

ABELANA GAME RESERVE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



In what area is Abelana Game Reserve?

Abelana Game Reserve is located a short distance from the town of Phalaborwa, in the Limpopo Province. The scenery in this region is diverse, ranging from lush tropical forests and mountains to bush wilderness and open savannas. We enjoy a prime location just 20km from the Kruger National Park.

How can I get there?

International travellers should fly to Johannesburg.

From Johannesburg, you may opt to fly via charter to Hoedspruit or utilise bus/shuttle routes to Hoedspruit. The remainder of the journey is 1 hour by road, via rental car or private road transfer.

Alternatively, you may drive directly to the reserve via fully tarred, national roads, from Johannesburg.

Get full directions and travel partner details [here](#).

How far is the drive from Johannesburg?

Abelana Game Reserve is a scenic 5-hour drive from Johannesburg.

How can I pay?

We require the payment of a deposit, prior to arrival. This can be done by EFT or by credit card. Details will be on your confirmation of booking.

Is there a curio shop?

We have a delightful, boutique curio shop with an assortment of memorabilia, knick-knacks, clothing and even our signature Rhino Beetle Gin.

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What is the best practice with regards to gratuities?

We wish to stress that gratuities are at the complete discretion of our guests and should be based on your experience and service received.

Gratuities should preferably be given in cash at the end of your stay direct to the staff member you wish to thank. There is a box at reception for the general staff gratuities, or you're more than welcome to pay gratuities on a credit card if you so wish. Please just fill out the gratuity form letting us know who will be receiving the gratuity.

If you require any guidance regarding gratuities please do not hesitate to speak to the lodge manager and they will gladly assist you.

What should I pack?

- Comfortable, casual clothing (layers work best)
- Comfortable shoes or walking boots
- Sunscreen and a hat
- Warm clothing for game drives
- Medication if you are susceptible to allergies
- Bring a camera for those magical moments
- Abelana Game Reserve lies in a low-risk malaria area. Please consult a doctor for advice on preventative measures, prior to travelling.

Can I bring children/family?

Abelana River Lodge is a wonderful family destination. Children of 11 years and under are charged 50% of the full tariff. Unfortunately, children of 6 years and under are not permitted on game drives for safety reasons.

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What is the climate like?

Our winters and summers fall at the opposite times of the year to the northern hemisphere. Winters are dry and mild, with temperatures dropping considerably in the evenings and early mornings. Our summers are hot, often humid, and prone to spells of wet weather – predominantly afternoon and evening thunderstorms.

What are the requirements to enter South Africa?

It's essential to take note as to whether you're required to have a Visa when entering South Africa. Certain countries are exempt – you may find that list [here](#).

Should you require a visa, contact your nearest South African Embassy or consulate to discuss requirements. Prior to arrival in South Africa, you should ensure that your passport has at least two full vacant pages passport control stamps.

Is South Africa safe?

Like much of the rest of the world, most of our beautiful country is safe to explore, with a good measure of wisdom and some guidance. Abelana Game Reserve enjoys the security of its remote location.

If you're experiencing doubts as to the safety of a particular area or attraction, contact the National Tourism Information and Safety Line on +27(0) 83 123 2345.

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What is the quality of food and water?

South Africa's tap water is some of the cleanest water in the world, as is the water at Abelana Game Reserve. Bottled water is available if you have any concerns.

Our food is prepared to the highest standards and subject to strict hygiene conditions. If you have any dietary restrictions, please let us know prior to your arrival.

What does a typical day at Abelana look like?

Your stay at Abelana is all-inclusive, so you won't miss a moment of what our glorious reserve has to offer, which will include:

- Morning game drives
- All meals
- Afternoon/evening game drives
- Leisure time (in room, on river deck, or at lodge facilities)
- Sundowner stops

South African electricity - what device chargers can I bring?

South African electricity supply is 220/230 volts AC 50 HZ, with the exception of Pretoria (230 V) and Port Elizabeth (200/250 V). Most plugs provide a 3-pin or 2-pin outlet. Adapters may be purchased at the airport or from retail suppliers. US-made appliances may need a transformer.

Please be sure to check your device specifications and requirements, before utilising our power supply source.

Abelana Game Reserve is equipped with a standby generator, as an alternative source of electricity during a power outage.