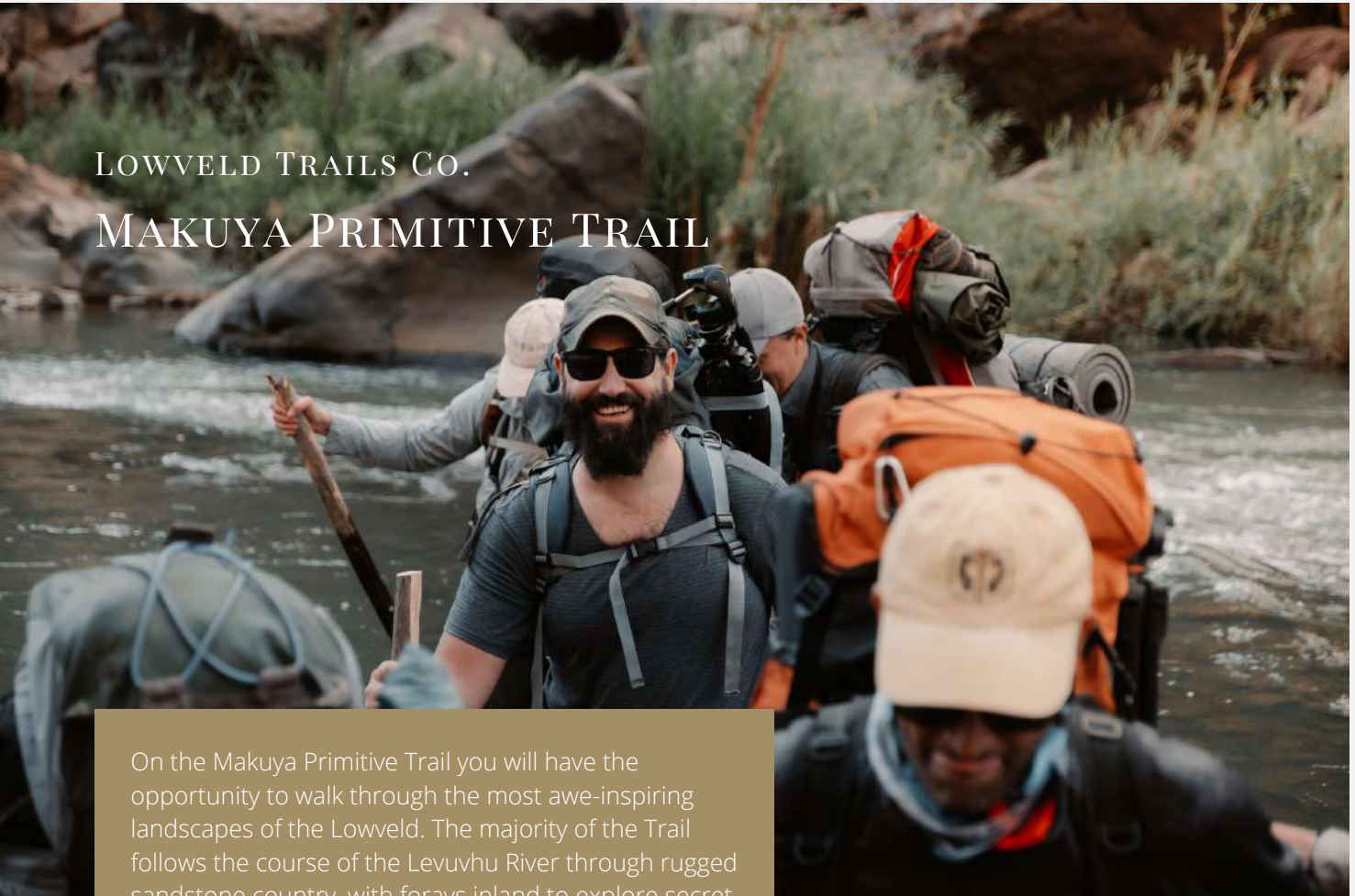




LOWVELD TRAILS CO.

MAKUYA PRIMITIVE TRAIL

On the Makuya Primitive Trail you will have the opportunity to walk through the most awe-inspiring landscapes of the Lowveld. The majority of the Trail follows the course of the Levuvhu River through rugged sandstone country, with forays inland to explore secret springs and the river's magical tributaries.

Well beyond an activity, it is a fully immersive experience that permits participation in Nature as opposed to traditional spectatorship. It creates the space for personal, social and Wilderness regeneration.

It is real, visceral and completely authentic.

What to Expect

This Primitive Trail takes place in the Makuya Nature Reserve, one of South Africa's best kept secrets, which shares an un-fenced border with the far-northern Kruger National Park. You can choose to spend between 3 and 6 nights out on Trail.

Led by professional Wilderness Trails Guides, with thousands of Trail hours experience each, you will spend a minimum of three self-sufficient nights (four days) in the wild.

Due to the rocky rugged terrain, participants require a reasonable level of fitness. Groups set their

own pace and explore according to their interests and capabilities.

There are no demarcated campsites or routes. Each night is spent under the stars (no tents) at a pristine location with participants sharing the responsibility of 'night-watch duty'.



"My words will do it absolutely no justice. What you guys offer is something truly special, and I am ever so grateful I got to experience it. Please extend my review to the whole team, it takes an orchestra to make up a beautiful song, and we are so grateful to have heard it deep within. A massive THANK YOU! It was the most priceless experience of my life."

Drienie Viljoen - Oct 2024
Makuya Primitive Trail

What to Pack

Everything required for the duration of the Trail must be carried in a backpack.

Participants must be completely self-sufficient and must cater for all their Trail meals, including 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners (for a 3-night Primitive Trail), as well as the odd snack. In order to minimize our impact, all cooking must be done on a gas stove.

Below is a complete 'Primitive Trail Checklist' to assist participants when packing.

Trail Equipment

- Backpack (between 40l and 60l)
- Sleeping bag
- Mattress (simple roll mat for insulation or a blow-up mattress)
- Small/blow-up pillow (optional)
- Ground sheet (optional)
- Trail fold-up chair (optional - you may thank us though)
- Mini gas cooker and lighter
- Small pot, Plate/bowl and mug
- Sharp knife and spoon - you can use pocket knife/ Leatherman.
- Water bottles - Should have capacity of 2.5 - 3 litres.
- Water Purification Drops
- Head torch
- Binoculars (optional)

We provide you with a Bivvy Bag in which to put your sleeping bag during the night to protect you from rain or dew. Leave a small space for this in your backpack, or you can strap it to the outside.

Trail Kit

- Walking Shoes (already worn in)
- Gaiters
- Neutral Coloured Clothing
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Flip-flops
- Swimsuit
- Sarong - can be used as blanket, sun protection and towel
- Waterproof poncho (just in case!)
- Winter nights will be a lot cooler so a jacket and a warmer sleeping bag is recommended during those months.

Personal Essentials

- Sunscreen
- Tooth brush and toothpaste
- Toilet paper
- Small towel, face cloth and soap
- Backpack raincoat/cover to protect backpack and contents in case of rain or dew.
- A large ziplock bag is useful to store your rubbish, wrappings etc.

Trail Food & Drink

Keep it simple. Remember all cooking will be done on your gas cooker. Below are a few basic meal suggestions.

Breakfast - Oats-so-easy, Futurelife, muesli bars, apple/naartjie.

Lunch - Pro-vitas/Salticrux/Wraps, cream cheese, avo, biltong, salami, tuna sachets, dehydrated hummus.

Dinner - Pasta, couscous, salami, biltong, instant soup, or dehydrated Trail meals - visit the 'FAQ' page at lowveldtrails.co.za for supplier links.

Snacks - protein bars, biltong, droewors, trail mix/nuts/dried fruit.

Drinks - coffee, tea, juice sachets.



Water is provided by the pristine Levuvhu River.

Book your Makuya Primitive Trail

This Trail is restricted to private group bookings of up to 8 participants. In 2026 the Trail Season will be 4 months, from July to October. The minimum Trail duration is 3 nights, and the option to extend up to 6 nights is available.

3-night Makuya Primitive Trail Rate | ZAR 59 000 / group
6-night Makuya Primitive Trail Rate | ZAR 118 000 / group
Lowveld Trails Co. Wilderness Levy | ZAR 600 / person / Trail

Contact reservations@lowveldtrails.co.za to check availability and secure your preferred Trail dates.

Please enquire if you would like our assistance with a booking at Singo Safari Lodge pre-/post-Trail (a ZAR 390 admin fee will apply).

Trail Rate excludes:

- Gate entrance fees to Makuya Nature Reserve.
- Accommodation pre-/post-Trail.

What you need to know:

- Meeting & End Point | Singo Safari Lodge
- Meeting Time | 13h00pm on day one
- End Time | by 11h00am on last day
- Vehicles will remain at Singo Safari Lodge for the duration of the Trail.

Visit the '[Frequently Asked Questions](#)' page on our website for more information about our Trails.



LOWVELD TRAILS CO.

WILDERNESS RATING

Makuya Nature Reserve has attributes not found in any other wild area of South Africa. The panoramic appeal is unsurpassed, with sandstone ridges lined by ancient baobabs flanking mile upon mile of Levuvhu River frontage. Although part of the Greater Kruger ecosystem, with the potential of seeing all of the savanna species, animal numbers are low, and the focus of this Trail is not game-viewing. The arid spiritual landscape and powerful associated 'Sense of Place' more than makes up for the low animal densities.

82%

Compared to our other Primitive Trails:
Timbavati Primitive Trail - 69%
Kalahari Primitive Trail - 85%

Visit lowveldtrails.co.za to find out more about our Wilderness Rating Criteria.

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