



Mudlark Riverfront Lodge

Newsletter

Breede River - Infanta

Edition 13



Xmas and New Year are now a distant memory. But on reflection, some of the time was great and some not so great, the not so great was the continuous wind that seemed to blow and blow the whole time, the worst in living memory, that we have ever had at this time of year.

At the time of writing the weather has improved remarkably, we are having magnificent windless days, and balmy evenings. The fishing has been fantastic, and we shall not bore you with all the happenings and fishermen's tales. Enjoy the photos they tell the story.



Checking the records I see that 90% of the fish caught this summer have been released, our best performance yet by our guests.

Of interest the Zambezi Sharks have returned. They seem to be much smaller than last year, about 1.7 meters long. It seems that there are 2 of them in the river and they are really not stealing that many fish from our anglers. On occasions they have given the odd angler a scare when they have popped up next to our boats. Our young gillies Davy and Freddie pay little attention to them, besides nonchalantly pointing them out to guests.

RIVER RATS - Starting young, Warricks is a keen advocate for catch & release. Great to see!

Birding has been excellent, with guest ticking black harriers and black eagles.



Much to the joy of our guests, rain has been very scarce, but the area really needs the odd shower as the veld does look particularly dry.

Strange things happen at the Mudlark our mad dog Bodger has been asked to write an article for Swellendam Tourism, on the happenings at the river and the Mudlark seen through his eyes!! Can you believe it, living in the country is certainly different.

The Indo Pacific dolphin has been spotted regularly, we are led to believe that they come up the river to the fresh water to clean their parasites!

We did a week's charter with Apex Predators, great fun and great company. The sea water was very chilly and not much was seen. The fish and sharks we dived with almost looked frozen, hardly moving in order to conserve energy, most of the fish had moved away to the warmer water. The trip down the De Hoop coast was really fantastic, I had almost forgotten how beautiful it is. We don't go down there when we are fishing, as it is a Marine Protected Area, it is well worth a cruise, with lots of pelagic birds, stunning cliffs and sandy bays.

We are now into the last quarter of summer, and if conditions stay the same, which seems likely, it should be a fantastic couple of months.

Tim & Hilary



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