

Your Story

PLEASE DON'T HURT MY MOM



Sent by email.

YOUNGEST WILDSIDE READER IN SOUTH AFRICA



I would love to share the following picture with you of my baby girl Karlien van Wyk who just adores you magazine. We were sitting next to the Ingwavuma River (near the Swaziland border) and she paged through it. Every night we have to page through one of the editions with her because Wildside stays her favourite. It's our favourite magazine too. Thank you so much for a wonderful magazine.

Hester Hills – Richards Bay

BUFFALO SWIM IN LAKE ST LUCIA



After 20 years living in St Lucia I've never seen buffalo swim in Lake St Lucia. I'm a tour guide in the region, and took these photographs as I couldn't believe it.

It was late in the afternoon when there was a lot of commotion in the water around one of the regular hippo pods. A guest shouted that there was a buffalo in the water. The buffalo was swimming in circles and looked stressed. Eventually he got to the side and seemed to settle down in the deep mud. As the boat started moving away we noticed two young hippos approaching the buffalo. Their behaviour was even more curious, giving the buffalo a little nudge to help him.

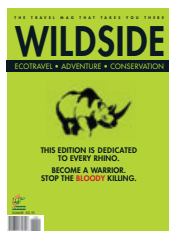


Soon the entire pod of hippos had moved in on the buffalo and lay half moon behind him as if to protect him – perhaps from the water. Growing up in the bush I've heard stories about hippos having a caring nature when it comes to animals in peril in the water, and now I've seen it. The buffalo was calm with the hippos around him and the hippos showed no aggression even though there were many babies in the pod.

The next morning I took the boat out to go have a look at the buffalo but sadly exhaustion or hypothermia got the better of him and he had died. It was a tragic end to something so spectacular.

Hope someone could help answer the mystery around why the buffalo was in the water or has other stories about the caring nature of hippos.

Stacey Farrell – Shoreline Cruises



COVER COMPLIMENTS

Congratulations on the cover of your previous edition. We love the stand you have taken and we hope the results are as bold as your design. Thank you – **S Lawson**

Thank you to everyone who sent letters about the previous edition. Unfortunately no space to publish all, but your comments were much appreciated. Ed

BUSH BREAK IN THE KRUGER PARK



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