

The living landscapes of Wild Africa™

Wild Africa™ at Monarto Safari Park is a large-scale open range precinct, owned and operated by Zoos SA. Covering more than 550 hectares, Wild Africa™ provides vast open terrain designed to support complex social groupings, natural behaviours, and long-term species management.

This living landscape is home to a range of threatened species, including giraffe, rhino, cheetah, zebra, ostrich, antelope, and hippopotamus, and forms a central part of Monarto Safari Park's role as a regional hub for conservation, breeding, and visitor engagement.

Wild Africa™ has been designed to balance three core outcomes:

- **Animal welfare and agency** through expansive, purpose-built habitats
- **Conservation impact** through participation in regional and global breeding programs, and the impact of regenerative tourism directly supporting in situ efforts by Zoos SA and conservation partners
- **Visitor connection** through immersive experiences that foster understanding and support for conservation.

Welfare-led design

Wild Africa™ prioritises environments that enable animals to make choices about how they move, interact, and use space.

Habitats are designed to:

- Support natural herd structures and behaviours
- Provide multiple resources and varied terrain

- Enable animals to move freely across large areas
- Minimise unnecessary disturbance from visitors.

This approach reflects Zoos SA's commitment to welfare as a foundation for both conservation outcomes and meaningful visitor experiences.

Monarto Safari Resort: extending the experience

Monarto Safari Resort, independently owned by a private investor and operated by Journey Beyond, is situated at the heart of Wild Africa™. It extends the Wild Africa™ experience into a multi-day, immersive stay.

Set within the landscape of Wild Africa™, Monarto Safari Resort offers direct views across open-range habitats, curated experiences that connect guests with wildlife and conservation work, and opportunities to engage more deeply with Zoos SA's mission.

Importantly, every stay at Monarto Safari Resort directly contributes to Zoos SA's conservation programs for native species and wider global conservation partnerships.

Conservation impact: local to global

As a not-for-profit conservation charity, revenue generated through every ticket, experience, and visit – including a portion of stays at Monarto Safari Resort – supports Zoos SA's broader conservation efforts to save species from extinction.

This includes critical programs focused on at-risk Australian native species, such as:

Mallee-emu Wren

Supporting captive breeding and release to wild, and population monitoring in South Australia for this tiny bird once considered locally extinct.

Plains Wanderer

Contributing to breeding, research, and reintroduction efforts for one of Australia's most threatened grassland birds.

Red-tailed Phascogale

Partnering on recovery programs for this small, carnivorous marsupial through breeding and wild release in protected habitats.

These programs are delivered in partnership with government, research institutions, conservation partners, and zoological institutions to ensure expert evidence-based, long-term impact.

Visitor experience

Visitors can explore Wild Africa™ through the exclusive guided safari experiences operated by Zoos SA.

The unique dawn and sunset safari experiences are carefully designed to allow visitor access to expansive landscapes while maintaining appropriate distance and respect for the animals who roam the space.

Experiences are curated to be:

- **Low impact and considered**, rather than high-volume or intrusive
- **Guided small groups**, supporting deeper understanding and learning
- **Aligned with conservation storytelling**, connecting visitors to local and global species protection efforts.

Connecting people with nature

Wild Africa™ plays a critical role in connecting visitors with wildlife in a way that builds understanding, support, and action for conservation.

By experiencing animals in expansive, natural environments – and understanding the direct link between visitation and conservation outcomes – **each guest becomes an active contributor to protecting species both globally and within Australia.**

A shared responsibility

Regenerative tourism, when delivered ethically, creates a positive cycle:

1. Visitors experience meaningful connection with wildlife
2. Revenue supports conservation and welfare
3. Education builds informed advocates
4. Advocacy strengthens long-term conservation outcomes.

Every visitor becomes part of this cycle.

Regenerative tourism at Zoos SA is designed around education, welfare, research, and restoration working together.

Project significance

Nearly two decades in the making, Wild Africa™ provides a blueprint for the future of zoos and represents significant investment in long term species conservation, best practice animal welfare, and ethical, sustainable tourism in South Australia.

It strengthens Monarto Safari Park's position as a leading open range zoological and conservation charity, delivering measurable impact for both wildlife and the community.