

Tree Tops

- Name

Tree Tops

- Comfort: (rating/premium/boutique luxury)

4-Star Luxury Tented Camp

- Max. Guest amount

10

- Highlights

A Refined Natural Elevation

Tree Tops Safari Lodge is a luxury tented camp constructed in the tree canopy, offering enchanting views of the serene, wooded valley below. The lodge features 5 bespoke, en-suite canvas canopy suites—each designed with large windows, a thatched roof, and a private balcony overlooking the forested valley.

The main area boasts a spacious lounge and an open-air dining deck overlooking an active waterhole in the forest below. The lodge is thoughtfully positioned and designed to minimise environmental impact, making it a sensorial favourite among birdwatchers, particularly for sightings of the elusive Knysna Turaco.

- Main or Central hotel facilities

Tree Tops Safari Lodge offers a range of facilities designed for comfort, relaxation, and an immersive bush experience. The main lodge area includes indoor and outdoor dining spaces, a comfortable lounge, and a well-stocked bar. Guests can enjoy evenings by the fire pit or unwind at the swimming pool and shaded gazebo between game drives.

Additional amenities include Wi-Fi access throughout the main lodge areas and laundry services available at an additional charge, ensuring convenience and comfort for all guests.

The lodge's elevated decks and open design allow guests to enjoy the surrounding indigenous forest and wildlife, making Tree Tops a tranquil and intimate retreat.

- Guest accommodation

Tree Tops Safari Lodge offers an authentic and immersive safari experience, with luxury canvas suites perched on elevated, thatched platforms at treetop level. Tree Tops Safari Lodge offers five luxury canvas suites perched on elevated thatched platforms, providing an authentic and immersive treetop safari experience. Connected by raised wooden walkways, the lodge is thoughtfully integrated into the natural indigenous forest, allowing guests to feel fully immersed in the bush while preserving the surrounding environment.

Each air-conditioned suite features canvas walls, thatched roofs, and expansive windows, creating the sensation of sleeping among the trees. Private viewing decks provide spectacular views over the wooded valley and a serene spot to relax in privacy.

The en-suite bathrooms include a shower and single basin, designed for comfort in a natural setting. Additional in-room amenities include an in-room coffee station, personal safe, and complimentary Wi-Fi. With a maximum capacity of 10 guests, Tree Tops ensures an intimate and tranquil safari retreat.

- Food & drink

Tree Tops Safari Lodge offers relaxed, yet refined dining experiences in keeping with its immersive bush setting. Guests can enjoy à la carte meals, freshly prepared with locally inspired ingredients, served in indoor or outdoor dining areas surrounded by the sights and sounds of the forest.

The lodge also features a well-stocked bar, offering a range of inclusive beverages, with premium drinks available at an additional cost. Evenings can be spent around the fire pit, making dining and drinks a memorable part of the intimate safari experience.

- Safari & activities

Your stay includes two guided game drives per day, offering the opportunity to fully experience the wildlife and landscapes of the bush. The morning drive sets out at first light, when the reserve awakens and animals are most active, while the afternoon drive continues into the early evening, providing the chance to witness breathtaking sunsets and increased wildlife movement.

For guests wishing to enhance their safari experience, a variety of additional activities are available at an extra cost. These include an exciting Big 5 walking safari, guided bush walks that allow you to discover the smaller details of the wilderness on foot, and thrilling night drives where you can encounter the reserve's fascinating nocturnal wildlife. Guests can also enjoy catch-and-release fishing excursions, offering a peaceful and relaxing way to spend time in nature.

Please speak to your guide upon arrival to learn more about these activities and to arrange bookings during your stay

- Animals

Lalibela Game Reserve is home to a rich and diverse array of wildlife, offering classic African safari sightings across its malaria-free wilderness.

Big Five

You can encounter all of Africa's iconic Big Five species roaming freely in the reserve:

Lion

Elephant

White rhinoceros

Buffalo

Leopard (though sightings can be more elusive)

Other Large Mammals

In addition to the Big Five, the reserve supports a wide variety of other wildlife, including:

Cheetah

Hyena

Hippo

Giraffe

Zebra

Warthog

Various antelope species such as impala, wildebeest, eland, kudu, bushbuck, and blesbok

Smaller & Nocturnal Species

On night drives or with expert guides you may also see:

Jackal
Lynx
Bat-eared fox
Aardvark
Aardwolf
Springhare
Blue duiker and rock hyrax

Birdlife

The reserve is also rich in birdlife, with numerous species flourishing across the varied habitats spread over its ecosystems.

All of these animals roam freely throughout the reserve, creating an authentic and immersive safari experience.

○ Position

Tree Tops is one of six exclusive lodges within the Lalibela Wildlife Reserve, each offering unique access to the reserve's diverse landscapes and abundant wildlife.

○ Climate & best time to travel

Lalibela Wildlife Reserve enjoys a temperate, malaria-free climate, making it ideal for year-round safari experiences. The region generally experiences warm summers (November to March) with occasional afternoon showers, which bring lush green landscapes and thriving wildlife. Winters (May to September) are cooler and drier, offering crisp mornings and clear skies, which make wildlife easier to spot as animals gather around water sources.

The best time to visit is during the summer months, from November to March, when the warmer temperatures and occasional afternoon showers bring lush green landscapes and abundant wildlife activity. This season offers vibrant scenery and the opportunity to experience the reserve at its most alive, with dramatic skies and a lively bushveld atmosphere.

However, the reserve's scenery and wildlife remain captivating throughout the year, offering a different but equally rewarding experience in every season.

○ Arrival (how best to get there but provide all options e.g. flights, road transfer)

Tree Tops is located within the Lalibela Wildlife Reserve in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. There are several convenient ways to reach the reserve, depending on your preferences for travel style and comfort:

Fly to Port Elizabeth Airport (PLZ)

This is the most popular and efficient option for most national and international travellers:

Port Elizabeth Airport (PLZ) is approximately 90–95 km (about a 1-hour drive) from Lalibela Wildlife Reserve. From the airport you can choose one of the following onward options:

Self-Drive / Hire Car

Rent a car at Port Elizabeth Airport on arrival.

Drive via the N2 National Highway toward Grahamstown (Makhanda).

Turn off at the signed Lalibela Wildlife Reserve entrance and follow the reserve access road to the parking area.

This route is fully tarred and easy to navigate in a standard rental vehicle.

GPS link via Google Maps for Lalibela Main Gate: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/dMVoXBD5PKLJ6o4A9>

Private Transfer

Arrange a private transfer in advance through our trusted partner transfer company.

A comfortable transfer vehicle and driver will meet you at the airport and take you directly to the reception area — ideal for guests who prefer not to drive.

Road Travel from Major Cities

For guests driving from within South Africa:

From Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha): Follow the N2 north for about 90–95 km to the Lalibela Wildlife Reserve turn-off.

From Grahamstown (Makhanda): Drive south on the N2 to the Lalibela turn-off.

From East London: Take the N2 west toward Port Elizabeth and follow directions to the reserve turn-off.

Important Arrival Info

Check-in is from 12:00 to 13:00, as lunch is served at 13:00.

Please let us know your anticipated arrival time so we can prepare for your arrival and ensure transfers are coordinated smoothly.

- Children

Please note that Tree Tops has an age restriction and only accommodates guests aged 14 years and older.

- Health (e.g. Malaria area or Malaria-free)

Lalibela Wildlife Reserve is a malaria-free area, making it a safe destination for families and travellers without the need for anti-malarial medication.

- Security (e.g. full fenced Safari Lodge, or 24-hour reception/guest services)

Lalibela Wildlife Reserve and Tree Tops prioritize guest safety and peace of mind. The lodge is situated within a fully fenced private reserve, with all access points carefully controlled to ensure a secure environment for guests.

On-site staff are available to assist guests throughout the day, and there is 24-hour guest services and response for any needs or concerns.

- Accessibility (e.g. Wheelchair friendly)

Please note that Tree Tops Safari Lodge is not wheelchair-friendly or accessible, as the elevated suites, raised walkways, and steps throughout the lodge make it unsuitable for guests requiring mobility assistance.

- Operator (e.g. family-owned)

Private owner