

FACT SHEET



AFRICAN RETREATS

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INTRODUCTION

Avoca Private Bush Camp is a safari retreat for friends and family in the revered Timbavati Nature Reserve, which can be booked on a self-catering or fully catered basis. Open to the Kruger National Park, yet occupying private land, Avoca is wild and tranquil, offering an exclusive safari experience in simple, bush camp accommodation.

The beauty of this private getaway spot is the lack of electricity, leaving all cooking and water heating up to gas and solar power. It is eco-friendly and idyllic, booked exclusively by one group (sleeps 8) and providing a peaceful spot to unwind and reconnect with the natural world. Avoca is a reformed hunting camp, now offering photographic safaris.

The Timbavati Nature Reserve is known for superb game viewing, and is also the home of some of the only wild white lions on earth. The town of Hoedspruit is about an hour's drive away, offering a close-by refueling station with a wide variety of outdoor activities on offer.

AT A GLANCE

- Private camp in the Timbavati Nature Reserve – can be booked on both self-catered or fully catered basis
- Perfect for families and friends to gather in one of South Africa's most excellent safari destinations
- Comfort and simplicity surrounded by birdsong, lions calling, and the ease of a family holiday.
- Old family hunting camp now a photographic safari option for guests looking for a self-catering experience.
- Private guide to take guests on game drives
- A private chef booked with fully-catered option
- Sleeps 8 people in wooden bungalows each sleeping 2 people
- All gas and solar powered

FACILITIES

- Safari camp with both self-catering and fully catered booking options
- Solar and gas power
- Exclusive-use booking basis
- Sleeps 8 people – two people per room:
 - 1 x room with double bed and en suite bathroom (shower and toilet)
 - 2 x rooms twin beds (2 per room) and shared adjacent bathroom (separate toilet and shower)
 - 1 x room with 2 twin beds and an adjacent bathroom (bath and toilet)
 - 1 x room with 2 beds (king size when together) with en suite bathroom (shower and toilet)
- Main lodge area with kitchen (gas), indoor and outdoor lounges, bar, plunge pool, boma
- Outdoor shower with donkey boiler lit on request for hot water
- Housekeeping and maintenance staff onsite
- Private chef included in fully catered booking rates
- Private guide

ACTIVITIES

- Morning and afternoon game drives in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve
- Bird watching from the comfort of camp
- Bush dinners
- Sundowners during afternoon game drive
- Activities available in the area include tours of the Kruger National Park, Panorama route, and other sought after South African Lowveld attractions
- Cultural village tours
- Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre
- Hot-air balloon excursions near Hoedspruit
- Boat cruises on the Blyde and Olifants Rivers



A TYPICAL DAY AT AVOCA PRIVATE BUSH CAMP

The pace of life at Avoca is entirely up to the guest. As an exclusive-use bush camp retreat, the schedule can be managed according to the group's desire. Traditionally, the day kicks off with a morning game drive, and afternoon game drive departs at around 16h30 while the hours in between are spent at leisure.

- **05h30:** Wake up for quick coffee before morning game drive
- **06h00:** Morning game drive departs
- **09h00:** Return to camp and spend the day according to own plans
- **16h30:** Depart for afternoon game drive, including sundowners
- **19h30:** Return to camp with ready-made campfire in the boma, and enjoy an evening at your leisure

LOCATION

Avoca Private Bush Camp is located in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve on a family farm belonging to the Berettas - now in its 4th generation of family ownership. The Timbavati is a renowned nature reserve on Kruger Park's western boundary, nestled between the Manyeleti in the south and the Klaserie in the north.

The camp is located about an hour's drive from Hoedspruit, and within 30km of the Kruger's Orpen Gate. It is an easy drive from Johannesburg, which is about 5 hours away, while the Hoedspruit Eastgate Airport is only 40 minutes away, making it ideal for fly-in guests too.

HOW TO GET THERE

Avoca Private Bush Camp is located about an hour's drive from Hoedspruit, and about 5 hours' drive from Johannesburg. The Hoedspruit airport is about 40

minutes' drive away, so there is an option for fly-in guests from Cape Town or Johannesburg.

From Hoedspruit:

Exit Hoedspruit on the R40 and travel in a southerly direction (towards White River/Hazyview) for 23km until reaching a T-Junction. Here, turn left on the R40 and continue for 2km before turning left onto the R531 towards Orpen. Continue for 12.8km before taking a left turn onto Avoca Road. Here, you will enter the 1st gate. Drive for 8km from 1st gate to 2nd gate, then 6.7km from 2nd gate to a 3rd gate, which will appear on your right. Enter this gate and travel the last +-4km to Avoca Private Bush Camp.

From Johannesburg:

From Johannesburg/Pretoria continue on to the N4 Highway. Continue to follow N4 for 191 km. Take the exit toward R33. Continue onto R540 from Belfast to Dullstroom. Turn left onto R36 (Lydenburg). Continue to follow R36 to Ohrigstad for 102 km. Turn right at the Khamai Reptile Centre onto R531 towards White River/Orpen for 29.4 km. At the T-Junction cross over and continue on the R531 towards Orpen. Continue for 12.8km before taking a left turn onto Avoca Road. Here, you will enter the 1st gate. Drive for 8km from 1st gate to 2nd gate, then 6.7km from 2nd gate to a 3rd gate, which will appear on your right. Enter this gate and travel the last +-4km to Avoca Private Bush Camp.

CHILD POLICY

Children over the age of 2 are welcome at Avoca Private Bush Camp.

SELF-CATERED RATE INCLUDES

Accommodation, kitchen staff, housekeeping services, two game viewing activities per day and services of a professional game ranger.



CATERED RATE INCLUDES

Accommodation, private chef, breakfast, lunch & three-course dinner, housekeeping services, two game viewing activities per day and services of a professional game ranger.

RATE EXCLUDES

Meals, drinks, the Timbavati Conservation levy of R250 per person per stay, Timbavati Gate fee of R140 per vehicle if self-driving (payable when confirming booking). Please note that there are no card facilities at the camp.

GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

WEATHER

The average mean rainfall for the year is 350mm, with most rainfall occurring during mid-summer (November - February). The rainfall generally occurs in the form of thunderstorms where a downpour is experienced, very seldom lasting longer than a few hours. The average maximum temperatures range from 24°C in July to 31°C in January with the average minimum occurring in July at a temperature of 8.5°C.

WILDLIFE

Mammals

Some of the world's largest mammals find their home in South Africa, where elephant, giraffe, hippo, buffalo, and rhino reside in the wild Kruger Park. Game drives in the Timbavati Nature Reserve lead to unforgettable sightings of these large species, in addition to general game, such as zebra, impala, kudu, gnu, waterbuck, bushbuck, duiker, and steenbok.

Predators

Following in the footsteps of the herbivorous mammals are the carnivorous species of the South African bush. Lion, leopard, hyena, cheetah, African wild dog, and the Nile crocodile are some of the prominent predators

residing in the Kruger region. Smaller predators include jackal, mongoose, civet, and genet, among others.

Birdlife

The Timbavati habitat accommodates a complete smorgasbord of birder's delights. Water birds such as herons, storks, plovers, spoonbills, and sandpipers are common along dam edges; kingfishers, orioles, robins, chats, larks, cisticolas, and coucals are some of the veld and woodland birds around; while birds of prey are seen and heard throughout the day.

MALARIA

Before travelling, guests are encouraged to consult their local doctors on anti-malarial medication and preparation, however a repellent stick or spray is effective and should be utilised.

WHAT TO PACK

As a self-catering camp, guests will need to bring along all the food and beverages they require, while items such as wood, firelighters, and ice will be provided. Also provided are toilet paper, towels, insect repellents, and cleaning products.

Throughout the year, we recommend packing lightweight, neutral-coloured clothing with short sleeves. Guests should pack sun protection in the form of sunblock, sun hats, and glasses, while scarfs, jackets and gloves are needed for early morning game drive in winter.

Bring along cameras, binoculars and recording gadgets to keep a record of the many wildlife sightings. There are many bird and wildlife books on offer at the lodge, making for interesting reading, but guests should specific books and games for entertainment.