

Founders Lodge BY MANTIS

Unearthing a Conservation Legacy

Founders Lodge was the private residence of Adrian Gardiner, founder and visionary of Mantis Collection and Shamwari Game Reserve. The lodge is situated on a 400 hectare reserve adjacent to and with direct access to Shamwari Game Reserve, in the malaria free Eastern Cape of South Africa.

With the co-operation and agreement of the current owners of Shamwari, Founders Lodge has undergone extensive renovations to enable Adrian and Mantis to convert Founders into a self contained commercial lodge. For the Big 5 experience, Founders Lodge has an agreement with the owners of Shamwari for game drives to take place on their world-renowned reserve. The entrance to the Big 5 reserve is 50 meters from Founders Lodge. Guided walks will take place on the Founders private 400 hectare reserve.

The secluded Founders Lodge, with only 6 suites and scenic surrounds, aspires to offer private tailored experiences, drawing inspiration from all the fond memories Adrian has of hosting friends, family and celebrities at Shamwari.

A premier Big 5 safari at a privately owned lodge

- Safari based activities on Shamwari Game Reserve
- Approximately 45 minutes' drive from Port Elizabeth Airport
- Natural extension to the Garden Route
- Family destination
- Activities aimed at guests of all ages
- Seasonal South African cuisine
- No children under 12

Configuration and Facilities

All 6 suites sleep a maximum of 2 adults each. The lodge is built around a landscaped courtyard. 4 of the suites lead from the courtyard, and 2 of the suites are in the original residence. The various public spaces and guest facilities are all easily accessible from the rooms and courtyard.

- 6 suites, each with own verandah
- Billiard room/lounge with bar and fireplace
- Drawing room
- Library with business centre facilities
- Founders Collection Room
- Gym & Steam room
- Dining room
- Casual dining terrace
- Boma
- 2 Outdoor Swimming pools
- Complimentary Wi-Fi available throughout the lodge

Suite Facilities

- Private verandah
- Air conditioning
- Tea and coffee making facilities
- Hairdryer
- Electronic safe
- Fitted international adaptors



Guest Activities

Game Drives

Undoubtedly one of the highlights of a visit to South Africa. Shamwari, being one of the largest private conservation initiatives in, and home to 5 of the 7 biomes of South Africa, allows for a large concentration and wide variety of wildlife.

Daily game drives with professional guides provide the perfect opportunity to encounter Africa's incredible animals, while evening drives reveal the elusive magic of nocturnal Africa. Sundowner drinks at sunset and coffee/tea at sunrise, make the game drives so much more memorable.

Guided Nature and Game Walks

Qualified guides provide the opportunity for guests to experience the excitement of tracking, bird, insect, plant and animal dropping identification on nature walks. These walks are restricted to the 400 hectare reserve which is free of predators and dangerous animals.



Born Free Foundation, Animal Rescue & Education Centre

In partnership with actress and conservationist, Virginia McKenna's Born Free Foundation, Shamwari Game Reserve designed the Born Free Foundation, Animal Rescue and Education centre to incorporate a museum and educational facility with the goal to create awareness of the horrific way in which wildlife is exploited in captivity around the world.

The centre is home to several big cats, rescued from dire situations. The Born Free Foundation is a registered charity organization and therefore solely relies on donations. You will need to pre-book, and they charge R100-00 per person.

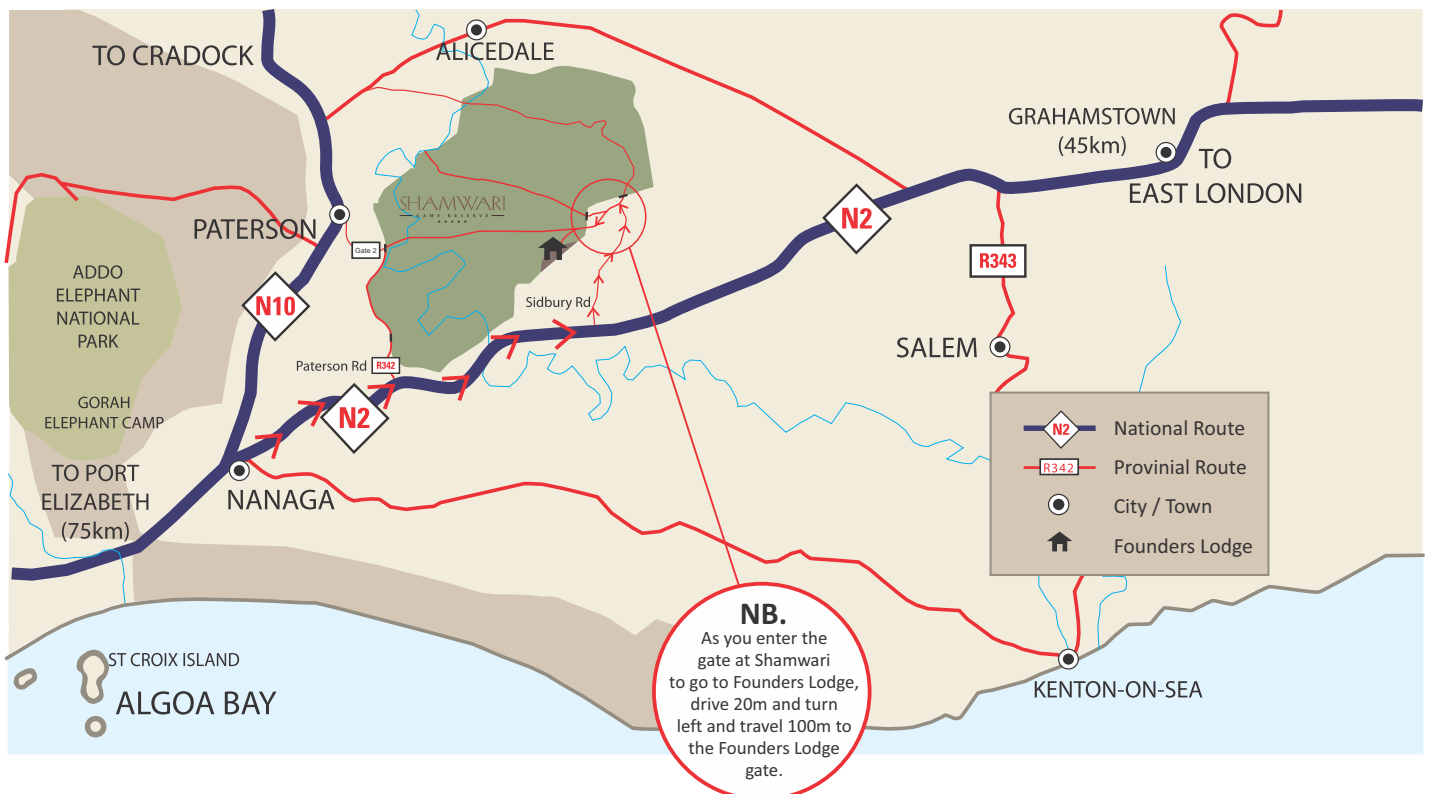
What to pack

- Sun block
- Hat/cap
- Comfortable and casual clothing

- Warm jackets for game drives
- Walking boots
- Camera
- Medication for allergies

Directions to Founders Lodge

Follow the N2 east out of Port Elizabeth, heading towards Grahamstown bypassing the R342 turn-off. Continue along the N2, cross the Bushman's River until you reach the Sidbury sign. Turn left on the gravel road and follow this road until you reach a T-junction. At the T-junction, turn left you travel only 500m and you will turn left again and follow sign boards to Founder's Lodge.



Founders Lodge

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