

# SHARK ATTACKS AT PORT ST JOHNS – WHY?

Port St Johns in the Eastern Cape has recently been the focus of media attention nationally and internationally. Unfortunately this attention is not because of its unspoilt beauty, silent forests, rocky shores or sandy beaches.

Instead it's been dubbed 'the deadliest beach in the world' after six fatal attacks in five years. *Wildside* sought to find clear information in a sea of hype, and spoke to Mark Addison.



Mark Addison freedives with a 3.5m (pre caudal measurement) female tiger shark at Shark Park. Mark has been working with this population of tiger sharks for 16 years and has supported various scientific studies into the species that has contributed to our understanding of these unique apex predators. The outcome of Mark's work and his scientific collaboration has seen the development and growth of a unique opportunity to view live sharks in KwaZulu-Natal which was the first such opportunity to view tiger sharks in the wild in the world.