

# Esiweni Lodge

Region: South Africa    Sleeps: 15

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## Overview

Situated in the stunning Nambiti Reserve, between Johannesburg and Durban, in the heart of Zulu land, this luxurious African lodge hosts ten to fifteen guests in unrivalled comfort, style and proximity to raw, unharnessed nature.

For a family reunion or celebration, Esiweni Lodge offers a little slice of magic, in the heart of one of South Africa's finest resorts. With capacity for five children, a total of 15 guests can be welcomed, with warm, Zulu hospitality, impeccable services and chic living spaces, blending the best of private suites together with convivial spaces.

Perched on a dramatic clifftop, this chic retreat blends local Zulu flavour, a thrilling safari experience and dazzling cuisine, with exclusivity woven into its fabric.

When authentic meets lavish, against the mystical beauty of the Drakensburg, something magical happens. Impeccable service, ethically-sourced cuisine and personal rangers that are industry experts offer guests a seamless experience.

The eco-tourists' choice, the lodge is committed to the conversation of the region's wildlife, flora and fauna. With only five stylish suites, this retreat strikes the right note between seclusion and conviviality, there is no "off-road" safari, to protect the reserve's biodiversity, and it has its own butchery, for sustainable and ethical meat preparation.

All the hallmarks of luxury, together with the details that make a place extra-special are in place. The indoors and outdoors interplay delightfully - sit back in bed and take in the views. Enjoy a massage after a day out, or dine under the stars. Strolling out to the terrace for a glass of South



African wine as the sun sets will be about as good as it gets, and each suite offers the unique experience of either a bath or shower outdoors!

Sophisticated, yet earthy - this idyll gets it right. Think stone hearths with a colonial safari vibe, refined with crisp linens and sleek finishes. Gallic elegance meets African panache with much-regaled dining - eating here is a sensory journey.

A host of ultra-luxe extras, including arrival by private jet and hot air balloon rides take it up a level. With proximity to the UNESCO status Drackensberg Park, Durban, Cape Town and Mozambique, the Lodge can be part of a wider experience, and in addition to the over 40 species and circa 280 birds, guests can enjoy a host of other activities.

The five stunning suites overlook the Sunday River and offer spectacular views of the savannah and the bush as well as several communal areas; the “boma”, the bar, the beautiful terrace, the patio and the infinity pool.

At the end of a day spent in the hands of experts on safari, the lodge offers guests true warmth, delectable cooking and an elegant touch of French “art de vivre” fused with extraordinary African experiences.

## Facilities

Maid Service Included • Quirky (Unique) • Wow Factor • Wi-Fi/Internet • Golf Nearby • Spa/Massage • Waterfront • Shared Pool • Romantic • Rural Location • Instagrammable • Resort Villa • Yoga Classes Available • Spa Treatments Available • Transfers Available • Catered • Ideal for Teens • Walk to Restaurant • Safety Deposit Box • Hairdryer • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Heating • Walking/Hiking Paths • Cycling • Horse Riding • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages

# Interior & Grounds

## The Lodge

Esiweni Luxury Safari Lodge is perched on a cliff in KwaZulu-Natal, overlooking the Sunday River. It is within the Nambiti reserve, where cheetahs and rhinos and many other animals can be spotted. The lodge offers 5 individual suites, accommodating up to 15 guests.

### *The Suites \**

- Bedroom with king-size bed or two single beds
- En-suite bathroom with standalone tub
- Sitting area
- Private terrace of 50 sqm with sun beds
- Outside shower or bath

### *Lodge Facilities*

- Shared pool
- Sundeck with loungers
- Main hall with seating areas
- Bar area
- Restaurant with outdoor terrace with views
- Outdoor seating area and firepit

### **Additional Facilities**

- Wi-Fi only available in the main lodge
- Underfloor heating
- Safety deposit box
- Tea and coffee facilities
- Sport and exercise equipment
- Bathrobes and slippers
- Hairdryer
- Transportation within the reserve
- One extra bed per suite available
- Two safari tours per day
- Bush bar and lunch available
- Bush braai excursion available

\* Five suites, almost identical in design and layout





## Location & Local Information

Nestled in the heart of the Nambiti Reserve, between Johannesburg and Durban, in the heart of Zulu land, Esiweni offers unparalleled access to nature and wildlife.

Twenty-five minutes from the local town of Ladysmith, in the northwest of the KwaZulu-Natal province, Nambiti is the region's only reserve which, in addition to the "big five" has more than 40 other animal species including black rhinoceros and cheetahs, and on top of this there are some 280 species of birds. Ladysmith itself has a wealth of historical interest, with a Siege Museum and battlefield memorials to visit.

The Drakensberg mountain range (translating as "dragon" mountains), is more than 200 kilometres long and combines craggy peaks with luscious valleys and strikingly rugged silhouettes, creating a natural border between the kingdom of Lesotho and the province of KwaZulu-Natal. Heading into the UNESCO status park, visitors can enjoy hiking, rafting, horseback riding, biking, 4 x 4, fly fishing and boating.

For something a little extra special, a hot air balloon ride can be arranged - what a magnificent way to enjoy the unrivalled beauty of the region!

With fine dining, a stunning infinity pool, communal areas and pampering massages, heading back to the lodge after a day out in the wild will be a pleasure, or sinking into the infinity pool followed by a sumptuous meal under the stars!

One of Africa's most exclusive private reserves, Esiweni Lodge is a mystical setting offering an extraordinary up-close encounter with the animals of the savannah, including lions, leopards, elephants, giraffes and zebras prowling their natural habitat.

## Local Amenities



Nearest Airport	Johannesburg Airport (400 km)
Nearest Village	Ladysmith (38 km)
Nearest Town/City	Dundee (55 km)
Nearest Restaurant	Esiweni Lodge Restaurant (On site)
Sightseeing	Nambiti Reserve (On site)
Nearest Airport	Durban Airport (350 km)

## What we love

- Ultra stylish eco-lodge in the heart of the Nambiti Game Reserve, offering expert rangers, access to a striking breadth of wildlife, flora and fauna
- Stunningly styled interiors with an ethnic-colonial feel with the polished grace of a well-heeled resort
- True African hospitality, staff care, fine dining and sleek infinity pool with communal areas such as bar, boma and fire pit
- Voted one of the 100 best restaurants in South Africa by American Express
- A host of luxury extras such as hot air balloon rides, pampering massages and excursions into the Drakensberg Mountains

## What you should know...

- There is no mobile reception, although there is Wi-Fi in the main lodge - ideal for enjoying time with loved ones without distractions
- In a remote setting, 2.5-3 hours drive time from the major cities
- No 'off-road' safari, the reserve protects the flora and fauna as much as possible (animals will come very close to the vehicle)
- Some experiences - such as a hot air balloon ride - will incur extra fees (as well as an enthralling experience!)

# Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** Credit card details requested as guarantee
- **Arrival time:** 12pm (noon). An additional charge of R1500 (£70 approx) per person will be charged if arrival at the gate before 11am or if departure from the lodge after 12pm
- **Departure time:** 11am
- **Energy costs included?:** Yes, included in rental price.
- **Linen & towels included?:** Bed linen, bath and pool towels are included in the rental price.
- **Pets welcome?:** Not allowed
- **Other Ts and Cs:** Children under the age of 6 are welcome on request only and with prior agreement with the owner.
- **Changeover day:** Flexible
- **End of stay cleaning available?:** Yes. However, guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival.
- **Smoking Allowed?:** Smoking & Vaping are not permitted.
- **Minimum stay:** 3 nights
- **Tax:** Not included: Menu alcoholic beverages, mineral water, soft drinks, telephone calls, gratuities, curios, Nambiti Private Game Reserve charge per person per stay, Conservation Levy per day and Rhino Levy, payable on day of departure.
- **Internet access?:** Complimentary Wi-Fi internet access included in the main lodge only. No phone reception.

Please note the price rates for 15 guests are based on five suites, occupied by two adults and one child.