



SOUTH AFRICA PHOTO SAFARI



Join us for a Big Five photography safari in South Africa.

We'll be based in the stunning Timbavati Game Reserve, an area of private reserves that offer truly exclusive wildlife encounters – some of the best in Africa. The area is particularly known for its brilliant sightings of the otherwise elusive leopard – but you can also expect lions, elephants, rhinos, buffalos, and much more.

We'll stay in a lodge in the middle of the reserve, surrounded by wildlife and beautiful scenery. During our twice-daily game drives, all guided by expert local guides and trackers, you can expect to photograph the African Big Five (lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino, and elephant) – and a whole lot more. Throughout your stay, you'll enjoy the expert tutoring of wildlife photographer Alan Hewitt, an official Fujifilm UK ambassador, who will help you hone your photography skills. We'll have a maximum group size of 6, ensuring that everyone will receive personal tutoring that suits their level.

If you're keen for an extended wildlife photography adventure, you can combine this trip with our photo safari in Botswana. This is based in the stunning Tuli Game Reserve, where wide open landscapes and some unique wildlife encounters will offer an equally exciting but totally different photographic experience. (There's a discount if you join both trips!)

Highlights

This photo safari is set in the Timbavati, a collection of private game reserves that borders Kruger National Park.

- Get incredible photographic opportunities in a private game reserve, which is likely to include quality encounters with the Big Five (lions, leopards, elephants, rhinos, and buffalos)
- Improve your photography skills, whatever level you're at, through tutoring by Alan Hewitt
- Enjoy a small group size, allowing plenty of personal guidance, and a great position in our game drive vehicle
- Be guided by local guides and trackers with great expertise

What to Expect

The game viewing here is incredible; some of the best in Africa. The wildlife is exceptionally relaxed around game drive vehicles, allowing for phenomenal photographic opportunities. You can expect to photograph the Big Five with ease, including the otherwise elusive leopard. It's also a brilliant area for spotting the highly endangered white rhino.

Our itinerary on this photo safari is fully designed around getting you the best wildlife photography opportunities. Twice a day, around times when the African light is at its very best, you'll enjoy a 3-hour game drive. You'll be guided by expert local guides and trackers, who will make sure to find you a wealth of wildlife to photograph. You can expect to have close encounters with a large number of animals, including lions, leopards, elephants, buffalos, giraffes, zebras, rhino, and many different antelope species. We'll always get you to the best possible angle and the best possible light, so that the photographic opportunities are optimal. You can expect to return home with an impressive portfolio of wildlife images!

Wildlife photographer Alan Hewitt will offer guidance throughout the trip, making sure that you'll be improving your photography skills. The tutoring covers everything from composition to technical camera use and post-production. Since we'll be traveling in a small group of maximum 6 participants, there will be plenty of one-on-one time, which ensures that everyone can learn at their own level and pace. Photographers of all levels are welcome!





PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITIES

The Tuli Block is a fantastic location for photographing some of Botswana's larger species such as lions, leopards, cheetahs, and elephants.

But we'll also focus on smaller wildlife during your photo safari, both during game drives and on foot, like jackals, honey badgers, different antelope, and birds of prey. This area is brimming with life, offering a huge variety and abundance of photographic subjects to enrich your portfolio.

The breath-taking vistas of the Tuli Block provide a unique backdrop for your wildlife photography and, for those keen, also offer exciting landscape photography opportunities. The bright, clear, and expansive night skies offer a chance to explore astrophotography too. We'll time your game drives and walking safaris to both harness the best possible lighting conditions for your photographs, and to suit the behaviors of the animals you're tracking; this trip is fully designed to make sure that you're in the right place at the right time for those prime photographic opportunities.

YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE: ALAN HEWITT

Alan Hewitt is a wildlife and conservation photographer, writer, and workshop leader.

Mainly driven by his appreciation for and fascination of wildlife, Alan's aim with his photography is to document our natural world and use this as a tool for conservation. His work has been used to support wildlife conservation organizations in Kenya, as well as ones closer to his home in the UK, including campaigns to save nature reserves that are home to iconic and endangered species. Alan is an official UK ambassador for FUJIFILM.

Alan will be there to assist you throughout your photo safari and to help you take the best possible wildlife images. His tuition will be tailored to everyone's level, and it'll happen both during game drives (and walking safaris), and sessions at our accommodation; it's flexible and adaptable to everyone's needs.

Tuition will most likely include camera settings, exposure, aperture, creative techniques, as well as post-processing. If there's anything in particular you would like to learn – be sure to ask! It is our hope that you'll return home from your Botswana photo safari with an enriched portfolio and improved photography skills.



ITINERARY

Day 1

You'll arrive at the airport in Hoedspruit, where we'll be waiting to welcome you. We'll take you on the short drive to our lodge in the Timbavati. After settling in, Alan will give an introduction to wildlife photography, and go through the itinerary of the coming week.

Day 2-6

We'll enjoy full days of being in the African bush, and photographing wildlife. Our days start early, with a 3-hour game drive at the first African light. This is a great time to be out; animals are at their most active, and the light is at its best. When we return, a delicious breakfast awaits us. Afterwards, there is time to relax, to review images, and to talk in-depth about wildlife photography with Alan. Late afternoon, after lunch, we'll head out on another 3-hour game drive, this time at the last of the warm African light. During the game drive, we'll stop for 'sundowners', drinks in the middle of the bush. After the game drive, dinner will be served, and there is time to relax.

Day 7 (or 9)

After a last game drive in the morning, we'll pack up and make our way back to the airport in Hoedspruit. If you're joining us in Botswana as well, you'll make your way to Johannesburg, where we'll pick you up for a road transfer across the border.



ACCOMMODATION & FACILITIES

We'll stay at Umlani Bushcamp, a lovely lodge in a private game reserve.

Sheltered byWhile the camp has an authentic and rustic African charm, the lodge is very comfortable and has a number of facilities. Set within a picturesque setting, your room will be a thatched hut with comfortable beds, en-suite facilities and an open-air bush shower. You'll have hot water and electricity. The lodge has a bush bar overlooking a waterhole, a pool, and a traditional African boma (outside dining area), where you'll be served three gorgeous home cooked meals a day.

Since we're in the middle of a game reserve, wildlife roams around the camp, and some photographic opportunities might occur while you're relaxing or eating a meal. There is wifi at the lodge, but don't count on it being very fast.

Please note that the fees are on a sharing basis (you'll share with one other person of the same sex). If you're interested in a single supplement, let us know.

Mashatu and Apple-leaf trees and only a few hundred meters from the banks of the Limpopo River, Serolo sits right in the heart of the wilderness you journeyed here to photograph. You will spend your nights in a comfortable two-bed safari-style tent, fully serviced with hot running water, en-suite showers, and flush toilets. There are electric fans and lamps in each tent and bedding, towels, and soap are supplied.



MEALS

Three wholesome meals will be cooked for us every day.

If you have any food allergies or specific dietary requirements, please let us know in advance. We will do everything we can to accommodate your needs. Teas, coffees, and bottled water will be provided for you. Alcoholic and soft drinks are not included, but you can buy them at Umlani, the nearby lodge. You can pay for them in cash (either ZAR or USD) or by credit card.



RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

We recommend the following equipment. If you'd like to discuss your specific gear, just reach out, and we'll be happy to advise.

- DSLR or mirrorless camera
- Range of lenses; ideally ranging from wide angle for landscape to telephoto for wildlife
- Tripod or bean bag, plus a monopod (useful in game drive vehicles)
- Sturdy camera bag
- Enough spare batteries and memory cards (you'll be able to charge your batteries at our accommodation)
- Hard drive and a laptop / external drive to download and store your photographs on should you fill your memory cards.
- Laptop with editing software

GETTING THERE

We're here to guide you through the process of booking the right flights!

You'll have to fly to Hoedspruit Airport, which is a short flight from Johannesburg, and a short drive from our lodge. We'll meet you at the airport, or at your accommodation near the airport if you are staying overnight, any time before 2 pm. So you can either fly in on that day, or fly in the day before and stay overnight. (We'll be able to recommend places to stay, if you like.)

We'll transfer you back to Hoedspruit Airport on the last day of the trip, at the end of the morning, where you can catch a flight home. You can expect to be at the airport by noon - please keep this in mind when booking flights. Give yourself enough time to check in!

There are several flights a day between Johannesburg and Hoedspruit. These are easy to book online. There is also a shuttle service, which takes a bit longer (it's a 5-hour drive), but is generally cheaper than flying. If you'd like further information on this, let us know. Please make sure to give us your arrival details at least two weeks before you travel!



PRICE

USD 3420 per person sharing
(Note that we are happy to
invoice in other currencies.)

This includes:

- Accommodation
- All meals
- Airport transfers to and from Johannesburg
- All game drives
- Photographic tutoring by Alan Hewitt
- All entrance fees

This does not include:

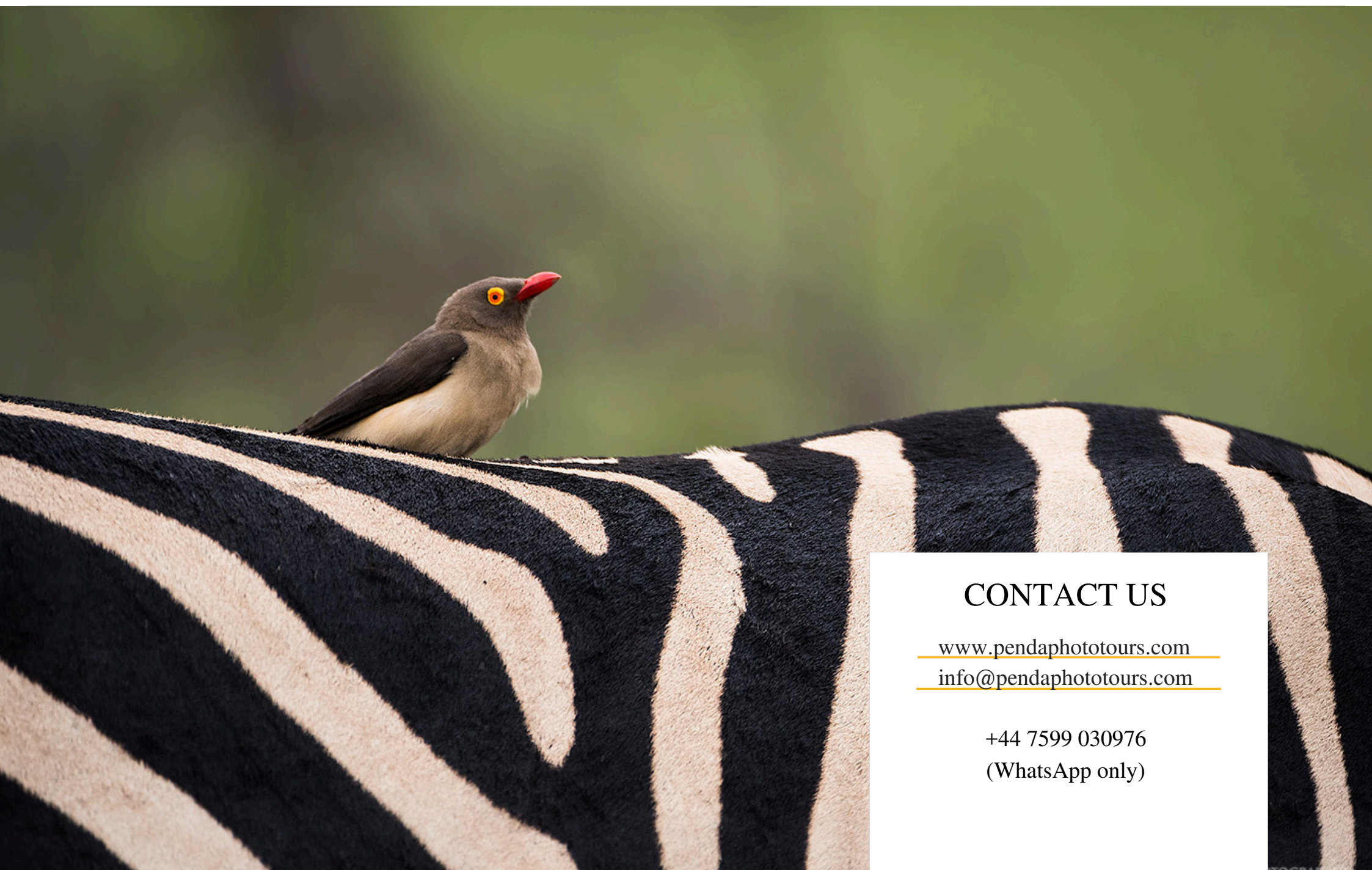
- International flights to Johannesburg
- Travel insurance



WHY PENDA

Everything is built around photography.

- Our photography tours are created by photographers, for photographers. Our itineraries are designed around creating the best possible photographic opportunities. We'll make sure to bring you to the right place, at the right moment.
- We're travel experts. We love travel, and have many years of experience in creating and running tours, workshops, volunteer programs, and safaris. We know what makes a great holiday, and will match every person with their perfect experience.
- Our photography tours are led by top photographers. Each photo tour or safari is guided by an experienced professional photographer, who is dedicated to creating the best possible experience for you by taking you to the right spots, and tutoring you at the same time.
- We respect what we photograph. We're committed to exploring and adhering to the most ethical ways of photographing new places.



CONTACT US

www.pendaphototours.com

info@pendaphototours.com

+44 7599 030976
(WhatsApp only)