



# Experience the Greatest Ocean Safari Wild Coast, South Africa 2026

## **Guaranteed Set Departure Itineraries**

Sardine Run all-inclusive fly-in Ocean Safaris at  
GweGwe Beach Lodge

### **Departure dates:**

- 12- 18 June 2026
- 01 - 05 July 2026
- 10 - 17 July 2026

**Epic action on our doorstep** – Experience the Sardine Run, it happens right here at GweGwe.

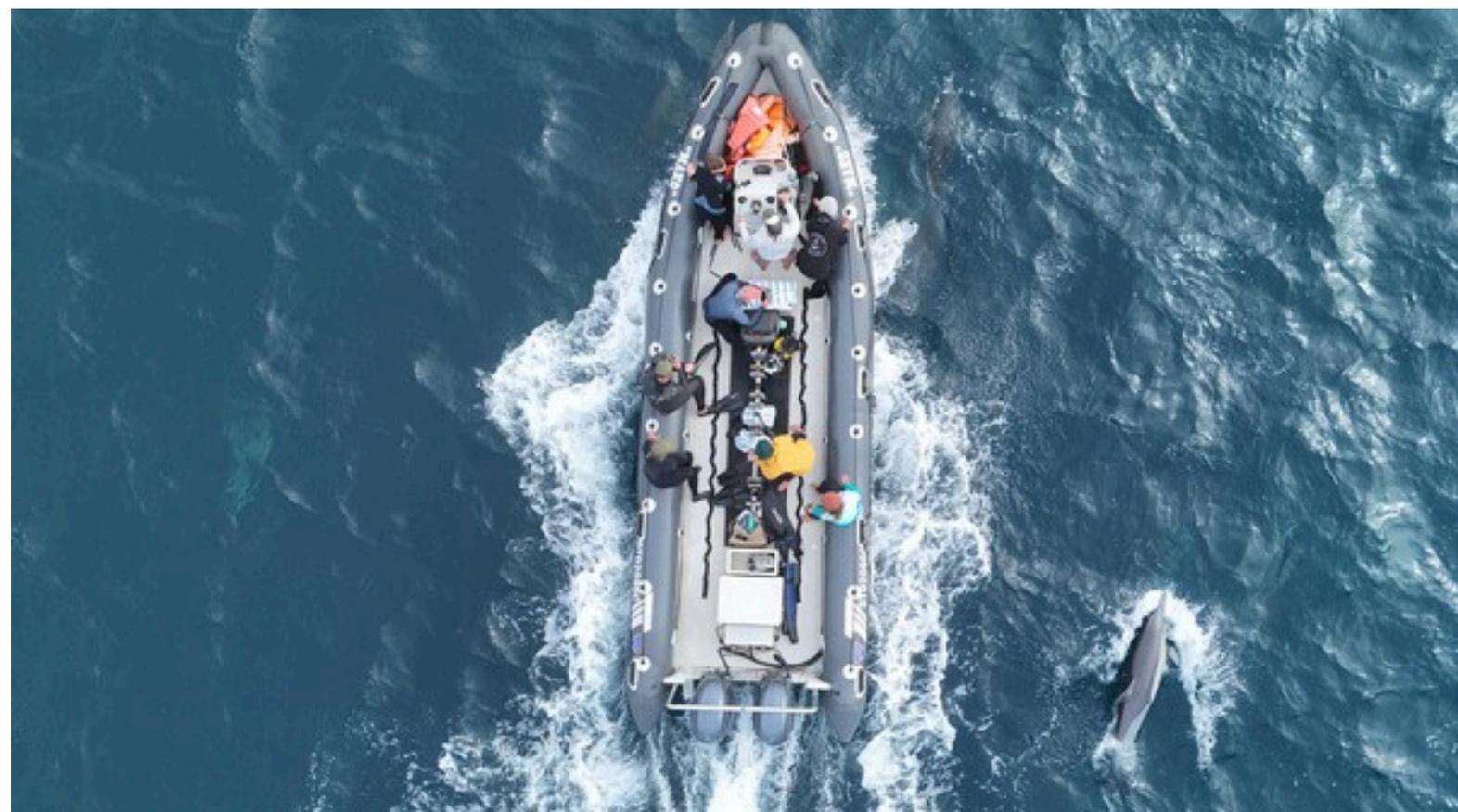
**Freedive with expert marine guides** – Get close to the greatest shoal on Earth and the incredible predators it attracts: sharks, whales, dolphins, and gamefish

**Barefoot luxury at GweGwe Beach Lodge** – Return each day to world-class comfort in the heart of Pondoland

**More than the ocean** – Explore wild coastlines, waterfalls, gorges, and the rich culture of this untouched region. Run, hike, mountain bike, kayak, surf and SUP in Mkambati Nature Reserve.

**Let us handle all the details** - From flights to fine details, everything is taken care of. Indulge in an all-inclusive fly-in ocean safari for the ultimate adventure of a lifetime.





## Departure Dates Detail:

### 12 - 18 June (7 days, 6 nights)

- **All-inclusive Retail Rate:**
  - **USD 9,750** per person
- **Inclusions:**
  - **Return flights to GweGwe Beach Lodge** from Durban's Virginia Airport
  - **5 days of boating**
  - Luxury accommodation in a deluxe, sea-facing suite
  - All meals, a choice of 10 house wines, local beers & spirits
  - All lagoon and land-based activities. Run, hike, mountain bike, kayak, canoe, surf and SUP in Mkambati Nature Reserve

### 01 - 05 July (5 days, 4 nights)

- **All-inclusive Retail Rate:**
  - **USD 7,515** per person
- **Inclusions:**
  - **Return flights to GweGwe Beach Lodge** from Durban's Virginia Airport
  - **3 days of boating**
  - Luxury accommodation in a deluxe, sea-facing suite
  - All meals, a choice of 10 house wines, local beers & spirits
  - All lagoon and land-based activities. Run, hike, mountain bike, kayak, canoe, surf and SUP in Mkambati Nature Reserve

### 10 - 17 July (8 days, 7 nights)

- **All-inclusive Retail Rate:**
  - **USD 12,385** per person
- **Inclusions:**
  - **Return flights to GweGwe Beach Lodge** from Durban's Virginia Airport
  - **6 days of boating**
  - Luxury accommodation in a deluxe, sea-facing suite
  - All meals, a choice of 10 house wines, local beers & spirits
  - All lagoon and land-based activities. Run, hike, mountain bike, kayak, canoe, surf and SUP in Mkambati Nature Reserve



**Exclusions:**

- Single supplements
- Fully comprehensive travel insurance
- Premium wines and spirits from the reserve list
- Gratuities to guides and staff
- Spa treatments

**Notes:**

- Enquiries outside of these dates or group sizes can be handled individually—please contact reservations
- Boating excursions usually depart early morning and last 5–6 hours, depending on sightings and weather.
- Boating includes the boat, fuel, skipper, guide, wetsuits, fins, goggles, and snorkels. (Guests are encouraged to bring personal gear for the best fit.)
- Should the weather not permit a safe launch on a boating day, there will be no refunds applicable. In this instance, guests will be able to enjoy the lodge as well as land and lagoon based activities.
- Not suitable for children under 16 (unless a private boat and guides are booked) or guests who are not mobile (due to surf launches).
- All flights are operated on a seat-in Aircraft basis.



## General Info

### The daily routine

After a light breakfast, we head out just after sunrise. The boat launches and lands directly in front of the lodge, making for a seamless start to the day. We then spend 5–6 hours on the water, following the sardine run and enjoying the action, with timing depending on sightings and weather conditions.

Back at the lodge, a hearty lunch awaits. The afternoon is yours to unwind—book a spa treatment or enjoy the wide range of activities on offer at GweGwe Beach Lodge. Explore Mkambati Nature Reserve on foot, by mountain bike, kayak, canoe, surfboard, or SUP.

As the sun sets, gather around the fire with a drink in hand to share stories and highlights from the day's adventures. The evening then continues with a delicious dinner, rounding off another unforgettable day at GweGwe Beach Lodge.

On arrival and departure days, there is no boating scheduled. Guests are free to relax at the lodge and enjoy the beauty and activities of Mkambati Nature Reserve at their own pace.

### In the water

The sardine run can be experienced from the boat or in the water by freediving or snorkeling. All equipment is available at the lodge, though we recommend bringing your own gear for the best fit and comfort.



## Frequently asked questions

### What should I pack for the boat?

- Windproof jacket
- Buff or beanie
- Hat
- Dive gear & wetsuits (provided at the lodge; personal gear preferred)
- Sunglasses
- Diving gloves (dark colour advisable)

### What dive gear is available at the lodge?

We provide:

- Wetsuits
- Masks & snorkels
- Fins

For the best fit and comfort, we recommend bringing your own gear where possible.

### Will I get seasick?

If you are prone to motion sickness, we strongly suggest bringing suitable medication. Time on the boat can be long—5 to 6 hours each day—while we follow the sardine run.

### What is the water temperature?

During the sardine run (June–July), water temperatures range between 18–21°C. A 5 mm wetsuit is recommended for comfort, which is available at the lodge.

### Do I need prior diving experience?

No scuba certification is required. The sardine run can be enjoyed from the boat, or by snorkeling and freediving. Our team is on hand to guide and support you in the water.

### Is the experience suitable for children?

The ocean excursions are generally not suitable for children under 16. However, families are welcome at the lodge and there are plenty of land-based activities in Mkambati Nature Reserve to enjoy.

### What happens if the weather is bad?

Weather and ocean conditions dictate our time on the water. On days when conditions don't allow for boat excursions, guests can enjoy the lodge, spa treatments, or the many land & lagoon based activities.



## Frequently asked questions continued

### How many guests are on each boat?

Each boat accommodates a maximum of 6 guests, plus a skipper and a marine guide.

### What are the safety procedures on the boat?

Every excursion is led by an experienced skipper and marine guide, with guest safety as the top priority.

### What are the scheduled flight times?

Flights depart Durban's Virginia Airport at **1:30 pm** and return from GweGwe Beach Lodge at **2:45 pm**. Guests must check in at the Legend Aviation Lounge at least **30 minutes before departure**.

### What is the latest time I can arrive at Durban's King Shaka International Airport?

The transfer to Virginia Airport departs no later than **12:30 pm**, so you must arrive at King Shaka by then.

### What is the earliest time I can depart from Durban's King Shaka International Airport after my trip?

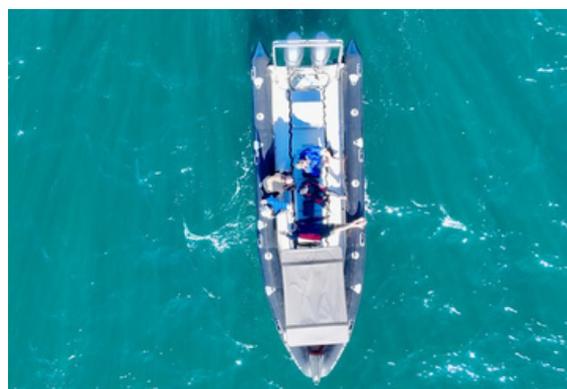
- Domestic departures: from **5:45 pm**
- International departures: from **6:45 pm**

### What is the luggage allowance?

Each guest may bring **20 kg in soft bags**.

### Can GweGwe arrange my transfers from Durban's King Shaka International Airport?

Yes. We can arrange transfers to and from Durban's King Shaka International Airport. We can also assist with an overnight stay at The Oyster Box Hotel or a safari at one of our exclusive partner camps.

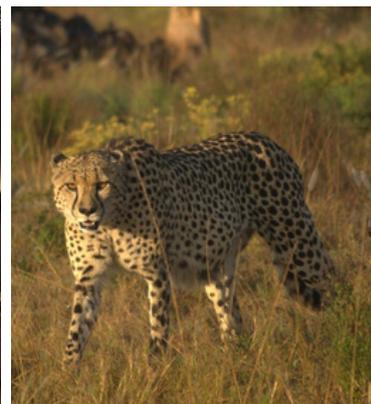


## Optional add-ons:

Extend your adventure beyond the ocean. We'll gladly arrange a safari at one of our exclusive partner camps:

- &Beyond Phinda
- Kwandwe
- Shamwari
- Nambiti Hills

Or indulge in a night of luxury at a Durban icon – **The Oyster Box Hotel**



## Bookings & Enquiries:

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[www.gwegwelodge.co.za](http://www.gwegwelodge.co.za)



*All marine photography thanks to Peter Pickford, Peter Oxford, Dook & Sumwe Guides*