

Chapter 1 : Trophy Hunting the Lion in South Africa - ASH Adventures

I believe I would have enjoyed this book more if I didn't have such a soft spot for felines. They weren't shooting and spearing lions the entire time (they took breaks to hunt elephants, giraffes, hippopotami and crocodiles), but that was the chief subject of the book.

Symbol of strength and majesty from Old Testament times until present day. Feared and loathed super predator. Once widespread across much of Asia, Southern Europe and all of Africa, the lions range has been considerably reduced within historical times. Its very size, strength and appetite have been its downfall, whilst occasional forays into man eating have done nothing to endear it, as a species, to rural communities. Lion are the largest predator in Africa with male lions weighing an average of kg lbs and standing some 1. Females are slightly shorter and considerably slimmer in build, weighing an average of kg lbs. Males are characterised by a large bushy mane around the throat, which, in some populations may extend right down the chest and belly. It is usually a tawny colour, somewhat darker than the rest of the coat, but in many populations may appear almost black. Although no subspecies are officially recognised, there is considerable variation, particularly in coat and mane colour and form, depending on locality. Males dwelling in thick thorn scrub are usually virtually maneless, whilst in some areas of the Kalahari the coat may be so pale as to be almost white. Lion are also the only social cats. They live in prides varying from 5 to 30 in numbers pride size is dependent upon food availability, terrain and hunting pressure , and cooperate in hunting. The pride male changes periodically and his function within the pride is largely confined to breeding and protecting kills from hyaenas, or helping the pride rob other predators of their kills. There is a complex social organisation within the pride, and communal care of the cubs. One feature of lion social behaviour that has weighed against them under hunting pressure, is that when a new male takes over the pride, he kills off all the cubs from the previous incumbent. During the day lions tend to lie around in the shade, either digesting the previous meal or simply resting. They are seldom active more than a couple of hours after sunrise, and only become active again in the early evening. Lions eat a considerable variety of prey ranging from mice to young elephants. Individual lion prides, however, often specialise on one particular species of prey. In Hwange national park some prides specialise on buffalo, whilst others specialise on diurnal attacks on giraffe. In Botswana, porcupines and other smaller animals form a significant proportion of some prides diets. The individual hunting techniques of how to hamstring a giraffe without getting kicked to death or flip over a porcupine without getting full of quills is passed on from generation to generation. Location Lions exhibit a very wide habitat tolerance and are found in anything from thick bush through open forrest to desert. They are not water dependant and are only naturally absent from the Congo jungles. Man has, however, exterminated them from most farming areas and today lion are confined to designated conservation areas and the more remote and sparsely populated tribal lands across Africa South of the Sahara. They are not particularly popular on private game ranches and conservancies as they invariably eat a considerably greater value of ungulates than they themselves are worth. Hunting areas are therefore largely confined to government controlled safari areas or said tribal lands, where they are regarded as problem animals. Lions are great wanderers and lone males periodically turn up in areas where they have been absent for many years, often as far as km from their normal range. Home ranges of the prides tend to be fairly fixed and the pride will only move territory if forced to do so by food supply needs or competition. But with Lion there are a host of other factors. Mane colour, length and form are important considerations to many sportsmen, and these vary considerably with location, as does pure physical size. There are probably only a couple of areas in Africa where he will be able to look over more than a couple of males on a sixteen day hunt and the first mature male encountered is the one to take. Hunting Methods Lion are unusual in that they are very much two animals in one. They are extremely lazy and spend the greater part of their live simply resting and watching. In daylight lions tend to be rather shy, giving way to man except when a lioness is protecting her cubs or other exceptional circumstances. At night though, they are definitely king, and give way to nobody. Even cow elephants bunch together at night when lion are around, and the numbers of young elephant killed by lions is much higher than many people imagine. Similarly when hunting

them. In general they succumb easily to any well placed shot, and many of the professional lion hunters in the early years of this century who were employed to rid the cattle ranches of lion used only military surplus. Wounded or annoyed though, and the lion becomes a very different beast. The first is the bait and blind method. This is the usual and often only technique applicable to any area with hard or stoney ground. There is a whole art to successfully laying a bait and building a blind or tree stand but if done correctly in an area where lion are present in reasonable numbers, the hunter is virtually guaranteed an easy shot at a lion. Where lion are reasonably common or little hunted, it is usually possible to keep the lions on the bait until daylight. In many areas in Africa it is illegal to shoot at night and so every effort has to be made to keep the animals feeding. Again Location and size of the bait are crucial to this. In some areas it is legal to shoot at night. This is a whole different ball game to shooting in daylight. Yes, it is easier to get the animals on the bait, yes the lions are dazzled by the light, giving the hunter a sitting target for a few seconds, BUT the chances of a mistake are much higher, and the lionesses may well join the fray, particularly if the male is wounded and decides to fight. The hunter himself needs to decide what is ethical, right, and the levels of risk that are worth taking. The other method of hunting lion is to track them down on foot in daylight. This is only applicable to sandy areas where the spoor is easy to follow. In brief, one dives around the hunting area until the spoor of a large male is detected and then one sets off in pursuit. The lions will spend the greater part of the day resting in the shade, and so are unlikely to be more than a few miles from where they were hunting the previous night, and a good tracker, in favourable terrain, will catch up to them within a few hours. The lion are unlikely to run away and a careful stalk should bring one within easy shooting range before any response from the pride is elicited. Unless there is a particular problem such as very young cubs , the pride will run when the male is shot. A missed shot will put the lions on their guard and you are very unlikely to catch up with them that day or even for the next few. Firearm selection and shot placement For the most part, lion can be regarded as soft skinned game. They have a relatively light bone structure, thin skin and are not that big an animal they weigh less than a big sable or gemsbok. Taylor noted that the. Rushby, when dealing with the Man eaters of Njoma preferred his 9,3 with continental high velocity loads giving a velocity of fps over a departmental. The reason was simple. This susceptibility to shock is usually attributed to a highly developed nervous system, but large, fragile lungs, coupled with a very large heart and big blood vessels for its size must surely also be contributing factors. Consequently, in many countries Lion are classified as large soft skinned game and may be legally hunted with rifles suitable for sable, eland and giraffe. Most of the time a rifle in the. For hunting at night or following up a wounded animal something considerably heavier is definitely needed. For night shooting, something in the order of a. Bullets such as the Norma Oryx really stand out as a truly great design for lion, especially in the smaller calibres. For following up a wounded lion, nothing under the. In their modern loadings the. Again, bullet selection is the key to satisfaction and safety. A charging lion is definitely NOT a soft-skinned animal, and light-for-calibre or frangible bullet designs are going to fail dismally. A lion tensed up to fight probably offers nearly as much resistance to a bullet as a Cape Buffalo, and bullet selection for this specialised task needs to be much the same. Solids, however, should NOT be used. The shock and tissue damage created is simply too small to conclude matters quickly enough. As with every animal, bullet placement is important. The brain is a tiny target, located behind the eyes if the lion is looking directly towards you. From any other angle the brain is an extremely difficult target since the mane obscures the head and even the ears making it virtually impossible to determine where the skull actually is. Even when the head is clearly visible such as on a lioness or maneless male , hunters tend to shoot too high. The whole top of the skull is covered by massive muscles to work the jaws and the brain is located several inches lower than one would normally expect see photo 1. Consequently the brain shot is to be avoided if at all possible. For the chest shot, there is nothing startling about a lions anatomy except that it is rare to shoot a lion in the classic broadside on standing position. If shot from a blind the lion will probably be standing on its back legs feeding or lying down near the bait. If it is tracked down it will either be lying down, with its head lifted to keep a lazy watch, or it will be crouching facing the hunter watching him. The heart is large and situated low in the chest, somewhat further back than on the antelopes. Above are the major arteries and veins, whilst above and behind are the lungs. If the lion is lying down it may not be feasible to try for a heart shot. It is too easy to place the

bullet too low and miss everything vital. Much better then to take a lung shot and try to ensure that both lungs are raked by the bullet. In short, the whole front half of the chest is the target area and any shot here with an appropriate bullet will result in rapid, if not instantaneous incapacitation. Use a Brine - It is always best to use a saturated brine solution with some sort of anti-bacterial additive to ensure the best curing of the skin prior to tanning. Belly Fat - When skinning a lion it is particularly important to remove any fat from the skin particularly from the belly area as this will inhibit the salt from penetrating the skin. This results in the eventual loss of the tail tuft. Be sure to skin right to the tip of the very tip of the tail and remove this digit. Toes - Similarly it is important to remove the last digit in the toes of the feet leaving only the claw in the skin. When skinning the foot it is acceptable to cut through the centre of the main pad to access the rest of the foot but be sure to score the inside of the pad so as ensure the salt penetration into this area. Use of nail brush - A useful tool to clean blood encrusted areas particularly around bullet wounds, etc.

Chapter 2 : Lion Hunting - Hunt Lions With Bullet Safaris

Once in a life-time sighting of lions seizing an opportunity to hunt a newborn giraffe! The mother of the giraffe tries her hardest to save her calf, but unfortunately she isn't successful.

Mane colour varies and darkens with age; research shows its colour and size are influenced by environmental factors such as average ambient temperature. Mane length apparently signals fighting success in male-male relationships; darker-maned individuals may have longer reproductive lives and higher offspring survival, although they suffer in the hottest months of the year. The presence, absence, colour and size of the mane are associated with genetic precondition, sexual maturity, climate and testosterone production; the rule of thumb is that a darker, fuller mane indicates a healthier animal. In Serengeti National Park, female lions favour males with dense, dark manes as mates. The hormone testosterone has been linked to mane growth; castrated lions often have little to no mane because the removal of the gonads inhibits testosterone production. In the Chauvet Cave is a sketchy drawing of two maneless lions that appearing to be walking side-by-side. One lion is mostly obscured by the other; the obscuring lion is larger than the obscured one and is depicted with a scrotum. White lion White lions owe their colouring to a recessive allele The white lion is a rare morph with a genetic condition called leucism that is caused by a double recessive allele. It is not albino; it has normal pigmentation in the eyes and skin. They were removed from the wild in the s, thus decreasing the white lion gene pool. Nevertheless, 17 births have been recorded in five prides between and Intermittent bursts of activity continue until dawn, when hunting most often takes place. Such a group is called a "pride". Groups of male lions are called "coalitions". Large prides, consisting of up to 30 individuals, have been observed. A lion may switch lifestyles; nomads can become residents and vice versa. Females lions stay closer to their natal pride. Therefore, female lions in an area are more closely related to each other than male lions in the same area. The reasons for the development of sociality in lionesses - the most pronounced in any cat species - are the subject of much debate. Increased hunting success appears to be an obvious reason, but this is uncertain upon examination; coordinated hunting allows for more successful predation but also ensures non-hunting members reduce per capita calorific intake. Some females, however, take a role raising cubs that may be left alone for extended periods. Members of the pride tend to regularly play the same role in hunts and hone their skills. The health of the hunters is the primary need for the survival of the pride; hunters are the first to consume the prey at the site it is taken. Asiatic lion prides differ from African prides in group composition. Male Asiatic lions are solitary or associate with up to three males, forming a loose pride. Pairs of males rest and feed together, and display marking behaviour at the same sites. Females associate with up to 12 other females, forming a stronger pride together with their cubs. They share large carcasses with each other but seldom share food with males. Female and male lions associate only when mating. Males in coalitions of three or four individuals exhibit a pronounced hierarchy, in which one male dominates the others. Dominant males mate more frequently than their coalition partners; during a study carried out between December and December, three females were observed switching mating partners in favour of the dominant male. Its prey consists mainly of mammals - particularly ungulates - with a preference for blue wildebeest, plains zebra, African buffalo, gemsbok and giraffe. Lions kill other predators such as leopard, cheetah and spotted hyena but seldom consume them. In October, a pride of up to 30 lions killed and consumed eight African bush elephants that were between four and eleven years old. The prey-to-predator weight ratio of 10 Cooperatively hunting lions are usually successful. Males attached to prides do not usually participate in group hunting. They take advantage of factors that reduce visibility; many kills take place near some form of cover or at night. To protect their cattle from such attacks with that knowledge in mind, farmers have found it effective to paint eyes on the hindquarters of each cow, which is usually enough to make hunting lions think they have been seen and select easier prey. They also kill prey by enclosing its mouth and nostrils in their jaws, which also results in asphyxia. Cubs suffer most when food is scarce but otherwise all pride members eat their fill, including old and crippled lions, which can live on leftovers. On hot days, the pride retreats to shade with one or two males standing guard. Scavenging lions keep a constant lookout for circling vultures, which indicate

the death or distress of an animal. Lions seize the kills of spotted hyenas; in the Ngorongoro crater it is common for lions to subsist largely on kills stolen from hyenas, causing the hyenas to increase their kill rate. The two species attack one another even when there is no food involved for no apparent reason. Spotted hyenas have adapted by frequently mobbing lions that enter their territories.

Chapter 3 : How Do Lions Hunt and Kill Their Prey? | Owlcation

Lion hunting is the act of hunting calendrierdelascience.com have been hunted since antiquity.

A lion hunt shown in gold work on a belt plaque, Late Roman, 4th century, Turkey. Republic of South Africa[edit] The first South African legislation on the killing of predators was established in 1963. Six realen were awarded to those who shot or captured lions. In the 1970s, over 100 lions were killed both inside and outside Kruger National Park in an effort to boost game populations. Between 1970 and 1980, no fewer than 1,000 lions were killed by park personnel. Historically, lion hunts were done by individuals, however, due to reduced lion populations, lion hunts done solo are discouraged by elders. Most hunts are now partaken by groups of 10 warriors. Group hunting, known in Maasai as olamayio, gives the lion population a chance to grow. However, in Kenya, where this practice is illegal, olamayio may be used as a reason for retaliatory killing against lions suspected of killing livestock. The killing of lionesses is also prohibited unless provoked. At the end of each age-set, usually after a decade, the warriors count all of their lion kills to compare them with those hunted by the former age-set in order to measure accomplishment. Only the warriors are permitted to know about the day of the hunt. The secret is considered so important that Ilbarnot young warriors from the same age-set are denied information regarding the hunt, due to the older warriors fearing discovery from anti-hunt groups. If a warrior is found guilty of spreading rumours, he is punished through beating. Unlike group hunting, solo lion hunting is usually not an organised event, sometimes occurring when a warrior is out herding cattle. The warriors meet discreetly at a nearby landmark where they depart to predetermined areas. Before departing, the Ilmorijo older warriors filter out the group in order that only the bravest and strongest warriors take part. The resulting group is known as Ilmeluaya fearless warriors. The rejected young warriors are commanded by older warriors to keep the information of the hunt confidential, until the return of their favoured colleagues. There have been cases whereby older warriors have forced warriors to give up their excess weaponry, seeing as it is considered insulting to bring more than a spear which is sufficient to kill a lion. The warrior who struck the first blow is courted by the women and receives an Imporro, a doubled-sided beaded shoulder strap. The warrior wears this ornament during ceremonies. The community will honor Olmurani lolowuaru the hunter with much respect throughout his lifetime. The mane is beaded by women of the community, and given back to the hunter, who wears it over his head on special occasions. After the meat ceremony, when a warrior becomes a junior elder, the mane is thrown away and greased with a mixture of sheep oil and ochre. This sacrificial event is done to avoid evil spirits. The warriors keep the tail in their manyatta warriors camp , until the end of warriorhood. The lion tail is considered the most valuable product and after graduation, the warriors must gather to pay their last special respect to the tail before it is disposed of. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. A walk-and-stalk is very action packed when the encounter occurs. Lions are unpredictable, nimble and fast, meaning that if it was not killed in the first shot, it can be very vindictive. If wounded, it can lie in wait and potentially charge at the hunter, targeting just one person in the hunting party with the intent to kill. Lions largely prefer to inhabit wooded savannah grasslands, meaning that hunting them during the summer is a very difficult task, as the mane camouflages well with the underlying undergrowth. Most people use a. Most notably among these lion hunting dogs is the Rhodesian Ridgeback. Hounding for lion and subsequent use of the Rhodesian Ridgeback for this purpose saw its greatest popularity and participation levels during the "Great White Hunter" period, essentially the second half of the 19th century and earliest decades of the 20th century. As hounding for lion has been on the decline since that time, hounding for leopard has seen an inversely proportional increase in popularity. This transition may be due at least in part to the increasing popularity of American and Continental scent hounds among African houndsmen and P. Although, commensurate with their increasing popularity, several packs of such scenthounds are in regular use today by P. The pack will track the lion and then hold the lion at bay until the hunter can close the distance and kill the lion at close range. Baiting[edit] This common method involves the hunter lying in ambush from a constructed blind about yards off from a bait, usually an ungulate carcass, after hanging or fastening the carcass to a tree in a likely area. The bait is then checked every day until there is

evidence of a hungry lion present in the area. A large spoor or long black-tipped hairs on the bait signal the building of a blind. The blind is built on the ground or in a tree nearby where the hunter will lie in wait usually in mid-afternoon or early mornings. Controversy[edit] Ernest Hemingway, ; sport hunting in the 19th and 20th centuries caused massive declines in the lion population. Lion hunting is a subject of controversy in modern times. Currently, the lion is listed as a vulnerable species by the IUCN , and some subspecies are listed as endangered. There were estimated to be 1. The majority of trophy body parts from lion hunting go to the United States.

Chapter 4 : The BIG LIE about lion trophy hunting - Africa Geographic

Canned hunting is a fast-growing business in South Africa, where thousands of lions are being bred on farms to be shot by wealthy foreign trophy-hunters.

Share via Email They are adorably cute, with grubby brown fur so soft it seems to slip through my fingers like flour. It is only when one of the nine-week-old cubs playfully grabs my arm with its teeth and squeezes with an agonising grip that I remember – this is a lion, a wild animal. These four cubs are not wild, however. Tourists stop to pet them but most visitors do not venture over the hill, where the ranch has pens holding nearly 50 juvenile and fully-grown lions, and two tigers. Moreson ranch is one of more than such farms legally breeding big cats in South Africa. There are now more lions held in captivity upwards of 5, in the country than live wild about 2, While the owners of this ranch insist they do not hunt and kill their lions, animal welfare groups say most breeders sell their stock to be shot dead by wealthy trophy-hunters from Europe and North America, or for traditional medicine in Asia. A fully-grown, captive-bred lion is taken from its pen to an enclosed area where it wanders listlessly for some hours before being shot dead by a man with a shotgun, hand-gun or even a crossbow, standing safely on the back of a truck. After a cuddle with the cubs, I go on a "game drive" through the 2, hectare estate. Herds of blue wildebeest, red hartebeest and eland run from the truck, then stop and watch us, warily: At the far end of the property is an abandoned farm, surrounded by pens of lethargic-looking big cats. One pair mate in front of us. Two healthy looking tigers tear at chicken carcasses rapidly rotting in the African sun. The animals look well cared for. But Cathleen Benade, a ranch assistant who is studying wildlife photography and is devoted to the cubs, reveals that they were taken away from their mothers just an hour after birth and bottle-fed by humans for the first eight weeks of their life. She says the mother is not distressed: They say breeders remove the cubs from their mother so that the lioness will quickly become fertile again, as they squeeze as many cubs from their adults as possible – five litters every two years. For an animal that is usually weaned at six months, missing out on the crucial colostrum, or first milk, can cause ill-health. Separation brings the female back into a reproductive position much faster than if the cubs were around. It is still legal to bring a lion carcass back to Britain or anywhere in Europe or North America as a trophy, and much of the demand comes from overseas. Trophy-hunters are attracted by the guarantee of success, and the price: The number of trophy hunted animals has since soared. Demand from the Far East is also driving profits for lions breeders. In , two lions were exported as "trophies" to China, Laos and Vietnam; in , 70 lion trophies were exported to those nations. While the trade in tiger parts is now illegal, demand for lion parts for traditional Asian medicine is soaring. In , five lion skeletons were exported from South Africa to Laos; in , it was The legal export of lion bones and whole carcasses has also soared. In fact, according to Fiona Miles, director of Lionsrock , a big cat sanctuary in South Africa run by the charity Four Paws , it is fuelling it. Trophy-hunters who begin with a captive-bred lion may then graduate to the real, wild thing. She began working to protect lions after watching a seminal documentary about canned hunting. We go for a "lion walk" with Martin Quinn, a conservation educator and lion whisperer. This involves strolling through the veld with three adolescent white lions, which have been bred on Moreson ranch and trained by Quinn and his assistant, Thompson. These striking white lions which tend to be very inbred, say animal welfare groups bound around us, rush on, and then lie in the grass, ready for an ambush. Armed only with sticks, Quinn and Thompson control them, while warning us that they are still wild animals. It is an unnerving experience, but Quinn hopes this venture will persuade Moreson ranch that a live lion is worth more than a dead one. He claims that since he began working with lions at the ranch in January, the owners have not sold on any lions to be hunted. He hopes the ranch will eventually allow the offspring of its captive animals to grow up in the wild. Breeders sometimes claim their lions are for conservation programmes but examples of captive-bred lions becoming wild animals again are vanishingly rare; even the most respectable zoo has never established a successful programme for releasing captive-bred lions into the wild. Pieter Kat, who founded the charity Lion Aid, says the lion walks are simply another income stream for breeders before their lucrative charges are sold on. What they do with the lions is up to them. Some come from local breeding farms, but

Four Paws also rescues animals kept in appalling conditions in zoos in Romania, Jordan and the Congo. Unlike in the lion farms, the animals here are not allowed to breed, and instead live within large enclosures in their natural prides, family groups of up to 10 lions. Lionsrock can rehouse another lions but does not have space for every captive-bred lion in South Africa. Four Paws and other charities working in South Africa want a moratorium on lion breeding because they fear that if lion farms were abruptly outlawed thousands of lions would be dumped or killed. After its high court defeat, there is little sign that the South African government will take on the powerful lion breeders again any time soon. They surely bring some money into South Africa. In fact, she says, she is part of a family of animal lovers:

Chapter 5 : Hunting the Lions by R.M. Ballantyne

Lions that live in areas with thicker cover are able to do more of the hunting in daylight hours. Other hunting that occurs in sunlight is directly related to the activity of a particular prey species.

Amin Whoever was privileged to gain access to the North Palace of the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal at Nineveh, could consider himself part of something timeless. They were discovered by Rassam in the year and have been housed in the British Museum since Rassam ordered his men to dig a large hole in the mound; after more than 2, years, the remains of a royal palace were found. The mud-bricks had disappeared, of course, completely but the reliefs themselves, which once decorated them, have fortunately survived. Detail of an alabaster bas-relief depicting the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal. The king is identified by his conical head cap. He holds a bow and throws arrows towards a succession of lions. Note the exquisitely carved embroidery, armlets, earring, and costume. His royal attendant is guiding the royal chariot. The eyes of the king and his attendant were intentionally damaged after the fall of Nineveh. The British Museum, London. They depict a group of warriors led by a taller figure, who wears a conical hat; this is their king. The men appear to hunt a large number of lions. Rassam, initially, did not recognize who is the king. Rawlinson could read cuneiform and wrote back to Rassam saying that this is a palace of Ashurbanipal; nothing was much known about Ashurbanipal when his name first came to light! He holds a long spear and stabs a leaping lion in his head. Two royal attendants ward off the lion with their spear. One of his royal attendants is guiding the royal chariot. The eye of the king was intentionally damaged after the fall of Nineveh. It is believed that the objective was not to generate pity for the dying creatures but rather to highlight their raw, dangerous presence and to show how they collapse in agony at the hands of the Assyrian king who, through the support of the gods and his skill with weapons, brings civilization to the chaotic and disordered world that the animal represent. Ashurbanipal was depicted many times riding a royal chariot, standing on his feet on earth, and on the back of his galloping horse; his overall costume, face, beard, and gestures were carved very exquisitely and vividly. But even though the king does matter a lot; it is these lions which form the core of the scenes. The hunt scenes, full of tension and realism, rank among the finest achievements of the Assyrian Art. They depict the release of the lions, the ensuing chase, and their subsequent killing. Was this the intention of the sculptor? These slabs decorated both walls of a corridor within the palace Room C and a private gate-chamber Room S. Apart from the king, his courtiers, and some of his visitors, who else could have accessed them? Whom to impress, in other words? The sculptor was cleverly pointing out the contrast between the cruel king and his noble victims; however, the people for whom the scenes were designed saw the king as the paragon of nobility, and the lions as cruel enemies that should deserve painful, and even ludicrous, slaughtering. The first documented scene of lion-hunting dates back to BCE; it was about a ruler who was hunting lions. The hunting environment, Room C: The target audience, the public, is watching from a hill; men and women are scrambling up the slope, either in terror or to reach a point with a good view of the action that is about to begin. Meanwhile, the king and his accompaniments prepare themselves for the action; horses, bows, spears, and so on. The lions and lionesses are not free within the wild forest; they are brought to the arena inside cages; this indicates that the animals were captured beforehand. A person, usually a child, lifts the trapdoor and releases the lion. Alabaster bas-relief depicting keepers with dogs. Those keepers were stationed at some points at the edge of the arena, in front of the line of soldiers. The intention is the same; deterring lions from trying to escape. This alabaster bas-relief depicts a double line of soldiers. The front line holds high shields while the rear one has bows. This line surrounds the arena like a ring to prevent any lion escaping the arena. In this alabaster bas-relief, grooms appear to lead horses towards a screened enclosure within which a royal chariot is being prepared for the hunt. Men are struggling to push one of the horses into position while another horse is having his harness tightened. Soldiers protecting the arena are ready. In this fragment of a larger alabaster bas-relief, men appear to prepare bows for the hunt. In this alabaster bas-relief, a child lifts up a trapdoor, releasing a lion from his cage. The child himself has a small cage for protection. In this alabaster bas-relief, the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal stands in his royal chariot while his men do the necessary

preparations before the hunt starts. In this relief, two lions and two lionesses were hit by many arrows and are already dead; note their flat facial expressions, closed eyes, and different postures. The third lion, who is already hit by an arrow in his head, is jumping and leaping towards the royal chariot. The king holds a bow and shoots arrows towards a succession of lions. The two royal attendants are warding off a lion attacking from behind. This alabaster bas-relief depicts Assyrians climbing a hill. People seem to rush up a wooden knoll, either in fright or to get a better view. The hill is crowned by a building, monument, or stela, which is decorated with another picture of the royal hunt scene. Alabaster bas-relief depicting a dying lion. He has been hit by four arrows; blood gushes from the entry and exit points of the arrows. One of the arrows has passed through the left shoulder; note the limping of the left foreleg. The lion also appears to vomit blood! His facial expression of agony and fear is very well reflected; note how he looks forward. Alabaster bas-relief depicting a dying lioness. The lioness has received three arrows; blood can be seen gushing from the ensuing wounds. She is roaring in agony, fighting death. Alabaster bas-relief showing Ashurbanipal in his royal chariot hunting a lion. The lion has been already hit by two arrows and he has leaped towards the rear part of the chariot. Two royal attendants – one holds a bow and the other one holds a spear – are trying to ward the lion off the king. Detail of an alabaster bas-relief showing a lion being stabbed in the neck. Fragment of an alabaster bas-relief showing six men carrying a dead lion at the end of the hunt. The hunting environment, Room S: This private chamber-gate was decorated with relatively small scale hunt scenes, arranged in three parallel horizontal registers. None of the scenes here depicts a royal charter. Instead, the king appears to stand on earth or ride a galloping horse; he wears a diadem, not the typical conical head cap of Assyrian kings. This is one of the very anxious moments which was carefully conveyed to us by the artist! The register is part of three relatively small-scale registers. The king himself is busy with another furiously attacking lion. The king was left alone, facing a deadly moment! Alabaster bas-relief showing Ashurbanipal on foot before dead lions. This register is the continuation of the above scene to the right. The king has coped with the emergency and killed the two lions. Some of the royal attendants exclaim at the size of the dead lions; one attendant looks at his master. He appears to speak to his courtiers, pointing out using his right hand. The king and his two horses have survived! This is part of the above image. Note how beautiful and elegant they are! Alabaster bas-relief showing Ashurbanipal stabbing a wounded lion. This is one of the very vivid moments which speaks clearly on its behalf without any narration. The lion is in a very close proximity, almost touching the king with his sharp paws. Alabaster bas-relief showing Ashurbanipal rescuing foreign princes from a lion. Those princes, the men on the right of the panel, are kneeling and throwing their bows before the king; they came to the Assyrian capital as political refugees. Ashurbanipal took them off to shoot lions, but they had missed, and he is shooting over their heads. There will have been a charging lion on the lost panel to the right. The king himself uses a variety of weapons, reflecting his superb abilities; a bow, sword, and spear. He was depicted three times on his royal chariot, guarded and helped by his men. At times, the king stands on his feet on earth and kills lions with a sword. In one relief the king grasps a leaping lion from his neck with his left hand and stabs the lion forcefully and deeply with his sword in his right hand in a very dramatic event. In all scenes, the king and his men appear rigid-faced and heartless. Had the king really faced these aggressive animals so closely and threatened his life? The reliefs from Room S were carved in three parallel registers and different scenes while the events on Panels from Room C occupied the whole slabs. I was attending a symposium at the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Chapter 6 : Lionesses do the hunting - Everything you need to know about lions - Pictures - CBS News

The lions' kingdom isn't what it once was. Once upon a time the king of the beasts roamed in Europe and America, too.

August 10, So often we hear from the pro-hunting lobby that by killing free roaming lions, trophy hunters are actually saving lions. The trophy hunting of free roaming lions is about as sustainable as putting ice cubes in a mug of steaming coffee. They told me so – see this article written by me. And yet each year they set trophy hunting quotas for large male desert-adapted lions. The awarding of trophy hunting quotas off the back of no relevant statistics is NOT sustainable. BUT trophy hunters are often used to perform the execution, and we know that trophy hunters want to shoot big male lions. The above report concluded: There is an urgent need to adapt the management and utilisation strategies relating to lions, if the long-term conservation of the species in the Kunene were to be secured. Craig Packer, director of the Lion Research Center at the University of Minnesota, has led a series of studies identifying over-hunting as the major reason for the steep decline in lion populations in Tanzania, the lion hunting mecca. Packer was banned from entering Tanzania for exposing corruption with regard to lion trophy hunting. Being tagged as the cause of crashing lion populations makes trophy hunting of lions in Tanzania NOT sustainable, and the widespread use of fraud and corruption as a business tool suggests a morally bankrupt industry. So, lions of all ages are being shot, and the trophy hunting industry lies and re-invents the justifications each time to suit their need to keep the business model rolling. That is NOT sustainable. Rural communities living amongst wild lions have to see meaningful and sustainable benefit from having lions in the area. Lions are often a threat to lives and livelihoods and these people have the right to expect to be compensated to behave differently. After all, the rest of the world has mostly sanitised itself of large predators. Surely for trophy hunting to be truly sustainable, these communities must receive a significant portion of the trophy fee? During research for my article referred to in point one above, Namibian government officials told me that the relevant community only receives about 10% of the trophy fee. The rest goes to the professional hunting operator. This is NOT fair or sustainable. This is what we do know about lions: The remaining pockets of lions are increasingly isolated from other populations, and no longer able to disperse and so maintain population genetic diversity and stability. When young males flee from dominant pride males, and seek out other lions, they leave protected areas and are picked off by hunters and livestock farmers – thus preventing the vital dispersal of young lions to other areas. The surgical removal of big male lions by trophy hunters within the context of the above is NOT sustainable in any way, shape or form – regardless of what the other causes of lion population reductions are. The trophy hunting industry claim of sustainable practises is nothing but a lie. Subscribe to our newsletter. My travels in Africa are in search of wilderness, real people with interesting stories and elusive birds. I live in Cape Town with my wife Lizz and 2 Jack Russells, and when not travelling or working I am usually on my mountain bike somewhere out there. My motto is "Live for now, have fun, be good, tread lightly and respect others. Connect with me on LinkedIn and follow me on Twitter.

Chapter 7 : Male Lions vs. Female Lions

Lion hunting can be done in a blind waiting for a lion to feed or can be done by stalking the bait, typically early in the mornings to find the lion there at first light. Once on the bait, lions are typically easier to get a shot at than a leopard.

I recommend having a more experienced hunter accompany you on your first trip. But if you feel that you can handle the hunt by yourself, do so with caution. It is also recommended to have a trained hunting dog to accompany you, since they can sniff out and find mountain lions better than you can. Make sure to bring treats for them as well. Know the locations where the mountain lion population is big enough for game hunting, and select the one you prefer. Once you have chosen the most convenient place for your hunt, schedule a trip there. However, you cannot go on a hunt immediately. Strategize your game plan and scope out the possible spots where a mountain lion might appear for a more efficient hunt. For a beginner, it may seem difficult. But with enough practice, you will have a trained eye. It will scrape dirt, grass, twigs, leaves, and other debris into a pile and then urinate it as a mark of its territory over that area. Other times, it will bury its food under a mound of leaves and dirt to hide it from other animals. Thus, look for these indications of a mountain lion nearby, and wait for the animal to come back in a safe hiding place so you can shoot it from afar. Another technique of luring a mountain lion is to use bait. Like most animals, it will prefer a live bait rather than a dead one, so be sure to choose the former for better chance of success. However, this method can have you luring all types of animals, so be wary of your choice. Employ this technique and then wait for a mountain lion to come by. Finally, a very popular and successful method is to have a hunting dog aid you. Well-trained hunting dogs can sniff out a mountain lion from afar and lead you to it. Like house cats, mountain lions usually run away from barking dogs and will most likely climb up a tree for safety. When it is trapped, you can now shoot it. Not only is this a humane way to kill the lion, but an aim to its fatal spots can prevent it from running away. Otherwise, a shot to the hind or back, for example, can make the animal panic and sprint as far away as possible. Keep in mind the local laws regarding this type of hunting and kill only the allowed number of lions that you can hunt. How to Trap a Mountain Lion Trapping a mountain can be more dangerous than hunting it. Moreover, trapping is usually used when you want to control the predation in your area since these lions can prey on your livestock or pets. Nevertheless, if you do it right, you can catch a mountain lion with these steps: Prepare your trap Choose the trap you think would be most effective. Mountain lions are very strong creatures, so you need high caliber traps that can hold them. Trap options for catching mountain lions are:

Chapter 8 : HUNTING Lion | Hunting

Coyote Hunting with Thermal - 13 Coyotes Down with the ATN ThOR Thermal Scope - Duration: Ultimate Night Vision 9,, views.

Lion can be hunted throughout Africa and are a fantastic hunting experience. These big cats are a prized trophy and are pure excitement to hunt. You are scared 3 times on a lion hunt, first when you see the big tracks on the ground, next when you hear his intimidating roar, and for a third time when you lay your eyes on him. These big cats have a territory that they protect and hunting areas that they frequent. For baiting purposes larger baits are set up closer to the ground. High enough that the lions can feed with some effort and higher than Hyena can reach. Guts and stomach contents are scattered around the bait with the hope of drawing the cat in by smell. Lion hunting can be done in a blind waiting for a lion to feed or can be done by stalking the bait, typically early in the mornings to find the lion there at first light. Once on the bait, lions are typically easier to get a shot at than a leopard. As with all dangerous animals accuracy is important when hunting lion. Lions can cause a lot more problems than just a few stitches. A good quality soft Swift A-Frame or Barnes in a. They are not thick skinned and are susceptible to hydrostatic shock, sometimes dying immediately with a well-placed bullet. They are extremely dangerous when wounded. Most places require a. A trophy lion is not measured by the hair around its neck. They are measured by size of their skull. A big mane is a nice addition to your trophy lion. Some areas produce lion with thick manes while other areas produce big bodied lions with very average manes. Lion are typically hunted a 21 day safari, exceptions on duration of the hunt can be made. Lion and leopard are hunted in small numbers and available licenses or quota is limited. General Lion Information Male Lions: Average length 9 feet 2. Average length 8 feet 2. Lengths include the tail. Height measured at the shoulder. Lifespan of a Lion: Females typically live a few more years in the wild. The hunting territory for a pride of lions can range from 8 to square miles. Lions are the most social of all cats. Prides may contain up to 40 members, with over half being young adults and cubs. Most of the time this is not the case and many places have loosely associated prides with animals frequently hunting on their own. While lions in captivity will eat about 15 pounds of raw meat daily, a wild lion will only eat about twice a week. Lions have hair rather than fur. Hair is defined as a single-layered, thin coat and fur is a double-layered, insulated coat. Although lions seem to be all one color, closer inspection reveals patches of white inside their legs and on their bellies. They are a tawny brown color. With one slap of a paw they can knock a full-grown zebra off its feet. Like any good athlete, they need their sleep and a lot of it! Twenty hours out of each day is spent snoozing. Lion are ambush predators; they surprise their prey and overwhelm it with a quick burst of speed and a powerful attack. When an animal is killed, lions will eat virtually every part of itâ€”the skin, meat, intestines. The four members of the cat family who can roar are lions, leopards, tigers, and jaguars. But lions are by far the loudest. When the mood is peaceful, lions may make puffing noises instead. But a mighty roar can be heard as far away as 5 or 6 miles.

Chapter 9 : Maasai Association - Lion Hunt

The Best Areas to Hunt African Lion. Finding a full-mane free-range lion in Africa today is getting harder to accomplish. It is also becoming more expensive, as it sometimes takes multiple safaris to accomplish that goal.

The warthog Source What, Where and When The choice of animals that the lion hunts for food is largely dependent on what sort of food is available in their particular area of habitation. Generally, the scrub country which lions tend to favour more than anywhere else, provides them with many different kinds of herbivores. Their favourites are wildebeest, zebras, antelopes, gazelles and waterbuck. They do though, also have a fondness for warthogs and have been known to lie in wait outside their burrows for hours on end. They also target other large animals such as buffaloes and giraffes, though they do so with great difficulty and with enormous risk to their own lives. Indeed, many lions injure themselves when they try to control bigger animals. Most hunting done by lions is under the cover of darkness; in the gloom of an African night they can easily observe and stalk their prey without the threat of detection. But they mostly wait until after dark before launching an attack. The main reason why they do this is simply because their typical habitation is devoid of cover. Often in the daytime, a lion will begin closing in on a potential victim, but will subsequently give itself away, resulting in the prey escaping easily. Lions that live in areas with thicker cover are able to do more of the hunting in daylight hours. Other hunting that occurs in sunlight is directly related to the activity of a particular prey species. For example, when zebras or gazelles drink from lakes or rivers during the heat of the day, their presence often produces a flurry of hunting. But usually, most stalking by lions is done just after sunset, or during the middle of the night, several hours before dawn. Lions do what they do best on the African Savannah Senses and Deficiencies More than anything, lions rely on their sight to help them with hunting. Experts have observed individuals stalking under vegetative cover, occasionally sticking their heads up high out of their cover in order to keep track of a particular animal they may be stalking. In the process though, they do sometimes give themselves away inadvertently. Lions occasionally detect their prey through hearing. They frequently react to the sounds of animals walking or moving through water and set out to investigate. There have also been examples of lions utilising their sense of smell to aid in the hunting process. But generally, lions hunt only what they can see, and are thus not particularly adept at detecting prey in the same way wolves are for example. In addition to the fact that their senses are not especially sharp, there are several other reasons why lions are not quite as proficient at hunting as other predators. However, despite these obvious inefficiencies, prey is so plentiful in most of their range, that these shortcomings are almost irrelevant. In Eastern and Central Africa, the great herds of herbivores vastly outnumber the lion prides. Generally, they kill off about one out of fifteen of the zebras, gazelles, and other animals in the area. Not only do lions have little effect on the populations of their prey, they also contribute little in terms of controlling their numbers. Their inattentiveness to the wind does not discourage potential prey from coming into sight. This is due to the fact that at certain times of the year, the scent of lions is detectable by other wildlife throughout much of the region, particularly near any water sources. So it would be utterly impractical for the herbivores to avoid these areas just through picking up the lions scent. In Pursuit By our standards, lions are fast. But when compared to fleet footed herbivores they are rather sluggish, thus justifying the existence of a pride. Source The Profits of Cooperation Only by working as a team were these lionesses able to tackle an animal as large and dangerous as a cape buffalo. Source Working as a Team Another, or to put it more accurately the most important reason that lions are able to find enough food is that they usually do their hunting cooperatively. They will stalk their victims for up to an hour, but fifteen minutes is more the norm before deciding to pounce. Normally, several lions circle around the herd they are attacking, slowly driving their victims towards some of their fellows hiding in tall grass. These lions, usually females also known as lionesses then attack their prey from the sides or the rear. Cooperative hunting also makes up for another significant problem that lions have in comparison with other predators, their lack of speed. By our standards of course, these mighty creatures are anything but slow, their top speed is around 30mph, but they can only sustain it for around a minute. Indeed, they rarely pursue a prey item for more than yards. By working in groups they

are able to tackle prey that would otherwise prove too fast or elusive for them. Lions also gain another advantage through group hunting when they have killed an animal too large for one to eat alone; with an entire pride partaking in the consumption of food not only does more food go to more mouths at one time, but it also allows the pride to avoid the problem of having to guard or store their food. Such problems are frequently encountered and dealt with by other big cats such as leopards and tigers, who often find ingenious ways of hiding their kills from competitors. Once a lion has subdued its prey, they begin feasting; focusing initially on the animal's intestines- the most nutritious part of the meal. After that, the lion gorges on the rest, working forward from the hindquarters. On average, a prey item weighs about 100 lbs from which each lion usually consumes about 40 lbs worth. If they are lucky enough to enjoy a really big meal, then normally they will dedicate the next twenty four hours for rest. Such behaviour is common, because lions will consume whatever food they have, eating as much as 75 lbs in one sitting. Prides have also been observed gorging themselves for several hours, and then moving and doing very little for the next three or four days. By the fifth day though, the hunting itch starts to return, they begin to walk around and resume observing the masses of herbivores dotted across the landscape. On day six, they are ready once again to look for food, thus a whole new hunt begins