



# Leopard's Valley Safaris

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*Your finest hunt. What did you hunt? Where did the hunt take place?*

After many years of hunting it's hard to quite defined the finest hunt but I suppose I could shift that to a favourite animal. There are two animals I really enjoy hunting.

One being the elusive Kudu especially here in the mountains of the Eastern Cape. The hunt which is a spot and stalk experience is guaranteed to get the heart pumping. Trying to outwit these magnificent animals in the big open areas we have here mostly on free range conservancies or very large private reserves. I often find myself getting buck fever when we've managed to close a 800m gap to 150m, a little tremor in the hand a quiver in the voice, trying hard to contain your excitement. It's great to still feel something like that after so many years of hunting.

The other favourite animal that I love to hunt is the Buffalo, there is just no describing a good buffalo hunt. Hunting them in the rolling hills of the eastern free State or up in the northern parts of the country, Mozambique in the Mopani forests and woodlands tracking them on foot the adrenaline heart pounding experience of a good buffalo hunt is just hard to beat.

*What do you consider to be the best tools for a PH?*

I think the best tool a Ph can have is a well looked after vehicle. it will also be the biggest investment that Ph can make to his hunting inventory. Service it regularly, fix small problems before they become large problems. The biggest headache on Safari is a vehicle that constantly breaks down.

*What advice was given to you as a young PH that you would like to pass onto a junior PH?*

Be honest. Always be honest with a client.

We all make mistakes a lapse in judgment when it comes to animals, snap decisions and we can all make mistakes. Own your mistakes. The difference between a good guy and a great guy is how he manages those mistakes; honesty is the best way to do that. This is a small industry where most people know each other and your reputation is what will make you successful. Being honest in particular will build you a great reputation.



Hunting regards

Dave