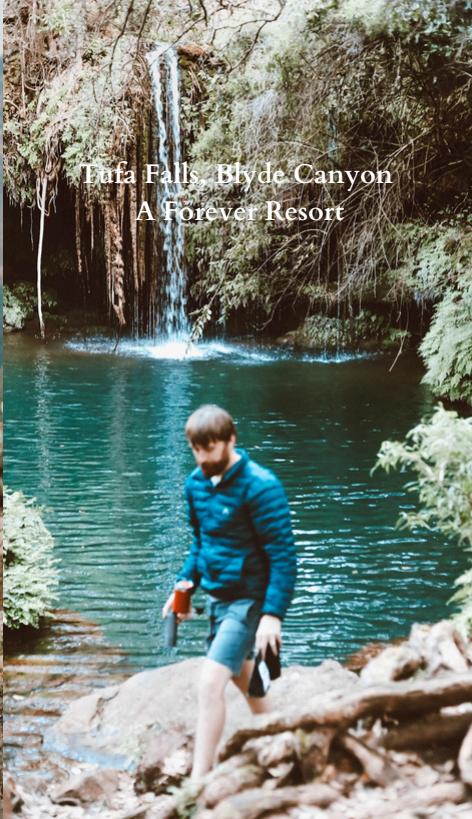


The Ultimate Guide

MPUMALANGA & THE PANORAMA ROUTE

South Africa

Ruthie Betts



Mpumalanga Guide

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Mpumalanga Guide

Mpumalanga & Panorama Route



We're so excited that you're about to explore one of the most breathtaking regions of South Africa! And we're truly honoured to be your guides on this adventure.

There's something about the Panorama Route that keeps pulling us back. Maybe it's the way the morning mist drapes over Blyde River Canyon, or how the endless waterfalls seem to tumble straight from the clouds. Maybe it's the golden glow of the Lowveld at sunset, the thrill of spotting wildlife in Kruger, or the charm of those small-town cafés where the coffee is strong and the stories are even stronger.

After years of travelling full-time, we've explored this region inside and out, uncovering hidden gems that don't always make the usual "must-visit" lists. And now, we're handing over all our best finds to you!

This guide is here to make your trip as seamless, exciting, and downright magical as possible. From iconic bucket-list experiences to those little moments that make all the difference, we've packed in everything you need to know—so you can just focus on the adventure ahead. So, grab a cup of coffee (or a cold beer for those sundowner vibes), get comfy, and let's start planning your next big road trip through one of South Africa's most spectacular landscapes!

Mpumalanga Guide

Meet Your Guides: Josh and Ruthie Betts

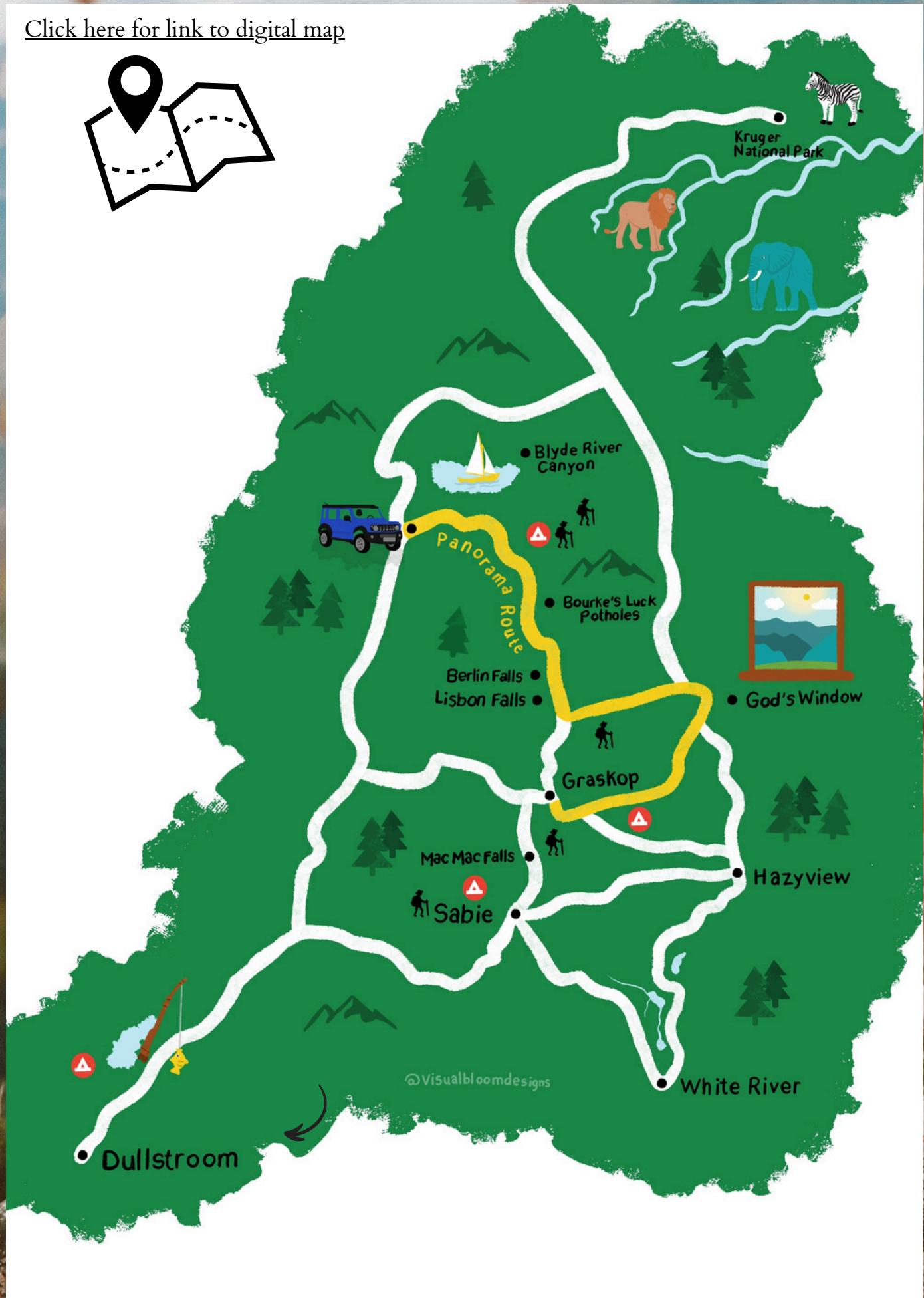
Hi there! We're Josh and Ruthie Betts, better known online as [@life_of_betts](#), and we're absolutely thrilled to be your guides on this adventure through the Panorama Route and Mpumalanga! Thanks for choosing us. ❤️

As full-time travellers for the past four years, we've had the incredible privilege of exploring South Africa from top to toe—chasing hidden waterfalls, waking up to golden bushveld sunrises, and discovering those off-the-beaten-path spots that make a trip truly unforgettable. Our passion? Helping others experience the joy of travel. With our love for crafting seamless, adventure-packed itineraries, we're here to ensure you get the absolute best out of your journey. Whether you're a thrill-seeker chasing epic viewpoints, a nature lover eager to explore lush landscapes, or someone craving the ultimate South African road trip—we've got you covered.

Through this guide, we're sharing not just insider tips and recommendations, but a piece of our hearts. So, buckle up, get ready for jaw-dropping scenery, epic adventures, and unforgettable moments—and let's hit the road together! 🌟



[Click here for link to digital map](#)



@Visual bloom designs

The Right to Roam & Traceless Tourism

The Right to Roam

South Africa is home to vast, breathtaking landscapes just waiting to be explored. But unlike some countries where "the right to roam" allows open access to natural spaces, most land here is privately owned or protected—meaning a little extra awareness is needed when adventuring.

The good news? The Panorama Route and Mpumalanga are filled with national parks, nature reserves, and public hiking trails, making it easy (and legal!) to immerse yourself in the wild.

To explore responsibly, always:

Stick to marked trails and public access points.

Follow local guidelines and respect property boundaries.

Honour the history, culture, and ecosystems that make these places special.

In this region, you'll find some of South Africa's most spectacular protected areas, including:

Blyde River Canyon – Home to iconic viewpoints, dramatic cliffs, and lush forests.

Kruger National Park – One of the world's greatest safari destinations.

God's Window & Bourke's Luck Potholes – Unmissable natural wonders shaped over millions of years.

Before visiting, it's always a good idea to check entry fees, permits, and park rules to ensure a smooth adventure.

Traceless Tourism

The beauty of the Panorama Route and Mpumalanga is wild, raw, and fragile—and keeping it that way is up to all of us. Traceless tourism isn't just a trend; it's about ensuring that the only thing you leave behind is footprints, and the only thing you take is memories (and a thousand photos).

Here's how to travel with impact:

Pack it in, pack it out – If there's no bin, take your rubbish with you.

Stay on the path – Straying off-trail damages delicate ecosystems.

Respect the wildlife – No feeding, no chasing, no selfies with unsuspecting animals.

Camp responsibly – Stick to designated campsites to protect fragile environments.

Travel with reusables – Bring your own water bottle, shopping bags, and cutlery to reduce waste.

South Africa's landscapes are one of a kind—by treading lightly, we can help keep them that way for generations to come. 

Seasons / When to Travel, and Where?



Summer (December – February) | Lush, Vibrant & Bustling

Expect hot days, dramatic thunderstorms, and waterfalls in full force! The landscapes transform into a lush green paradise, and the Kruger National Park comes alive with baby animals and thriving wildlife. The humidity is high, and afternoon storms roll in like clockwork—so pack for both heat and rain.

Best for: Swimming in rock pools, waterfall chasing, lush green landscapes, and wildlife safaris. **Good to know:** It's peak season—accommodation and activities book out fast, so plan ahead!

Autumn (March – May) | Golden Hues & Fewer Crowds

One of the best times to visit (trust us!). The intense summer heat fades, waterfalls are still flowing, and the forests take on rich golden hues. The dry season begins, meaning incredible wildlife sightings as animals gather at waterholes. The cooler, crisp air makes hiking and road-tripping an absolute dream!

Best for: Scenic drives, hiking, golden landscapes, and incredible wildlife viewing.

Good to know: Mild weather + fewer crowds = a perfect time to explore!

Winter (June – August) | Safari Season & Crisp Mornings

Winter means prime safari time! The dry grasslands make wildlife easier to spot, and Kruger's game viewing is at its best. Days are warm and sunny, but expect chilly mornings and evenings—pack layers! Waterfalls lose a bit of volume, but viewpoints are crystal clear with little to no mist.

Best for: Game drives, cosy lodge stays, clear viewpoints, and fewer tourists.

Good to know: This is the most affordable season to visit, with off-season deals galore!

Spring (September – November) | Blooming Landscapes & Perfect Temperatures

Spring is an absolute dream—the landscapes burst into bloom, waterfalls gain strength, and the temperatures are just right. It's the best of both worlds: warming days, low crowds, and unreal wildlife sightings before the summer rains return. The Blyde River Canyon looks straight out of a postcard, with bright greens and wildflowers in full force.

Best for: Scenic drives, outdoor adventures, birdwatching, and early-season safaris.

Good to know: October & November offer the perfect mix of pleasant weather and fewer crowds.

Mpumalanga Guide Digital Tools

📍 Offline Navigation

Google Maps & Maps.me – Download offline maps for fuel stops, trails & lodges.

⚡ Power & Loadshedding

EskomSePush – Check loadshedding schedules across South Africa.

🥾 Hiking & Trail Navigation

AllTrails – Trail maps, difficulty ratings & GPS tracking.

🏕️ Campsites & Lodges

Overlander.com & Camping SA – Find & review campsites & remote lodges.

❄️ Weather Forecasts

WeatherSA – Accurate forecasts for game drives & hikes.

🦁 Wildlife & Birding

Kruger Animal Spotters – Real-time animal sightings in Kruger.

iNaturalist & BirdPro – Identify wildlife & birds on the go.

📁 Travel Docs & Bookings

Google Drive & iCloud – Backup IDs, bookings & permits.

Mpumalanga Guide Budget

Accommodation Costs

- Budget (R250–R500 pp) – Backpacker lodges, camping, basic self-catering chalets.
- Mid-Range (R1,000–R2,500 per room) – B&Bs, guesthouses, comfortable lodges.
- Luxury (R4,000–R15,000+ per night) – Private game lodges, high-end resorts, safaris (often all-inclusive).

Activity Costs

- Low-Cost (R50–R300 pp) – Scenic viewpoints, waterfalls, hiking trails, nature reserves.
- Mid-Range (R400–R1,200 pp) – Canopy tours, guided hikes, boat cruises.
- Luxury (R2,000–R8,000+ pp) – Hot air balloon safaris, private game drives, high-end wildlife tours.

Food & Drink

- Budget (R100–R250 per day) – Self-catering, takeaways (R80–R200 per meal).
- Mid-Range (R200–R450 pp) – Casual restaurants.
- Luxury (R800–R2,000+ pp) – Fine dining, lodge meals with wine pairings.

Mpumalanga Guide Budget

Transport Costs

- Car Hire (R500–R800 per day) – Essential for exploring.
- Fuel (R1,500–R3,000 per trip) – Depending on route & vehicle.
- Tolls & Park Fees (R50–R460 pp) – Varies by park & residency status.

Daily Budget Estimates

- Budget Traveller – R700–R1,200 per day.
- Comfort-Seeker – R1,500–R3,500 per day.
- Luxury Explorer – R6,000+ per day.

Money-Saving Tips

- ✓ Travel off-season for better rates.
- ✓ Book 3+ months ahead, especially for peak season.
- ✓ Choose self-catering to cut food costs.
- ✓ Mix free activities (hikes, scenic drives) with a few splurges.
- ✓ Travel in a group to share costs.

Mpumalanga Guide Packing List

Clothing

- ✓ Layers – Lightweight for warm days, fleece/windbreaker for cool nights.
- ✓ Activewear – Breathable, quick-drying fabrics for hikes.
- ✓ Rain Gear – Compact waterproof jacket or poncho.
- ✓ Swimwear – For waterfalls, lodge pools, and hot springs.

Footwear

- ✓ Hiking Boots/Trail Shoes – Essential for rugged trails.
- ✓ Sandals/Flip-Flops – Great for relaxing or beach days.
- ✓ Casual Sneakers – Perfect for town strolls and light walks.

Sun Protection

- ✓ Hat & Sunglasses – Midday sun can be harsh.
- ✓ Sunscreen (High SPF) – A must for outdoor adventures.

Outdoor & Adventure Gear

- ✓ Daypack – Carry essentials on day trips.
- ✓ Reusable Water Bottle – Stay hydrated.
- ✓ Binoculars – Ideal for wildlife spotting.
- ✓ Headlamp/Flashlight – Useful for camping & power outages.
- ✓ Quick-Drying Towel – Great for swimming & camping.

Mpumalanga Guide Packing List



Tech & Navigation

- ✓ Phone & Charger – For maps, photos, and staying connected.
- ✓ Power Bank – Essential for long road trips.
- ✓ Offline Maps – Download Google Maps or Maps.me.
- ✓ Camera/GoPro – Capture stunning landscapes & wildlife.
- ✓ Universal Adapter – For international travellers.
- 💡 Kruger Animal Spotters App – Track real-time wildlife sightings.

Toiletries & Health

- ✓ Bug Spray – Mosquitoes are common near water.
- ✓ First Aid Kit – Include plasters, painkillers, antihistamines, & personal meds.
- ✓ Personal Toiletries – Toothbrush, shampoo, deodorant, soap.

Documents & Essentials

- ✓ ID or Passport – Keep digital & physical copies.
- ✓ Park Permits & Tickets – Save digital copies of Kruger & Blyde River Canyon permits.
- ✓ Cash – Some rural areas don't accept cards.

Extras to Consider

- ✓ Snacks – Energy bars, trail mix, or fruit for long drives & hikes.
- ✓ Eco-Friendly Bags – For shopping & wet gear.
- ✓ Books/Kindle – Perfect for relaxing between activities.

Mpumalanga Guide Getting Around



Airports: Fly into the Region

✈ Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport (KMIA) – Nelspruit (Mbombela) Closest to the Panorama Route (50 min from Graskop, 90 min from Kruger).

✈ OR Tambo International Airport – Johannesburg Best for international arrivals. Drive 4–5 hours to the Panorama Route or rent a car.

Self-Drive: The Best Way to Explore

Car Hire – Available at KMIA & OR Tambo, starting from R450/day (excluding fuel). Opt for a car with good ground clearance for gravel roads.

Fuel Costs – Petrol stations are available, but fill up before heading into remote areas.

Road Conditions – Main roads are paved, but some gravel roads can be bumpy.

Kruger Self-Drive – Check if your rental allows driving in Kruger National Park.

Mpumalanga Guide Getting Around



Public Transport: Limited & Unreliable

Minibus Taxis – Available but not tourist-friendly.

Bolt & Uber – Work in bigger towns but not in remote areas.

Shuttle Services & Guided Tours

Shuttle Services – Some companies offer transfers between Johannesburg, the Panorama Route & Kruger.

Guided Tours – Great for hassle-free travel with transport, activities & accommodation included. Lodges can help arrange tours.

Cycling & Walking

Cycling – Some lodges rent bikes for exploring scenic trails & reserves.

Walking – Towns like Graskop, Sabie & Hoedspruit are pedestrian-friendly, with great hiking trails.

Wildlife Safety – Check if walking or cycling is safe due to free-roaming animals.

Mpumalanga Guide Wildlife & Animals

🌿 Wildlife in the Wild

Kruger's Elephants – These gentle giants roam freely in Kruger National Park and nearby reserves. Seeing them in the wild is unforgettable!

Leopards of the Lowveld – Stealthy and elusive, leopards prowl the forests and rocky outcrops of Kruger, Blyde River Canyon, and Sabi Sands. Spotting one is pure luck!

Hippos & Crocs in the Sabie River – The Sabie River is packed with hippos and lurking crocs. Stop at Lower Sabie's Sunset Dam for top wildlife viewing.

🐆 Game Reserves & Wildlife Parks

Mpumalanga is Big Five country, and there are plenty of places to experience the magic of a South African safari:

Kruger National Park – South Africa's most famous park and a must-visit for any wildlife lover. You can self-drive or join a guided safari.

Sabi Sands Game Reserve – A private reserve bordering Kruger, offering luxury safaris and some of the best leopard sightings in Africa.

Manyeleti Game Reserve – Less crowded than Kruger and Sabi Sands, Manyeleti offers an authentic safari experience with incredible wildlife viewing.

Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve – While it's better known for its epic scenery, the reserve is home to small antelope, vervet monkeys, and even elusive leopards!

Mpumalanga Guide

Wildlife & Animals

🐘 Ethical Wildlife Sanctuaries

For up-close encounters with rescued animals and conservation efforts, check out:

Elephant Whispers (Hazyview) – Learn about orphaned elephants and conservation efforts while interacting with these gentle giants in an ethical way.

Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre – Near Hoedspruit, this centre rescues and rehabilitates injured animals, from cheetahs to vultures.

Chimp Eden (Near Nelspruit) – A Jane Goodall Institute sanctuary for rescued chimpanzees, offering educational tours on primate conservation.

🐦 Birdlife

Mpumalanga is a birder's paradise with over 500 species!

Peregrine Falcons & Verreaux's Eagles – Soaring over Blyde River Canyon, these raptors hunt in the cliffs and offer spectacular sightings for bird lovers.

Lilac-Breasted Rollers & Hornbills – Vibrant flashes of colour in Kruger's trees—keep an eye out for these photogenic beauties!

Flamingos & Waterbirds – In Loskop Dam & Verloren Valei Nature Reserve, seasonal wetlands attract flamingos, herons, and other rare species.

❤️ Respecting Nature

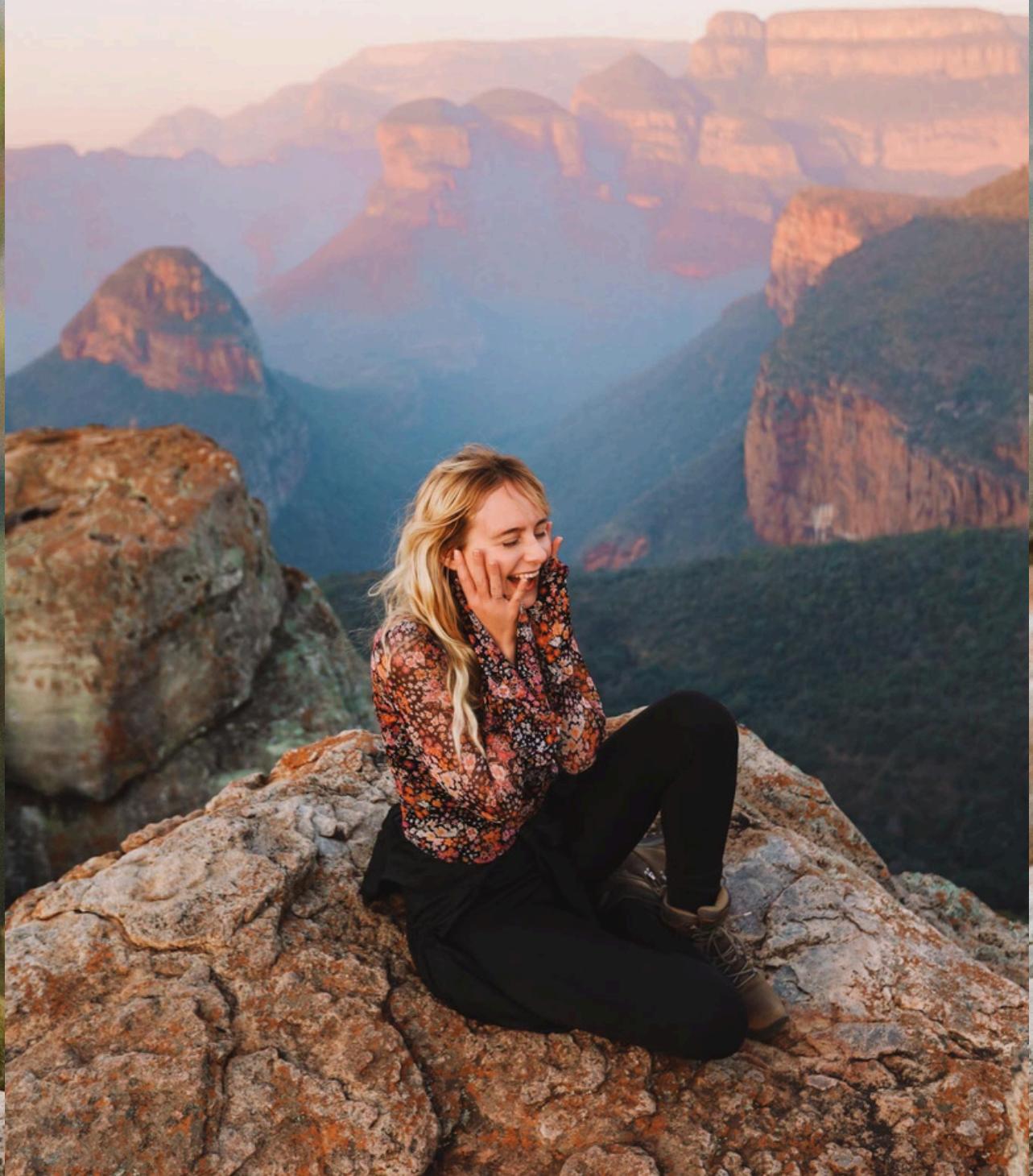
When encountering wildlife, remember:

- ✓ Keep a safe distance – No touching or chasing!
- ✓ Never feed wild animals – It disrupts their natural behaviour.
- ✓ Support ethical sanctuaries – Choose places focused on rehabilitation & conservation.

Mpumalanga's wild spaces are magical—let's protect them for generations to come! ❤️



Now that we've covered all our bases
let's get started



Upper Lookout, Blyde Canyon A Forever Resort

Mpumalanga Guide

Little Footprints

Family Friendly Stays



Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort, Graskop ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R1,555 per room per night, based on 2 persons
- Sleeps: Accommodations range from 2 to 12 guests, depending on the unit type
- Offerings:
 - Variety of accommodations including chalets, guesthouses, tents, and camping sites
 - Fully equipped kitchens in chalets and guesthouses
 - Air-conditioning and TVs with selected DSTV channels in most units
 - Private braai (BBQ) facilities
 - Daily servicing of units
 - On-site restaurant (Kadisi Restaurant) and bar (Kadisi Bar)
 - Swimming pool
 - Hiking trails and adventure activities
 - Horse riding, putt-putt, trampolines, tennis, and volleyball
 - Conference and wedding facilities
 - Convenience store and petrol station on-site
 - Proximity to attractions like the Three Rondavels, Blyde River Canyon, Bourke's Luck Potholes, and God's Window.



Mpumalanga Guide

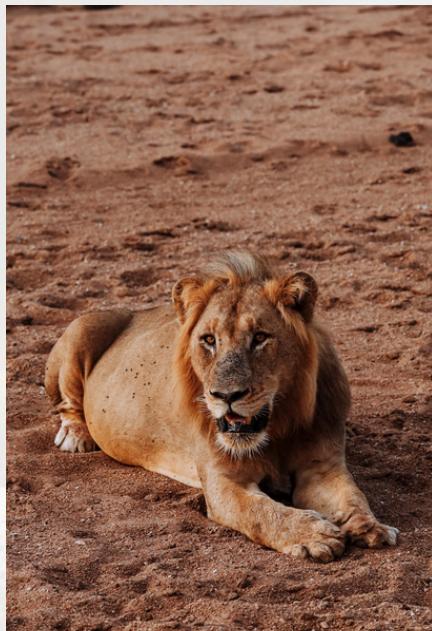
Little Footprints

Family Friendly Stays



Ebony House – Mjejane Game Reserve ([video](#)) NOT FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R5,200 per night
- Sleeps: 8 guests in 4 bedrooms (3 en-suite)
- Offerings:
 - Self-catering lodge within Mjejane Big 5 Game Reserve
 - Main bedroom with king-size bed and en-suite bathroom (bath and shower)
 - Two bedrooms each with queen-size beds and en-suite bathrooms (shower)
 - Fourth bedroom with 2 single beds and separate bathroom (shower and bath)
 - Fully equipped kitchen with stove, oven, fridge-freezer, microwave, and tea- and coffee-making facilities
 - Open-plan living area with fireplace, TV with DSTv and Netflix, and indoor dining area
 - Covered patio with built-in braai, splash pool, and deck overlooking the bush
 - Free Wi-Fi
 - Secure parking
 - Access to private game-drive roads within the reserve (game drives to be arranged in advance)
 - Proximity to Kruger National Park's Malelane and Crocodile Bridge gates (approximately 30 km)
 - Small on-site shop offering firewood, ice, refreshments, snacks, beer, and wine
 - **No children under 6 years allowed.**



Little Footprints

Family Friendly Stays



Kruger Wild Dog Inn, Marloth Park ([link to socials](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R800 per night (budget-friendly)
- Sleeps: Varies by unit; options range from 2 to 15 guests per house
- Offerings:
 - Self-catering accommodation in Marloth Park, adjacent to Kruger National Park
 - Fully equipped kitchens with appliances
 - Air-conditioning and fans in all units
 - Private braai (BBQ) facilities
 - Swimming pool
 - Free Wi-Fi
 - TV with Openview or satellite channels
 - Secure parking on-site
 - Daily servicing of units
 - Proximity to Crocodile Bridge Gate (approximately 17 km)
 - Access to wildlife viewing within Marloth Park.

The Big Easy Rest, Dullstroom ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R5,000 per night
- Sleeps: 8 guests in 4 en-suite bedrooms (king or twin beds)
- Offerings:
 - Self-catering house within Highland Gate Golf & Trout Estate
 - Fully equipped kitchen with gas stove, oven, dishwasher, and Nespresso machine
 - Indoor braai and gas fireplace
 - Flat-screen TV with full DSTV package
 - Free Wi-Fi
 - Private patio with mountain views
 - Access to hiking, cycling, birdwatching, trout fishing, and golf within the estate
 - Secure parking on-site
 - No pets allowed.



The Oaks – Katrinasrust Country Estate, Machadodorp ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R2,950 (weeknights) to R4,200 (weekends) per night
- Sleeps: Up to 10 guests (6 adults and 4 children) in 4 bedrooms
- Offerings:
 - Self-catering cottage nestled beside ancient oak trees in a private, enclosed garden
 - Three double bedrooms and one bunk room for children
 - One full bathroom (bath and shower), an additional separate shower, and a separate toilet
 - Fully equipped kitchen with oven, gas hob, ice machine, bread machine, and fridge
 - Open-plan dining and living area with fireplace
 - Outdoor amenities include a shaded pergola for dining, braai area, fire pit, pizza oven, and a KolKol wood-fired hot tub
 - Daily housekeeping service
 - Pet-friendly with a fenced garden; no additional charge for pets
 - Access to 500 hectares of farm land with hiking and biking trails, fly fishing in dams and rivers, birdwatching, and picnic spots
 - Limited Wi-Fi available in communal areas; no cell signal on the property

95 Misty Meadows House, Dullstroom ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R10,450 per night (sleeps 10)
- Sleeps: 10 guests in 5 en-suite bedrooms
- Offerings:
 - Self-catering accommodation
 - Fully equipped kitchen with a 6-burner gas stove, microwave, and dishwasher
 - Open-plan living area with fireplace
 - 12-seater dining room
 - Braai area and pizza oven on the patio
 - Free Wi-Fi and satellite TV
 - Daily servicing
 - Secure parking
 - Trout fishing on-site
 - Hiking trails nearby
 - Located within Walkersons Private Estate, Dullstroom.

Mpumalanga Guide

Dreamy Destinations

Romantic Getaways

La Kruger Lifestyle Lodge, Marloth Park ([link to socials](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R1,595 per person sharing per night
- Sleeps: Up to 25 guests in various room types
- Offerings:
 - Luxury bush chalets and deluxe rooms with king or twin beds
 - En-suite bathrooms with bath and shower; some units feature outdoor showers
 - Private verandas with options for secluded dining
 - Air-conditioning, minibar, coffee/tea facilities, and in-room safes
 - Free Wi-Fi and on-site parking
 - Swimming pool and outdoor fireplace
 - On-site restaurant offering breakfast and dinner
 - Laundry services and conferencing facilities
 - Located in Marloth Park, adjacent to Kruger National Park



La Kruger Lifestyle Lodge, Marloth Park

Dreamy Destinations

Romantic Getaways

Nare Bush Lodge, Mjejane Game Reserve ([photos](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R9,399 per night (sleeps up to 10 guests)
- Sleeps: Up to 10 guests in 5 en-suite bedrooms
- Offerings:
 - Luxury Afro-boutique lodge within Mjejane Private Game Reserve
 - Suites with queen extra-length beds, walk-in and outdoor showers, and free-standing baths
 - Air-conditioning, ceiling fans, personal safes, and complimentary toiletries
 - Private verandas with bushveld views
 - Swimming pool, outdoor boma with fire pit, and viewing deck
 - Fully equipped kitchen and indoor/outdoor dining areas
 - Free Wi-Fi and secure parking
 - Proximity to Kruger National Park's Malelane and Crocodile Bridge gates

Nightjar – Katrinasrust Country Estate, Machadodorp ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R2,200 (weeknights) to R3,200 (weekends) per night
- Sleeps: 2 guests
- Offerings:
 - Unique dome-shaped accommodation nestled at the base of a koppie
 - Queen-size bed, dressing area, and en-suite bathroom with shower
 - Fully equipped kitchen with gas hob, air fryer, and microwave
 - Open fireplace in the lounge area
 - Covered stoep and deck with KolKol wood-fired hot tub
 - Braai facilities and firewood provided
 - Daily servicing
 - Access to hiking and biking trails, fly fishing, and birdwatching on the estate
 - Pet-friendly by arrangement; no children under 16



Nightjar – Katrinasrust Country Estate, Machadodorp

Mpumalanga Guide

Dreamy Destinations

Romantic Getaways

Summerfields Rose Retreat & Spa, Hazyview ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R3,500 per night
- Sleeps: 2 guests per suite
- Offerings:
 - Luxury tented suites set along the Sabie River
 - King-size beds with mosquito nets and en-suite bathrooms
 - Private outdoor showers and baths
 - Air-conditioning, minibar, and tea/coffee facilities
 - On-site spa offering a range of treatments
 - Gourmet restaurant serving organic and locally sourced cuisine
 - Swimming pool and riverside lounging areas
 - Free Wi-Fi and secure parking
 - Proximity to Kruger National Park and Panorama Route attractions



Summerfields Rose Retreat & Spa, Hazyview



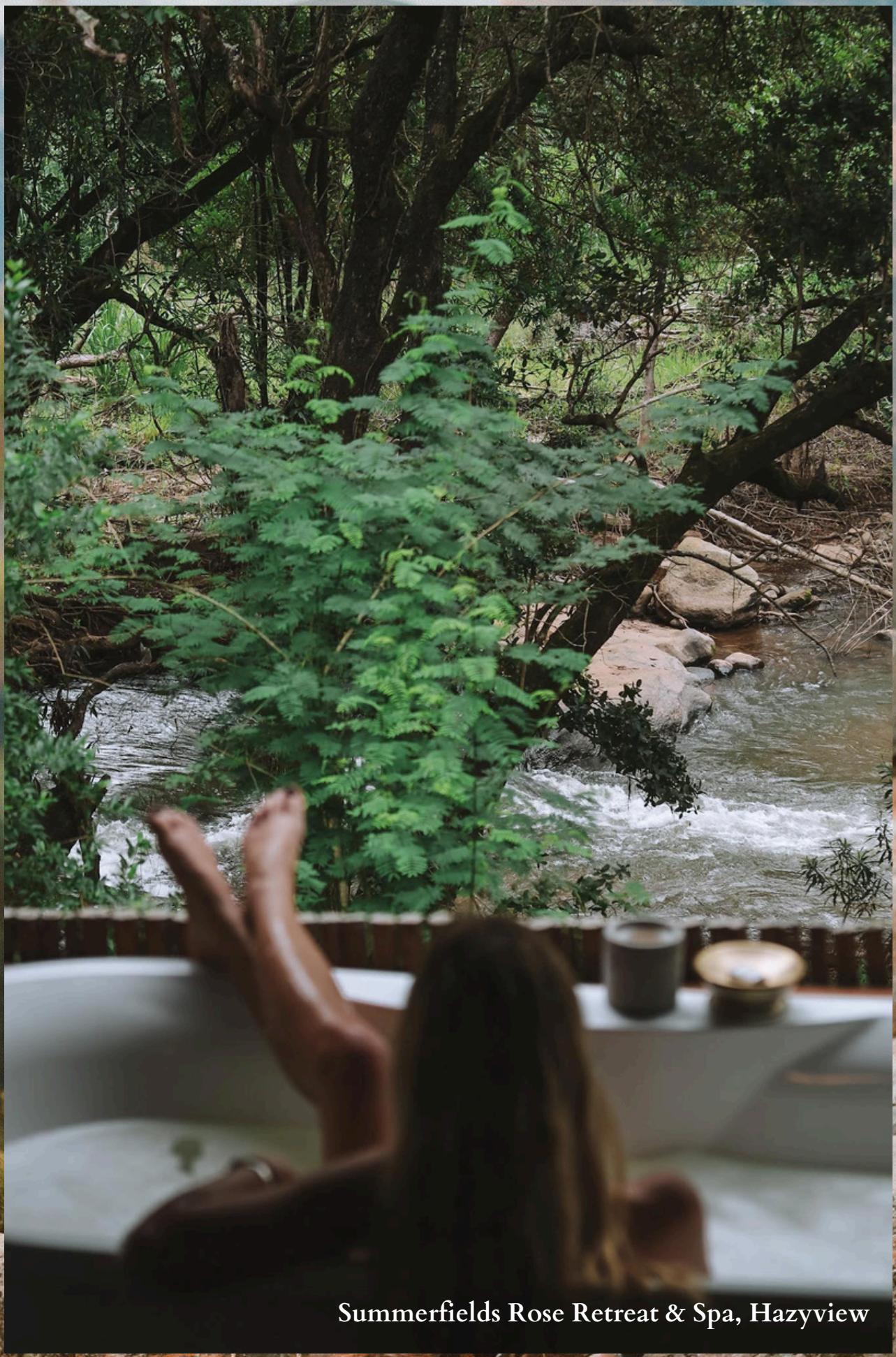


Komati Gorge Lodge, eNtokozweni ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R1,185 per person sharing per night (River Lodge Suites) to R8,950 per night (Yellowwood Manor)
- Sleeps: Accommodations range from 2 to 10 guests, depending on the unit type
- Offerings:
 - Variety of accommodations including suites and cottages with queen beds
 - En-suite bathrooms with baths and separate toilets
 - Private verandas with braai (BBQ) facilities
 - Fireplaces in lounges
 - DSTV (satellite TV)
 - Fully equipped kitchens in cottages
 - Access to hiking trails, fishing, and birdwatching
 - On-site restaurant and bar
 - Splash pool and outdoor activities like archery, canoeing, and horse riding
 - Daily housekeeping services
 - Pet friendly

Ndhula Luxury Tented Lodge, White River ([video](#))

- Link: [Link to book](#)
- Average Price/Night: From R5,200 per night for 2 people (Luxury Safari Tent) to R8,840 per night (Luxury Family Tent)
- Sleeps: Up to 4 guests per tent
- Offerings:
 - Luxury tented accommodations with queen-size beds
 - En-suite bathrooms with showers
 - Private decks with panoramic views
 - Air-conditioning and heating
 - Tea and coffee-making facilities
 - Free Wi-Fi in public areas
 - On-site restaurant serving breakfast and dinner
 - Swimming pool
 - Access to walking trails and wildlife viewing
 - Proximity to Kruger National Park and Panorama Route attractions



Summerfields Rose Retreat & Spa, Hazyview

Mpumalanga Guide

Campsites We Love

Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort, Graskop

- Link: foreverblydecanyon.co.za
- Average Price/Night: From R300 per person per night for camping stands
- Sleeps: Varies by campsite; typically accommodates up to 6 guests per stand
- Offerings:
 - Campsites with electrical points and shared ablution facilities
 - Access to resort amenities including swimming pools, hiking trails, and a restaurant
 - Proximity to natural attractions like the Blyde River Canyon and Bourke's Luck Potholes
 - Ideal for nature enthusiasts and families seeking outdoor activities

Dullstroom on the Dam, Dullstroom

- Link: dullstroomonthedam.co.za
- Average Price/Night: R150 per person per night; children under 13 – R80 per night
- Sleeps: Flexible; campsites accommodate tents and caravans of various sizes
- Offerings:
 - Pet-friendly camping and caravan park with beautiful dam views
 - Hot water ablutions, standard power points, and braai facilities
 - Fly-fishing in the only public waters in Dullstroom
 - Horse riding and pony rides available for all ages
 - Tranquil atmosphere just 800 meters from Dullstroom town center

Merry Pebbles Resort, Sabie

- Link: merrypebbles.co.za
- Average Price/Night: From R150 per person per night for camping sites
- Sleeps: Up to 8 persons per campsite
- Offerings:
 - 180 level, grassed, and shaded camping and caravan sites with 15amp power points
 - Four large ablution facilities, three sculleries, and coin-operated laundromat
 - Heated and cold water swimming pools, water slides, and play parks
 - Trout fishing and tubing on the Sabie River
 - On-site restaurant, convenience shop, and mini-golf
 - Free Wi-Fi throughout the resort
 - No motorcycles or quad bikes permitted



Mpumalanga Guide

Campsites We Love

Panorama Chalets and Rest Camp, Graskop

- Link: panoramaviewchalets.co.za
- Average Price/Night: From R200 per person per night for camping stands
- Sleeps: Varies by campsite; typically accommodates up to 6 guests per stand
- Offerings:
 - 21 grassed camping stands, some overlooking the Graskop Gorge
 - 220V/10A power outlets for each stand
 - Laundry facilities, camp kitchen with scullery, and clean ablution facilities
 - Drum braais available on sites
 - Free Wi-Fi available in all chalets, campsites, and restaurant
 - Proximity to attractions like God's Window, Pilgrim's Rest, and Blyde River Canyon



Panorama Chalets and Rest Camp, Graskop



Restaurants We Love

Anvil Ale House & Brewery – Dullstroom

A haven for craft beer enthusiasts, Anvil Ale House offers a rustic yet cozy atmosphere. Their award-winning brews, like the Mjolnir IPA and Malificent Amber Ale, pair perfectly with hearty pub fare.

- Try this: Beer tasting flight and their signature burgers.
- Best time: Afternoon for a relaxed vibe.
- Reservations? Recommended on weekends.

Divine Foods at The View – Graskop

Perched with panoramic views, this spot combines breathtaking scenery with delectable dishes. Their pizzas, especially the Mexicana, are a crowd favorite.

- Try this: Mexicana Pizza and their 3 Cheese Pizza.
- Best time: Lunch after visiting the Graskop Gorge Lift.
- Reservations? Not essential, but can be busy during peak hours.

Kuka Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge – Hazyview

A vibrant mix of Afro-chic decor and a diverse menu. From sumptuous breakfasts to creative cocktails, Kuka offers it all.

- Try this: Their signature cocktails and gourmet burgers.
- Best time: Dinner for a lively atmosphere.
- Reservations? Advised for dinner.

Magnolia Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge – White River

A sophisticated spot with a touch of French charm. Their menu is both trendy and comforting, perfect for a romantic evening.

- Try this: Seasonal specials and handcrafted cocktails.
- Best time: Evening for a relaxed dinner.
- Reservations? Recommended.

Mayfly Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge – Dullstroom

A cozy spot offering a mix of contemporary dishes and classic favorites. Their outdoor seating is perfect for sunny days.

- Try this: Wood-fired pizzas and their cocktail specials.
- Best time: Lunch or early dinner.
- Reservations? Not usually necessary.

Restaurants We Love

Mrs. Simpson's Restaurant – Dullstroom

An eclectic eatery filled with character. Known for its quirky decor and hearty meals, it's a Dullstroom staple.

- Try this: Lamb shank and their decadent desserts.
- Best time: Dinner for a cozy experience.
- Reservations? Highly recommended.

Phat Boys Beer House – White River

A lively venue offering a vast selection of beers and a menu full of comfort food. Great for groups and casual outings.

- Try this: Their beer specials and loaded fries.
- Best time: Evenings for a bustling vibe.
- Reservations? Advised for large groups.

Picasso's Mexican Taqueria – White River

A vibrant spot bringing authentic Mexican flavors to Mpumalanga. Their tacos and margaritas are a must-try.

- Try this: Taco platters and classic margaritas.
- Best time: Dinner for a festive atmosphere.
- Reservations? Recommended.

River's Edge Restaurant – Hazyview

Set along the Sabie River, this restaurant offers serene views and a diverse menu. Ideal for families and relaxed meals.

- Try this: Wood-fired pizzas and traditional favorites.
- Best time: Lunch with a river view.
- Reservations? Not essential.

Vine Restaurant & Wine Bar – Dullstroom

An upscale dining experience with an extensive wine selection. Their Lounge-to-Table™ concept adds a unique touch.

- Try this: Chef's tasting menu and wine pairings.
- Best time: Dinner for an elegant evening.
- Reservations? Essential.

Mpumalanga Guide

Cafés and Cute Coffee spots



The Plantsman Eatery – White River

A charming spot surrounded by lush gardens. Their bakery offers artisan breads and delightful pastries.

- Try this: Quiches and freshly baked goods.
- Best time: Breakfast or brunch.
- Reservations? Not necessary.

Waffle & Co – Dullstroom

This cozy café is a haven for waffle enthusiasts, offering a delightful array of both sweet and savory Belgian-style waffles. Set in a charming courtyard, it's the perfect spot to relax and indulge.

- Try this: The "Martian Waffle" topped with candy floss and white chocolate, or the savory waffle with BBQ smoked pulled pork and coleslaw.
- Best time: Mid-morning for brunch or an afternoon treat.
- Reservations? Not necessary.



Mpumalanga Guide

Hiking Trails

The Prettiest Hikes, Viewpoints & Super Easy Hikes

Blyde Canyon Lower Viewpoint – Matibidi

A short, rewarding walk leading to one of the most breathtaking vistas in South Africa. Perfect for a quick stop to soak in the panoramic views of the canyon.

- Distance: Approximately 1 km round trip
- Duration: 30 minutes
- Permit: Required; obtainable at Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort reception
- Cost: R50 per person (as of July 2024)

Forest Falls Hiking Trail – Sabie

A gentle trail through indigenous forest leading to the only waterfall in the area that is wider than it is tall. Ideal for families and casual walkers.

- Distance: Approximately 4.5 km round trip
- Duration: 1.5 to 2 hours
- Permit: Required; obtainable at the Forestry Museum in Sabie
- Cost: R20 per person

Tufa Waterfall (Kadishi Trail) – Graskop

- A gentle 2 km loop through lush forest, leading to the unique Kadishi Tufa Waterfall, one of the few of its kind in the world. The trail meanders past mossy rocks and babbling brooks, making it a serene experience.
- Distance: 2 km loop
- Duration: 1 hour
- Permit: Required; obtainable at Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort reception
- Cost: R50 per person
- Start point: Chalet C64 at Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort

Mpumalanga Guide

Hiking Trails

Easy Hikes

Castle Rock Trails – Sabie

A family-friendly trail starting from Castle Rock Caravan Park, offering scenic views and access to nearby waterfalls. Great for a relaxed afternoon walk.

- Distance: Varies; multiple short trails available
- Duration: 1 to 2 hours
- Permit: Not required
- Cost: Free for guests of the caravan park



Mpumalanga Guide

Hiking Trails

Easy Hikes

Dullstroom on the Dam Trail – Dullstroom

A serene trail around the dam, offering picturesque views and a chance to spot local birdlife. Suitable for all fitness levels.

- Distance: 2.5 km loop
- Duration: 45 minutes to 1 hour
- Permit: Not required
- Cost: Free

Swadini Waterfall Trail – Hoedspruit

A scenic trail beginning near Swadini, A Forever Resort, leading to a charming waterfall. The path is well-marked and suitable for hikers of all levels, offering picturesque views of the surrounding canyon.

- Distance: Approximately 3 km round trip
- Duration: 1 to 1.5 hours
- Permit: Required; pay a small conservation fee at the bridge guard post
- Cost: Varies; inquire at the entrance
- Trailhead: Signposted "Waterfall" near Swadini resort



Mpumalanga Guide

Hiking Trails

Moderate Hikes

Belvedere Day Walk – Blyde River Canyon

A scenic trail starting at Bourke's Luck Potholes, winding through diverse landscapes with stunning views of the canyon. A must-do for nature enthusiasts.

- Distance: Approximately 13.2 km loop
- Duration: 5 to 6 hours
- Permit: Required; register at Bourke's Luck Potholes
- Cost: Trail fee of approximately R90 per person (as of 2025)

Fanie Botha Hiking Trail – Sabie

A multi-day trail offering a mix of forest and mountain scenery, with various route options to suit different fitness levels. Ideal for those seeking a more immersive hiking experience.

- Distance: Varies; multiple routes ranging from 2 to 5 days
- Duration: Each day ranges from 8 to 13 km
- Permit: Required; booking through Eco Trails SA
- Cost: Approximately R450 per trip for 6 people (luggage transport)

Mpumalanga Guide

Hiking Trails

Moderate Hikes

Highland Gate Trails – Dullstroom

A variety of trails within the Highland Gate Golf and Trout Estate, offering scenic views of the Steenkampsberg mountains and a spectacular 65m waterfall. Options range from gentle walks to more challenging hikes.

- Distance & Duration:
 - Waterfall Trail: 2 km, ~1 hour
 - Bush Trail: 4.5 km, ~2 hours
 - Mountain Trail: 10 km, ~4 hours
- Permit: Required; register at the estate's security gate
- Cost: Free for guests; day visitors should inquire at the gate
- Start point: Highland Gate Golf and Trout Estate

High Five Hiking Trail (formerly Num-Num Trail) – Near Badplaas

A flexible trail offering both basecamp and backpacking options, traversing diverse terrains including forests and grasslands. Perfect for those looking for a customizable hiking adventure.

- Distance: Daily hikes range from 6 to 7.5 km
- Duration: 3 to 4 hours per day
- Permit: Required; booking through Escarp Adventures
- Cost: R825 per person for the complete hike

Uitvlugt Ponds Game Farm – Ama Poot Poot Hiking Trail – Dullstroom

A picturesque trail featuring waterfalls, rivers, and diverse flora and fauna. A delightful experience for nature lovers.

- Distance: Approximately 19 km over 2 days
- Duration: 2 days
- Permit: Required; obtainable at Uitvlugt Ponds Game Farm
- Cost: R100 per person for day visitors



Blyde Canyon Upper Viewpoint – Matibidi

Things to Do

1. Mac Mac Pools – Near Sabie

A family-friendly spot to swim, braai, and chill! The clear, shallow pools are perfect for cooling off after a morning of exploring the Panorama Route.

💸 Entrance fee: R30 per person (cash only).

📍 Maps: Mac Mac Pools

2. Mac Mac Falls – Near Sabie

Just a short walk from the parking area leads you to a viewing platform overlooking this iconic twin waterfall. It's a quick stop, but definitely worth it!

💸 Entrance fee: R30 per person (cash only).

3. God's Window – Graskop

On a clear day, you'll see all the way across the Lowveld – maybe even Mozambique! This viewpoint is a Panorama Route classic.

💸 Entrance fee: R20–R30 per person.

👉 Tip: Go early for fewer crowds and clearer skies.

4. Berlin Falls – Near Graskop

These are some of the tallest falls in the region, dropping in a single elegant stream.

Quick stop, epic photo op.

💸 Entrance fee: R20–R30 per person.

5. Bourke's Luck Potholes – Blyde River Canyon Reserve

A geological wonder! These swirling potholes were carved by water over centuries, and there's a full network of bridges and viewpoints to explore.

💸 Entrance: R65 per adult / R25 per child.

📍 Booking/info: [SANParks](#)

6. Three Rondavels Viewpoint – Blyde River Canyon Reserve

One of the most photographed spots in South Africa. The massive “rondavels” rise above the canyon – best at golden hour!

💸 Entrance: Included in your Blyde Canyon Reserve access fee.

7. Sabie Falls – Sabie

Literally just off the main road as you enter Sabie – this one's easy to miss but worth a quick detour.

💸 Free entry. Parking right at the top.

8. River View of Kruger National Park – Marloth Park

An incredible drive along the Crocodile River fence line where you can spot elephants, buffalo, and even lions from your car. Bring sundowners and park off for golden hour views.

💸 Free with Marloth Park access.

Things to Do

9. Wild About Whisky – Dullstroom

A tiny spot with a global reputation. Taste your way through 1000+ whiskies with their curated tasting flights.

💸 Tasting starts from R60.

🔗 wildaboutwhisky.com

10. Dullstroom on Horseback – Dullstroom

One of the best ways to take in the scenery. They offer short rides and longer outrides for all levels. Peaceful, scenic, and memorable.

💸 From R350 pp for a 1-hour ride.

🔗 dullstroomonhorseback.co.za

11. Skyway Trails – Hazyview

Zipline through the treetops of a pristine indigenous forest! Perfect for thrill seekers and families.

💸 From R580 pp.

🔗 skywaytrails.com

12. Induna Adventures – Hazyview

They've got everything from white-water rafting to quad biking, paintball and ziplining. A one-stop adventure hub!

💸 Varies by activity – from R200–R800+.

🔗 indunaadventures.com

13. Blyde Canyon Boat Cruise – Blyde Dam near Hoedspruit

A peaceful cruise surrounded by towering cliffs and waterfalls. Keep an eye out for hippos and crocs.

💸 From R300 pp. Book in advance – slots fill quickly.

🔗 blydecanyon.co.za

14. Mariepskop – Near Blyde River Canyon

A hidden gem and one of the highest peaks in the area. 4x4 needed for the drive up, but you'll be rewarded with sweeping views and lush mountain forest.

💸 Free, but access road can be rough – best with a local guide.



Forest Falls Hiking Trail – Sabie

Mpumalanga Guide

Things to Shop

Casterbridge Lifestyle Centre – White River

A charming spot full of boutique stores, art galleries, gift shops and cafés.

Great for picking up unique local goods or just strolling around with a coffee.

🛒 Highlights: Homeware, antiques, fashion, kids' shops.

🔗 casterbridge.co.za

The Krans Shautany Chocolatiers – Dullstroom

A cosy little shop that makes handcrafted chocolates with local ingredients. Try the truffles or grab a gift box for the road.

🛒 Price: R60–R150 per box.

🔗 shautanychocolatiers.co.za

Mpumalanga Guide

Hidden Gems

Tufa Waterfall Hike – Blyde River Canyon Forever Resort ([video link](#))

If you love short scenic hikes, this one's a gem. A lesser-known trail inside the Forever Resort leads you to a magical waterfall formed by calcium deposits — one of the only active tufa waterfalls in South Africa! It's peaceful, lush, and just a little bit magical.

👣 Trail: Easy-moderate, ±45 mins return

💰 Access included with Forever Resort entry

📍 Ask at reception for the hiking map!

Lisbon Falls – Near Graskop ([video link](#))

We know the Panorama Route is packed with waterfalls, but Lisbon Falls honestly stole the show for us. It's so tall, so dramatic, and somehow still underrated. Go early to beat the crowds and take it all in — the power, the sound, the mist... magic.

💰 R20–R30 pp (cash only)

💡 Tip: Walk down the path to get a better angle for photos!

Upper Lookout – Blyde River Canyon Forever Resort

Everyone heads to the Three Rondavels viewpoint... but few know this secret spot! The Upper Lookout is inside the Forever Resort and gives you sweeping canyon views with way fewer people around. A great picnic or sundowner spot.

💰 Free with resort access

📍 Pop into reception for directions — it's a bit tucked away.

Mpumalanga Guide

Hidden Gems

Blyde Dam Boat Cruise – Blyde Canyon Adventure Centre

We have to say it again: this is a bucket list experience. You'll cruise through the third-largest canyon in the world (and the only green one!), surrounded by cliffs, waterfalls, and wildlife. We even saw hippos and fish eagles on our ride.

⌚ Duration: ±1.5 hours

💰 R300 pp (approx) – book ahead!

🔗 blydecanyon.co.za



Panorama Chalets and Rest Camp, Graskop

Mpumalanga Guide

Campfires & Canyons

8 day camping itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Dullstroom

- Stay: Dullstroom on the Dam
- From R150 pp / Pet-friendly / Dam views
- Do:
 - Take a peaceful walk around the dam and try fly-fishing in Dullstroom's only public waters.
 - Hike the 6km Trout Route Ama Poot Poot Hiking Trail at Uitvlugt Ponds Game Farm for stunning scenery. Booking in advance is essential ([click here](#) for more information)
- Eat:
 - Grab a pint and burger at Anvil Ale House & Brewery or Phat Boys Beer House for a super relaxed vibe.
 - Try The Plantsman Eatery or Mayfly Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge for casual, family-friendly meals.

Day 2: Explore Dullstroom

- Stay: Dullstroom on the Dam (stay another night!)
- Do:
 - Book a scenic horse ride through the hills with Dullstroom on Horseback.
 - Taste local spirits at Wild about Whisky – they offer budget tastings!
 - Hike a section of the High Five Hiking Trail (formerly the Num-Num Trail) if you're feeling adventurous.
- Shop: Pop into town to explore artisanal stores and grab biltong, fudge, or a book for the road.

Day 3: Head to Sabie

- Stay: Merry Pebbles Resort, Sabie
- From R150 pp / Pools, river tubing & trout fishing
- Drive: ±1hr30 scenic drive through pine forests.
- Do:
 - Float on a tube in the Sabie River or try trout fishing.
 - Hike the Forest Falls Hiking Trail – one of the few where you can legally walk through a waterfall!
 - Visit Sabie Falls – entry is free and it's a great quick stop.

Mpumalanga Guide

Campfires & Canyons

8 day camping itinerary

Day 4: Waterfalls Day Trip

- Stay: Merry Pebbles Resort (2nd night)
- Do:
 - Chase waterfalls! Start at Mac Mac Pools for a picnic and swim, then continue to Mac Mac Falls, Berlin Falls, and Lisbon Falls.
 - Snap photos at God's Window and the Three Rondavels View Point.
- Eat: Head to YOONS Eatery or Divine Foods At The View for hearty plates at good prices.

Day 5: Travel to Graskop

- Stay: Panorama Chalets and Rest Camp
- From R200 pp / Views over Graskop Gorge
- Drive: ±40 min from Sabie.
- Do:
 - Stop at Bourke's Luck Potholes on the way (±R60 entry) and see the natural rock formations up close.
 - Visit the Casterbridge Lifestyle Centre in White River (±1hr drive) if you're keen to shop for local art and gifts.
- Eat: Treat yourself to pancakes at Harrie's Pancakes or go for a colourful feast at Picasso's Mexican Taqueria.

Day 6: Hikes & Viewpoints

- Stay: Panorama Chalets (2nd night)
- Do:
 - Start the day with the short walk to Lower Viewpoint in Blyde Canyon A Forever Resort.
 - If you're up for it, hike to Tufa Waterfall or the Belvedere Day Walk Starting Point (both require good shoes and water).
 - Chill at camp in the afternoon and soak in the gorge views.
- Eat: Braai at your site or head into town for Mrs Simpsons Restaurant, a quirky budget-friendly gem.

Campfires & Canyons

8 day camping itinerary

Day 7: Blyde River Canyon Magic

- Stay: Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort
- From R300 pp / Hiking trails, pools & epic views
- Drive: ±1hr15
- Do:
 - Hike to Castle Rock or try a section of the Fanie Botha Hiking Trail.
 - Don't miss the Blyde Canyon Boat Cruise – one of the most affordable and scenic experiences (±R300 pp, book at Blyde Canyon Adventure Centre).
- Eat: Dinner at the on-site restaurant or enjoy your final campfire braai.

Day 8: Final Explorations or Head Home

- Stay: Optional 2nd night at Blyde Canyon or pack up for the drive home.
- Do:
 - Drive up to Mariepskop if you have time – it's the highest peak around and offers panoramic views.
 - If you're heading through Hazyview, stop at Jungle Café for lunch on the way out.

Mpumalanga Guide

Wildlife & Waterfalls

8 day adventure itinerary

1 Day 1–2: Marloth Park – Wildlife & Kruger Views

Stay: Kruger Wild Dog Inn, Marloth Park

 [\[Link to book\]](#)

 From R800 per night

 Sleeps 2–15 depending on the unit

Why we love it:

- Wildlife wanders right by your braai!
- Self-catering with pools and private outdoor spaces
- Super close to Crocodile Bridge Gate for your Kruger fix

Adventure Time:

-  Self-drive safari into Kruger National Park via Crocodile Bridge
-  Enjoy the quiet wild of Marloth Park—spot giraffes, kudu, warthogs from your stoep
-  Eat in or stop by Jungle Café Hazyview on your way out.

1 Day 3–4: Komati Gorge – Hidden Gem in the Highlands

Stay: Komati Gorge Lodge, eNtokozweni

 [\[Link to book\]](#)

 From R1,185 per person sharing per night

 Sleeps 2–10 depending on the unit

Why we love it:

- Remote, scenic, and full of adventure
- Options for fishing, canoeing, horse riding, and hiking on-site
- Cosy fireplaces, splash pool, and an on-site restaurant

Adventure Time:

-  Walk one of their private trails or head out to Fanie Botha Hiking Trail
-  Book a scenic horse ride through the valley
-  Try The Plantsman Eatery on the way in/out

Mpumalanga Guide

Wildlife & Waterfalls

8 day adventure itinerary

Day 5–6: White River – Glamping & Gateway to Kruger

Stay: Ndhula Luxury Tented Lodge, White River

 [\[Link to book\]](#)

 From R5,200 per night for 2 people

 Sleeps up to 4 per tent

Why we love it:

- Panoramic bushveld views from your private deck
- Super chic luxury tents with everything you need
- Close to YOONS Eatery and Casterbridge Lifestyle Centre

Adventure Time:

-   Chill day on walking trails around the lodge
-  Shop local at Casterbridge Lifestyle Centre
-  YOONS Eatery or dinner at the lodge under the stars

Day 7–8: Blyde River Canyon – Dramatic Views & Waterfalls

Stay: Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort

 [\[Link to book\]](#)

 From ±R1,300 per night for 2

 Variety of self-catering chalets and rondavels

Why we love it:

- INSANE location—literally inside the canyon
- Access to loads of iconic Panorama Route hikes
- Pool, restaurant, and adventure centre on-site

Adventure Time:

-  Hike to Tufa Waterfall (easy + stunning)
-  Visit the Lower Viewpoint (right at the resort!)
-  Book a Blyde Canyon Boat Cruise at the Adventure Centre
-  Optional detours: Three Rondavels, Bourke's Luck Potholes, God's Window, Berlin Falls
-  Kuka Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge or Divine Foods At The View in Graskop.

Mpumalanga Guide

Wildly in Love

8 day romance itinerary

• Day 1–3: Summerfields Rose Retreat & Spa – Hazyview

[🔗 \[Link to book\]](#)

฿ From R3,500 per night

🌙 Sleeps 2 guests per suite

Why it's perfect for couples:

- Romantic luxury tented suites right on the Sabie River
- Outdoor baths & showers surrounded by trees 🌳
- Gourmet dining, dreamy spa treatments, and total tranquillity
- Super close to Kruger and the Panorama Route

Romantic things to do:

- 🛁 Unwind with a couples massage at the on-site Summerfields Spa
- 🕯 Candlelit dinner at The Summerfields Kitchen—organic, local, and divine
- 🚗 Optional: Full-day Kruger safari via Phabeni Gate (15 min drive)
- ☀️ Slow start with sunrise coffee on your deck—listen to the river flow

• Day 4–5: Nightjar – Katrinasrust Country Estate, Machadodorp

[🔗 \[Link to book\]](#)

฿ From R2,200 (weeknights) to R3,200 (weekends)

🌙 Sleeps 2 guests

Why it's perfect for couples:

- Unique dome-shaped hideaway at the foot of a koppie
- Private KolKol wood-fired hot tub on your deck 🔥
- Fireplace for cosy nights in, plus stargazing under clear skies
- Surrounded by silence, forest trails, and crisp highland air

Romantic things to do:

- 🌲 Take a hand-in-hand walk on the forest trails or go birdwatching
- 🥂 Toast your love from the hot tub with a bottle of wine under the stars
- 🍲 Cook up a quiet dinner together in your fully equipped kitchen

Mpumalanga Guide

Wildly in Love

8 day romance itinerary

📍 Day 6–8: Blyde Canyon, A Forever Resort – Graskop

🔗 [\[Link to book\]](#)

💰 From R1,555 per night for 2 guests

🌙 Sleeps 2–12 depending on the unit type

Why it's perfect for couples:

- Unbeatable setting inside the Blyde River Canyon 😍
- Wide choice of chalets and guesthouses with private braais
- Pool and hiking trails for lazy or active days
- Easy access to all the Panorama Route's best sights

Romantic things to do:

- 🏔 Hike to Tufa Waterfall or walk to the Lower Viewpoint for a shared “wow” moment
- 🚤 Book a Blyde River Canyon boat cruise and sail beneath towering cliffs
- 📸 Snap dreamy pics at God's Window, Three Rondavels, and Bourke's Luck Potholes
- 🍽 Have lunch with a view at Divine Foods at The View or Kuka Café in Graskop

Thanks so much for traveling with us & for
choosing us to be your guides to
Mpumalanga & The Panorama Route!
until next time, wishing you many happy adventures

All our love,
Josh & Ruthie Betts

