.5 hrs	385 km	239 miles
Arrival Notice	On approaching Heatherton Towers, you are entering a wilderness area where wildlife roams freely. Please remain in your vehicle unless accompanied by our team. For assistance, call +27 (0)46 603 3400.			
Road Conditions	The final stretch of road (after turning off the R67) is gravel but easily navigable in a 2WD. A sturdier or higher-clearance vehicle is still advisable, if available.			
Driver Requirements	Please ensure you have a valid driver's licence and a rental vehicle that includes roadside assistance, where possible.			
Fuel & Journey Planning	Refuelling is unlikely on a direct trip to and from Kwandwe. If travelling further, ask your rental company for recommended fuel stops to help plan longer journeys. Choose a vehicle with a sufficiently large fuel tank for remote travel.			
Mobile Signal & Navigation	Mobile signal can be limited in rural areas and on the gravel road into Kwandwe. Please download offline maps or save directions before departure.			
Guest Parking	Where available, covered parking is provided for guest vehicles. Kindly note that we cannot accept responsibility for theft, loss, or damage to vehicles or belongings while parked on our premises.			

SELF-DRIVE: CAPE TOWN - KWANDWE



CAPE TOWN - KWANDWE

Cape Town → Plettenberg Bay

- Take the N2 east out of the city towards Somerset West.
- Continue over Sir Lowry's Pass, following signs through Caledon and on to Mossel Bay.
- As you approach Mossel Bay, keep left to stay on the N2 and continue through George and Knysna to Plettenberg Bay.

Continue to the instructions from Plettenberg Bay.

Plettenberg Bay → Gqeberha

- Rejoin the N2 and head northeast toward Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth).
- Please note: this is a toll road (approx. R50.50 per vehicle).
- On reaching Gqeberha, at the large roundabout, take the third exit to remain on the N2, following signs to Makhanda (Grahamstown).

Continue to the instructions from Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth).

Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) → R67 Fort Beaufort (KwaMaqoma) Turn-off

- Continue on the N2 past Makhanda (Grahamstown).
- Pass the Settlers Monument and travel underneath the highway flyover.
- A few kilometres beyond Makhanda (Grahamstown), turn left at the R67 Fort Beaufort (KwaMaqoma) turn-off.

Continue to the instructions from R67 Fort Beaufort (KwaMaqoma) turn-off.

R67 Fort Beaufort (Kwamaqoma) Turn-Off → Kwandwe Private Game Reserve

- Drive approximately 19 km along the R67 through the scenic Ecce Pass.
- Look out for a large sign on your right marked 'The Great Fish River Reserve'.
- Turn LEFT onto the gravel road directly opposite this sign.
- You'll see two smaller signs on the left: 'Kwandwe' and 'Kranzdrift'.
- Follow this gravel road for about 5 km to the Kwandwe gate.
- Continue straight for another 6 km to reach HEATHERTON TOWERS, where you'll check in and leave your vehicle in the guest car park.
- From here, you'll be transferred by safari vehicle to your lodge: Great Fish River Lodge, Ecce Lodge, Uplands Homestead, Fort House, or Melton Manor (15–30 mins' drive).

SELF-DRIVE: EAST LONDON - KWANDWE



SELF-DRIVE DIRECTIONS: EAST LONDON - KWANDWE

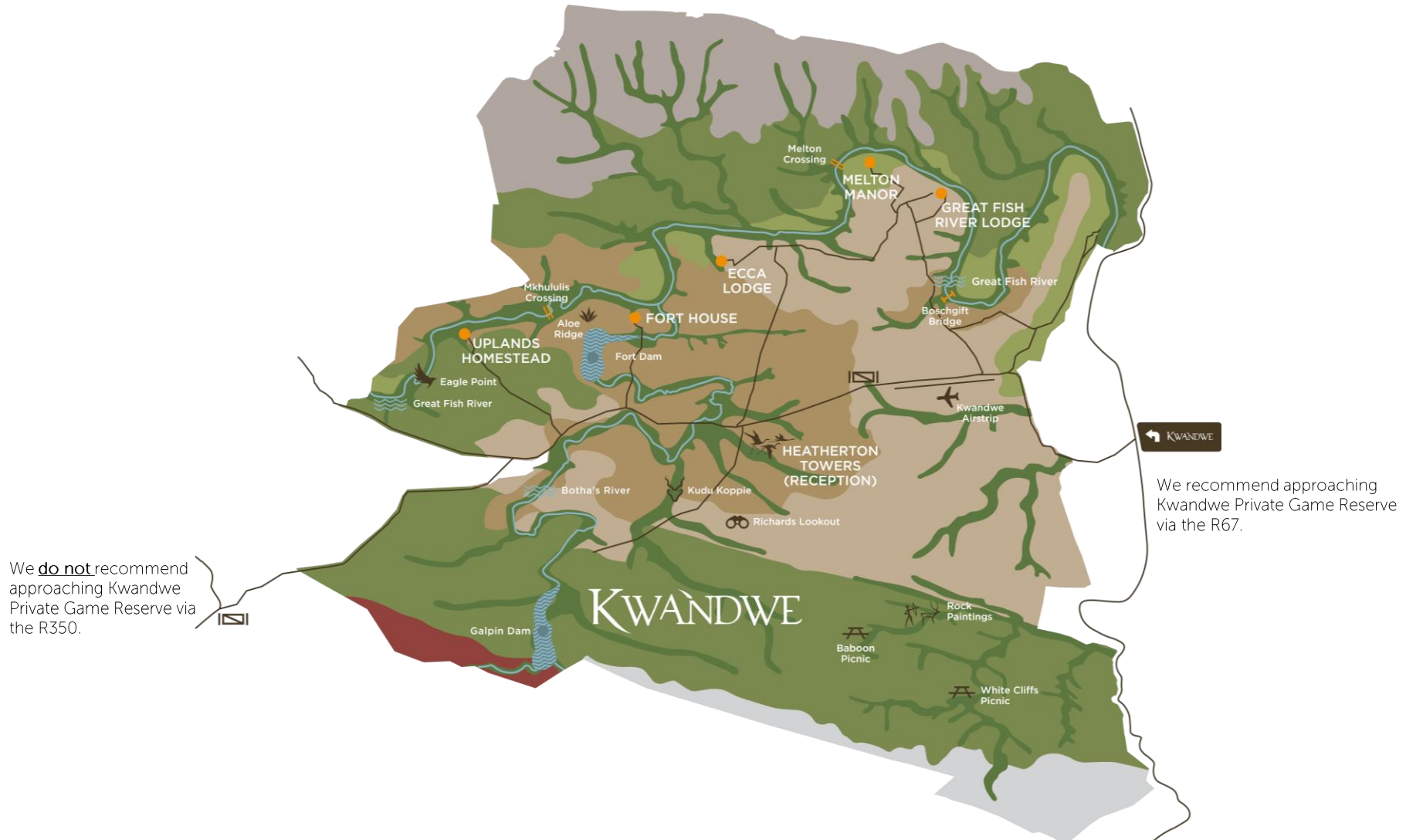
East London → R67 Fort Beaufort (KwaMaqoma)
Turn-off

- Take the N2 west towards Qonce (King William's Town) and continue on to Makhanda (Grahamstown).
 - Shortly before Makhanda (Grahamstown), turn right at the R67 Fort Beaufort (KwaMaqoma) turn-off.
- Continue to the instructions from R67 Fort Beaufort (KwaMaqoma) turn-off.*

R67 Fort Beaufort (Kwamaqoma) Turn-Off →
Kwandwe Private Game Reserve

- Drive approximately 19 km along the R67 through the scenic Ecça Pass.
- Look out for a large sign on your right marked 'The Great Fish River Reserve'.
- Turn LEFT onto the gravel road directly opposite this sign.
- You'll see two smaller signs on the left: 'Kwandwe' and 'Kranzdrift'.
- Follow this gravel road for about 5 km to the Kwandwe gate.
- Continue straight for another 4 km to reach HEATHERTON TOWERS, where you'll check in and leave your vehicle in the guest car park.
- From here, you'll be transferred by safari vehicle to your lodge: Great Fish River Lodge, Ecça Lodge, Uplands Homestead, Fort House, or Melton Manor (15–30 mins' drive).

ARRIVING AT KWANDWE PRIVATE GAME RESERVE



We **do not** recommend approaching Kwandwe Private Game Reserve via the R350.

We recommend approaching Kwandwe Private Game Reserve via the R67.

All guests arriving at Kwandwe Private Game Reserve are warmly welcomed at HEATHERTON TOWERS, the reserve's reception and guest arrival point. This historic building marks the beginning of your Kwandwe experience, where our team will greet you before you continue your journey in a Kwandwe safari vehicle to your lodge.

Please use the following GPS coordinates for your arrival: -33.146321, 26.525600