



Buffalo Trails Safaris



NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2015



The 2015 hunting season kicked off in late march for Jannie, just after returning home from the European Hunting Conventions. After a couple of days checking all equipment, vehicles and general maintenance Jannie, Petrus and Wonder set off to Victoria Falls to begin their 15th hunting season together.

After collection in Victoria Falls, it was off to Deka to guide old friends and regular American clients, Jim and Camilla. 2015 is the year of Jim & Camilla's Gold Wedding Anniversary and this hunt was a surprise present from Camilla to Jim. What an awesome gift and what a privilege for Buffalo Trails to be part of such a momentous occasion. The main aim was a great buffalo for Jim and on day two they got on to the spoor of what appeared to be a good dagga boy. Jim connected with a monster buffalo and after a good initial shot with a Hornady solid chambered in .375, they had a bit of a "hairy" follow up in thick cover. Ultimately Jim administered the coup de grace on the downed buffalo and they had a great trophy (pictured top left) after a great stalk.

Jim went on to shoot a hyena in daylight hours (pictured below left), a big male baboon, and an exceptional warthog (pictured below centre) and an impala (whole bag pictured below right). It was a great hunt with some phenomenal sightings of up close and personal lions, day time hyena and an astonishing number of elephant including over 80 elephant bulls.

As always a huge thank-you to Camilla and Jim for their loyal support and we are already looking forward to your hunts in 2016!!!!

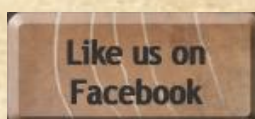


Following swiftly on saw the return of Peter and his wife Oleksandra, to hunt for the second time with Jannie. This time Peter was after an elephant bull and he was also looking to shoot a hippo on land with his self-built .500 Jeffery (pictured below right). For Jannie it is always such a pleasure to hunt with fellow amputees and the subtle nuances it brings to the hunt. Although they came in to contact with elephant on a daily basis a suitable trophy eluded them until later on in the hunt. After shadowing 5 bulls for some time in the thick jess, Peter managed to get a side brain shot at about 20 metres, (pictured top right and below left) which he executed perfectly!!! Weidmansheil Peter!!!! The following day they located a huge hippo bull grazing on the banks of the Zambezi. The team stalked the hippo to within 40 metres and Peter once again pulled off a one shot kill (pictured below centre). Congratulations Peter on some fantastic marksmanship!!! Hunt finished they returned to Harare for some R&R before we waved them goodbye until next time!!!!



It has been a great start to the 2015 hunting season, however we cannot ignore the most recent developments or more poignantly lack thereof from US Fish & Wildlife with regards to the elephant import ban. Despite the best efforts of various organisations to prove that this ban is detrimental to the elephant population in Zimbabwe, the ban shall remain in place for the foreseeable future—but we will keep fighting to have this lifted!!!! As a result I do have some hunts and available dates for this year and we have opened bookings for next year - so if there are any hunts you are considering please do contact us for additional information and full quotations.

Until the next edition —stay safe and happy hunting!!!!



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