

## Garonga Safari Camp Fact Sheet:

**Owner:** Bernardo Smith (UK) – Phone +27 (0)71 896 2312. E: [safari@garonga.com](mailto:safari@garonga.com).

**Opening:** Safari Camp: June 1997. Little Garonga: December 2007. Major revamp in 2016 completed at the end of May.

**Location:** Situated in the Greater Makalali Pidwa Private Nature Reserve (22,000 HA) near Hoedspruit, Limpopo, South Africa.

**Safaris:** One in the morning, and one in the afternoon. Game Walks are taken during Safari Times only. Guests are welcome to sleep In/stay In -no pressure! Open air Landrovers capable of taking 8 guests, but **normally 6**.

**Game:** The Big "5" - Elephant, Lion, Leopard, White Rhino and Black Rhino. In addition there are Cheetah, Hippo and Croc, Spotted Hyaena's, and an abundance of Plains Game. The Buffalo are currently enclosed in a 400hactre Boma for breeding. Release date is anticipated in 2018 on to the "Free Area".

**The Tents:** Voltage 220V, room safe, International adaptor, Hairdryer, Yoga Mat, and Mini Bar. Each tent has an indoor and outdoor shower, two separate basins, Toilet, platform Deck and Hammock. Ceiling Fans are in each tent. Duvets make up the bedding, however beds can be made up with Blankets if requested.

**Recommendations:** Ants Nest/Ants Hill (Waterberg), Jaci's Safari Lodges (Madikwe – NW Province), Savanna(Sabi Sands), Mkakatana Lodge (KZN Wetlands), Olivers Hotel and Spa near White River, Three Trees Hill, and Fugitives Drift Lodge.

**Access: From Johannesburg International;** the closest airports are Hoedspruit (SA Express) and Phalaborwa (SA AirLink). There are several flights a day. Both these flights take about one hour. There are also direct flights from Cape Town to Hoedspruit six times a week. SA Airlink also operate daily flights from/To Cape Town and Kruger Airport, and also three times per week flights from/To Livingstone (Victoria Falls).

**General Air Charters Lowveld** fly within the Lowveld between Lodges, and also from/to Kruger Airport. Very worthwhile. Cuts out long hours on the road! 45 minutes from Garonga to Kruger Airport instead of 3 hours by Car.

**Federal Air also flies from ORT Johannesburg to/from Garonga.**

**Medical:** Low risk malaria area (strongly recommend anti-malarial precautions). Please consult either a Travel Clinic or a Tropical Diseases Clinic for advice. MEDEVAC facilities through Africa Safe-T. Suggest bringing Imodium, Valoid, and Panadol. MEDEVAC is complimentary as long as you have Medical Insurance that includes MEDEVAC.

**Seasons:**

*High:* September – April (summer). Rains: Average 500mm pa. Can reach up to 40 degrees C in peak summer and fall to 25 degrees at night. It starts cooling down from March.

*Low:* May – August (winter). Generally no rain at this time. Cold mornings and evenings/night. Temperatures reach about 25 degrees C max during the day and fall to between 5 - 10 degrees C at night. Electric blankets are put on the beds during the winter. It is very cold first thing in the mornings (Winter); this is also due to wind chill factor on the vehicles. Please be prepared.

**Clothing : Bring the following:**

*High Season:* Waterproof Jacket, swimming costume, light cotton type clothing, sandals, good walking boots, and a Cap.

*Low Season:* Fleece, Jacket, jersey, scarf, gloves, cap/hat.

Other useful items: Camera, bino's, adaptor plug, sun cream, sunglasses.

**Laundry:** Complimentary Service. Laundry is collected during the afternoon game drive, and returned the following day at about 1300hrs. **Only essential laundry is done.**

**Credit Cards:** M/C and Visa only.

**Currency:** We do accept Foreign Currency for tipping purposes only, but we cannot change it into Local Currency.

**Dietary Requirements:** Most, if not all are covered, as long as we have good notification.

**Phones:** We have good mobile signal. Please be aware we do not allow use of private phones in the Public Areas or on Safari.

**Affiliations:** Classic Safari Africa ([www.classicsafaricamps.com](http://www.classicsafaricamps.com)), ATTA, and SATSA.

**Weddings:** We do these often. It is a very painless experience. Check [www.garonga.com](http://www.garonga.com) . The new laws in South Africa however prohibit the "legal" side of the wedding to be done here at Garonga; the Ceremonial part etc can still be held here. AS a suggestion , get your wedding License in your Home Country in a registry Office (quick and easy) and then come out and do "The Wedding Ceremony" here at Garonga. It means no waiting for your License any longer and is actually much easier.

**Safari Camp:** Accommodation: 6 x Luxury Tents En-Suite. Can accommodate a maximum of 2 x Persons in one room. Each tent looks down onto a normally dry riverbed. 12 x guests can be accommodated. Youngest age is 12 years.

**Facilities:** Open air Bush Bath, Picnics (summer only), Sleep Out Experience, Massage (we have a full time therapist on site), Swimming Pool, Large Open Lounge with "help yourself" Bar, Boma (with a Pizza Oven) and Bar, and a Gift Shop.

**Wine Cellar:** An excellent selection of South African wines are air cooled here.

**Wireless:** We have wireless reception in the Main Area at Safari Camp and also at the Curio Shop. Wifi is complimentary. At Little Garonga all Suites and Main Area have Wifi.

**Guide Room:** There is one room for Guides or Pilots to stay in. It is en-suite, practical and comfortable.

**Meals:** Guests have their own private table for breakfast and lunch. We vary the location and theme for dinner by providing either a communal round table in the main lounge, or a boma dinner, or private tables which all have their own unique position. During low season (winter months) we serve a light lunch as breakfast is much later (1000 hrs), and we serve a Tea just before the afternoon game activity. In winter time there is a huge fireplace where guests can gather round before dinner. We also do breakfasts out in the bush. Health meals/Options are always available.

**Little Garonga:** This Luxury Bush Camp can be taken out independently (ie, using one or two suites), or for Exclusive Use.

**Accommodation:** 3 x Suites all built under thatch. Can accommodate 8 guests (including 2 Children). Youngest Child age is 6 years old.

**Hambleden Suite:** Consists of the main bedroom for 2 x adults, and a closed off room for 2 x children with their own Bathroom; so it can be used by a couple or a family without either imposing or intruding. There is an indoor and outdoor lounge (covered), a huge bathroom consisting of a beautiful hand beaten copper bath tub, separate indoor shower and out door shower, two basins and a toilet. It has its own swimming pool with deck and hammock. The suite has its own mini-bar, and is fully air conditioned as well as having ceiling fans.

**Chiltern and Buckingham Suites:** Each suite has their own platform deck and hammock. On the deck there is a covered area, and an open area. There is a lounge area in the main bedroom consisting of a mini-bar, and air-conditioning unit as well as ceiling fans. The bathroom consists of a bath, two basins, an indoor shower and vast outdoor shower. They each have their own writing desk. The suites are suitable for two guests only.

**Main/Lounge Area:** There is an indoor and covered outdoor Lounge. The breakfast deck under a tent is suitable for 6 guests maximum. The swimming pool area consists of a small pool (much bigger than a plunge pool), deck with loungers, and a barbeque area. The indoor lounge is fully air-conditioned, and also has ceiling Fans. It has a dining area, lounge/seating area, fireplace, self-service bar, and reading area.

**Meals:** Breakfast can be taken on the breakfast deck. Lunch inside the main lounge or outside depending on the weather. Dinner either outside on the swimming pool deck by the fire, or inside the main lounge area. BBQ's can be done easily on request.

**Safari:** The camp has its own guide and vehicle.

**General:** The Camp is run separately from Safari Camp. It has its own host, chef, waiter and housekeeper and so is totally self-contained. Wifi is complimentary and accessible in all suites and the Main Area.

**Contact:**

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Safari Camp: +27 (0)82 440 3522. Use this number also if you have no luck with the Reservations Number.

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