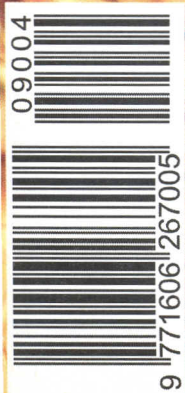




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South Namibian Tusker

By Frank Berbuir

The author describes a hunting trip in southern Namibia, during which he bagged an ostrich and a warthog.

There is nothing like travelling to Africa when in your hometown wintertime is coming and the weather is cold, grey and rainy.

We left Germany on a November evening and flew to Namibia again for a short bowhunting adventure.

Juergen from Wildlife Marketing (www.wildlife-marketing.de) and myself again visited the hunting farms Kachauchab and Urusis in the south of Namibia near Maltahöhe.

I was going after ostrich, warthog, blue wildebeest and steenbuck.

Due to the rough territory and more or less totally open grassland with very sparse cover, stalking was not a preferred option, so we decided to hunt from a stone blind.

The afternoon hunt at Urusis started at 4 pm, when we headed to the blind and regrettably flushed a good old warthog out of his bed under a thorny bush. Damned why we didn't see him, I thought, but I would have the luck to meet him again.

The next morning saw me out of my bed at 4:30 am and after a quick coffee and two pieces of cupcake we were out on the Land Cruiser and headed back to the blind.

That morning I had the fortune to harvest a fine male ostrich.

At 9:30 am, after the trophy pics and uploading of the big bird on the bakkie, we decided to walk-and-stalk for the warthog we had spooked the afternoon before.

With careful movements and ears pricked up for any noise or action, Christian, my PH, and I sneaked from sparse bush to sparse bush. At the very moment when we were moving and without any cover the boar charged out of his ambush approximately 20 metres in front of us. Holy smoke, now Christian and I were spooked!

Fortunately the warthog did not take flight. No, he was too curious. After a short sprint he stopped and stood uncovered in the prairie like us.

What a scene – two humans and a wild pig rooted to the spot under the African sun in this wonderful landscape, all three waiting to see what happens next.

Christian ranged it at 40 metres, standing left broadside. I was standing slightly behind him and at a snail's pace I lifted-up my Bowtech Tribute and placed my hand around the Gripwerks birds-eye maple grip. Dead slow I nocked in the Carbon

Express Maxima Hunter arrow with the 125-grain G5 Tekan II broadhead. In slow motion I drew my 71-pound bow and settled the sight pin on his vitals.

I released my arrow and within a split second it passed through the hog. The boar cut a 90° hook to the right and ran up the hill out of sight.

Ten meters behind the spot where the warthog stood we found the arrow and the blood trail. After a hard tracking under the glittering African sun on a sparse blood trail we found the boar dead under a bush. The placement of the broadhead hole showed that the shot was a little rearward, but fortunately cut the lungs.

Exhausted but happy, we took some trophy pictures before we went back to the car, loaded the warthog and enjoyed a hard-earned beer.

As always in Namibia, we enjoyed hearty hospitality and had a wonderful time in this wonderful African country.

Equipment:

71-pound Bowtech Tribute bow
Gripwerks birdseye maple custom grip
G5 Optix ME Sight
Trophy Ridge Drop-away rest
SVL Camo stabiliser
Scott Wildcat release
Carbon Express Maxima Hunter 350 arrow
G5 Tekan II mechanical broadhead

Clothes:

Sniper Africa Camo

Optics:

Zeiss Victory 10 x 40 & Leupold RX-III Rangefinder