

WALKING TRAIL ITINERARY 2017

DURATION: The trail is a minimum of two nights

LOCATION: Pafuri, Makuleke Contract Park (within the Kruger National Park) – 26,500 hectares;

+/- 7-hour drive from Johannesburg

INTRODUCTION:

The Makuleke Concession in the north of the Kruger National park is unrivalled walking country. Our trails, open from April to October every year, are renowned for offering true bush lovers an opportunity to experience one of Kruger's remotest corners on foot. Led by experienced field guides, you will explore a place that is as vast as it is varied and wild. The trail offers you a chance to focus on the little things but you will also experience the rush of adrenaline when you happen upon members of the Big Five. Home base is a seasonal bush camp near the banks of the Luvuvhu where we serve hearty food and drink in a setting that allows you a close-up experience of untamed Africa. Exploring this part of the world on foot is the perfect way to escape the stresses of the city. This trail is a distinctive experience that will stay with you long after you've returned home.

And, for the truly adventurous, we occasionally offer minimalist trails when we camp under the stars or foray across the border into the transfrontier park.

You will walk for about 4–5 hours a day (about 10km) with sufficient breaks for refreshments and plenty of time to take in the experience of being so close to nature.

Highlights of the Pafuri Walking Trail:

- You will be traversing one of the most remote regions in South Africa.
- The area boasts incredible biodiversity, with an abundance of wild animals and birdlife.
- The thrill of tracking animals while on foot.
- Access to Lanner Gorge basin and Limpopo fever tree forest.
- Experienced professional guides to lead your journey.
- Traverse beautiful, diverse landscapes.
- Visit Crook's Corner.
- Learn more about the Makuleke history and culture.

ACCOMMODATION:

This rustic base camp consists of walk-in tents with en-suite eco-toilets and separate bucket showers. At night, light is provided by lanterns and a crackling fire.

MEALS:

All meals are catered for; it is essential that you stipulate any special dietary requirements on your booking form (at least two weeks before your departure). We operate in remote areas, and last minute catering changes cannot be accommodated. Snacks and water are carried in day packs, while all meals are enjoyed back at the camp, including dinner under the stars.

LIGHTS & WATER: WHAT TO EXPECT:

There is no electricity or running water at PAFURI WALKING TRAILS CAMP, it is an off the grid eco camp that promises a minimal impact on the environment.

Each tent has an en-suite eco bathroom equipped with an eco-chemical toilet and basin that is topped up with fresh water twice daily. Each morning the guides place warm water in the standing canvas basin outside your tent. After each game activity, there is the opportunity to shower under the rustic bucket showers about 10 metres from your tent. Hot water is provided from big bonfires.

The camp is lit at night by solar consol jars, hurricane lamps and the open air fire pit. There is limited light supplied in tents and if you require additional lighting we recommend bringing a small standing battery operated lantern.

Example itinerary on three-night stay:

DAY ONE:

- Meet your guide at RETURNAfrica's Pafuri Camp where you will check-in and park your vehicles. Your guides will then transfer you via a 4x4 open game viewing vehicle to the trails camp.
- Settle in at the camp for a safety briefing with your guide.
- Short afternoon walk.
- Return to camp for drinks and/or shower before the evening meal.
- Relax after dinner and then retire to bed in your assigned tent.

DAYS TWO & THREE:

- Early wake-up call.
- Light snack (coffee and biscuits).
- Morning walk.
- Leisurely brunch.
- Rest and relaxation, own time.
- Afternoon walk or drive (dependent on local animal activity and weather).
- Return to camp for a hot shower.
- Sundowners and/or refreshments.
- Dinner under the stars.
- Retire for the night.

DAY FOUR:

- Early wake-up call.
- Light snack (coffee and biscuits).
- Short morning walk.
- Return to trails camp.
- Hearty brunch.
- Transfer back to Pafuri Camp and vehicles.

WHAT TO TAKE:

- Good walking shoes and sufficient pairs of socks
- Sunblock
- Hat
- Water bottle – enough to carry about 1.5L
- Small day pack to carry a few items i.e. camera, water bottle, fruit from morning snack
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Neutral coloured clothing
- Insect repellent
- Headlamp / torch
- Flip flops for in camp
- Jacket for early mornings and evenings
- Beanie for early mornings and evenings
- It does get warm in the day – please ensure you have enough warm and cool clothes

Please note that there is no cell-phone reception in Pafuri.

Please note CHECK-IN is at Pafuri Camp at 14:00 and CHECK-OUT is at 11:00