



# ZANDSPRUIT BUSH & AERO ESTATE

TEXT AND PICS: GUY LEITCH

## ZANDSPRUIT OPENS WITH A SPLASH

**Z**ANDSPRUIT Bush & Aero Estate at Hoedspruit is the first development in the world to combine an Aero Park, where you can build your house with its own hangar on a runway, with a game reserve.

Despite the pressures of the worldwide recession, sales of stands at Zandspruit have been steady, which confirms the fundamental soundness of this unique development. To celebrate the completion of two key aspects of the estate, a glittering celebration was held in February.

To maintain the quality of the natural environment, instead of being tarred the 1000 metre long and 10 metre wide airstrip has been paved with interlocking paving blocks. With turning circles and run-up areas this required more than 11,000 square metres of paving for the 1,000 m long runway. One of the first users of the runway was its builder Dawie Ruthven, who flew in from Nelspruit with his RV-7. A further key milestone was achieved with the opening of the impressive main entrance.

Zandspruit provides 161 bush stands, starting from just R 450 000 (VAT inclusive) as well as 38 aero stands, starting at R 1 100 000. For those wishing to live in 'A Better Place', as their slogan has it, yet still be able to commute to work elsewhere, Zandspruit is the perfect solution. And should the weather be too bad to fly VFR, you can always catch one of the regular twice daily SA Express flights from Hoedspruit's Eastgate Airport. ✈️

**1:** Tracy den Dunnen cuts the ribbon to open the new entrance complex



**2:** Martin den Dunnen shares his joy at the opening of his dream project



**3:** Some of the crowd who attended the opening. LtoR: Koos Kiek of Aerosud with his wife Linda, Debbie Wheeldon with husband Glen of SAA



**4:** The Aeropark offers lodges with hangars on the runway. Here Martin den Dunnen's brightly painted C206 is seen in its new hangar





Land, and you'll know

you've arrived

in a wild place you thought

no longer existed...



Zandspruit Bush & Aero Estate is an unspoilt hideaway in the African bushveld. A place for nature to flourish, where you can enjoy nature up close and personal, on a daily basis. Zandspruit Estate provides an environment in which both adults and children can live a carefree, secure life.

Aviation enthusiasts will delight in the fact that you can land and hangar your plane right at your bush home in the Aero Estate. Limited hangarage is offered to the Bush Estate stands. Extend your weekend breakaway by cutting down on travel time as Zandspruit is only an hour's flying from Gauteng.

161 Bush stands and 38 Aero stands, all Full Title. A 650 ha wilderness area fully stocked with plains game, in which to game drive, walk, cycle, bird or explore on horseback – Life does not get better than this. Conveniently close to retailers, Doctors, schools and top class restaurants - the best of both worlds combine. (2km out of Hoedspruit Town) Zandspruit Bush & Aero Estate is the African dream personified.

Fly to a better place, Fly to Zandspruit Bush & Aero Estate.



ZANDSPRUIT  
**BUSH & AERO ESTATE**  
**HOEDSPRUIT - LIMPOPO**

086 000 ZAND

**MOVE TO A BETTER PLACE**

[www.zandspruit.co.za](http://www.zandspruit.co.za)

Idyllic Zandspruit with Mariepskop behind

# ZANDSPRUIT GUEST LODGE

Zandspruit: A runway and a river runs through it

TEXT: GUY LEITCH



The best way to buy a property in the 'slowveld'



Overnight visitors to Zandspruit can make use of the luxurious lodge



The runway was paved with bricks to minimise environmental impact

**T**O be able to experience the actual quality of life in Zandspruit, we were invited to spend a few nights at their lodge on the Aero Estate.

As the key developer, Martin den Dunnen has made it possible for potential investors to experience the beauty of the Zandspruit bush for themselves. He upgraded the old hunters' camp on the eponymous Zandspruit River to a comfortable guest camp, consisting of two large rondawels and a central lounge and catering block, located next to a very welcoming swimming pool. The rondawels are large and luxuriously fitted out, with romantic four poster beds draped in mosquito netting. It is noteworthy that the mosquito netting is more decorative than effective as it does not close. But it reminds guests that mosquitoes are in fact not a problem in this part of the world.

The rondawels' bathrooms are generous and there are both inside and outside showers. For our stay Martin made sure that our every need was attended to by the enthusiastic and always on hand ranger Rory Shackelford, who also showed that he was a more than capable chef for both breakfast and dinners.

The guest lodge is situated

on the north bank of the river and so looks across to the unspoilt south side. Two thirds of the 1000 ha farm has been allocated as an untouched wilderness area of 650 ha for game viewing.

Game drives can be more evocative of Kenya than the South African lowveld. The estate is situated beneath the iconic Mariepskop, which for years housed lowveld ATC control as part of its radar base on the peak. Zandspruit has cleared large areas of the encroaching scrub bush to create more natural open savannah, and you are thus able to enjoy giraffe and zebra out in the open against the majestic backdrop of the mountain.

The first owners' houses are nearing completion and they show how buyers can choose to take in the mountain views or else build in the dense but shaded, and thus cooler, riverine vegetation. Alternatively you can build a house on the runway and have your own hangar attached to your house. Mountain views are also available from these prime stands.

Zandspruit is indeed "A Better Place" and, for anyone looking for real quality of life in the 'slowveld', yet with ease of access for your own aircraft, Martin will gladly welcome you to their beautiful guest house. 🛩️