



## EXPERIENCES – FACT SHEET 2019

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### Life-Enriching Experiences

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...

#### Game Drives

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!

- Duration: ±3 hours
- 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 daily from 10h00 to 12h00 in summer and from 11h00 to 13h00 in winter; parents are welcome to go along, subject to availability of seats

#### Bush Walks

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.

- Duration: 1.5 to 2 hours, depending on guests' fitness levels
- Children under 16 years are not permitted on the bush walks
- Guests over 60 years must present a medical certificate of good health

- 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

### **Marataba Trails**

A specialist walking experience for the seasoned hiker who is looking for a challenging trail in a unique part of the world. Marataba is blessed with a great diversity of ecosystems and landscapes, and its trails leading through different areas of the reserve – along riverine, gorge, mountain, and interest routes – provide a variety of experiences. Our expert trails guides will advice on suitable routes based on guests' preference/s and fitness levels.

- Duration: 3 to 4 hours
- Includes: a nutrition pack (with snacks and a 2L still water) and a loan backpack for personal items
- Children under 16 years are not permitted on the Marataba Trails

### **Miss Mara Water Safari**

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. An experienced Marataba field guide conducts a cruise along the waterway, which provides plentiful game viewing opportunities. Guests can expect to see hippo, crocodile, abundant birdlife, and land animals (like elephant), coming to the water's edge to drink and forage.

- Duration: 1 to 1.5 hours
- Includes: beverages and snacks (sundowners and canapés at sunset), served en route
- Children of all ages are welcome to accompany their parents

### **Wildlife Lectures**

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 Trust's (MCT's) purpose is to empower people of local communities in which MORE operates. It does this by providing access to: early childhood development; skills development; and clean water. Over the years, MCT has built close relationships within the communities, and guests are encouraged to visit and roll up their sleeves to help out with upliftment programmes in place.

This gives guests the opportunity to experience a different – and humbling – way of living; visit culturally- and historically-significant sites; and connect 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.

- Duration: 2 to 3 hours
- Children of all ages are welcome to accompany their parents

### **Mack & Madi Kids' Programme**

This offering is inspired by Rob and Britt More's first-hand experience of travelling with their twins, Mack and Madi. Along with the lodges' options and flexibility around accommodations and meals, tailor-made activities give children (5 to 11 years) a little extra freedom to explore and just be kids – and make family travel child's play.

Based at Safari Lodge, the Eco Garden children's entertainment and education space keeps young guests occupied with the wonders of the natural world, as well as sporting and creative activities, during their stays. Just some of the fun includes: family morning game drives; bug CSI; spoor casting; pool games; rock painting; cookie baking in the kitchen; kids' picnic; toasting marshmallows and 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,

lounge, 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 sharing a gourmet picnic and 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 lodge suite

### 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 suites or private decks – a luxury unique to Africa. Guests choose from massages, exfoliations, reflexology, and facials with Africology skincare products and essential oils – all ethically formulated with the finest natural and organic 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 Receptions.

### 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

*\*Subject to an additional cost*

### Daily Programme

An idea of what to look forward to...

That being said, guests are not restricted to a schedule and can arrange their stays around exactly what they feel like doing, or take up opportunities that arise in the moment.

### 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	Game drive returns; breakfast/brunch is served	10h00
At leisure	Other activities of personal preference	At leisure
13h00	Lunch is served	13h00
16h00	Afternoon tea	15h00
16h30	Game drive/Miss Mara Water Safari departs	15h30
19h30	Return from afternoon activity; dinner is served	18h30

### Marataba Mountain Lodge

Summer (September to April)	Programme	Winter (May to August)
05h30	Wake-up call	06h30
06h00	Tea/coffee and snacks	07h00
06h15	Depart on Marataba Trail/game drive	07h15
09h30	Return; breakfast/brunch is served	10h30
At leisure	Other activities of personal preference	At leisure
13h00	Lunch is served	13h00
15h30	Refreshments and snacks	14h30
16h00	Depart on game drive/Miss Mara Water Safari	15h00
18h30	Return from afternoon activity	17h30
19h00	Interactive dinner	18h30