



Introducing our New Photographic Bunker :
iThumbela



With Makumu aptly meaning 'endless view' in the Xitsonga language, owner Stefan Breuer has always had a passion for photography, inspired by the magnificent landscapes of the Klaserie Private Nature Reserve which he visited

in his childhood, and which has been his African home for the past 20 years.

After a recent visit to a camp in Botswana where he saw a similar hide, Stefan decided to introduce the concept to the Klaserie, this first of its kind in the Greater Kruger region. The 'Big Five' Klaserie Private Nature Reserve is one of the largest privately owned nature reserves in South Africa, covering some 60 000 hectares and forming part of the Greater Kruger National Park, providing ample space and a myriad opportunity for remarkable wildlife sightings.

"What I often find missing is the opportunity to get very close to game in a relaxed environment, without them being aware of my presence", says Breuer. "The bunker is eco-friendly and made from a submerged, camouflaged container, so as not to disturb the surrounding fauna and flora. Being able to photograph wildlife at eye-level also provides a completely new perspective to a shot."

'iThumbela' as the bunker has been named, which loosely translated from the Xitsonga language means 'place to hide', is sunken below ground and overlooks a watering hole, offering guests the opportunity to photograph wildlife coming to the water to cool down or drink, at ground level. A great addition to the Makumu safari scene, this experience will particularly appeal to expert photographers looking for a completely unique angle from which to photograph game, birdlife and animal behaviour.

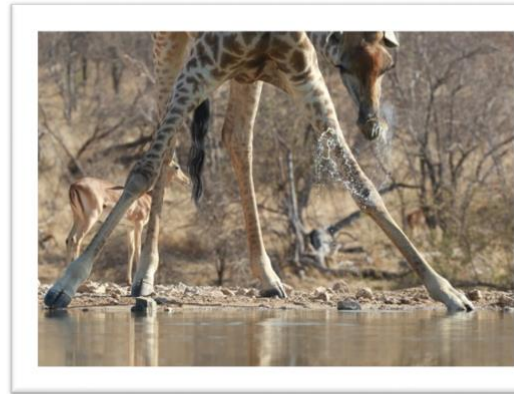
Elephant, giraffe, zebra, lion, hyena, leopard, a variety of bird species and many other game regularly frequent the dam, including hippo! **Serious photographers also have the option of booking a private photographic safari where they have exclusive access to the bunker, a private guide and safari vehicle for a day, or for the duration of their stay at Makumu.**

Located a mere 20-minute drive from the lodge, iThumbela has a small staircase descending into the bunker, where guests are welcomed with a selection of drinks, coffee and tea making facilities, a comfortable couch and 6 bar stools for photographers. Photographic resource books and magazines are also available for guests to enjoy.

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Download our Photographic Bunker Fact Sheet [here](#) to find out more!





2021 Rates

[Contact us](#) for 2021 rates.

Wild Dogs Swimming



Mid-January, owner Stefan and his partner Karin decided to go out on a game drive, and they are so glad they did!

Early in the morning, they came across a pack of 38 wild dogs, licking their lips with full bellies after a meal of impala. They slowly followed the wild dogs as they made their way down to the river and chose to stop and watch them a while.

After some time, the Alpha of the pack made a decision to cross the river and jumped straight in, getting swept downstream. Soon after, the rest of the pack

started to follow, all going along with the current, and fighting hard to move to the other side. Several made it easily, while others struggled.

Most of the pack had moved on, leaving a few more nervous dogs on the other side. Not wanting to be left behind, the last few dogs took the leap into the water and used all of their strength to make it to the other side to join their pack.

Eventually all the wild dogs had made it to the other side and disappeared into the bush. What a special sighting!

This video has since been shared all over and we are delighted to give video credit to Karin Seger.

Makumu Meets Match in Africa



Swiss-born Roger Federer (who has South African roots!!) has, through his professional tennis career as well as his charitable work, become a global icon.

Stefan (German-born but also residing in Switzerland) and his partner Karin were privileged to attend the Match in Africa on 7th February 2020 in Cape Town, and thoroughly enjoyed watching Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, two of the world's greatest players, face each other head-on for a fantastic and entertaining game of tennis!

The event raised a total of \$3.5 million (approximately R52 million) for the Roger Federer Foundation supporting education in rural South Africa. The Match in Africa was the sixth edition of this event, but the first to take place on African soil. The crowd set a new world record for the largest attendance at a tennis match with a total of 51 954 attendees!

The atmosphere in the full stadium was electric as Bill Gates and Trevor Noah joined the two champions for a curtain-raising doubles match, with Federer and Gates facing off against Nadal and Noah.

Giving Back

Makumu's community and conservation initiatives include ongoing support of and donations to [Eco Children](#) and [Anti-Poaching](#), both situated in the Klaserie Private Nature Reserve. We honour these organisations for the amazing work they do.

The Safari Awards

Don't forget to vote for Makumu in The Safari Awards! Just register [here](#) and vote for Makumu in various awards categories.
