



KWANDWE FAMILIES ECO-NECT

Kwandwe provides an exciting and stimulating environment for families through our new range of Eco-nect activities. Aimed at involving both parents and children, families have the opportunity to reconnect with one another whilst spending quality time together out on the reserve in fun and adventurous ways. Our malaria-free status and proximity to a range of child-friendly activities in the area make this a safari experience without parallel for families.

- Children receive a welcome gift on arrival which includes an Eco-nect Guide comprising animal checklists, themed games and activities, and a pledge to 'live green' ('Junior' for under 6's and 'Senior' for ages 6 and up), crayons/ pencils, and an age appropriate gift from our gift shop.
- Families can participate in fun and adventurous activities on the reserve, including kite building, scavenger hunts (a reserve-wide scavenger hunt which is incorporated into a game drive by following a map and clues strategically placed around the reserve - all the various items collected around the reserve will then be used in an activity e.g. making fire with sticks, various kids art activities etc.) and treasure hunts out on the reserve (during a game drive, which will require some basic navigation using a sun-compass and major landscape features in order to find the treasure!).
- Giving back: families have the opportunity to plant Spekboom, a type of thicket vegetation that is native to the Eastern Cape and prolific on the reserve, and one of the top five carbon-storing vegetations on the planet. In this way they are encouraged to offset their carbon footprints. Families can also participate in Kwandwe's voluntourism activities through the reserve's Ubunye Foundation, which works with communities living in and surrounding the reserve. Activities are tailored according to individual and family interests and skillsets. For young guests this includes assisting with gardening projects at the local Mgcamabele Community; participating in arts and craft activities; and toddlers are invited to join in playtime at the pre-school. Children are also

welcome to participate in Kwandwe's 'Knit a Bit' program. The knitted squares are joined to make blankets and given to the Ubunye Foundation that distributes them to the needy communities surrounding Kwandwe.

- Other activities for children include 'crumpet creatures' (using a variety of coloured crumpet mixtures in squeezable bottles, the ranger and kids will create animal shaped crumpets); sand art, making moulds from Plaster of Paris, beading, Minnow's fishing trip with a ranger, baking and pizza making with specially designed 'Chefs in Training' aprons and toques, DVDs and popcorn, eco educational board games (learning about recycling and the how to care for our planet in a fun way) and African bedtime stories.
- Sole-use bookings for Fort House, Uplands Homestead and Melton Manor can design their own family safaris, with no minimum age restrictions and game drives at flexible times to suit their needs.
- A children's menu is available at all lodges, with fun and nutritious mealtime options such as fish cakes with veggies and homemade chips; vegetable soup and freshly baked bread; DIY pizzas with fun toppings; fresh fruit salad; homemade chocolate brownies and more!
- Child-minders are available with prior arrangement at no additional cost. All child-minders are first-aid trained

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is specific depending on which lodge is booked.

Ecce Lodge

- Children of all ages are welcome (Ecce is ideal for families with younger children).
- Families with children aged 0 – 16 years are accommodated in one of the lodge's 3 Family Suites. A maximum of two children plus one infant (aged 0 – 2 years in a cot) can share with two adults. Included with a Family Suite is a private vehicle, ranger and tracker.
- Cots are available for children aged 0 – 2 years; children 3 – 16 sleep on individual single beds in the separate lounge area.
- A playroom area with games and interactive activities is close to the main pool/ lodge area.
- The interactive kitchen caters for children, with cooking and baking classes between safari activities.
- Separate dining can be arranged.
- Unfenced private plunge pools with each suite (nets are available on request) and an unfenced communal swimming pool.
- Child-minders are available at no additional cost with advance notice.
- The lodge is fenced (perimeter fencing unseen to the eye to keep wild animals out).

Great Fish River Lodge

- Children 12 and older are welcome but recommended for families with older teenagers (16 years and older).
- One child aged 12 – 16 can share with 1 adult in a suite.
- The lodge is unfenced.

Melton Manor

- A sole-use safari villa and ideal for families, children of all ages are welcome
- The lodge is U-shaped, with 2 sets of interleading suites on either side of the central courtyard
- The villa can accommodate a maximum of 8 guests + 1 infant under 2 (in a cot)
- Children 3 – 16 are accommodated in their own room (next door to parents' room, with interleading doors)
- Lounge offers TV with a library of DVDs and games
- Outdoor play areas include open bushveld areas around the villa for children to run around and an unfenced swimming pool (a net is available on request)
- Private vehicle and guide offers tailor-made flexibility for safari activities
- The Manor is fenced (perimeter fencing unseen to the eye to keep wild animals out)

Uplands Homestead

- Children of all ages are welcome and ideal for families with smaller children
- A private safari home for exclusive use only, Uplands can accommodate a maximum of 6 guests + 1 infant under 2 (in a cot)
- Outdoor play areas include large lawns for children to run around, unfenced swimming pool (a net is available on request) and shaded gazebo area
- Lounge offers TV with a library of DVD's and games
- Private vehicle and guide offers tailor-made flexibility for safari activities
- The Homestead is fenced (perimeter fencing unseen to the eye to keep wild animals out)

Fort House

- Children of all ages are welcome
- A modern private safari villa for exclusive use only, Fort House is ideally suited for families of 8 or less with its 2 master bedrooms and 2 twin bedrooms, all of which are en-suite
- Outdoor play areas include large lawns for children to run around and an unfenced heated swimming pool (a net is available on request)
- Lounge offers TV with a library of DVD's and games; all 4 bedrooms have TVs with DSTV
- Private vehicle and guide offers tailor-made flexibility for safari activities
- The villa is fenced (perimeter fencing unseen to the eye to keep wild animals out)