



Big Five Marathon Itinerary

17 June 2023



ITINERARY	7 DAY / 6 NIGHT PACKAGE	
DAY 1	WED 14 JUNE	Arrival at Entabeni (game drives available if arriving early)
DAY 2	THU 15 JUNE	Entabeni Game Drives & Bush Walk
DAY 3	FRI 16 JUNE	Route Inspection
DAY 4	SAT 17 JUNE	The Big Five Marathon or Half Marathon
DAY 5	SUN 18 JUNE	Optional Entabeni Game Drive. Celebration Dinner
DAY 6	MON 19 JUNE	Entabeni Game Drive & Escorted Bush Walk
DAY 7	TUE 20 JUNE	Depart for Johannesburg

Day 1 - Wed 14 June: Arrival at Entabeni

The tour starts and ends in Johannesburg International Airport (also known as OR Tambo). On arrival into Johannesburg you will be transferred to the Entabeni Game Reserve. Transfers will depart from the Airport at 8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm and 4:00pm. (Note: If your arrival flight does not connect with these transfers you may need to arrive a day earlier and spend a night at an airport hotel in Johannesburg. Alternatively, it is possible to pay a surcharge for a private transfer to Entabeni – contact Travelling Fit for details).

Upon arrival to Entabeni, you will meet your tour leader and be checked into your respective accommodation. For those arriving on the first three transfers (departing from Johannesburg at 8:30am, 10:00am or 12:00pm) you will have the possibility to go on the first of several exciting game drives. The game drives will provide the opportunity to experience an authentic African safari in serene surroundings. The Entabeni Safari Conservancy offers diverse wildlife, open safari vehicles and relatively few tourists, creating an ideal wilderness atmosphere.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 2 - Thu 15 June: Entabeni Game Drives & Bush Walk

Day two of your stay in Entabeni is dedicated to exploring the game reserve through a game drive and/or bush walk. You will get accustomed to the park's geography, and climate, and you can slowly start preparing yourself for Saturday's exciting event: The Big Five Marathon or Half Marathon.

The game drive is included in the itinerary and will take place either in the early morning or in the late afternoon. A bush walk with an experienced armed ranger is also included, giving you the chance to get really close to the nature and wildlife. Additional game drives and bush walks can be purchased on the spot. Alternatively, some of your free time can also be used for shorter runs outside Entabeni – the tour leader will help organise the runs.

Early morning game drives typically take place between 6:00am and 9:30am. During these early hours you will experience the cool African morning, spot spectacular wildlife, and most probably work up an appetite. Once back from the morning safari you will be richly satisfied by the overwhelming breakfast buffet that awaits at your lodge/camp.

The afternoon game drive begins around 4:00pm, arriving back at the lodge in time for dinner around 19:30. Similar to the morning game drive, the afternoon drive provides great wildlife experiences. Moreover, the afternoon drive offers the opportunity to experience a beautiful sunset in ideal settings: enjoying a cold drink on the savannah, while admiring the changing colours of the darkening evening sky. The afternoon drive then turns into a night safari, where you will get the chance to spot the fascinating nocturnal wildlife with a spotlight. Dinner is served back at the lodge.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

To book or for more information contact Travelling Fit... Your Marathon Travel Specialists
Phone 02 4385 2455 | www.travellingfit.com | Email: sales@travellingfit.com

Please Note: All prices are quoted in Australian dollars and are based on a per person basis.
Prices and itinerary are subject to change at any time without prior notice.

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Day 3 - Fri 16 June: Route Inspection

After breakfast there will be a short race briefing on the route inspection. You will then be picked up from your lodge/camp and transported to the starting point of the race. All safari vehicles follow the route in a convoy, allowing all the runners to examine the different running surfaces, note the locations of water posts, and assess the overall difficulty of the route. After the route inspection a large buffet lunch will be served. This is the time where everyone comes together, from runners to spectators, technical and medical staff to race coordinators, for a formal introduction to the event, and a presentation of the practical issues surrounding the marathon. There are no scheduled game drives this day.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4 - Sat 17 June: The Big Five Marathon & Half Marathon

The big day has arrived where you will take part in an unforgettable challenge: The Big Five Marathon. In the morning you will be transported from your lodge/camp to the starting line. The marathon is planned to start at 9:00am, but the exact time will be dependent on the location of the big five game - if too close to the route the start will be postponed.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5 - Sun 18 June: Celebration Dinner

In the morning you have time to relax after running through the African savannah. Alternatively, additional game drives and excursions can be purchased. In the afternoon, you will experience yet another fantastic game drive followed by the post Marathon Party. There will be delightful food, live entertainment, a prize ceremony, a big bonfire and partying under the starry skies. Please be aware that the party takes place in a traditional South African Boma with open roof and large open doorways. It is therefore advisable to dress warm! Therefore, casual clothing is recommended.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 - Mon 19 June: Entabeni Game Drive & Bush Walk

On the final day at the Entabeni Safari Conservancy, you will have one last game drive in the morning. Those interested will also get the opportunity to stretch their legs on one final bush walk.

In the evening farewell dinners will be held at the respective lodges and camps. *Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 7 - Tue 20 June: Depart for Johannesburg

After breakfast you will check-out and be transferred to Johannesburg International Airport. Transfer arrival times at the airport are 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 4:00pm and 6:00pm. Private transfers are possible at an additional cost.

NOTE: June is winter season in South Africa and whilst the temperature often rises to 20-25 degrees Celsius during the day, temperatures around 0 (zero) degrees Celsius at night time is not unusual! The large drop from day to night time temperature makes the evenings and mornings feel extremely cold. It is therefore essential to bring a winter jacket, warm hat and gloves when going on game drives!

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