

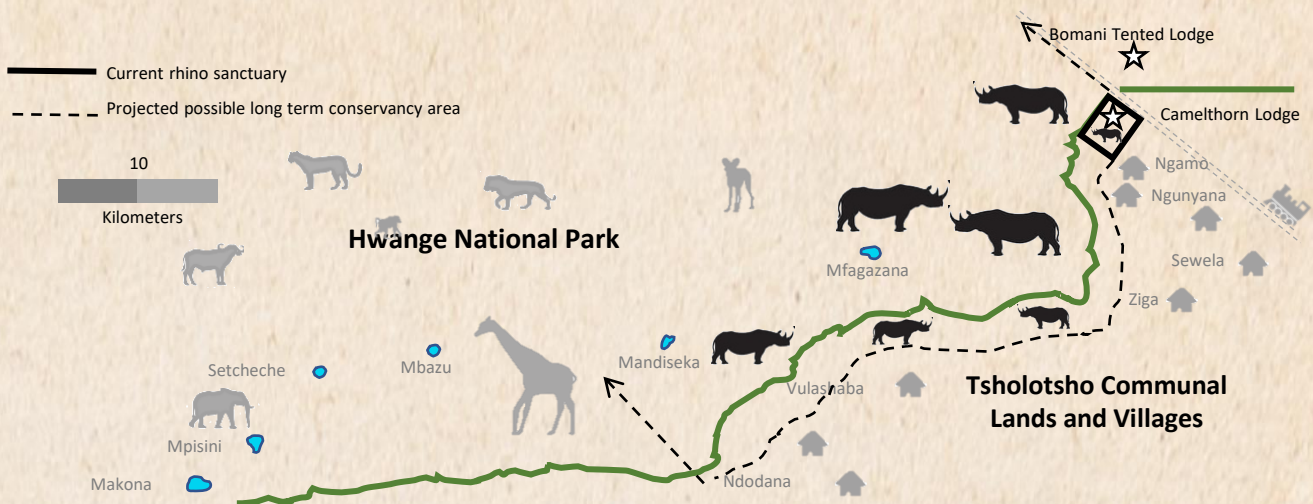
Imvelo Safari Lodges have successfully brought white rhino back to Hwange after nearly 20 years



Imvelo Safari Lodges are extremely excited and proud to be spearheading the return of white rhino to Hwange. The project is called CRCI – Community Rhino Conservation Initiative, a massive paradigm shift where rhino are being introduced onto community land in southern Hwange, close to Camelthorn and Bomani Lodges, with local communities as custodians.

As a species, Southern White Rhino were extinct in Zimbabwe by about 1900. Later they were reintroduced from Zululand in the 1960's. At its peak, the rhino population in Hwange National Park numbered several hundred by the 1970's and 80's, of which about 120 were white rhino. By the early 2000's, poaching had once again eradicated white rhino from the Park.

The community living on the south eastern edge of the Park are already heavily involved in conservation, so the CRCI concept is to establish a highly protected rhino sanctuary on community land bordering the Park. This pilot project will be a catalyst for a bigger conservancy and buffer zone between the Park and communal lands, which supports local people through job creation, gate entry fees, jobs, increased tourism and reduced human wildlife conflict.





TODAY, THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN AFRICA:

- It's about rhino, arguably the most endangered large African mammal
- It's about rhino in a community conservancy, not in a government Park or on private land
- It's about creating a self-sustaining buffer zone on Hwange's boundary to protect one of Africa's great Parks and support communities who live around it
- It's been established despite the COVID-19 pandemic and associated collapse of tourism

In the pilot project phase, two white rhino bulls will be homed in our first sanctuary at Ngamo. The long term vision is to create and then link more sanctuaries together as more rhino are re-introduced to create a larger conservancy. This will become a self-sustaining, viable and free ranging rhino conservancy on community land.

Guests staying at Bomani and Camelthorn now potentially have the opportunity to see the big 5 with this re-introduction of rhino. A momentous achievement for Hwange, rhino, communities and of course for our guests coming on an Imvelo safari!

RATES AND EXPERIENCE

(Valid until 31st December 2023)

2 hour tour, combined with another activity available to make it a full morning/afternoon.

Nett US \$180 net per person sharing (30% single supplement, US \$90 for children 12 and under)

Includes:

- Tour of the sanctuary headquarters – meet some of the Community Wildlife Protection scouts on duty that day, and hear a short talk on the origins of the Cobras unit and how they protect the rhino, as well as the future plans for our ground-breaking Community Rhino Conservation Initiative
- Walking tour to view and spend time with the rhino and our Cobra Rangers guarding them 24/7 – lots of photo opportunities and quality time to watch and enjoy our white rhino in their new home on the Ngamo plains (*how close one will be able to get to the rhino is subject to conditions on the ground*)

Please note:


- Single travellers unable to join a group pay a 30% supplement
- Rates are quoted in USD, inclusive of 2% tourism levy
- Subject to availability and terms and conditions apply
- The rhino experience is non-commissionable
- For bookings that are already confirmed and invoiced for, guests can book and pay in camp
- Please ensure guests bring USD cash if they wish to pay in camp for this activity
- This activity can be added upfront in the booking process to the invoice.



CONTACT DETAILS


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