

This lion we saw in the Lion Park in Johannesburg along with lion cubs and plenty more, amazing place to visit! We did also see a number of lions in the wild.



White rhinos. We got up close to these two rhinos early on our morning game drive. We saw a lot from a distance but it was really nice to see these two so close



## Jan and Rod Frost's African Safari

We were really in South Africa to attend a wedding, but with three weeks ahead of us, we went on safari! One of the major highlights of our trip was heading east to Moholoholo to spend a night on a private game reserve. We went on two game drives and were treated to a traditional braai. It is an interesting feeling eating your meal out in the open with wild lions roaring close by! We woke in the morning to water buck fighting right outside our window and monkeys playing in the trees close. It was so special.

From here we headed south again to Marloth Park which bounds the south end of the Kruger National Park, for four days and three game drives, including a night drive. The Kruger Park is amazing with an abundance of animals and birds. It takes you a while to realise that you are in the wild. We past one zebra that had a very close encounter with something. We heard many stories from our guides of kills they had witnessed. It all sinks in when you stop for a short break, the guide hops out first with a high powered rifle!

From there we travelled north again through the National Park until we got to the Mozambique boarder. With very little fuss we where soon travelling down sand roads heading for the coast. Mozambique is a must see, we found ourselves often lost and the roads are quite something!! The average farm track in New Zealand is better than a lot of their roads. Often it is two tracks of sand with grass half a meter high in the middle.

Diving at Barra in search of manta rays and sharks was fantastic, although it wasn't our luck to spot them this time. The resort made up for this, with white sand as far as you could see, fantastic hot weather and plenty of R&R. We then headed to Ponta D'Ora, the southern most part of Mozambique. In Ponta we went diving again, had another fantastic dive on which we saw massive spotted potato bass and a turtle feeding undisturbed by our presence, Jan was able to swim up and touch it without it worrying at all, just continuing to feed.

Back in South Africa we headed for Sodwana where we again went for the beaches for our last chance to dive in 29°c - with Ragged Tooth Sharks that come to within one metre of us. We ended up with them all around us, a totally breath taking experience and a little scary! From there we moved to a reef about two miles off shore where the coral is the best we have ever seen and the fish life totally amazing and abundant. Then onto Petoria, travelling for about three hours through an electrical storm like you would never see in New Zealand but apparently not uncommon in SA. Bolts of fork lighting all around us and the water 300-400mm deep - in places pushing the 4x4 all over the road.

We would go back to SA without hesitation as we totally loved our time in such a magnificent country and the amazing wild life.