

MONATENG SAFARI LODGE

SHAREHOLDER
NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2019



MONATENG SAFARI LODGE

Dear Valued Shareholder

Another amazing six months have passed by. Six months of gazing at the sunset from the deck while listening to the howling of the jackals. Six months of watching, elated, as Horton the barn owl circles above our heads at the chalets. Six months of incredible memories, friendships and celebration at your bushveld gem. We stop to reflect on these months, and ask that you allow us this opportunity to inform you of all the happenings at Monateng; your home-away-from-home.

Mbali Day Spa – a Moment of Bliss:

Monateng Safari Lodge is excited to announce that our very own Day Spa has officially launched!

Mbali Day Spa offers guests another great way to relax and unwind while on vacation. Using the TheraNaka™ product range, each treatment is carefully crafted and makes use of a range of herbal-infusion oils and massage techniques to relieve stress. TheraNaka™ is a proudly South African product, using the African landscape as inspiration for the range.

Try a Signature Tri-scented Shea Butter Nugget Massage: body heat melts the pebbles, releasing a sensory experience; or succumb to a moment of bliss with a traditional African head massage – the possibilities are endless.

Take a Bow Team Monateng!

RCI

We are pleased to remind you that Monateng Safari Lodge attained Gold Crown status at the prestigious RCI OSCAS Awards Gala held in March 2019.

Gold Crown status is the highest grading a Resort can attain; and to maintain this grading is such a wonderful accomplishment.



012 808 5169 | admin@monateng.co.za | Book at Reception
Visit our website for the full treatment list

The Latest Updates and Upgrades:

Each year sees Monateng welcoming large groups of friends, loved-up couples and fantastic families; all eager to enjoy the days under the African sun across the Resort, and retreat to their welcoming braai's at their chalets in the cooler evenings. To keep everyone smiling and happy while gallivanting on vacation, **we make it our mission to identify anything that may need a little TLC**, ensuring the best possible stay for each of our valued guests.

As our eager guests arrive at the Resort and enter through the boom gates, they all notice the **lovely, newly planted gardens**. These spaces have been recreated to better fit into the bushveld atmosphere and add a pop of colour at Reception. Agapanthus can be seen stretching out on long, green spines between the textured rocks and prettily potted pink flowers lean out of the soil, sighing a sweet hello to our arrivals.

Remaining in the outdoors for a moment longer... the "waterborne" amongst our guests will be happy to know our **swimming pools have received some attention**, as well.

The famous Super Tube has been revamped to ensure it's ready to use in the next sunny season; chat to Reception to find out more on when the Super Tube is open.

From one pool to another... While the kids enjoy splashing about, parents can kick-back and relax on our **new pool loungers**; we've purchased more loungers to accommodate the space and requirements of our Main Pool area. Take a moment to sit back and soak up the sun, or be catapulted into a world of make-believe with a good book.

That's not all... for families looking to enjoy time outdoors with one another; we've built, and placed, comfortable benches in areas around our giant chess set and trampolines.

Snack on a delicious lunch at one of these two locations while the kiddies have some fun; bouncing high into the sky on the trampolines, or challenging siblings or friends to a round of chess.

While the kids are out-and-about getting their exercise in for the day, active-types will be happy to know that we've **completed the construction of our very own outdoor gym!**

This space lends itself to calisthenics; a type of exercise which uses body weight in gymnastic movements to improve fitness. For those guests who prefer cardio-based exercise; our newest hiking trail has been created and sign-posted to guide you through the wilderness.

Further to creating an environment for fun activities and making memories... **Our entertainment programme has been updated**; during peak seasons this includes exciting fire spinning shows, as well as strongman competitions held at our Boma, just beyond the Restaurant; where guests from all ages come to prove their power!

After a fierce competition, participants love stopping in at Le Fera for a thirst-quenching drink or meal to refuel the tank.

Moving indoors to the cosy chalets... pillows, pillows everywhere! Our **Valley Units have received new couch cushions and print-fabric scatter cushions** for the one and two seater couches, making them a more comfortable seat for families gathering together for movie night.

Our **Bush Units have also had their curtains replaced with a warm, neutral toned fabric**. All our patio sets have received new cushions too, so that we ensure you can get comfortable on these seats and light a "gees" fire, while basking in everything that makes Monateng spectacular.



Famous Super Tube



Giant Chess



Outdoor Gym



Brand New Cushions

A Warm Welcome...

Our team is growing! We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new staff members:

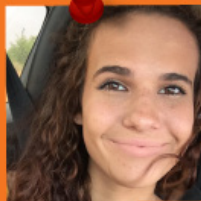


 **Allyssa**

Allyssa Potgieter has joined us as the Le Fera Administrator. You can find her pottering around the Restaurant chatting to guests, making sure that everyone is having a great time. Stop by for a delicious meal, overlooking the bushveld vegetation, or pop in for a cup of something and say hi to Allyssa the next time you visit!



 **Johan**



 **Bernadette**



 **Cassandra**



Johan Kruger, Bernadette Riekert and Cassandra van der Westhuizen have signed-on as our three new Rangers.

Join them on an informative game-viewing drive!

They'll be happy to share interesting facts with you while spotting the hippos in the dam, circling round our large herds of eland and zebra, or enjoying a chat with one of the rangers about our wildlife along the way.



 **Nonpumulelo**

Nonpumulelo Tyhulu is our new Spa Therapist. She can be found at Mbali Day Spa – waiting eagerly to give you a well-deserved pampering. Chat to her to about your aches and pains and she will hand-select a luscious treatment from the TheraNaka™ range to soothe the muscles and relieve aching joints.

Hannes Vosloo is welcomed as Monateng's Guest Relations Officer. Spot this friendly face welcoming guests at check-in or getting involved in the fun activities!

Hannes is very eager to lend a helping hand to any visitors in need.



 **Hannes**

Make More Memories

EXPAND YOUR PORTFOLIO



Expand your holiday portfolio and make even more wonderful memories with your loved ones!

Uni-Vate Properties has a limited number of timeshare weeks available for purchase at your favourite Resorts!



CONTACT US TODAY
info@univateproperties.co.za
www.univateproperties.co.za

Tell us all about it...

We love hearing all about your fantastic Monateng experiences, seeing your wonderful photos and watching awesome videos! We would love for you to share your Monateng adventures and moments with us.

Simply email your favourite memories and photos to us and we may feature you in the next Newsletter and/or on Facebook!

Email: yourresortstory@vrs.co.za

VRS Options

VRS Options is an online exchange platform, exclusive to VRS-managed Resort Shareholders, which allows them to exchange their fixed holiday for availability at various resorts, for alternative dates or unit sizes. VRS Options provides a multitude of exchange availability, which is sourced from the largest exchange companies, including RCI and DAE.

Visit www.vrs.co.za, click on Resort Shareholders and select VRS Options Info to find out more.



Special Times at Le Fera



Celebrating With You



Welcome "Home" Check-ins

A Monateng Experience for the Books

As always, our dedicated team have been brain-storming ideas and fun ways to celebrate the little, and big, things in life. Whether the Le Fera team create special meals or scrumptious deals for visitors to take a night off from cooking, or our **Entertainment team come up with fun ways to keep families entertained** – Monateng has it all!

A look back to February this year saw Monateng all lit up in red – the colour of love! **Valentine's Day at the Resort was filled to the brim with fuzzy feelings** as the kiddies took to decorating sweet cupcakes for their parents. 16 happy faces were seen, in the Games Room, dousing their baked goods in sugary confection. Later that evening couples were spoilt for choice; embarking on a sunset game drive with refreshments before returning to the Restaurant for a three-course, plated dinner and a sweet movie at the Boma to round off the night.

We soon said goodbye to Valentine's Day and welcomed the Easter long weekend. The weekend was **jam-packed with egg-citing activities and the families who visited us had a blast**. Kiddies were treated to an Easter Egg Hunt and followed a trail of yummy chocolate eggs, scattered about by an elusive bunny and each family received a warm welcome gift bag with a number of treats inside. On the Saturday evening a delicious potjie evening was hosted at the Boma, with live entertainment.

Guests crowded around the warm fires and indulged in belly-warming food and great company.

After a successful and well-received potjie evening for Easter at the Boma, we decided to host a bring and braai in celebration of Mother's Day. Once again, visitors and staff gathered around the Boma under a starry sky for a wonderful live performance by Vancoet, and complimentary side dishes of pap, sauce and salad, served by Le Fera. **Moms were made to feel special and each received a token from the Resort** and a complimentary voucher to redeem a free glass of wine from Le Fera Restaurant.

On a more general note... the **Monateng team continues to create excitement on check-in day** as guests pour through the gates and into Reception. Each Friday and Monday the team serves up hot, cinnamon pancakes, delectable savoury platters or cool refreshments so that visitors may forget the tarred journey behind them and step into holiday mode.

As we continue to make hordes of guests feel welcome and set about entertaining them and making their vacations special, Monateng also identifies individuals who have reached milestones of their own; birthdays, anniversaries and honeymoons. **These VIP guests are always surprised with lovely gifts** of freshly cut flowers, bottles of sparkling wine, boxes of truffles, or snack platters to kick their celebration up a notch!



Fun Times With Guests



Birthday Spoils











Fire Dancing at Our Boma







Sweet and Sticky Pound Cake

This simply delicious pound cake recipe was inspired by our latest little Le Fera Kiosk addition: African Hive Apiary Honey. This honey has been sourced from a local farm, which uses natural methods to filter this raw, liquid sweetness. The honey contains Eucalyptus Oil from the trees found on the farm and offers wonderful healing benefits with a subtle, heavenly flavour. Why not pop to the Kiosk, purchase a jar and try this recipe?

-  100g Room Temperature Butter
-  1 ½ Cups Raw Honey
-  ½ Cup White Granulated Sugar
-  1 Tbsp. Vanilla Essence




-  5 Organic Eggs
-  2 ½ Cups Cake Wheat Flour
-  1 Tsp. Baking Powder
-  A Pinch of Salt

To Bake:

-  Preheat the oven to 180°C and grease a loaf pan.
-  While the oven reaches temperature; cream the honey, butter and sugar until smooth and light. *Tip: creaming the butter this way makes the cake lighter and more crumbly once cooked.*
-  In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs and vanilla essence before dribbling into the creamed mixture. Blend until well combined.
-  Now sift in the dry ingredients and mix until a creamy batter is formed.
-  Pour into the greased tin and gently shimmy or knock the tin on the counter to even out the batter and remove air pockets.
-  Bake for approximately 50 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the centre, comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack before slicing to serve.

To Serve:

Our favourite way to enjoy this treat is sliced and served with cut fruit and a hot pot of tea, but here are some other ways to enjoy it:

-  With a smear of hazelnut chocolate spread
-  Dusted in icing sugar and chopped nuts
-  Glazed with a lemon and ginger icing. (1/2 cup castor sugar, 1 tbsp. tepid water, 2 tbsps. lemon juice and 1 tsp. ground ginger)



African Blessings needs you to help them raise enough money to purchase an agricultural-use tractor and slasher to better maintain the grassy areas on the Farm, and to provide our children with a safe environment where they can play and enjoy the sunshine.

Please consider donating to this campaign.
Small change makes a big difference!

African Blessings
"faith and love through action"

Account Name: African Blessings **Bank:** First National Bank
Branch Code: 250655 **Account Number:** 62065437355
Reference: The Tractor Factor



Important Notices

Closure Notice

Please note that our VRS Head Office will be closed on the following days:

17 June 2019, we will return for business as usual on Tuesday, 18 June 2019.

09 August 2019, we will return for business as usual on Monday, 12 August 2019.

23 and 24 September 2019, we will return for business as usual on Wednesday, 25 September 2019.

Checking-in Procedures

In the interest of safety, security and ensuring that only confirmed guests are allowed access to the Resort, you will be required to produce both the Reservations Confirmation/ Guests Certification and your ID, and also to complete the indemnity form when checking into the Resort.

Guest Certificates

In the event that you are allowing a guest to occupy your timeshare week, the guest must be in possession of a valid Guest Certificate, which is obtainable from Head Office prior to the guest's arrival.

Levy Payments

Levies must be paid in terms of the Use Agreement and no occupation or usage of any form is allowable until the levies have been paid. This applies to the usage, spacebanking, renting, etc. of this timeshare week. For alternative payment

arrangements.

Please contact

Property Admin at:

propertyadmin@vrs.co.za

Spacebanking and Rentals

Please note that a request for spacebanking or rental, must be submitted to Property Admin a minimum of five months prior to the occupation date, to enable us to process them. Please contact Property Admin at: **propertyadmin@vrs.co.za**

Communication

To enable us to communicate effectively, please ensure that you keep us updated regarding your current contact details, and most importantly, your email address.

Occupation Dates

Please note that resort calendars are linked to school holidays, and it is therefore vital that you check the annual calendar to ensure that you occupy the correct week.

Please refer to the 2019 Calendar and Resort Instruction Letter available on the following links:

<https://www.vrs.co.za/docs/2019/calendar/MonatengSafariLodgeCalendar2019.pdf>

<https://www.vrs.co.za/docs/2019/instruction/MonatengInstructionLetter-2019.pdf>

Until We Speak Again...

Reading back over this Newsletter now, it seems the past six months have whirled by, in a breeze, spinning above the dense vegetation of the Resort. We have made so many memories with you, our Valued Shareholders and as we look into the setting sun, on another beautiful Monateng day, we smile and pause before the onset of the next six months.

"Goodbye does not mean the end, it does not say forever. It just means that we will soon meet again."

Best Regards,

Marjorie Forssman

VRS Managing Director



Contact Us

t: 012 808 5133

e: monateng@oaks.co.za

Contact VRS

t: 012 492 1232

e: propertyadmin@vrs.co.za

