

FACT SHEET



AFRICAN RETREATS

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INTRODUCTION

Avoca Private Bush Camp is a safari retreat for friends and family (**children over 12**) in the revered Timbavati Nature Reserve. 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. This authentic camp can sleep up to 6 guests, which means an intimate and personalised safari experience awaits. There is also the option to book the entire camp, which can then accommodate up to 8 guests and allows for children under 12 (nb - only if camp is booked out).

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, 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
- 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 personalised experience.
- Daily game drives in the Timbavati
- Sleeps 6 people in wooden bungalows each sleeping 2 people
- All gas and solar powered

FACILITIES

- Solar and gas power
- The camp sleeps 6 people with two people per room, configured in a twin or double bed set up
- If the camp is hired out on an exclusive use basis, it can sleep a total of 8 people.
- Unit 3 has an en suite bathroom (shower & toilet)
- Unit 2 has an adjacent bathroom (bath & toilet)
- Unit 1 has an adjacent bathroom (separate toilet & shower).
- If the lodge is hired out, it can be done on a self-catered or catered basis
- Main lodge area with kitchen, indoor and outdoor lounges, bar, plunge pool, boma
- Outdoor shower with donkey boiler lit on request for hot water
- Housekeeping and maintenance staff onsite
- Owner's house located about 100m away, near, but out of sight (with friendly dogs)
- A private chef for breakfast, lunch, and 3-course dinner when booked on a fully catered basis

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



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.

Alternatively, there are a host of activities on offer about an hour's drive or less from Avoca, which include endangered species centres, hot-air ballooning, day trips, and pampering spa treatments. The lodge's close proximity to these external activities mean that guests can arrange to spend time exploring these options.

A typical day consisting of morning and afternoon game drives at Avoca might look something like this:

- **05h30:** Wake up call and coffee
- **06h00:** Morning game drive departs
- **09h00:** Return to camp and spend the day at leisure
- **16h30:** Depart for afternoon game drive, including sundowners
- **19h30:** Return to camp with ready-made campfire in the boma

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 y-in guests from Cape Town or Johannesburg.

From Hoedspruit:

- In Hoedspruit, continue straight over the bridge crossing the train line to a four way stop. At the stop turn right and continue towards Bosbokrand / Bushbuckridge along the R40.
- Continue driving out of Hoedspruit for 8km, turn left at the sign "Timbavati & Eastgate Airport".
- At the boom gate, inform security you going to the Timabavti main control gate.
- Drive for 315km until you reach the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve Control Gate. At the entrance gate, you will be required to pay an entrance fee of R140.00 per car road levy (Fees subject to change) and receive an entry permit.
- Continue on for 313 km (8mi), until you see an Avoca sign.
- Turn right o the tar road onto the dirt road for 17km (10.5mi).
- After 17km there is a slight bend to the left, keep left.
- Continue for another 1.3 km and turn left where you see the Avoca Bushcamp sign
- Continue 2,4km to Avoca sign and turn right into camp

From Johannesburg:

- Take the N4 to Witbank.
- Take the Belfast o ramp (R33/R540).
- Once in Belfast town, turn right into Voortrekker Street and continue straight to Dullstroom on R540.
- Drive straight through Dullstroom town and continue to Lydenburg.
- Once in Lydenburg turn left into Potgieter Street and
- Drive straight through Ohrighstad and continue on R36 until it turns left to Tzaneen. DO NOT turn but



continue straight on R531 to Hoedspruit.

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If you have any problems please contact **Jonno Beretta +27 79 420 1579** OR **Corlia Oosthuizen +27 82 562 1842**.



CHILD POLICY

No children under the age of 12 are allowed at Avoca Private Bush 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

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.

