

### **Tankwa Long weekend Trip18 – 21 April 2025 Feedback**

On our first night we camp at a new venue, Menoegaa Camp, 10km outside Op Die Berg. This gave us a bit of a head start for the next day's trip to Tankwa.

We drove the Katbakkies Pass on our way to Tankwa padstall and just before the pass starts, we saw people "Wild Camping" and we all agree when we do a similar trip in the future we will also do that as it is very isolated and would be a unique experience.



We got to the Tankwa padstal around 12h00, just in time for lunch where we met up with Fred, Karen and Sam. Now we were five vehicles in total.



After a typical padstal lunch we took the R355(longest untarred road in South Africa from Ceres to Calvinia) and headed towards Die Mond, a real oasis in the middle of nowhere.

We came across this Mazda 1970/71 model bakkie, standard no big wheels nor 4x4 but travelled on all those roads without missing a beat.



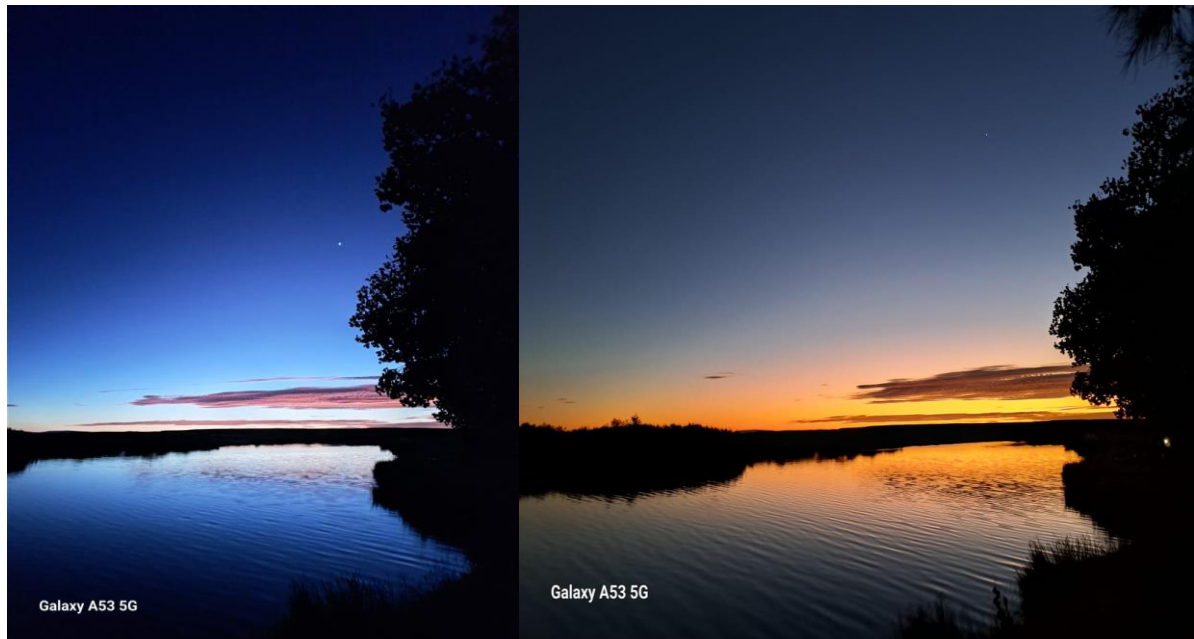


Beautiful grass cover and large trees awaited us, and we set up camp close to each other.

As it was Easter Friday, we had Hot Cross buns with spread and Elsje gave everyone a special handmade gift filled with Easter Eggs.

We had our traditional communal braai every night and Fred shared remarkably stories as he would normally do with technical details, and we once again appreciated his vast knowledge off everything.

Look at these beautiful pictures capturing Sunrise at Die Mond



Day two we left Die Mond at 9h00 as we had a long day of driving ahead of us.

We entered the Tankwa Reserve and stopped at the reception as we had to pay our reservation fees as we had planned to do a four-by-four trail in the reserve.

The road condition is sad to say the least, as they are not putting in any effort to maintain it, extremely corrugated,

We drove up Ganaga pass up to the viewpoint and stopped at Ganaga Lodge for lunch.





After lunch we took a short loop jeep track and stop at another viewpoint and realized how privileged we are to do what we do and live in the Western Cape with beautiful place to go and explore.

As we took more time than planned to get back into the Reserve, we decided not to do the Leeu Berg 4x4 trail and we head off to Tankwa Tented camp driving past the Tankwa Guest house (once owned by Attie Frik were they farmed Lucerne and dates) and the Oudebaskraal dam, that was the largest privately owned fresh water dam in the country.

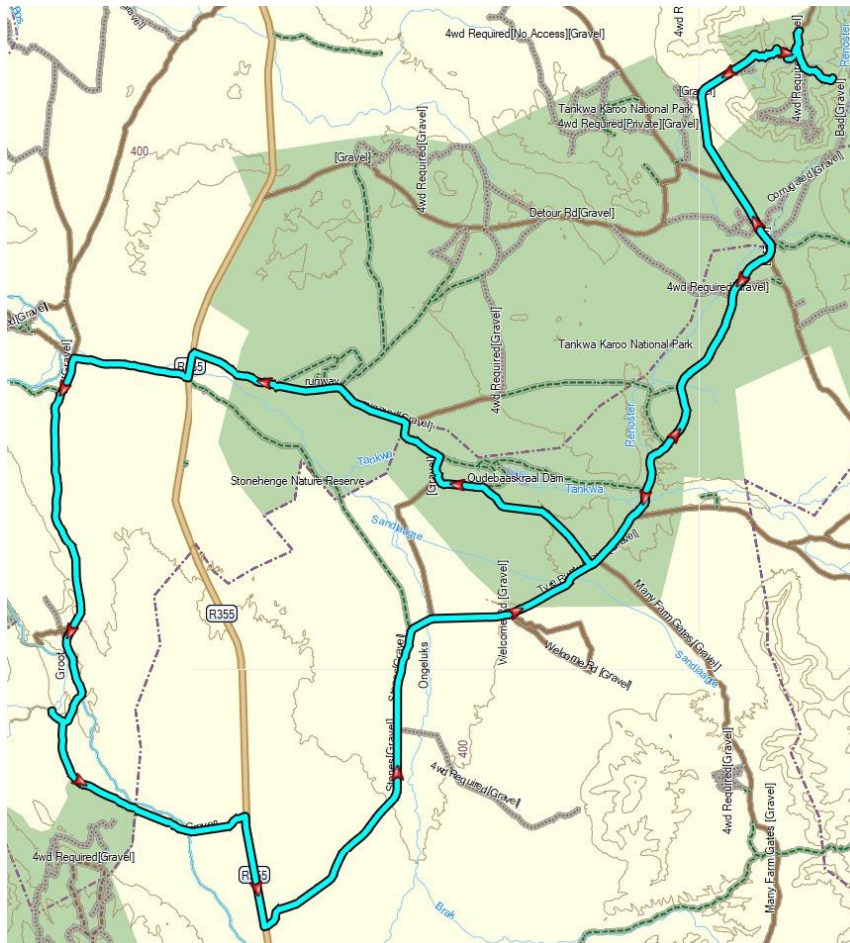
We stopped for a cold refreshment at the Tankwa Tented camp.





We then took a road back to Die Mond and on the way picked up a lost dog which we got someone to take to the camp site. Later Carl came across the owners of the lost dog about 15 km further on who was looking for the road that will lead them to the Biedouw Valley. They went into tears when he told them that their lost dog is at the Tented Camp, what a “Feel Good” story played out.

We arrived extremely late at camp and had yet another fantastic evening together.



Fred tracked our routes with his Garmen, in total we did close to 600km the weekend

We started the next day with a communal breakfast and what a feast it was.

We broke up camp and took the road back and could not resist to stop at Die Padstal again.

We left for Panorama Camp via Katbakkies pass gain. We had a small setback on our way back and arrived at 15h00 at one of the most beautiful camp sites.

We made camp under huge, shaded trees, and green grass next to a lake.

We had a great braai together and shared a new product ideal for us campers that you can buy at Spar(Braai Paai) a frozen product made from filo pastry filled with cheese & onions or onion and steak, various fillings available and we can recommend it for your camp.

The next day we break up camp and set of home. Karen and Sam decided to stay another night.

We also agreed, it is such a beautiful camp its worth another visit in future.



Thank you to Fred, Carl, Paul, Jolene & Jana, Karen & Sam and Elsje for a memorable weekend.

Until next time