



CEDARBERG
AFRICA

Family Safari Quiz

2025



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Introduction

Three pairs of round eyes gaze up in awe at the speaker, who towers three feet above their small frames:

“You mean you slept out here in the wilderness all on your own?” one small voice pipes up .

“I did” replies the impressively tanned individual in khaki.

“Wow...cool! Mum, can we do that next time?”

So begins the first in a series of African adventures that will provide these kids with tall tales to amaze their school friends, then their girlfriends and, who knows, even lead to a career in zoology. Many families are very keen to enjoy an African Safari Adventure.

However, Africa is a VAST continent, and the safari experience varies from country to country. One family may delight in venturing into remote areas far from people and modern-day creatures, whilst this might be anathema to another family.



In my ‘[Families on Safari](#)’ article, on our website, I said that how your family behaves at home is how they are likely to behave on safari. If your son is constantly on the go, he will feel restricted by the traditional safari lodge pattern of activities.

This often requires sitting quietly in game vehicles and can be very inactive. If your kid gets queasy on car journeys, then an uncomfortable three-hour drive on a gravel road or a bumpy flight in a small charter plane may be asking for trouble.

However, before you give up on the whole idea, this need not be a problem at all. The wide variation in family safaris available in different African countries can really help when searching for the right one for you and your family.





Family Quiz

So, we thought that a **Family Safari Quiz** would be a good way to show you how very different the areas are, and to help you to decide which destinations to shortlist.

Sometimes you have heard of a safari that sounds just right, but the quiz might bring up some alternative destinations which could be even better!

The quiz asks some generic questions about **your family** and their attitudes. Depending on your answers, we can make some broad assumptions about which areas may suit you best.

A man and two children are sitting on a large, weathered log in a savanna landscape. The man is wearing a white cap and a green jacket, looking towards the right. The two children are wearing hats and are also looking towards the right. The background is a lush green savanna with trees and a clear sky. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent green rectangle.

Now wheel in the...

Cedarberg 'Utafutaji'

‘search’ in Swahili

Please circle the answers most suited to you.

Your exact opinions may not match any on these categories, so circle the one or two which are closest to your views





Comfort Levels

Most family safari destinations have a range of safari lodges to suit all budgets. We don't really offer destinations where you have thorough it.

Although that can be an option if you want it. It comes in the form of a mobile camping safari or a fly-camp or star bed. (A fly-camp is a rustic camp which operates as a satellite camp to a main lodge. It's often used for walking safaris and is not always suitable for family safaris.)





Family Safari Quiz

Questions & Results

1. Access to 21st Century Comforts

However, our various family safari destinations do vary in what 21st century creature comforts, such as television, videos, playrooms and so on, they offer.

- A. We like to have a high level of comfort (five-star, air-conditioning, lots of facilities)
- B. It would be nice to have a television/video room for the kids but not essential
- C. We like a comfortable lodge, but we want to be away from modern distractions such as TV
- D. We want to be in a pretty simple camp such as a mobile camp





2. Internet Connectivity

This is a related but separate issue. Sometimes it's the parents who need to be available online, sometimes the kids, sometimes both...

- A. As a family we need to be able to keep in contact with business and the outside world at all times
- B. We will need internet connectivity during the trip but not every day or in our rooms
- C. It would be nice to get some internet connectivity during the trip but not essential
- D. We want to be away from modern life altogether

3. Malaria & Health

This is about your attitude to the possible health risks of safari.

- A. We do not want to go to a malarial area
- B. We would prefer a low or non-malarial area, but we'll make some trade-offs in order to visit certain destinations. Ideally, we would choose to travel at a lower risk time.
- C. We want to go to certain destinations and know that means we will have to take precautions. But we would feel happier if we were fairly close to medical facilities.
- D. We are happy to take anti-malaria tablets and get covered up. We are keen to get right away from civilization. Though we appreciate that there are health risks, we will get the necessary jabs and tablets as we feel that there are risks on any type of holiday





4. Bug life

This question focuses on insects, but not from a point of view of their likely risk to you, but more your attitude to them. This covers insects, spiders, lizards, geckos...

- A. My kid, wife, husband freaks out if there are any insects about
- B. We are not crazy about insects, spiders and so on but understand that this is a necessary part of visiting many African destinations
- C. We have no real fear of insects
- D. We are not afraid of insects and bugs; in fact, my kids are really into them.
(We have a pet spider at home.)



5. Remoteness

Remoteness is judged by how long it takes to get to a particular safari lodge or even to the wildlife destination. Obviously, we have to generalise here. Within a country there may be some very remote safari areas and others which are less so. This is a judgement call based on our experiences.

- A. We'd like a safari lodge which is easily accessible with not too much travelling from the nearest airport (and not too much hassle to get to that airport either)
- B. We are happy to visit a Safari destination which is accessible either by a light charter flight or a longer road transfer (more than two hours)
- C. We are comfortable travelling some longer distances to get somewhere (such as 3 to 4 hours) or needing a combination of flight or road transfers. But not all the time.
- D. We love going to remote places where you feel like you are the only people around for miles and miles. The journey there is part of the adventure, and we are comfortable travelling for longer distances as part of the trip.





6. Kids Programmes and Variety at the Safari Lodge

Some family-friendly safari lodges, mainly in South Africa, have a **structured family programme** with lots of activities. This may be orientated towards younger kids but at some lodges, kids of all ages are catered for. Other lodges have a kids' room with toys, games, books, etc.

The other aspect is **variety**. Some lodges have a diverse set of activities that kids can get involved in. (But some safari activities such as walking or mokoro trips have an age restriction.) You will need to chat to your safari consultant about what's possible for your kids.

- A. My kids are quite young so structured kids' activities would be great
- B. My kids get bored easily, so they need to be kept entertained with activities
- C. We like to do a variety of different safari activities if possible. It's great if some board games and kids' books are on offer
- D. We really enjoy seeing wildlife and are happy to spend time as a family when not on safari. We bring our own games, so we are pretty self-sufficient

7. Variety in the Overall Trip

In my opinion, this is an important one. Some destinations (or countries) are primarily about safaris. You visit different areas, but you are ‘on safari’. Others offer varied interludes such as a visit to the beach or a stunning waterfall. Finally, for South Africa or Namibia, the safari is just one part of an overall trip.

- A. We like to see and experience a little bit of everything, so a safari with other sight- seeing
- B. We love to be kept on the go, so combine a safari with lots of adventurous activities, or choose a safari destination with lots of variety
- C. We like the idea of a ‘bush and beach safari’
- D. We are really into the wildlife so are happy with a mainly safari trip



Results

See below for more on each area



Nearly all A's

We recommend the Eastern Cape, Waterberg or Garden Route in South Africa

Mostly A & B

Again, probably South Africa still, perhaps KwaZulu-Natal or Madikwe

Mix of A, B & C

South Africa, the Kruger Park and its game reserves

Mix of B, C & D

Now we start getting some other African countries in the mix. We suggest you consider Kenya, Botswana, Malawi or Namibia

Mix of mostly
C & D

Look at Tanzania and Zambia



Family Safari Destinations in a Snapshot

Pros & Cons

So now hopefully you have a shortlist of possible destinations. Some you may know; some you might have never considered...

There are important differences between each destination which may be similar on many fronts but differ in one crucial area.

So I suggest that you head back into our website (using the links provided) to check out the destinations in more detail.

However, as life is short, I've given a brief snapshot of each area in terms of family safaris.



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Main Family Safari Destinations



South Africa

 Kruger & Private Game Lodges

 KwaZulu Natal

 Garden Route & Eastern Cape

 Madikwe

 Waterberg

Kenya

Namibia

Malawi

Botswana

Zambia

Tanzania



So now you have got some tips under your belt, let's look briefly at some of the main family safari destinations in Africa.

This is not exhaustive as we've gone into detail on our website, But it gives you an overview.



Family Safari Destinations

South Africa

South Africa



South Africa is attractive as a family safari destination because it's so easy to combine a safari with other family activities. It's also the only family safari destination which offers malaria-free safaris.

Read our article on [Malaria Free Game Reserves in South Africa](#).

Here's a synopsis on the main safari destinations within South Africa:

 Kruger & Private Game Lodges

 Madikwe

 Waterberg

 Garden Route & Eastern Cape

 KwaZulu Natal



Though the image of vast open African-plains scattered with baobab and fever trees fits the north of South Africa, the rest of the country offers a unique diversity of captivating landscapes.

Take a look at South Africa on our website [HERE!](#)



Kruger & its Private Game Reserves



- Probably the best game-viewing in South Africa.
- A malarial area, but seasonal, so there is a much lower risk in dry, winter months. Can be very accessible. Or have sense of remoteness depending on the safari lodge chosen.
- Huge variety of lodges with varying comfort levels, 21st century creature comforts, family programmes etc. So it really helps to have an experienced safari consultant to advise you on which lodge will suit your family.



The Greater Kruger is the safari destination for many of our guests. The park itself is vast and encompasses many diverse biospheres. This ensures a diversity of wildlife as well as an unsurpassed concentration of wildlife.

Take a look at the Kruger on our website [HERE!](#)



KwaZulu Natal



- One of my favourite areas of South Africa
- Very low malaria (i.e. WHO doesn't recommend ant-malaria tablets)
- Easy to combine with other interests such as beaches, hiking, cultural interaction
- Sense of African bush, but still fairly accessible
- Some lodges offer variety of activities: boating, fishing, as well as game drives
- Good game viewing. But varies by lodge



The private game reserves and lodges of KwaZulu Natal are not as well known as those in the Kruger Park. But definitely worth considering, especially if you want to follow your safari with a beach holiday.

Take a look at the KZN on our website [HERE!](#)



Garden Route & Eastern Cape



- The most accessible area for safaris linked to Cape Town
- Easy to mix safari and other activities –beach, soft adventure, sight seeing, family-friendly activities
- Rarely has a sense of remoteness -with a couple of notable exceptions
- Malaria-free
- Many lodges have children's programmes and creature comforts
- Moderate to good game viewing, depending on the lodge
- Doesn't feel very 'African' –you don't really feel you are in deep in the bush



Take a look at the Garden Route on our website
[HERE!](#)

Take a look at the Eastern Cape on our website
[HERE!](#)



Madikwe



- More remote area in terms of distance but quite a variety of lodges
- Malaria-free
- Many lodges have children's programmes and plenty of creature comforts
- Good game viewing (perhaps 2nd only to Greater Kruger), but remote/difficult to get to



Madikwe is the most accessible of game reserves. It is a 4+ hour drive from Johannesburg, but you can fly in and out (1 hour). Why not combine a Madikwe safari with a Pilanesberg or Marakele National Park in the same broad area?

Take a look at Madikwe on our website [HERE!](#)



Waterberg & Welgevonden



- Specialist area, great for horse-riding safaris
- Plenty of private safari houses offering exclusive use for one family party.
- Malaria-free and an easy driving distance from Johannesburg.
- Moderately good game-viewing –but not as good as Kruger/Madikwe
- game viewing (perhaps 2nd only to Greater Kruger), but remote/difficult to get to



The Waterberg is known for its luxurious and romantic game lodges as well as several family friendly safari options. The Waterberg safari options include Welgevonden Private Game Reserve and Marakele.

Take a look at Waterberg on our website [HERE!](#)



A family of four is standing on a dirt path next to a safari vehicle. A man in a white cap and sunglasses stands on the left, holding a cup. A woman in a grey jacket and brown boots stands next to him, also holding a cup. A young girl in a grey jacket and black boots stands next to her, holding a cup. A man in a grey hoodie and sunglasses stands on the right, holding a cup. The vehicle is a dark-colored safari truck with a spare tire on the back. The background features a large tree and a savanna landscape under a clear sky.

Family Safari Destinations

Other Countries

Kenya



- Probably the easiest destination for Family Safaris. after South Africa.
- Great game-viewing in the Masai Mara as well as Laikipia, Amboseli and Samburu.
- Northern Hemisphere Summer holidays coincide with the wildebeest migration in Kenya.
- Fairly easy to get around with good network of flights.
- Varied activities at many lodges: game drives, horse-riding, camel rides, Masai or Samburu village visits.
- There are no malaria-free game reserves in Kenya.
- Plenty of opportunity to head to more remote areas, if inclination and budget allow.



Kenya is arguably the classic safari destination in Africa. There is nowhere to compare with a Kenya luxury safari for its diversity of landscapes, eco-systems and wildlife. It is a timeless combination of tropical beaches and renowned wildlife

Take a look at Kenya on our website [HERE!](#)



Tanzania



- Tanzania is one of Africa's premier wildlife safari destinations, with natural features such as the Great Rift Valley, Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti, which your children may recognise from geography lessons.
- Most families can have their own dedicated 4x4 vehicle and safari guide, rather than shared game drives (norm in Southern Africa.)
- It's perfect for fairly 'self-sufficient' families with kids who don't need much extra entertaining.
- It's relatively easy to travel around. But longish road transfers and full day game drives are called for.
- A few days at the beach on Zanzibar is an easy addition.
- Spending time with the local Masai is enlightening for children of all ages.
- There are no malaria free game reserves in Tanzania.



A Tanzania safari offers abundant wildlife in world famous locations such as the Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti.

Take a look at Tanzania on our website [HERE!](#)



Namibia



- Namibia is a unique family destination –it will suit some families perfectly, and others not at all!
- On the plus side: lots of variety as a destination, great sense of remoteness, low to non-malarial with a small medium-risk area in the north.
- But its size means long driving times (or expensive charter flights), so it depends on your children's travelling abilities!
- Great range of lodges to suit your budget and your preferred comfort levels. Some lodges are on Namibian farms so that your kids can get a sense of farming life in Namibia.
- It can be very hot, often over 40°C (104°F), so choose a time that suits your heat temperament.



Namibia offers an exhilarating and varied safari experience. From the vast Etosha salt pan, to the shimmering dunes of Sossusvlei and the waterways of the Caprivi

Take a look at Namibia on our website [HERE!](#)



Botswana



- Botswana is a great option for family safaris ... as long as the budget allows!
- One of the best game-viewing destinations
- Although the safari camps feel very remote, far from villages, you generally fly between them.
- Although a malarial area, most of Botswana is fairly low risk as there are so few people in the safari areas.
- Some camps offer children's programmes but, as a whole, Botswana is ideal for families who don't need organised activities.



Botswana is one of Africa's last pristine lands and offers its visitors beautiful scenery and prolific big game in equal measure. From the watery paradise of the Okavango Delta, to the majestic baobab trees of the Kalahari, it is a gem.

Take a look at Botswana on our website [HERE!](#)



Zambia



- Zambia shares many of the benefits of Botswana. However, it is a higher-risk malaria area.
- Perfect for families with older children who are happy with longer flights and transfer times.
- Offers several Safari Houses which can be taken on an exclusive use basis.
- As in Botswana, some camps offer children's activities. But it's ideal for families who like to 'do their own thing'.
- There are no malaria free game reserves in Zambia.



A Zambia safari offers the essence of Africa with some of the finest wildlife experiences in Africa. It also delivers one of its greatest rivers: the Zambezi. Zambian game reserves are truly wild and remote.

Take a look at Zambia on our website [HERE!](#)



Malawi



- Malawi has lots to offer families looking for a remote, yet varied, destination.
- As with Botswana, you often have a sense that you are far from modern life, and yet the flights and road connections are pretty easy.
- Lake Malawi, Nyika Plateau, the tea plantations and the Game Reserves offer a safari holiday with plenty of variety, especially for older kids.
- Very easy to combine Zambia and Malawi - see earlier.



If you enjoy combining safari with some relaxation on the beach and if you like to meet the local people in an uncontrived way, then a Malawi holiday could be perfect for you.

Take a look at Malawi on our website [HERE!](#)

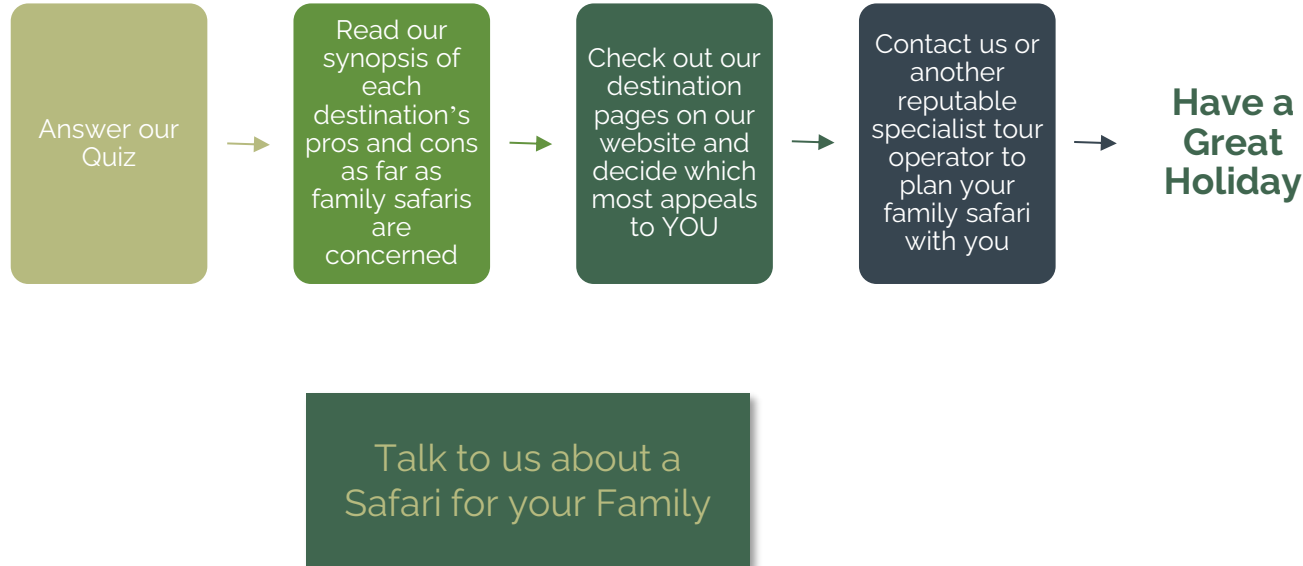




Next Steps

Go on a Family Safari NOW!

We hope that this family safari quiz and guide has been useful



About the Author

Kate Bergh is South Africa's Managing Director of Cedarberg Africa, a specialist safari company that she co-founded with her sister Ginny. We help people who are unsure where to turn to for friendly well-informed safari planning.

Kate has lived in South Africa since 1993. She's travelled extensively to the countries marketed by Cedarberg travelling mostly by herself or with colleagues. She especially likes some of the more remote areas such as Coastal Maputaland, the Makgadikgadi pans and the Lower Zambezi. Her home is in the Cedarberg mountains in the Cape (hence the name of the company) where she enjoys hiking and cycling. She has three children who were used shamelessly, when younger, as guinea pigs to test out the family appeal of various South African hotels and safari lodges.



Picture of Kate



“

*Spectacular By Nature,
Personal By Design*

Thank You!

This Family Safari guide was created by Cedarberg Africa, specialist safari operator

We design personal safaris for adventurous couples and families. You want to explore, try new things and enjoy life. You'll feel confident and excited about your safari trip when you have designed it with us. You won't have wasted precious time or energy. Or missed out on experiences that would be perfect for you.

And you'll know that your trip is giving back to Africa.

Have questions? Schedule a time to chat or email us at:

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