



mala  
mala  
South Africa



*Something will have gone out of us as a people if  
we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed...*

*We simply need that wild country available to us,  
even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in,  
for it can be a means of reassuring ourselves of our sanity  
as creatures, as part of the geography of hope...*

*Wallace Stegner  
Professor of English  
Stanford University*



*I was all of five, but I shall never forget that five-day car journey in 1937, when I accompanied my parents from Zululand via Swaziland to the Lowveld, which adjoins Skukuza in the Kruger National Park.*

*The petrol tank of my father's Cadillac kept scraping against the ridged, dirt roads, which caused it to leak and to require constant plugging with 'blue mottle' soap! All very exasperating for him – more so when his two Doberman Pinchers killed all the laying hens in the supplies lorry, loaded with our provisions for the next two months. I'm not musical, but to pass the time I blew tunelessly into my 'mouth organ', severely adding to my father's irritation. He eventually grabbed the instrument and threw it into the veld of Swaziland, prompting me to howl for hours. To this day I am still searching for my old 'mouth organ'!*

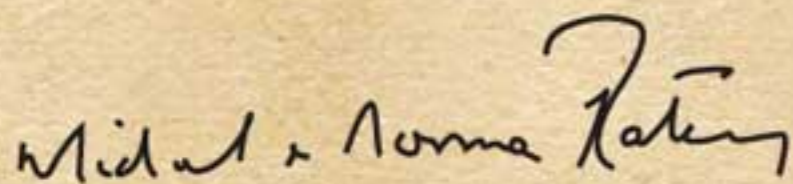
*Those were the days when hunters shot many animals without a conscience. Fortunately these same species now roam the MalaMala Game Reserve unhindered, and the flora and fauna are well-protected for posterity too. Today MalaMala boasts one of the greatest wildlife diversifications in Africa and the thrilling game viewing consistently draws nature lovers from across the globe – as well as some of the world's most respected wildlife photographers and filmmakers. All the photographs featured in this brochure were taken at the Rattray destinations.*

*For an insight into MalaMala's rich history, I invite you to take a look at an excerpt from our photo album on the next page of this brochure.*

*I'm proud that MalaMala, which we've owned since 1964, has also spawned a legacy of sister reserves: the acclaimed Rattray properties, which feature a number of 'firsts'. Whereas MalaMala is South Africa's first and largest private Big Five reserve, Mashatu Game Reserve in Botswana is southern Africa's largest, while Mount Anderson Ranch in northern South Africa was the first private water catchment reserve to be established in our beautiful country.*

*I am humbled when I think back on MalaMala's heady origins and then of the Rattray legacy many years hence. Not so much that our destinations will continue to fortify their reputation as international safari icons but that my wife Norma and I are so blessed to still live and work here after five decades, maintaining the environmental integrity of our little piece of Africa.*

*We look forward to welcoming you at the Rattray destinations!*



Michael Rattray  
CEO/Owner  
The Rattray Group of Properties





*Wac Campbell - the original owner*



*"When that bird has a baby can I have it?"  
Comment from a Shangaan local as the  
first flight landed at MalaMala*



*Harry Kirkman, conservation  
champion of the Lowveld - 1963*



# THE MALAMALA GAME RESERVE

## SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

A mere hour's flight from Johannesburg, MalaMala was once at the heart of the rip-roaring gold rush transport route on which fortune-seekers hauled their goods, often at tragic cost. And if the mosquitoes didn't get them there were the vultures, hyenas and lions that circled just beyond the flickering campfire. The transport route may now be a romantic memory but today's visitor to MalaMala is just as likely to encounter Africa's big game as those 19th century gold-diggers were.

At a mammoth 13 200 ha (33 000 acres), MalaMala Game Reserve lies strategically sandwiched between the Sabi Sand Wildtuin and the world famous Kruger National Park. The 19 km (12 mile) unfenced border with this massive wildlife conservancy provides unimpeded access to wildlife. Of great appeal to such wildlife is the vast array of MalaMala's habitat types - ranging from open savannah to dense riparian zones and granite outcrops. But perhaps the strongest allure is the perennial Sand River of which 13 km (8 miles) flow through the reserve.

It is this habitat diversity - and sound conservation management - that has contributed to MalaMala's reputation as the foremost game viewing destination in the world.

While it has become the exception rather than the norm for all members of the Big Five not to be seen on a single day, MalaMala is so much more than the coveted group of "most dangerous animals to hunt". CEO and owner, Michael Rattray, has been closely associated with the MalaMala area for almost 70 years and his formidable conservation expertise ensures that smaller creatures like dung beetles have right of way! MalaMala is also a sanctuary for rare and endangered wildlife where nature lovers may see threatened animals such as cheetahs, pangolins and the wild dog (Africa's second most endangered carnivore). The variety of birdlife in the reserve regularly rewards even the most seasoned ornithologist with surprising finds such as the martial eagle and ground hornbill.

Activities range from walking safaris to 4x4 safaris which may include sumptuous bush breakfasts, picnic lunches and the opportunity to savour sundowners as the sun sets behind a dusty horizon. Outdoor activities are led by highly qualified rangers, who are thoroughly conversant with all aspects of bushveld ecology. To optimise the guests' game viewing experience, trackers from the Shangaan tribe collaborate closely with their rangers. These Shangaan trackers have a fabled understanding of the bushveld passed down through the ages by their fathers and their fathers' fathers.

MalaMala's accommodation is the Rattray trademark incarnate: discreet, classic and elegant African opulence. The luxury camp, Rattray's on MalaMala, is a thoughtful reinvention of the traditional "Into Africa" safari experience.

But ultimately it's the environment and how it's experienced that makes MalaMala what it is today. With the resources at its disposal, and the experience of over 40 years as a leader in its field, MalaMala Game Reserve is well-established as a premier safari destination in southern Africa - and the world!

### Rattray's on MalaMala

- 8 luxury khayos (en-suite his-and-hers bathrooms, private heated plunge pool and outdoor shower)
- Optional laptop, internet connectivity and satellite television
- Maximum 4 guests per safari vehicle
- Camp capacity - 16
- No children under 16 years of age

### Sable Camp

- 7 luxury suites (including the two-bedroomed Lion's Den Suite)
- Maximum 6 guests per safari vehicle
- Camp capacity - 14
- No children under 12 years of age

### MalaMala Camp

- 18 rooms (including luxury rooms, luxury suites, family rooms and a room with disabled facilities)
- Maximum 6 guests per safari vehicle
- Camp capacity - 36
- Children of all ages accepted (certain restrictions apply to ages 4 and under) : MalaMala prides itself on a progressive Junior Ranger's programme for those between the ages of 4 and 12.

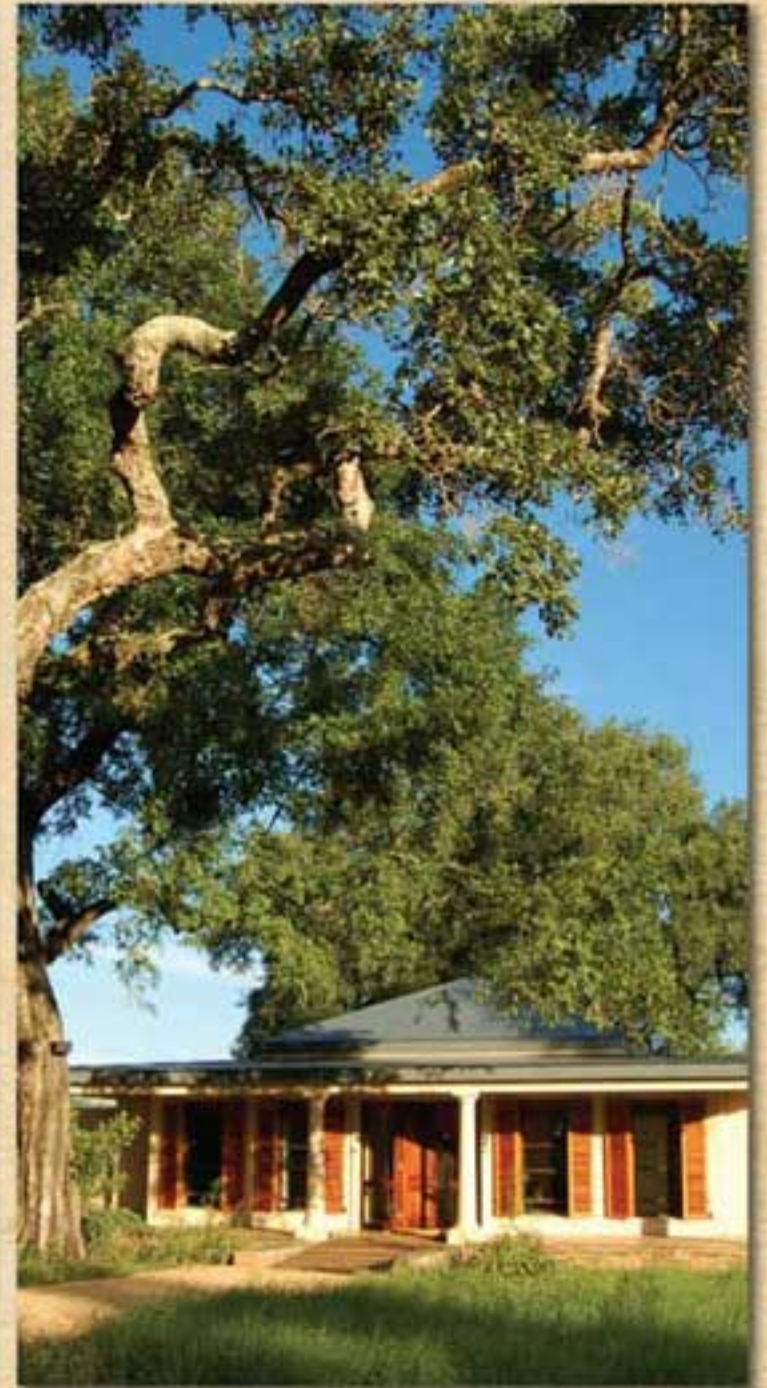


### WHAT MAKES MALAMALA UNIQUE?

MalaMala is the oldest and most historical private game reserve in South Africa and has existed since 1927. Sound conservation management, sheer size of land (largest private Big Five game reserve in South Africa) and a 19 km (12 mile) unfenced border shared with the Kruger National Park contribute to MalaMala's reputation as the finest game viewing destination in the world. MalaMala's wildlife consistently features in award-winning wildlife documentaries, and is the destination of choice for nature's photojournalists and film-makers.



# RATTRAY'S ON MALAMALA





# SABLE CAMP





# MALAMALA CAMP





"Not even Tanzania's famed Serengeti Game Reserve or the awesome Ngorongoro Crater fills your camera viewfinder faster with Africa's legendary Big Five - at MalaMala, lion, leopard, buffalo, rhinoceros and elephant appear magically, as if on cue," says acclaimed wildlife photojournalist Geoff Dalglish in his Sunday Times review. "Nor could Hollywood script the wide-screen wildlife encounters any more dramatically or frequently than nature does routinely in the private game reserve that is arguably South Africa's most famous internationally."

MalaMala's thrilling game viewing is a prime draw-card for some of the world's most renowned wildlife photographers and filmmakers. It should therefore come as no surprise that MalaMala has also provided the subject-matter for many a celebrated wildlife book, such as long-time MalaMala ranger Nils Kure's *Living with Leopards*, currently one of the most in-depth scientific studies of this elusive cat.

Visit [www.malamala.com](http://www.malamala.com) for more on MalaMala's plethora of photographic possibilities.





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