



**Views from within Valley Camp's luxury tents and ensuite bathrooms:** Look out through glass shower walls and across decks into an impenetrable wall of indigenous green forest.

lions at Inkwenkwezi are fenced in a 200-hectare area and their feeding is managed.

## GLOBAL WHITE LION PROTECTION

Jason Turner, senior scientific advisor and lion ecologist of the Global White Lion Protection Trust says that a study determined conclusively that white lions are not albino lions. According to scientists, albinism occurs when the gene responsible for melanin production is turned off resulting in no colouration. The red or pink eye color in albinism is from visible blood vessels. The original lions of the Timbavati have blue or gold colouration in their eyes. The white lions at Inkwenkwezi have predominantly light blue to blue-grey eyes.

Scientists believe that the unique coloration of white lions is the result of a double recessive gene. This gene is responsible for melanin production. The amount of melanin produced determines skin, hair and eye colour. This gene, just like the blue in the eyes of humans, determines that only a specific amount of melanin is made.

Jason notes that in white lions if both parents are tawny and are carrying this gene there is a 25%

chance of having white cubs. If one parent is white and the other is tawny but carries the white gene, there is a 50% chance of white cubs. If both parents are white, 100% of the offspring will be white. Based on recent genetic studies on white bears endemic to British Columbia, the Trust is motivating for the white lions to be declared sub-species of *Panthera leo*. As a new sub species this will allow their non-protected status to be revised.

## Inkwenkwezi – Extraordinary Game Reserve on the Wild Coast

If you plan to travel to South Africa and your time is short then a stay at Inkwenkwezi Game Reserve almost guarantees good sightings of animals. Choose between the luxury 4 star tented Valley Camp or the very comfortable tented Bush Camp. For the best experience ensure that you have enough time to do all the activities.

If you don't have the energy to canoe all the way to the river mouth, ask the brothers to book you into their 3 star Chintsa Sands Guesthouse. In true Stanton style it's right on the beach. **W**



Discounts, incl. off special rates for Wildside Warriors only. All bookings donate to Project Rhino. See [www.wildsidesa.co.za](http://www.wildsidesa.co.za)

### WILDSIDE Fact Tracker

#### Inkwenkwezi PGR

**Where:** Just outside of east London on the Wild Coast, Eastern Cape.

**How to get there:** By air East London's airport is a 40minute drive. By road from East London take the N2 highway to Umtata approximately 25km out of East London, watch for the signpost to Inkwenkwezi / Cintsa, turn right, after 8km the entrance to Inkwenkwezi is on the right.

**Valley Camp:** a spacious well appointed, luxury tented accommodation fitted with percale linen, air-conditioning, mini bar and four-sided glass shower.

**Bush Camp:** offers luxury accommodation for twelve guests in six en-suite safari tents. The en-suite features a shower crafted to resemble a cave. From its hilltop site the camp overlooks a valley and each safari tent is positioned on a raised timber deck offering you private game viewing.

**Activities:** Elephant interaction, cheetah viewing, game drives, birding, canoeing, horseback tours, mountain biking, team building. Inkwenkwezi is a popular wedding venue.

**Rates:** Bush Camp - Special on from R850.00 pppns and Valley Camp R1150 pppns . For both camps the rate includes all meals and activities offered at the lodge including guided horse rides, guided mountain biking and hiking trails, canoeing and elephant interaction. Stay 3 nights and get a free elephant safari.

**Tel:** 043 7343234

**Website:** [www.inkwenkwezi.com](http://www.inkwenkwezi.com)