



We have been keeping busy during this lockdown, ensuring that the lodge is ready for our guests' return! Making the most of the time available we have been going out on a few team game drives, enjoying seeing the new visitors at the lodge (the warthogs love our lawn!) and strengthening our bond as the Makumu Private Game Lodge family.

During this time, we also worked on a video of our suites. From the earthy tones and Africa-inspired look and feel, to the beautiful and spacious settings. We look forward to sharing this with you again soon!

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### *SA Resident Rate*

If you are a South African resident and looking for a remote and pristine area to visit with loved ones once the lockdown is over, make the most of our [South African Resident Rate](#) (please note the special booking terms and conditions). The Klaserie Private Nature Reserve is a scenic 6-hour drive from Johannesburg, making access by road easy.

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### *Stay 4 Pay 3*

NEW OFFER: Stay 4 nights and pay for 3 for new bookings made until 31 August 2020, applicable for stays until 14 December 2020. Quote 443 when enquiring with our [reservations](#) team.

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*Catching up with our Assistant Managers*



Anyone that has met Ruan and Shelley will say the same thing - "what warm, welcoming people!" With Ruan's experienced knowledge of the bush and Shelley's passion for people, they make a great team.

With both having studied Tourism Management, their passion for the industry was obvious. Ruan grew up close to the Kruger National Park and his fondness for the bush and nature stemmed from this, while Shelley's love for nature and animals has been part of her since she was young.

Ruan and Shelley met five years ago at a lodge in Pilanesberg National Park and got married last October. From fishing to hiking, nature photography and camping, you are most likely to find these two in the bush!

The intimacy of Makumu, the homey and family feel - and of course, the endless views - are their favourite part about calling Makumu home. They love that the lodge is so private and can only take 12 guests, so you really have the opportunity to get to know the guests and make lifelong friends!

We love having this spritely and energetic couple on our team!

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*Competition Winners*

We are delighted to congratulate Daniel Güntner and Araceli Vallés on winning our recent wedding competition that was promoted on social media.



The lucky couple has won a free night's stay at Makumu when booking their wedding ceremony at the lodge.

We look forward to welcoming them and celebrating such a special and memorable occasion with them!

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## Learning the Language



Meet Maggy, our Lodge Anchor at Makumu, who is our all-rounder and always willing to help wherever needed.

We asked Maggy about her home language and were fascinated to find out that she can speak SIX of South Africa's 11 official languages: IsiZulu, IsiXhosa, SiSwati, Xitsonga, Afrikaans and English, with her home language being SiSwati.

Maggy says that Swati teaches culture, morals and values, from childhood to adulthood. It is a language that is straight to the point and one that is spoken with dignity and respect. Swati teaches life skills, without the need for educating on it specifically, i.e. the do's and don't's of a language from birth to adulthood.

Many other African languages "borrow" words to make their own, however Swati has their own, original words for several things i.e. make (mother), umgwaco (road), emabokonya (water) and luswane (infant).

Maggy is extremely proud of her home language and culture and even has a typical Swati broom at the lodge, made from special grasses.

Thank you Maggy, for sharing all of this with us!

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## Wildlife Update



The wildlife has decided to take over while we are all in lockdown! Baboons and monkeys are visiting the lodge on a regular basis and the warthogs are starting to return to our wonderful garden at the lodge, with sightings of them now being common. We are also seeing many chameleons lately, during the day as well

as night, with up to 4 or 5 in one drive.

Even the leopards and hyenas are walking through the camp every second night. Unfortunately we don't see them but do spot their tracks the next morning!

When we are out on a game drive, elephants are seen in abundance. They have been more difficult to spot during the summer months and we were seldom treated to big breeding herds, however we are delighted that they have joined us on this side of the reserve again.

The wallows have now started drying up and there is little water in the drainage systems for the animals. We have therefore seen more movement around the prominent water sources which are now becoming busy with big game. We have had great hyena sightings and occasionally some fantastic lion sightings.

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## Covid-19 FAQs

Due to the Covid-19 situation, we have been receiving many questions regarding our booking policies.

Please find answers to some FAQs [here](#).

For any further questions, please [contact us](#).

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