

“Birding & Photography”

19th- 22nd November 2020

3 nights/4 days

Self Drive

Group size: 8 – 12 PEOPLE (Limited numbers)

Rate: R7395pp (3 nights) OR R5400pp (2nights) - sharing

Accommodation: NEWLY refurbished and opened Zulu Rock Lodge

**Single supplement available on request.

SUMMARY

When was the last time you took yourself off for an adventure so magically different from the world you know that it made you feel alive like never before?

In just a few weeks, adventurer, conservation “shero” and Blue Sky Society founder, Carla Geysler, will lead a group of thrill-seekers and chill-seekers into the heart of Zululand, KwaZulu-Natal for an incredible self-drive experience.

There, at the Babanango Game Reserve - one of the most exquisite natural spaces in South Africa – they will immerse themselves in game drives, birding, photography and a chance to huddle around a crackling fire with one of the world’s most respected wildlife photographers and safari guides.

This extraordinary three-night, four-day long weekend amidst rolling hills, broad savannahs, deep valleys and 23km stretch of the White Umfolozi River is exclusive to *just 12* intrepid travellers!

HIGHLIGHTS

Our group of 12 eco-travellers can look forward to some unforgettable experiences, including:

- Being among the first to experience Babanango Game Reserves: one of the newest reserves in KwaZulu-Natal.
- Reconnecting with nature in a magical place steeped in culture, history and tradition.
- Soaking up the pristine, panoramic views of the African bushveld from the brand-new Zulu Rock Lodge.
- Being part of the annual birding weekend at Babanango Game Reserve, home to more than 280 species of birds including the southern bald ibis, buff-streaked chat, mountain wagtail, African finfoot, the lanner falcon and African hawk eagle. If you're really lucky you may spot the endangered southern ground hornbill!
- Exploring the breath-taking rolling hills of Babanango valley, looking for giraffe, hyena, zebra, antelope and the elusive aardvark and aardwolf.
- Exploring the heavens – the reserve is one of the best places in KZN for stargazing.
- Huddling around a campfire with renowned wildlife photographer and National Geographic expedition leader, Matt Yardley.
- Reliving African adventures with adventurer, conservationist and humanitarian, Carla Geysler
- Enjoying a unique African experience with fellow eco-traveller who are as passionate about making a difference in Africa as you are!

DAY	DATE	DAY	DETAILS	TYPE / MEALS	COMMENTS
1	Thursday	19-Nov	DBN/JHB - Babanango Game Reserve	Chalets - F/B	Drive - to arrive by 14h00 / Relax Afternoon Game Drive **Dinner "Storytelling in wildlife photography" - Matt Yardley
2	Friday	20-Nov	Babanango Game Reserve	Chalets - F/B	AM – Game Drive / Birding & Photography PM – Game Drive **Dinner - Night sky photo session or a star talk
3	Saturday	21-Nov	Babanango Game Reserve	Chalets - F/B	AM – Game Drive / Birding & Photography PM – Game Drive **Dinner *Fireside evening - "Story telling about my adventures in Africa" - Carla Geysler
4	Sunday	22-Nov	Babanango – DBN/JHB		AM – Game Walk /Game Drive Depart

**Please note this itinerary may change slightly but the expedition leader will keep you posted and updated.
Terms and conditions apply due to availability. Weather permitting for the star photography*

WHAT IS INCLUDED:

- Expedition host – Carla Geysler
- Photography & Stargazing – wildlife photographer Matt Yardley www.mattyardley.photography
- Accommodation in newly renovated en-suite rock clad cottages (**Sharing accommodation)
- All meals & water in itinerary
- All Park Fees & conservation levies
- Daily Housekeeping services
- All activities detailed in the itinerary above
- Blue sky society trust conservation Buff

WHAT IS EXCLUDED:

- Any flights & any necessary transfers or travel (self-drive) to get to the start/finish of the weekend
- Gratuities (We recommend R50 to R100 per guide or activity)
- Any visas & border costs
- Alcoholic drinks & Beverages
- Any personal expenses – laundry, tips etc
- Extra nights' accommodation
- Any additional activities not covered in the itinerary
- Additional snacks/food
- Transfers to and from the camp

These self-drive adventures are organised and led by Carla Geysler, the founder of the Blue Sky Society Trust (BSST) and Blue Sky Expeditions who has, to date, led many successful trips into Africa .If you are an enthusiastic adventurer who is passionate about conservation and takes life as it comes, then this is for

you! #JWP brings together like-minded people from around the world on trips that focus on visiting and raising funds for wildlife initiatives along the route.

PAYMENT & BOOKING:

1. DEPOSIT: A **R1000pp** non-refundable deposit is required to be paid within 24 hours to reserve/book your spot on the expedition.
2. FULL PAYMENT DEADLINE: The remaining balance should be paid by the 9th November 2020
3. OR Full payment upfront (100%)

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY:

1. 7 days or less: Cancellation by you up to 7 days prior to departure results in no refund. (100% Cancellation fee applies i.e. no refund)
2. 7 days – 21 days prior to departure date. 70% cancellation fee applies. 30% will be refunded.
3. 22 – 30 days prior to departure date. 30% cancellation fee applies. 70% will be refunded.
4. Blue Sky Expeditions is not responsible for cancellations due to medical or family emergencies.
5. A cancellation request must be received in writing by email from the participant. Verbal notice will not serve as a valid cancellation.
6. Should you choose to withdraw from the program, kindly note that the deposit is non-refundable.
7. In the event that the trip is cancelled due to inadequate enrolment, Blue Sky Expeditions is not responsible for reimbursement of non-refundable airline tickets. While we do our absolute best to fill each trip, we highly recommend that you buy refundable airline tickets.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Please note the itinerary may change slightly but we will keep you posted as to any amendments or changes. This is Africa (TIA).
- MEALS: Most meals will be eaten together at the places we stay. Food restrictions and allergies can be accommodated, just please let us know beforehand.
- SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS: Pricing is based upon a double occupancy sharing. Unless a specific person has been identified, you will usually be assigned a roommate. Each person will have their own bed. So find a friend, bestie, partner and come have some much needed fun and adventure.
- Make sure you have sufficient supplies of any prescription medicine. In fact, it might be wise to bring a small personal first aid kit, including any patent medicines you prefer. You are responsible for taking all necessary health precautions before and during your trip. It is the client's responsibility to ensure they seek professional medical advice before travelling and to take all necessary health precautions and preventative measures.
- Vaccinations: Be an informed traveller! Ultimately, it is up to you to consult a physician. We are here to help but cannot legally provide medical advice.

ENTRY & VISA INFORMATION

Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months from the date of entry and that you have at least two blank pages in your passport (the back page does not count).

MONEY & TIPPING

- The currency in South Africa is the Rand. Credit cards are accepted so please do not rely on this as your main form of payment. Please also bring cash with you.
- There will be some situations where you may feel the need to tip but, as always, it is up to your discretion. Typically, it is customary to tip our local guides R50 to R100 per day per guide.