THE JABULANI ELEPHANT EXPERIENCE



THE JABULANI ELEPHANT EXPERIENCE IS BOTH SOULFUL AND EDUCATIONAL AND A UNIQUE EXTENSION OF A BIG-FIVE LUXURY SAFARI EXPERIENCE.

Our remarkable history and journey with the Jabulani herd is shared by our team of passionate elephant carers, many who have walked side by side with the elephants for over twenty years.

Take part in an intimate and educational talk hosted by our elephant carers and in the company of Jabulani, Sebakwe or Somopane, who are older bulls of the herd. It is an extraordinary opportunity to understand elephants on a deeper level, both physically and emotionally, and to appreciate the importance of the conservation and protection of the elephant species.

During a stay at Jabulani, there are further respectful opportunities to observe the herd from a comfortable distance, as they spend their days foraging in the big-five Kapama Game Reserve. They include:



ELEPHANT SWIM

During the hottest times of the day, the herd enjoys taking time out from foraging to swim in one of the dams on the reserve, providing an excellent opportunity to observe the elephants swim, drink, play and relax in the water from the comfort of our shaded vehicle. The perfect way to see their unique personalities in play from a respectful distance.



SIGNATURE SUNDOWNERS AND ELEPHANT HOMESTEAD EXPERIENCE

Enjoy our Jabulani Signature Sundowner experience as you relax with a refreshment and view the herd as they pass by on their way to their stables after a day out on the reserve. Join one of our elephant carers at the homestead and observe the herd from a viewing point as they settle in for the night. It allows us to explain the dynamics of the herd's sleeping arrangements in the elephant stables.



ELEPHANT RESEARCH - DUNG SAMPLING

Participate in Jabulani field research with their elephant carers and rangers, by sampling the Jabulani herd's elephant dung to monitor their stress levels compared to that of wild elephants. This is part of our ongoing research with the University of Pretoria.



HOEDSPRUIT ELEPHANT REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT (HERD) - ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE

Enjoy a talk from the viewing point of South Africa's first dedicated Elephant Orphanage, which was built in August 2019, adjacent to the Jabulani stables. Adine Roode, MD of Jabulani, built a facility that can provide the necessary human care for orphaned baby elephants, with the advantage of being in the presence of an elephant herd that openly accepts orphaned elephants into their herd. To date, the Jabulani herd have welcomed five orphans lovingly, namely Jabulani, Kumbura, Timisa, Shawu and Khanyisa.

Please note that the orphanage visit is only accessible to guests when there are no orphans in the building, as to not stress them.

Please note: we do not permit any contact with any orphans and most of the herd, besides the three bulls in the Elephant Experience. We will never restrain an elephant, so we ask guests to respect the elephant's choice if they choose to walk away during an Elephant Experience. The herd spend their days in the wild from sunrise to sunset.

By staying at Jabulani, your presence is far more meaningful than merely staying at a five-star luxury safari lodge. You'll soon understand that you are contributing to the lodge's vital role in sustaining the herd. Each guest receives a certificate upon departure in thanks for their contribution to elephant conservation.

