

Cape Vidal

October 2015

By Graham Neary

Other than a few gripes about the accommodations and the weather, for me once again Vidal did not disappoint. As a lot of you know this is a very special place for me and has been from my first trip here in 1991. The cost per person in February was R370-00 per night. From 1st November increased to R 500-00. This is more than a 25% increase. This leaves a bitter taste in the mouth when you see the condition of the unit we stayed in. Unit number 5. Very wonky balustrades and some rotten deck timbers. Inside not much better with curtains coming off of newly installed rails. The shower leaked so badly that the water ran into the passage. We continually had a pile of wet towels hanging around. Only one bedroom had a fan in it. Hello, does only the one room get hot? Water is still a problem in that you have to take your own supply of drinking water and the water from the taps smells quite stagnant. The unit the other guys had seems to have had a lick and a promise but the quality of the work leaves a lot to be desired. Unfortunately the monkeys are at pestilence level right now and you get no break at all from them. My feeling is it won't be long before someone takes matters into their own hands. Anyway, enough of that.

The good old easterly did not let us down. She blew up good and solid. Pete and I did not fish on Friday but Andrew, Neil and Steve did. Tough going but they did attract some of the usual suspects.

Saturday proved no easier with the wind still very strong, so much so that the ski boats were refused permission to launch. Once again, the standard type of fish for Vidal, but all mainly on the small side. As I mentioned in the chirp, it was so good to see how much scouring has taken place and opened up the ledges and gulleys. The bay area is back to its old shape again and had lots of folks snorkelling over the low tide. Unlike this time last year, we did not see any balls of bait fish at all, hence no sightings of game fish close in. Sunday proved a tad better in that the wind had died a bit and a light east must have blown during the to smooth the water slightly. Fishing was a bit easier as long as we did not fish in the clear water. The fish were all in discoloured areas.

We bid farewell to the others close to lunch time on Sunday, as we stayed on till Monday afternoon. Again either a light west or east during the night sorted the water out beautifully. Pete fished a big surf rod and landed three good size hammerheads and two sandies. I fished mainly south down to Shad Hole as we have named it and got some good fish. Bigger Cape Moonies than before and some shad of around 40 to 45 cm.

I think a good weekend was had by all and hopefully we can get to do it again sometime. Thank you to those who joined in to make it special.
