

# MAKUTSI SAFARI SPRINGS



## Cheetah in camp.... July visits

In the month of July we had 6 visits from this female Cheetah, Katswerri. She is very relaxed and has been exploring the camp grounds and entertaining all our guests. She really reminds us how much Makutsi guests are a part of the nature around them.



## August 2013

### Latest updates

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## Rhino Relocation

Some of our guests were fortunate enough to be part of our recent Rhino Relocation. This project started at 6am with 6 vehicles out trying to track the Rhino's, then the vet arrived with the helicopter to dart the Rhino. The huge truck must then get close to the Rhino for easy loading. The team gently nudge the Rhino into the container where it will be semi-sedated for the duration of the journey to its new reserve. The whole project took approx 6 hours in total. We were successful in capturing 2 Rhinos and sent them on their way to their new home.



## Horseback Anti-Poaching

Our Anti-poaching team is now also patrolling the bush on horseback. We have invested in 2 horses which will be used by our team for their anti-poaching efforts. The advantage of being on horseback is that it enables us to cover more ground in a shorter period of time, without the noise of a vehicle. As it is so silent on horseback we have the added advantage of hearing noises such as a gun shot. Finally, and most importantly, it is a visual deterrent as they regularly walk along the fence line. We now do patrols on foot, by vehicle, on horseback & from the air (heli patrols)



## Roman Bath

One of the unique pleasures at Makutsi is our warm mineral spring water. Last year we planned to renovate our old Roman Bath, but how to do it without disturbing the guests? So we decided to build a new one at an even better location, on the banks of the Makutsi River behind the restaurant.

Our mineral spring water comes out of the ground at about 33 degrees Celsius and offers you soft & healthy mineral water to enjoy in the swimming pools as well as in your rooms (shower and taps). We are excited to share with you these photos of the construction of our new Roman Bath (Indoor pool). This project has taken approx 2 months from start to finish.

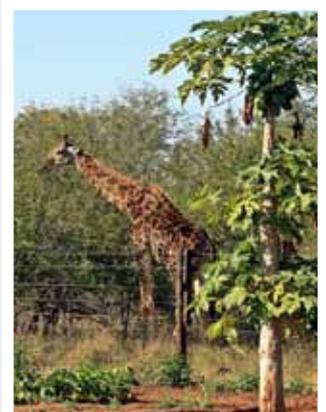
Now you can soak in the warm mineral water & if you are lucky watch the Elephants as they move by in the river!



## Veggie garden upgrade

The Veggie garden has taken another step forward. We have employed a full time staff member who has many years of experience in horticulture. Her main role is to monitor and control the variety of produce that comes out of the garden. She also has the knowledge of “companion planting” and utilising different varieties of plants that encourage better growth & more plump products. Which means more yummy veggies for us at meal times!

For years now our guests have enjoyed taking the “veggie garden safari” with one of our guides. It is a great way for children and adults to learn how to garden organically and even to take a few tips home with them.





**Guides target practice**

On a regular basis our guides will head into the bush for target practice. This is a great team building activity but most importantly gives them more confidence & training at shooting a rifle.

**Whats this from ?**



**Tubulidentata  
Aardvark teeth!**

The Aardvarks Latin family name "Tubulidentata" means "tube toothed". Aardvarks teeth are lined with fine upright tubes and have no enamel.

With no enamel coating they are worn away and regrow continuously. Each tooth consists of thousands of vertical tubes of dentine (which is what we found above).

Thank you **Family Kunz** for giving this photo to us so we can share it in our Newsletter. This is such a rare find, even some of our guides had never seen these teeth before. What a highlight for the guests & staff!!

**Safari Sightings**



We have had some stunning sightings in the last few months, but were not able to capture them all on film. We still want to share them with you though.

One morning drive Derrick had a Leopard chasing the 2 male Cheetahs! Another day in the Kruger N.P he had Wild Dog & Hyaena confrontation.

Stefan also had a great Kruger where a clan of Hyaenas hunted a warthog right next to the car. On a recent walk he encountered 2 Bush pigs, which are very rare to see.

Recently Mr Weber spotted a Pangolin on his morning run. He heard a hissing sounds and thought it was a snake, but soon realised it was the Pangolins warning sound.

**Tented Camp aloe garden**

The main garden as you enter Tented Camp has been transformed! From a dry grass bed to a succulent, aloe garden creation.

We have been busy planting Impala Lilly's, Mother in law's tongue, Strelitzias and a variety of Aloes. This indigenous garden will survive the toughest conditions that the bush has to offer. This low maintenance, draught resistant garden will only get more beautiful with time.

We welcome you to join our **Tented Camp Sleep Out** and see for yourself.



**The Makutsi Team**