

The perfect way to say "I do"

The arrival...

You and your beloved are welcomed with wonderful Zulu hospitality and a heartwarming African smile. After check-in you're whisked away to your suite overlooking the Mkuze River – take some time to relax and enjoy the surroundings.

Tearing yourself away form your private paradise you'll be served a scrumptious 'high tea' on the deck of the lodge before meeting your personal ranger and embarking on your first Amakhosi safari experience. With anticipation you scan the African bush for the Big Five, and marvel at the diversity at hand... G&T in hand you appreciate the splendour of an African sunset.

Dinner is served upon your return, either in the main lodge or in the open air overlooking the river. It is soon time to retire to your suite in preparation for your Big Day.

In preparation...

Today is the day! You start off with an early wake up call for your morning game drive. Freshly brewed coffee, and homemade rusks on the deck sets the scene, and before long you're listening to the sounds of Africa as she awakens from her slumber.

After a delicious breakfast back at the lodge, it's time to be pampered. Soon you're in the expert hands of an Amakhosi Spa therapist, breathing in the sensual fragrance of natural oils created in Africa... relaxation for body, mind and soul.

Your groom, dressed in his finery, joins your ranger and the other guests for high tea at the main lodge. A special high tea platter arrives at your suite and it's time for your final preparation.



Behind the scenes...

In the time leading up to your intimate special day, the Amakhosi team has come to know and understand your likes, dislikes as well as your wishes and dreams. With this in mind a spectacular spot is selected and your stylish bush venue has been prepared. Think the colour of purity, with white carpet, lilies, jasmine and lanterns; or fiery red, the colour of passion, with proteas, rose petals and vibrant Zulu dancers... Every detail thoughtfully planned and perfectly carried out.



The ceremony...

After high tea your groom and guests depart on open game vehicles to your surprise bush venue, stylishly prepared and inconspicuously guarded by Amakhosi's professional team of rangers and trackers against an unexpected appearance by one of the Big Five.

The fairy tale moment has arrived, you've checked the lipstick and dabbed on the perfume and your carriage has arrived. You are driven to the bush venue in an open game viewing vehicle, now you're ready to walk down the aisle to meet your prince... declare your love and commitment after which you're showered in petals or potpourri to the melodious voices of the Amakhosi staff choir.

After the ceremony, your guests enjoy bubbly in the bush before a leisurely drive back to the lodge to freshen up before the evening festivities. It's now time for you to enjoy your wedding photo-shoot in the bush ...



The celebration...

After their leisurely game drive, your guests are escorted to Amakhosi's traditional Zulu kraal where they're welcomed with a cocktail, the flickering light of lanterns and a wood fire. Once all the guests are seated around the bonfire, you and your groom arrive to the dramatic sound of African drums followed by traditional Zulu dancing. Before long you're all enjoying the traditional taste of a South African braai (barbecue). The celebration has begun...

OR

After their leisurely game drive, your guests are escorted to the main Amakhosi veranda where they're welcomed to a fairytale setting flickering with candlelight. Your guests, cocktail in hand, mingle on the deck before being seated at the tastefully decorated tables. An African melody announces your arrival and feeling like royalty, your guests rise to welcome you. A beautifully plated dinner follows.



The finer details...

About Amakhosi Lodge

Amakhosi Safari Lodge is a royal hideaway offering exceptional service and luxury, amidst the African landscapes and breathtaking big five wildlife of the Amakhosi Private Game Reserve. Here, time belongs to the rhythm of a timeless African beat and guests are given their own private kingdom. Amakhosi's uniqueness hinges on its Zulu heritage, a majestic destination where royal treatment is customary, and where no day is the same.

The Lodge is situated on the banks of Zululand's Mkuze River in the 6,000 hectare Amakhosi Private Game Reserve, home to Africa's Big Five within a blend of savannah, wetlands and mountains. The iSimangaliso Wetlands World Heritage Site, which includes the St. Lucia Wetlands and Sodwana Bay, are a mere 2.5 hours drive away from the lodge and are well worth incorporating into your itinerary. Mozambique and Swaziland is also in close proximity.

Accommodation

Amakhosi Safari Lodge offers six luxurious river suites, two honeymoon suites and a private villa, all created to blend into their natural surroundings. The high ceilings, glass walls and private viewing decks of the suites add to the overall impression of being one with nature. Amakhosi also boasts a private villa which sleeps four. The maximum number of guests is 20 adults.

NOTE: It is required that the whole lodge be booked (for a minimum of two nights) regardless of the number of guests accommodated. Should you wish to accommodate children, please consult Amakhosi as this can be arranged.

River Suites

Built in a shape of a Zulu shield and decorated in a contemporary Zulu style, each air conditioned suite accommodates two adults with a bedroom, bathroom with a bath, shower and separate toilet, bath robes, safe, mini-bar and a tea and coffee tray. All suites are easily accessible from the main lodge.

Umntwana Honeymoon Suites

Named Umntwana, meaning 'a child of Royalty' in Zulu, the honeymoon suite is certainly a 'private kingdom' fit for a daughter of the king. With its spacious deck, private pool and hammock overlooking the river, it truly spells 'royal dwelling' and 'romantic getaway'... the perfect place for the bride and groom to celebrate their commitment to one another.

IsiGodlo Private House

Amakhosi's beautiful private house, called 'IsiGodlo' (meaning 'chiefs residence'), is located a short distance away from the main lodge and accommodates four adults making it ideal for the bride and her 'hand maidens'.





Rates

Rates depending on season and quoted on request

Rates exclusively for weddings

As Amakhosi's wedding gift, the bride and groom will experience the indulgence of a free 60 minute couples massage at the Amakhosi River Spa

We also include a wedding organiser to take care of all your special day's details

NOTE: A 50% deposit is required on confirming the reservation.

The final payment must be made 60 days before the date of arrival.

Venue hire

A R25,000-00 venue hire will be charged to have your wedding at Amakhosi Safari Lodge, this amount will include :

- Wedding coordination
- Set up of ceremony area (chairs and tables for signing and cocktails any additional items at your cost)

- Set up for dinner (tables, chairs, white table cloths, crockery, cutlery and glasses –any additional items at your cost)
- Transport between bush wedding venue and lodge venue

The wedding

Menu selection

No outside companies are allowed to cater except the Amakhosi kitchen. There are various options and various prices. Menu and final number for wedding dinner must be confirmed one month before wedding date. Various options and price ranges can be discussed on request.

NOTE: Should extra items be added to the suggested menu this will be at an additional cost.

Bar & related services

We require clients to brief us with regards to their requirements for the provision of full bar or wine and beer bar on their account

Cocktails are only served on the client's account

Clients are welcome to set a ceiling on the total bar spend for their account, in order to maintain control of this account during the function.

No wines , spirits or food may be brought onto the premises (by special arrangement a corkage fee of R80.00 per bottle will apply)

Any charges to the bar requirements at any stage are to be done in writing, If the client wants the bar open after 24h00, an extra charge of R1000.00 per hour would be charged. In the case of a day wedding, the charge will apply after pre-arranged closing time

Décor & flowers

All décor and flowers to be arranged by outside contractors. Please contact Amakhosi for suggestions and contact details.

Optional Extras

All extras not specified as included will be at an additional cost.

Baby sitting

Babysitters can be arranged at a small additional amount until 24h00, which will be charged to parents account and can be settled when checking out.

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