



LET'S GO!

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL FROM WAYPOINT ADVENTURES

ANDRÉ IN AFRICA

"Five countries later, I understand why they say Africa is not for sissies."



Springtime Edition

THE NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE

A completely new digital home for Waypoint — journeys, Campfire Stories, our people, community and online shop together in one place.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

If you know me, you'll know I'm much happier behind the wheel somewhere on a dirt road than sitting behind a desk.

After more than 25 years of travelling and exploring Africa, Rolien and I have covered a lot of kilometres together. We've crossed countless borders, camped in incredible places, got stuck, changed plans and followed plenty of roads simply because we wanted to know where they went.

And that is still what we love about overlanding.

It's not really about the 4x4. The vehicle and equipment get us there, but the real adventure is what happens along the way — the places, wildlife, people, challenges, campfires and unexpected moments that become the stories we remember.

Africa has also taught us that **a plan is only a plan**. Roads wash away, vehicles break, weather changes and sometimes the information is simply wrong. You adapt, make another plan and carry on. For me, that is part of real overlanding.

While we spend much of our time on the road, there is an incredible amount happening behind the scenes at Waypoint Adventures.

A special thank you to Rolien and our office team for the huge effort that has gone into our new website, our media and upgrading our systems to make the entire Waypoint Adventures experience smoother for our clients. The adventure may happen on the road, but it simply wouldn't happen without the people behind it.

That's what **From the Driver's Seat** will be about — the roads, the people, the experiences, the lessons and a few thoughts about this overlanding life we love.

There are still plenty of dirt roads we haven't driven.

See you somewhere on one of them.
Let's Go!

Jean

THE MONTH IN REAR-VIEW

 Lakes & Legends

Two journeys through **Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe**. Thousands of kilometres, changing routes, difficult borders, spectacular wilderness and plenty learnt along the way.

 ANDRÉ CROSSES THE BORDER

André joined us on his first major African overland expedition beyond South Africa, crossing borders through five countries and getting a proper introduction to long-distance travel with Waypoint.

 THE NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE

A completely new digital home for Waypoint — journeys, Campfire Stories, our people, community and online shop together in one place.

 NEW TOUR MERCH

Tour shirts, patches, country collectables and new Waypoint gear started rolling out.

 OUR NEW CLIENT SYSTEM IS LIVE

One profile, less repetitive paperwork, better communication and the beginning of our new loyalty programme.



LAKES & LEGENDS

**TWO JOURNEYS.
FIVE COUNTRIES.
ONE VERY BIG MONTH.**

August was dominated by Lakes & Legends. Not once, but twice.

We travelled through Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, linking the Chobe and Zambezi with South Luangwa, Lake Malawi, Gorongosa and Gonarezhou. And these weren't sightseeing drives.

There were long border crossings, rough tracks, fallen trees, vehicle repairs, changing plans and some very long days. On more than one occasion, simply getting everyone into camp became the day's adventure.

But there was plenty of magic between the challenges. Elephants beside the road. Leopards calling after dark. Evenings beside Lake Malawi. The Zambezi. Big wilderness. New people. And those nights when everyone finally pulls up a chair after a difficult day and starts laughing about what happened.

Travelling the route twice was important for another reason. We learnt.

The second journey gave us the opportunity to reassess distances, camps, borders and the overall flow of Lakes & Legends. Where should we slow down? What needs changing? What works brilliantly already? What can we do better for the people travelling with us?

That's why we drive these routes ourselves. A map can tell you how many kilometres lie between two places. It can't tell you what that journey will actually feel like. Five countries. Thousands of kilometres. Two journeys. Plenty of lessons. And Lakes & Legends is better for it.

ANDRÉ ON THE MOVE

FIRST BIG EXPEDITION NORTH

August was also a first for André.

Lakes & Legends became his first major African expedition with Waypoint, and we didn't exactly ease him into it.

Five countries. Remote tracks. Long border crossings. Vehicle challenges. Changing conditions. Long days behind the wheel. It was an opportunity to experience the kind of guiding that can't really be learnt in an office.

On a long African expedition, the route is only part of the job. You read the road, the convoy, the people and the situation. Plans change. Vehicles need attention. A border takes four hours instead of one. Sometimes camp is still a long way away.

André got the full introduction. He also got the reward: huge landscapes, wildlife, wild camps, new countries and some very good stories.

You can teach systems and procedures. Africa you have to experience for yourself.

We suspect this was only the beginning.

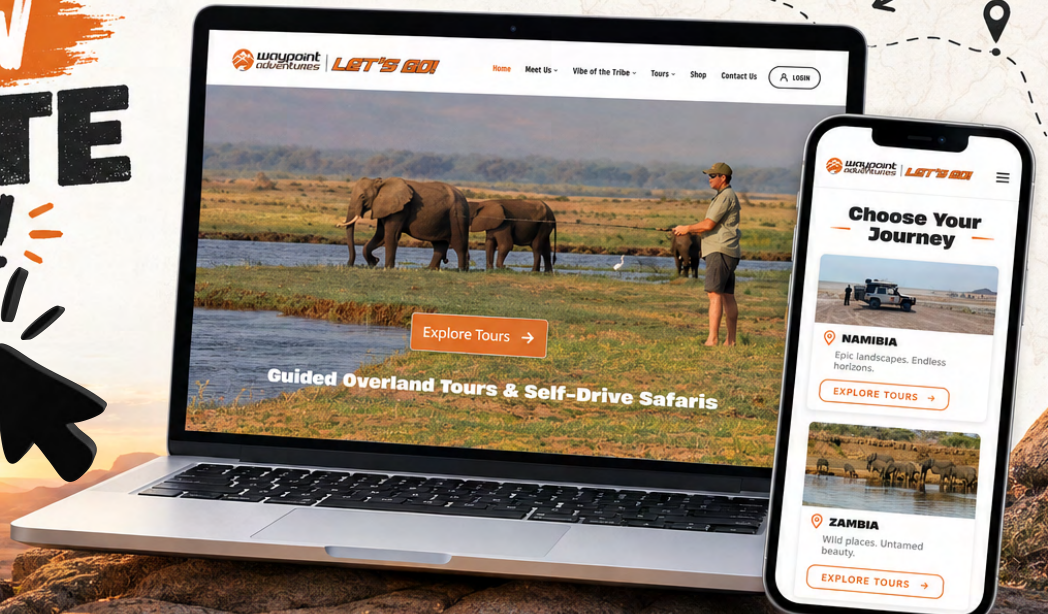
“Five countries later, I understand why they say Africa is not for sissies.”

- André



OUR NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE!

Same epic adventures.
A whole new online home.



A NEW HOME FOR WAYPOINT

THE NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE

This is more than a new look. Waypoint has changed considerably, and we needed a website that could change with us. Our old website primarily told people what tours we offered.

The new one needs to do much more. It's becoming the digital home of Waypoint — somewhere to find a journey, prepare for it, read the stories, meet the team, shop, stay informed and remain part of the community afterwards.

WHAT'S NEW?

CHOOSE YOUR JOURNEY

Our expeditions, routes, dates and information are easier to explore.

CAMPFIRE STORIES

Not everything worth sharing belongs in an itinerary. This is where we talk about Africa, travel realities, people, lessons, wildlife and stories from the road.

MEET US

Meet the people behind the journeys — on the road and behind the scenes.

THE ONLINE SHOP

Tour merchandise, clothing, patches, stickers, collectables and Waypoint gear now have a home of their own.

LET'S GO!

And now this newsletter becomes another part of that connection.

BUT WE'RE NOT FINISHED

The website is live, but we're still refining areas, adding content and connecting systems behind the scenes.

We're quite comfortable saying that. We'd rather invite you in while we're building than pretend everything appeared perfectly overnight.

YOUR STORIES ARE NEXT

This is one of the parts we're most excited about.

Waypoint shouldn't only tell our stories. If you've travelled with us, we want yours too.

Send us that photograph that has a story behind it. Tell us about the animal encounter you'll never forget, the ridiculous moment around the campfire, the person you met, something you learnt, or a little gem you discovered along the way.

You'll start seeing those contributions in Tribe Talk and Campfire Stories.

Waypoint Adventures is becoming somewhere you don't only book a journey. It's somewhere you stay connected to one.

**EXPLORE OUR NEW HOME AND BECOME PART OF
THE COMMUNITY**

CLICK HERE

COLLECT YOUR JOURNEYS

— WAYPOINT ADVENTURES ONLINE STORE —



TOUR PATCHES



COUNTRY STICKERS



TOUR MERCH • TOUR PATCHES • COUNTRY STICKERS • CAPS • BEANIES • TRAVEL GEAR

ONE JOURNEY. ONE STORY. ONE MORE TO COLLECT.



EXPLORE THE COLLECTION

COLLECT YOUR JOURNEYS

We started doing something different with our merchandise this year.

Instead of simply putting a Waypoint logo on another shirt, we're creating merchandise around the actual journeys.

A Lakes & Legends shirt should remind you of Lakes & Legends. A Wildest Dream patch should mean something because you actually drove it.

Our tour shirts and patches are being designed around the routes, destinations and character of each expedition.

**And then came another idea we really like:
Collect your journeys.**

A tour patch.

A country flag.

A sticker on the vehicle.

A shirt from that expedition.

Over time, these aren't just pieces of merchandise. They're a record of where you've been. The new Waypoint online shop will bring the growing collection together, with tour merchandise, shirts, caps, beanies, patches, stickers and collectables being added as we go.

One journey.

One story.

One more to collect.

NOW WE KNOW

WHY IS IT CALLED A "RAIN TREE"?

We were sitting under a tree in the Delta when we noticed something strange. The vehicles and ground underneath it were covered in tiny sticky droplets — and suddenly there were flies everywhere. It looked almost as if the tree itself was raining. So, of course, we had to find out why.

The "rain" isn't actually rain from the tree. Sap-feeding insects living in the branches feed on the plant juices and excrete a sugary liquid called honeydew. Those tiny droplets fall from the canopy like a very light shower. Because the liquid contains sugars, it attracts flies, ants and other insects. So when you're parked under one and your vehicle suddenly feels sticky, look up. **Well, now we know.**



"Been there, done that, got the T-shirt."

A SMARTER WAY BEHIND THE SCENES

LESS PAPERWORK. BETTER COMMUNICATION.

ONE JOURNEY WITH WAYPOINT.

One of the biggest changes at Waypoint this year isn't something you'll see on the road.

Our new client and booking system is now live. And while “new CRM” doesn't sound nearly as exciting as crossing the Zambezi or finding lions outside camp, what it will do for our travellers is something we're genuinely excited about.

For years, every new tour meant forms, information, emails and often being asked for details you'd already given us before. We're changing that.

ONE PROFILE. YOUR WAYPOINT JOURNEY.

When you travel with us, you're no longer just a name attached to a booking.

You'll begin building your own Waypoint profile. Your information can stay connected to you, which means less repetitive paperwork and no more completing the same application forms every time you want to join another journey.

Book again, and we already know you. Over time, your profile becomes part of your history with Waypoint — the journeys you've joined, the information we need to look after you and your ongoing connection with our community.

BETTER COMMUNICATION

One of our biggest goals with the new system is simple:

Keep you informed. From your initial enquiry and booking through preparation and departure, we want the right information to reach you at the right time.

Less searching through old WhatsApps and emails. Less wondering whether you've missed something.

Less duplication. And a much clearer connection between you, your booking and your journey.

AND YES... LOYALTY SHOULD COUNT

We value the people who keep coming back. Our new system gives us the foundation to start recognising that properly through loyalty points, returning-traveller benefits and tour discounts.

The more your journey with Waypoint grows, the more we want your relationship with Waypoint to grow with it.

WHY THIS MATTERS TO US

Waypoint is growing, but we don't want growth to make us less personal.

We want exactly the opposite. Better systems should take care of the administration so that our team can spend less time chasing forms and information — and more time looking after people.

That's the real reason we've invested so much time into rebuilding what happens behind the scenes. One profile. Better information. Better communication. Your journeys connected.

And hopefully, many more adventures still to add to it. Welcome to the new Waypoint.

LET'S GO!

YOUR WAYPOINT PROFILE

ONCE WITH US.
ALWAYS WITH YOU.

We create your profile, collect your information and keep it secure — so you never have to complete another application form again.

LESS PAPERWORK.
MORE ADVENTURE.



YOUR JOURNEY.
YOUR PROFILE.
A STRONGER
WAYPOINT COMMUNITY.



NO MORE APPLICATION FORMS

We collect your information once. No need to complete the same forms again.



YOUR INFORMATION SECURED

Your details are safely kept in your profile.



YOUR JOURNEY HISTORY

All the tours you've joined, in one place.



LOYALTY REWARDS

Earn points, enjoy returning-traveller benefits and special offers.

SAME ROADS.
NEW STORIES.

BE PART OF THE JOURNEY >

Loyalty isn't measured in points. It's measured in roads travelled together.

BEHIND THE BUILD

Building Baraka



BIG NEWS FROM WAYPOINT ADVENTURES!

MEET BARAKA!

There's a new member joining the Waypoint Adventures family — and his name is BARAKA. Baraka is our new Toyota Land Cruiser 70 Series 2.8 GD-6 Automatic Single Cab — and the beginning of something Rolien and I have been planning, discussing, debating and dreaming about for a very long time.

Baraka is Swahili for “blessing”, and we couldn't think of a more fitting name. But make no mistake...

THIS IS NO ORDINARY LAND CRUISER BUILD.

The first major phase of Baraka's transformation is well underway.

Before we could even think about building our new house, we needed to create the right foundation.

And that foundation is serious:

- 550 mm chassis extension
- Dakar-spec suspension
- Racing-spec high-performance braking system
- Upgraded high-performance brake lines
- Upgraded tyres and rims • Heavy-duty bumpers
- Rock sliders
- Upgraded underbody protection
- Upgraded engine management system
- Upgraded engine protection and monitoring systems • Serious fuel capacity for extended range
- Plenty of onboard water for extended self-sufficiency • Major interior upgrades
- Expedition-focused modifications throughout

But Baraka isn't simply a collection of upgrades...

THE REAL STORY IS THE EXPERIENCE BEHIND THE BUILD.

Many years of travelling, exploring and guiding through Africa have shaped our ideas. Rolien and I have seen countless versions of overlanding vehicles, campers and expedition builds. We looked. We listened. We asked questions. We watched what worked. We watched what didn't. We discovered what we loved — and learned exactly what we DON'T want. Did we “steal” a few good ideas along the way?

DEFINITELY!

Let's call it borrowing from experience! Did we have plenty of our own ideas?

ABSOLUTELY!

Somewhere between all those ideas, our own experiences and thousands upon thousands of kilometres actually living on the road, Baraka started taking shape.

There have been many discussions.

Many ideas.

Many changes.

And MANY debates!

What do we really need?

What don't we need?

What works?

What can we improve?

Will we actually use it?

Will it still make sense after three months on the road?

FOLLOW THE BUILD to find out!

AND THE QUESTION THAT KEEPS COMING BACK:

DOES IT HAVE A PURPOSE?

Here's the reality...

WE LIVE IN THIS VEHICLE FOR ALMOST 300 DAYS A YEAR.

For much of our lives, this isn't simply our 4x4 in the driveway or storage.

THIS IS OUR OTHER HOME.

Our transport. Our kitchen. Our office. Our bedroom. Our power station. Our water supply. Our base camp. So from the beginning, there has been one non-negotiable:

IT MUST BE DONE RIGHT!

We are carefully selecting high-quality equipment and working with top-end suppliers and specialists who understand what we're trying to achieve.

Every component must earn its place.

Everything must work together.

Everything must have a purpose.

And now...

IT'S TIME TO BUILD THE HOUSE.

This is where years of experience, thousands upon thousands of African kilometres and all those discussions and debates finally come together.

We're approaching the living space with a clean sheet of paper.

Super modern. Highly functional. Technology-driven. Comfortable. Self-sufficient. Built for the way WE actually live in Africa.

At its heart will be a serious 24V electrical system.

And one major change?

NO MORE GAS.

Power, cooking, refrigeration, water, storage, lighting, connectivity, comfort and everyday living are all being reconsidered.

And there is MUCH more we're not revealing yet.

Because we're not building a camper for a few weekends away.

Baraka is a Swahili word meaning blessing. It carries the deeper sense of grace, goodness and something fortunate that enriches a journey or a life.

Baraka was never going to be ordinary. Neither was her colour.

WE'RE BUILDING OUR OTHER HOME.

And then there is the colour...

MUSTARD YELLOW!

Do we think it will work?

TOO LATE!

IT'S MUSTARD YELLOW!!!

There's something about that colour that takes us straight back to the heritage of the Land Cruiser.

It's classic.

Almost old-school Toyota Land Cruiser.

Simple. Unmistakable. A little nostalgic.

And we LOVE it.

In fact, that contrast has become part of what Baraka is all about:

CLASSIC LAND CRUISER ON THE OUTSIDE. SUPER-MODERN EXPEDITION HOME ON THE INSIDE.

Old-school character meeting modern technology.

Land Cruiser heritage meeting everything we've learned from years of travelling Africa.

And somehow, that mustard yellow just seems right.

So...

Is Baraka the new DREAM MACHINE?

YES!!!!

Absolutely.

BARAKA IS THE DREAM MACHINE.

Lots of fuel. Lots of water. Lots of power. Serious capability. A completely new house still to come.

And one unmistakably mustard-yellow Land Cruiser.

SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL IS COMING.

Welcome to the Waypoint Adventures family, **BARAKA!**

LET'S BUILD OUR OTHER HOME.

LET'S BUILD THE DREAM MACHINE!



THE WAYPOINT SPOTLIGHT

People, places and products worth knowing about.



WILDOG ACCESSORIES: MAKING NEW TRACKS

Founded in 2014 by Mechanical Engineer Renier Rossouw, Wildog Accessories is a proudly South African manufacturer of premium 4x4 accessories built for real-world adventures.

What started as chalk sketches and cardboard prototypes in a driveway has grown into a trusted brand with a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Pretoria, a Cape Town warehouse, and a growing network of more than 600 resellers across South Africa and beyond.

Every Wildog product is engineered with purpose, combining strength, precision, and practical functionality to give drivers the confidence to explore further. From front replacement bumpers and rock sliders to underbody protection and towing solutions, every component is designed, manufactured, and tested to perform when it matters most.

This is the first of many articles introducing the carefully selected suppliers, partners and sponsors who form part of the Waypoint Adventures journey.

We select the people and companies we work with because we believe in their products, quality, service and, importantly, because they understand the demands of real-world African overlanding.

A big thank you to Renier and the Wildog Accessories team for their support, partnership and for sharing their story with us.

Jean

A PARTNERSHIP BUILT FOR ADVENTURE

At Wildog Accessories, we believe the best partnerships are built on shared values, not just shared destinations. That's why we're proud to partner with Waypoint Adventures—a team that embodies the spirit of exploration, self-reliance, and responsible overlanding across Africa.

Their Land Cruiser is equipped with a Wildog Hunter Front Replacement Bumper, Rock Sliders, Scrub Bars, and a Tray Towbar—a combination designed to deliver real protection and dependable performance when the journey pushes beyond the beaten track. These are products built to handle demanding conditions while giving travellers the confidence to keep moving forward.

What makes this partnership truly meaningful is more than the vehicle itself. It's a shared commitment to **encouraging people to explore Africa responsibly, embrace the unexpected, and create unforgettable experiences** along the way. Every trail travelled, every remote campsite reached, and every story shared reflects what both Wildog and Waypoint Adventures stand for: capable vehicles, authentic adventures, and a community that inspires others to discover what's beyond the next horizon.

Together, we're not just equipping a Land Cruiser—we're helping fuel a journey that inspires more people to experience Africa, one track at a time.

FUEL YOUR ADVENTURE WITH MORE WILD GEAR!



WHAT'S NEXT?

The road doesn't stop here.

September is already shaping up to be another busy month at Waypoint.

WILDEST DREAM #12

MUD, GUTS, GLORY

We're back in Botswana — deep sand, water crossings, wildlife, wild camps and everything that makes the Wildest Dream what it is.

FLOWERS #12

WIND, RAIN & FIRE

The flowers may have been the reason we went, but Mother Nature had other plans. Wind, rain and fire became part of the journey changing the landscape, testing the route and reminding us once again that Africa doesn't always follow the itinerary.

BARAKA — THE BUILD CONTINUES

Our new mustard dream machine is taking shape. Next month we'll show you more of the build, the decisions we're making and some of the people and products becoming part of Baraka.

WAYPOINT SPOTLIGHT

A new regular feature begins. Each month we'll introduce a person, place, supplier or product that forms part of our journeys. Not a ranking — simply giving credit where it's due and sharing things worth knowing about.

MORE FROM THE CONVOY

We want more of your stories in LET'S GO. Your favourite photograph. The moment that still makes you laugh. Something you learnt. A place you'll never forget. Or simply the story behind a great day on the road.

AND NEXT MONTH...

More road stories. More lessons. More wildlife. More of Baraka. More from our travellers. And probably a few things we haven't planned yet. Because Africa usually has something to say about the plan.



STAY CONNECTED

The newsletter might end here, but the conversation doesn't have to.



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM



WHATSAPP



WHATSAPP



WEBSITE



LET'S GO!