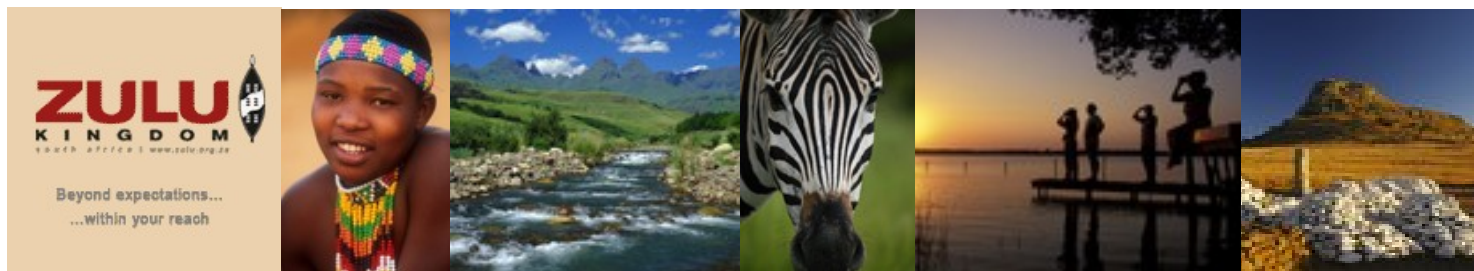


THE ZULU KINGDOM UPDATE



PRODUCED BY TOURISM KWAZULU-NATAL

WWW.ZULU.ORG.ZA

This monthly newsletter highlights some of the latest news from "old favourites" in KwaZulu-Natal as well as some gems that are new or largely undiscovered!

INDABA & THE KWAZULU-NATAL SUPERFAM

Wishing everyone who is heading down to Durban this week a safe journey and an enjoyable time in KwaZulu-Natal. We hope you have a successful Indaba and that you will be sending lots of clients to the Zulu Kingdom in the year ahead.

Again, Tourism KwaZulu-Natal and South African Airways will be hosting the annual pre-Indaba Superfam. This year has been fully subscribed and 40 UK based tour operators will be joining us on a 3-night tour of the KwaZulu-Natal province departing Monday night, ending with 2 nights in Durban at Indaba. We look forward to seeing everyone down in Durban! Hamba Kahle ("Go well")

SANI PASS RESORT AND LEISURE ESTATE



Exciting things have been happening at the ever-popular **Sani Pass Resort and Leisure Estate** since Red Carpet Leisure took over last year. Located at the foot of the Sani Pass in the Southern Drakensberg inside the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site, this property is an ideal base from which to explore. The area is renowned for its trout fishing, and there are also well-preserved San paintings in the hills above the hotel. A diversity of animal and bird species can be found on the property and surrounding trails. Breathtaking 4x4 trips are available up the spectacular Sani Pass to the base of the nearby Thabana-Ntlenyana, southern Africa's highest peak (3482m), home to the highest pub in Africa (2874m).

A major refurbishment is currently underway including new furniture and "softs" in all rooms, and structural and cosmetic upgrades to the existing facade and chalets at an estimated cost of R23-million. A new hotel wing and cottages will be added in 2008, increasing accommodation capacity from 68 rooms to 150. The main hotel building will be remodelled to include a golf club house, conference and wellness centre, new dining facilities and a chapel.

The existing golf course has been redesigned and a new 18-hole golf course will be completed by the end of 2009 together with the first of a number of themed villages consisting of privately owned homes (which can also be rented), a mountain lodge and backpacker's accommodation.

<http://www.sanipasshotel.co.za>

ESIKHOTENI ****



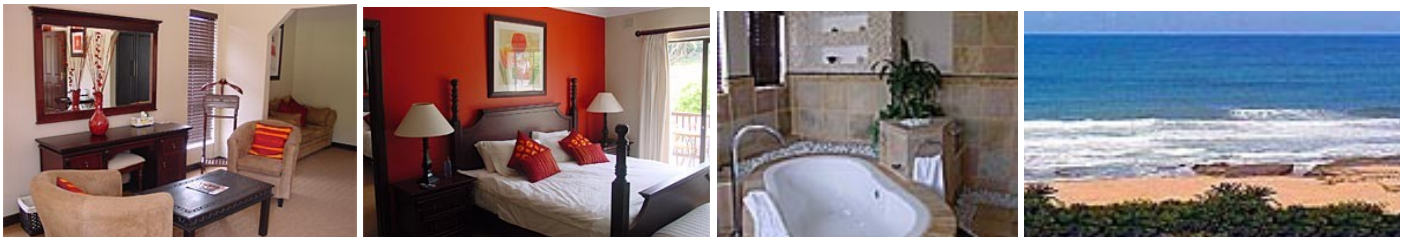
Esikhoteni is a 4 star property in the Pongola Game Reserve on the Elephant Coast, offering 7 beautifully appointed, air-conditioned chalets with 180-degree views over the breathtaking Lake Jozini (Pongolapoort Dam). There is also a honeymoon chalet with its own private Jacuzzi. Esikhoteni places its emphasis on privacy and unobtrusive personal attention. The chalets' ensuite bathrooms feature a raised corner-round bath and huge shower, with jaw-dropping views of the lake and the Lebombo Mountains in the background. Esikhoteni's property covers 2,000ha of the reserve, stretching from the edges of the lake into the western hills where the lodge is situated. www.esikhotheni.co.za

SEAFORTH FARM – SANI PASS ****



Nestled deep in the mountains of the Southern Drakensberg, at the foot of the spectacular Sani Pass, lies the 4-star Seaforth Farm. It forms part of a 360Ha conservancy that borders the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site. Seaforth offers Dinner, Bed & Breakfast in an original 100-year old stone farmhouse with 5 luxury suites, all with en-suite bathrooms and magnificent views. It also offers superbly appointed self-catering cottages. Guests can enjoy abundant birdlife, indigenous game, waterfalls, the river and trout dam and tranquil mountain views. Seaforth is a great base for 4x4 tours up the Sani Pass and Lesotho but many other activities are also on offer such as hiking, quad biking, and discovering rock art. Fly-fishing and trout fishing can be enjoyed in their 2 dams and 5kms of river. Seaforth is child-friendly with an animal farm for the little ones' enjoyment. www.saniseaforth.com

FAIRWAYS HOTEL – SALT ROCK ****



Fairways Hotel is situated in Salt Rock on the North Coast, and having recently undergone an extensive refurbishment, is proud to now confirm its 4 Star status. All suites include en suite bathrooms with bath and shower, mini bar, DSTV and air conditioning. The public facilities include breakfast patio restaurant and formal dining room, comfortable lounge, beautiful gardens, swimming pool and Jacuzzi. Ample, secure parking is provided. Salt Rock is well known for its superb and safe beaches. The main swimming beach is protected by shark nets and lifeguards and also boasts a large tidal pool. Although Salt Rock offers a tranquil village-like ambience it is situated nearby to bustling Ballito, which offers all the facilities and services that holidaymakers would expect. There are modern supermarkets, shopping centres, movie theatres and numerous dining options nearby. Deep-sea fishing, dolphin and whale watching, Scuba diving, windsurfing, horseriding, microlighting and helicopter trips are all available close by.

www.fairwayshotel.co.za

ENDLESS HORIZONS *****



From the gentle trickle of water in the koi pond to the rim-flow pool, each element at Endless Horizons is artfully selected to promote harmony and simplicity in a minimalist, uncluttered environment of sheer elegance. Its subtle combination of natural colours and textures is a feast for the senses and offers a haven of tranquility. Situated in the convenient, picturesque setting of Umhlanga Rocks Drive in Durban North with easy access to the airport, major business hubs and tourist attractions, Endless Horizons' 5-star accommodation, dining and conference facilities, will appeal to even the most discerning of travellers. Ten magnificently appointed luxury suites, each tastefully decorated with its own unique contemporary zen style offer either twin or double en suite accommodation. In addition to air-conditioning and all the modern conveniences you would expect, the suites also offer fabulous verandas from which to enjoy the beautiful sea views. Endless Horizons is an African Pride Hotel www.endlesshorizons.co.za

IBANDLA CAMP - AMAKHOSI

Amakhosi Lodge's new Ibandla camp is situated in a gorge, on the banks of the Mkuze river, in a very secluded part of the Amazulu Private Game Reserve. This camp is only accessible by 4X4 and on foot, so is ideal for walking safaris or for nature lovers wanting to escape the trappings of city life. Ibandla has an idyllic setting, with spectacular views of the Mkuze River, which flows past the camp, dramatic cliff faces with resident baboons and regular sightings of crocodiles, hippo and other wildlife and bird life. Herds of game are also a daily occurrence at the camp as this area is rarely frequented thus making them feel safe. Its remote location means it is perfect for escaping from civilization with no electricity or phones - just you and one of our qualified Guides and trackers, who will be your hosts during your stay, and who will accompany you on daily bush walks, game drives and provide you with your meals. The Ibandla camp consists of 2 rustic bungalows each with 2 en suite bedrooms, and can accommodate a group of up to eight guests per stay. Children from the age of 13 years up are also welcome. AmaKhosi now offers a fully inclusive package at their Ibandla Camp from R4500 per house per night. www.amakhosi.com

And now for something different...

PHEZULU SAFARI PARK



PHEZULU SAFARI PARK is an exciting tourist venue, situated in Botha's Hill, only 35 km's from central Durban, boasting magnificent views over the Valley of 1000 Hills. At Phezulu village, the world famous Gasa clan have over the last 30 years, allowed visitors to Phezulu the opportunity to savour the taste and feel the rhythm of Africa. Visitors are taken into traditional beehive shaped thatched huts, where the various artefacts, beliefs and rituals are explained, giving foreigners an insight into the fascinating Zulu culture. The Zulu dancing show is impressive and unforgettable! There is also a Crocodile and Snake park with guided tours - or guests can opt to

do a one-hour scenic game drive, spotting wildebeest, impala, blesbok, zebra and giraffes. Phezulu has a fantastic Curio shop as well as a Swazi Candle shop with beautifully sculptured hand made candles. The Crocilians Restaurant serves meals ranging from Traditional Zulu meals or Crocodile steaks to toasted sandwiches and burgers. Open 7 Days a week. <http://www.phezulusafaripark.co.za/>

For more information, please visit www.zulu.org.za or contact Ethos Marketing, the UK office for KZN Tourism on 01403 243 619 or info@ethosmarketing.co.uk.

Many thanks to Roger de la Harpe for the use of his images.

Don't forget that numerous high res images of the Zulu Kingdom can be downloaded from our gallery on <http://gallery.ethosmarketing.co.uk/photo/tkzn>

Whilst every care has been taken, I apologize for any incorrect information that might have been taken from outdated websites.

If any KZN suppliers have news snippets that they would like to see included in this newsletter please email 300 words plus your website address and contact details to Claire@ethosmarketing.co.uk