

GAME TIME

WE ARE SPOILT FOR CHOICE WHEN IT COMES TO GAME RESERVES, SO THIS ROUND-UP SHOULD MAKE PICKING ONE A LITTLE EASIER

By Nick Dall

SPOT A
CAPE
BUFFALO

1 ADDO ELEPHANT NATIONAL PARK
Eastern Cape
Established to conserve a small enclave of elephants, this Eastern Cape institution is a big-seven park, which also incorporates the evocative Zuurberg section and the immense coastal dunes of Woody Cape.
Unmissable Ride a horse.
An hour from Port Elizabeth
042 233 8600
sanparks.org/parks/addo/

2 MOUNTAIN ZEBRA NATIONAL PARK
Eastern Cape
This small, underrated park allows visitors to see four of the big five in a relaxed, laid-back manner. The rugged mountain landscapes provide a very unique backdrop, and during colder months, some of the peaks may even receive snow. The park is also home to caribou, blue cranes and Denham's bustard.
Unmissable Track a cheetah on foot with the help of a guide.
12 km from Cradock
048 881 2427
sanparks.org/parks/mountain_zebra/



3 KRUGER NATIONAL PARK
Mpumalanga & Limpopo
This enormous national park is the same size as the whole of Wales and it has a helluva lot more wildlife! There's a lovely variety of landscapes, animals, camps and activities on offer.
Unmissable Go on a guided bush walk.
The three most popular gates are near Hazyview, Phalaborwa and Hoedspruit.
013 735 4196
sanparks.org/parks/kruger/

4 HLUHLUWE-IMFOLOZI PARK
KwaZulu-Natal
The terrain in this KZN mega-park is hilly, subtropical and

lush. It is particularly well known for rhino (white and black), but it's actually home to all of the big five. There are two main camps and several private lodges.
Unmissable Take in the hilltop views.
Off the N2, about 250 km north of Durban
035 550 8476
kznwildlife.com

5 K GALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK
Northern Cape
Red dunes, imposing camel thorns and dry riverbeds make for an incomparable safari experience. The sparse vegetation also means spotting animals is extremely easy, with lions, leopards and cheetahs all regularly seen roaming about.

7 MAPULA LODGE
Okavango Delta, Botswana
Unmissable Marvel at the legendary black-maned lions.
About 250 km north of Upington
054 561 2000
sanparks.org/parks/kgalagadi/

6 ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK
Namibia
Etosha, 'the great white place', is named after the enormous salt pan that dominates the park's terrain, which can even be seen from space. The park has a great concentration of animals, and they are easy to find: just unwind at a watering hole and wait for them to come to you. The park is accessible by regular sedans too.
Unmissable Watch the action at Okaukuejo Rest Camp's popular watering hole
About four hours from Windhoek
+264 67 229 800
nwr.com.na

8 MADIKWE GAME RESERVE
North West
This vast private reserve boasts the big five and a whole lot more to boot, but it still flies under many people's radar. Plentiful game roams the grassland, woodland and mountains, while 18

private lodges cater for every type of customer and budget.
Unmissable Spy a wild dog
Four hours from Joburg on the Botswana border
018 350 9938
madikwegamereserve.co.za

9 LONDLOZI GAME RESERVE
Mpumalanga
This incredible game reserve on the Sand River bordering the Kruger National Park has very impressive concentrations of game, as well as beautiful terrain and five luxurious camps. Rates include three scrumptious meals a day, as well as game drives in the morning and evening.
Unmissable Get up close with the reserve's famous leopards.
75 km from Hazyview
013 735 5653
londlozi.com

10 PHINDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE
KwaZulu-Natal
Phinda, in northern KZN, is known for its diversity of habitats and abundant wildlife, including the big five. The luxurious lodges are strategically located to showcase the reserve's incredible topography: settings range from mountain to forest to vlei.
Unmissable Spot a rare black rhino
About 300 km from Durban
011 809 4300
andbeyond.com



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