

Highlights of Marataba, Marakele National Park



Marataba is our privately-managed section of the greater *Marakele* National Park. Setswana for *Place of Sanctuary*, the Marakele's Waterberg mountains stand sentinel over wildlife-rich plains, hidden San rock art and Iron Age sites, and rivers winding through a landscape that is an Eden for Southern African fauna and flora. A safari here promises both incredible wildlife sightings and scenery.

	MARATABA
Land Agreement	Contractual National Park
Location	Marataba is a privately-managed section of the Marakele National Park - Limpopo, South Africa
Size	23 000ha/56 800ac
Malaria Risk	None
Vegetation and Habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Savannah biome - including forest and grassland - with mountainous areas, rocky hills, plains, the perennial Matlabas River, and a wetland Due to the Marakele's location in a transition zone between the dry western and wetter eastern regions of South Africa, the park has an impressive abundance and variety of fauna and flora, including rare yellowwood and cedar trees, as well as ancient cycads and ferns
Wildlife: Signature Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Five - with a healthy population of the critically-endangered black rhino The world's largest colony of endangered Cape vultures (±800 breeding pairs)
Wildlife: Rare Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black rhino Pangolin Brown Hyena Aardwolf
Wildlife: High-density Populations and Largest Breeding Herds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 000 impala, with herds of 20 - 30 individuals ±2 000 wildebeest, split into many smaller herds of about 7 - 10 individuals ±1 500 zebra, split into many smaller herds of about 5 - 10 individuals 400 elephants, with herds of 5 - 20 individuals
Wildlife: Bird Numbers	±400 bird species
Wildlife: Special Bird Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raptors: booted eagle, peregrine falcon, cuckoo hawk Swallow-tailed bee-eater (distinguished from the other 3 species by its forked tail) Violet-eared Waxbill (beautiful and shy) Temminck's courser (noted for laying its dark-colored eggs in burnt bushes and grass)
Wildlife: Birding Seasons	September to March , with opportunities to view both resident and migrant species