TORO RIVER

at

TORO

RIVER LODGES

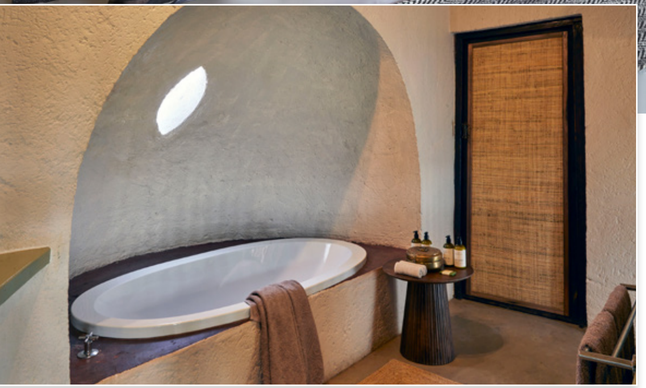
BY

NEWMARK

TORO RIVER AT TORO RIVER LODGES

Toro River at Toro River Lodges is an authentic African bush lodge located within the Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve.

This Big-Five safari destination presents guests with a legacy experience, characterised by unique, rugged beauty. Set along the Makhutswi River, Toro River epitomises the connection between untouched African landscapes and responsible human intervention, with a commitment to ongoing conservation efforts that aim to preserve the Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve. Designed to integrate into its natural environment, Toro River exists as a blend of modern comforts and untouched wilderness.



ACCOMMODATION

Thoughtfully designed, without excess, yet plentiful in modern comforts, the five Toro River suites allow guests to feel at home in this wilderness setting that invites discovery, awe, contemplation and relaxation. Each suite is set near to the Makhutswi River, offering privacy and a true sense of space. Finishing touches point to the sincere hospitality expressed throughout the lodge.

RIVER SUITES

The three River Suites offer 60 m² of spacious comfort, with a private deck, an intentionally designed interior, and a semi-partitioned bathroom. Each suite accommodates two guests.

The River Suites also feature:

- Minibar
- Coffee and tea station
- King-size bed
- Air conditioning
- Indoor bath and outdoor shower
- Hairdryer
- Safe
- Umbrellas

The Luxury Suites also feature:

- Minibar
- Coffee and tea station
- King-size bed
- Air conditioning
- Indoor bath and outdoor shower
- Hairdryer
- Safe
- Umbrellas

LUXURY SUITES

The two Luxury Suites, each 60 m², are spaciously laid out and well appointed, featuring a private deck, a welcoming interior with thoughtful finishes and an open-plan bathroom. Each suite accommodates two guests.

SERVICES & FACILITIES

- Wi-Fi
- Welcome refreshment
- Swimming pool
- Restaurant and bar
- Boma
- Laundry
- Transfers
- Housekeeping
- Curio Shop
- Solar and generator

DINING

Every dining occasion at Toro River is an experience, unique in its presentation and use of local flavours.

BUSH BREAKFASTS AND HIGH TEAS

Bush breakfasts and high teas can be enjoyed along the river, under the trees for a uniquely immersive moment.

Breakfasts are served buffet-style and include a selection of sweet and savoury pastries, fresh fruit, cereals, yoghurt and fresh juices. A live cooking station is also available, offering a variety of hot dishes.

High teas feature a selection of freshly baked pastries, open sandwiches, and local favourites such as biltong and cheddar scones. Guests can also enjoy a selection of beverages, including fresh juices and iced teas.

BOMA DINNERS

These special dinners take place in the boma, beneath the stars and beside a crackling fire, creating an unforgettable atmosphere. Guests can savour specialities such as traditional potjies — slow-cooked stews prepared in cast-iron pots — and familiar favourites like pizza evenings.

POOL-DECK DINING

Pool-deck dining is a laid-back experience and can be enjoyed at lunch or dinner time.

The lunch menu includes a variety of “bowl dishes”, fresh salads and a selection of light snack options. Pool-deck dinners are served as plated meals, offering a more refined yet relaxed evening dining experience.

EXPERIENCES

Create lasting memories during your visit, exploring Toro River's untouched land and nature-led experiences.

MORNING AND EVENING GAME DRIVES

What to expect: Our game drives take you on an unforgettable guided experience — an opportunity to "explore the unknown" as you seek out the elusive Big Five and take in the wonder of indigenous species that roam freely in their natural habitat, sustained under our conservation management practices. Our guides go beyond main roads, navigating dense bush to explore sights otherwise unseen. Here, in the midst of the Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve, you may find yourself moved by the vastness of the landscape, contrasting features displayed in nature and the serenity of your surroundings as the sun signals the start of a new day or sinks beneath the horizon.

- Our guides are qualified with the Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA).

Note: The daily schedule is adjusted seasonally according to lodge management's discretion and depending on weather-related changes. The months noted per season are merely an indication and may change without prior notice.

Flexible Daily Schedule
Summer (October - March):

05:00 Wake-up call
05:30 Tea and coffee
06:00 Safari drive departs
09:00 Brunch
14:30 Guided talk
15:00 Lunch
16:00 Safari drive departs
19:30 Safari drive returns
20:00 Pre-dinner drinks
20:30 Dinner

Flexible Daily Schedule
Winter (April - September):

05:45 Wake-up call
06:00 Tea and coffee
06:30 Safari drive departs
09:30 Brunch
14:00 Guided talk
14:30 Lunch
15:30 Safari drive departs
19:00 Safari drive returns
19:30 Pre-dinner drinks
20:00 Dinner

- Guided walks available on every day of the week.
- Morning walks must be arranged with your guide before brunch.
- For more information on your African safari, please speak to the friendly Toro River reception team or Newmark's reservations team.

EXPERIENCES

GUIDED SAFARI WALKS

What to expect: Embrace this honest encounter with the African wilderness. There is something truly adventurous, thrilling and invigorating, yet quieting and awe-inspiring about exploring nature on foot. During our immersive walking safaris, you will be led by our trained walking guides, who may stir up your curiosity as they lead you down unfiltered paths or deepen your sense of awe as they impart valuable lessons and fascinating insights. While you will have the chance of spotting some of Africa's greatest wildlife during our walking safaris, you will also be met with the finer, equally impressive, details of nature.

Additional information: Walking safaris take place daily. They can be arranged either before or during guests' stay.

- Our guides are qualified with the Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA).

- For more information on the guided safari walks, please speak to the friendly Toro River reception team or Newmark's reservations team.

DIRECTIONS

BY ROAD

NOTE: Access via the Makalali Private Game Reserve main gate is strictly prohibited after 17:00, in alignment with the reserve's security and wildlife/conservation policy. Please plan your arrival accordingly.

From Johannesburg

- Depending on your location in Johannesburg, take the N1 North and connect to the N4 East in Pretoria, or take the N12 East, which merges into the N4 near eMalahleni (Witbank).
- Continue on the N4 East towards eMalahleni (Witbank), then onward to eMakhazeni (Belfast).
- Take the exit to eMakhazeni (Belfast).
- In eMakhazeni (Belfast), turn right onto Steven Masango Street (R540).
- Continue on the R540.
- Where the R540 meets the R36, turn left toward Mashishing (Lydenburg).
- In Mashishing (Lydenburg), turn left onto Voortrekker Street (R37), then right onto De Clercq Street (still R37, which becomes R36) towards Ohrigstad.
- Follow the R36 to Ohrigstad and continue through the J.G. Strijdom Tunnel.
- Turn left toward Tzaneen at the Total petrol station (still on the R36).
- Note: This is your last opportunity to refuel.
- Continue across the Olifants River, passing The Oaks village.
- Drive past the Phalaborwa turnoff and follow the Makalali signs.
- Turn right at the Harmony D202 road (Makalali sign post on left of road) towards Gravelotte – this road becomes a gravel road.
- Proceed through the security boom gate.
- Travel approximately 9 km on the gravel road toward the Makalali Private Game Reserve main gate on your right.
- On arrival at the gate, collect a Toro River Lodges remote control.
- Drive down the servitude road between the fences, next to the main gate.
- Open the gate, marked Makalali, at the end of the road.
- Follow the Toro River Lodges signs to the lodge. It takes approximately 35 min from the main gate to the lodge.

DIRECTIONS

From Mbombela (Nelspruit)

- Take the R40 towards White River and on to Hazyview (staying on the R40).
- Travel through Hazyview and on to Bushbuckridge (R40).
- Turn left onto the R531 towards Kampersrus.
- Turn left onto the R527 towards Mashishing (Lydenburg).
- Turn right at the Total garage towards Tzaneen on the R36 (last stop to refuel) —there is a Makalali sign just before this turnoff.
- Continue across the Olifants River, passing The Oaks village.
- Drive past the Phalaborwa turnoff and follow the Makalali signs.
- Turn right at the Harmony D202 road towards Gravelotte (Makalali sign post on left of road) – this road becomes a gravel road.
- Proceed through the security boom gate.
- Travel approximately 9 km on the gravel road toward the Makalali Private Game Reserve main gate on your right.
- On arrival at the gate, collect a Toro River Lodges remote control.
- Drive down the servitude road between the fences, next to the main gate.
- Open the gate, marked Makalali, at the end of the road.
- Follow the Toro River Lodges signs to the lodge. It takes approximately 35 min from the main gate to the lodge.

From Hoedspruit

- Take the R527 towards Mashishing (Lydenburg).
- Turn right at the Total garage towards Tzaneen on the R36 (last stop to refuel) — there is a Makalali sign just before this turnoff.
- Continue across the Olifants River, passing The Oaks village.
- Drive past the Phalaborwa turnoff and follow the Makalali signs.
- Turn right at the Harmony D202 road towards Gravelotte (Makalali sign post on left of road) – this road becomes a gravel road.
- Proceed through the security boom gate.
- Travel approximately 9 km on the gravel road toward the Makalali Private Game Reserve main gate on your right.
- On arrival at the gate, collect a Toro River Lodges remote control.
- Drive down the servitude road between the fences, next to the main gate.
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BY AIR

- Fly from O.R. Tambo International Airport (Johannesburg) to Eastgate Airport (Hoedspruit).
- Road transfers to the lodge from Eastgate Airport (Hoedspruit) can be arranged in advance.
- Federal Airlines offers charter flights from O.R. Tambo International Airport (Johannesburg) directly into the Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve. This can be arranged via Newmark's reservations team.

FAQs

What is the minimum age requirement to stay at Toro River at Toro River Lodges?
Families are welcome — we accommodate children aged six years and older at Toro River at Toro River Lodges.

Does Toro River at Toro River Lodges provide airport transfers?
Yes, by prior arrangement and at an additional cost. Please contact reservations@newmarkhotels.com.

Which wildlife species can I expect to see on game drives?
The area is rich in diverse wildlife, including the Big Five and other creatures such as giraffe, zebra, hippo and a variety of antelope, which could be spotted on morning and evening game drives. Because animals roam freely, every game drive is unique and presents the opportunity to spot different animals. Our rangers are experts in their field and navigate dense bush to explore sights otherwise unseen. Although no sighting can be guaranteed, you are quite likely to spot hippos and crocodiles at the water hole — which also tends to attract the Big Five — or in the Makhutswi River.

Are game drives included in the accommodation rate?
Yes, stays at Toro River include two game drives per day with a knowledgeable field guide and expert tracker. Guided walking tours can also be arranged at no additional cost. Please note that game drive and safari walk times may vary with seasonal changes.

What dining experiences are offered at Toro River at Toro River Lodges?
Dining is an immersive culinary experience, rich in local flavours and ingredients. There are various dining areas at Toro River, including a restaurant, boma, pool deck and the riverside, under the trees. Private in-room dining can also be arranged.

WHAT SHOULD I PACK FOR MY STAY AT TORO RIVER AT TORO RIVER LODGES?

To ensure that you have a comfortable and memorable safari experience, we recommend that you include the following items when packing:

- Light-weight clothing • Swimwear • Warm clothing, including items such as a jacket, scarf and beanie • Waterproof jacket • Hat • Sunblock • Sunglasses • Insect repellent
- Small flashlight • Binoculars • Camera

CHECK IN: 14:00 | CHECK OUT: 11:00

ADDRESS:

Toro River Lodges, Makalali Private Game Reserve (Main Gate Entrance), D202 Gravelotte Road, Hoedspruit, Limpopo 1380, South Africa

GPS: -24.159336, 30.736840 | **PHONE:** +27 21 427 5901
EMAIL: reservations@newmarkhotels.com

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Access via the Makalali Private Game Reserve main gate is strictly prohibited after 17:00, in alignment with the reserve's security and wildlife/conservation policy. Please plan your arrival accordingly.**
- Please do not rely on AI-generated directions — follow the above instructions.
- Low-clearance vehicles are not suitable for travel on the gravel road inside the reserve. Pick-ups at the main gate can be pre-arranged.
- Drive cautiously on the gravel road — not recommended at night.
- Fuel up before entering the reserve — no petrol stations inside.
- Map apps may not show internal reserve roads — follow signage carefully once you are on the gravel road.

CHILD & EXTRA BED POLICY:

Children aged 6 years and older are welcome at Toro.

- Child minding services are available on request at an additional cost (please provide at least 24 hours' notice).
- An extra bed can be arranged for one child aged 6–11 years, subject to availability.
- Children aged 6–11 years may join game drives at the guide's discretion.
- Children 16 years and older are welcome to join guided bush walks.
- Guests aged 12 years and above are considered adults and will be charged at the applicable adult rate.

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