



EXPERIENCES FACT SHEET

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Life-Enriching Experiences

Marataba is a place where time stands still. Through our people and this place, we create experiences for guests to enrich their lives – whether they are looking for adventure, family time, romance, relaxation, or the chance to give back. Our purpose is to help you open your eyes and heart and reconnect with how ‘wonder-full’ life is.

Game Drives

Duration: ±3 hours

Game drives, in open safari vehicles, head out each day at sunrise and again in the late afternoon to find the reserve’s many fascinating animals, both diurnal and nocturnal. This is a truly personal experience: no more than seven vehicles are in the concession at any one time and, because the animals are accustomed to them and do not see them as a threat, the field guides are able to take guests within close range of Africa’s most impressive species. Photographic opportunities are spectacular!

- Includes: a hot beverage or sundowner stop in a scenic spot to purely appreciate being in the bush and in the moment
- Children 6 years and older are welcome on the twice-daily game drives
- The children’s game drive (for young guests 3 to 5 years) goes out after breakfast daily - parents are welcome to go along, subject to availability of seats

Bush Walks

Duration: 1.5 to 2 hours, depending on guests' fitness levels

These are our after-breakfast walks on the wild side. Guests are immersed in the bush, rather than just observing it. All five senses are engaged, as they feel scrub crunch beneath their feet, touch the velvety acacia seed pod, hear the crack of a branch indicating they are not alone, and spot big game at eye level – exhilarating! Our expert guides will tailor walks to each of our guest's area/s of interest, focusing on mammals, birds, insects, plants, geology, etc.

- Children under 16 years are not permitted on the bush walks
- Guests should wear: neutral-coloured clothing, comfortable walking shoes, a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen
- Guests should bring along: a lightweight dry mac jacket, camera/smartphone, and binoculars

Miss Mara Water Safari

Duration: 1 to 1.5 hours

Morning and sunset water safaris are operated on the Matlabas River, a scenic 30-minute drive from Safari Lodge and 45 minutes from Mountain Lodge (times may differ due to animal traffic and detouring). An experienced Marataba field guide conducts a cruise along the waterway, which provides plentiful game viewing opportunities. Guests can expect to see hippo, abundant birdlife, and land animals (like elephant), coming to the water's edge to drink and forage.

- Includes: beverages and snack, served en route
- Only children 6 years and older may accompany their parents on Miss Mara

Wildlife Lectures

Duration: 2 to 3 hours

At times when the weather is unsuitable for safari activities, our field guides and trackers present short nature talks. They cover a host of subjects, giving guests more insight into the animals they see on safari (e.g. elephant behaviour) and the natural surrounds (e.g. the ecological impact of commercial lodges on the environment). The talks are informal presentations, largely guided by interactions with guests.

Local Community Experiences

More Community Foundation's (MCF's) purpose is to empower people of local communities in which MORE Family Collection operates. It does this by providing access to: early childhood development, skills development, and clean water. Over the years, MCF has built close relationships within the communities, and guests are encouraged to visit through our Get Your Hands Dirty Community Experiences.

This gives guests the opportunity to experience a different – and humbling – way of living by visiting culturally- and historically-significant sites, as well as connecting with local people, while positively impacting their lives. These extraordinary social experiences bring guests into the heart of Southern Africa and make their visits here that much more meaningful.

Guests of Marataba can experience the authentic rhythms of Obakeng village life on this eye-opening tour that sheds light on the challenges faced by its community members. This active immersion showcases our most essential projects, featuring Heuningvlei Primary School and Itsoseng Daycare Centre, situated on Honingvlei Farm, the sole educational hub for the area.

- Children of all ages are welcome to accompany their parents

Mack & Madi Kids' Adventure Safari Club

This offering is inspired by Rob and Britt More's first-hand experience of travelling with their twins, Mack and Madi. Along with the options and flexibility around accommodations and meals at Safari Lodges, we offer tailor-made activities for children (5 to 11 years) that provide a little extra freedom to explore and just be kids – and make family travel child's play. Our pledge is to show your children the wonders of our beautiful world and to introduce them to fascinating people – encouraging them to discover and learn through having FUN!

Our Safari Club Eco Garden is a dedicated children's entertainment and education space that keeps young guests occupied with the wonders of the natural world, as well as sporting and creative activities, during their stay. Just some of the fun includes family morning game drives, 'spoor' identification and mould making, pool games, rock painting, cookie baking in the kitchen, kids' picnic, toasting marshmallows, stargazing, and kids' outdoor cinema. Parents are welcome to join in or sneak a few hours for themselves.

Stargazing

During evening game drives or bush dinners (weather permitting), the field guides will share insights into the skies. The clear air and minimal light pollution of this remote African wilderness make it an ideal location for stargazing. Guests will see planets and stars they have never before noticed with the naked eye. The guides will point out the constellations that shift seasonally and those that are unique to the southern hemisphere (circumpolar constellations), taking guests on an astral safari.

A Night in a Treehouse*

Thabametsi is our newest and most impressive Treehouse yet! It is solar powered and built on two levels – with a main bedroom, shower room and furnished decks offering views of the Waterberg and across the verdant expanse of the Marakele. Guests, delivered by safari vehicle in the late afternoon, spend the sunset hours enjoying a sundowner and sharing a gourmet picnic whilst spotting animals out on the plains, before falling asleep counting shooting stars. This is the ideal hideout for a family of four (including two children, 6 to 15 years) who want to experience an authentic night out in Africa – in complete luxury.

- A Treehouse Experience is booked in conjunction with lodge accommodation
- A Treehouse stay is charged at a per person sharing per night rate, over and above the lodge accommodation rate
- Guests pack an overnight bag with their essentials, leaving the rest of their belongings back in their room

Spa* and Wellness

The hours between safaris are an ideal time to spend being pampered. A selection of indulgent therapies is offered by expert therapists in the quiet retreat of guests’ own rooms or private decks – a luxury unique to Africa. Guests choose from massages, exfoliations, reflexology, and facials with TheraNaka herbal-infused spa therapy products – all ethically formulated with the finest natural and organic healing ingredients – as well as manicures and pedicures. Yogis will find no better place to stretch out any leftover tension than on their private decks overlooking the serene reserve. Guests need not pack their mats with these available to borrow from the lodge reception.

Shopping*

MORE Gallery (located at Safari Lodge) offers a range of proudly African-produced high-end clothing, accessories, art, and mementos – rare and beautiful items to remind guests of their time in Africa – as well as everyday necessities. “African designers possess a creativity and sense of style that is unique in the world and this is what want to showcase through the brand.” – Britt More, the late co-founder of MORE Family Collection.

Daily Programme

The times given below are guidelines and may change subject to weather or the lodge’s discretion.
An idea of what to look forward to...

Marataba Safari Lodge

Summer (September to April)	Programme	Winter (May to August)
05h00	Wake-up call	06h00
05h30	Tea/coffee; game drive departs	06h30
09h00/09h30	Game drive returns; breakfast/brunch is served	10h00
At leisure	Other activities of personal preference	At leisure
13h00	Lunch is served	13h00
15h30	Afternoon tea	15h00
16h00	Game drive	15h30
19h30	Return from afternoon activity; dinner is served	18h30

Marataba Mountain Lodge

Summer (September to April)	Programme	Winter (May to August)
05h00	Wake-up call	06h00
05h30	Tea/coffee and snacks	06h30
09h30/10h00	Return; breakfast/brunch is served	10h30/11h00
At leisure	Other activities of personal preference	At leisure
15h30	Substantial afternoon tea	15h00
16h00	Depart on game drive	15h30
19h30	Return from afternoon activity; dinner is served	18h30