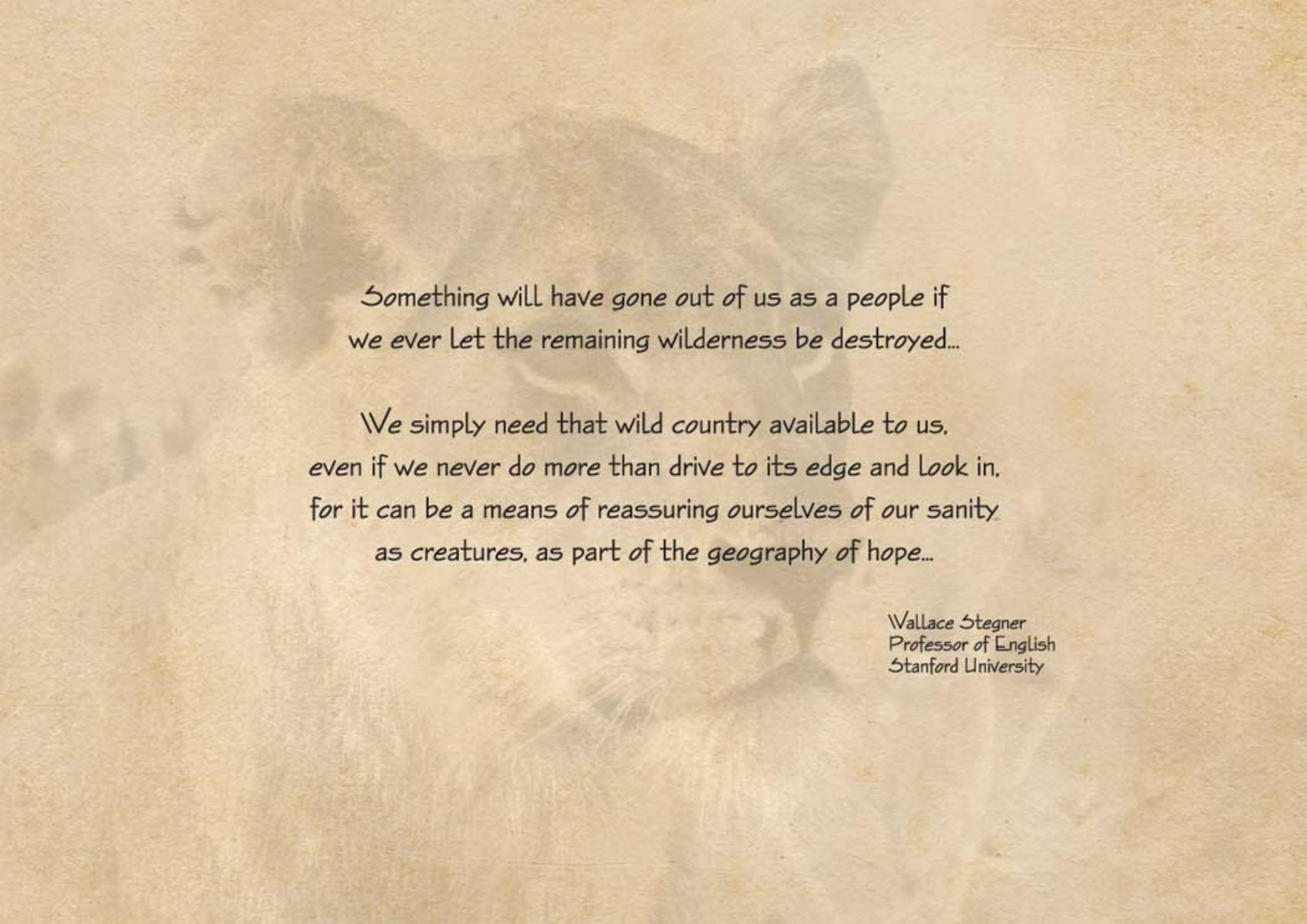


A dark red silhouette of an elephant standing and facing right, enclosed within a thin circular arc.

MASHATU
BOTSWANA





*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



A Rattray Camp in Botswana

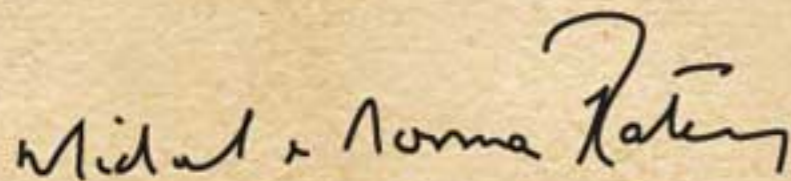
Twenty years ago saw the formation of a strategic partnership between the Rattray Group and the prestigious Botswana Development Corporation which is a highly respected quasi Botswana Government investment and financing operation. We never at that time could have imagined how deeply rewarding this partnership would become, or how this very remote and vast tract of land which had recently been purchased would develop into one of Africa's most prolific safari destinations. The Land of Giants, was at that time, absolutely undeveloped as a commercial game viewing destination and the formation of that partnership in 1987 was one of the wisest things we have done!

Why "The Land of Giants", you may wonder. It is because this piece of Africa is grand in every sense of the word. Its landscapes are vast and Mashatu's 75 000 acre reserve is breathtaking with its plains that teem with wildlife, including seven of Africa's giants. Its herds of elephants are the largest herds on privately owned land in the world!

Situated in the core of the proposed Limpopo-Shashe Transfrontier Conservation Area, Mashatu shares boundaries with the Mapungubwe National Park, a World Heritage Site in South Africa and the Tuli Safari Area in Zimbabwe. The Limpopo-Shashe Trans Frontier Conservation Area which is soon to be finalised, promises something new for the seasoned safari goers. Whether it is to explore the archaeological ruins of the Mapungubwe dynasty or relishing in vistas and sunsets without parallel, Mashatu also offers adventure tourism in the form of horse, mountain biking and walking safaris, all of which add a new dimension to the former traditional safari experience.

We are very proud of our achievements in this region. In our close association with the Botswana Development Corporation we have afforded remote and destitute communities the dignity of full employment with a better way of life and a standard of living comparable with those of others bordering on the more affluent and established wildlife areas of southern Africa.

We invite you to join us in the "Land of Giants". You will not be disappointed!



Michael Rattray
CEO/Owner
The Rattray Group of Properties



MASHATU GAME RESERVE

LAND OF GIANTS

It is from any towering vantage point that the great, primal stillness of Africa takes your breath away. For down in the valleys, to the north and south, east and west, lies the flattened and sweltering Mopane plains of Mashatu, 'Land of Giants'. For 360 degrees these awesome sweeping wilds rise and fall, and merge into clean horizons. This land is lovelier than any imagining of it and to those who stand on Mmamagwa Hill, also resoundingly silent – for the 'Land of Giants' is an utterly unpeopled wilderness in eastern Botswana, at the confluence of the Limpopo and Shashe Rivers. But take a moment to listen to the rhythms of a land that beats to a different drum and you'll soon unearth a diverse paradise thrumming with birds, plants, wild animals and insects. One that unfolds into savannah, riverine forests, marshland, ample plains and sandstone outcrops.

Mashatu, 'Land of Giants' takes its name from the locally-revered Mashatu tree and the giants that roam this prodigious land. As the largest private game reserve in southern Africa, Mashatu is, at 33 000 ha (75 000 acres), a fitting setting for the world's largest land mammal – the elephant; and the world's tallest mammal, the giraffe. Mashatu also provides a sanctuary to the world's largest antelope, the eland; the world's largest bird, the ostrich and of course, the world's largest flying bird: the noisy kori bustard. Add the lion, the king of the beasts and the iconic baobab and we present to you Mashatu's Giants! Visitors will also find, at over 700 individuals, Africa's largest elephant population on private land!

This special spot under the African sun proudly boasts an ecological diversity uncommon in other reserves. Complementing three members of the Big Five – leopard, lion and elephant – are some of the more surprising species, including the aardwolf, bat-eared fox, African wild cat, honey badger and black-backed jackal. True to form, Mashatu is also an ornithological paradise, and plays host to 350 bird species, including the enchanting lilac-breasted roller (whose plumage features no fewer than seven different shades of blue).

Set out, at dawn or dusk, on a 4x4 safari guided by dedicated and experienced Tswana rangers and trackers. Or brave an adventure safari that strays from the traditional safari experience: go bushwhacking on foot, gallop through verdant Mopane plains on horseback or confront Mashatu's unforgiving terrain on a mountain bike.

Delve even deeper into this exceptional land with one of our specialist trips: participate in the predator drive, which offers thrilling insights into the ferocious lives of Mashatu's big cats or meet Mashatu, this 'Land of Giants', on its own terms, in the company of a wild elephant scientist; and commune with one of the world's most awe-inspiring mammals, on an intimate level you'd never imagined possible.

Mashatu Camp

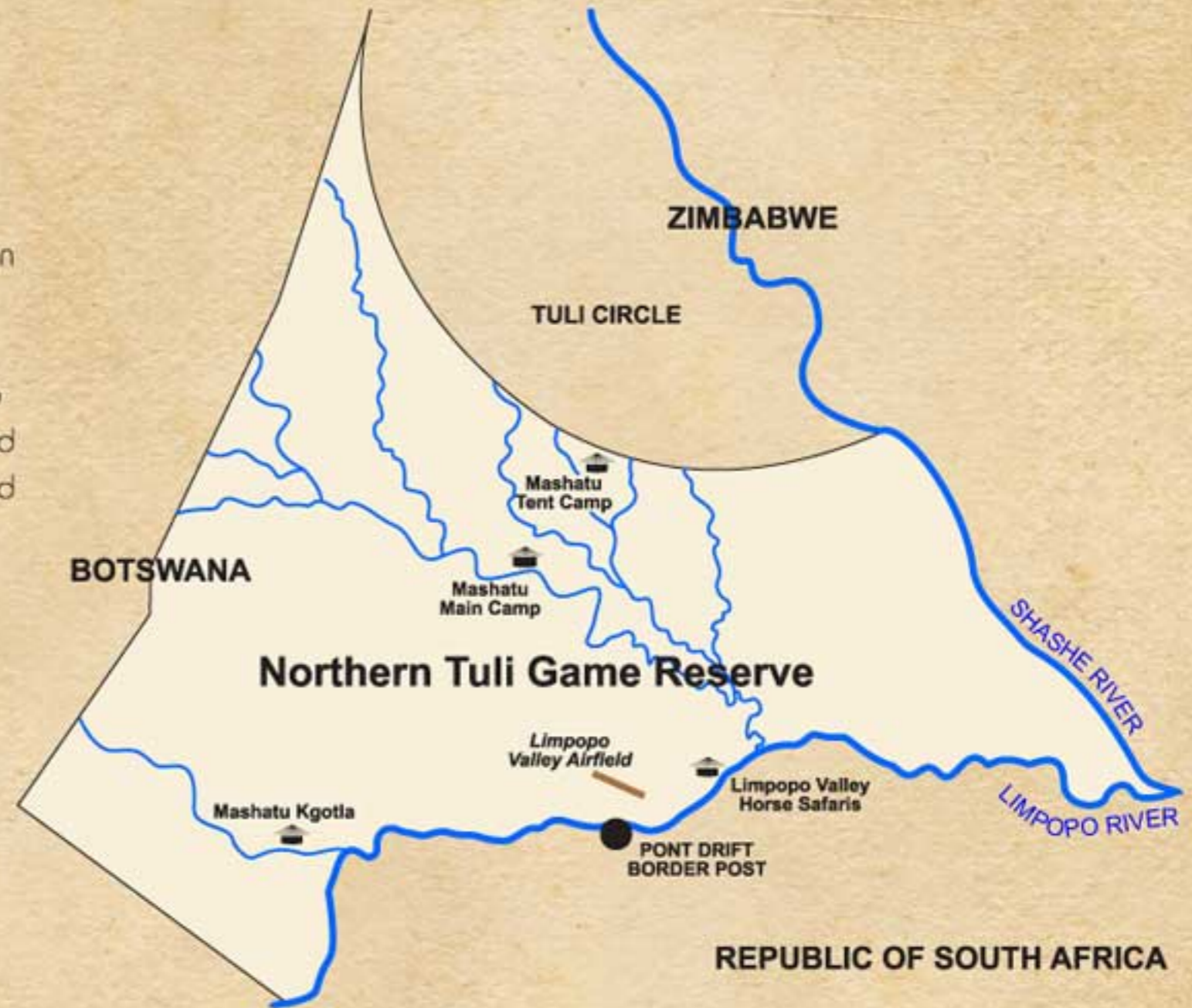
- 14 luxury suites
- Discovery Room offers an insight into this fascinating region rich in flora, fauna and archaeological finds
- Camp capacity - 28
- Children of all ages accepted (certain restrictions apply to ages 4 and under). Mashatu Main Camp offers a specialized children's programme which is guaranteed to entertain and educate in equal measure.

Mashatu Tent Camp

- 8 twin tents with private en-suite facilities
- Game viewing hide overlooking waterhole
- Camp capacity - 16
- No children under 12 years of age

Adventure Mashatu

- Ivory Drive
- Predator Drive
- Cultural Excursion
- Limpopo Valley Horse Safaris
- Cycling Safaris
- Walking Safaris



WHAT MAKES MASHATU UNIQUE?

It is the largest private game reserve in southern Africa and features seven of Africa's iconic giants: including elephant and lion. One of the most exciting, diverse and unexplored regions in southern Africa, Mashatu is a well-spring for wildlife, culture and adventure. Based at the confluence of Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe, Mashatu offers a distinctive view of Africa, complemented with its unique adventure activities. Just five hours from Johannesburg, Mashatu features as a convenient destination in the Rattray Combination Safari (comprising MalaMala Game Reserve and Mount Anderson Ranch in South Africa, and Mashatu Game Reserve in Botswana).



MASHATU MAIN CAMP





MASHATU TENT CAMP



ADVENTURE MASHATU



LIMPOPO VALLEY HORSE SAFARIS

Limpopo Valley Horse Safaris offer the experience of a lifetime. Surrounded by a multitude of Africa's flora and fauna, come and explore this breathtaking terrain from horseback, in the company of experienced African equine hosts who have extensive knowledge and experience of the bush.

There are two rides from which one can choose :-

Tuli Safari - a 7 night wilderness safari. Based entirely on Mashatu Game Reserve, the 7 night wilderness safari combines 5 nights at various wilderness camps, and 2 nights under the stars at the Kgotla (old tribal court - log enclosed boma). The Tuli Safari begins and ends on Sundays.

Big 5 Safari - a combination 8 night safari. 4 nights at the Horizons Dinaka or Jembisa lodges in South Africa and 4 nights at Mashatu Game Reserve provide opportunities for viewing the Big 5 on horse back. Accommodation at Mashatu is in various wilderness camps or a semi permanent luxurious tented camp. The Big 5 Safari begins on Saturdays and ends on Sundays.

For further information, reservations and enquiries please contact Limpopo Valley Horse Safaris directly:

Email : mashatu.lvhs@telkomsa.net or carlouise@webmail.co.za

Telephone : + 267 7232 0024 or + 267 7126 0452

www.lvhsafaris.co.za

CYCLE SAFARIS



ADVENTURE MASHATU



Bring your mountain bike and ride amongst the wildlife of the vast Northern Tuli Game Reserve. You owe yourself the opportunity at least once in your life!

Cycle Mashatu enjoys the cycling concession on Mashatu Game Reserve. Many would argue that you have not lived until you have cycled in the Land of the Giants - an intoxicating experience indeed!

Departing Fridays and Tuesdays from the beginning of March to the end of October, Cycle Mashatu offers a 3 night guided mountain biking adventure. Catering for up to 8 cyclists, enjoy riding well-worn game paths, sleeping under starlit skies and exploring the ancient Land of the Giants. Cycle Mashatu tailors the tours to suit the groups fitness and strength and provides vehicle support, meals, and camp amenities.

For further information, reservations and enquiries please contact Cycle Mashatu directly:

Telephone : +27 (0) 84 670 3266

Facsimile : +27 (0) 86 617 1937

email: info@cyclemashatu.co.za

www.cyclemashatu.co.za

ADVENTURE MASHATU



WALKING SAFARIS



There are a wide variety of landscapes and vegetation types in the Tuli region which should all be experienced first-hand. The best manner to do this is definitely on foot! Walking Mashatu offers the wilderness lover, the bird watcher, the keen dendrologist, the intrepid hiker and the nature enthusiast the ultimate experience whilst walking in the Land of the Giants.

We offer tailor-made walking safaris to suit the disposition of our clients. Distances covered per day depend on the ability and preference of the guest. There is no minimum or maximum limit on the number of nights spent. It is however suggested that at least three nights are booked.

We camp out in comfort in the bush in two-man canvas dome tents. Your luggage is transported by vehicle between camps to give you the opportunity to have full enjoyment of the walk.

Join us and experience the roar of the lion, the howl of the hyena, the cry of the jackal and the whistle of the pearl-spotted owl during starry nights around a campfire. Witness the magnificent rise of the African sun. Discover the hidden secrets of nature with your guide. Learn about the inter-relatedness of species and the adaptations of specific species to their habitat.

For more detailed information on Mashatu Walking Safaris, please contact our central MalaMala and Mashatu reservations office: Telephone : +27 (0) 11 442 2267 email: mashatu@malamala.com

MASHATU RESEARCH



Mashatu has the largest free roaming, flourishing elephant population on private land in Southern Africa.

Join our resident elephant specialist and researcher, Jeanetta Selier, on a morning drive to learn more about these amazing creatures. Learn how to identify, as well as age and sex the different herds, which Jeanetta has come to know so well over the years.

Getting right up close and personal with these fascinating pachyderms enables guests to learn more about their behaviour, their complex social structure and their communication skills.



IVORY DRIVE

MASHATU RESEARCH



Andrei Snyman, who is based on Mashatu Game Reserve, is the predator researcher of the Northern Tuli Game Reserve. His study specializes in the lions and leopards of this area. Andrei has extensive experience working with large carnivores, covering aspects such as capture, radio tracking, monitoring and censusing. For the last few years Andrei has been studying the lion population dynamics in the Kruger National Park, South Africa. Andrei is currently running the Northern Tuli Predator Project and conducting a lion research project focusing on the socio organisation of lions in Tuli. In order to subsidise his research, Andrei conducts interpretive drives where a more detailed insight into the predators of Mashatu is offered. For a contribution to his research endeavours, join Andrei on an afternoon predator research drive where he will share with you the extraordinary life of leopards and lions from a researcher's perspective, as you search for these charismatic large predators. Come and experience for yourself a few hours in the life of a predator researcher and learn how Andrei aims to better understand the King-of-Beasts and the Prince-of-Stealth.

PREDATOR DRIVE



CULTURAL EXCURSIONS

The rugged scopes of Mashatu, 'Land of Giants', offer an exhilarating view of the sub-continent, unchanged since the days of Kipling, Selous and artist/explorer Sir Thomas Baines. But strewn and scattered throughout the reserve lie the ghosts of Africa's early legacy - ancient ruins that yield even more lucid insights into the forefathers who shaped the continent's history.

Fortressed on the apex of Mashatu's Mmamagwa Hill, the Motloutse Ruins reveal broken possessions and property that belonged to real people - people who lived and loved on this land. Exploring these haunting ruins is like reaching deep into the past, and making contact with the living ghosts of history. Today a significant archaeological dig, the Motloutse Ruins were once the royal dwellings of the rulers of the Leopard Kopje Dynasty - the forerunner of the legendary Mapungubwe Empire, southern Africa's first kingdom, the remains of which can be seen some 35 km (22 miles) east of Mashatu at the Mapungubwe World Heritage Site in South Africa. Step from the past into the present, and experience life as lived by local tribes-people in this land of Giants. The Cultural Tour, available exclusively to Mashatu's guests, includes an exploration of the legendary Mmamakwa Ruins (an offshoot of the Mapungubwe Ruins). Passing Solomon's Wall (the most dramatic geographical feature of the reserve, standing a breathtaking 30 metres tall), visitors head to a local villoge to the "kgotla" - the heart of the tribal community where justice is administered, welcomes are shared and celebrations enjoyed. Local weavers will then display their speciality - no modern machine could hope to match the skill and dexterity of these master craftswomen who magically create baskets and mats. Further afield, the breathtaking crossing of the Motloutse River leads visitors to a haven of Mlala palm trees. A local expert will deftly guide participants through the fascinating process of making Mlala palm wine. And finally, the tour concludes with the touching encounter with a much younger generation at the Mothlabaneng Primary School.

The cultural journey promises a view of the true heart of Africa where time has not ravaged the face of absolute originality. It is a humbling experience to realize how simple life can be - living off and with this extraordinary land.



MASHATU WILDLIFE



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