



# MENTORSHIP TRAILS



Professional FGASA endorsed trails mentorship  
and assessments



7/14 Days  
Mentorship Trails

# The Course



The Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA) accredited Mentorship Trails (7 or 14 days) are conducted in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

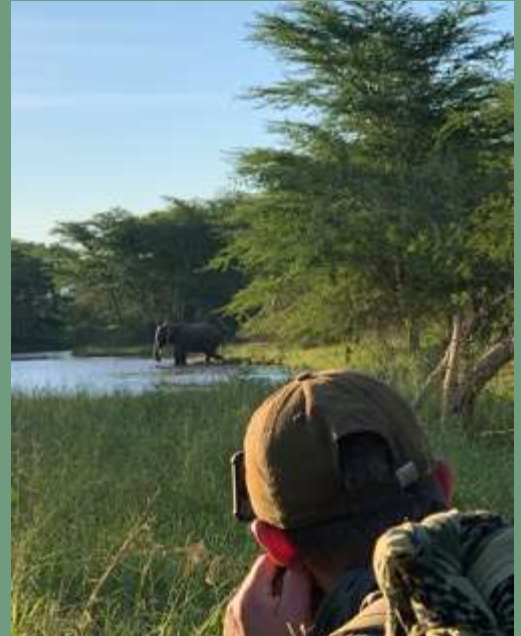
There is a maximum of eight participants per course, ensuring personalised attention and first-hand experience for all participants. Although the primary objective is to gain mentored walking hours and dangerous game encounters as 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> rifle, we place strong emphasis on the ethos surrounding trails.

The courses will take place at Bayala Safari Lodge in the Big-5 Munyawana Private Game Reserve.

During the duration of the course we will spend some nights out on a 'Wilderness Trail', without camp or vehicle facilities

Nights are spent sleeping in the open under the stars (no tents), with each participant taking turns at "watch duty", ensuring the group's safety.

All food and equipment are carried in backpacks, water is found or provided.



PROFESSIONAL.  
AUTHENTIC.  
QUALITY.



# The Course



During the course we will spend an average of seven to eight hours walking on most days.

You will be able to log valuable mentored walking hours and dangerous game encounters with a highly experienced mentor, who will guide you through the process of acquiring the needed skills and experience towards your Trails Guide Assessment.

A typical day starts with waking up prior to sunrise. After coffee & rusks we head out on a four to five hour walk, as soon as sufficient daylight allows.

We return to the lodge around midday for lunch, followed by a few hours of free time. Around 3pm we head out again for a two to three hour walk, to gain more hours and encounters.

Dinner and a campfire await us back at the lodge, time for daily de-briefs and exchange with fellow Trails Guides, usually followed by an early night.

Each participant will be able to log mentored walking hours & dangerous game encounters as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> rifle towards their Trails Guide qualification.

*“Fantastic experience in an awesome big 5 area – and of course Massi, who is one of the best out there.”*

**- Horst Kalcher, Field Guide, Mentorship Trail Juli 2019**

# The Lodge

Bayala Private Safari Lodge is a newly renovated family oriented lodge situated 3 hours drive north of Durban's King Shaka airport. Bayala is nestled within a non-malaria, Big 5 private conservancy of close to 30,000 ha of unspoiled wilderness, providing ideal conditions to gain valuable experience for your Trails Guide Career. Bayala Safari Lodge has 24 newly renovated thatch-roofed en-suite rooms decorated with neutral bushveld colours throughout.

The lodge boasts a beautiful and restful lounge, a bar and relaxed, informal dining inside or outside. In the evenings enjoy a traditional "braai" under the stars or a boma dinner.

Your shared room includes an en-suite bathroom, towels/linen and electricity. Free WiFi and phone signal are available in communal areas.

After booking confirmation you will be provided with a detailed map as well as driving directions from Johannesburg, KNP area or Durban.



# The Dates



Mentorship Trails – 7 days

**Please contact us for dates**

Mentorship Trails – 14 days

**Please contact us for dates**

(both courses per course min. 4 participants for the course to take place; max. 8 participants)

Please be aware that you will have **Lodge Accommodation** with all its benefits (great meals, phone & WiFi connection, comfortable room, en-suite bathroom, housekeeping, etc.) for the duration of this course!

It is possible to join on a 'guest only' basis for an incredible bush walk experience.

*"The professional personalisation is just amazing!  
Thanks Massi"*

- Craig Wale, Field Guide, Mentorship Trail May 2019

After booking confirmation you will receive:

- List of "What to pack"
- List of recommended books
- Reminder on the requirements that must be met BEFORE arriving for the course
- Detailed driving directions

Included in course:

- FGASA Logbook (if needed)
- Logging mentored walking hours & dangerous game encounters as 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> rifle
- Lodge Accommodation
- All meals, water, tea & coffee

Excluded from course:

- Reference books
- Transfer
- Drinks & snacks
- FGASA Membership fees
- Assessments

Trails Guide assessments during these Mentorship Trails are offered; please contact us for further information and costs on [massi@africanbushco.com](mailto:massi@africanbushco.com)

Requirements for participating guides:

- Apprentice Field Guide Certificate (formerly Level 1)
- Valid ARH
- Valid Wilderness First Aid
- Apprentice Trails Guide Certificate (recommended)