**Leopard safety advice**

Seeing a leopard is a rare and wonderful experience. This advice will help you to get the most out of your sighting while staying safe at the same time.

**Don’t scream:** the excitement of seeing a leopard often causes people to shout out. This often scares them off and ends the sighting.

**Be decisive, but be cautious:** leopard sightings are often fleeting, so when you see one you should decide where you will get a good view, and move there relatively swiftly. Be smooth and cautious when doing so though, as too rapid an approach could also scare the animal off.

**Be respectful:** don’t lean out of the vehicle, tease or throw things at the animal or get out of the car. Remember that the animal perceives the vehicle as one object, but when you stand up or lean out of it then the animal can identify individuals on the back, which can make them aggressive.

**Which individuals to look out for:** be particularly respectful of mothers with cubs and wounded leopards

**Leopard body language:** a leopard will usually look at you then move off if it feels that you have invaded their space. If they feel threatened they might flatten their ears while staring at you. If they growl or hiss they are giving you a warning that you need to move away.