



# ROYAL MADIKWE

LUXURY SAFARI RESIDENCE

January 2007

## *The Royal Experience*

2006 proved to be an amazing, challenging and fruitful year, at Royal Madikwe. The 'residence' concept has taken off and is becoming more and more popular as guests experience and appreciate the unique offering at the Royal Madikwe Residence. Guests are now requesting Royal Madikwe as their choice for a Luxury Safari Residence.

During 2007 Royal Madikwe will be offering various 'Themed Safari' options. These promotions will include certain value add-ons for guests when they visit Royal Madikwe. More on this to follow later in the year.

The Festive Season was a very busy time at Royal Madikwe. We would like to thank everybody who supported us during this time and for giving us the opportunity to host the various groups of friends and or families during this special time of year. If guest feedback is anything to go by everybody had an absolutely amazing time. (see below) Here are just a few of the highlights of the 'Royal Madikwe Festive Season'.

- Christmas Day was spent with a group of traditional African dancers. Everybody got involved in the dancing, drumming and singing! The local dancers made the kids forget about rock, jazz and pop for a while and showed them the African way to celebrate.



- New Years Eve was spent dancing the night away in the Royal Boma. Staff joined guests in welcoming the New Year while enjoying music, dancing and great food. This evening promised to be the start of an exciting and promising year at Royal Madikwe!
- In between all festivities the children were also kept busy with numerous fun activities. Beading took on an African twist as marula pips were used to make 'friendship' necklaces while face painting and treasure hunts also kept them entertained.



- A safari would not be the same without a story or two and Dinamos, our superb tracker entertained everybody with his tales of African Folklore. The children's adventure continued as they were accompanied into the bush to get a very close up view of a giraffe. Very exciting, educational and a great bush experience!





- As always, the compliments for the Royal Madikwe kitchen kept on rolling in. Our chefs, Amos and Tshepo maintained their high standard as they prepared meals for Christmas and New Year. High Tea was also a daily event which kept guests of all ages happy completely satisfied.



- In between all the activities the game viewing was also outstanding during this period. With too many highlights to mention we will be sending out a newsletter with all the stories and sightings from the bush.

On a different note, we said a sad goodbye to Lucy Percival. She left Royal Madikwe and will be managing a lodge with her fiancé. We wish her all the best for the future. Taking over from Lucy is Stefane Loots – my fiancé. She will be overseeing reservations and general operations at the residence. In future, please send all future reservation enquiries to Stefane at [reservations@royalmadikwe.com](mailto:reservations@royalmadikwe.com). I would also like to welcome Gerry and Adele to the Royal team. They will be assisting Stefane and I - Gerry will be focusing on guiding and Adele on front of house.



We would like to thank all the guests who shared in the Royal experience and we look forward to yet another great year at Royal Madikwe.

Warmest Royal regards,

*Riaan & the Royal Team*

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### Image Gallery – January 2007



Lots of fun with the Royal Guides



The Royal Staff 'shaking it' at the Christmas Party



Place Setting for Christmas Dinner



Bush Baking with Tsepho & Evans



Guests, Staff and African Dancers at the Royal Christmas Party



Christmas hats for the morning Game Drive



## Festive Season 2006 – Guest Book

Christmas 2006

*Thank you for the most amazing experience. We have all loved our time here at the Royal Madikwe. Every moment has been perfect – the drives spectacular, the food delicious, the explanations patient, the drinks cold and the faces happy! The team has been such a pleasure – so many smiles! We will remember these days forever. Thank so much.*

Fritz, Denise, Will, Paul, Sally  
– London, UK

*This experience exceeded all of our expectations. At the Royal Madikwe we truly were treated 'royally' – every last detail was perfect! The settings, the accommodations, the gourmet food, the service and the fabulous safaris. My daughter put it best when she asked if we could stay forever because she loves it here. Thank you so very much!*

Jeff, Cathy, Katie & Jacqueline  
– Old Greenwich, CT, USA

*I had a great time here & wish I could stay forever. I had the greatest guides & everybody was so nice. I'll miss everyone so much.*

Katie (9)  
– Old Greenwich, CT, USA

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26 to 29 December 2006

*Thank you so much for all the amazing adventures we've had here. As well in the bush as at the lodge. It is such a beautiful place, so tastefully decorated and the food was delicious. The game drives we enjoyed – incredibly exciting, interesting and so beautiful. Good luck for you all, thanks and maybe till next time. (Roemer (6) thanks you for all the cheese sandwiches, fish fingers, marshmallows...)*

Peter, Gerde, Tessel, Godelieve, Lidewij, Andre & Roemer  
– Maastricht, Netherlands

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New Year's Eve 2006

*Everyone at Royal Madikwe. Your love and passion has made my stay here the best. All of you have such creative minds. You all have helped my family spot the animals we haven't seen. Love, Sawyer.*

Sawyer (9)  
– Australia

*Royal Madikwe – Thank you for the extravagant trip. Everyday you were smiling to make our day. The house is beautiful and the food is out of this world. You have made this trip the best. All the best, McKenna. PS: Keep on Dancing!*

McKenna (11)  
– Australia

*Staff and Guides. You have made my stay at Royal Madikwe a great one. I have eaten delicious food, seen some really amazing animals and have had an amazing time. Thank you for making my trip to Africa fantastic. Love, Judd. PS: You are all awesome dancers. PPS: Those 4 leopards were amazing!*

Judd (11)  
– Australia

*Royal Madikwe. I want to thank everyone for a wonderful stay. I had so much fun here! I want to thank Gerry and Riaan, our fantastic guides for the fun-filled drives and activities. Adele and Stef were very great to have around. The staff were also very enjoyable. Bye Madikwe. Sydney. PS: Nice stories Dinamos!*

Sydney  
– Australia



*We have had the most fantastic time!  
Highlighted by the lions at sunset,  
4 leopards and the grand finale –  
2 elephants at the watering hole on our last  
morning! New Years in the Boma &  
dancing – so much fun. Food – incredible!  
Thanks Stef for all our extra needs... We  
will miss you. Happy New Year to all!*

Sharon  
– Australia

*Happy New Year! I am so sad to leave...good times!  
Everyone was marvellous. Seriously, you people are great!  
Thank you for 'my special' meals... hee hee hee. The land  
of never ending delicious food. Umm umm good! Dinamos  
it wouldn't have been the same without you (or those  
dimples). Riaan, Gerry, Adele, Stef, Evans, Amos...  
everyone... Jane, Rose, Alfi, KC... Nelly... I wish you  
all the best and you are all so sweet and I think the bush life  
is the best! Cheers!*

Aqua Maureen  
– Australia

*To all at Royal Madikwe – It's all true. Each and every one of these testimonials is a testament to your  
professionalism and good nature. It's been great! Many thanks.*

Andy  
– Australia

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4 to 7 January 2007

*Fantastic experience. Very hospitable. Great place!*

TJ  
– New Zealand

*What an amazing 48 hours. If only it could  
have been longer. The lodge is amazing, the food  
wonderful and seeing the lion on our last morning  
was the icing on the cake! However it is really  
all of you that make it be unforgettable experience  
it is. Thank you! From arrival to departure  
you have been so hospitable and welcoming.  
Godfrey was amazingly attentive and if he was  
fed up with our late nights, never showed it!  
Thank you!*

Jon & Sofia  
– London, UK

*I love your lodge! I love your pool, animals and  
more. Love Jessica.*

Jessica (6)  
– London, UK

*To all (especially Godfrey)... Thank you!*

Allister & Liz  
– London, UK

*Thank you so much for a wonderful stay. Look  
forward to seeing you all again.  
We love Godfrey!*

Roger  
– UK

*You have surpassed even our highest hopes for an enjoyable safari. I could never have expected such a warm and  
friendly welcome, such amazing service (and food!) and an educational and thrilling safari experience. I am  
already planning our next visit! Thank you all so much. We've had the time of our lives!*

Katie  
– UK