

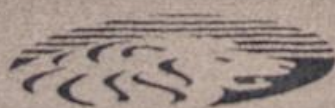
Kapama

ADVENTURES

SEPTEMBER 2023



RIVER LODGE  BUFFALO CAMP  SOUTHERN CAMP  KARULA



Kapama

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Kapama
PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

There is nothing quite like it.



Kapama Private Luxury Safari Lodge in South Africa, combining elements of adventure, opulence, wildlife, and the enchanting beauty of the African wilderness.

KAPAMA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

To Host Safari Guide Of The Year Awards 2023

Kapama Private Game Reserve, renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and abundant wildlife, is the esteemed host for this year's Safari Guide of the Year Awards.

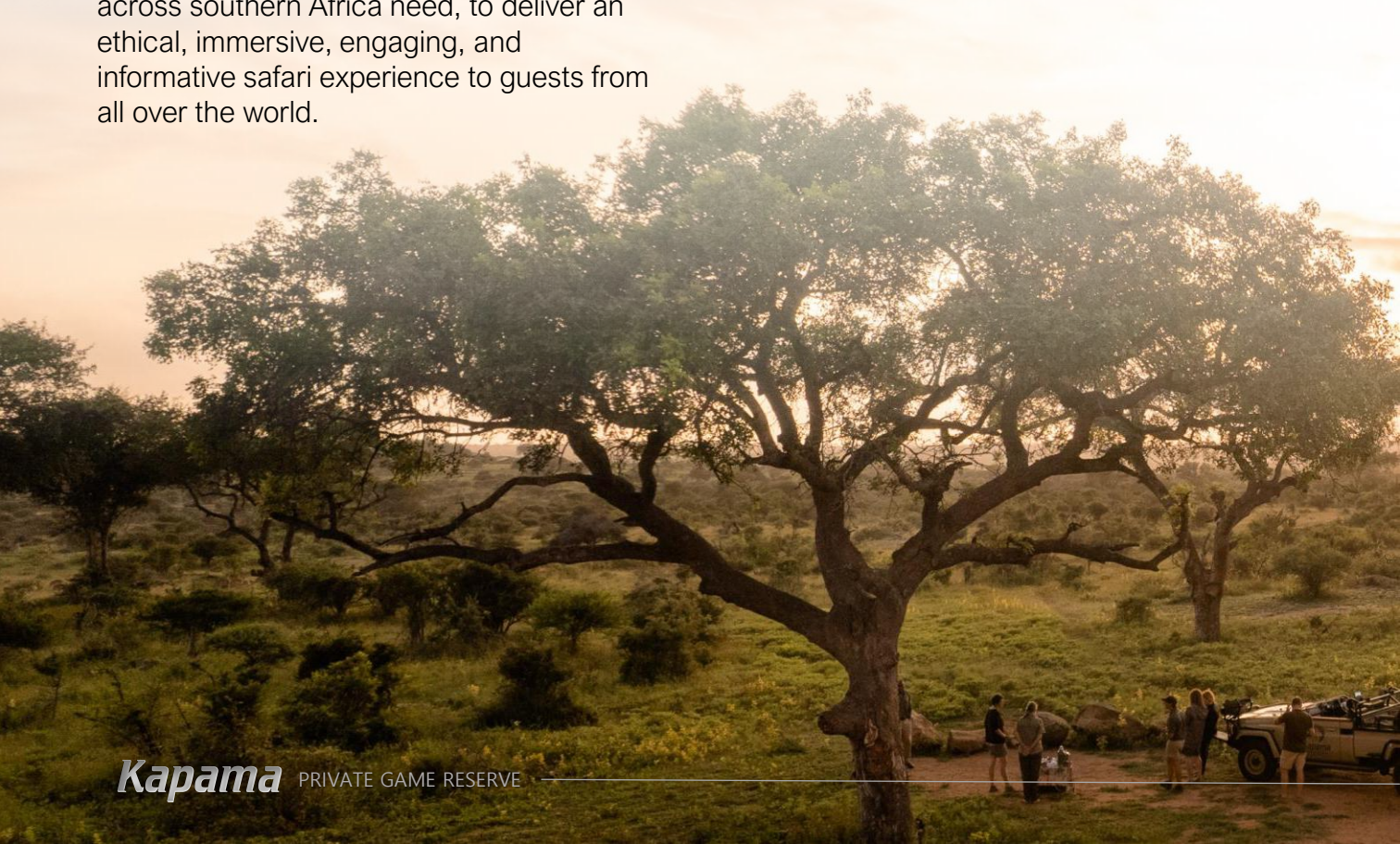
With its commitment to conservation, exceptional guest experiences, and dedication to the preservation of Africa's natural heritage, Kapama is the ideal location for honouring the outstanding individuals who embody the spirit of safari guiding.

The Safari Guide of the Year, or SGOTY, was founded in 2011 and is a highly anticipated annual event of the safari guiding and ecotourism industries. The Safari Guide of the Year competition, is a prestigious event that recognizes and honours the hard work, sacrifice, training, skills development, knowledge, and expertise that field guides across southern Africa need, to deliver an ethical, immersive, engaging, and informative safari experience to guests from all over the world.

These guides play a crucial role in offering guests an unforgettable experience, providing in-depth insights into the wildlife, ecosystems, and cultures that make Africa a truly unique destination.

Kapama has recognised the significant role guides play. The career path of a field guide is more than just a job, it is a career and a lifestyle that requires passion and commitment not only to the natural world but also to hosting and hospitality. To qualify as a field guide an NQF 2 level is needed, and after this, a practical exam is done through the Field Guide Association of South Africa (FGASA).

Kapama's Safari Manager has passionately pioneered a program to assist trackers in learning the required information to gain this NQF 2 qualification.



Numerous training sessions were implemented, and lecturers and experts were brought in at Kapama's expense to ensure the trackers were prepared for their exams and practicals. This qualification and upskilling, have resulted in Kapama trackers moving to a new level of assistant guide. Currently, all assistant guides on the reserve have completed their NQF 2 and the majority have completed their practical exam.

Kapama Private Game Reserve, is renowned for its commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable tourism practices. Its vast 15,000-hectare wilderness area provides pristine habitat for a diverse array of wildlife, including the Big Five—lion, leopard, elephant, rhinoceros, and buffalo. Kapama's guides are known for their expertise, professionalism, and dedication to preserving and educating visitors about the natural wonders of the reserve.

Therefore, it is no surprise that Ruan Coetzee, a Kapama River Lodge guide, has been selected as a finalist in this years Safari Guide of the Year Awards. We wish him all the best in the competition.

By hosting the Safari Guide of the Year Awards, Kapama Private Game Reserve is reaffirming its role as a leader and pioneer in the safari industry, in particular with the career development of its guides. The event will bring together a distinguished panel of experts, to celebrate the achievements of safari guides who have shown exceptional knowledge, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to conservation.

The awards ceremony, which will be aired live on the 2nd of June at 18:30, set against the backdrop of Kapama's stunning African landscape, promises to be an unforgettable affair. This event will provide an opportunity to immerse guests in the reserve's unparalleled beauty while honouring the remarkable individuals who have made significant contributions to the safari industry.

Throughout the event, attendees will be treated to captivating experiences that showcase the essence of being a safari guide. These experiences have been specifically chosen to test the top five finalists on a variety of skills, such as a Bushwalk, a guided photographic experience, Track and sign and storytelling sessions that share the rich cultural heritage of Africa will be among the highlights of the program, to name but a few.





In addition to recognizing the outstanding efforts of safari guides, the awards ceremony will serve as a platform for discussing key conservation issues and promoting sustainable tourism practices. It will encourage the exchange of ideas and strategies among industry professionals for safeguarding Africa's natural resources for generations to come.

Kapama Private Game Reserve's involvement in hosting the Safari Guide of the Year Awards underscores its commitment to raising awareness about the importance of responsible tourism.

By showcasing the vital role played by safari guides and highlighting this as a respectable and valuable profession and career path, Kapama aims to inspire visitors to become stewards of nature, promoting conservation efforts in their communities.

As the date of the Safari Guide of the Year Awards approaches, on the 2nd of June, excitement is building among the safari industry and conservation enthusiasts alike. Be sure to follow our social channels, Youtube, Facebook and Instagram for updates throughout the competition running until the 7th of June.

Kapama Private Game Reserve, with its unrivalled beauty and dedication to preserving Africa's natural heritage, stands ready to welcome the world to an extraordinary event that will honour the heroes of the safari industry and inspire a new generation of wildlife enthusiasts and conservationists.

WHAT IT TAKES

to become a trails guide

South Africa boasts an extraordinary array of biodiversity and breathtaking landscapes, making it a top destination for safari enthusiasts. While game drives provide a wonderful wildlife experience, there's something uniquely captivating about embarking on a safari bush walk, a thrilling activity offered to guests at all four of Kapama's luxury lodges after breakfast. Led by expert safari guides, this educational and immersive activity allows visitors to forge a close connection with nature and uncover the mysteries of the wilderness.

During your bushwalk at Kapama Private Game Reserve's vast 15,000+ hectares, prepare for intimate encounters with the magnificent wildlife that roam freely.

With the guidance of knowledgeable trails guides, you'll witness the graceful antelopes grazing, catch a glimpse of zebras with their vivid stripes against the horizon, and even come face to face with creatures big and small. It's an up-close and personal experience that will leave you in awe of the natural world.

But the trails guides offer more than just identification; they are passionate storytellers who reveal the intricate relationships between the flora and fauna and how these have sustained communities for centuries. This deeper understanding of the delicate balance in the ecosystem goes beyond textbooks and fosters a newfound appreciation for nature's wonders.





Beyond the excitement of observing wildlife, it's essential to recognize the time, effort, and dedication trails guides invest in acquiring their qualifications. Before becoming a FULL Trails guide, they must first obtain an apprentice trails guide qualification, including 50 hours of observation under the guidance of experienced FGASA Trails Guides in at least three dangerous game categories.

To achieve the coveted Trails Guide Qualification - Full Trails, guides must complete additional criteria, including extensive hours as both a second rifle and lead guide, encounters with various animal categories, and earning a Tracker Level 1 qualification.

This rigorous process ensures that Kapama's trails guides are more than qualified to offer guests an unforgettable and safe immersive encounter with the majestic wildlife.

To support local guides and trackers in advancing their careers, Kapama's Safari Manager has initiated a program to help them gain the necessary qualifications. Training sessions and expert guidance have resulted in Kapama's trackers becoming assistant guides, enriching the safari experience for guests and creating a path towards becoming fully qualified guides. With a commitment to excellence, Kapama continues to lead the way in offering guests an exceptional safari adventure and fostering the growth of their guides and trackers.

To learn more about our Guiding Development Program [click here](#).

KAPAMA LODGES WINS

Tripadvisor Traveler's Choice Award 2023

We are thrilled to share the fantastic news that all four Kapama Lodges have been honored as 2023 Travellers' Choice award winners by Tripadvisor. Two of our lodges, Kapama Karula and Kapama Southern Camp, have been ranked among the top 10% of hotels worldwide.

Kapama River Lodge has been named as the #12 Top Hotel in Africa, and proudly claims the #1 spot in South Africa. Additionally, our Buffalo Camp has achieved remarkable recognition in three categories, securing the #11 position as the Best Small Hotel in Africa, #4 in South Africa, and #15 among the Top Luxury Hotels in Africa, with a commendable #2 ranking in South Africa.

These prestigious accolades celebrate businesses that have consistently received exceptional traveler reviews on Tripadvisor over the past year, placing them among the top 10% of all listings on the platform worldwide.

"We are truly honored and thrilled to be named as top hotels in the TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards. This recognition is a testament to the dedication of our outstanding team, their commitment to exceptional service, and our unwavering focus on providing an unforgettable experience for our guests.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our valued guests for their continuous support and for sharing their positive experiences with the world. This prestigious accolade motivates us to raise the bar even higher and continue delivering unparalleled hospitality," says Brand Manager Nicole Walker.

John Boris, Chief Growth Officer at Tripadvisor, congratulated the 2023 Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice winners and acknowledged the immense competition in the travel industry due to the recent travel resurgence.

He highlighted that earning a Travelers' Choice Award is a remarkable achievement that showcases a business's ability to provide outstanding experiences to their guests. Boris also applauded the hospitality industry for its resilience and adaptability in the face of changing expectations, labor shortages, and rising costs.

As we celebrate these extraordinary accomplishments, we invite you to click on the lodge links to discover more about the exceptional offerings and experiences at [Kapama River Lodge](#), [Kapama Buffalo Camp](#), [Kapama Southern Camp](#), and [Kapama Karula](#).

Your support and feedback are the driving force behind our continuous pursuit of excellence in hospitality.

Thank you for being part of our journey!

To see travelers' reviews and popular features of Kapama Private Game Reserve, visit the Tripadvisor website [here](#)





KAPAMA KARULA

Reveals Revamped Villas And New Dining Deck

In a display of unrivaled luxury, the renowned Kapama Karula has recently undergone a remarkable refurbishment across its Superior Villas and revealed the new dining deck area, leaving visitors in awe of its exquisite décor and elements of design that seamlessly blend into the breathtaking backdrop.

Situated in the heart of South Africa's Kapama Private Game Reserve, the flagship lodge, Kapama Karula, stands as a testament to the perfect fusion of contemporary design and natural beauty.

The newly refurbished Kapama Karula Villas, nestled amidst the untamed wilderness, have managed to elevate the safari experience to unprecedented levels of comfort and elegance. Renowned designer Gert Gertzen drew inspiration from nature for textures and colors, harmoniously blending the villa's interior design into the landscape while providing an awe-inspiring backdrop for guests.

Architectural marvels abound throughout the villa, with large floor-to-ceiling windows and open spaces designed to maximize natural light and offer uninterrupted views of the stunning African bushveld, overlooking the Klasserie River. The use of organic materials such as wood, stone, and glass creates a seamless connection between the interior and exterior, fostering a sense of oneness with nature.

Upon entering the villa, guests are greeted by an ambiance of refined sophistication. The decor strikes a delicate balance between contemporary aesthetics and the rustic charm of the African wilderness. Meticulously selected furnishings, locally sourced artwork, and handcrafted décor pieces adorn the spacious living areas, inviting guests to immerse themselves in the lap of luxury.





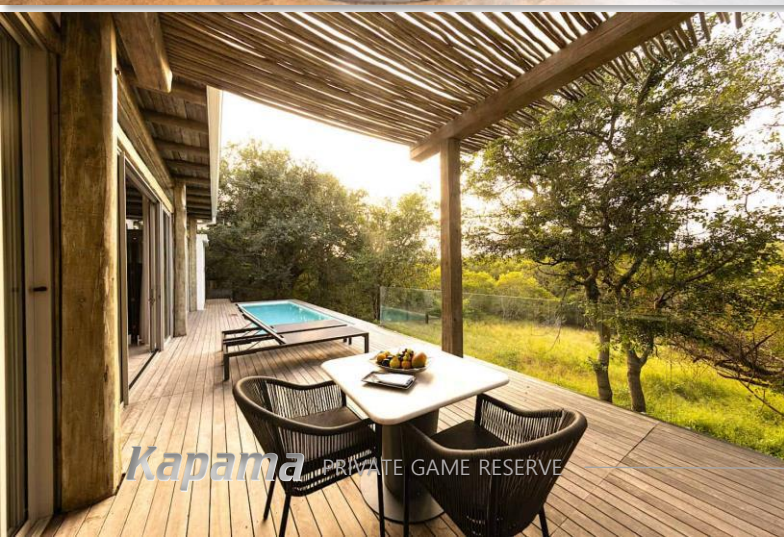
The centerpiece of the villa is undoubtedly the expansive lounge area, featuring plush seating arrangements with a sophisticated color palette inspired by the natural surroundings, combining earthy tones with accents of vibrant safari colors, creating an atmosphere of tranquility and relaxation. A magnificent fireplace has been added to complement the lounge, exuding warmth and comfort, providing the perfect escape after a day out in the wild.



Stepping outside onto the private deck, guests are greeted by an oasis of serenity. The newly enhanced outdoor deck area features a sparkling heated infinity pool, perfect for mid-day dips while enjoying uninterrupted views of the surrounding plains. Comfortable loungers are perfectly positioned for game-watching, while wooden shaded seating areas boast luxurious couples day beds, providing ideal spots for relaxation and wildlife observation.



The villa's refurbishment also placed a strong emphasis on sustainability and eco-conscious design. The integration of energy-efficient air conditioning and the use of environmentally friendly materials further enhance the villa's connection with its natural surroundings while ensuring a minimal carbon footprint.



Moving on to the main lodge bar and lounge, guests are offered a completely new experience. The newly transformed fire pit lounge and dining deck area exude a sense of rustic elegance. Situated under the vast African sky, the design seamlessly integrates timeless charm, with earthy tones and natural textures blending harmoniously with the surrounding environment. The fire pit lounge takes center stage, inviting guests to gather around its mesmerizing flames under the starlit heavens.

The design concept embraces the essence of an African safari, combining indigenous materials and contemporary touches to create an ambiance of refined comfort. Luxurious seating arrangements featuring cozy cushions and sumptuous throws provide the perfect setting for intimate conversations or simply unwinding with a nightcap.



The newly refurbished dining deck area offers a picturesque setting for indulging in gourmet meals surrounded by the sights and sounds of the wilderness. The deck beckons guests to savor delectable culinary creations while overlooking breathtaking vistas.

The open-air setup allows guests to relish the fresh African breeze while dining, further heightening the immersive experience. Handcrafted wooden furniture, woven baskets, and tastefully placed lanterns contribute to the authentic safari aesthetic, while subtle African-inspired artwork adds a touch of cultural richness to the space.

For families seeking a truly unique and extraordinary safari experience, 2024 will bring wonderful enhancements and upgrades to the two superior family villas on a significant scale. Further updates will be announced as plans get underway.

The newly enhanced outdoor spaces truly redefine the concept of fulfillment, offering an unforgettable experience at one of South Africa's most prestigious safari destinations.

Whether it's enjoying a fireside chat under the African stars, savoring a delectable meal with breathtaking views, or enjoying a cozy nightcap in front of the fireplace in your private superior villa, guests are transported to a world where elegance meets untamed wilderness.

Kapama Karula stands as a testament to the epitome of luxury in the African wilderness, providing a haven of serenity and elegance amid the untamed beauty of South Africa's wildlife-rich landscape.

To check rates and availability or to make a booking at Kapama Karula and experience the absolute luxury of this 5* Premium Lodge, follow the link below:
[EXPERIENCE KAPAMA KARULA.](#)

**Experience
Unrivalled Luxury**
at the Newly Refurbished
Kapama Karula





Nestled within the pristine wilderness of Kapama Private Game Reserve lies a haven of tranquility and renewal - the Karula Spa. Embraced by the lush beauty of nature, this sanctuary offers an exquisite escape where relaxation and the splendor of the wild intertwine.

Here, amidst the sights and sounds of the African bush, guests can unwind and indulge in a range of luxurious spa treatments designed to pamper the body, soothe the mind, and rejuvenate the soul.

DISCOVER PURE BLISS

at Kapama Karula Spa & Wellness Center

A Retreat of Serenity

The Karula Spa welcomes visitors with a sense of serenity as they step into a world of calm and blissful indulgence. Surrounded by breathtaking landscapes and the gentle whisper of the breeze, guests are transported to a realm of peace, far from the hustle and bustle of daily life. The soothing ambiance, complemented by the distant calls of wildlife, creates an immersive experience that enriches the entire spa journey.

Luxurious Spa Treatments

At Karula Spa, the focus is on providing guests with a collection of carefully curated spa treatments that cater to their individual needs and desires. Whether seeking deep relaxation, rejuvenation, or holistic healing, the spa offers a diverse menu of options to choose from.

1. Rejuvenating Massages

The spa's skilled therapists employ ancient techniques and modern practices to deliver massages that melt away tension and stress. From Swedish massages that ease muscle knots to aromatherapy massages that stimulate the senses, each treatment is tailored to provide the utmost comfort and revitalization.

2. Revitalizing Facials

Indulge your skin with rejuvenating facials that use natural ingredients and gentle yet effective methods to leave your complexion radiant and refreshed. Customized to address individual skin concerns, the facials at Karula Spa nourish and enhance your skin's natural beauty.

3. Hydrotherapy Sessions

The Karula Spa's hydrotherapy sessions offer a truly unique experience. Surrender yourself to the healing power of water as you soak in invigorating baths and whirlpools, relieving tension and promoting overall well-being.

A Journey to Pure Bliss

The experienced therapists at Karula Spa are dedicated to ensuring that each guest's spa experience is nothing short of extraordinary. Their warm and caring approach, coupled with their extensive knowledge of wellness practices, ensures that guests are treated to an unforgettable journey to pure bliss.

Immerse Yourself in Nature's Embrace

Beyond the luxurious treatments, one of the most remarkable aspects of Karula Spa is its integration with the surrounding natural beauty. Floor-to-ceiling windows provide stunning vistas of the reserve, allowing guests to bask in the scenic wonders of the African wilderness while enjoying their spa treatments. The sounds of wildlife and the gentle rustling of leaves further enhance the sense of connection to nature.

A Destination Unlike Any Other

For those seeking an escape from the ordinary, Kapama Karula Spa & Wellness Center offers an unparalleled experience. Immerse yourself in the embrace of nature's bounty while surrendering to the skilled hands of the spa's therapists.

Discover the Mighty Hippos of Kapama Private Game Reserve



Encountering a hippo on safari is a thrilling experience that leaves a lasting impression. These magnificent creatures, with their massive mouths and imposing size, are truly fascinating to behold. As you observe them from a safe distance at Kapama Private Game Reserve, you'll be amazed by their unique features and powerful abilities.

Jaws of Strength

One of the most striking aspects of hippos is their impressive set of teeth housed within their massive mouths. Their molars are essential for their herbivorous diet, allowing them to graze on grasses and vegetation. But don't let their vegetarian habits fool you – hippos possess long, sharp canines that can reach an astonishing 20 inches in length. These formidable canines are not for feeding but rather serve a crucial role in territorial disputes and defense.

Unrivaled Power

When it comes to strength, hippos reign supreme in the animal kingdom. Their mighty jaws can open up to an incredible 180 degrees, enabling them to showcase their dominance during confrontations. With a bite that is nearly three times stronger than that of a lion, hippos display their prowess in the wild as they navigate their social hierarchy.

Guardians of the Water

Hippos are semi-aquatic creatures, spending much of their time submerged in water to escape the heat of the African sun. Despite their hefty build, they are surprisingly agile in the water and can swim with impressive speed. However, it's essential to approach these water-loving giants with caution as they are known to be territorial and can become aggressive if they feel threatened.



Awe-Inspiring Encounters

As you embark on your safari adventure at Kapama Private Game Reserve, keep your eyes peeled for these magnificent hippos along the water's edge. Marvel at their colossal presence and learn about their vital role in maintaining the delicate ecosystem of the reserve.



Intriguing and Mighty

Hippos are undoubtedly intriguing creatures, and witnessing their power and grace in person is an experience like no other. From their massive jaws to their awe-inspiring strength, hippos leave a lasting impression on safari enthusiasts and wildlife lovers alike. So, join us at Kapama Private Game Reserve for an unforgettable encounter with these mighty guardians of the water.





Kapama

PRIVATE GAME RESERVE



ANSWER THE CALL OF THE WILD
CONTACT US

CENTRAL RESERVATIONS

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SOUTHERN CAMP

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KAPAMA KARULA

Tel: +27 74 127 7814 or Tel: +27 74 172 4253

If you would like more information about one of our Lodges or would like to check availability, send us an email and our Reservations team will be happy to assist.