



## Ride4BlackRhino

**A trail-riding safari aimed to introduce you to Black Rhino conservation on horseback**

**Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve does offer riding packages at different length (4 or 7 days) for intermediate to advanced riders.**

**Our riding safari packages are tailored to the individual and mostly exclusive to your booking. With a min. of 1 rider and a max. of 4 riders.**

**The riding venture is run by Nichola McNamara-Reinhard, who brought her expertise of Irish horsemanship to Namibia.**

**With more than 13 years in Black Rhino conservation on Kuzikus she has built up a considerable expertise in using horses to monitor and discover not only Black Rhino on the Reserve.**

**Join her on horseback and experience a unique type of trail riding safari in support of Black Rhino Conservation.**

**The horses are trained in the English riding style and are bridled with English bridles. For safari rides, trail saddles are mainly used because they are best suited for longer rides in our dry-hot climate and offer our horses optimal pressure distribution on their backs. Dressage and General purpose saddles of various brands are also used on site (including Wintec, Stübben, Kieffer, Barefoot, Berney Brothers) depending on the horse.**

**The pace and difficulty of the rides are adapted to the rider's riding ability.**

### **WHAT RIDING SKILLS DO I NEED AT KUZIKUS?**

Your safety and the wellbeing of our horses are of the highest priority at Kuzikus.

Kuzikus Safari Trail Riding Packages are designed for the intermediate and experienced riders who are safe in the terrain and have the corresponding riding skills. The riding program consists of morning and afternoon safaris

and short trail rides of different lengths and is designed so that rider and horse can get to know each other and improve together while exploring the beauty and diversity of the Kalahari landscape and its wildlife.

If you are unsure if this riding experience is suited for you, please contact us and we might be able put an individual riding package together for you.

Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate beginners and we do not offer children's riding, lunge-, or riding lessons.

### **WHAT KIND OF HORSES DO I RIDE AT KUZIKUS?**

At Kuzikus we have a herd of 10 horses. We like to keep the riding operation small, exclusive and manageable in regard to the harsh environment of the Kalahari.

All horses are sure-footed, reliable, and trained for safari trail riding and therefore familiar with the wildlife, especially Black Rhino. They come from various farmers in the surrounding region and include Arabian crosses a Frisian cross, some Appaloosa and a Trakehner Cross for the heavier rider. All horses are accustomed to the extreme temperature fluctuations in Namibia. Their height ranges from 140 cm to 160 cm.

We attach great importance to the health and training of our horses. Kept as a herd they are accustomed to roam the reserve freely, turned in in the morning for training and performance-related feeding as well as hoof care, or proper veterinary medical care should need be.

We strive to find the right horse for you right from the start of your trail riding venture at Kuzikus, which will remain your companion throughout your vacation.

### **WHAT SHOULD I PACK FOR MY TRIP?**

We do have riding helmets, but as you know, for comfort and safety, it is always best to bring your very own riding helmet, not too thick riding pants, riding boots or chaps with sturdy shoes. For the cool morning and evening hours in the winter months (May to September), we recommend warm clothing and gloves, sunglasses, sunscreen, and lip balm.

### **SAFETY IN THE SADDLE**

For insurance reasons, every rider at Kuzikus wears a riding helmet. We can provide you with riding helmets in various sizes, but we recommend that you bring your own helmet.

### **HOW MANY RIDERS PARTICIPATE IN A SAFARI RIDE?**

Riding at Kuzikus is exclusive. In most cases you will explore the Kalahari alone with your guide. In this way, the experience can be tailored to your wishes. In exceptional cases, we combine different riding bookings. However, the group rarely consists of more than 4 riders.

Our priority is that the landscape and its wildlife including the Black Rhino can be experienced in a pleasant, personal atmosphere, allowing the guides to design the rides according to the best possible tempo, length, and level of difficulty, tailored just for you and your horse.

### CAN CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN THE RIDES?

In principle, children **cannot** participate in the riding packages. However, if they possess the necessary riding skills, are very confident in the saddle, and are physically able to control a horse independently, we are happy to make an exception.

### TYPES OF RIDING PACKAGES

(Price additional to full board accommodation)

#### 4-DAY PACKAGE

- 1 x Introduction ride (approx. 1 ½ hours)
- 2 x Afternoon Safari-riding-excursion including Sunset (approx. 3 hours)
- 1 x Morning Black Rhino-Monitoring Ride (approx. 2 ½ hours)
- Additional non-riding activities can be spontaneously booked at the lodge according to price list.



#### 4-day Riding Package

*Ride 4 Black Rhino*

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6
morning	arrival	Morning ride - get to know your horse	Add-on optional non-riding activity: e.g. Black Rhino tracking / all about Namibias Black Rhino Conseravtion project (115.- EUR)	Rhino Monitoring Morning ride		
afternoon	Add-on optional Gamedrive with Sundowner (35.- EUR)	Relaxed Sunset-ride to Slat pan	Sunset-ride through open Tree Savanna into balck Rhino terrerory	depature		

### INDIVIDUAL RIDING PACKAGE

If you have your own riding requests please let us know. We happily work out a suitable riding package tailored just for you.

## 7-DAY RIDING PACKAGE

- 1 x Introduction ride (approx. 1.5 hours)
- 4 x Afternoon Safari-rides until Sunset (3 hours)
- 1 x Morning Black Rhino-Monitoring Ride
- 1 x Little trail riding safari with glamping
- Additional non-riding activities can be spontaneously booked at the lodge according to price list.



### 7-day Riding Package

*Ride4BlackRhino*

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
morning		Morning ride - get to know your horse	Add-on optional non-riding activity: e.g. Black Rhino tracking / all about Namibias Black Rhino Conseravtion project (115.- EUR)	Add-on optional non-riding activity: e.g. Botany or Bushman excursion (65.- EUR)	Morning RHINO Monitoring Ride	relaxed hike back to brunch at Lodge	departure
afternoon	arrival	Relaxed Sunset ride to Slat pan	Sunset-ride through open Tree Savanna into balck Rhino terrerory	Sunset ride though Bush Savanna with Sundowner	Little Trail Riding Safari & Glamping	Sundowner farewell Ride to the first Kalahari dune	

## RIDING POLICY

Please familiarise yourself with the details of our riding offer as all our rides are subject to these. Please note we reserve the right to prevent anyone from riding if we feel they do not fulfil the minimum competence level as indicated or if weight and fitness level do not fall within what is recommended for these safari ride4Black Rhino packages on Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve.

Please read the below carefully before completing your reservation. This information is set out to draw your attention to the fact that our obligations to you have certain limits. By sending a deposit towards your trip purchase, you certify that you do not have any physical condition or disability that would create a hazard for you, other travellers or our horses.

Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve has the right to disqualify anyone at any time during the Ride4Black Rhino riding adventure if the lead riding guide feels the Riding Safari member is physically or mentally incapable and/or if a trip member's continued participation will jeopardize the individual involved or potential other members of the riding group.

## RESPONSIBILITY OF RIDING PARTICIPANTS

As we can spend up to 5 hours in the saddle a day, riding through wildlife & Black Rhino territory you will need to be confident and riding fit enough to keep up with your guide; capable of riding at all paces; rising at the trot and controlling your horse at the canter and during wildlife encounters, in particular Black Rhino. You may be required to gallop at times. Regrettably we

are not able to accommodate novice or beginner riders unless a specific beginner package is negotiated in advance.

Weight limit per horse is **under 85 kg dressed in riding gear** – unfortunately we cannot cater for anyone heavier than 85 kg. For our horses' sake please be accurate about your riding ability, your weight and your fitness level. We reserve the right to rest horses during a riding safari if you are not able to sustain an independent seat, or if your weight and riding ability do not fall within the minimum required.

If you do not ride regularly (2 - 3 times a week), we strongly recommend that you get into practise before booking a Ride4BlackRhino package with Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve. It will be at the discretion of the Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve whether unfit or inexperienced riders will be permitted to ride, taking into consideration their safety and enjoyment, and particularly the well-being of our horses.

By paying the deposit it is assumed you understand the risks of being around horses, in riding generally and in visiting and being in remote wilderness areas where big game occurs. Having medical insurance is a prerequisite for riding with us. Please ensure you are familiar with the stipulations of your policy as many insurance companies will only insure you if wearing a safety helmet while riding. We cannot accept any liability for head injuries sustained as a result of ignoring this advice. Please insure your policy covers you for horse riding and includes emergency evacuation and medical repatriation.

As a Ride participant you have a certain responsibility to Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve and to potential other member that might join or overlap with your riding package. Participants are responsible for understanding the requirements of the riding Package, and for selecting a riding package appropriate to their ability. Participants with medical problems or special dietary needs are responsible for informing Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve of these issues well in advance.