

NATIONAL PARK · SOUTH AFRICA · MPUMALANGA

Kruger

at a glance

Two million hectares you may drive through yourself, and a time window that ends every day when the gates close.

2 million

HECTARES
almost, around 20,000 km²
(7,700 sq mi)

1898

SINCE
to protect the wildlife of the
Lowveld

147

MAMMAL SPECIES
elsewhere SANParks gives 148

507

BIRD SPECIES
elsewhere SANParks gives 546

BEFORE YOU GO



Self-drive is the rule here, not the exception

Kruger is one of the few large wildlife reserves in Africa that you may drive through on your own in your own or a hired car.



Founded in 1898, and almost two million hectares in size

The park was established in 1898 to protect the wildlife of the South African Lowveld.



Gates in the south

Malelane and Crocodile Bridge are on the N4 in the south, Numbi and Phabeni in the south-west near Hazyview, and Paul Kruger west of ...



Late means a fine

SANParks puts it plainly: driving before or after these times is not allowed, the gate times are strictly enforced, and if you arrive late ...



Stay in your car

Outside designated areas you must stay in your vehicle.



Speed limits of 50 and 40

On tarred roads the limit is 50 km/h (31 mph), on gravel roads 40 km/h (25 mph). All general traffic rules apply.

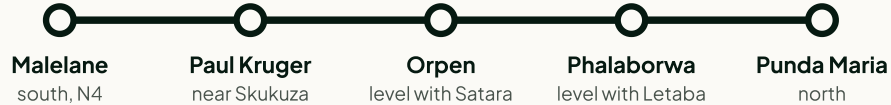


Fees and opening hours, up to date

Fees and times change. The park page lists them with source and date:
nationalparksatlas.com/en/south-africa/kruger

Gates, camps and 50 km/h

GATES FROM SOUTH TO NORTH (SELECTION)



From the southernmost to the northernmost gate there are about 350 kilometres (217 mi) of park; at 50 km/h (31 mph) that is not a day trip. The five southern gates lead into the busiest part of the park with Skukuza, Lower Sabie, Berg-en-Dal and Pretoriusskop.

The speed limit is 50 km/h (31 mph) on tar and 40 km/h (25 mph) on gravel. Outside designated areas you stay in your vehicle with the doors closed. Gate times change by month; the park page has the current times.

[Current timetables on the park page](#)



Stay in your car

Outside designated areas you must stay in your vehicle. No part of your body may stick out of the window, sunroof or any other opening, and the doors stay closed. This is not a recommendation but the park authority's first rule.



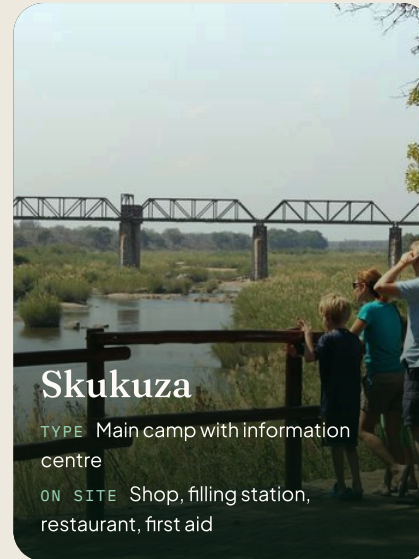
No feeding, no noise, no drones

Feeding or disturbing animals is a serious offence; the park authority points out that animals take litter for food.



Take a fever seriously for up to five weeks afterwards

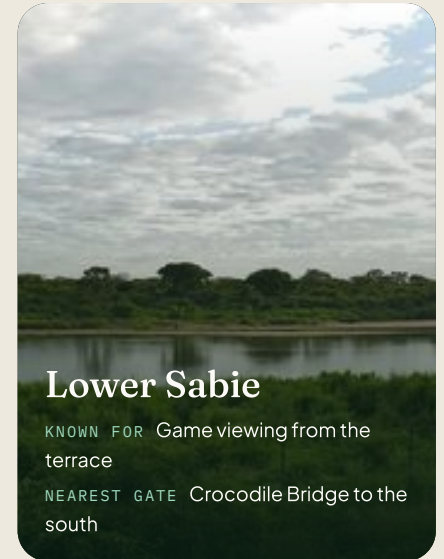
Between the bite of an infected mosquito and the first symptoms there can be 12 to 35 days. If you develop a fever without an obvious cause during this time, get tested for malaria; a blood test is the most accurate.



Skukuza

TYPE Main camp with information centre

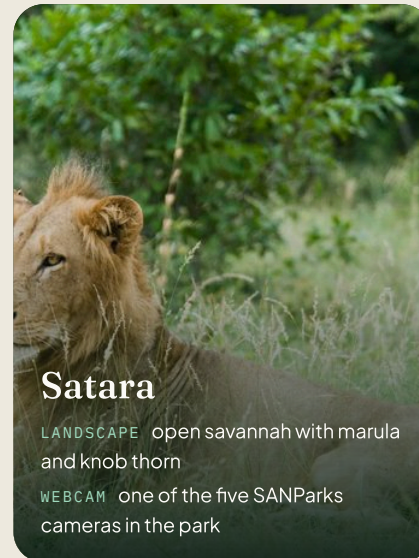
ON SITE Shop, filling station, restaurant, first aid



Lower Sabie

KNOWN FOR Game viewing from the terrace

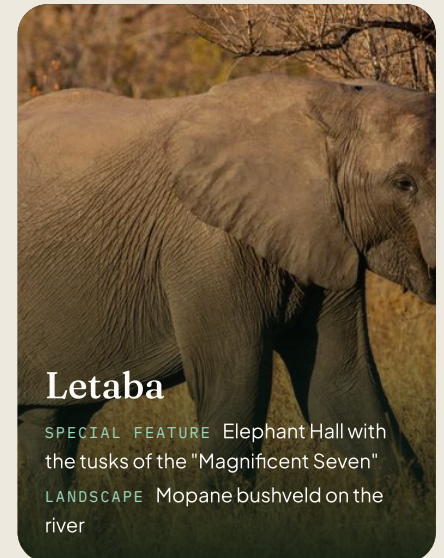
NEAREST GATE Crocodile Bridge to the south



Satara

LANDSCAPE open savannah with marula and knob thorn

WEBCAM one of the five SANParks cameras in the park



Letaba

SPECIAL FEATURE Elephant Hall with the tusks of the "Magnificent Seven"

LANDSCAPE Mopane bushveld on the river

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

The Big Five, and the Little Five

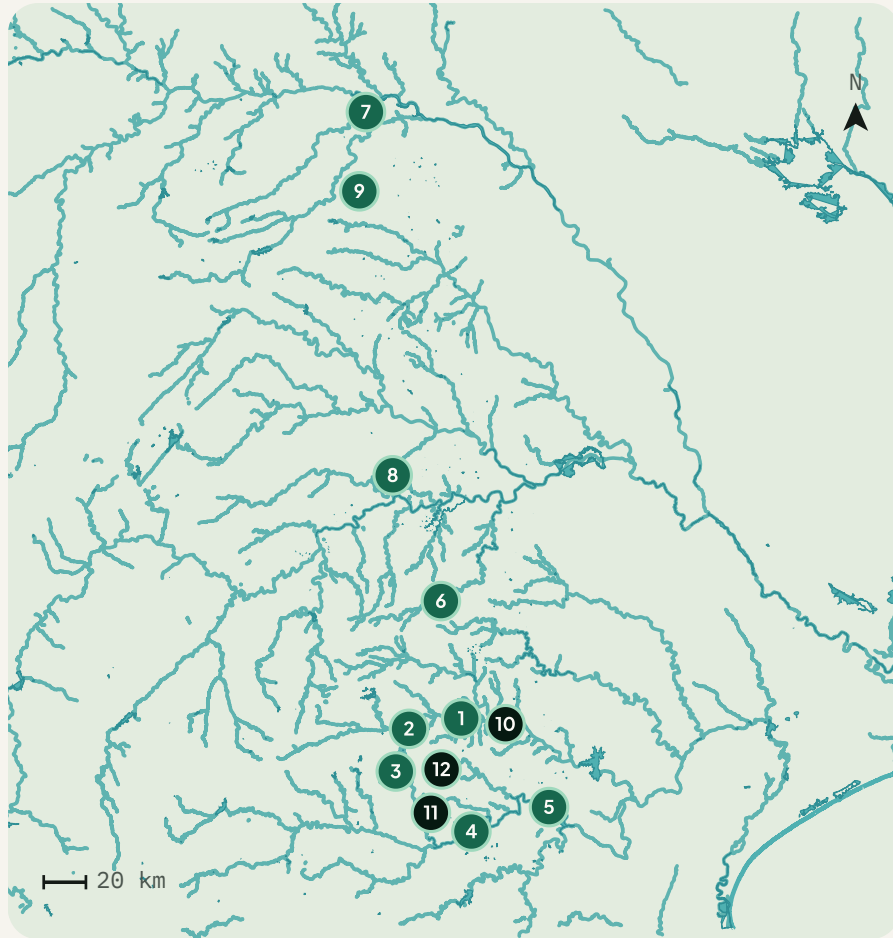
Buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion and rhino are the Big Five. SANParks sets the Little Five against them: buffalo weaver, elephant shrew, leopard tortoise, antlion and rhino beetle.

The Birding Big Six

For birdwatchers the park names six species to look for: ground hornbill, kori bustard, lappet-faced vulture, martial eagle, Pel's fishing owl and saddle-billed stork.

Five trees to find your bearings by

Baobab, fever tree, knob thorn, marula and mopane: five species that the park itself highlights as landmarks of the landscape. Mopane dominates the north, where the baobab stands alone on the plains.



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Paul Kruger Gate | 7 Pafuri Gate |
| 2 Phabeni Gate | 8 Phalaborwa Gate |
| 3 Numbi Gate | 9 Punda Maria Gate |
| 4 Malelane Gate | 10 Skukuza |
| 5 Crocodile Bridge | 11 Berg-en-Dal |
| 6 Orpen Gate | 12 Pretoriuskop |

Green: entrances. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL).

THINGS TO DO

Morning drive: half an hour ahead of everyone else

Morning drives leave half an hour before the official gate opening, so you are the only ones out.

No children under six

Guided drives have an age limit: children under six are not allowed for safety reasons.

Walks from the camp: eight guests at most

Most camps offer guided walks daily in the early morning and the afternoon.

The Big Five, and the Little Five

Buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion and rhino are the Big Five.

[More on the park page](#)

Sunset drive

These drives leave the camp before dusk and return after sunset, about three hours in all.

On foot only with an armed guide

Walks, bush walks and multi-day wilderness trails only take place with experienced, armed guides.

Bush braai: dinner by the fire in the bush

An afternoon game drive takes you to a spot with lanterns and open fires, where game meat, sausages ...

The Birding Big Six

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TOURS AND GETTING THERE • AD



FROM ACCOMMODATION IN
HAZYVIEW

**From Hazyview: full-day
safari in an open vehicle**

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



FROM YOUR ACCOMMODATION

**Full-day game drive with
pickup at a gate or hotel**

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



FROM NELSPRUIT

**Full-day safari from
Nelspruit, Malelane or
straight from the gate**

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



**From Johannesburg: three
days with two nights in
Hazyview**

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



SUNSET • FROM PHABENI
GATE

**Sunset drive from Phabeni
Gate**

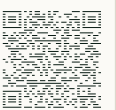
ON VIATOR ➤



GUIDED WALK • 3 HOURS •
FROM PICKUP AT HOTELS
IN HAZYVIEW

**On foot through the bush:
three-hour walking safari
in the park**

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



THREE-DAY TOUR • FROM SKUKUZA AIRPORT • FROM SKUKUZA AIRPORT INSIDE THE PARK

From Skukuza Airport: three days with nights in the park

ON VIATOR ➤



Partner links: we may earn a commission if you book. Dates and prices are set by the provider. Checked 21 Sep 2026.