



A MANTIS IMPACT EXPERIENCE

Mantis Impact Experiences offer the adventurous traveller seeking an immersive experience the opportunity to make a real impact for conservation. You could find yourself behind the scenes at ongoing conservation programmes contributing to the protection of rare species, enrolling in a nature course, or participating in wildlife operations. This is travel out of the ordinary – making lifelong memories through rare experiences.

Rhino Conservation Experience

Mantis Impact Experiences has created a unique Rhino Conservation Experience which allows you to take part in an unforgettable, hands-on safari experience, focused on Rhino Conservation in South Africa.

With its rich history in conservation, and an unpretentious feel of complete luxury, our 5-night/6 day experience will take place at Mantis Founder's Lodge. Guests are accommodated in a luxurious setting throughout their stay, with an added experience of an authentic evening of bush camping.

Get even closer to nature. Be the change. Book your spot for The Rhino Conservation. Bookable dates: **26 October 2021 – 31 October 2021**

Your experience includes:

- All-inclusive (accommodation, meals and local beverages)
- Big 5 experience
- Veterinary procedure and Rhino feeding
- Guided bush walk (track and sign workshop)
- Interactive drumming session
- An introduction to Munu, the blind Black Rhino
- Tree planting and introduction to Bee project (CCFA)
- Interactive conservation presentations with guest speakers

Example itinerary

Day	Morning Activities	Afternoon Activities
26 October 2021		Arrive at Founders Lodge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer to Founders Lodge • Lunch at Founders Lodge • Introductory afternoon game drive on Shamwari Game Reserve • Interactive drumming session • Boma dinner (weather permitting)
27 October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional morning game drive • Breakfast at Founders Lodge at 09H00 • Rhino conservation presentation with guest speaker at 10H15 • Lunch at Founders Lodge at 13H00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on how AI is being used in rhino conservation and introduction to Munu and why he is at Founders Lodge • Afternoon with Munu the blind black rhino at his specialized boma and meeting the Founders white rhino family
28 October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee and muffins • Veterinary Procedure – early start • Brunch at Founders Lodge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhino feeding viewed from lawn at Founders Lodge • Afternoon game drive • Dinner at Founders Lodge
29 October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast at Founders Lodge • Tree planting and introduction to Bee project with CCFA guest speaker • Lunch at Founders Lodge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afternoon bush walk to a bush classroom for a track and sign workshop • Potjiekos dinner at camp site • Star-gazing • Overnight camp in the bush on the Founders Reserve
30 October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning coffee with muffins/rusks • Vehicles to collect campers, slow drive back up to Founders Lodge • Breakfast at Founders Lodge • Free time till after lunch • Lunch at Founders Lodge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final afternoon game drive on Shamwari Game Reserve • Dinner at Founders Lodge
31 October 2021	Breakfast at Founders Lodge Check out at 11H00	

*Please note the activities mentioned in this itinerary are subject to change pending weather on the day.

An intimate encounter with Rhino conservation

Great emphasis is placed around Rhino Conservation at Mantis Founder's Lodge. Your experience gives you an intimate encounter with this near-extinct species.

An introduction to Munu the blind rhino

The south-western black rhinoceros is a subspecies of black rhino. It is estimated that around 250 of these rare, precious animals remain alive in the entire world today. Mantis Founder's Lodge is home to Munu, a blind male black rhino. In an effort to prolong his lifespan and increase his likelihood of procreation, his sanctuary has been carefully curated to provide him with a natural environment.

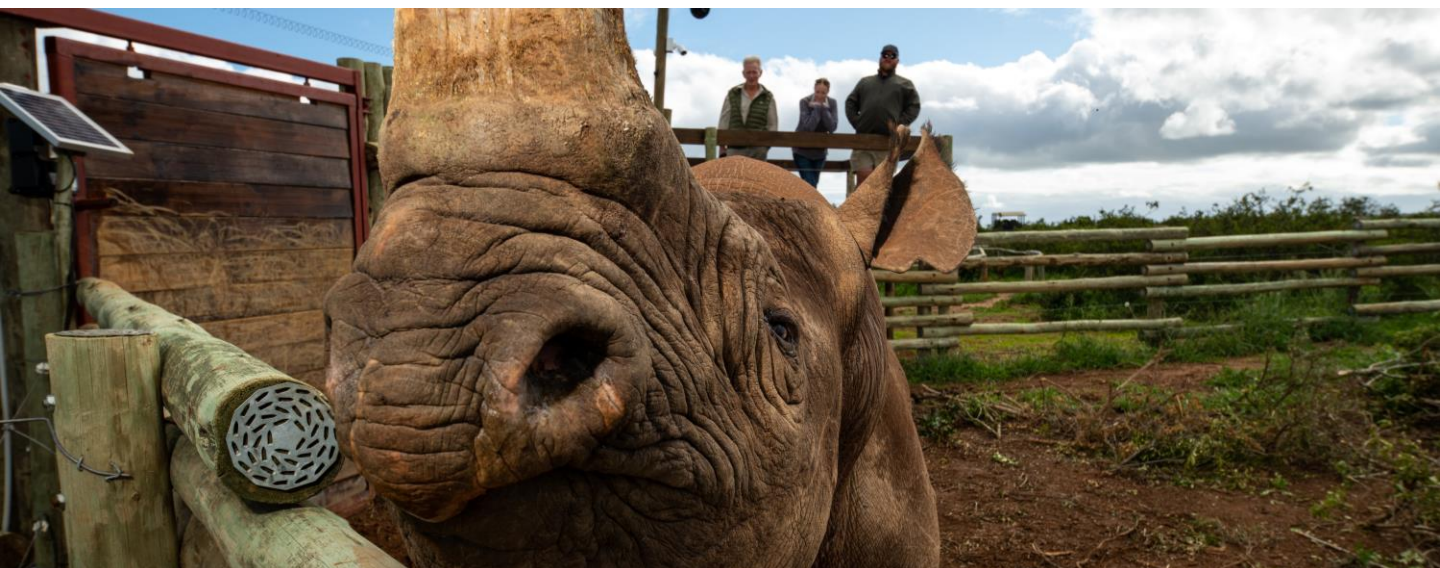
On this experience, you will have the opportunity to meet Munu and learn more about his species, his relocation from Addo Elephant National Park, and the ins-and-outs of his daily upkeep and maintenance. You will also be introduced to how modern AI (Artificial Intelligence) is being used in rhino conservation worldwide.

Join us for a behind-the-scenes rhino darting procedure

Munu the blind black rhino will be due for his health check-up, which includes blood sampling to ensure he is at optimal health for possible future breeding of his rare species.

It is also time for Munu to be de-horned. Rhinos are normally dehorned every two years to assure their chances of survival due to the poaching crisis in Africa. Munu will be sedated to ensure the procedure is as stress- and pain-free as possible. Guests will have the opportunity to get up close after the wildlife veterinary surgeon and his team are comfortable with Munu's vitals, and it is safe to do so. The entire procedure will take around thirty minutes from start to finish and you will be able to watch Munu's recovery after his check-up from the viewing deck outside Munu's custom-built boma (enclosure).

This is an incredible opportunity to learn more about the conservation efforts of our rhino from the experts, have a hands-on experience with one of Africa's gentle giants, and know that you made a valuable contribution to the conservation efforts of this endangered species.



The White Lion Foundation

An introduction to the White Lion Foundation

The White Lion Foundation was established as a charitable entity in April 2019. It was inspired by the plight of [white lion cubs](#) who fell victim to the [illegal wildlife trade](#) and were being trafficked out of southern Asia.

Their story resonated with leading conservation and welfare experts and resulted in them establishing a new proactive voice for wildlife.

Initially, TWLF is partnering projects across three continents including for snow leopards, sea turtles, and [rhinoceroses](#), as well as the advancement of both [education](#) and [artificial intelligence](#) in conservation.

The White Lion Foundation have played an integral role in ensuring Munu's specialized boma grows with his needs, click [HERE](#) for further information on how you can help.



CCFA – Community Conservation Fund Africa

An introduction to the CCFA

CCFA, a registered non-profit company (NPC), is both a fundraising and a grant-giving organization, active in educating and empowering local communities to help themselves by implementing sustainable wildlife management systems.

The Fund has brought together three internationally successful wildlife conservation organisations: Wilderness Foundation Africa, African Parks and Tusk Trust and collaborates on projects in South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia.

Through our projects and interventions we are trying to shift mind sets, to encourage people to become more accountable for their actions and to safeguard our wildlife and wilderness areas. Whether it is tourists visiting our properties, our suppliers, team members or the local community, we want to incentivise everyone to preserve our planet.

Carbon Offset Initiative – Greening the Community

Greening the Community is a project that has brought together Indalo Nursery, Wilderness Foundation Africa and CCFA to create a green landscape in the township of KwaNobhule in the Eastern Cape, through the planting of indigenous trees and plants. It aims to combat carbon emissions while also alleviating poverty, growing food, driving social change, uplifting the community and creating a sustainable future.

Carbon Offset Initiative – Beekeeping

The CCFA has embarked on a new and exciting project that aims to place beehives on various properties within the Eastern Cape. The organisation has transferred a total of 120 beehives and has commissioned the re-homing of these hives to Menno's Bee Company. This company has since employed an additional 4 local community members to help with the installation and maintenance of these beehives.



About Mantis Founder's Lodge

Founder's Lodge offers a soul-reviving safari in the birthplace of Eastern Cape conservation. Set atop a hill with panoramic views of the lodge surrounds and only an hour outside Port Elizabeth, it was once the home of conservation pioneer and Mantis founder, Adrian Gardiner. Upon arrival, Founder's guests are welcomed by rhino and a number of other smaller species. The intimate 6-suite lodge is designed to give guests a sense of belonging, and provides the privacy to enjoy the vast landscape and endless African sky.

Tucked away on a 400ha game concession, the lodge features a boma, steam room and two swimming pools. The Founder's Museum is complete with an array of unique memorabilia and photographs collected on his many journeys, a priceless isiXhosa bead collection and a small curio shop. Authentic South African cuisine is served at different locations around the lodge.

Unique selling features

- Big 5 safari (malaria-free) on the Shamwari Game Reserve
- Set within a rare biome with distinct flora and fauna
- The lodge showcases a number of large, magnificent original photographs by David Yarrow
- Varied dining experience (restaurant experience, potjies pots, bush breakfasts/dinner)

Lodge features

- Bar with Billiards table
- Drawing room with fireplace
- Library
- Founder's Museum and curio shop
- Gym and steam room
- Dining area
- Casual dining terrace
- Boma
- 2 outdoor swimming pools



About Mantis Founder's Lodge: Where it all began

Mantis Founder's Lodge is a celebration of essential beginnings in sustainable tourism, culture, conservation, and community inclusion. Situated on a private 400-hectare reserve adjacent to Shamwari, the lodge is a monument to conservation history, and it offers soul-reviving safaris on Shamwari, the place where Adrian Gardiner pioneered private game reserves and eco-tourism in the Eastern Cape. Founder's Lodge was designed to give guests a sense of Mantis-ness. isiXhosa artefacts from centuries ago, and artistic displays of the evolution of indigenous species.

If the walls of Founder's Lodge could speak; they would tell tales early morning conversations between Adrian Gardiner and the late Dr Ian Player. The land you see at and around Founder's was nurtured back to life after centuries of abuse. From cornerstone species such as Elephant and Lion to Dung Beetles; an entire ecosystem was worked back into place – this was the pioneering work of Adrian and the Mantis team, and the beginning of ecotourism in the Eastern Cape.

Standing at the heart of Founder's Lodge, take a moment to place yourself in this piece of Africa. Breathe in the smell of indigenous plants, hear the calming water feature and birdsong. This is the tranquil courtyard garden that connects the social spaces to the six guest suites.





Contact us to book

Email: impact@mantiscollection.com

Telephone number: +27 41 404 9300

Booking consultant: Claire Paton

Rates are:

- Quoted, invoiced and payable in ZAR.
 - Include 15% VAT.
 - Quoted per person sharing per night.
 - Subject to a 50% supplement for suites occupied by one adult
 - Inclusive of accommodation, all meals, two game drives per day and selected local beverages.
- Children 6 to 11 years (sharing room with adults) are accommodated at 50% of the adult sharing rate per child per night.
 - Children from 12 years and older are considered as adults and will therefore require their own room at the applicable rates.

We highly recommend that comprehensive travel insurance is taken out.

50% of fee if cancellation less than 45 days prior to arrival.

100% of fee if cancellation less than 30 days prior to arrival.

Proudly brought to you by Worldwide Experience

