

*Magic*

BREAKAWAYS  
LEISURE DEVELOPMENTS

# Chit Chat

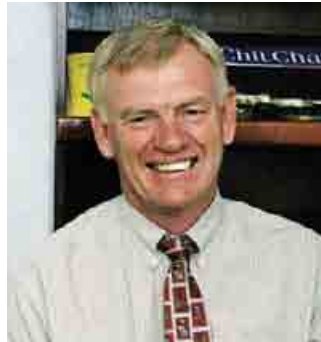
The Newsletter for MagicBreakaways Members

Issue No. 31 Summer 2008



# Magic BREAKAWAYS

## LEISURE DEVELOPMENTS



Now that we are approaching the end of 2008, it is the time to reflect on the year that was and the happenings that have occurred during the course of the year. The harsh realities of global warming are now upon us with natural disasters occurring regularly. Closer to home we are also experiencing the affects at our resorts.

This year we had floods in Natal, high seas at Hermanus and unexpected spring snow storms at Castleburn! From a personal point of view, I feel that we are living on a very delicate planet that needs to be nurtured so our children and our children's children inherit a legacy that we can all be proud of.

It seems that Mother Nature is more than just a little irritated with her inhabitants at the moment. One only needs to stop for a minute, look around and take stock. Hot is getting hotter, cold is getting colder and man in his fine style is interfering with natural rivers and ecosystems for monetary gain. A case in point being the small stream that feeds the hippo dam at Kruger Park Lodge. It keeps silting up due to

an unauthorised shopping development up-stream in Hazyview. We have already had to spend a considerable amount to clear the silting problem that this development has caused.

Global warming is a result of greenhouse emissions from the burning of fossil fuels and we need to find alternative sources of energy. In the past 50 years we have used up more than half of the global supplies of coal. Quite scary if one thinks about that. Surprisingly, cattle and livestock through their metyhane emissions contribute to 18% of the global warming statistics. So in theory we should all stop eating meat - a concept that will not sit well with South Africans. Boerewors and braaivleis are our national past-time.



Our resort management teams are all involved in energy saving programmes in various forms. We are installing energy saving globes at all our resorts which should contribute to a 70% saving. Bakubung has constructed a very exciting bio-diesel plant.

In this issue of MagicBreakaways' Chit Chat, we will be giving you news from all our resorts, including Kwa Maritane, where restoration work is underway to rebuild the damaged areas that were affected by the recent fire.

Finally, we wish you a very safe and enjoyable festive season and look forward to a bigger and better 2009 for us all.

## Trout – Friend or Foe?

There has been much debate over the past six years between the Department of Environmental Affairs and The Federation of South African Flyfishers (FOSAF). To break down the debate, in its simplest terms, trout has been declared an alien invasive species by the Department of National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA).

To date, there has been no effective manner tabled with which to eliminate trout safely from the South African ecosystems. It is therefore, recommended by FOSAF, that permits be issued whereby the trout industry is regulated in order to ensure as little detrimental effect to the current ecosystems where trout is bred or introduced. It must be noted that the relative industry created around trout is worth billions of rand to the South African economy and an amicable solution needs to be found.

**Origins:** Brown trout was introduced from Europe and Rainbow trout was introduced from North America in the early nineteenth century. Even though trout has been recognised as a foreign introduction into South African waters, it has adapted well to its new habitats.

For more information visit [www.fosaf.org.za](http://www.fosaf.org.za). We will endeavour to keep you updated regarding this issue.





# HERMANUS - A LITTLE SLICE OF HEAVEN



The Hermanus area has increasingly grown in popularity over the years as a tranquil getaway for both holiday seekers from Cape Town and the rest of South Africa. Hermanus, with its breathtaking views and pristine ocean is a must for visitors to kick back and relax without the hectic run around that is experienced at other holiday hot spot destinations.

The Hermanus Beach Club provides the perfect venue for a relaxing beach getaway. We at MagicBreakaways are extremely proud of our little slice of heaven and endeavour to keep to the high standard our guests have come to expect. In keeping with this we have proposed that all units have their patios covered so as to provide a greater outdoor experience. The covered patios will provide a welcome respite from the elements whether it be summer sun, winter rain or the wind that is always associated with the Cape coast. As soon as a final decision has been made we will communicate it to our owners.



Every year one of the biggest attractions to Hermanus is whale watching. The season begins in June and runs through to November. Many of the industries in Hermanus are built around these majestic creatures. In previous Chit Chat issues we have looked at the whales themselves, but this time we are looking at a very interesting gentleman by the name of Zoleli Baleni.

During the whale season that officially opens on 1 June - Zoleli Baleni - our very own eloquent whale crier, blows his kelp horn to let you know where the whales are. Zoleli must be the most photographed man in Hermanus and he has a wealth of knowledge relating to whales and their behaviour. When he spots a whale - he blows a sequence on his kelp horn to let visitors know where the whales are.

Knowing what the kelp horn codes mean will help in spotting and viewing the whales. We thought we would provide them to you so next time you hear Zoleli blowing on his horn you know exactly what it means:

Enjoy



Place	Call Sign
New Harbour	— ••
Sievers Point	— •• — ••
Prefkstoel	• • •
Old Harbour	— • — •
Kwaaiwater	— — — —
Roman Rock	• • • •
Fick's Pool	— — —
Voëlklip	• — •

# Out of the Ashes rises the Phoenix

*Kwa Maritane*

Kwa Maritane was seriously damaged by a fire on 18th August 2008. The fire destroyed the restaurant, reception area and cabanas 1-15. It came as a huge shock to most people especially when one sees the pictures of the affected areas. The good news is that restoration is underway and going according to schedule.

We are very pleased to say that even though there is large structural damage, there was no loss of life and all the staff should be applauded for their swift and calm manner in which the fire and evacuation was handled.

It was due to the swift action of the staff and the professional action from the Bonjala, Rustenburg and Sun City fire brigades that the blaze was brought under control and no unnecessary losses were experienced.

Looking toward the future we would like to communicate to our timeshare owners what the affect on their weeks will have:

- For the owners who will not be able to occupy their units their levy will be refunded in full (as covered by insurance)
- For those who space banked their time prior to the fire, they are not affected as RCI will still recognise their spacebank
- If owners whose units are damaged and cannot occupy and would like to exchange through RCI a fee of R 2348 will payable to RCI. Remember you will be refunded your levy so this can be used to pay the RCI fee. Owners will be eligible to exchange into Gold Crown, Silver Crown or Lifestyle resorts. All exchanges are subject to availability. Unfortunately if you own peak time there is no guarantee that you will able to get peak time at the resorts that owners would like to swap into.

Contact Grace Kubyane for further information.

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 E mail : gkubyane@legacyhotels.co.za  
 Fax : 014 552 5133

The resort will be open again for timeshare owners whose units are not damaged as from the 31st October. There will be a service bar facility that will be provided daily from 08h00 until 16h00 together with a snack menu at the Kwa Beneng pool area. A shuttle service will also be provided for those guests who would like to have dinner at the Bakubung Boma.



From the 25th of November full buffet breakfasts and dinners will be available and the full bar facility will be available all day as well as in the evenings. Unfortunately during this time no room service will be available and guests are asked for their patience during this time. Some really great news is that a significant amount of services are running as normal:

- Game drives and game department activities
- Issuance of Park permits
- Underground game viewing at the hide
- Guest shuttle service between Kwa Maritane and Sun City
- The kids play area is also fully operational (Tennis courts, trampoline, bush putt, outdoor chess, games area, waterslide and kids climbing wall)

"On a more personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to applaud the staff who have all gone above and beyond to ensure all guests have been kept informed and properly serviced. I would also like to thank the timeshare owners for the calls of support immediately after the fire. We are doing everything in our power to return everything back to normal as quickly as possible. I just would like to ask for your patience and understanding in this testing time," concludes David Johnson General Manager Kwa Maritane.



*Mazeltov!*





Brookes Hill Suites will be building a cocktail bar to meet the needs of the the hotel guests. The bar will be opening in February 2009 and the restaurant will then remain open in the evenings.



## Baboon found on Putt Putt course!

A large male baboon was spotted on the newly upgraded putt putt course. He was of great interest to the vervet monkeys who took exception to the baboon invading their territory. Fortunately for monkeys the baboon is part of the newly upgraded putt putt course at Kruger Park Lodge. The course is home to many new realistic carvings and sculptures of animals that have both players and the resident wildlife taking a second glance.



Besides the baboon, many other animals can be found; leopards, hippos and hyraxes just to name a few. "An interesting story can be told of the first day the baboon was placed on the course. A huge noise could be heard from the direction of the putt putt course with shouts and shrieks from our resident vervet monkeys.

They were very weary of the big guy who had suddenly arrived to challenge their space, but their curiosity got the better of them and they inched closer and closer until one brave lone little monkey decided to be the one to touch our new baboon. He realised that it was a statue and after that they all settled down and let the serious sport of miniature golf continue without interruption," says Gary Collard General Manager of Kruger Park Lodge.

## New Editions

After an environmental audit and resultant recommendation from Petri Viljoen, a wildlife expert, we are proud to announce that the Kruger Park Lodge board has approved the purchase of five Nyala and four Red Duiker.

This proposal has been submitted to the Department of Wildlife for approval. Once we receive a go ahead from the Department, the Nyala and Red Duiker will be introduced. This is going to be a lengthy process but one worth waiting for.



## Cover up!

This issue is of great urgency! All Kruger Park Lodge home owners who have private swimming pools had by the end of September 2008, according to SABS Regulation 0134, to ensure that their swimming pools comply. This means that pool covers are compulsory for all privately owned pools.

There are two options that are allowed under this safety regulation. The pool can be fenced so there is secure access to the pool. The second option is to install a pool cover. The second option is both the most inexpensive and the most effective.

Please note if you are in the rental pool and have a swimming pool, a pool cover is compulsory in order for the unit to remain in the rental pool.



## OBITUARIES



**Calvin Morse**

25 September 1989- 28 March 2008

Calvin Morse passed away at the beginning of the year after a long and very brave struggle against leukaemia. Calvin's dad Wayne is the Greenkeeper and landscape contractor at Kruger Park Lodge and has worked at the resort since 2001.

Calvin was an example to others with his positive and sunny nature and put on a brave face, despite the setbacks and bad days he was facing. Calvin inspired both young and old alike and became a well known member of the Lowveld community.

Calvin's spirit will continue to live on in the farmlands and foothills of Mpumalanga, on the golf course and on the cricket pitches and rugby fields where he was always happiest. Most of all he will be carried in our hearts as a perfect example of how our attitude should stand proud in the face of adversity.

### **Fanie Vermaak**

01 April 1949-10 April 2008



*Fanie Vermaak, second from left, enjoying a game of golf at Kruger Park Lodge*

Fanie Vermaak joined Kruger Park Lodge as the golf club manager and was known for his jovial and kind nature and was well liked by golfers and visitors alike.

He had an excellent sense of humour and was often seen bent over with laughter. Fanie had a lovely management style and made a success of the golf shop with Vusi, Michael, Wilson and his secretary, Marge. His happiest times were on the golf course and he was blessed to have found a soul-mate in his wife Elize.

Fanie passed away after a short illness and is missed by his colleagues and friends at Kruger Park Lodge. He will always be remembered for his kindness to others.

REDISCOVER

# Africa AT ITS MOST MAGNIFICENT

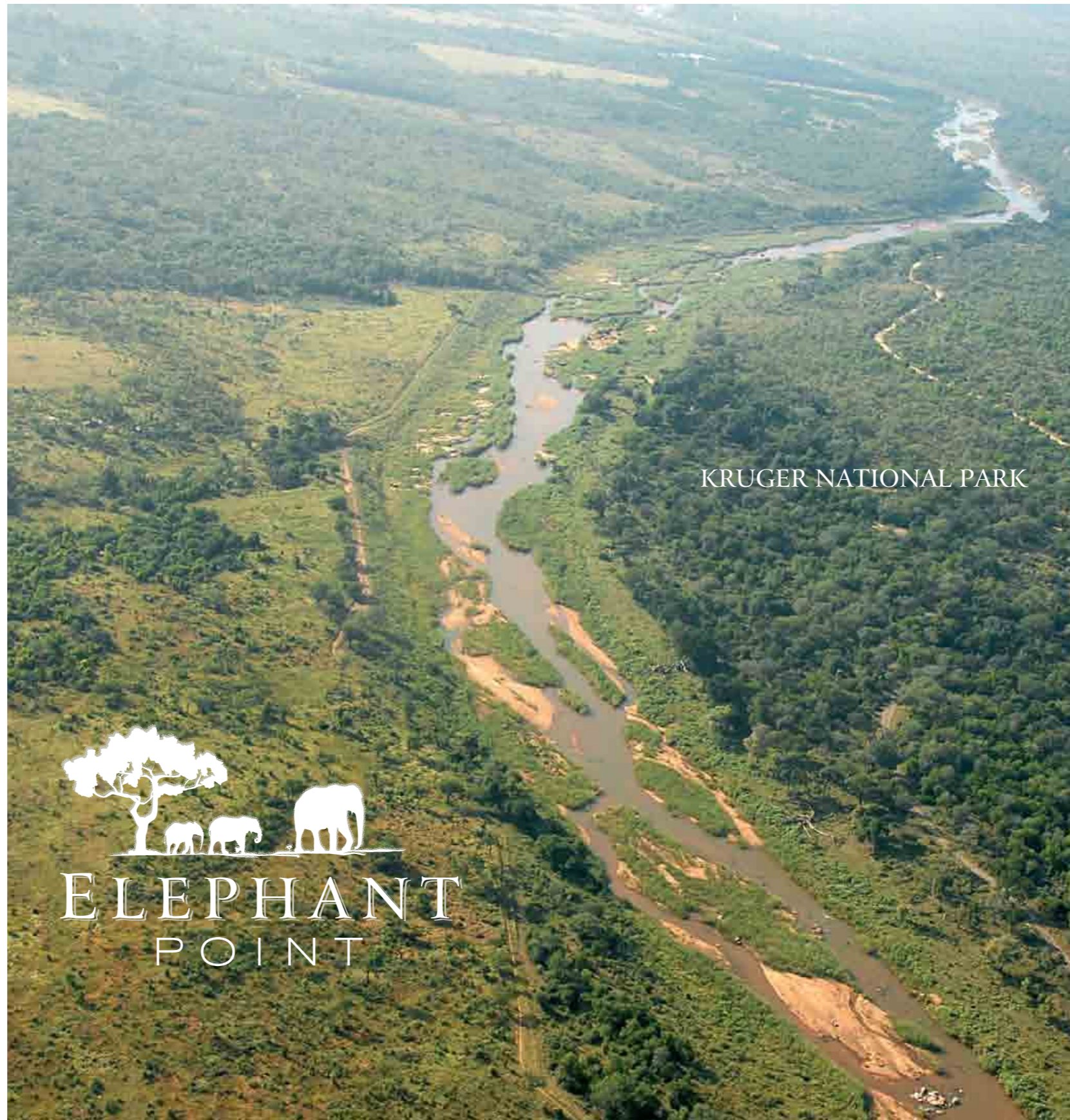
Elephant Point is situated on a spectacular 290 ha private reserve which borders the Kruger National Park. This private estate is one of the most prestigious projects which MagicBreakaways has undertaken to date.

“Elephant Point will be our flagship resort. It combines all the benefits of private residential ownership with the natural benefits of the Kruger National Park,” comments Peter Foaden, managing director of MagicBreakaways.

Elephant Point is an opportunity to truly own a piece of the “African Dream”. Each site has been carefully selected with breathtaking views of both the Sabie River and Kruger National Park.



Spacious thatch lodges will blend perfectly into the environment with the rich African earth tone exteriors and stone cladding features. A selection of designs have been created to ensure owners select the one which best suits their personal taste.



# AN INVESTMENT IN A *Unique* LOCATION

By owning at Elephant Point one has access not only to the renowned Kruger Park but also to the centrally situated sports and recreation centre which has floodlit tennis courts, pool and gymnasium. If the great outdoors is more to your liking, then the walking trails and bird hides are perfect for you. Over and above these fantastic activities, game drives and walking safaris will also be provided.

This development will impact positively on the social upliftment within the area for the Hoxane who have resided in the area for many decades. Elephant Point will provide huge job opportunities for the local community.

“We are extremely excited about this project. The location, views and amenities puts it in a league of its own. We are thrilled that there has already been much interest in this project from our clients as stands have already been sold.” concludes Peter.

**If you are interested in Elephant Point please contact Debbie Bowes on (011) 208 8300 or [dbowes@magicb.co.za](mailto:dbowes@magicb.co.za)**



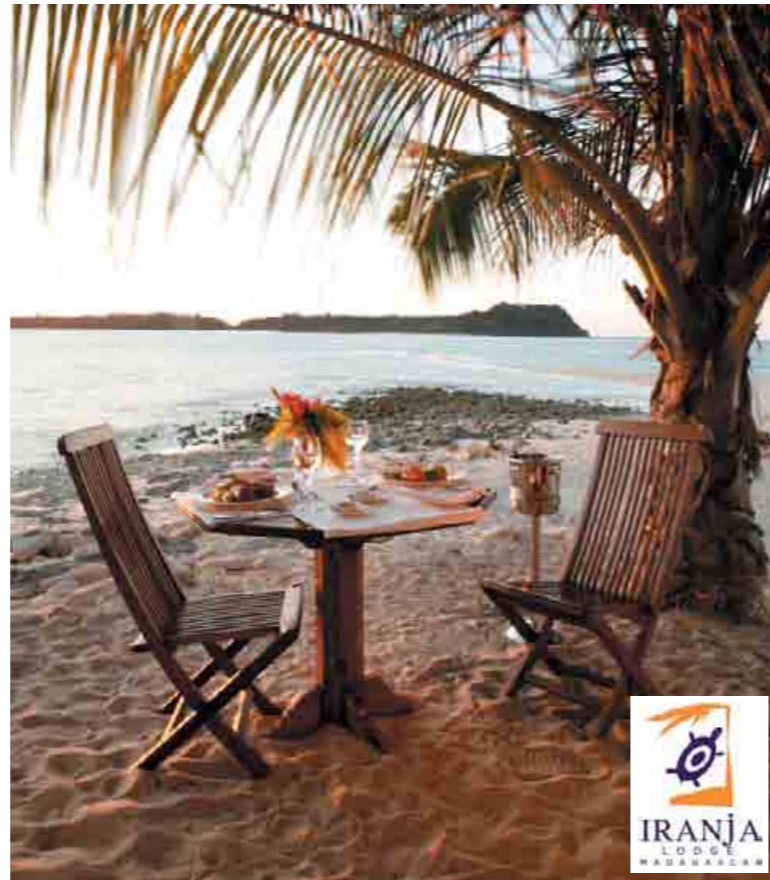
# Legacy News

## Sun Kissed beaches and perfect sunsets

Iranja Lodge, situated on the island of Nosy Iranja off the north west coast of Madagascar offers guests the opportunity to revel in a perfectly tranquil, utterly private setting and forget the woes of the world.

Private chalets, sun kissed beaches, beautiful dive sites and superb cuisine make this island the perfect place for romance. The lodge has put together a wonderful package tailored to ensuring that your honeymoon is one to remember – filled with romance and wonderful memories.

The honeymoon package includes a personal meet and greet at the airport by an Iranja representative and the presentation of garlands as you board the boat to the island. During your stay at the island you will enjoy complimentary sarongs and an afternoon massage, breakfast in bed one day prior to departure, a private sunset cruise around the island with cocktails followed by a seafood dinner served with a bottle of wine on your chalet's private terrace. You will also have the opportunity to take part in a traditional Malagasy good luck ceremony held on the beach



## Sounds of the wild

Kuzuko Lodge, situated 2 hours drive north of Port Elizabeth in a private section of the Addo Elephant National Park, is the perfect place for a tranquil honeymoon in the Eastern Cape bushveld.

The lodge, which boasts 24 private chalets each with its own deck overlooking the reserve and the Zuurberg mountains, offers a special honeymoon package to ensure you feel special from the moment you arrive.

This honeymoon package includes champagne on arrival, a pamper pack in your room, one wellness treatment for him and her, and one private dinner. You will also be treated to a champagne breakfast on departure.

The lodge can also cater for small weddings. Let our staff help you with all your arrangements from picking a unique site at the lodge for the ceremony, creating the wedding cake and designing your menu in conjunction with the chef. Kuzuko can help with the bridal bouquet and groom's boutonniere flower and the table flowers – all indigenous from the reserve. Let our staff make your dreams come true.



## 18 rounds to go

Elements Private Golf Reserve offers guests the opportunity to pit their skills against the best on this 18 hole Peter Matkovich course nestled in the malaria-free Waterberg in the Limpopo Province, an hour from Pretoria.



The reserve offers guests two and four bedroom golf lodges with private swimming pools, a club house which incorporates the restaurant offering breakfast and lunch, halfway house offering light sandwiches and burgers and the bar. The reserve also has a Pro Shop and state of the art conference facilities for up to 80 delegates.



## The Sabie River plays the perfect music for a great day's golfing

Nestled on the banks of the Sabie River, Kruger Park Lodge offers activities for the whole family. The lodge, which boasts a 9 hole, 18 tee Gary Player designed golf course and driving range, is located only 10 minutes drive from Phabeni Gate into the Kruger National Park offering nature lovers and golfers alike the perfect retreat.



Kruger Park Lodge offers guests the choice of two, three and four bedroom self catering chalets, as well as an à la carte restaurant and conference facilities for up to 40 delegates. Other amenities include a hippo hide, three swimming pools and four tennis courts, all in close proximity to the Panorama Route and Mpumalanga's numerous site seeing attractions.



To book a stay at one of Legacy's golfing havens or romantic destinations contact Legacy Central Reservations on +27 (0) 11 806 6888 or tollfree (SA only) 0800HOTELS. Alternatively send your query to [hotels@legacyhotels.co.za](mailto:hotels@legacyhotels.co.za) • [www.legacyhotels.co.za](http://www.legacyhotels.co.za)

# Winter Wonderland



When looking at the first picture of the snow at Castleburn, one can be forgiven for thinking that it was taken in the Swiss Alps with yodelling Swiss maidens in the distant hills and the shuffling of Saint Bernards carrying their small cask of warmth creating schnapps. But, no, this heavy snow fall occurred in early spring of this year, surprising both guests and staff at this magnificent resort. Castleburn was at full capacity over the weekend when the snow made a surprise appearance. The snow measured 12 inches and the outside temperature was a chilling -2 degrees Celsius.

"The snow arrived swiftly and left a beautiful thick blanket of white over everything. It was during the school holidays so we had many kids at the resort. For many of them it was their first experience with snow so you can only imagine how much fun they had building snowmen and having snow ball fights," comments Dave Liebenberg the General Manager of Castleburn.

"We are proud to say that none of our services were interrupted and there was easy access to the resort," concludes Dave. As quickly as the snow arrived, so it was gone. By the Sunday afternoon it was back to sun tanning in the glorious sun. As you can see a bit of creative footwear was needed to get around. Showing yet again how adaptable South Africans are!

Only at Castleburn is snow an excuse to catch a tan!!!



At the recent Legacy Rooms Division Conference held in Cape Town, Castleburn front office staff were the recipients of the Legacy Best Front Office award.

The reception staff at Castleburn have worked hard to achieve this goal and their hard work ensured that the Resort was recognised for excellence in this department.

Congrats!





## Let the games begin



At Wilderness Dunes there was a need for an entertainment and games venue for the kids and young adults. Good news for all owners is that a spacious games room has been completed. As Wilderness Dunes is a member of the Heritage Environmental Programme, much thought and thorough planning was put into the building, so that there was as little damage done to the environment as possible.

The indigenous flora was moved to accommodate the construction and then all replanted around the venue to ensure as little impact on the surrounds as possible. A play park has been added for the smaller children with wooden figurines of various animals which is referred to as the Wilderness Dunes "wildlife".

It is the perfect venue for an escape during inclement weather as we all know once cabin fever sets in amongst the kids a change of scenery is needed. The new games room provides this change for both the young and young at heart.

## Deon Takes Top Honours!



Deon Strydom, the Front Office and Reservation Manager at Wilderness Dunes received two Special Recognition Awards from RCI for dedicated and outstanding work at the 2008 Oscas evening. This is a well deserved reward for Deon who is well known to all the owners and has been working at Wilderness Dunes from shortly after it opened.

Congratulations also to Peter Quinn and his dedicated and hard working maintenance team who have been responsible for a major improvement in the standards of maintenance at the resort and have also been instrumental in introducing a number of major improvements at the resort.

# Bakubung

goes Green



Bakubung has recently invested in their very own Bio-Diesel plant in a bid to utilize alternative sources of fuel. This is an extremely exciting initiative for Bakubung as bio-diesel emits less than one third of normal fossil fuel emission that occur when burning coal to create energy.

What is Bio Fuel? Bio Fuel is created by recycling all the used vegetable oils from cooking and then converted into bio diesel. This not only contributes to the lower use of petrol diesel but also gets rid of oil contamination for plants and cleaner air. The by-product of bio diesel is glycerin which is a fantastic compost activator thereby contributing to healthier and stronger flora in and around the resort.

Bakubung uses the used vegetable oils from their resort and their sister resorts Tshukudu and Kwa-Maritane.

"This is a ground breaking initiative and we hope that more resorts and hotels convert to this kind of project so that they may make a contribution to lowering pollution levels and use the glycerin by-product to fertilise and nurture their gardens," comments Joel Papenfus General Manager of Bakubung.

## Access to Sun City

Good News!! Guests are once again able to access Sun City via the West Gate. This is as a result of an agreement between Sun City and Bakubung Bush Lodge. Residents need to purchase vouchers from the Bakubung reception before leaving for Sun City. These vouchers and the West Gate access provide our guests with speedy and safe access to Sun City 24 hours a day.



## 2010 School Holidays

At the time of Chit Chat going to print there is no information forthcoming from the Department of Education relating to the changes to the school holiday calendar for 2010. What we can tell you is that there will be changes to the school holidays to accommodate the World Cup Soccer tournament. We suggest you visit the RCI website ([www.rci.com](http://www.rci.com)) for further information.



PRIVATE RESIDENCIES

# Fractional Ownership

## Countless Advantages

Legacy Private Residencies offers investors the ultimate flexibility in fractional ownership. Fractional ownership has emerged as a rapidly growing alternative to whole ownership of luxury vacation homes. The cost of a second home in a sought after holiday destination is normally unaffordable, and then in most cases this expensive asset stands empty for a considerable part of the year. Fractional Ownership offers the perfect solution – you pay for what you use. Members also have the additional benefit of exchanging into other homes owned by the Private Residence Club in different destinations.

Legacy Private Residencies have acquired luxury homes at selected resort properties in Southern Africa. These properties are available for the members of this exclusive Private Residence Club to occupy. Investors become a member of Legacy Private Residencies by acquiring a fractional ownership interest in the property of their choice. Members are then able to stay in their own property, exchange into another or alternatively can deposit the unit into the resort rental pool and earn a rental dividend.



*Lavish interiors are the hallmark of fractional ownership homes*

A major advantage of fractional ownership is that it is completely hassle free.

The Legacy Private Residencies units all have a full resort staff in support providing the personalized service you need. These services include reception, housekeeping services, repairs and maintenance of the unit. The costs are included in the levy.

Probably the biggest advantage of investing in a fractional ownership unit is the cost savings an investor can enjoy. Investing in a Private Residence Club enables you to outlay minimum capital but enjoy the benefit of different locations in well managed luxury homes. For less outlay you are enjoying the same benefit of owning your own home and you are able to stay in different locations.

Further cost savings arise as the costs of maintaining and managing the property is shared amongst the other members and are attended to by the resort management team on your behalf.

Each resort has an active rental pool in operation and the resort will attend to the booking of the unit, all housekeeping services and reception duties. You will be paid a dividend by the resort after deduction of a management fee. No need to find your own tenants.



*Fractional ownership homes at Castleburn (top), Wilderness Dunes (centre) and Kruger Park Lodge*

The key to the success of a good fractional ownership product is the management. The management and administration of Legacy Private Residencies is taken care of by Legacy Hotels and Resorts.

Another major advantage of owning fractional ownership in Legacy Private Residencies is the external exchange option available. All Legacy Private Residency units are affiliated to world renowned exchange organisations enabling members to be able to exchange into other high quality resorts both locally and internationally.

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*Magic*  
**BREAKAWAYS**  
LEISURE DEVELOPMENTS

**LEGACY**  
HOTELS & RESORTS  
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