

Opulent Travel

Before your safari

What to expect, what to ask and how to enjoy being out in the bush.



With our clients and guides / A sundowner stop on safari

The rhythm of a safari day

Many days begin with coffee before an early game drive, when the air is cool and the light is beautiful. Depending on your camp, you may return for breakfast or stay out with a picnic. There is often time to rest before an afternoon outing. Some routes include longer drives, so we'll explain the pattern for your particular safari.

Get to know your guide

Tell your guide what you enjoy, whether that's big cats, birds, photography or simply watching animals go about their day. Ask questions: tracks, plants and the smaller creatures often reveal as much as the famous sightings. Let them know if you need a stop or find a seat uncomfortable. With shared drives, the day also takes everyone's interests into account.

Time back at camp

The hours between outings are part of the experience. Enjoy lunch, a book on the deck, a swim where there's a pool, or simply watching what passes by. Meals and drinks included in your stay vary by property, so check your itinerary. Remote camps may have limited connectivity; download anything important beforehand and enjoy the chance to put your phone aside.

Feeling comfortable & safe

Follow your guide's instructions around wildlife, and ask camp staff where you may walk on your own. Use an escort after dark wherever required. Let us know about mobility concerns, allergies and dietary needs before traveling: vehicle access, uneven ground and camp layouts differ. Once there, tell the camp team if something affects your comfort, so they can help during your stay.

Your itinerary confirms the vehicles, activities, inclusions and transfers arranged for you.

Whether it's your first safari or a return to Africa, we'll help you feel ready for the adventure.



Your vehicle & game drives

On a fly-in safari, game drives are usually in the camp's open vehicles, often the only vehicle type available there. An enclosed vehicle with a pop-up roof is more typical of a road safari, where a private driver-guide takes you between camps and on game drives. Booking a private drive at camp doesn't necessarily change the vehicle type. We'll explain your arrangements; tell us early if shade, dust or vehicle style concerns you.

Wildlife has its own plans

A safari rewards patience. A quiet stretch may lead to something extraordinary, and spending time with one animal can be more rewarding than rushing to the next sighting. Migration movements follow changing conditions, and particular animals or river crossings can't be promised. We choose the areas and camps carefully; your guide then responds to what is happening on the ground.

Beyond the game drive

Some camps offer guided walks, boat outings, night drives or visits that introduce local communities and conservation work. A balloon flight can be a wonderful addition where available. These experiences depend on the location, season, age requirements and your booking, and some cost extra. Tell us what interests you early, so we can check availability and make the right arrangements.

The practical details

Read your arrival and transfer instructions, and follow the exact baggage guidance for any bush flights. Keep a warm layer and your day bag handy for drives. We'll provide packing and tipping advice for your route, along with local contacts. Before you leave, ask us anything you're unsure about. A little conversation now helps you arrive knowing what to expect.