

Thornybush
GAME LODGE



Thornybush Nature Reserve

Thornybush is one of the original nature reserves in the Greater Kruger National Park, with the first lodge opening its doors in 1961. Since then, the Thornybush group now operates lodges in both the Thornybush and Sabi Sand Private Nature Reserves.

Thornybush is a 14,000-hectare private nature reserve that shares a fenceless border with the famous Kruger National Park in South Africa. Big 5 encounters are the standout experiences for our guests, with visitors particularly impressed with the lion and leopard sightings. It is the vast diversity of wildlife, however, that has seen Thornybush emerge as a leading safari destination.

With our passionate and expert guide-and-tracker teams leading the way, our guests leave with a genuine understanding of our entire ecosystem and the enthralling cast of animals.





Thornybush Game Lodge

Game Lodge was the first of its kind in the Thornybush Nature Reserve, opening its doors back in 1961. As the original establishment, it put Thornybush on the map and established our reputation for world-class game-viewing.

Now, with a note of sophistication in the design and layout, our thatched main area overlooks a waterhole and riverbed frequently visited by elephants, buffalo and other large game. The classic lower deck flows between the open dining area and a beautiful bar.

Sunbirds, attracted to the many aloes which surround the main deck, are just some of the many small delights you can expect on your stay at Thornybush Game Lodge.

The warm-hearted staff, riverbed setting, and legacy of excellence are standout features. Meals, when taken at the lodge, are a mixture of sumptuous lunch platters or lavish buffets. Dinners are elegant a la carte meals on the deck or traditional South African boma dinners, served around the fire. The kitchen team led by Solly, the legendary master bush chef, will ensure every meal is an occasion! Bush dinners are a firm favourite with our guests, where you get to enjoy a hearty meal, surrounded by lanterns, candles and the sound of the African wilderness.



Lodge Overview

18 suites overlooking the Monwana dry river bed

2 family suites

- sleep two adults and two children
 - swimming pool
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Can accommodate groups of up to 40 people

Lodge pool available at the main area

Outdoor showers in all rooms

Boma for open air traditional 'braai'

Deck and sunken lounge and fire pit

Spa

Children of all ages welcome

- Activities available include baking, beading, bug walks and treasure hunts
 - Babysitting available at an additional cost
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Library

Conference facilities for up to 60 people, depending on availability

Airstrip

Mobile coverage

Wifi

Suites

Air-conditioned

Indoor bath and shower

Outdoor shower

Coffee machine

Wifi

Gratuity information

Hairdryer

Kettle

Mosquito net

USB / International adaptor

Phone

In-room safe

Amenities

Wheelchair accessible, with assistance

Included in your stay

Morning and afternoon game drives

Walks on request, can be arranged with your guide

All meals

Laundry included when booked on certain rates

Local beverages included when booked on certain rates

Excluded

Beverages when booked on certain rates

Champagne, premium wines and spirits

Curio shop purchases

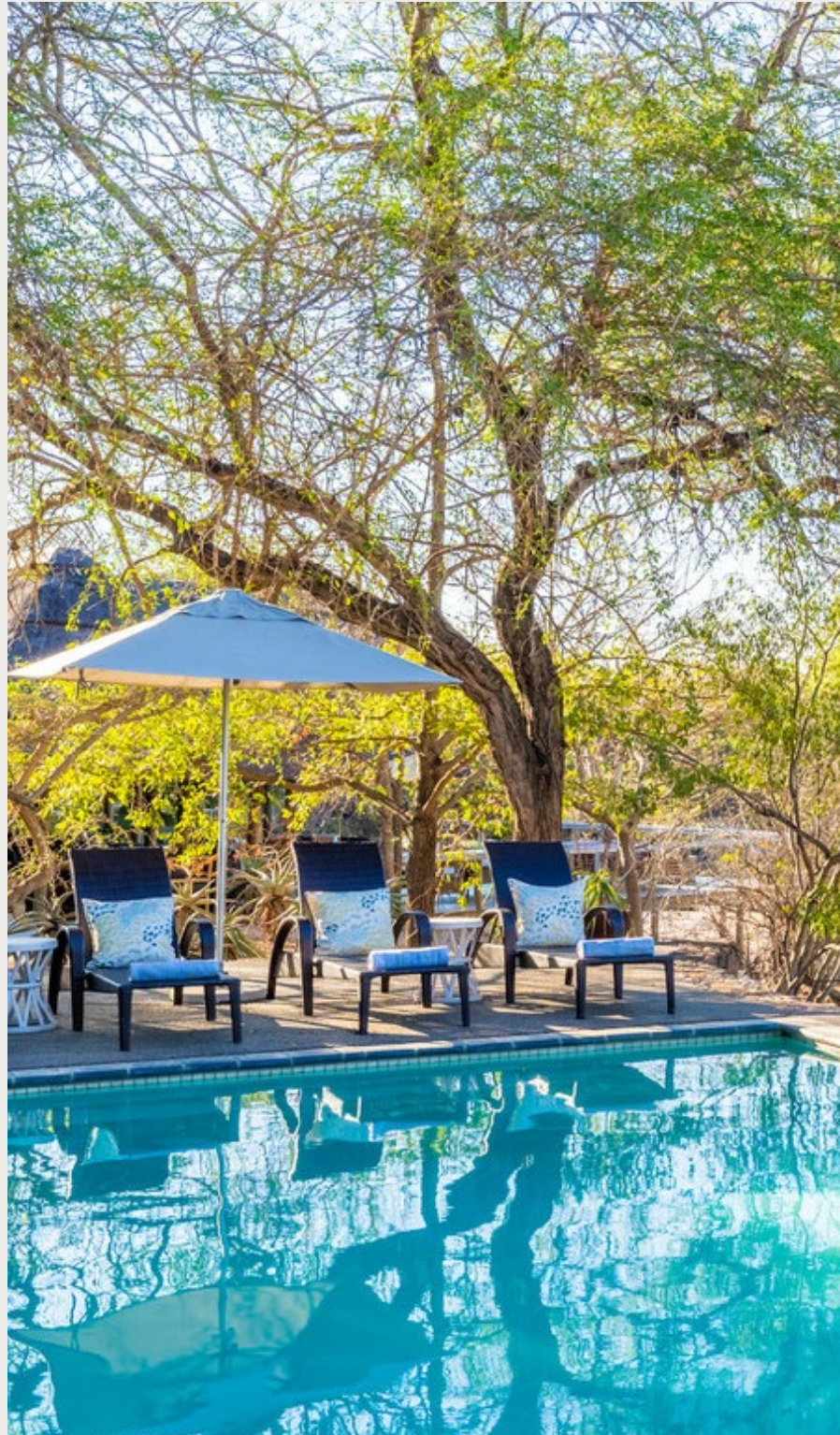
Spa treatments

Gratuities

Levies

Additional activities





Other information you may like to know

The camp is not fenced but has an electric strand to discourage buffalo and elephant

Check in 14H00 / check out 11H00

All credit cards accepted except American Express

Children Policy

Children of all ages are welcome

Children under 6 years of age are not permitted on game drives unless authorized by management

To guarantee game drive for children, a private vehicle should be booked at an additional cost

Children under 16 years of age are not permitted on bush walks

A Typical Day

Times will vary depending on the season and are based on sunrise and sunset times

Wake-up

Morning tea & coffee with a selection of homemade rusks, biscuits and fruit will be served on the deck before departing for your morning drive

Game drive, approximately 3 hours

Breakfast served on return from game drive

Lunch

High tea will be served prior to afternoon game drive

Game drive, approximately 3 hours

Opportunity to enjoy a drink at the bar or freshen up before dinner is served

Optional activities

Bush walks daily, during or after the game drive. This can be discussed directly with your guide

Spa treatments

External activities (such as panoramic tours / Hot Air ballooning) can be arranged

Community Visits



Covid-19

The Thornybush group prides itself on offering high quality, safe safari experiences to our guests from around the world. With this in mind, and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been working hard to ensure we are ready to welcome you back! We have implemented stringent hygiene and safety protocols to make sure that our guests and team members continue to remain safe, without compromising the quality of the safari experience.

Covid-19 PCR Testing

We are now able to offer guests staying at any of our lodges a Covid-19 PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test prior to their departure from any of our lodges. The purpose of this test is to detect the presence of genetic material from the Covid-19 virus in the nasal or oral cavity. Most countries require this test to be conducted within 72 hours of departure.

For guests that are staying at Simbambili Game Lodge in the Sabi Sand Wildtuin, or any of our lodges in the Thornybush Game Reserve, we can assist with arrangements; further information is available on request.



Health Declaration

All guests are required to sign a health declaration prior to arrival, a link for this will be sent along with your booking confirmation.

Indemnity

All guests are required to sign an indemnity prior to arrival, a link for this will be sent along with your booking confirmation.



SATIB Insurance

24HR emergency call facility for:

- any medical emergency involving bodily injury to or life-threatening illness contracted by one of our guests or passengers
- guests or passengers experiencing any natural disaster, such as a flood or fire

Africa Safe-T

All our lodges are affiliated with Africa Safe-T, a medical rescue organisation, which provides an immediate response for emergencies – fixed wing planes and helicopters.

Arrangements can also be made should there be a need for a doctor. The closest doctor would be in Hoedspruit – a 50-minute drive. The cost will be charged to the guest's account.

Travel Insurance

It is the Guests' sole and absolute responsibility to ensure that they have adequate and suitable comprehensive travel and medical insurance in place to cover themselves, as well as any dependents | travelling companions. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the booking, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, hometown repatriation expenses, damage and/or theft / and/or loss of personal property, baggage, money, and goods.

Thornybush, their representatives, directors, officers, employees, and agents will not be responsible for any damage, loss, costs or expenses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or travelling companions, as a result of or in connection with any of the abovementioned events. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance cover.

FAQ's

What is the weather like?

Daytime summer temperatures (September – April) are high and may soar above 36°C/97°F. Evenings and early mornings are warm. Winters (May – August) have chilly nights and crisp early mornings (minimum 3°C/38°F), but the days are fine and warm. Rainfall occurs predominantly in the summer months from October to April in the form of magnificent late afternoon/evening thundershowers.

What should I pack for my stay?

The dress code is informal and neutral colours are recommended. A warm jacket/scarf and beanies for winter and evening safaris. Comfortable walking shoes, a bathing costume, binoculars, camera and video camera. Sunhats, sunscreen, and sunglasses. A select range of safari clothing and amenities are available for purchase in our Curio Shops.

Should I take Malaria Medication?

The lodges are situated in a low-risk malaria area. Precautions are taken annually to treat the lodges and minimize risk. We recommend you consult your medical practitioner on anti-malaria prophylactics.

Lodge Layout

