



Alive on the banks of the Sabie River

Lion Sands
GAME RESERVE

MORE
COLLECTION

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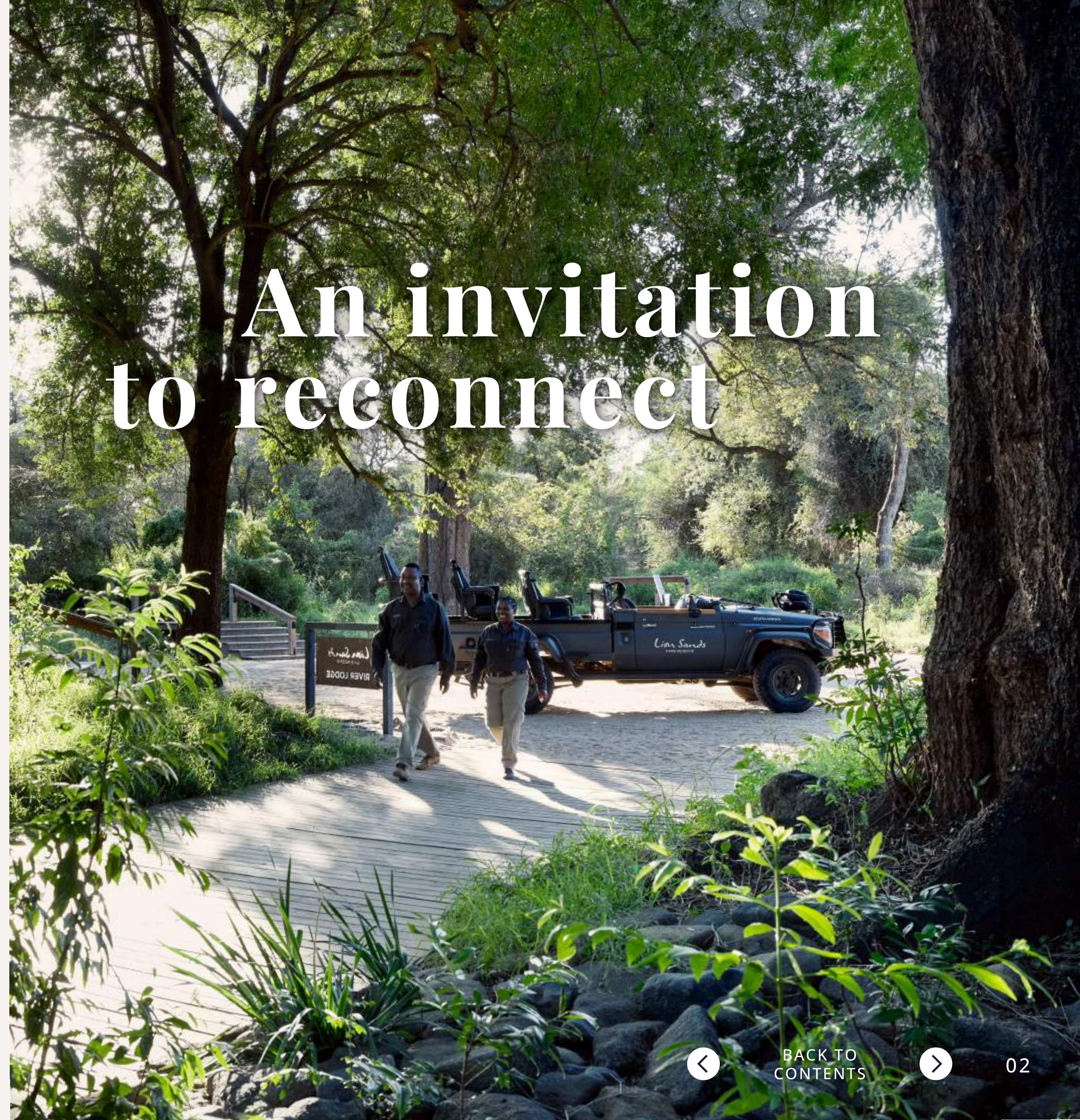
Set along the Sabie River's edge, where water and wildlife are always on the move, Lion Sands River Lodge is your invitation to go with the flow.

Here, life gathers on broad decks and under dappled shade, every moment alive with the sound of birds, laughter, water, and the softer rhythms of the bush.

18 river-facing rooms and suites bring you close to the action, but the real magic is in how River Lodge brings people together – adventurers, families, and friends old and new.

This is Lion Sands at its most welcoming: Big Five country, rich in leopards and elephants, but also in easy conversation and spontaneous celebration.

At River Lodge, you'll find the only thing more abundant than wildlife is the sense of belonging.



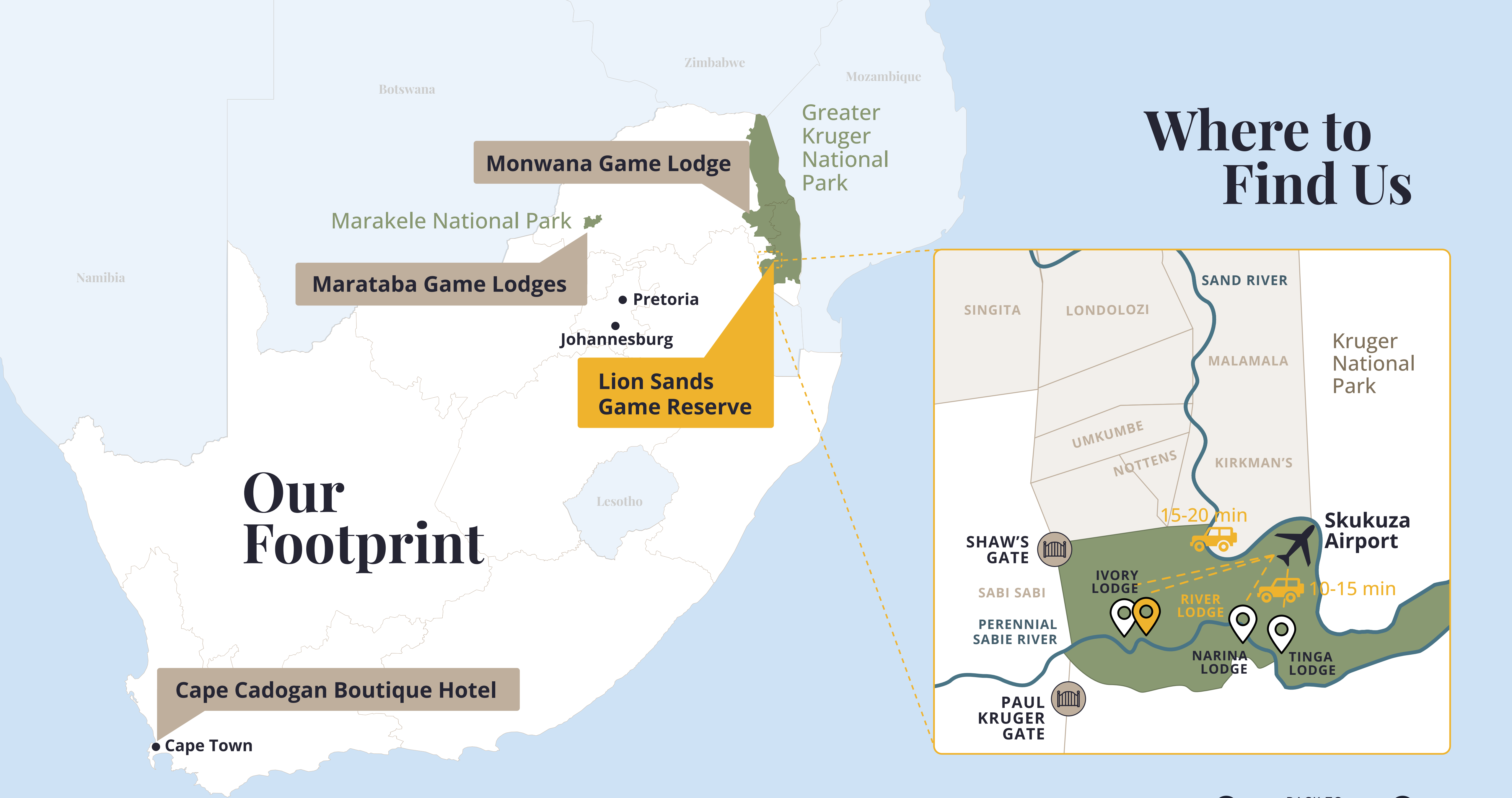
An invitation to reconnect



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Where to Find Us



Our Footprint



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A leopard is perched on a thick, dark tree branch, looking towards the right. The background is a soft-focus savanna landscape with green trees and warm, golden light filtering through the foliage.

What makes Lion Sands so unique?

**For those who thrive where energy,
nature, and connection converge**

Lion Sands Game Reserve uniquely spans Sabi Sand Nature Reserve and Kruger National Park, with the Sabie River running through the reserve and creating an extraordinary setting for wildlife and safari.

At River Lodge, that wilderness is paired with an easy sense of sociability. Its 18 river-facing rooms and suites wind along the bank, with spaces that move naturally between privacy and connection. Main decks invite conversation, while private terraces shaded by ancient trees offer somewhere quieter to retreat.

*Walkways and communal fire
decks bring guests together over
sundowners, shared stories and
the day's sightings, with the river
and wilderness always close.*



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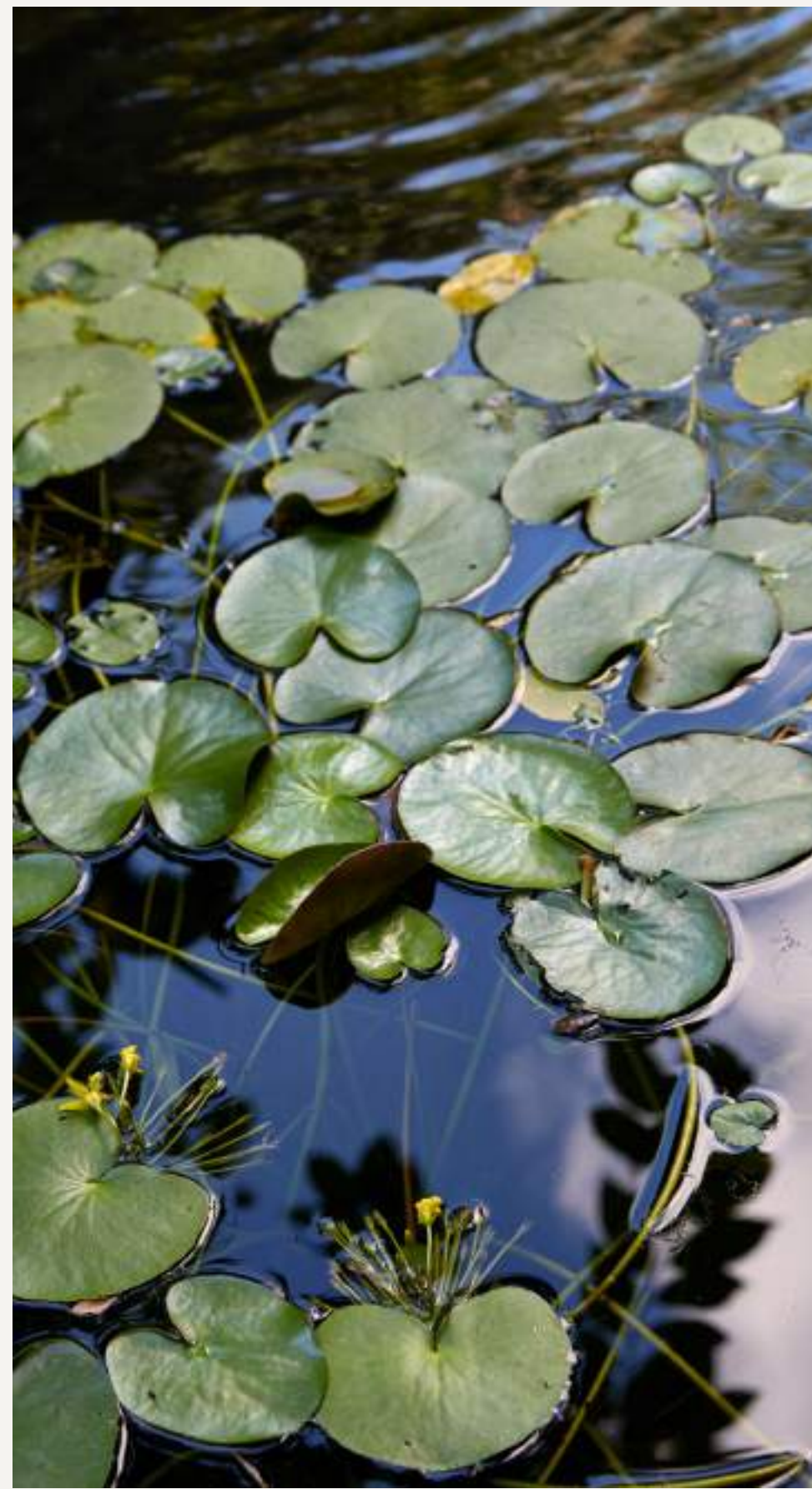


Our Environmental Commitment

TREADING LIGHTLY, LIVING FULLY

Lion Sands Game Reserve is managed with a deep respect for the landscape it calls home, protecting the integrity of this remarkable wilderness for future generations.

From conservation and responsible resource use to considered daily operations, this stewardship forms part of MORE Collection's broader commitment to the landscapes, people, and communities connected to our properties.



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Remarkable wildlife

Lion Sands Game Reserve forms part of the Greater Kruger, with a landscape shaped by the Sabie River.

Encompassing 12 400ha (30 600ac) of bushveld, the reserve supports a high density and diversity of wildlife. The perennial Sabie River draws animals to its banks year-round, drawing wildlife to its banks throughout the year.

BIG FIVE

- Elephant
- Rhino (black and white)
- Buffalo
- Lion
- Leopard

NOTABLE AND SIGNIFICANT SPECIES

- African Wild dog
- Cheetah
- Spotted hyena
- Giraffe
- Zebra
- Wildebeest
- Various antelope (kudu, nyala, waterbuck, sable)
- Hippo
- “**Secret Seven**” nocturnal rarities: pangolin, armadillo, serval, African wildcat, porcupine, civet, genet
- 500 recorded bird species



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Experiences and adventures



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GAME DRIVES

Twice daily, field guide-led game drives depart at sunrise and late afternoon, in open safari vehicles. Lion Sands is renowned for high concentrations of wildlife and exceptional leopard sightings. With never more than six guests per vehicle, drives are shaped by the moment, allowing time to pause at sightings, observe animal behaviour, and stop for coffee or sundowners in the bush.



BUSH WALKS

After breakfast, step off the vehicle and experience the bush on foot. Your field guide tailors each walk to guest interests, be it tracks, birdlife, botanicals, or geology. All five senses are engaged as you move quietly through the veld, feeling the crunch of earth and seeing the wild up close. (For guests 16 and over.)

MACK & MADI KIDS' SAFARI CLUB

Younger guests can join the Mack & Madi Kids' programme for fun and discovery in the bush. Family game drives, bush orientation, bug investigations, scavenger hunts, cooking, crafts and pool games offer plenty of ways to explore, learn and play.

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A NIGHT IN A TREEHOUSE

Spend a night in the Chalkley or Kingston Treehouse – open-air, solar-powered and with fully kitted-out bush bedrooms. Arrive at sunset for a sundowner and picnic dinner overlooking the plains, then fall asleep safely under the stars. A field guide is a radio call away for peace of mind. (Treehouse stays must be booked in conjunction with your lodge suite and are charged per night; Chalkley is suitable for two adults, while Kingston accommodates two adults plus two children from 10–15 years.)

STARGAZING

Evening drives and bush dinners reveal a sky without city lights. Field guides point out constellations and planets that change alongside the seasons. A chance to experience the night sky through the eyes of your field guide.



CREATIVE LAB

Continue your safari through photography at River Lodge's Creative Lab. Print wildlife photographs on-site, join interactive photo workshops, or book a private session for hands-on tips and creative fun – from beginners to experts, every guest leaves with a story (and a keepsake).

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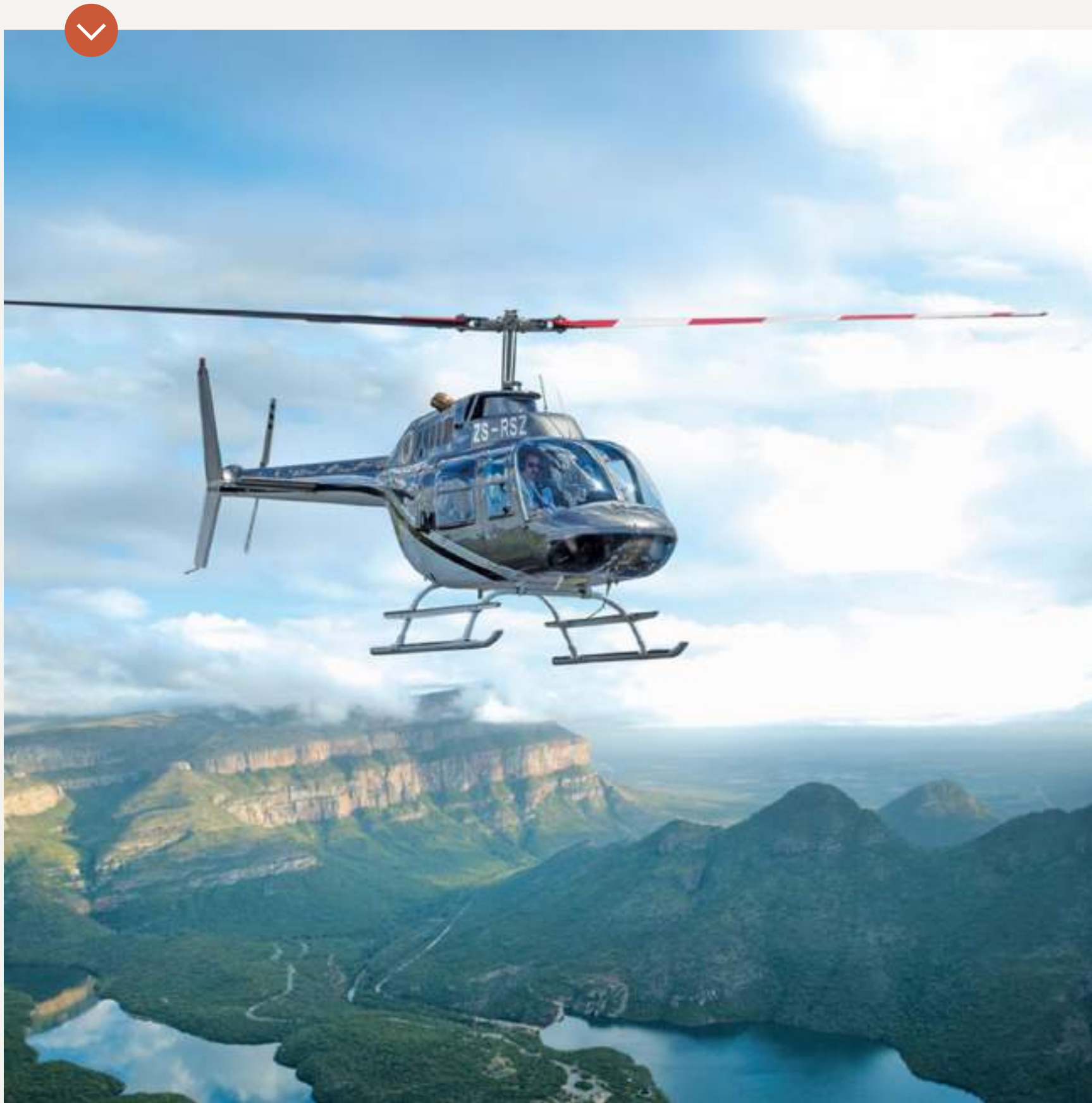


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HELICOPTER FLIGHTS

Experience the Greater Kruger from above, taking in the Blyde River Canyon, waterfalls and dramatic landscapes from a different perspective. Scenic flights to Blyde River Canyon, Three Rondavels, and more are available, with advance arrangement, weather, and availability permitting.



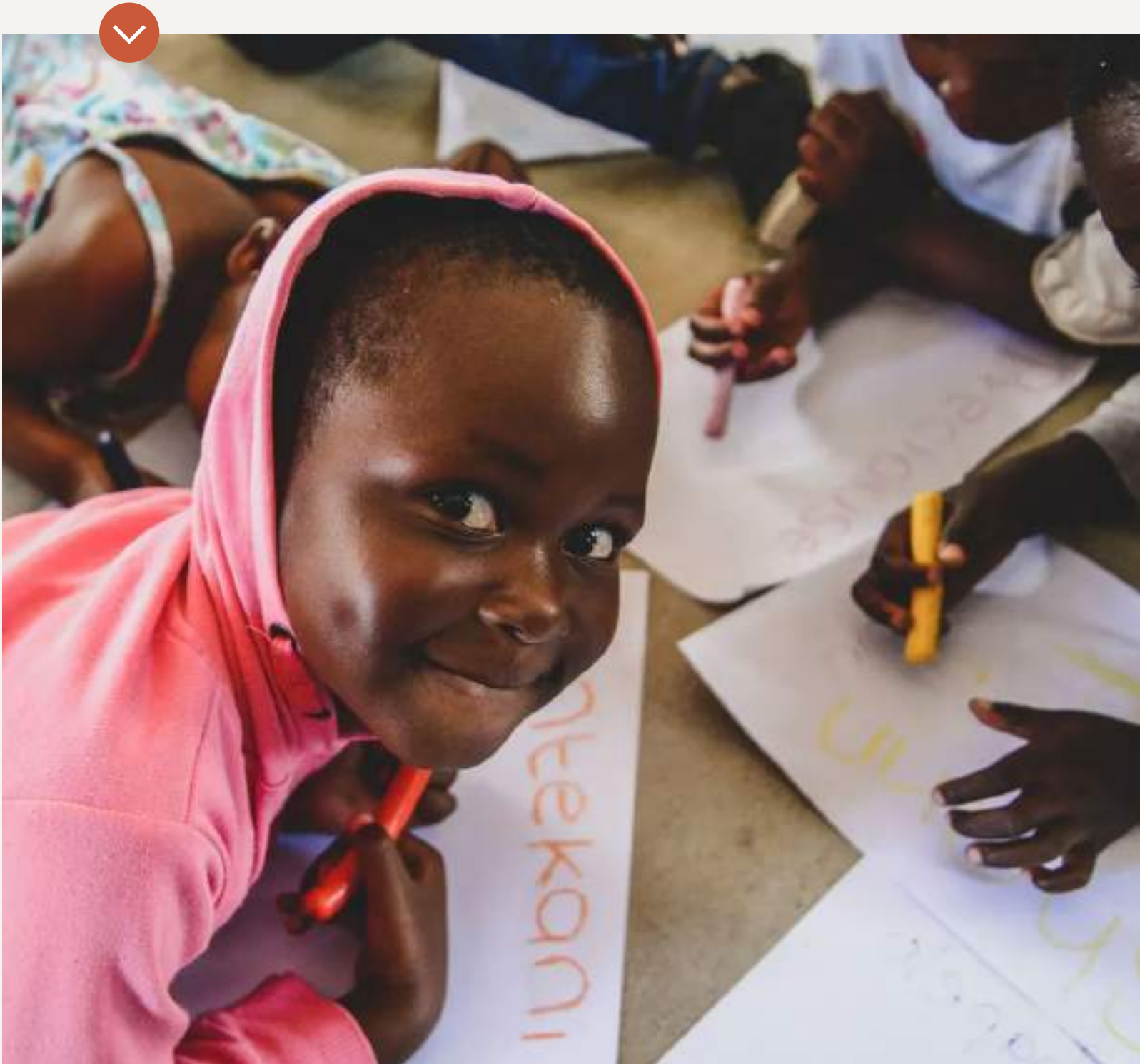
SPA AND WELLNESS

Take time between safaris to unwind in the quiet retreat of the lodge's spa. Choose from indulgent massages, facials, and wellness therapies using ethically sourced TheraNaka botanicals. Fitness centre and yoga spaces are available.

LOCAL COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES

Guided by the More Community Foundation, visits to the communities of Huntington and Justicia B offer an opportunity to learn about daily life, local education, and community initiatives, while gaining a deeper understanding of the people connected to this landscape.

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DINING

Dining at River Lodge follows the rhythm of safari, bringing guests together over seasonal ingredients and South African flavours. From coffee in the bush and bush breakfasts to relaxed lunches, traditional boma dinners, and meals enjoyed beneath the stars, dining becomes another way to connect with the landscape and those around you.



Accommodation

18 river-facing rooms and suites, designed for easy comfort, connection, and views that keep the Sabie close.



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Rooms and Suites



2 guests per room or suite



Private terrace overlooking the river



Choice of Luxury Rooms, Superior Luxury Rooms and River Suites



En-suite bathroom – indoor bath and shower



Air conditioning



In-room safe, personal bar, hairdryer, Wi-Fi



Daily housekeeping



Plunge pools
(Available at River Suite)



Kosher catering available (advance notice; additional charge)



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Family River Suite

-  4 guests per family suite
-  Private terrace overlooking the river
-  En-suite bathroom – indoor bath and shower
-  Air conditioning
-  In-room safe, personal bar, hairdryer, Wi-Fi
-  Daily housekeeping
-  Plunge pool
-  10+ Children aged 10+ welcome
-  Kosher catering available (advance notice; additional charge)



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Practical information

GETTING HERE



BY AIR

- Scheduled flights to Skukuza Airport (SZK) or Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport (MQP)
- Private charters directly to Skukuza or Sabi Sand airstrips
- Helipads available at Ivory Lodge for helicopter arrivals by arrangement



TRANSFERS

- 15–25 minutes from Skukuza Airport by open safari vehicle or private transfer



BY ROAD

- +/-6 hour (500km/310 miles) drive from Johannesburg via well-maintained roads



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WHAT TO PACK

- Neutral-coloured clothing for game drives and bush walks
- Warm layers for mornings and evenings, even in summer
- Comfortable closed shoes
- Swimwear for the main pool or private pool
- Sun protection: hat, sunglasses, sunscreen
- Camera and binoculars
- Lightweight casual attire for evenings

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- River Lodge is in a moderate-risk malaria area (reduced risk from May–September); please consult your doctor about prophylaxis before visiting
- Closest hospital: Skukuza Clinic (1 hour), or further medical facilities in Hazyview/Nelspruit

CONNECTIVITY

- Free Wi-Fi throughout the lodge
- Mobile coverage is fair (may be intermittent in some areas)
- International power outlets and USB charging points in all rooms and suites



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Weather and seasonal highlights

Lion Sands Game Reserve is a year-round safari destination with distinct seasonal changes shaped by rainfall and river flow.

Temperatures range from 24°C (75°F, July average maximum) to 33°C (90°F, January average maximum), with the lowest minimum of 8°C (46°F) in July. Most of the region's 350mm (14in) of rainfall falls between October and April.

Each season promises its own signature moments.



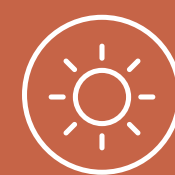
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SPRING (September – November)

- **Temperature:** 59–81°F | 15–27°C
- **Rainfall:** 1.2in | 30mm
- **Wildlife highlights:** Predator activity intensifies with the arrival of newborn impala, wildebeest, and zebra; migrant birds return.
- **Landscape:** Transition from dry bushveld to early green as rains begin.
- **Seasonal appeal:** Excellent for birders and those seeking dramatic light and colour.



SUMMER (December – February)

- **Temperature:** 63–91°F | 17–33°C
- **Rainfall:** 4.7in | 120mm average per month
- **Wildlife highlights:** Calving season for many species; young animals frequent the riverbanks; birdlife at its peak.
- **Landscape:** Lush plains, dramatic skies, colourful flower displays.
- **Seasonal appeal:** Lively, abundant game, spectacular sunsets, vibrant bushveld.



AUTUMN (March – May)

- **Temperature:** 57–86°F | 14–30°C
- **Rainfall:** 1.6in | 40mm
- **Wildlife highlights:** Vegetation begins to thin, making wildlife easier to spot, with increased activity along the Sabie River.
- **Landscape:** Golden light, cooling nights, clear visibility for photography.
- **Seasonal appeal:** Comfortable for game drives, clear views of the river.



WINTER (June – August)

- **Temperature:** 46–77°F | 8–25°C
- **Rainfall:** 0.2in | 6mm
- **Wildlife highlights:** Consistent sightings of predators as vegetation thins and animals gather near water.
- **Landscape:** Clear, crisp mornings; stargazing.
- **Seasonal appeal:** Prime time for uninterrupted game viewing, cosy evenings by the fire.



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A serene landscape photograph featuring a wooden deck in the foreground with a round table and chairs set for a meal. The table holds two cups of coffee, plates of food, and a small potted plant. A black metal railing runs across the middle ground, separating the deck from a grassy bank. In the background, a calm river flows towards a forested horizon under a soft, orange-hued sunset sky. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and inviting.

Suggested Itinerary



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Day One

ARRIVAL AT RIVER LODGE

- Scheduled flight to Skukuza Airport, meet and greet on arrival
- Transfer by open safari vehicle
- Warm welcome and orientation at River Lodge
- Settle into your river-facing room or suite
- Light lunch on the main deck overlooking the Sabie River
- Meet your dedicated field guide and tracker
- Afternoon game drive
- Sundowners in the bush
- Return to the lodge for dinner beneath the stars

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Day Two

RIVER RHYTHMS AND NEW CONNECTIONS

- Wake to tea or coffee and light morning snacks in the main lodge
- Morning game drive with coffee in the bush
- Return to River Lodge for breakfast
- At leisure: relax by the pool, unwind in the spa, or enjoy the river-facing decks
- Lunch in the open overlooking the Sabie River
- Afternoon at leisure or visit the Creative Lab
- Afternoon tea
- Late afternoon game drive, with shared sundowners at dusk
- Dinner with fellow guests followed by stargazing and fireside conversation

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Day Three

A DAY FOR ADVENTURE AND A NIGHT ABOVE THE WILD

- Early morning game drive or guided bush walk
- Bush breakfast or return to lodge for a hearty meal
- Optional visit to a local community with the More Community Foundation or scenic helicopter flight
- Surprise riverside picnic lunch at the lodge
- Afternoon game drive with sundowners
- Spend a night in Chalkley or Kingston Treehouse – gourmet picnic, radio contact, and stargazing included
- For those at the lodge, enjoy a quiet dinner



Day Four

FOND FAREWELLS

- Final sunrise game drive – one last chance for Big Five sightings
- Breakfast overlooking the Sabie River
- Enjoy leisurely shopping at The Gallery by MORE Collection
- Transfer to Skukuza Airport for onward travel



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Impact that ripples

COLLECTIVELY CREATING POSITIVE, MEANINGFUL, AND SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

Through the MORE Collection Impact Fund, every guest stay contributes to four key areas: Health and Wellbeing, Resource Sustainability, Education and Training, and Investing in Local Communities.

Across Lion Sands Game Reserve, this work includes local employment, responsible sourcing, conservation initiatives, and long-term investment in the people and communities connected to the reserve.



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MORE Collection



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MORE Collection, led by custodian and CEO Robert More, is a fourth-generation family business with roots dating back to 1933.

What began with one family's connection to the Sabie River has grown into a collection of safari lodges, a boutique hotel, and private villas across South Africa - from the Sabi Sand and Greater Kruger to the Waterberg and Cape Town.

Although the collection has grown over time, it remains grounded in the relationships, places and the care that have shaped it from the beginning.

Wherever you join us, you'll find thoughtful hospitality, a deep sense of belonging, and people who genuinely care about making every stay feel personal.

We look forward to sharing these remarkable parts of South Africa with you.



Robert More
CUSTODIAN AND CEO



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EXTEND YOUR JOURNEY WITH
MORE
COLLECTION

Discovering *South Africa*



Lion Sands
GAME RESERVE

IVORY LODGE

LION SANDS GAME RESERVE
Refined safari living shaped by the Sabie River



Lion Sands
GAME RESERVE

NARINA LODGE

LION SANDS GAME RESERVE
A quieter safari experience in the trees above the Sabie River



Lion Sands
GAME RESERVE

TINGA LODGE

LION SANDS GAME RESERVE
A classic safari shaped by connection, discovery and the Sabie River



CAPE
Cadogan
BOUTIQUE HOTEL

CAPE CADOGAN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

KLOOF STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD
Your stylish city stay in the heart of Cape town



Marataba
GAME LODGES

MOUNTAIN LODGE

MARAKELE NATIONAL PARK
A remote wilderness experience in the Waterberg Mountains



Marataba
GAME LODGES

SAFARI LODGE

MARAKELE NATIONAL PARK
A family-friendly safari in the heart of the Waterberg Mountains



monwana
COMING HOME

MONWANA LODGE

GREATER KRUGER
An unhurried safari experience shaped by stillness and connection



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GAME RESERVE



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