



PAUL Phelan SAFARIS

Hunting • Photographic • Safaris



Our 2009 season has again been evidence that a visit to Africa on a Safari is a feast for the senses. The African bush brings you to life as you discover how to see, to be silent and to listen. Notwithstanding the changes in recent time, the wildlife, landscape and peoples of Africa remain a refreshing contrast to the western world, from which many seek to temporarily escape. The best safaris, as always, are those closest to nature and shared with good friends.



There is no substitute for a safari of walking and stalking. Trekking through the bush until you are really tired and then, forgetting the exhaustion as you spot the magnificent creature that you have only ever imagined - stalking and crawling closer and closer until you can smell the elephant or hear the rhino chewing the Acacia thorns. Finally you can either take the trophy or simply capture its spirit in a photograph. And so you have hunted!

Hunting opportunities abound in southern Africa nowadays compared with the mid-1900s. The once depleted game stocks have rebounded due to the advent of privately owned game ranches, stimulated by the commercial opportunities linked with hunters and the safari industry. Huge tracts of privately owned land have been set aside, almost doubling the area contributing to biodiversity conservation in some parts of southern Africa, and maintained through revenue from hunting and tourism.

Conservation and hunting in Africa are inextricably linked

Paul Phelan Safaris is proud to host safaris on a range of conservation areas, including some of the most exclusive private game ranches as well as formidable state owned protected areas steeped in history. Hunting sustains both human and wildlife populations, and many rural communities earn vital incomes from concessions they set aside for conservation and hunting. In 2009 Paul Phelan Safaris was again privileged to lead extremely successful safaris to a number of these community concessions as well as private game ranches and state controlled hunting areas across Zimbabwe and South Africa.



Art Nelson's regal Sable bull from the North West

Hunt with Africa's Adventurers

The essence of Paul Phelan Safaris is to support conservation through ethical hunting



97 lbs and 75 lbs tusked Elephant bull taken in south east lowveld of the Limpopo River valley

The relationship between the hunting industry and conservation sector has recently become uneasy. The future of the rare White Rhino is becoming increasingly threatened with escalated incidents of poaching, and unethical safari operators have contributed to this by using hunts as a front for illegal trade in Rhino horn. Paul Phelan Safaris has been at the forefront in the fight against this threat by driving the implementation of stricter controls with the professional hunters associations, contributing to the defense efforts of private land owners, and aiding the efforts of the special police task forces.

With Paul Phelan Safaris you can be assured that ethical hunting and conservation are at the forefront of every safari

The hunting industry has not been immune to the “flu” of the economic recession that has crippled the world economy. Notwithstanding the recession, the 2009 season has seen us able to offer safaris of great value with rewarding returns. We have bagged great trophies from the Zambezi Valley in the north of Zimbabwe to the Limpopo River in the south, including tremendous buffalo, leopard and elephant and plains game in compliment.



Paul Cohagan with his huge tom leopard taken in the Zambezi Valley of Zimbabwe



Art Nelson with a magnificent Nyala bull hunted in the bushveld of Zululand

In South Africa we hunted from the rugged plains and hills of the North West Province down through the verdant hills in the Midlands of south east KwaZulu-Natal, and from the wide open arid plains of the Northern Cape in the west to the rich sub-tropical bushveld of Zululand in the east. These areas rewarded us with magnificent Sable and Roan antelope, Waterbuck, Bushbuck and Rhino together with a wide choice of more common plains game.

At each camp the pivotal pleasure has, as always, been walk and stalk hunting followed by evenings around beautiful crackling hardwood fires under a dark star studded African sky.



Georg Nader took a beautiful Gemsbuck bull on the plains of the Northern Cape



All this is rounded off with a hearty meal and a satisfying sleep in the comfort of canvas camps or magnificent thatch lodges to suit your personal preference.

Marrilyn Campbell and her beautifully patterned zebra in the Dande, Zimbabwe

And we have the pleasure of being able to offer all this and more again to old and new friends in 2010

In addition we have an exciting new Zimbabwean concession to offer, with a camp all set about with Fig trees on the banks of the Great Grey-Green Greasy Limpopo River (to quote Rudyard Kipling). This is an area specializing in huge elephant and buffalo with up close and exciting hunting.



One of the highlights of the 2009 season must have been Paul Cohagan's fortuitous triple strike! In partnership with Butch Coatin, we took two buffalo and a magnificent leopard between day break and dusk on day seven of the hunt. Our good fortune was rich reward for hard hunting, baiting and very careful stalking. The whole story will no doubt be retold on countless occasions around a campfire with the suitable ambiance.

Paul Cohagan with one of his pair of Buffalo hunted in the Dande, Zimbabwe

Stevens Herbst, a 13 year old first time hunter to Africa with his grandad Steve and dad Duane, hunted on foot and crawled over rugged terrain with a recently healed leg break - motivated by excitement and enthusiasm. He was rewarded with some exceptional trophies, each taken with one shot.



Stevens has the makings of a real African hunter. We hope to have the pleasure of introducing other young hunters-in-the-making to the adventure of Africa in the season to come.

As always the success of the hunt is due to great team work by client, PH, trackers, and outfitters and camp staff

The success of our 2009 season is attributable to much great team work, and Paul Phelan Safaris is grateful to Gary Kelly Safaris, Coenraad Vermaak Safaris, Air Charters Africa, Phelindaba Safaris, Ingwe Safaris, Safari Bound and Ant Africa Safaris, and all their staff who made the 2009 adventures possible.



Art Nelson and the team with his Gold Medal Roan



John Ackenfora and his Gold Medal Waterbuck, one of the biggest Waterbuck taken in the North West to date



Georg Nader with Hans and Barbara Egghart with his fine Blesbuck ram on the plains of the Northern Cape



A beautiful Bushbuck ram bagged by John Ackenfora on a cold clear winter day in the Midlands of KwaZulu-Natal

In closing it would be remiss of me not to thank you - all my wonderful clients and friends in the USA and Europe with whom I have had the pleasure of sharing these wonderful adventures - thank you so much

2010 sees the international Football World Cup arriving on the shores of South Africa. This offers an opportunity for a unique mix of entertainment and adventure - come out and support your national team **and** join us on an African hunting adventure either side of the World Cup!

**Please visit us at our booth (numbers 644 and 645) at Dallas Safari Club
-the best show in the USA for real hunters**



Hunters enjoying an African sunset on the banks of the Great Grey-Green Greasy Limpopo River

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