

Janet Templeton & Lesley Love

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

Sisters, Safari and True Freedom

In the heart of the Klaserie Private Nature Reserve, where the wilderness flows seamlessly into the vast Kruger National Park, two sisters arrived with a shared dream.

For Janet Templeton, an above-knee amputee, Africa had always called her back. This time, her sister Lesley Love joined her for five unforgettable days at Ximuwu Safari Lodge. What they did not expect was that the experience would begin long before they reached the lodge.

The true eye opener came at the airport.

Waiting for them was Ximuwu's specially adapted wheelchair-accessible vehicle. No awkward transfers. No uncertainty. No feeling of being an afterthought. From that very first moment, the sisters felt considered and respected. Later, they would say it was the best travel experience they had ever had. Even the newest cruise ships, they reflected, did not come close in terms of accessibility and ease.

Janet had been on safari before. But those trips came with obstacles. Uneven pathways, difficult vehicle access and inaccessible bathrooms often turned simple moments into challenges. At Ximuwu, everything felt effortless. Ramps blended naturally into the lodge's contemporary design. Wide doorways opened smoothly. The safari vehicle allowed Janet to board comfortably and with dignity.

One deeply personal highlight was Janet's bath. Using the lodge's bath lift, she was gently lowered into warm water for a proper soak. It had been years since she had experienced a comfortable bath. Afterwards, she felt completely rejuvenated — relaxed in a way she had almost forgotten was possible.

Each morning began with golden light stretching across the bush. Guided by Rudi and tracked expertly by Tulani, they ventured into the wild. Elephant herds crossed sandy riverbeds. Giraffes moved between acacia trees. Buffalo gathered in impressive numbers.



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One afternoon, they paused for sundowners as the sun set behind the distant Drakensberg Mountains. The sky turned amber and rose. Silence settled around them as day softened into evening.

On the drive back, Africa offered a breathtaking finale. A lion pride approached the dam in front of the lodge and began to drink. From the deck, Janet and Lesley watched in awe as the scene unfolded just metres away.

Two nights earlier, they had dined under the stars at a bush dinner illuminated by lantern light. Surrounded by the sounds of nocturnal Africa, it was both intimate and magical.

The complimentary helicopter flight added yet another dimension. As the aircraft lifted into the clear sky, Lesley felt memories return from her PPL training years ago. From above, rivers shimmered and wildlife moved like scattered shadows. For both sisters, it was a moment of absolute freedom.

What made the journey extraordinary was not only the wildlife or the luxury. It was the independence. From airport pickup to sunset drinks, every detail had been designed so Janet could participate fully.

For five remarkable days, the sisters rediscovered what travel should feel like — seamless, joyful and without limits.

