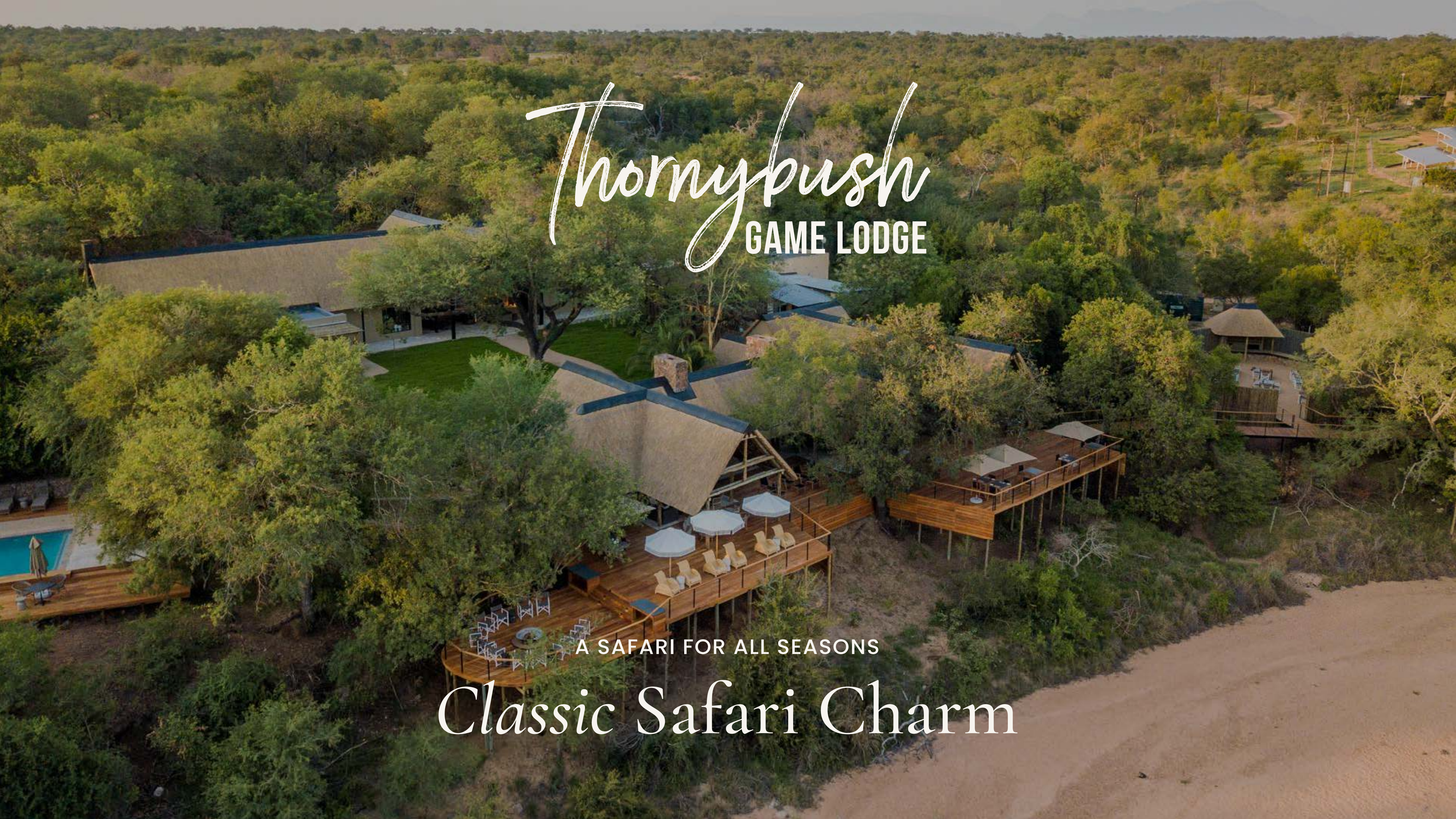


An aerial photograph of the Thornybush Game Lodge, a luxurious safari destination. The lodge features several buildings with thatched roofs and large wooden decks. One deck in the foreground is furnished with lounge chairs and umbrellas. The lodge is surrounded by dense, lush green trees and vegetation. In the background, a swimming pool is visible on the left, and a sandy area is on the right. The overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

Thornybush

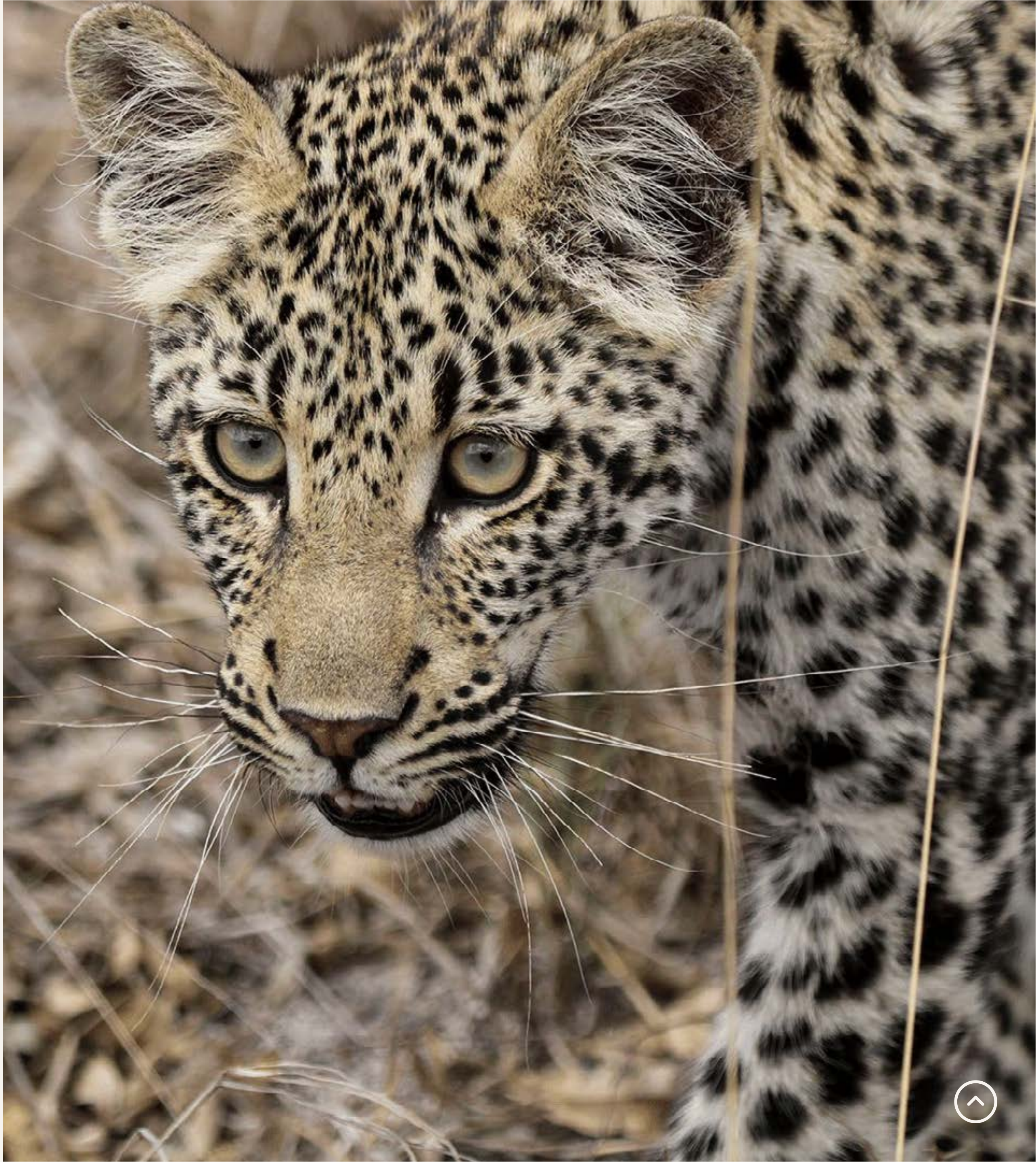
GAME LODGE

A SAFARI FOR ALL SEASONS

Classic Safari Charm

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WELCOME TO

Thornybush Game Lodge

One of the most well-known and oldest lodges in the safari industry, Thornybush Game Lodge was one of the first commercial camps in South Africa and firmly established Thornybush Nature Reserve as a world renowned game-viewing destination in the Greater Kruger Park.

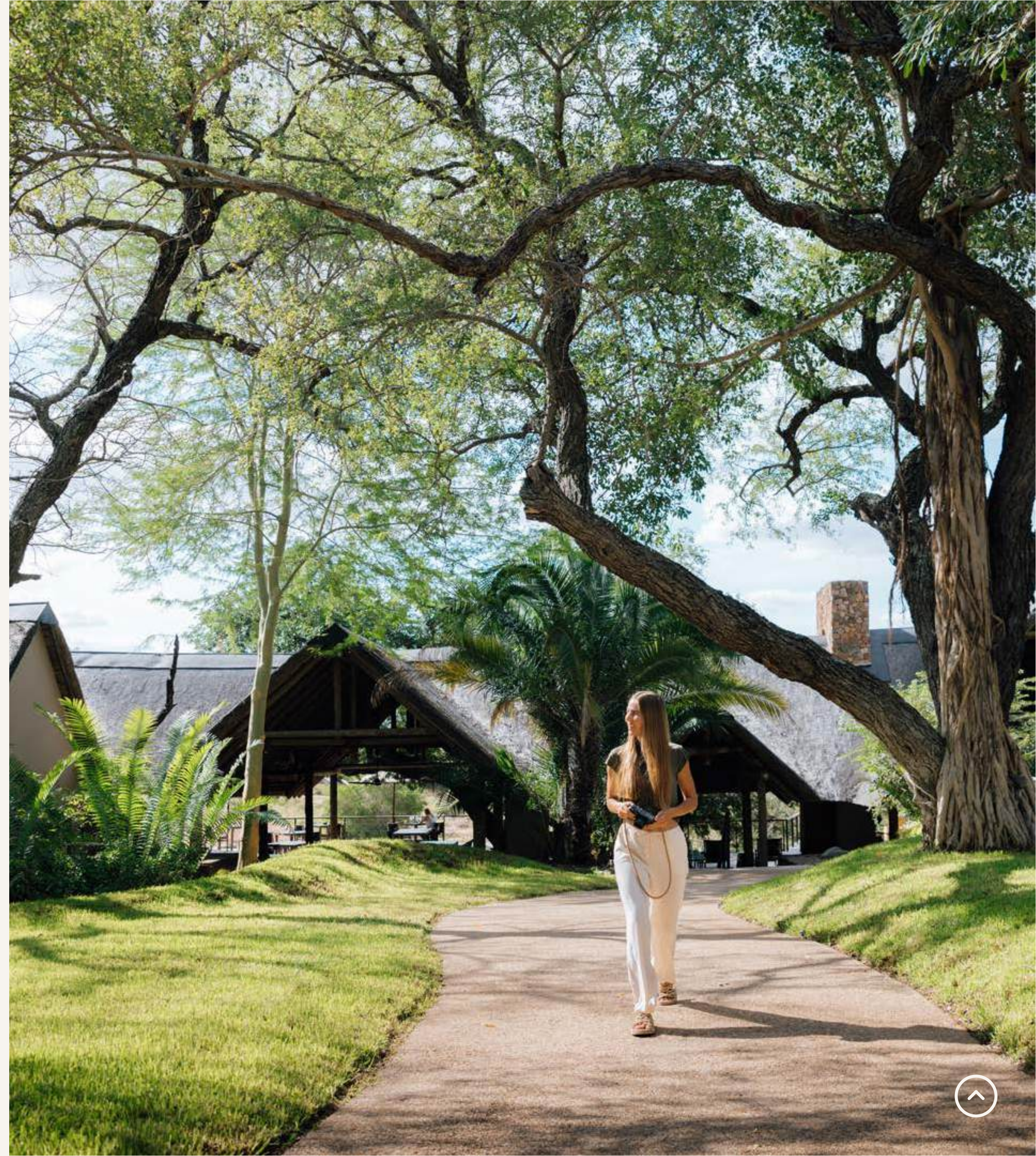
Unwind on arrival as you stroll towards the thatched main area overlooking a sandy riverbed. Enjoy a harvest-style lunch, while elephants and buffalo pass by. Breakfasts are served here too, with nyalas grazing nearby and sunbirds flitting through the aloes.

Each of Game Lodge's 16 luxury suites is private, stylish, and fully equipped - with outdoor showers, fluffy slippers, and large sliding doors that open onto the bush vistas.

Dinners are served à la carte, in the boma under the stars, or at lantern-lit bush settings for unforgettable evenings. At the heart of it all is our warm, long-standing team - always ready with a smile and personal service.

[VIEW RATES](#)

[VIEW VIDEO](#)



TRANSFERS TO Thornybush Game Lodge

- 1 **Hoedspruit Airport (HDS) to Thornybush:**
25km (45-60 minute drive)
- 2 **Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport (KMIA) to Thornybush:**
171.1km (2-3 hour drive)
- 3 **Skukuza to Thornybush:**
142km (3 hour drive)





Lodge Overview

- 16 suites
- Can accommodate groups of up to 32 people
- Lodge pool available at the main area
- Outdoor showers in all rooms
- Boma for open air traditional ‘braai’
- Deck and sunken lounge and fire pit
- Spa
- Library

- Children of all ages welcome**
 - Activities available including baking, beading, bug walks and treasure hunts
 - Babysitting available at an additional cost
- You can book our conference room (15-20 people)
- Airstrip
- Mobile coverage
- Wi-Fi

Our Suites

- Air-conditioning
- Hairdryer
- Laundry service
- Outdoor shower
- Shower
- Wi-Fi
- Bar
- Mobile coverage
- Fan
- USB/int. adapter
- Mini bar
- Phone
- Slippers
- Bath tub
- Gratuity information
- Kettle/coffee machine
- Safety box
- Toiletries
- Spa
- Gym



Included in your stay

-  Morning and afternoon game drives
-  Walks on request, can be arranged with your guide
-  All meals
-  Laundry included when booked on certain rates
-  Local beverages included when booked on certain rates

Excluded from your stay

- Beverages when booked on certain rates
- Champagne, premium wines and spirits
- Curio shop purchases
- Spa treatments
- Gratuities and levies
- Additional activities

Optional activities at an extra cost

- Spa treatments
- External activities (Panoramic tours or hot-air ballooning)
- Community Visits

Other information you may like to know

- An electric fence surrounds the camp
- Check-in 14:00 | Check-out 11:00
- All credit cards accepted except American Express

Children policy

- Children of all ages are welcome
- Children under 6 years of age are not permitted on game drives unless authorized by management
- To guarantee game drives for children, a private vehicle should be booked at an additional cost
- Children under 16 years of age are not permitted on bush walks

Average seasonal temperature ranges			
SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	WINTER
September to November	December - February	March to May	June to August
Low: 20°C 68°F High: 30°C 86°F	Low: 23°C 73°F High: 38°C 100°F	Low: 22°C 72°F High: 31°C 88°F	Low: 18°C 64°F High: 29°C 84°F



A typical day on safari

	Wake up
	Morning tea and coffee with a selection of homemade rusks, biscuits and fruits will be served on the deck before departing for your morning drive
	Game drive (Approximately 3 hours)
	Breakfast served on return from game drive
	Lunch
	High tea will be served prior to afternoon game drive
	Game drive (Approximately 3 hours)
	Opportunity to enjoy a drink at the bar or freshen up before dinner



Indemnity

All guests are required to sign an indemnity, this can be done prior to arrival or at the lodge, a link for this will be sent along with your booking confirmation.

SATIB insurance

24HR emergency call facility for:

- Any medical emergency involving bodily injury to or life-threatening illness contracted by one of our guests or passengers
- Guests or passengers experiencing any natural disaster, such as a flood or fire

Africa Safe-T

All our lodges are affiliated with Africa Safe-T, a medical rescue organization, which provides an immediate response for emergencies – fixed wing planes and helicopters. Arrangements can also be made should there be a need for a doctor. The closest doctor would be in Hoedspruit – a 50-minute drive. The cost will be charged to the guest’s account.

Travel insurance

It is the Guests’ sole and absolute responsibility to ensure that they have adequate and suitable comprehensive travel and medical insurance in place to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/ travelling companions. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the booking, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, hometown repatriation expenses, damage and/or theft and/or loss of personal property, baggage, money, and goods.

Thornybush, their representatives, directors, officers, employees, and agents will not be responsible for any damage, loss, costs or expenses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest’s dependents or travelling companions, as a result of or in connection with any of the above mentioned events. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance cover.



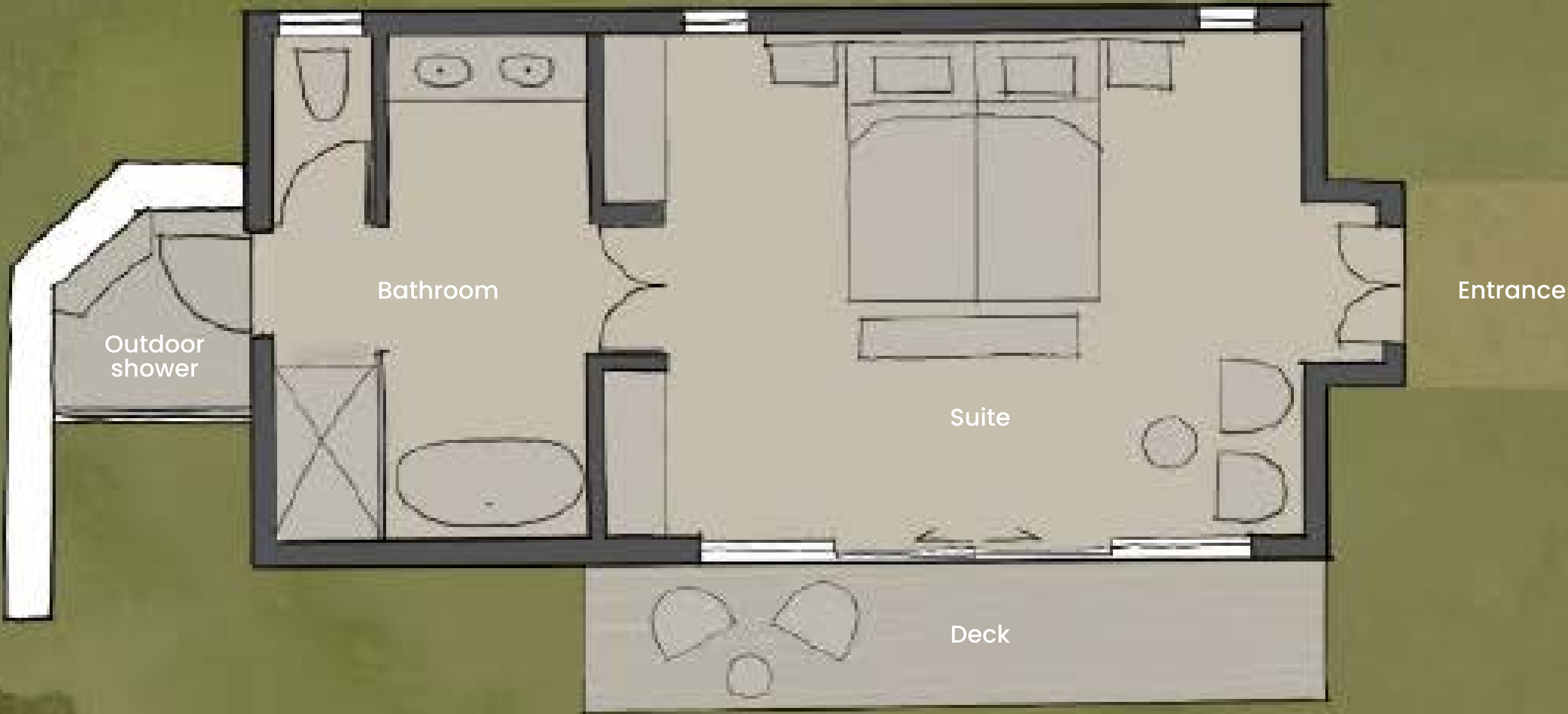
Game Lodge *Layout*



- | | |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 1-15 | Suites |
| 16 | Bush Suite |
| 17 | Kamara House |
| 18 | Office |
| 19 | Reception
Curio Shop
Library |
| 20 | Pool |
| 21 | Lounge & Bar |
| 22 | Conference Centre |
| 23 | Spa & Gym |
| 24 | Boma |



Suite *Layout*



Lodge comparison

		
THORNYBUSH GAME LODGE Thornybush Nature Reserve Greater Kruger National Park	SASEKA TENTED CAMP Thornybush Nature Reserve Greater Kruger National Park	SIMBAMBILI GAME LODGE Sabi Sand Nature Reserve Greater Kruger National Park
From R19 800 pppns	From R28 000 pppns	From R27 000 pppns
16 suites	8 tents	9 suites
Air conditioned	Air conditioned	Air conditioned
Spacious deck and an outdoor shower	Spacious deck and an outdoor shower	Spacious deck and Honeymoon Suite has an outdoor shower
Normal big, shared pool	Private plunge pool	Private plunge pool and sala
Dry riverbed views for only 15 suites	Dry riverbed views	All suites overlook the dry riverbed, but please note that only the Waterhole Suite offers direct views of the waterhole
Spa facilities and gym	Gym with sauna and ice bath and spa facilities at Thornybush Game Lodge	Spa facilities and gym
Dining options: à la carte dinners Boma dinners Bush dinners under the stars (weather dependent & not private; shared with other guests)	Dining options: à la carte dinners Riverbed dinners under the stars (weather dependent & not private; shared with other guests)	Dining options: à la carte dinners Boma dinners Bush dinners under the stars (weather dependent & not private; shared with other guests)
Children of all ages are welcome. However, please note that children under the age of 6 are not permitted on game drives.	Children 12 years and older	Children 12 years and older



Private villa comparison



LITTLE SASEKA @ Saseka Tented Camp Thornybush Nature Reserve Greater Kruger National Park	KAMARA HOUSE @ Thornybush Game Lodge Thornybush Nature Reserve Greater Kruger National Park
From R120 000 pn sole-use for 4 people	From R92 000 pn sole-use for 4 people
One main tented bedroom plus two separate interleading suites	3-bedroom, sole-use villa
Air conditioned	Air conditioned
Spacious deck and an outdoor shower	Spacious deck and an outdoor shower
Private plunge pool	Private plunge pool
Dry riverbed views	The house looks out onto the bush
Gym with sauna and ice bath and spa facilities at Thornybush Game Lodge	Spa facilities and gym
Dining options: Private meals Riverbed dinners under the stars are available (weather permitting). Please note these are not privately catered and are shared experiences with all guests booked at Saseka Tented Camp.	Dining options: Private meals Boma and bush dinners under the stars are available (weather permitting). Please note these are not privately catered and are shared experiences with all guests booked at Thornybush Game Lodge
Children of all ages, but not allowed in the main area	Children of all ages



Kids on safari

Thornybush Game Lodge in the heart of the Greater Kruger Park is the perfect Kruger safari destination as it caters for multigenerational families.

The children's programme includes:

-  Children will receive a complimentary Little Ranger in Training backpack on arrival filled with activities to keep them entertained during your stay.
-  Guided bush walks for kids under 16 take place in the safety of the lodge property with focus on smaller details and interactive bush skills.
-  We also offer a baking activity where kids can create an array of biscuit shapes, which will be baked by our team and served for tea.
-  Special dietary requests for children can be arranged prior to your arrival.
-  When possible, game drives and activities can be tailored to suit children's interests and attention spans.
-  Please note children under the age of six are not permitted on game drives.
-  Babysitters and childminders are available at an additional cost.
-  If you'd like to capture precious memories of your stay, we can arrange a private family photo shoot for you too.



Thornybush Wellness

From calming spa rituals to the quiet rhythm of nature, wellness at Thornybush is about reconnecting with yourself and the wild.

The Wellness Centre offers an array of facilities, including:



Three treatment rooms including 2 double/couple treatment rooms



A state-of-the-art infrared sauna



Fully equipped Gym



Rim flow pool and sun loungers for pre or post-treatment relaxation



A wellness juice bar offering healthy and delicious cold-pressed juices and shots



Community and conservation



COMMUNITY

We are deeply committed to the upliftment and empowerment of the communities that surround our reserves. Through the Thornybush Community Project, we collaborate with local partners to drive long-term social change. Thornybush is also proud member of The Long Run, a trailblazing community of nature-based tourism businesses united in their commitment to driving holistic sustainability worldwide.

Our community initiatives include:

- **Education Support:** We invest in early childhood development, sponsor local schools, and facilitate access to better educational resources.
- **Enterprise Development:** Supporting small businesses and artisans through mentoring, funding, and creating market access opportunities.
- **Food Security and Wellness:** Promoting sustainable food gardens and nutrition programmes in partnership with local NGOs.
- **Youth & Skills Development:** Training programmes in hospitality, conservation, and guiding help create career pathways for local youth.



CONSERVATION

Our lodges are located in one of the world's most biodiverse regions, and preserving this ecosystem is at the heart of everything we do. Conservation is a way of life at Thornybush.

- **Anti-Poaching Initiatives:** We work closely with local antipoaching units to protect endangered wildlife, including rhino monitoring and surveillance.
- **Habitat Rehabilitation:** Ongoing work to restore indigenous vegetation and remove alien plant species.
- **Sustainable Operations:** From solar energy to plastic-free practices, our lodges are committed to reducing their environmental footprint.

CONSERVATION

COMMERCE

EDUCATION

ENTERPRISE

VOLUNTOURISM

Thornybush
COMMUNITY



FAQs

What is the weather like?

Daytime summer temperatures (September – April) are high and may soar above 36°C/97°F. Evenings and early mornings are warm. Winters (May – August) have chilly nights and crisp early mornings (minimum 3°C/38°F), but the days are fine and warm. Rainfall occurs predominantly in the summer months from October to April in the form of magnificent late afternoon/evening thundershowers.

What should I pack for my stay?

The dress code is informal and neutral colors are recommended. A warm jacket/scarf and beanies for winter and evening safaris. Comfortable walking shoes, a bathing costume, binoculars, camera and video camera. Sunhats, sunscreen, and sunglasses. A select range of safari clothing and amenities are available for purchase in our Curio Shops.

Should I take Malaria Medication?

The lodges are situated in a low-risk malaria area. Precautions are taken annually to treat the lodges and minimize risk. We recommend you consult your medical practitioner on anti-malaria prophylactics.

Get in touch

Chat to our friendly team, who will help you book your stay at Thornybush Game Lodge and plan the perfect Greater Kruger safari.

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Thornybush



An aerial photograph of the Thornybush Game Lodge, a luxurious safari lodge nestled in a lush, green forest. The lodge features several buildings with thatched roofs and large wooden decks. One deck in the foreground is furnished with lounge chairs and umbrellas, while another deck to the right is elevated on stilts. A swimming pool is visible on the left side of the lodge. The surrounding landscape is dense with trees and vegetation, with a sandy area visible in the bottom right corner.

Thornybush

GAME LODGE

BEAUTIFUL
LODGES

SPECTACULAR
SIGHTINGS

EXPERT
GUIDES

PASSIONATE
PEOPLE

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT