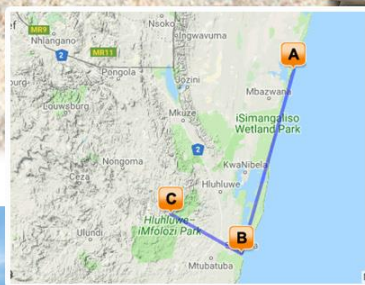
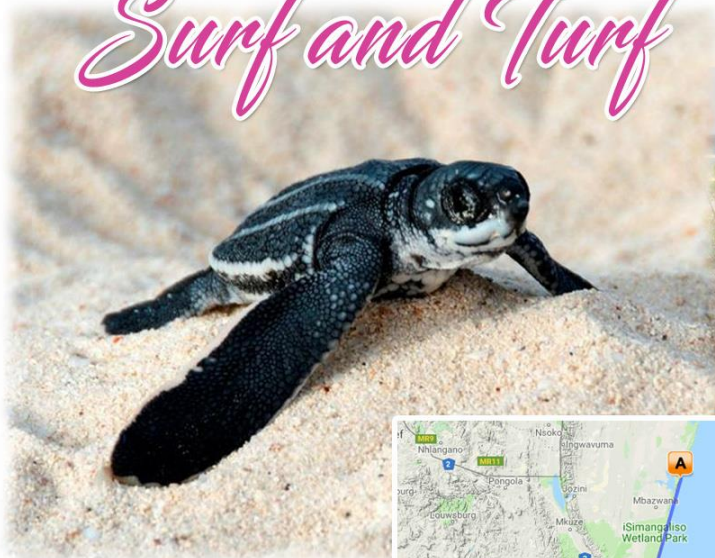


Surf and Turf

SAFARI



...a truly Amazing African Adventure!



February 1, 2020 - February 11, 2020

Surf and Turf Safari"

Custom itinerary for VIP Clients of Wild Art Safaris LLC

Maputaland Marine Protected Area - St Lucia - Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park

February 1, 2020 - February 11, 2020

11 Days / 10 Nights

MAX 20 Guests

Introduction

Accommodation	Destination	Start	End	Basis	Room Type	Duration
Overnight Travel		Feb 1	Feb 2		In plane	1 Night
Thonga Beach Lodge	Maputaland Marine Protected Area	Feb 2	Feb 5	FI	10x Double Room	3 Nights
Elephant Lake Hotel	St Lucia	Feb 5	Feb 7	B&B	10x Double Room	2 Nights
Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge	Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park	Feb 7	Feb 10	FB+	10x Double Room	3 Nights
Overnight Travel		Feb 10	Feb 11		In plane	1 Night

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

FB+: Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities Daily

FI: Fully Inclusive

Price

Accommodation as per the itinerary; Meals as per the itinerary; Ground transfers as per the itinerary; Scheduled Tours as per the itinerary; Parks Fees and Safari Activities as per the itinerary.

Excluded

Any services not mentioned above; Any items of personal expense, i.e. drinks, telephone calls, laundry etc.; Gratuities for rangers/guides/drivers; Visa fees if applicable.

Day 1: Saturday, February 1 Overnight Travel

Day Itinerary

Depart from the US for your flight to South Africa.

Day 2-5: Sunday, February 2 to Wednesday, February 5 Thonga Beach Lodge, Maputaland Marine Protected Area



MAPUTALAND MARINE PROTECTED AREA

Located on South Africa's northeastern coast, the Maputaland Marine Protected Area falls within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park and comprises three protected areas, Lake Sibaya Nature Reserve, Kosi Bay Nature Reserve and Rocktail Bay. The reserve extends all the way from the northern Mozambican border to Sodwana Bay in the south. This gorgeous sub-tropical paradise includes immaculate forests and wetlands dotted with lakes and marshes as well as coral reefs and deserted golden-sand beaches and forest-clad coastal dunes. The local wildlife includes numerous bird species, reptiles and freshwater fish, making this an ideal destination for nature-loving travellers. Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy excellent diving opportunities at one of the world's top dive sites at Sodwana Bay with its magnificent reef complex.

Day Itinerary

Upon arrival in Johannesburg, you will clear customs. You will then board your short flight to Durban. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to Thonga Beach Lodge

Overnight: Thonga Beach Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

Thonga Beach Lodge is set on the pristine shores of the Maputaland Coast, KwaZulu-Natal. This 24 bed luxury lodge is the ideal place to discover one of Africa's last unspoilt wilderness beaches. It is a magical place of coastal forests, grasslands, bush, shimmering lakes and exquisite sandy beaches. Its crystal clear, warm waters offer South Africa's best snorkelling and excellent off-shore SCUBA diving and excellent birding opportunities. Guided birding, nature walks & Turtle Tracking are offered in season. The 12 thatched bush suites offer either Ocean or Forest Views with Deluxe Ocean Views room sporting private plunge pools. The suites are positioned to afford maximum privacy & minimal environmental impact. Excellent cuisine is enjoyed al fresco on the dining deck or beach deck overlooking the sea. This is an ideal choice for honeymooners, families, SCUBA divers or anyone who wants to simply relax. A civilized distance from civilization.



Basis

Fully Inclusive...*Choice of lodging/rooms is first come-first served basis for all stays.

Included

Option includes: Accommodation, meals, teas & coffees, WI-Fi, use of snorkeling equipment, guided walks, kayaking and sundowners at Lake Sibaya, cultural tours to Mabibi Community. Each guest is entitled to 1 of the following on a sundowner excursion at Lake Sibaya, glass of wine, local beer, cider or soft drink.

Day 5-7: Wednesday, February 5 to Friday, February 7 Elephant Lake Hotel , St Lucia



Encircled by the iSimangaliso Wetlands Park, St Lucia is South Africa's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. St Lucia lies on the magnificent St Lucia Estuary which is one of the largest in Africa stretching over 85 kilometres. It features abundant wildlife, pristine natural beauty, and a wide range of wonderful activities. This haven of tranquillity offers a variety of activities including excellent mountain biking, hiking, bird watching and deep-sea fishing. Visitors can also look forward to thrilling night drive safaris, hippo and crocodile cruises, and wonderful shopping options for souvenirs.

Day Itinerary

Today, you will be transferred to Elephant Lake Hotel-located within walking distance of shopping and dining choices.

During your stay at Elephant Lake Hotel, you will enjoy these adventures:

Turtle Tours – this is done in the evening and only 10 guests can go at the time so the group would have to be split into 2 over the 2 nights in St Lucia.



Turtle Tour

Join us as we go in search of Leather Back and Loggerhead Turtles along the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Beach (Cape Vidal to Leven Point). This tour only takes place in the Summer months from November to end of February. The season is divided into two parts one being from November to end December is mostly when the Turtles will lay their eggs and then from January to end February one may witness the eggs hatching.

05 Feb – day of arrival first group of 10 guests on evening turtle tour

06 Feb – all guests on Cape Vidal day-trip tour

Full Day Cape Vidal Tour

Cape Vidal full day departs at 8:00 am and showcases the incredible beauty that surrounds this park. From open grasslands, forest, mangrove, loop roads, hides and beach it's a busy day. Once we reach Cape Vidal, a protected bay you will have time to snorkel and enjoy the numerous fish species that frequent the area. All the while your ranger will prepare a traditional South African Braai (a traditional barbeque). Enjoy this full day outing into a place that is known as a miracle.

Trip Highlights

- Incredible wildlife adventure including Leopard
- Comfortable Open Game Drive Safari Vehicle
- Experienced and Passionate Rangers
- one can enjoy both Bush and Beach Activities
- Bush Lunch

06 Feb – second group of 10 guests on evening turtle tour

Overnight: Elephant Lake Hotel

Set above the Great St Lucia Lake, Elephant Lake Hotel is centrally situated in the village of St Lucia, surrounded by the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park (iSimangaliso Wetland Park), an UNESCO natural World Heritage Site.

Elephant Lake Hotel is a modest hotel offering air conditioned rooms, decorated in a contemporary African style, pool, lawn with overlook to the estuary and occasional night time visits from the local hippos.

Clean and comfortable, Elephant Lake Hotel is the ideal destination from which to explore the Wetlands with its 5 major eco systems, pristine beaches and Big 5 game parks, whilst enjoying village life and finding treasures to take home.



Basis

Bed & Breakfast with the exception of the barbeque lunch in Cape Vidal...otherwise lunch & dinner on your own.

Day 7-10: Friday, February 7 to Monday, February 10

Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge, Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park



The Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park is the jewel in the crown of the KwaZulu Natal game reserves. Proclaimed in 1895, it is also the oldest game reserve in Africa. Initially two separate reserves, they were joined to create a single 94 000 hectare reserve which is home to one-fifth of the world's black and white rhino population. It was here that the internationally acclaimed Operation Rhino started in the 1960s, successfully capturing and relocating white rhino to havens within South Africa and abroad. The Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park was the first reserve to introduce walking safaris and its Wilderness Trails are internationally renowned. Visitors can also look forward to visiting a traditional Zulu village, enjoying a horse riding safari, and spotting the world renowned Big Five as well as a wide variety of bird species.

Day Itinerary



07 Feb – 10:00am Start with morning St Lucia Estuary Cruise

- Join Us as we travel up one of the largest Estuarine systems in Africa as well as being South Africa's very first **World Heritage Site**.
- Home to **800 Hippo's** and approximately 1000 Nile Crocodiles not to mention the abundance of Bird-life.
- Enjoy refreshments from the on-board galley as you relax on your cruise.

This 2 hour Boat Cruise Safari gets you close up to the residents of the estuary. Your captain will guide and entertain us as we encounter new species along the way.



Following St. Lucia Estuary cruise you will be transferred to Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge in Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Park

Spend 3 nights at the lodge located inside this amazing, animal-rich environment.

Overnight: Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

Established to protect the previously endangered white rhino, now numbering over 1000 in the park, Hluhluwe Imfolozi Game Reserve is a triumph of conservation efforts. Celebrate this legacy in exclusive luxury at Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge - the only private lodge in the reserve - offering exceptional safari experiences in the heart of Big 5 territory. 18 well appointed, air-conditioned rooms nestle on a ridge, each with their own private deck giving expansive and uninterrupted

views of the reserve. The lodge, built in 2015, is designed in a contemporary style with overtones of organic forms utilising natural finishes and materials.



Basis

Full Board and Activities including games drives

A Typical Day on Safari at Hluhluwe-Imfolozi National Park:



The day starts as dawn breaks over the African bushveld. After your early morning wakeup call, coffee, tea & light snacks are served. Shortly after, you depart in your vehicle with your experienced rangers and, potentially, trackers who will share their extensive knowledge of the bush with you. These drives are undertaken at times best suited for game viewing which vary depending on the season but typically start early morning. Where applicable you may be invited out of the vehicle to see tracks, examine certain plants and follow spoor.

After an exhilarating hunt for tracks to see what the animals have been up to during the night, and tracking down whatever you find, you will stop somewhere out in the bush for a break of coffee & tea and to stretch your legs. After, a sumptuous breakfast is served either back at the camp or in the bush.

During the day, guests are also offered bush walks to suit their interests and fitness levels and are accompanied by an armed ranger and tracker. Walks allow guests a better chance to see some of the smaller creatures of the bush as well as an opportunity to learn more about the flora and fauna of the region and to have a chance to follow tracks in more detail.

The rangers will enthral you with their explanations of the medicinal and other uses of the numerous plants and trees along with tales of traditional folklore.

The rest of the day is spent at the discretion of the guest for other activities that are on offer, or to simply relax, with a delicious lunch being served midday.

The afternoon game drive is preceded by high tea and extends into the evening for a chance to view seldom seen nocturnal species by torchlight.

Upon returning for a gourmet dinner, either in the boma, bush or lodge to mix it up each evening - guests can socialize with one another and their rangers before retiring to bed for another day's adventure.

Where possible, safaris will be tailored to suit individual preferences and interest.

Day 10: Monday, February 10 Overnight Travel

Day Itinerary

Today after breakfast and your morning game drive, you will be transferred to the airport for your flights to the US.

Day 11: Tuesday, February 11 End of Itinerary...Welcome Home!

Day Itinerary

Arrival in US and home.

Basis

Bed & Breakfast included-Day 10

QUOTE

****Please note that all availability and pricing is subject to change until time of booking by which a credit card and deposit must be given to solidify all reservations and lock in all pricing.***

LAND PORTION		
<i>Pricing is based on double occupancy (two people sharing per room) unless otherwise noted. A single supplement/additional charges may apply if double occupancy is not confirmed.</i>	USD	\$4099.00 pp based on double occupancy * \$4940 for single

ECONOMY CLASS AIRFARE - Published, Non-Refundable, Non-Transferable		Airfare quotes are inclusive of all fuel, taxes, fees and airline surcharges
	USD	\$953.00 person*

*Please Note *** Assigned seats are not included on international SAA flights - If you would like assigned seats on your flights, they will need to be purchased at an extra cost (generally \$30 for regular seats and \$80 for Exit row seats if available. If you prefer to not pay for your seating you can choose your seats within 24 hours of departure at no cost.*

TOTAL for KwaZulu-“Surf & Turf Safari” (Land + Air)		\$5052.00 pp based on double occupancy
	USD	*\$5893.00 single

***MAX of (2) single bookings for this tour package (subject to change)*

**Airfare is roundtrip from New York JFK to Johannesburg JNB. Please make inquiries with Wild Art Safaris to book your US domestic flight and if you would like to use rewards programs.*

NOTE: The flight from JFK to JNB departs approx. 11 am on FEB 1...it is highly recommended to fly into New York and stay at one of the airport hotels to allow plenty of time for checking-in and boarding. Good hotels range from \$80-\$120 and up. You may use rewards or have your stay booked through Wil Art Safaris.





Entry Requirements

As for all international travel, the visitor to South Africa is required to be in possession of a valid passport. U.S. citizens (US passport holders) traveling to the Republic of South Africa for 90 days or less for tourism or business purposes do not need visas. U.S. green card holders (non-US passport holders) require visas to visit South Africa. Nationals of other countries must check the list of visa exempt countries to see if they need to apply for visas.

Please note that all foreigners who wish to visit South Africa must have a passport that is valid for at least 6 months after his/her intended return date. The passport must have a minimum of four blank (unstamped) visa pages in the passport to enter the country. It is preferred these are facing pages. Your international carrier can deny boarding if you do not have the blank (unstamped) visa pages. Travellers should make sure there are sufficient pages for visas and immigration stamps to enter into South Africa and other countries to be visited. These blank pages cannot be endorsement or amendment pages.

As a general precaution, all travellers are advised to carry a photocopy of the photo/bio information page of their passport and keep it in a location separate from their passport.

Banking and Currency

Currency

South Africa's currency is the Rand, which offers visitors great value for their money. The rand comes in a range of coins (R1 = 100 cents) and note denominations of R10, R20, R50, R100. With the exchange rate in your favour, you'll find South Africa offers great value. ***Approx current exchange rate is \$1 US=14 RAND...great value for shopping, meals and additional activities.

It is advisable to exchange US Dollars into Rands upon arrival for tips and small purchases where credit cards are not normally used. The JNB airport has favourable exchange services. Ask for small bills.

Exchanging large denominations of US Dollars at game lodges can be challenging so come prepared.

Banking

Banks are found in most towns, and are generally open from 09h00 to 15h30 on weekdays and 08h30 to 11h00 on Saturdays (Closed Sundays and Public Holidays). Most of them offer foreign exchange services - with cash, bank & credit cards as well as travellers cheques. You can also obtain cash from automatic teller machines (ATMs). Several international banks have branches in the main city centres. Always advise your bank that you are travelling outside of the country as they might block your purchases if they are not informed.

Health and Medical Information

Many of the main tourist areas are malaria-free, so you need not worry at all. However, the Kruger National Park, the Lowveld of Mpumalanga and Limpopo, and the northern part of KwaZulu-Natal do pose a malaria risk in the summer months.

Many local people and some travelers do not take anti-malaria prophylaxis, but most health professionals recommend that you do. All guests must consult their own medical doctor or health authorities regarding the use of anti-malarial tablets prior to departure.

Whether you take oral prophylaxis or not, always use mosquito repellent, wear long pants, closed shoes, light long-sleeved shirts at night, and sleep under a mosquito net in endemic areas (the anopheles mosquito, which carries malaria, operates almost exclusively after dark). Mosquito repellent containing "deet" is best. It is advisable to avoid malarial areas if you are pregnant.

Safety Notices

If you have lost your passport or wallet, please contact the local police department and file a report. Once you have done this, contact one of South Africa's U.S. Embassies or Consulates (located in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban).

Contact Information:

Cape Town Consulate General

Telephone : (021) 702 - 7300

Email: americanscapetown@state.gov

Durban Consulate General

Telephone: (031) 305 – 7600

Email: consulardurban@state.gov

Johannesburg Consulate General

Telephone: (011) 290 - 3000

Email: consularjohannesburg@state.gov

Alternately, you can obtain information online at <http://www.embassy-worldwide.com/embassy/american-embassy-in-pretoria-south-africa/>.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Standards of hygiene in relation to food health and safety in South Africa, are generally high in hotels, restaurants, pubs and nightspots. Tap water in South Africa is safe to drink and cook with when taken from taps in urban areas. Not all tap water in rural areas is safe for consumption, so take precautions if necessary.

It is safe to eat fresh fruit, vegetables and salads, and put ice in your drinks. South Africa's fish, meat and chicken are of excellent quality, so there is no need to limit yourself when enjoying the local cuisine.

Restaurants are subject to South Africa's food safety control legislation, which is implemented by local government. Regulations include certification and regular inspections by health inspectors to ensure hygienic standards are maintained.

Street food is not as common in South Africa as it is in other countries, although vendors selling traditional snacks and meals can be found in city centres and townships. Food safety in such instances cannot always be guaranteed.

Climate and Weather

In the Western Cape, the average rainfall is highest in the winter months, while in other provinces, the average rainfall is highest during the summer. Overall South Africa enjoys a temperate and pleasant climate, with lovely warm sunny days most of the year. KwaZulu-Natal has a sub tropical climate with high humidity in Summer. The Southern Gauteng region has hot summers with occasional thundershowers and frosty winters, while the Eastern part of this region (known as the Lowveld) enjoys mild winters. The Cape interior and the Free State have similar weather conditions to the Southern Gauteng region. The Western Cape region has a Mediterranean climate with warm, dry summers and cold, wet winters.

Spring: September – October

Summer: November - February

Autumn: March – April

Winter: May – August

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Summer

Bring clothes that are cool, light and comfortable for summer temperatures, which can range from 80s-90s+ F depending on some areas. Also bring an umbrella or raincoat during summer as this is when most of the country gets its rain, but don't forget a swimsuit. You will need closed-toed shoes for safari game drives as well as sandals or light shoes for beach and poolside wear.

Winter

The winters are generally mild, comparing favourably with European summers. But there are days when temperatures dive, especially in high-lying areas such as the Drakensberg, so be prepared with jerseys and jackets. Cape Town gets its rain during the winter season so it's advisable to bring rain gear along.

General

Always bring a hat, sunglasses and sunblock as the sun can be strong and a light jacket for evenings if needed.

Walking shoes are a good idea all year-round, with warm socks in the winter.

Daily attire is generally casual for all activities but feel free to dress up a bit if you wish.

For game viewing, a couple of neutral-toned items will be useful, but there's no need to go overboard. A good pair of walking shoes is also advisable.

For the evening, if you are dining at an upmarket restaurant or seeing a show, smart-casual attire is recommended.

Electricity and Plug Standards

The South African electricity supply is 220/230 volts AC 50 HZ. With a few exceptions (in deep rural areas) electricity is available almost everywhere. However, you will need to purchase or bring adapters for the outlets. You can purchase

the adapters in many US stores, online, or from a store while in South Africa. Adapters are usually available on loan at major hotels in South Africa. Three to five star hotels usually have 110 volt outlets for electric shavers in bathrooms and often provide hair dryers and irons. An NW 4 plug with two prongs, 0.19 inches in diameter is required for compatibility.

FOR BOOKING & INQUIRIES CONTACT:

Linda Bittner

Wild Art Safaris LLC

Cincinnati, Ohio USA

+1 513-600-1955 **Please feel free to text me with the best time to call you*

wildartsafaris@gmail.com

****Wild Art Safaris has partnered with SAA Vacations to provide you with this unique customized itinerary. Please book with Wild Art Safaris only...this itinerary is not available directly with SAA Vacations.*

NOTE: To book this tour you will need to provide a \$1000.00pp non-refundable deposit and book your flights right away to secure your seats and lodging choice for Thonga Beach Lodge (beach or forest view).

TRAVEL INSURANCE is highly recommended to protect your investment for this trip of a lifetime. Please ask for a quote. To protect your trip for "any reason" you must procure your insurance within 10 days of the first payments made for your trip.



*This trip will be escorted by artist, photographer & travel specialist Linda Bittner, owner of Wild Art Safaris and frequent traveller to Africa. Once you have booked, Linda will be sending you more valuable tips to make the best out of your *Surf & Turf* African Safari.

FOR ADDITIONAL INSIGHT ON THIS TRIP GO TO THIS CUSTOM TOUR LINK created by SAA Vacations for Wild Art Safaris' clients...NOTE: Please do not use the CHAT and BOOKING links as they are templated-in. Make all inquiries and bookings through Wild Art Safaris...*Thank you* (Link includes Cape Town extension info)

<https://travel.flysaavacations.com/Itinerary/Landing/E1B3C0E4-DF6C-4F9A-B685-39A541506E4C>