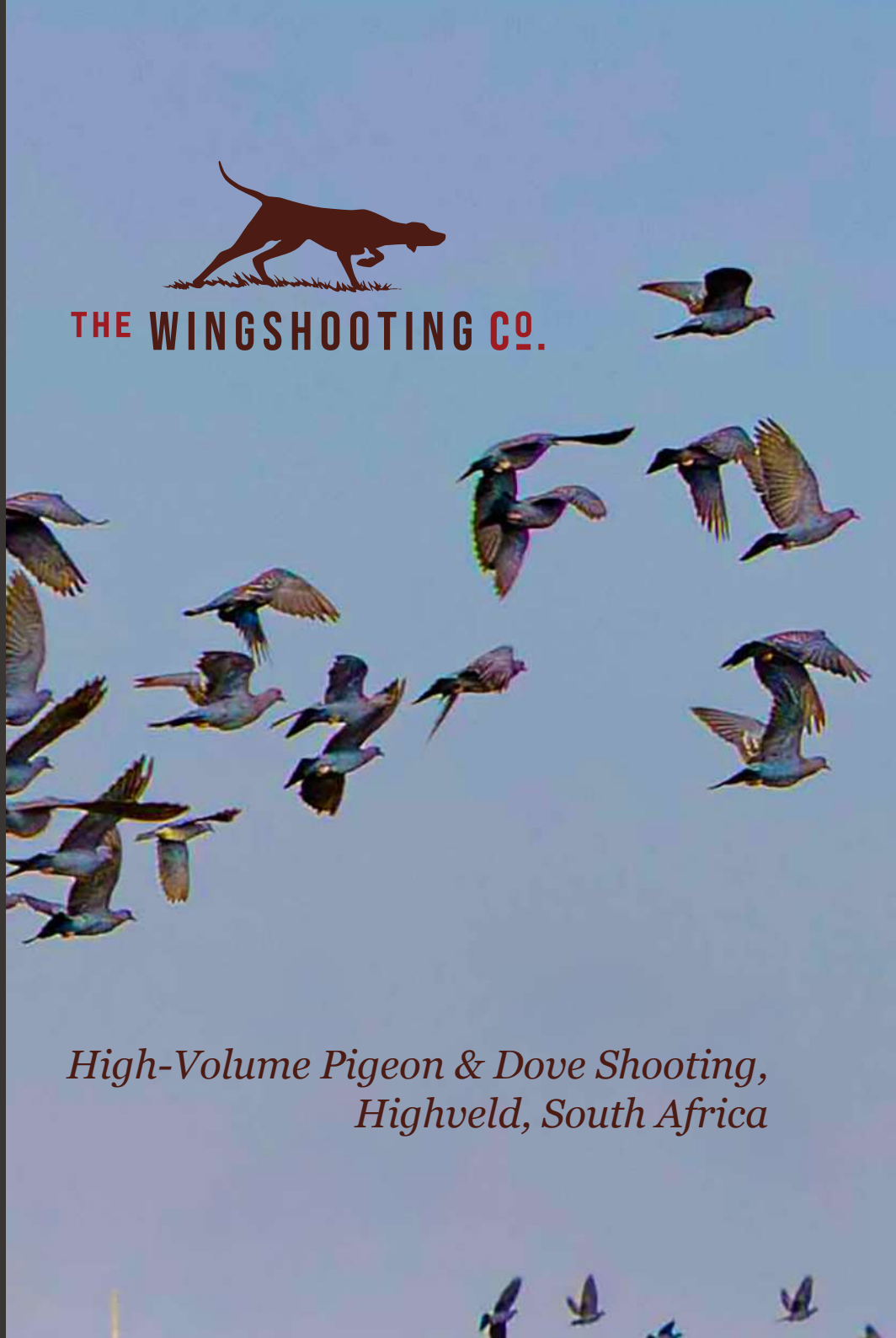
THE WINGSHOOTING CO.



*High-Volume Pigeon & Dove Shooting,*
*Highveld, South Africa*





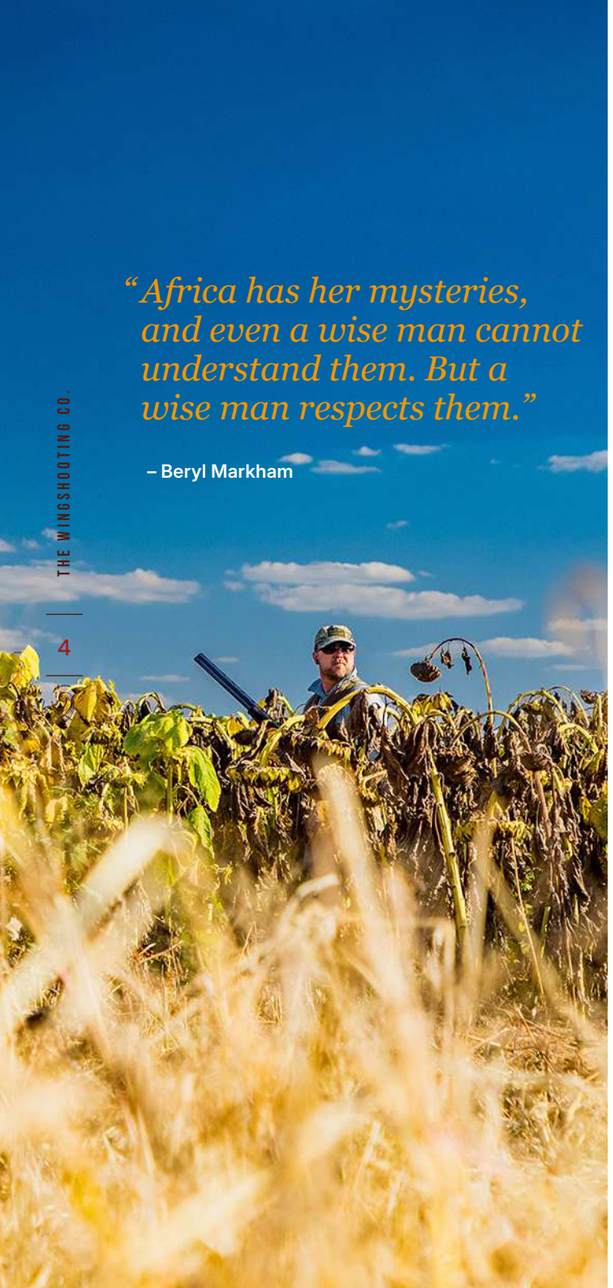
*Fast, Wild, Addictive.*
*Africa's Premier High-Volume Hunt*

**Price:** USD $6 000 per person (ex Johannesburg)

**Duration:** 7 nights / 6 full days of shooting

**Group Size:** 6 – 10 shooters, 2 professional hunters

**Season:** February 1 – May 31
(aligned with sunflower harvests in the Free State and Gauteng provinces)



*"Africa has her mysteries, and even a wise man cannot understand them. But a wise man respects them."*

– Beryl Markham



## A Wingshooting Fever Dream

Stand beneath the vast African sky, where the horizon burns gold with sunflowers and the air hums with the rush of wings. Rock pigeons and doves streak across the fields in relentless waves, twisting and diving at impossible speeds. Your shotgun rises, instinct takes hold, and you're swept into the most exhilarating wingshooting on earth. Dust swirls, shells fall, and every heartbeat syncs with the wild rhythm of the hunt.

This is high-volume shooting at its purest—fast, unforgiving, and utterly addictive. Set in South Africa's bread basket, where private farmlands teem with birds, this adventure delivers a challenge that tests even the sharpest guns. Yet, it's more than a hunt. It's a plunge into Africa's soul: endless skies, untamed fields, and evenings steeped in the warmth of safari hospitality. For those who crave intensity wrapped in timeless beauty, this is your Africa.

**The Hunt: Intimate. Instinctive. Unforgettable.**

High-volume pigeon shooting isn't just sport, it's a duel with nature's fastest fliers, set against a landscape that feels alive with history.

## The Highveld: A Sea of Sunflowers

Straddling South Africa's Free State and Gauteng provinces, this section of the Highveld is a tapestry of golden sunflower and maize fields, open veld, and big skies. Known as the "bread basket" of South Africa, its fertile plains burst with crops that draw rock pigeons and doves in staggering numbers.

Scattered amongst this large agricultural sector are small towns with large industrial structures, creating ideal nesting sites where birds flock to roost after gorging themselves in the surrounding fields.

This is a land of contrast: sun-scorched days fade into fiery sunsets, and the quiet of dawn erupts with the roar of wings. For generations, these fields have been tended by South African farmers, their harvests fueling one of the world's premier wingshooting destinations. To hunt here is to connect with an Africa of abundance and freedom, where every flight line carries the echo of a wilder past.



# The Birds & The Hunt

The Highveld offers a heart-pounding, high-volume hunt, with pigeons and doves delivering relentless action. Our target species include:

### Rock Pigeon (Columba guinea)

Hailed as “the most challenging game bird on earth,” rock pigeons fly at speeds up to 80 mph, stooping and twisting in unpredictable arcs. Their aerial acrobatics demand lightning reflexes and pinpoint accuracy, making every clean shot a triumph. Flocking in waves over sunflower fields, they offer the ultimate test for wingshooters.

### Ring-necked Dove (Streptopelia capicola)

Fast and abundant, these doves warm up the action with steady, high-volume flights. Their agile, darting paths hone your reflexes, setting the stage for the rock pigeons’ blistering passes. A staple of the Highveld’s skies, they keep the barrels hot and the adrenaline flowing.

### Laughing Dove (Spilopelia senegalensis)

Known for its soft, chuckling call that echoes through the African savanna, the laughing dove is a swift and elusive target, darting through the air with agile, unpredictable flight patterns. Reaching speeds of up to 50 mph, these small, cinnamon-hued birds weave through thorny acacias and open grasslands, challenging even seasoned wingshooters with their quick turns and sudden drops. Often found in loose flocks, their subtle beauty and spirited evasion make every successful shot a moment of quiet pride.

### Bag Limits (per day, per hunter):

- Rock Pigeon: No limit
  (expect up to 3 cases of shells per day)
- Ring-necked Dove: No limit
  (combined with pigeons)
- Laughing Dove: No limit
  (combined with pigeons)

The hunt pulses with intensity, from steady singles and pairs to massive flocks that overwhelm the senses. Blinds and decoys draw birds into range, while our guides track daily flight lines to position you in the heart of the action. Each shot is a victory; each miss fuels the fire for the next pass.



# The Experience

**Prime Shooting Periods:** Morning (07:00–11:00) and late afternoon (15:00–17:00), when birds move between roosts and feeding grounds.

**Daily Rhythm:** Start with coffee and rusks, followed by a morning shoot. Break for a shaded gazebo lunch of fresh salads, cold meats, and soups, or return to the lodge for a full brunch. Rest before the afternoon session, then return for cocktails and dinner.

**Volume:** Expect to fire up to three cases of shells per day, a true high-volume experience.

**Setup:** Blinds, hides, and decoys are strategically placed in scouted fields. Our guides monitor bird movements to ensure optimal shooting locations.

**Evening:** Unwind with a hot shower, cocktails, and canapés, followed by a three-course dinner under the stars or by the fireplace.

## The Lodge: Comfort & Riverside Charm

Nestled on the Vaal River's banks, our private riverfront lodge is a sanctuary of luxury and natural beauty, just 20–60 minutes from the shooting fields. Surrounded by rolling farmlands and vibrant birdlife, it offers an immersive safari experience steeped in African charm.

- **Accommodation:** 6 luxury ensuite rooms with queen beds and private kitchenettes.
- **Amenities:** Outdoor lapa, indoor fireplace, boma for campfire evenings, swimming pool with river views, Wi-Fi, and strong cell reception.
- **Cuisine:** South African flavors shine, coffee and rusks at dawn, field lunches of salads and cold meats, and three-course dinners featuring braais, stews, and seasonal vegetables, paired with house wines. Premium spirits and dietary needs accommodated with advance notice.

## When to Come

The season runs **February 1–May 31**, timed to the sunflower harvest when bird numbers peak. Late March to April is the most reliable period for advance bookings, offering stable weather (25–30°C / 77–86°F) and maximum bird activity. Early season (February–March) may bring occasional afternoon thunderstorms.

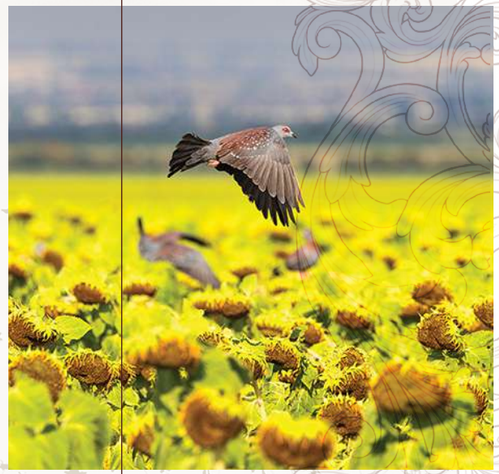
## Location & Travel

**The Region:** The Highveld is situated in South Africa's agricultural heartland, where sunflower and maize fields stretch to the horizon, and private farmlands offer unmatched seclusion. Just 1.5 hours from Johannesburg, this region combines accessibility with the untamed beauty of the African countryside.

**Getting There:** Fly into Johannesburg's O.R. Tambo International Airport, overnight at a recommended hotel, then transfer 1.5 hours by private vehicle to the lodge on tarred highways.

**Safety:** Transfers are private and secure, and the lodge is exclusive, fully staffed, and equipped with Wi-Fi and cell coverage. Our team handles all logistics with precision.







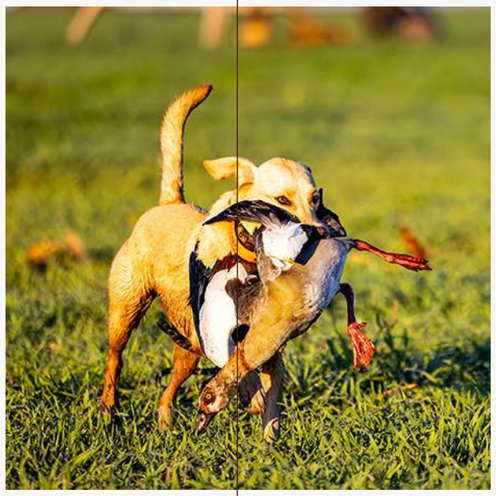
## Quick Details

**Inclusions:**

- ✓ 7 nights full-board accommodation (water, soft drinks, wine, beer)
- ✓ 6 full days of guided pigeon and dove shooting
- ✓ Return transfers from Johannesburg (O.R. Tambo)
- ✓ Twice-weekly laundry
- ✓ Hunting licenses

**Exclusions:**

- ✗ International flights and Johannesburg hotel
- ✗ Gun rental ($100/day) and shells ($200/case)
- ✗ Premium alcohol
- ✗ Gratuities (10–15% guideline)
- ✗ Mandatory travel and medical insurance
- ✗ Firearm import fees





## Extend Your Stay

### Waterfowl

Extend your African adventure and experience some incredible waterfowl hunting. From the misty wetlands of Mpumalanga, the rolling grain fields of the Free State, the lush valleys of KwaZulu-Natal and the rugged beauty of the Northern Cape, South Africa offers world-class waterfowl shooting across an extraordinary diversity of landscapes. Impressive flights of Egyptian Geese, Spurwing Geese and numerous duck species provide superb shooting opportunities, all set against dramatic scenery that ranges from mountain backdrops and winding rivers, to expansive agricultural lands and wild African wetlands.

### Safari & Cape Winelands

Our trusted in-house travel agent, with over 30 years of expertise, crafts bespoke itineraries to South Africa's iconic destinations. From the Greater Kruger National Park's premier Big Five lodges to Cape Town's vibrant winelands, we weave seamless extensions to your wingshooting adventure.

## Pre-Trip Essentials

- **Guns & Ammo:** 12-gauge over/unders (24–28g, #6–#7.5 shot recommended). Contact us for firearm import details.
- **Clothing:** Lightweight, neutral outdoor wear; sun protection; light jacket for cool mornings.
- **Weather:** 25–32°C (77–90°F) early season; 20–25°C (68–77°F) late season; occasional thunderstorms in February/March.
- **Health & Visas:** No visas required for most EU, US, UK, or Australian visitors. No vaccinations unless arriving from a Yellow Fever country.
- **Pre-Trip Packlist:** Provided upon booking.

## Sample Itinerary

- **Day 1:** Arrive in Johannesburg, overnight at an airport hotel.
- **Day 2:** 10:00 AM transfer to the lodge (1.5-hour drive). Settle in, enjoy an afternoon welcome and briefing.
- **Days 3–8:** Six full days of guided wingshooting.
- **Day 9:** Mid-morning transfer to Johannesburg for your evening flight home.

## Why Book?

High-volume pigeon shooting on the Highveld is a rare thrill, one of the world's most electrifying wingshooting experiences. Prime dates fill fast, often a year in advance. This is more than a hunt; it's a saga of speed, skill, and African splendor. From the roar of wings at dawn to fireside tales under a starlit sky, every moment will burn bright in memory.

Contact The Shooting Co. today to secure your place under Africa's endless skies.

### Contact details

Gerhard Laubscher, Tim Babich or Ryan Hammond

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**www.thewingshootingco.com**



THE WINGSHOOTING Co.

# The Wingshooting Co.

*Crafted for Wingshooters.*
*Grounded in Experience.*
*Rooted in Africa.*

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