READING: THULA THULA WILDLIFE RESERVE

Cultural awareness

Safaris in South Africa

Fact box

When people visit South Africa, most of them hope to see some wild animals. The most popular ones are the elephant, the rhinoceros, the lion, the buffalo and the leopard.

THULA THULA WILDLIFE RESERVE

ABOUT THULA THULA

Thula Thula is a private wildlife reserve and hotel. Thula Thula means 'peace' in Zulu, the language of a famous South African tribe. Thula Thula is in Kwazulu Natal province in South Africa. This is where the Zulu tribe comes from.

WILDLIFE

The area is home to hundreds of species of animals, including rhinoceros, leopards, crocodiles and giraffes.

RESCUED ANIMALS

In 1999, the owner of Thula Thula, Lawrence Anthony, rescued a herd of seven elephants and brought them to his wildlife reserve. Since then, the family has grown to 25 elephants! The story of his experiences with the elephants is the subject of his book, *The Elephant Whisperer*.

The owners of Thula Thula adopted Thabo, a baby rhino, in 2009 when he was just a few days old. He now lives on the wildlife reserve.

ACCOMMODATION

Guests stay in luxury tents with beds and showers. There are some outdoor showers too if you don't mind monkeys watching you from the trees!

MEALS

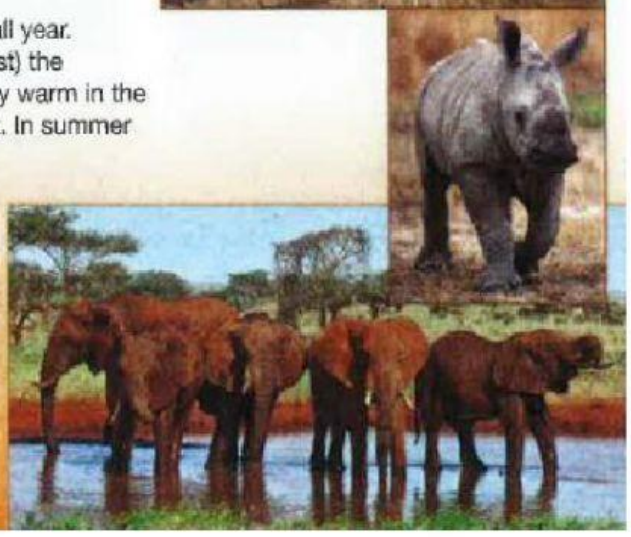
A lot of guests say the food is the best thing at Thula Thula! Don't forget to try a traditional African 'braai' (barbecue).

ACTIVITIES

Local guides, who have a lot of knowledge about the area, take groups of guests on safaris. You can also go on organized walks and learn about unusual plants that only grow in South Africa.

WHEN TO VISIT

Thula Thula is open all year. In winter (April–August) the temperature is usually warm in the day and cool at night. In summer (September–March) the days are hot and the nights are warm.



Word check

wildlife reserve rescue herd adopt

LIVEWORKSHEETS

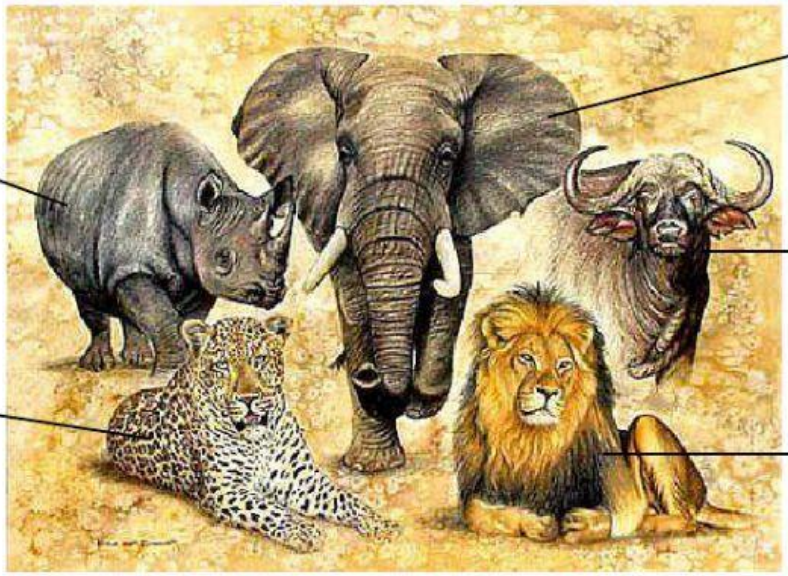
Part A – Match the meaning with the word. LS 3.1.3

wildlife reserve	To take an animal that has been left in a place and keep it as your pet
rescue	An area of land managed to conserve wildlife habitat
adopt	To help someone or something out of a dangerous situation
luxury	Different from what is usual or expected
unusual	Very expensive and of the highest quality
herd	A large group of animals of the same type that live together

Part B – Read the text again and choose the correct answer. LS 3.1.2

1. 'Thula Thula' is _____.
2. Lawrence Anthony wrote a book about _____.
3. A lot of guests _____.
4. Guests can observe wild animals _____.
5. The hottest time of the year at Thula Thula is _____.
6. Besides wild animals, visitors can also learn about _____ at Thula Thula.

Part C – Name the Africa's Big Five.



LIVEWORKSHEETS