

# Phinda Forest Lodge Phinda Private Game Reserve



# **SOUTH AFRICA**



&Beyond Phinda Private Game Reserve encompasses an impressive 23 000 hectares (56 800 acres) of protected wildlife land in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Showcasing one of the continent's finest game viewing experiences, &Beyond Phinda is home to Africa's Big Five (lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino), as well as 415 bird species. The reserve is particularly well known for close-up sightings of the elegant yet elusive cheetah, as well as the rare black rhino.

With its seven distinct habitats, Phinda is often described as 'Seven Worlds of Wonder', a magnificent tapestry of woodland, grassland, wetland and forest, interspersed with mountain ranges, rivers, marshes and pans. Home to 1 000 hectares of Africa's remaining rare dry sand forest, the reserve is situated in close proximity to the unspoiled beaches and spectacular coral reefs of the Indian Ocean, offering an unmatched combination of bush and beach adventures.

Guests at Phinda experience unforgettable interpretive game drives in open 4x4 safari vehicles, led by professionally trained **&Beyond** rangers and Zulu trackers, as well as a wide range of optional adventures in the bush and on the beach.

Phinda is home to six magnificent lodges, each with its own individual charm and character: Mountain Lodge, Rock Lodge, Forest Lodge, Vlei Lodge, Zuka Lodge and Phinda Homestead.





Set deep in the heart of a rare and beautiful dry sand forest, the spectacular &Beyond Phinda Forest Lodge fuses spectacular architectural design with the ultimate in conservation principles. The creation of this awardwinning safari lodge was an exemplary exercise in building eco-sensitive structures with a light environmental footprint (not one tree was felled during construction). The 16 suites are built on stilts and appear to float between the forest floor and the towering torchwood trees. Inventively designed in a style affectionately known as Zulu Zen, each handcrafted, glass-encased suite boasts a minimalist flair that incorporates high-gloss wooden floors, richly tactile fabrics and brightly accented Zulu artefacts. The suites feature luxurious ensuite bathrooms with slate hand basins and viewing decks where guests can drink in the sight of graceful nyala and duiker in the dappled shade of the forest. The lodge's sparkling rim-flow swimming pool, as well as the expansive decks in its seating area, looks out onto panoramic views of an open meadow where animals frequently graze. A traditional African boma is enclosed with a wooden fence and offers lantern-lit open-air dining beneath a canvas of stars.

## AT A GLANCE

- 16 air-conditioned glass suites
- Rim-flow swimming pool at the edge of the forest
- Interactive kitchen
- Safari Shop
- Traditional boma for open-air dining

# WHAT SETS US APART

- Situated in some of the world's remaining rare sand forest
- Floor to ceiling glass walls allow close-up views of small animals and birds
- Seven habitats allow for much greater diversity in species and landscapes
- Wildlife includes cheetah, black rhino, nyala and suni
- Surrounded by incredible birdlife
- Variety of adventures available
- 23 000 hectare (56 800 acre) private game reserve with limited number of vehicles

## **ACTIVITIES**

### Included

- Twice-daily game drives, including afternoon / evening drives
- Bush walks
- River cruises (seasonal)

## At an additional charge

- Phinda Adventures include Zulu village tours, Maputaland beach adventures, night turtle drives, scuba safaris, black rhino tracking on foot, visits to endangered wild cats project and swimming with whale sharks
- Specialist Safaris include birding, photographic, rhino capture and research, tracking, luxury walking, family and private safaris

#### **GUEST SAFETY**

The lodge is not fenced off and we request guests be extremely vigilant at all times. Security guards accompany guests at all times when walking around the lodge at night.

## **ACCESS**

- Federal Air offers direct scheduled charter flights between Johannesburg and &Beyond Phinda Private Game Reserve on some days of the week
- SA Express and Federal Air offer daily scheduled flights from Johannesburg to Richards Bay, followed by a one and a half hour road transfer to the reserve
- Seven-hour drive from Johannesburg on good roads in a two-wheel drive vehicle
- Three and a half-hour drive from Durban on good roads in a twowheel drive vehicle
- Private charters from anywhere in South Africa can be arranged to Phinda's airstrip

RESORTS MAGAZINE'S TOP 100 PLACES TO STAY

"The highlight of the trip was our stay at Phinda. & Beyond is a magnificent organisation, full of people dedicated to making one's wildlife experience forever memorable. From the first contact to the last goodbye at the airstrip, our every need was met with expertise and a smile. The game drives were 'and beyond' what we expected. Never dreamed we would get so close to the animals and learn so much. I hope one day to return."

- Leonard & Pamela Espinosa, &Beyond guests

#### **ACCOLADES**



**&BEYOND** PHINDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE IS #22 IN CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER BEST IN THE WORLD TOP 100 HOTELS, ISLANDS, CITIES, CRUISES AND AIRLINES



**&BEYOND** PHINDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE IS #4 IN CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER BEST IN THE WORLD (AFRICA CATEGORY) 2013

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# TABLE OF FACTS

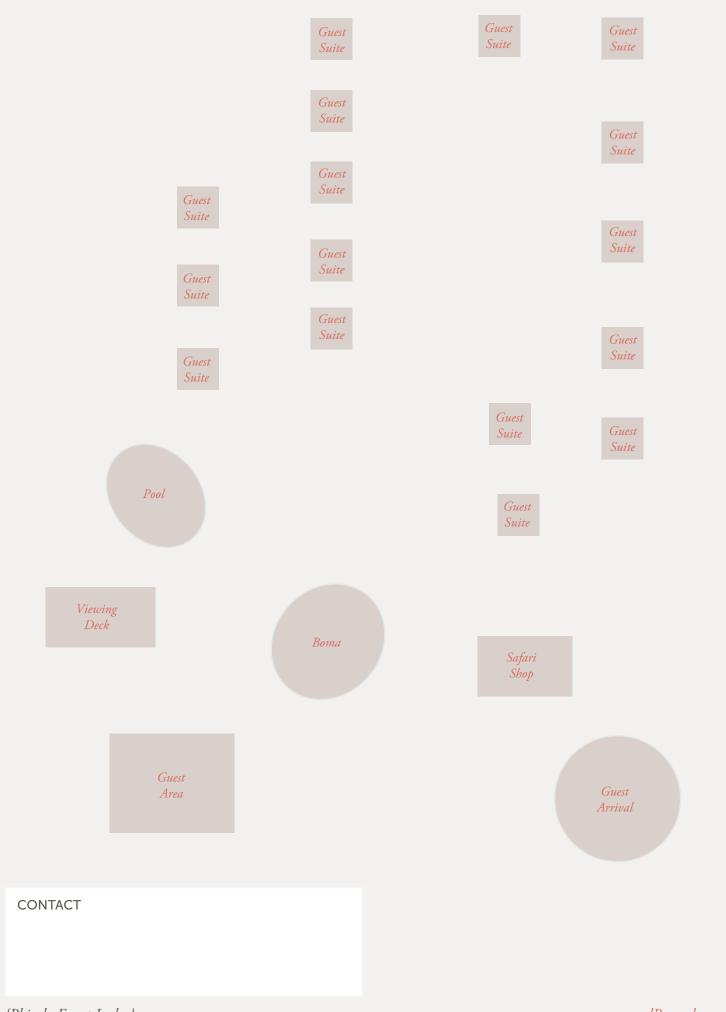
NUMBER OF ROOMS	16
MAXIMUM GUESTS	32
CHILDREN	Yes; no children under 16 on Walking Safaris; children 5 years and younger cannot participate in game drives; children aged 6 to 11 permitted on game drives at the lodge manager's discretion
CHILDMINDING	Available at an additional cost
TRIPLES	None
TWIN BEDS	All convertible to double
AIR CONDITIONING	Yes
OVERHEAD FANS	Yes
LODGE POOL	Yes
BATH	Yes
INDOOR SHOWERS	Yes
SEPARATE W.C.	Yes
IN-ROOM SAFE	Yes
PERSONAL BAR	Yes
TELEPHONE	Yes
HAIRDRYER	Yes
LAUNDRY INCLUDED	Yes
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS	No
DISTANCE BETWEEN ROOMS	15 metres / 50 feet
CHECK IN / CHECK OUT	12h00 - 14h00 / 11h00
KOSHER FOOD	Available with prior notice and at extra cost
POWER	220v AC
INTERNET ACCESS	Wifi in guest suites and Safari Shop / guest reception
PRIVATE 4X4 SAFARI VEHICLE	Subject to availability and at an additional cost
CREDIT CARDS	Visa, Diners, Amex, MasterCard

IN-ROOM MASSAGE	Yes
EXERCISE EQUIPMENT	Gym in a bag available on request
WEATHER	Subtropical climate with hot, humid and wet summers from September to April and warm to cool and dry winters from May to August
RAINFALL	Rainfall averages 1 000mm / 39" per annum. Much of the rainfall comes in the form of short, intense afternoon thundershowers. Rain can be expected throughout the year
TEMPERATURE	Summer: daytime temperatures above 35°C / 95°F Winter: night-time temperature rarely drops below 10°C / 50°F
BEST TIME TO TRAVEL	All year round; best game viewing from March to end of September
MALARIA	The reserve is situated in a low-risk malaria area
AIRSTRIP	The Phinda airstrip is not registered; coordinates are S27 * .51.36′ and E32 * .18.48′
GPS COORDINATES	S27 46.657' and E32 20.942'
LODGE CLOSURE	Open year round

# NOTE

Please note that park fees and government charges may apply. Speak to your travel consultant for more details.

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