

ROYAL
RESIDENCES

THANDA SAFARI

A Kingdom *to call Home*

Where the wild is entirely yours.


THE LEADING HOTELS
OF THE WORLD®



Property Overview

Thanda Safari is an exclusive retreat set within a private Big Five game reserve in northern KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Established in 2002, the 16,500-hectare reserve honours the Zulu philosophy of Ubuntu, a deep-rooted belief in interconnectedness, reverence for nature, and the strength of community.

Located in the heart of historic Zululand, once the realm of King Shaka, this remarkable destination offers an unforgettable safari experience surrounded by abundant wildlife, sweeping landscapes, and the signature warmth of Thanda hospitality.



Your journey to *Thanda Safari*

Thanda Safari can be easily reached from two major international airports: OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg and King Shaka International Airport in Durban. These airports are well connected to key international hubs in the US, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, providing easy access for guests traveling to the game reserve.

From OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg

Charter Plane

A fixed-wing charter or scheduled plane can be taken to Mkuze Airport (approximately 45 minutes), followed by a 20-minute road transfer to the reserve.

Alternatively, a flight can be arranged to Richards Bay Airport (around 1 hour 10 minutes), with a 1 hour 30-minute road transfer to the reserve.

From King Shaka International Airport, Durban

By Helicopter

A one-hour helicopter flight offers a quick route directly to the reserve, offering a scenic view along the North Coast, including the historic Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve.

By Road

The three-hour drive from Durban follows the N2 and D242 roads. A 2 km runway for private jets is planned within the reserve.

Private Jet

Guests arriving by private jet can land at Mkuze Airport, which has a 2 km runway, followed by a 20-minute road transfer to the reserve. However, guests will need to first clear customs at Durban or Johannesburg Airports.



Located in Zululand
Thanda Safari



What makes it *different*

Within the gated estate you can walk, run and cycle freely, in a Big Five reserve.

Each Royal Residence is bespoke. Each guest stay is exclusive use.

At a *glance*

- 4–5 suites per residence
- 8–10 guests (depending on design)
- Children of all ages welcome
- Malaria-free
- Private vehicle available
- Private host, butler, chef and barman



Villa Thandawena

5 Bedroom Grand Royal Residence





Villa Thandawena: 5 Bedroom Grand Royal Residence

Discover Villa Thandawena, the flagship Royal Residence, an inspired, five-bedroom contemporary residence with a private helipad and Airbus H130 B4 private helicopter, perched effortlessly atop the endless southern foothills of the Great African Rift Valley. An exquisite space where ancient stone and textured leathers complement glass and steel, and a floating butterfly roof invites natural light and ventilation for a gentle footprint on the earth.

With five en-suite bedrooms, each featuring master crafted Hästens beds, including the main suite's exceptional Hästens Grand Vividus, Villa Thandawena offers a thoroughly royal experience. Highlights include a grand royal lounge, cigar lounge, bar lounge, indoor and outdoor dining areas, infinity pool and jacuzzi, expansive viewing deck, a sauna with Himalayan salt wall, boma, fire pit, pop-up outdoor gym, and a tranquil relaxation sala.

All stays include an expert safari guide, tracker, and open-top game viewing vehicle, wilderness walks within the Royal Thanda Club Estate, as well as private helicopter airport transfers, making for an unforgettable VIP safari adventure.

Highlights		Amenities	
Villa size	1,087 sqm	Air conditioning	Yes
Occupancy	10	Mosquito nets	Yes
Royal Club Estate	Yes	Swedish Hastens beds throughout	Yes
Airbus H 130 B4 helicopter & Helipad	Yes	Free standing bath	Yes
5 En-suite bedrooms	Yes	Indoor double shower	Yes
Rim flow pool & jacuzzi	Yes	Double vanity	Yes
Himalayan salt sauna	Yes	Private en-suite verandas	Yes
Premium wine cellar	Yes	Minibar	Yes
Bar & Cigar Lounge	Yes	In-room safe	Yes
Boma dining	Yes	WiFi	Yes
Fire pit	Yes	Integrated sound system	Yes
Viewing deck	Yes	Multi-adaptor electricity (220V)	Yes
Yoga deck	Yes	Laundry service	Yes
Romantic resting sala	Yes	Panic room	Available on request
Pop-up gym	Yes	Mood lighting control	Yes
Fully hosted	Yes	Executive chef, butler, host & manager	Yes
Private open-top safari vehicle	Yes	Spa therapists	By appointment
Private bush dining site & romantic dining site	Yes		

Villa Thandawena

5 Bedroom Grand Royal Residence



An aerial photograph of Villa Sihlangene, a 5-bedroom royal residence, set against a backdrop of rolling hills and dense greenery. The sun is low in the sky, casting a warm, golden glow over the entire scene. The villa features several buildings with white walls and conical thatched roofs, some with wooden balconies. A dirt path winds through the landscape, and a small circular structure is visible in the middle ground.

Villa Sihlangene

5 Bedroom Royal Residence



Villa Sihlangene: 5 Bedroom Royal Residence

Villa Sihlangene rises from the landscape in sensuous, deliberate contours, tracing the natural curves of the bushveld, the rivers and the mountains around it.

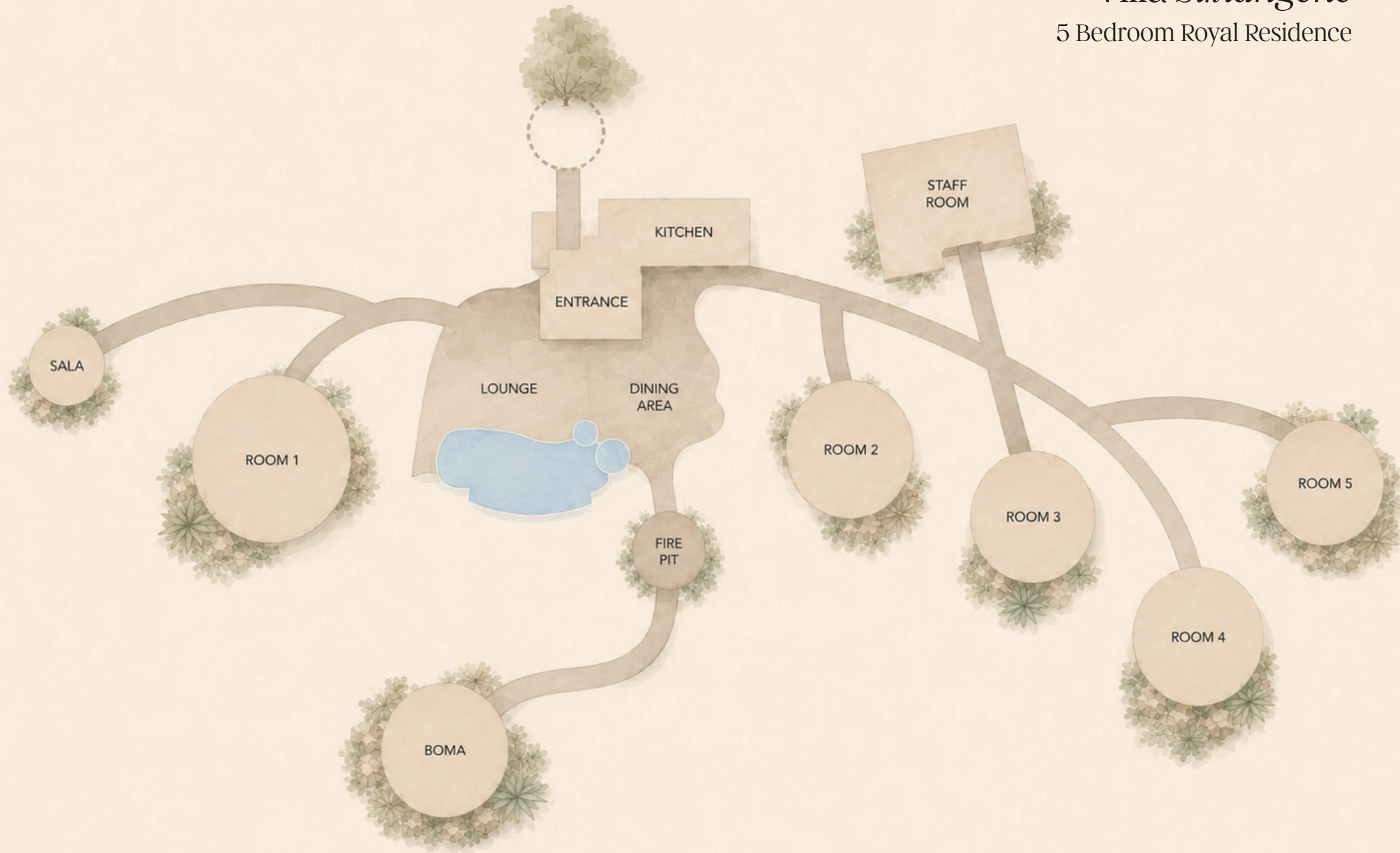
The five bedroom suites carry their own private verandas, each positioned for privacy and view, and the living areas open onto a wide deck and an infinity pool with horizon-line sightlines across the reserve. An interplay of glass, timber and stone, the organic meeting the sculptural, the shade meeting the light, the sophistication carrying a distinctive Zulu-inspired thread.



Highlights		Amenities	
Villa size	860 sqm	Air conditioning	Yes
Occupancy	10	Mosquito nets	Yes
Royal Club Estate	Yes	Free standing bath	Yes
5 En-suite bedrooms	Yes	Indoor double shower	Yes
Rim flow pool & jacuzzi	Yes	Double vanity	Yes
Premium wine cellar	Yes	Private en-suite verandas	Yes
Bar & Cigar Lounge	Yes	Minibar	Yes
Boma dining	Yes	In-room safe	Yes
Fire pit	Yes	WiFi	Yes
Viewing deck	Yes	Integrated sound system	Yes
Yoga deck	Yes	Multi-adaptor electricity (220V)	Yes
Romantic resting sala	Yes	Laundry service	Yes
Fully hosted	Yes	Executive chef, butler, host & manager	Yes
Private open-top safari vehicle	Yes	Spa therapists	By appointment
Private bush dining site & romantic dining site	Yes		

Villa Sihlangene

5 Bedroom Royal Residence



Villa Mhlosinga

4 Bedroom Royal Residence





Villa Mhlosinga: 4 Bedroom Deluxe Royal Residence

Drawing inspiration from the symbolic circular design of 'Umuzi,' meaning homestead in isiZulu, this residence incorporates aesthetic aspects of traditional storytelling and African culture in the architectural style and design.

Furnished for supreme comfort and enriched by warm African hospitality, the four en-suite bedrooms with private verandas, seamless indoor-outdoor living areas, and a curated wine cellar invite guests to connect and unwind in this effortlessly flowing space.

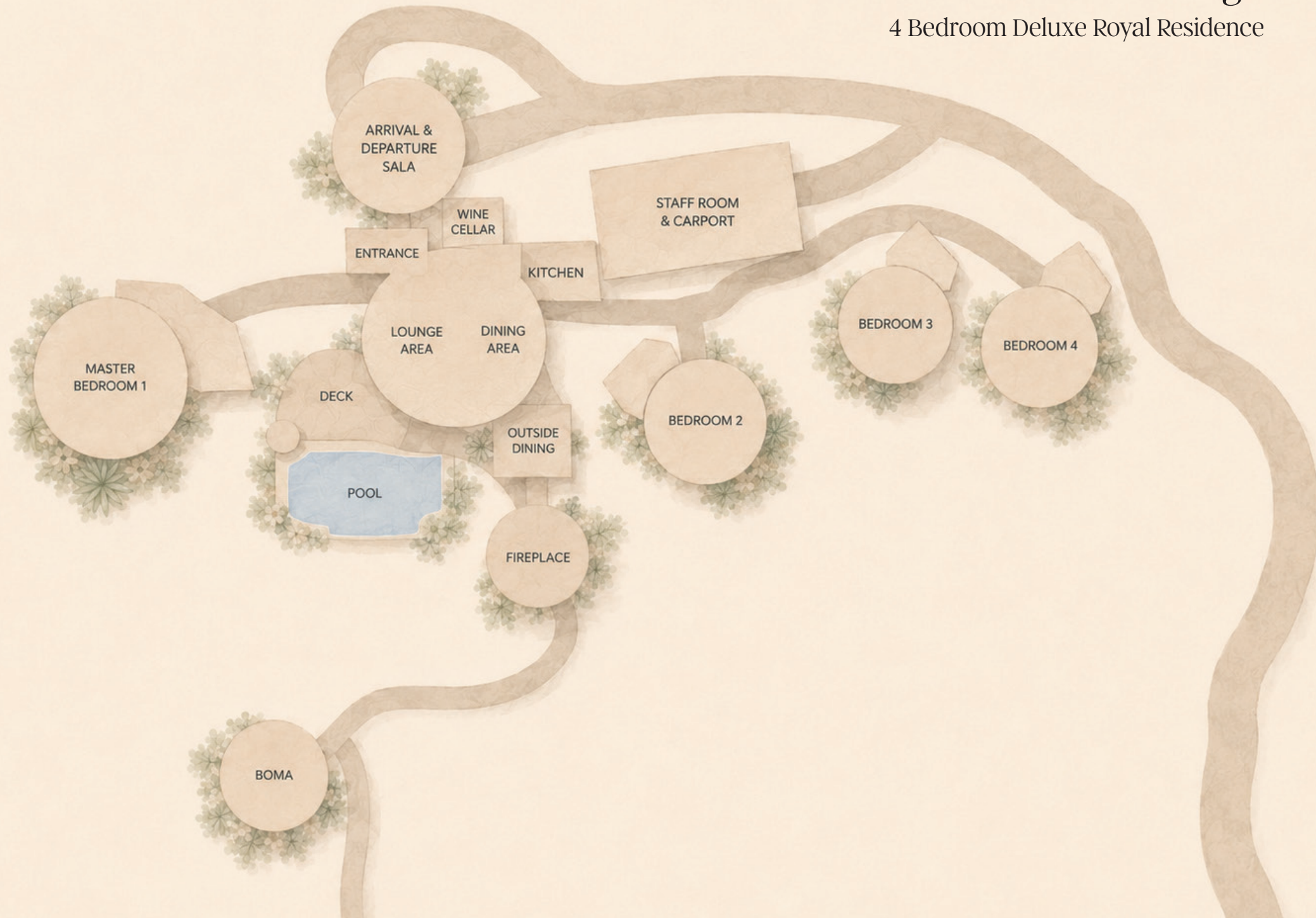
Step outside to survey the sweeping views of the surrounding terrain, relax or do yoga at the secluded sala, gather around the elegant fire pit area for canapes at sundown, and dine under the stars in the boma.

A dedicated open-top game viewing vehicle with an expert safari guide and tracker ensures an exceptional VIP safari experience.

Highlights		Amenities	
Villa size	880 sqm	Air conditioning	Yes
Occupancy	8	Mosquito nets	Yes
Royal Club Estate	Yes	Free standing bath	Yes
4 En-suite Bedrooms	Yes	Indoor & outdoor shower	Yes
Rim flow pool & jacuzzi	Yes	Double vanity	Yes
Premium wine Cellar	Yes	Private en-suite verandas	Yes
Bar	Yes	In-room minibar	Yes
Boma dining	Yes	In-room Safe	Yes
Fire pit	Yes	WiFi	Yes
Viewing deck	Yes	Multi-adaptor electricity (220V)	Yes
Yoga pavilion / sala	Yes	Telephone	Yes
Fully hosted	Yes	Hairdryer	Yes
Private open-top safari vehicle	Yes	Executive chef, butler and host	Yes
		Laundry service	Yes
		Spa therapists	By appointment
		Childminding services	Available on request

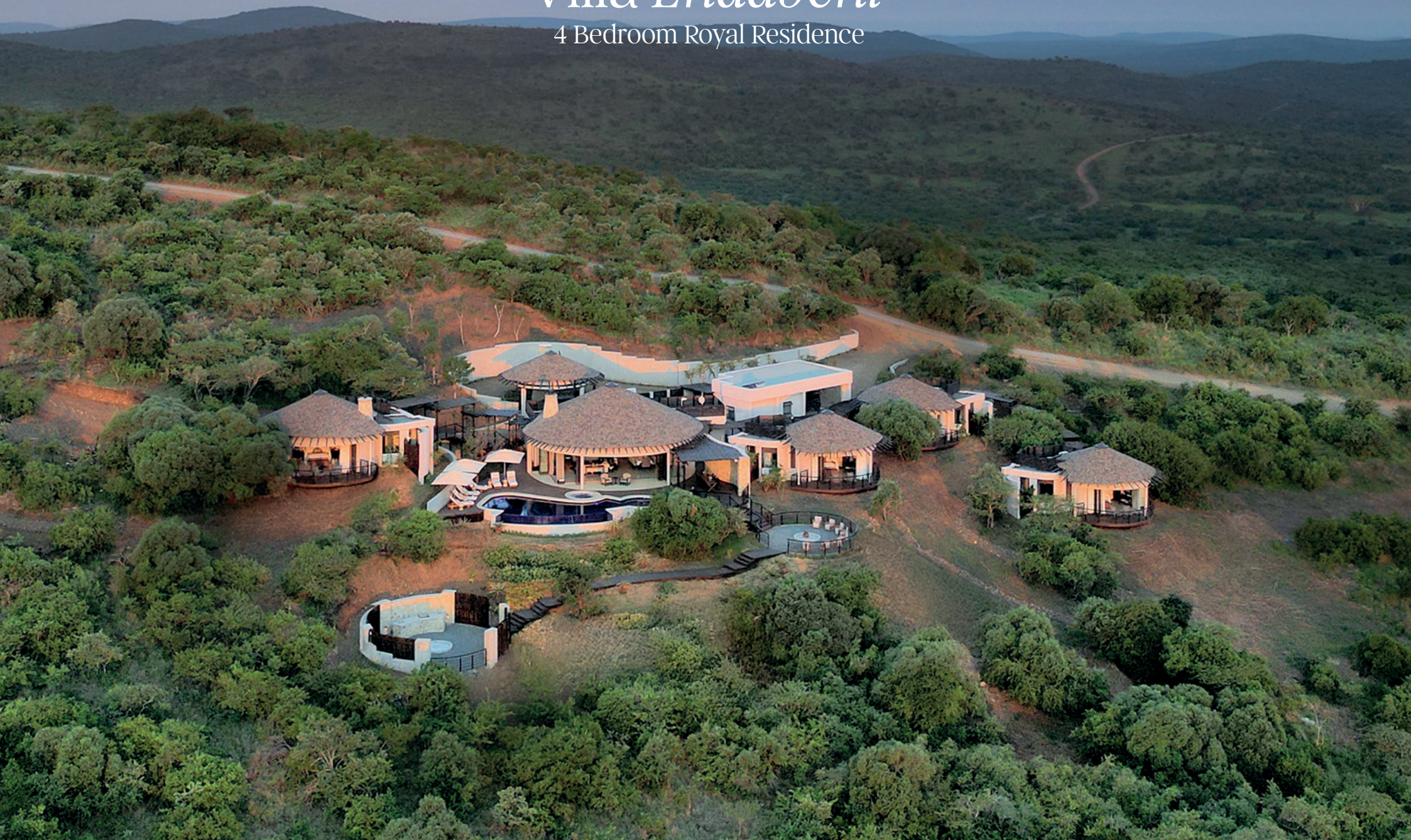
Villa Mhlosinga

4 Bedroom Deluxe Royal Residence



Villa Endabeni

4 Bedroom Royal Residence





Villa Endabeni: 4 Bedroom Royal Residence

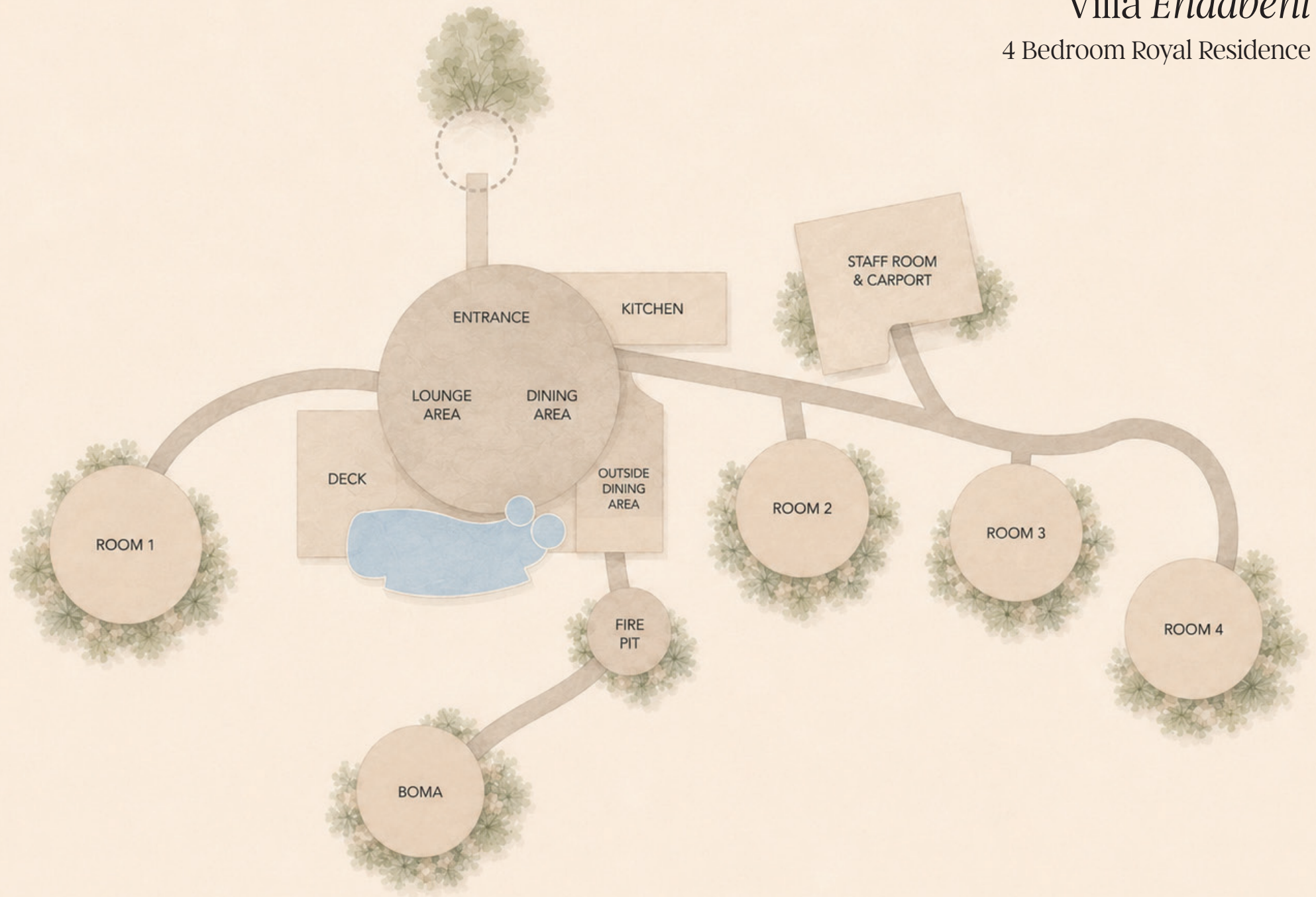
Like Mhlosinga, Villa Endabeni draws on the circular symbolism of the Umuzi, with four bedroom suites flowing into expansive indoor-outdoor living, each suite opening onto its own private veranda.

The architectural form is embracing rather than commanding, infused with the warmth of organic African shape and elegant interior craftsmanship. The infinity pool, expansive viewing deck, fire pit and boma frame the slow afternoons; the bush frames everything else.

Highlights		Amenities	
Villa size	587 sqm	Air conditioning	Yes
Occupancy	8	Mosquito nets	Yes
Royal Club Estate	Yes	Free standing bath	Yes
4 En-suite Bedrooms	Yes	Indoor & outdoor shower	Yes
Rim flow pool & jacuzzi	Yes	Double vanity	Yes
Premium wine Cellar	Yes	Private en-suite verandas	Yes
Bar	Yes	In-room minibar	Yes
Boma dining	Yes	In-room Safe	Yes
Fire pit	Yes	WiFi	Yes
Viewing deck	Yes	Multi-adaptor electricity (220V)	Yes
Yoga pavilion / sala	Yes	Telephone	Yes
Fully hosted	Yes	Hairdryer	Yes
Private open-top safari vehicle	Yes	Executive chef, butler and host	Yes
		Laundry service	Yes
		Spa therapists	By appointment
		Childminding services	Available on request

Villa Endabeni

4 Bedroom Royal Residence



Villa Enqabeni

4 Bedroom Royal Residence





Villa Enqabeni: 4 Bedroom Royal Residence

Villa Enqabeni is the most direct architectural interpretation of the classic Zulu homestead, centred entirely on the circle, a form that holds, in Zulu thought, the cycle of time, the continuity of life, the rising sun and the fullness of the African moon.

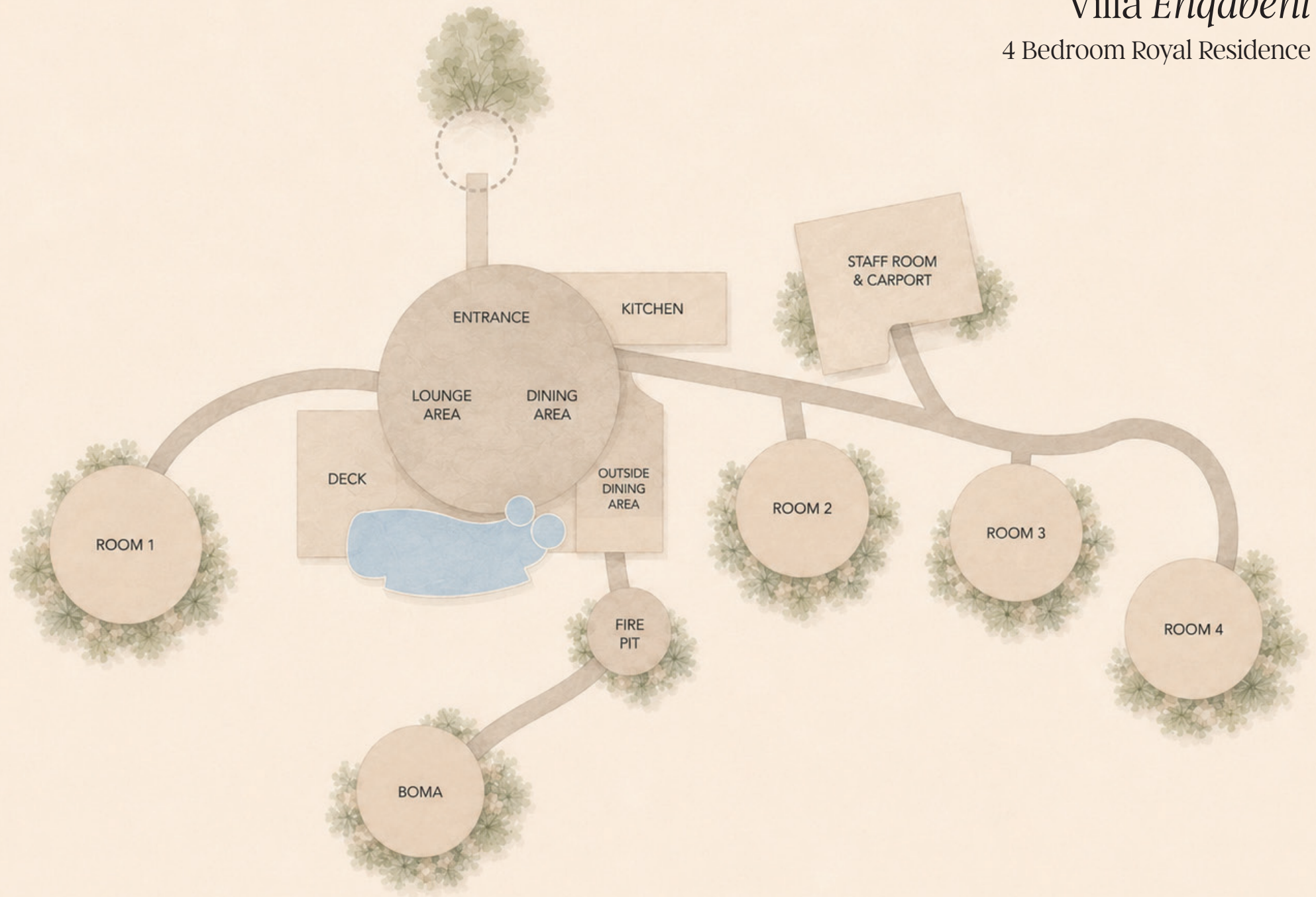
The four bedroom suites carry their own private verandas; the living areas open onto a viewing deck and infinity pool with the reserve running on without interruption beyond. The architectural choices honour tradition; the experience is refined, luxurious and modern.



Highlights		Amenities	
Villa size	1,087 sqm	Air conditioning	Yes
Occupancy	10	Mosquito nets	Yes
Royal Club Estate	Yes	Swedish Hastens beds throughout	Yes
Airbus H 130 B4 helicopter & Helipad	Yes	Free standing bath	Yes
5 En-suite bedrooms	Yes	Indoor double shower	Yes
Rim flow pool & jacuzzi	Yes	Double vanity	Yes
Himalayan salt sauna	Yes	Private en-suite verandas	Yes
Premium wine cellar	Yes	Minibar	Yes
Bar & Cigar Lounge	Yes	In-room safe	Yes
Boma dining	Yes	WiFi	Yes
Fire pit	Yes	Integrated sound system	Yes
Viewing deck	Yes	Multi-adaptor electricity (220V)	Yes
Yoga deck	Yes	Laundry service	Yes
Romantic resting sala	Yes	Panic room	Available on request
Pop-up gym	Yes	Mood lighting control	Yes
Fully hosted	Yes	Executive chef, butler, host & manager	Yes
Private open-top safari vehicle	Yes	Spa therapists	By appointment
Private bush dining site & romantic dining site	Yes		

Villa Enqabeni

4 Bedroom Royal Residence



Rate Includes:

- Accommodation in an exclusive-use Royal Residence including butler, private chef, hospitality staff, guide and tracker
- A full selection of South African fine wines, beers and spirits
- All meals and teas for the duration of your stay
- Twice-daily game drives in your private game-viewing vehicle
- Bush walks with specialist walking guides
- Outdoor dining experiences, including bush buffets, special-occasion and romantic dinners
- Movies under the Stars (weather permitting)
- Stargazing in the Southern Hemisphere heavens
- Laundry service, excluding dry cleaning
- Wireless internet service
- Child-minding
- Storytelling
- A pair of Vortex Diamondback binoculars per room for use during your stay
- Junior Ranger Course for children
- Community visit to the Inkanyiso or Masibambisane Crèche
- One-hour photography lesson with Christian Sperka, our resident specialist wildlife photographer (subject to availability)
- VAT

Rate Excludes:

- Spa treatments
- Champagnes, cognacs and fine wines and spirits not on the inclusion list
- Transfers to/from Thanda Safari
- Curios, gratuities and telephone calls
- Conservation levy per person per stay
- Customised photographic safari vehicle (available at an additional cost)
- Any Additional cost activities



*For bookings and further
information, please contact:*

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