

Malcolm T.

AUSTRALIA



As a result of Spinal Cord Injury after a motor vehicle accident in 1980 I rely on a wheelchair for mobility. In June 2025 my wife and I spent a week at the Ximuwu private Safari Lodge in the Klaserie Private Nature Reserve, South Africa.

Ximuwu provides outstanding accessible accommodation, including a large stylish cabin with an adjustable bed, roll in shower, bath lift, mobile commode chair, and views of wild life.

Each day we enjoyed morning and evening safari drives with knowledgeable guides.

The 4 wheel drive vehicle used has car seats which slide in and out behind the driver and passenger seats.

This allowed an easy transfer from my wheelchair into the seat from an elevated platform with ramped access.

Once in the seat it slides back into the vehicle so the door can be closed.

This allowed me to enjoy participating in the safari drives with my wife and 3 other guests.

During the drives we had close up encounters with a pride of lions, wild dogs, elephants, buffalo, rhinos, giraffes, zebras, hippos, hyenas, jackals and various antelopes. We also spotted a leopard, and the bird life was also incredible.

The Lodge's restaurant/bar area and swimming pool are fully accessible, and the food was fantastic and plentiful. A large veranda overlooks a water pond and from there we saw elephants, giraffes, antelopes, hyenas and other wild animals come to drink. For an even closer experience there is an accessible "hide" bunker right next to the pond where we could watch and hear the animals as they drank.

The staff were incredibly friendly and accommodating, making our stay really enjoyable. Our reservation package included a helicopter tour, and as an example of how committed the Lodge is to accessibility, they have a custom made elevated platform with a ramp for access into and out of the helicopter.

As a wheelchair user I have travelled extensively, and the Ximuwu Lodge is the best example I have come across of luxury accessible accommodation in a beautiful setting delivering an uncompromised ability to fully participate in all the activities on offer. It is a gold standard in accessible tourism. The thought and care that has been invested ensures that everyone who stays there is able to enjoy all that is on offer. For my wife and I, it was an exhilarating and empowering experience, and we highly recommend it to anyone with, or without, mobility issues.



Malcolm and Charisse