



KwaZulu Natal | South Africa





Proudly Conservationist.
Uniquely Zulu.
Incomparably Thanda.

More than a luxury lodge, more than a dream safari destination, and more than an African escape, Thanda Private Game Reserve offers guests an authentically South African wildlife experience matched with sincere commitment to the Zulu culture and passionate conservation of the environment.

Meaning 'love' in isiZulu, Thanda is a proud member of the Leading Hotels of the World and multiple winner of World's Leading Luxury Lodge. It is known for meaningful safari experiences and exclusive close-up encounters with Africa's magnificent Big Five.





Thanda Safari Lodge

Step out on your wooden deck. Take a dip in your heated infinity pool. Enjoy dinner served in your own private boma. And admire the African sunset from your circular outdoor daybed.

Thanda Safari Lodge is known for its nine beautiful bush suites – each self-contained for absolute privacy. Shaped like a traditional Zulu homestead, the suites have panoramic views of the surrounding game reserve. Each suite is a tribute to abundance, Africa-style – with a spacious lounge, majestic master bedroom and double-sided fireplace.





The communal areas at Thanda Safari Lodge are colourful and drenched in light, with touches of beading, welcoming leather and authentic wood.

They comprise a lounge & cigar bar, an impressively stocked wine cellar, an inviting library overlooking a waterhole that is favoured by elephant and other game, a private business centre, dining room, and outside dining areas. The Lodge also offers magnificent spa facilities with a heated outdoor pool, treatment rooms, sauna and steam room.



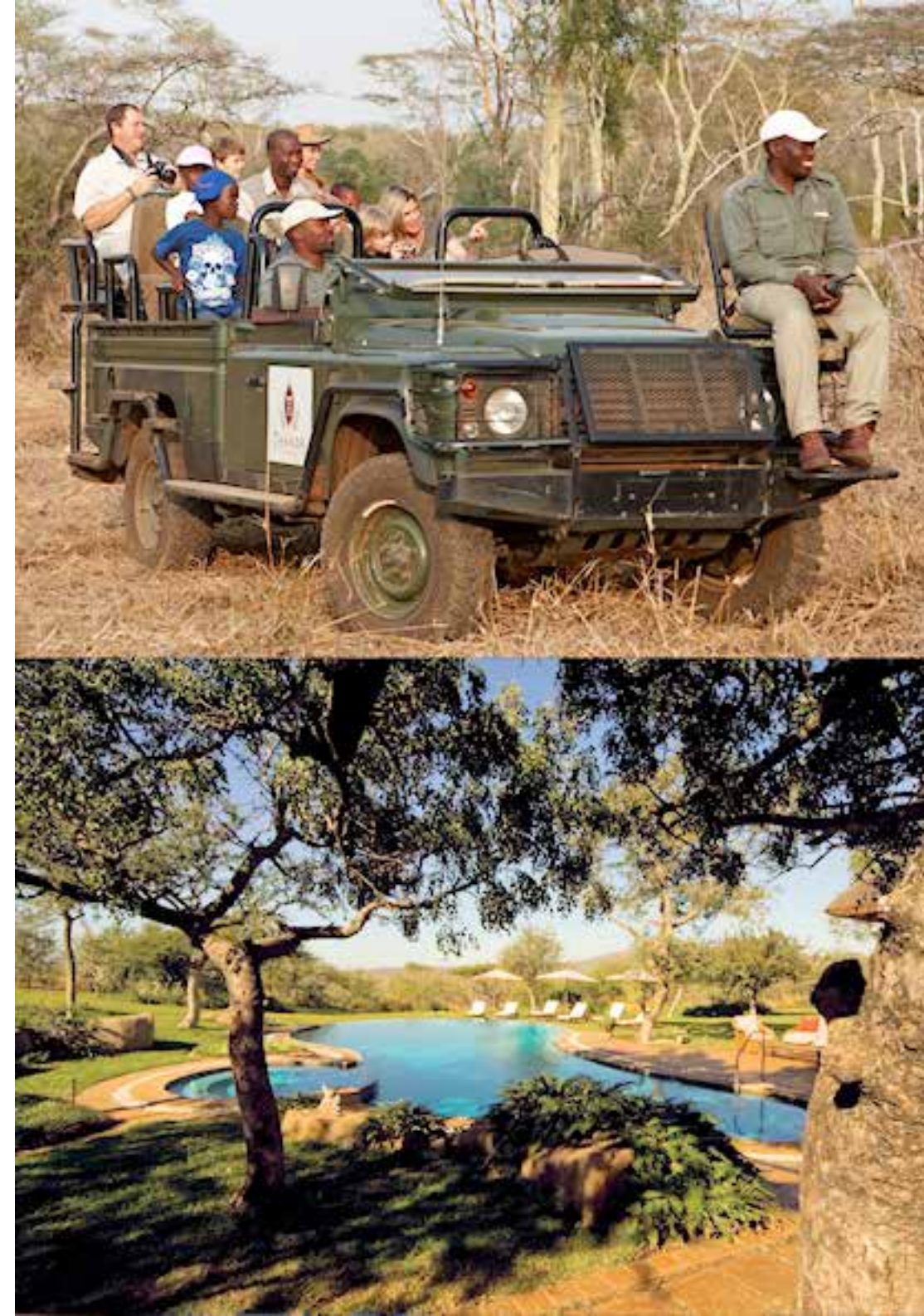




Villa iZulu

Villa iZulu is Thanda's exclusive-use villa. Situated amidst lush green lawns and surrounded by expanses of wild African bush, Villa iZulu can accommodate up to ten guests in five luxuriously appointed rooms, each with its own private viewing deck. This magnificent homestead is an outstanding safari hideaway for families, wedding parties and holidaymakers in need of privacy.

The shared areas include an Afro-chic inspired dining room, a traditional boma and bonfire area, verandas and terraces, many beautiful entertainment areas, a spacious library and wine cellar, a heated swimming pool, and a viewing deck overlooking a private waterhole. The art, décor and finishes are beyond compare – achieving that rare marriage between African authenticity and natural style.







Thanda Tented Camp

The Tented Camp offers a relaxed and authentic safari experience and is best suited for guests who do not require all the bells and whistles. The 15 spacious tents each have a private viewing deck and en-suite canvas bathroom and provide rustic yet comfortable accommodation from which to enjoy the wildlife in one of South Africa's most beautiful reserves. To add to the genuine bush atmosphere, the camp is non-electrified.

The camp's shared areas include a Hemingway-style lounge and bar, a dining area featuring authentic African art, a large rim-flow pool surrounded by loungers and umbrellas and a magnificent bonfire area – all complemented by the rich, warm hues of the African sunset.





Within Thanda Tented Camp lies Thanda's Jabula Tent. Meaning 'happiness' in isiZulu, it is romantic and private, yet beautifully spacious. Decorated in sophisticated safari chic, it is ideal for bridal couples, honeymooners, special occasion travellers as well as families wanting to share with each other under one canvas roof.

The Jabula Tent has a king-sized bed and separate lounge, en-suite canvas bathroom with outdoor shower, splash pool and spectacular views of the 14 000 hectare game reserve. While it nestles off to the side of Thanda Tented Camp, it is both near to and slightly remote from the shared areas, to enable true solitude.







Your Safari Experience

An early morning or late afternoon safari is the best way to absorb the sights, smells and sounds of Africa. Encounter the Big Five (lion, leopard, rhino, elephant and buffalo): the animals that inspire a long-lasting connection with the continent. With 14 000 hectares to explore, you'll also see plenty of other wildlife including cheetah, hyena, warthog, as well as abundant bird and plant life.

What is more, it's all exclusively yours. Thanda is a private game reserve and our dedicated staff are the only people you'll encounter on the roads while you're here. Experienced guides and trackers supervise all game drives: They track, you marvel.







Conservation

Thanda's mission is to serve as a responsible custodian of the environment, combining respect for biodiversity in partnership with wildlife conservation agencies and rural community support initiatives.

Thanda is actively involved in supporting endangered species breeding programmes as well as the responsible management of its substantial predator population. Guests are able to participate in these worthwhile and exciting programmes.





Community

The commercial aspects of everything that Thanda does are underpinned and supported by a genuine and far-reaching commitment to the Zulu culture. As such, Thanda strives to play an important role in the social upliftment of neighbouring communities, via both employment and the preservation of the Zulu culture.

Thanda's community programmes are driven through the Thanda Foundation Trust, which was established to focus attention on the socio-economic needs of the three tribal communities affected by Thanda. The main initiative of the Thanda Foundation is 'Star For Life', which supports up to 100 000 children to lead an AIDS-free life.







Weddings

The Game Reserve is called Thanda for a reason. Meaning 'love' in isiZulu, it represents the heart and soul of passion; the spirit of togetherness. Hold your wedding ceremony in a sheltered bush location under Marula trees, with plains game observing curiously from a distance. Celebrate your wedding reception safari-style, in a star-lit boma or on a deck overlooking unspoilt African bush.

Let ululating Zulu dancers usher you down the aisle and dance in enthusiastic celebration, as you and your beloved are pronounced husband and wife.





Dining

Our chefs are dedicated to each guest who dines at Thanda – creating thoughtful dishes that produce perfection for the palate.

And impeccable service extends from the stylish and alluring dining room to the bustling kitchen, where every one of our employees is motivated to do his or her part to create the ideal dining experience.







Thanda Spa

A day in the bush is full of excitement and thrilling experiences. But then it's time to relax, to unwind. We've designed our Spa to help you do just that. It seems to emerge from a bed of stone and rock: this haven for pleasure-seekers and heaven for nurture-lovers. Treatments can be enjoyed in one of the Spa's intimate therapy rooms or outside in the sala treatment area.

The products used by the Thanda Spa are all-natural, all-indulgent and all-good - making face and body look and feel beautiful.





Getting Here

By Air: Richards Bay is the closest airport (1½-hour drive), and the closest international airport is King Shaka, Durban (3-hour drive). Private charter flights can land at Mkuze Airfield, which is a 1.8 km tarred runway only a 20 minutes' drive from Thanda. Thanda is in the process of establishing its own 1.8 km tarred runway on the reserve; this should be completed by mid-2014.

By Road: Thanda is situated 23 km north of Hluhluwe on the N2, towards Mkuze, approximately 265 km north of Durban. The reserve is easily accessible from the N2 by gravel road, the D242 extending approximately 5 km to the west.





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