

# The Big Five Marathon 2024

## An adventure through the South-Africa's Savannah of Entabeni

Situated in the Limpopo province, the Entabeni Game Reserve provides the perfect setting for this event. Within this 22,000 ha, malaria-free, private game reserve, you have the option of several accommodation facilities, varying from tented camps to luxurious lodges. We use exclusive safari lodges that are placed in the middle of Entabeni, meaning that, as soon as you step outside, you will find yourself surrounded by the savannah wildlife. From our lodges, you will have a spectacular view of the mighty Entabeni-monolith, as well as the opportunity to catch a glimpse of all the "Big Five" game, along with several other stunning creatures like giraffes, hippopotamus, crocodiles and many splendid species of antelope, not to mention an abundance of birdlife. Between game drives, bush walks, and the marathon itself, you'll have plenty of chances to see the wildlife.

**8-DAY PACKAGE**

11-18 JUN



8 DAYS



from 2900 €

### 11 June 2024 | Arrival Zebra Nature Reserve

Your tour will start and end at Johannesburg International Airport (also known as OR Tambo). All participants will be transferred at set transfer times from the airport to Zebra Nature Reserve. The set transfer departure times from the airport are: 08.30, 10:00, 12:00, 14:00. If none of these transfers fit with your arrival, it is possible to book an individual transfer at an additional cost. Set in 400 HA of free roaming non predatory animals, Zebra Nature Reserve lies 1 hour away from Johannesburg International Airport. After arrival at Zebra Nature reserve you will enjoy lunch before check. In the afternoon there will be a guided nature walk with ending at the reptile center where you'll have the chance to learn about many of the endemic reptile species. Meals: Lunch & dinner

### 12 June 2024 | Visit to Soweto

Today we will visit South Africa's most famous township Soweto. With a guide who was born and raised in Soweto you'll hear personal insights into the culture of the township and learn about Soweto's vibrant modern personality. During the visit in Soweto we will also visit the Apartheid Museum and The Hector Pieterse Memorial. In the afternoon you it's time to relax or take part in many of the activities on offer such as fishing, kayaking, mountain biking (not included), visit the onsite spa or explore the reserve on your own. It's also possible to run the marked 5 km route in your own pace. The reserve is 400 HA fenced area where non predatory animals roam and some of the animals you are likely to encounter include Zebra, giraffe, warthog, wildebeest, eland and impala. In the afternoon we will take a nature drive through the reserve ending up at lookout point for a traditional sundowner before returning to a traditional South Africa dinner which will be served around the open fire followed by a drumming session. Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner.

### 13 June 2024 | To Entabeni

After breakfast we make the relatively short three hour journey to Entabeni Game Reserve and Legend Safari Resort. In the afternoon we will go on the first of several exciting game drives in Entabeni. The game drives will provide the opportunity to experience an authentic African safari in serene surroundings. The Entabeni Game Reserve offers diverse wildlife, open safari vehicles and relatively few tourists, creating an ideal wilderness atmosphere.

**Contact**

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## 14 June 2024 | Route Inspection

After breakfast, all participants will be transported from their respective lodges/camp to the starting point of the marathon. Before we set off for the start line, there will be a short briefing about the route inspection. All safari vehicles follow the route in a convoy, allowing the participants to examine the different running surfaces, note the locations of water stations and assess the overall difficulty of the route. After the route inspection, a large buffet lunch will be served for all of the participants. Everyone will be gathered - participants, race officials, medical staff and rangers - for a formal introduction to the event, and a presentation of the practical issues surrounding the marathon. There are no scheduled game drives this day. Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## 15 June 2024 | Race Day

The day we have all been waiting for has arrived! Today you will take part in an unforgettable challenge: The Big Five Marathon. In the morning, all participants will be transported from the different lodges/camps to the starting line in time for final preparations. The marathon is scheduled to start at 09:00, but delays are to be expected, as the exact start time will depend on the location of the big five game - if too close to the route, the start will be postponed. There are no scheduled game drives this day. Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

## 16 June 2024 | Celebration Dinner

Today we get some time to relax after running through the African savannah. You will have the option to purchase additional game drives and excursions for the morning. In the afternoon, we will venture out for yet another fantastic game drive followed by our post-marathon party. There will be delightful food, live entertainment, a prize ceremony, a big bonfire, and partying under the starry skies. Please be aware that the party takes place in a traditional South African boma with open roof and large open doorways. It is therefore advisable to dress warm! For the same reason, there will be no dress code and casual warm clothing is recommended. Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

## 17 June 2024 | Entabeni

On the final day at the Entabeni Safari Conservancy, you will have one last game drive in the morning. Those interested will also get the opportunity to stretch their legs on one final bush walk. In the evening, farewell dinners will be held at the respective lodges. Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

## 18 June 2024 | Farewell South Africa or Hello Extension

Our time at the Entabeni Game Reserve has come to an end and it's time to head back to Johannesburg. As upon arrival, all participants will be transferred from Entabeni to Johannesburg International Airport. Transfer arrival times at the airport are: 08:00, 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00 and 18:00. As on arrival, it is possible, at an additional cost, to book an individual transfer to Johannesburg, if the group transfers don't coincide with your onward journey. Meals: Breakfast

### Possible Extensions:

➤ Cape Town	18-22 Jun	5 days	1500 EUR
➤ Victoria Falls	18-21 Jun	4 days	1800 EUR
➤ Big Five Safari & Panorama Route	18-22 Jun	6 days	1500 EUR

### Inclusions

- Hotel accommodation
- Full board (starting with dinner on day 1 and ending with breakfast on the day of departure)
- Scheduled group transfers
- Game drives according to the itinerary

### Exclusions

- International flights
- Personal expenses
- Beverages
- Race package (EUR 300)
- Private transfer (EUR 400 one way)
- Tips for rangers and lodge staff
- Anything not mentioned in 'Inclusion'

