



Sabi Sand

The Threat

Communities

The Solution

We need YOUR help

“ If we do not do something to prevent it, Africa’s animals, and the places in which they live, will be lost to our world, and her children, forever. Before it is too late, we need your help to lay the foundation that will preserve this precious legacy long after we are gone. ”

Nelson Mandela

THE SABI SAND GAME RESERVE

As a visitor to the Sabi Sand Reserve, you are experiencing first hand one of South Africa's oldest privately owned conservation areas.

This private reserve spans almost 50 000 hectares and is home to a diverse wildlife population, including the Big Five and a number of rare and endangered species. As part of the greater Kruger National Park, animals roam unhindered between the reserves.

Your experience of this vast natural preserve is as it has always been. Here man is a passive observer, and we believe that it is our collective duty, as citizens of this planet, to keep it that way.



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THE VERY REAL THREAT WE FACE

South Africa, with the largest population of rhinos in the world, is critically important to their conservation. But the senseless slaughter of these iconic animals has reached a crisis point. If the killing in reserves across the country continues at this rate, in the next few years we could see deaths overtaking births. We could therefore witness the extinction of this species in our lifetime.

Over the last two years, the rise in illegal ivory trade has meant a disturbing increase in elephant poaching in countries to the north of us, as well as in the Kruger National Park. It is believed that the species will soon face the same threat as the rhino if we do not do something to stop it now. The lion, arguably the most iconic species of the Big Five, is at risk too.

With market prices fetching staggering levels for both rhino horn and ivory, we face the continuous onslaught of ruthless poachers, willing to do anything for the money paid by powerful syndicates whose greed is perpetually fuelled by demand.



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POWER THROUGH OUR COMMUNITIES

The environment and its surrounding communities are dependent on one another. As visitors, employees and owners deriving direct enjoyment of this land, we have a responsibility to uplift the lives of those less fortunate who share the same space.

We need to educate these communities about the necessity for conservation on a broader scale, and about the need to protect and preserve a natural heritage which ultimately belongs to us all. By working together to maintain a viable tourism destination, we create work opportunities and better living conditions for this generation and those to come.

Collaborative initiatives have included building and supporting schools, planting and maintaining vegetable gardens, assisting in sustainable chicken farming, and the training and development of rangers and trackers - many of whom work at the lodges in the reserve.



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WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

We need to escalate our fight against poachers and syndicates. This involves the acquisition of intelligent technology, access to manpower and skilled personnel around-the-clock, and specialist resources for surveillance and apprehension purposes. Taking into consideration the size of the reserve, the relative cost of protecting it is exorbitant.

As the body tasked with governing the day-to-day functioning of the reserve, the Sabi Sand Wildtuin (an association of land and safari lodge owners responsible for the overall management and security of the reserve) simply cannot shoulder this expense alone. Without help, the prognosis is bleak and the desired solution unlikely.



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WE NEED YOUR HELP

Through a voluntary **Guest Conservation Contribution**, every visitor has the opportunity to protect the reserve's endangered animal species.

The donation of R100 per person per night will collectively make a measurable difference.

Contributions are collected by lodges from guests prior to arrival or on departure, and are distributed through prescribed channels to the Sabi Sand Nature Conservation Trust. All transactions are independently audited by KPMG, and a Section 18A certificate is available on request.

The Sabi Sand Nature Conservation is a Non Profit, Public Benefit Organisation established to engage in the conservation, rehabilitation and protection of the natural environment, including flora, fauna or biosphere in the Sabi Sand region.

Funds raised will be allocated to:

- Security manpower
- Upgraded fences
- Updated gate controls
- Technology and surveillance
- Flying reaction capabilities
- Investigation and prosecution capabilities
- Development projects with neighbouring communities
- Conservation initiatives for all indigenous flora and fauna found on the reserve, including the introduction of species which were indigenous to the area and are no longer present

Please help us to ensure that future generations do not look at ours and say that a species vanished from the earth on our watch.

In gratitude,

The Sabi Sand Nature Conservation Trust.
www.sabisand.co.za