

ESCAPE TO THE WILDERNESS

Sensational and local bush breaks to add
to your bucket list!

Isolation is the word on everybody's lips during these unprecedented times. Luckily, as South Africans, we are blessed with an abundance of vast open spaces and natural beauty that may just be the perfect antidote to curing our insatiable wanderlust. Now that travel is permitted by the government, these establishments should be at the top of your list!

Text by Ker & Downey® Africa / Photography © Supplied





^ Jock Safari Lodge

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Studies have proven that holidays are extremely good for our health, and a safari, in particular, is excellent for lowering blood pressure, improving sleep patterns, and recharging your batteries. The expert team at award-winning safari company Ker & Downey® Africa offer personalised trips throughout South Africa with a mission to connect clients to nature, as well as leave a positive legacy behind. Here are some of our favourite easily accessible luxury escapes that will do wonders for your emotional, physical and spiritual well-being:

Jock Safari Lodge

Situated in the stunning southern region of the Kruger National Park, Jock Safari Lodge lies within 6,000 hectares of pristine wilderness – miles away from the maddening crowds. An exclusive concession, the wildlife (including the iconic Big Five) survive and thrive, undisturbed by humankind. Exuding elegance and 5-star grandeur, the lodge is all about the finer things in life, offering guests a chance to recharge and unwind in style, with all the modern comforts considered and taken to the next level of luxury. Fine wine, dining and world-class game viewing in this intimate, unbroken landscape is everything it promises to be: untamed, untouched, unforgettable.

Leobo Private Reserve

If a dose of adventure is what you need to escape reality, look no further than Leobo Private Reserve. Situated on 8,000 hectares of the Waterberg region in Limpopo,



^ Leobo Private Reserve



^ Jock Safari Lodge



this is a luxury safari lodge with a difference. Here, traditional game drive vehicles are rarely used. Instead, guests experience the bush on horseback, quad bikes, or onboard a helicopter. There are no scheduled itineraries, no time constraints, and no rules (excluding from the essential safety regulations, of course). Apart from its most celebrated activity – helicopter paintball – Leobo offers an array of heart-stopping, adrenaline-filled activities in an environment that continually stimulates the senses. The extraordinary Observatory Bush Villa is available for exclusive use only, complete with a private butler and personal chef. There is nothing quite like it in the world – an idyllic escape where guests can disconnect from the outside world, be one with nature and have the ultimate adrenaline-filled adventure.

Sanbona Dwyka Lodge

The name Sanbona represents the vision of the San people to restore harmony between man and nature and restore the interconnectedness of all living beings. Seated at the foot of the Warmwaterberg Mountains, in the heart of the Klein Karoo, Dwyka Lodge is located in the Sanbona reserve – the largest privately-owned wildlife reserve in the Western Cape. Ideally positioned on a horseshoe bend of a dried-up Karoo ravine, surrounded

by the most incredible rock formations, the feeling of delicious isolation and seclusion in an entirely hidden landscape makes one feel like a pioneering adventurer. The reserve has reintroduced not only the Big Five and other indigenous game back to this landscape but also the rare White Lion – offering these sacred animals a safe space to wander freely and live in peace. Think nights spent stargazing and making friends around the fire, and days spent exploring the incredible landscape between bouts of utter relaxation and world-class dining in absolute luxury and you’re almost there...

Mantis Biyela Lodge

Described as “a place in the heavens”, Mantis Biyela Lodge is located in the heart of Zululand in Kwa-Zulu Natal, as part of a newly formed concession to the Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park. The ultra-luxurious lodge comprises 12 expansive villas, offering either a plunge pool or day bed with a private balcony, ensuring sheer seclusion from the outside world. Overlooking the White uMfolozi River, elevated above a valley on a rocky cliff, guests can enjoy the thriving population of wildlife from the comfort of their villas. Well known for its abundance of wild dogs and vultures, as well as the Big Five, game drives are an exhilarating experience and, because the

The Makers of Bespoke Safari Experiences

Ker & Downey® Africa was founded with the mission to create unique adventures that challenge, connect and build legacies.

Our tagline Pioneering African Travel is a daily challenge to every member of Ker & Downey® Africa. It is one that continually inspires us to push the boundaries of African travel with a spirit of adventure and exploration.

We are incredibly passionate about creating African experiences for people from around the globe that are nothing short of life-changing. The only way we know how to do that is by creating original and thrilling adventures for our guests that challenge them, allow them to connect with the people and cultures they visit and leave their legacy.



^ Camp Jabulani



^ Tintswalo Safari Lodge

lodge has exclusive traversing rights within the game reserve, viewings are uninterrupted making them intimate and genuinely unforgettable. It is the perfect place to disengage from the outside world, and experience isolation in heavenly surroundings.

Camp Jabulani

This luxury camp, located in Kapama Game Reserve between the northern Drakensberg mountains and the Greater Kruger Park, comes with a beautiful story. It is the home of Jabulani the elephant – a rescue elephant who now leads a herd of 12 Zimbabwean elephants who were also rescued by the camp's owner, Lente Roode. The story itself is one of hope and consolation, and the very essence of the camp reflects this incredible journey that began 20 years ago with the brave little elephant who fought against the odds to survive. Recognised as one of the country's most respected 5-star safari lodges, it is an idyllic escape where guests have an opportunity to interact with these majestic creatures and understand them on a deeper level – both physically and emotionally. The Jabulani elephant experience, described as being both "soulful and insightful" is a one-of-a-kind safari

experience and one that will undoubtedly remain embedded in your heart forever.

Tintswalo Safari Lodge

Located in the pristine Manyeleti Game Reserve – which shares an unfenced border with the Kruger National Park – Tintswalo Safari Lodge provides the pinnacle private safari experience with the iconic Tintswalo-flair. The reserve is renowned for its minimal vehicle density, and abundance of Big Five and other game, offering an exclusive experience. So, if isolation is what you're after, you've come to the right place. Relax amongst the ancient sycamores after a day of game viewing, enjoying a drink in your private plunge pool in one of the six luxuriously appointed suites, watching the wildlife wander along the seasonal riverbed along which the lodge is situated. This is untouched African wilderness at its very best, and 5-star service that is simply unparalleled.

Get in touch with one of Ker & Downey® Africa's LuxVenture® Designers to plan your dream South African isolation escape today by visiting their website: www.ker-downeyafrica.com.