

# NEWSLETTER: CLUB SKYAFRICA

May June 2004

## HOWZIT from AFRICA

P.O. Box 9475 BRENTWOOD PARK 1505  
SOUTH AFRICA

Tel: (+27-82) 563-3314  
Fax: (+27-11) 973-1786  
Office Europe (+43) 676 425 3016  
USA Contact Office (+1) 702-401-8867  
Email: [reservations@skyafrika.com](mailto:reservations@skyafrika.com)  
WEB : [www.skyafrika.com](http://www.skyafrika.com)

Blue skies have arrived and we are looking forward to a safe Safari season. Several safaris are coming up and our BUSHPILOTS COURSE is becoming more and more popular. This course was originally designed to further the knowledge of rather inexperienced low time pilots but we find that a fair percentage of our participants are actually professional flyers, flight instructors etc. Quite encouraging. Well, if you haven't booked your flying holiday yet now is the time. Braaivleis, rugby, sunny skies and aeroplanes - that's South Africa at its best.

## SKYAFRICA in the USA

We are pleased to announce that after a long search we have found a suitable partner and representative in the United States of America.  
Your contact:

### AFRICAN FLYING SAFARIS LAS VEGAS NV

#### ROBIN KLAHOLZ

TEL : +1- 702 871 0011  
FAX : +1- 702 871 4305  
CELL: +1- 702 401 8867  
[robin@africanflyingsafaris.com](mailto:robin@africanflyingsafaris.com)

Robin is an IF/ Single and Multiengine Pilot and runs a well established travel agency and travel consultancy business. SKYAFRICA operate in the travel, leisure as well as the flying business, hence we needed an organisation that understands what we are all about. Robin is passionate about Africa; she has travelled here many times and will certainly be able to answer your queries competently. She is a lady after our own heart and we welcome her into the SKYAFRICA team

## FLYING NEWS

### CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Anthony - PPL  
Mark - ATPL  
Chris - Eagle award  
Allister - Eagle award  
Wolfgang - Eagle award  
Exclusive to the members of the Kunkuru Bushpilots association



Overleaf we are continuing our series about SKYAFRICA Flying destinations. This one takes us to the Limpopo Province of South Africa.  
Safe flying to all

Erika

## SKYAFRICA DESTINATIONS 16

### The Limpopo province

The Limpopo Province of South Africa reflects the quintessence of untamed Africa - ancient baobabs guarding vast expanses of mountains and bushveld.

It is a land of dramatic contrasts characterised by hot savannah plains and mist-clad mountains; age-old indigenous forests and cycads alongside latter-day plantations and ancient mountain fortresses.



An area of the Limpopo where the juxtaposition of old and new never ceases to amaze, it is moreover a land of legend and romance that will intrigue present-day visitors with tales of ancient tribes and fearless pioneers who braved the unknown in the days of old.

To this day the province is the home of the enigmatic rain queen who, as the legends of her people proclaim, has the mystical power to make rain.

Steeped in history, the Limpopo celebrates a rich cultural heritage and at many archaeological sites the mysteries of the past and ancient peoples are still being unearthed. The present tranquillity of the province belies a turbulent past, to which many monuments and museums attest.

Much of the land, particularly in the game and nature reserves, is unspoilt providing sanctuary to large numbers of game.

For pilots who wish to experience the thrill of Africa in a more tangible manner, there are a myriad of landing strips and airfields leading out to wilderness areas and trails, safaris and hikes as well as some great scenic flying.



The rich culture of the Vhavenda people pervades this attractive yet often harsh region.

The history of the Vhavenda may be traced in the stone walls that fortified the sandstone hills, and in the stone statues raised up into various shapes for more mystical purposes.

Old caves reveal evidence that humans lived in these fortresses within living memory. Superb wood carvings, decorated clay pots, paintings, weavings and basket ware are produced by talented artists and

craftspeople.

The Venda are generally regarded as one of the last black groups to have entered the area south of the Limpopo River in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Their history is closely related to the history of their successive captains' houses, especially those who were descended from their legendary ancestor, Thoho-ya-Ndou (Head of the Elephant).

His kraal (home) was called Dzata and the remains of this have been declared a National Monument. Dzata had great significance for the Venda because they buried their chiefs facing this place. When Thoho-ya-Ndou died, divisions arose between the different captains' houses as a result of disputes regarding the question of who was to succeed him

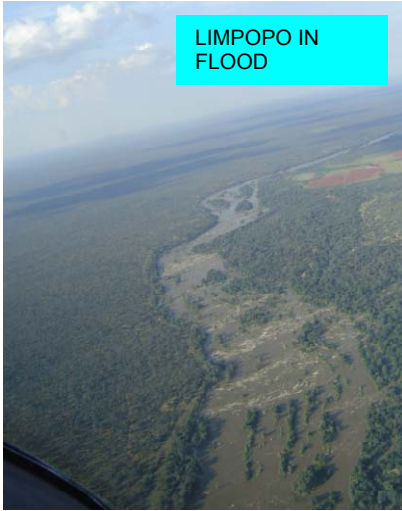
### The Limpopo River

North of the Soutpansberg lies the broad valley of the Limpopo River. This is the home of the mighty baobabs which rise like tousel-headed giants out of the mopane woodland. Here, in the grey, green, greasy waters of the Limpopo the elephant child got its trunk.



The Limpopo River flows for about 1600 km along the northern boundary of South Africa all the way to Mozambique where the last 60 miles are tidewaters of the Indian Ocean. It is a perennial River but for most of the year the water flows in a mere trickle below the sands and the game walks quite freely around the Tuli block area crossing the river at leisure.

This year's rainfall made it burst its banks a few times and SKYAFRICA flew up to Hennie's farm to get a good look at the roaring flood.



LIMPOPO IN FLOOD

The bushveld and dense riverine forests were beautiful and green. There was some low scud around in the morning but we still managed to fly a low level sortie downriver along the Botswana and Zimbabwean border.

Couple of steaks beers and songs around the campfire prepared us for a good nights rest, spent sleeping outside under the Milky Way.



AFRICAN CAMPFIRE

Hennie thanks for your hospitality, in the words of the Austrian go'vner of CA "well be backkk"



LIMPOPO RIVERINE FOREST



FIJ landing on Hennie's

OHK on Hennie's Strip

