

A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a wide-brimmed straw hat, a white t-shirt, a light-colored button-down vest, and khaki trousers, is sitting against the thick, textured trunk of a large tree. She is holding a white mug in her right hand and looking down at it with a smile. The background shows a savanna landscape with other trees and a cloudy sky.

Safari Activities

at Jaci's Private Lodge



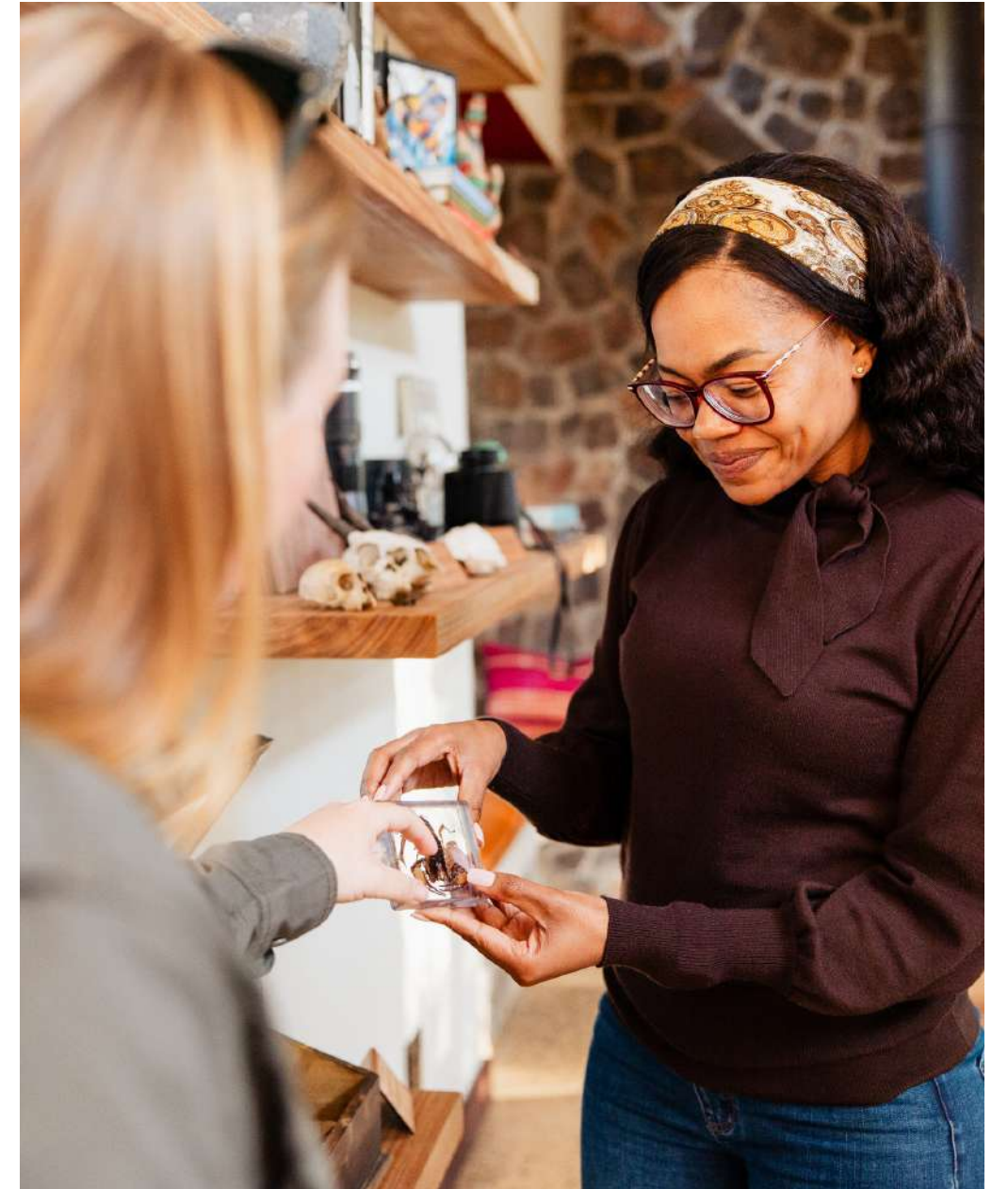
JACI'S Est. 2000
PRIVATE LODGE | MADIKWE

Overview

At Jaci's, there is plenty to experience beyond the game drive.

Set within the malaria-free Madikwe Game Reserve, each day brings a different way to enjoy the bush, from guided walks and birding to time spent at the waterhole, wellness treatments and sundowners out on safari.

Whether you prefer to head out and explore or slow down and take in the surroundings, our activities are designed to help you experience Madikwe in a way that feels relaxed, personal and connected to the landscape at your own pace.



Safari Walks

Guests may explore parts of Madikwe Game Reserve on foot accompanied by a qualified walking-trails guide. Walking safaris offer a completely different perspective of the bush, allowing guests to slow down and discover the smaller details that are often missed from a vehicle.

- Important information:
- Subject to availability
 - Prior arrangement required
 - Duration varies depending on weather, guest numbers and game drive schedules
 - Children under 16 years are not permitted
 - Guests over 60 years require a doctor’s note
 - Additional costs apply

River Path Walk

Enjoy a guided or self-paced stroll along the Marico River. The scenic river path runs within the fenced boundaries of Jaci’s property, as the lodge borders the river, allowing guests to safely enjoy the surrounding riverine forest and natural environment.

The area supports abundant birdlife and occasional wildlife sightings, including elephants visiting the river to drink or bathe. It is a peaceful way to experience the bush at a slower pace while enjoying the shade of the riverine trees.

Children must be supervised by an adult at all times.



Bird Watching

More than 350 bird species have been recorded in Madikwe Game Reserve, making it a rewarding destination for both casual bird lovers and avid birders. The reserve's diverse habitats, from riverine forest and dense bushveld to open grassland and waterholes, attract an exceptional variety of birdlife throughout the year.

Bird watching can be enjoyed during game drives, from the lodge decks, at the Terrapin Hide, along the river path and at our wetlands. Our experienced guides are always happy to help identify species and share fascinating insights into their behaviour, habitats and seasonal movements.



The Terrapin Hide

The iconic Terrapin Hide is a water-level photographic and wildlife viewing hide overlooking an active waterhole. Designed to offer an immersive and unobtrusive wildlife experience, the hide allows guests to observe animals from a completely unique perspective right at the water's edge.

Accessed via a discreet underground tunnel, the hide provides:

- Eye-level wildlife viewing
- Unique photographic opportunities
- Quiet observation without disturbing animals

The hide frequently attracts a wide variety of species and offers a rare submerged perspective that is especially popular with wildlife photographers.



Naledi Sleepout Experience

Naledi, meaning “star” in Tswana, offers a truly memorable overnight safari sleep-out without leaving the safety and comfort of the lodge. Set on a raised platform above a nearby waterhole beneath a beautiful Tamboti tree, Naledi provides a secluded and romantic way to experience the African bush after dark.

Designed to immerse guests in nature while maintaining comfort, Naledi features:

- A canopied queen-size bed
- Private KolKol wood-fired hot tub
- Outdoor shower
- Eco-friendly Enviroloo

From this unique vantage point, you can relax in complete privacy while watching wildlife visit the waterhole below. As evening falls, the sounds of the bush come alive, and you’ll drift off to sleep beneath the open African sky. In the early morning, it is not uncommon to wake to birdsong and animals gathering at the water’s edge.

Naledi is especially popular for romantic stays, honeymoons and special occasions, offering an unforgettable night under the stars.

Subject to availability and prior arrangement.

Outdoor Dining

Dining under the African sky is a signature part of the Jaci's Private Lodge experience. Whenever possible, our chefs thoughtfully plan meals in a variety of locations around the lodge to keep each dining experience unique and memorable.

You may find yourself enjoying dinner on the elevated Thutlwa Deck overlooking the bushveld, gathered around the fire in the boma, dining on the Main Lodge deck beside our Marico River or, on special occasions, sharing a meal in the bush itself.

Please note: while bush braais are a much-loved safari tradition, they are not scheduled regularly and are highly dependent on weather conditions, wind, wildlife movement and overall operational considerations. When conditions allow, they offer a truly unforgettable evening in the wild.

Jaci's Cheeky Chilli

Preparing Jaci's Cheeky Chilli before a fire-cooked meal has become a much-loved ritual at the dinner table.

The idea was first inspired by a simple table spread of chopped chilli, lemon, olive oil and balsamic enjoyed while travelling - but as a devoted chilli lover, Jaci couldn't resist building on it.

What began as whole chillies and garlic (with playful warnings about wandering fingers!) evolved into the pre-chopped version guests enjoy today.

Jaci's love of chilli traces back to time spent in Mozambique, where the unforgettable flavours of local Donna Anna chilli left a lasting impression. Today, Cheeky Chilli brings that warmth, spice and shared-table tradition to every safari evening.





Bush Gym Box

Available on request, each Safari Suite and Villa can be equipped with a private gym box, allowing guests to enjoy a convenient workout in the comfort of their own space.

Each gym box contains a versatile selection of equipment for strength and functional training, including:

- Adjustable bench
- Kettlebells
- Dumbbells
- 5 kg weighted ball
- Exercise mat
- Resistance bands
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Availability is subject to request and operational scheduling.

Finfoot Treatment Room

Relax and unwind in our dedicated Finfoot Treatment Room, where selected massage treatments are offered in a tranquil bush setting. Surrounded by the sounds of nature, the space provides a peaceful retreat where guests can slow down and recharge between safari activities.

Our trained massage therapists, proud entrepreneurs from the local community, provide a range of classic treatments with an African-inspired touch, designed to restore and rejuvenate after time spent on safari.

Subject to therapist availability. Additional costs apply.





Stargazing

With minimal light pollution and vast open skies, Jaci's Private Lodge offers exceptional stargazing year-round. The African night sky reveals a breathtaking display of constellations, planets and celestial detail that is often unseen elsewhere in the world.

Many of our guides have a strong background and interest in astronomy and are delighted to share their knowledge. You are always welcome to request a dedicated stargazing experience, whether in the early evening or before sunrise, and your guide will tailor the drive accordingly.

Swimming Pools

During warmer months, you are invited to cool off and unwind in the lodge's beautifully positioned swimming pools, each designed to offer privacy and views of the surrounding bushveld.

You may enjoy:

- The Main Lodge pool, set within the central lodge area
- Private pools at Nare Villa, Kubu Villa and Jaci's Madikwe House

Whether relaxing between safari activities or escaping the midday heat, the pools provide a refreshing retreat in nature.

For safety, children must be supervised by an adult at all times.



Important Notes

Certain activities are subject to availability and prior arrangement. Specialist experiences (sleep-out, massage therapy, safari walks) may incur additional costs. Weather and wildlife movement may influence scheduling.

Terms and conditions apply.

Contact

Reservations

(Monday – Friday | 08h00 – 17h00 SAST)
reservations@jacis.co.za | +27 (0)83 700 2071

General Management

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tristan@jacis.co.za | +27 (0)63 728 1491

Please note: Due to intermittent signal at the lodge, we recommend sending a WhatsApp message to the numbers above should you wish to contact lodge management. Our reservations department is contactable telephonically or via email during office hours.



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www.jacis.co.za

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