



CAPTURED IN
AFRICA
EXCLUSIVE SAFARIS



CAPTURED IN AFRICA
FOUNDATION
COMMITTED TO CONSERVATION



BIG CAT ROUTE | THE KWAZULU

10 DAYS | JOHANNESBURG, HARRISMITH, RORKE'S DRIFT
PONGOLA, LAKE JOZINI, THANDA GAME RESERVE



WHAT IS IT?

How can you learn about big cats, whilst giving back to genuine conservation projects and having an amazing time in Africa? Welcome to our BIG CAT ROUTE

Captured In Africa's Big Cat Route is unique to us, designed by us and incorporates some very special relationships we have been lucky enough to build within both the tourism & conservation industries.

In offering our Big Cat Route, we hope travellers can experience Africa and understand the conservation issues currently affecting big cats. Your eyes will be opened to both captive and wild big cat situations, you will understand and discover the threats & issues affecting these endangered lions, leopards & cheetahs, what we need to do to help them and who the people are on the ground protecting them.

Captured In Africa's Big Cat Route is our opportunity to educate, encourage & [#savebigcats](#)

QUICK ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive into Johannesburg and be met upon arrival by your guide. Transfer to your local overnight hotel. African Rock Hotel for 1 night.

DAY 2

Local Soweto & cultural tour, before making the journey with your guide to Harrismith - settle in and enjoy a beautiful evening meal. Oaklands Country Manor for 1 night.

DAY 3

A special morning visit to Love Lions Alive lion sanctuary, for an educational tour to learn about these rescued cats. Late morning set off towards the old battle grounds of Rorke's Drift. Fugitives Drift Lodge for 1 night.

DAY 4

Morning educational activity at Rorke's Drift battlefield before travelling to Pongola Game Reserve. White Elephant Safari Camp for 3 nights.

DAY 5 & 6

Activities at Pongola Game Reserve include rhino tracking and learning about elephants with a unique conservation experience.

DAY 7

Final game drive on Pongola, breakfast then it's on to your next adventure and conservation & wildlife insight. Thanda Tented Camp for 3 nights.

DAY 8 & 9

Game drives and activities on Thanda Game Reserve including a special conservation experience.

DAY 10

Depart Thanda Game Reserve and head back to Johannesburg, where our guide will transfer you to OR Tambo ready for your flight home or optional overnight hotel.



FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive into OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg and be met upon arrival by our guide. You will transfer to your overnight hotel, settle in, have dinner and chat with your guide who will explain your itinerary and if you're lucky, tell a tale of two...

AFRICAN ROCK HOTEL | JOHANNESBURG

1 NIGHT

Exclusive boutique hotel, located 11 km from the Johannesburg International Airport, O.R. Tambo in a quiet suburb of Kempton Park away from the flight path of arriving and departing planes.

Facilities include; lounge, bar and dining area, fine dining, outdoor patio, swimming pool, well established garden, 24 Hour security

DAY 2

An early start, as we make our way to your first local experience with a tour of Soweto, along with Nelson Mandela's home.

Then sail to Harrismith for your first big cat learning, this time about some very special rescued lions with renowned lion conservationist Andi Rive. Arrive at your hotel, settle in and relax, before enjoying a beautiful meal.

OAKLANDS COUNTRY MANOR | HARRISMITH

1 NIGHT

Accommodation at Oaklands Country Manor is stylish yet homely, reflecting the comfortable countryside lifestyle which our stunning location affords. Though each suite and room is unique, common features include subtle African themed furnishings and exquisite views of the Manor gardens, Polo fields, and surrounding mountains. Guests of the Manor receive complimentary breakfast.

Optional activities: horse riding (from R395), tennis court (free, R60 equipment deposit), walking & hiking

DAY 3

Enjoy a delightful breakfast, before heading to the Love Lions Alive Project lion sanctuary where you will receive an exclusive educational tour and introduction to the rescues that the sanctuary has taken in and care for.

South Africa is sadly home to approximately 8,000 captive lions, bred and removed from mothers to supply the tourist trade and canned hunting industries – this sadly means that many are dumped and require rescuing. It is sanctuaries and people like Love Lions Alive Project who step in to provide a safe home and care for lions. These are some of the lucky few, who have been saved from a life of exploitation.



LOVE LIONS ALIVE PROJECT is an ethical sanctuary near Harrismith, South Africa and established by renowned lion rescuer and conservationist Andi Rive. Andi Rive's work with lions has been featured on television worldwide.

The sanctuary is also home to one of Captured In Africa Foundation's collaborative lion rescue & relocation efforts - rescued Spanish circus lion Natacha - who is just one of the amazing rescues you will be fortunate enough to view at Love Lions Alive. It's a humbling experience learning about lions. We hope you take something away with you in understanding the issues lion face in captivity and why we must fight to end lion breeding and canned hunting in South Africa.

Your trip includes a donation to Love Lions Alive Project, thank you.
Captured In Africa are pleased to support Love Lions Alive and to include them on this tour.

Heading away from Harrismith, your next stop in this extraordinary landscape is one of history as we take in a unique education tour of old battle grounds.

FUGITIVES' DRIFT LODGE | RORKE'S DRIFT 1 NIGHT

The spectacular Fugitives' Drift property, a 5000 acre Natural Heritage Site, overlooks both Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift, and includes the site where Lieutenants Melvill and Coghill lost their lives attempting to save the Queen's Colour of their regiment.

If one tried to dream up geography and topography for the clash between two great nations, one could hardly come up with a more fantastic scene than this one. It was here that David and Nicky Rattray pioneered Heritage Tourism in South Africa and created an award winning lodge for visitors to savour this extraordinary saga.

Guest House, owned by the Rattrays and both born out of their extensive experience in the hospitality industry. Evident in every corner of Fugitives' Drift is the Rattrays' love of South Africa, its people and its unique history.

The Guest House has spacious and luxurious en-suite cottages which all have private verandahs and broad views over the plains flanking the Buffalo River Gorge. The Guest House both has a swimming pool set in the colourful, well established gardens which are home to innumerable bird species.

Activities Battlefield tours are led by the finest guides in South Africa, with thought-provoking and often emotionally charged tours, conducted daily to Isandlwana (am tour) and Rorke's Drift (pm tour). Our guide is also well versed in this area and will be on hand to describe the area and history further more.



DAY 4

Wake up and take in this magnificent landscape. Are you ready for some unique wildlife activities? As with all our customers, we hope to educate and help the public learn more about what's behind conservation efforts on-the-ground. Your next adventure awaits.

WHITE ELEPHANT SAFARI LODGE | PONGOLA GAME RESERVE 3 NIGHTS

At the foot of the majestic Lebombo Mountains and the shimmering waters of Lake Jozini, you will find a special destination called White Elephant. It is a place with magic and soul inspired by a dream and created with passion.

White Elephant Safari Lodge captures the history and romance of a bygone era. The deep verandah, sweeping views and tranquil setting provide the venue for a unique African experience. Eight luxurious safari tents, each with romantic ball and claw bath, outdoor canvas shower and private verandah provide an evocative safari in the Pongola Game Reserve Wilderness.

Pongola Game Reserve, the first proclaimed game reserve in Africa, is host to four of the 'Big 5' species. Wildlife includes buffalo, elephant, rhino, leopard, hyena, giraffe, wildebeest, zebra, warthog, 12 different antelope species, over 350 bird species and an interesting array of smaller mammal and insect life.

The reserve consists of a consolidation of privately owned land which totals 30 000 hectares including Lake Jozini. Beautiful views, glorious sunsets, therapeutic silence, game drives, guided walks, boat cruises, rhino walks, a unique 'elephanting' experience, scenic flights, research projects, behind-the-scenes conservation operations, ensure a rich, varied experience.

ACTIVITIES

Although we've called these special packages the Big "Cat" Route ... our team feel though, that these experiences are not to pass up and the current issues affecting Africa's wildlife should be displayed to further increase our conservation awareness with you!

BLACK RHINO TRACKING

An adrenalin-raising experience that provides an insight into the rhino's fascinating world and a Black Rhino Range Expansion Project. With the use of a Telemetry device, we will follow the rhino's signal, look for tracks and dung middens and examine camera 'trap' locations as part of the reserves' rhino monitoring and conservation project.

* Please do not share any rhino images with their location. Help protect these animals from poaching by turning off all data-capture information from your images before sharing to social media. Thank you.

GUIDED ELEPHANT EXPERIENCE

"Elephanting" is a unique activity offered at White Elephant as an alternative to Game Drives, Walks, Boat Cruises, and Fishing. "Elephanting" does not focus solely on finding and seeing elephants, but offers an educational experience and an opportunity to spend time with an elephant researcher.

Guests are taken to our Research Centre "museum" to view the BBC documentary "Operation Elephant", on the relocation of our elephants from the Kruger National Park. Guests participate in discussions and debate, examine elephant skulls and bones and learn more about the purpose of Heike's research.



Thereafter, guests venture into the bush; the elephant's world. Guests may be fortunate enough to sight the elephants, but at certain times of the year the elephants may have retreated to inaccessible parts of the Reserve, making sightings difficult. However, spending time with the Researcher in the world of the elephants is enlightening and fascinating, offering a new perspective on Nature, elephants and conservation issues.

Other activities include game drives, guided walks and boat cruises (time permitting). Both the rhino tracking and Elephant experiences will be in place of regular game drives.

DAY 7

It's like the adventure and learning doesn't stop, as your guide takes you from one to another, this time your next stop is a renowned wildlife & conservation reserve. Captured In Africa have previously worked with Thanda Game Reserve on the relocation of several wild lions, so you will be in good hands when you experience this reserve.

THANDA TENTED CAMP | THANDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

3 NIGHTS

Thanda Tented Camp offers a relaxed and real safari experience. It comprises 14 spacious tents, each with a private sun deck and en-suite canvas bathroom. In addition the 15th tent, the Jabula Tent, is particularly suited to bridal couples, honeymooners, families and those seeking extra beautiful accommodation for special occasions.

To add to the genuine bush atmosphere, the camp is non-electrified. However, it does have limited solar and battery power with a back-up generator to power the tents for a few hours each day. To deter wild animals, there is a partial electrified fence along the perimeter of Thanda Tented Camp.

The camp's shared areas include a reception area, a curio shop, a recently refurbished Hemingway-style lounge area, a dining area featuring authentic African curios, a large rim-flow pool surrounded by loungers and umbrellas, a new waterhole to entice large and small game, and a new boma – all decorated in rustic natural shades and complemented by the rich, warm hues of the African sunset.

ACTIVITIES

A truly African experience goes beyond the five senses. It's felt. An early morning or late afternoon safari is the best way to absorb the sights, smells and sounds of Africa. Encounter the Big Five (lion, leopard, rhino, elephant and buffalo): the animals that inspire a long-lasting connection with the continent. And, once you've found them, go looking for Africa's other famous five – the Little Five (elephant shrew, rhino beetle, leopard tortoise, ant lion and buffalo weaver).

CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE: IN THE PATH OF WILDLIFE

On day 8 or 9 (to be advised at time of booking), guests of Captured In Africa have the opportunity to work with the Thanda conservation team for a day - tracking the Big Five if possible and even assisting the team, by appointment,

with things like:

- Checking fences
- Reserve maintenance
- Counting game
- Monitoring elephant
- Tracking rhino (seasonal)
- Transporting animals (seasonal)
- Because you'll be a part of the team, the activities you undertake will depend on what is needed that day. Nature isn't always predictable, so please prepare to be flexible.
- This activity is done between your general game drives



BUSH WALKS: Aside from our big game, Thanda is home to a rich variety of bird and insect life, flora and fauna as well as smaller mammals, and a walk in the bush is the best way to track them. It's also a special kind of meditation, one that will immerse you in a sensory experience of Africa.

THANDA SPA: Treatments can be enjoyed in our tranquil therapy rooms or outside in the sala space with beautiful views over the reserve (fees apply).

DAY 10

It's home time sadly, as you head for OR Tambo International Airport for your flight home or onward journey. It's been incredible and an experience of a lifetime we're sure you'll remember and love telling your friends & family about.

Captured In Africa hope you have learned more about big cats, not only the threats which face both captive and wild big cats today, but why we must appreciate them tomorrow and forever more. Afterall, what is Africa without big cats?!

Thank you for joining us.

Need an overnight hotel on landing or departure? ...we offer a range of quality accommodation to prepare you for your comfortable beginning or end to your safari with us. An option of extending your trip is also a fantastic addition, including extra nights in Cape Town, more wildlife safari experiences throughout Africa or perhaps a beach in Zanzibar to relax? Speak to our team today.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- African Rock Hotel: 1 night including Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- Oaklands: 1 night including Bed & Breakfast
- Fugitives Drift Lodge: 1 night including accommodation at the Guest House. All meals, teas and coffees. VAT. Wi-Fi at the Harford Library
- White Elephant Safari Lodge: 3 nights including accommodation in our Luxury Safari Tent Suites. Early morning Teas & Coffees, late breakfast, Afternoon tea (high tea), Dinner and daily coffees, teas, juices. Two eco-activities per day which include game drive, guided walk, boat cruise, tiger fishing, guided elephanting experience, black rhino tracking or canoeing - depending on weather conditions. V.A.T. Soft drinks, bottled water, local beers and house wines, activity drinks
- Thanda Tented Camp: 3 nights including tented safari camp accommodation (generator power with communal charging points and no plug points in tents), twice daily game drives, all meals, tea, coffee, juice & water with meals. Soft drinks available all day as well as local beverages (house wines and local spirits & beers) on evening game drive, pre-dinner & at dinner. Two game drives per day with professional guide and tracker
- In the Path of Wildlife conservation experience at Thanda Game Reserve per person
- Soweto tour
- Services of a professional guide and vehicle for the duration of your tour
- Transfers between OR Tambo Airport and hotel. Transfer back to airport for departure home
- Road tolls, fuel
- Donation of \$100 per person to Love Lions Alive Project, thank you www.lovelionsaliveproject.com
- Donation of \$25 per person to the Captured In Africa Foundation, thank you

www.capturedinafricafoundation.com



PRICE EXCLUDES:

- International airfare
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Oaklands: All extras such as dinners, lunches, beverages, activities, , laundry & gratuities
- At Fugitives Drift Lodge: Transfers & activities. Drinks. Laundry. Personal calls. Curio purchases
- White Elephant Safari Lodge: Gate Entrance Fee: R 25 per vehicle (R 50 after hours: 18h00-6h00) payable at the gate. Non local beers, all spirits and mixers, select wines. Laundry services. Curio purchases
- Thanda Tented Camp: All wines, spirits and beers pre-evening game drive, Laundry, Curios, gratuities & telephone calls, Guided bush walks with specialist walking guides
- Additional activities not mentioned as included in the itinerary
- Meals and drinks during tours and transit
- Items of a personal nature, telephone calls and gratuities

Your itinerary begins and ends in Johannesburg.

General Terms and Conditions apply.

Prices stated are from and subject to change depending upon season booked and number of guests. Based on per person sharing (2 guests sharing a room). Prices in South Africa Rand & US Dollar and subject to currency exchange rates upon booking. All accommodation and room type subject to availability when booking and may require alternative rooms at alternative pricing.

#SAVEBIGCATS

Don't forget, the Captured In Africa team use their personal knowledge, experience, direct working relationships and advocacy for big cats, to ensure all the facilities we send our customers are of OUR standards – with us, you will not see or partake in any kind of cub petting, walking with lions/cheetah, elephant rides or any other hands on activity with wild or captive animals. We promote and encourage a hands-off approach to travel and we thank you for participating in responsible travel and conservation.

'CONSERVATION AWARENESS THROUGH THE LENS'

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