

Richtersveld Trip Report

25 April – 2 May 2015

Marinus, Rienke en Nina Potgieter

Nissan Patrol 4.5 GL 1998

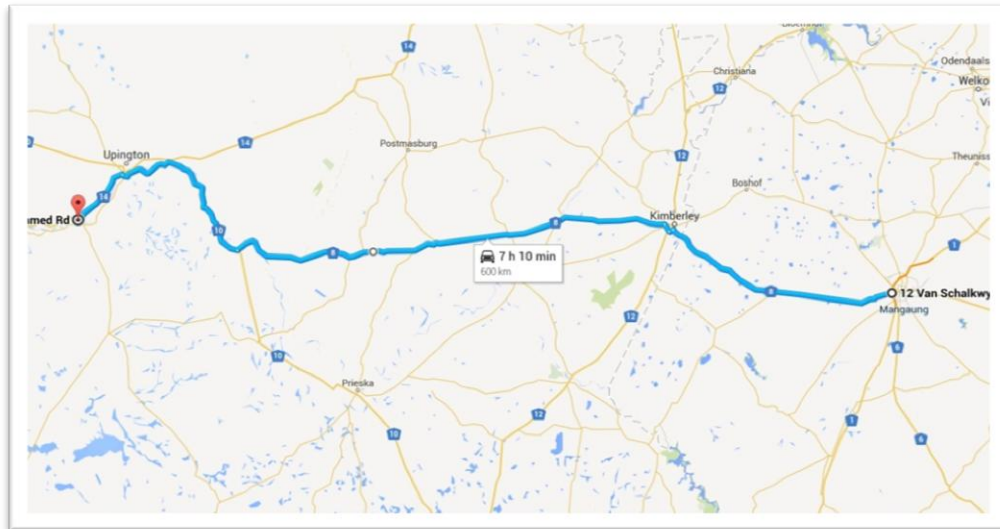
My wife and I both love traveling. When I started dating my wife she already visited 13 countries. My tally stood at 9. In the meantime she has moved up to 22 and I moved up to 20. I had the privilege to travel all over South Africa. And since our wedding my wife enjoyed this with me. One off the regions we have not visited is the Northern West coast off South Africa. I have been to Springbok before but the furthest my wife has been is Keimoes. So we used the opportunity the two long weekends at the end of April/beginning off May gave us to go to the Richtersveld part off the /Ai-/Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Park.

My wife and I were not alone on this trip. We were blessed with a baby daughter last year April, Nina. She accompanied us on this trip. Rienke and I both love camping. So it was natural that we started camping with Nina from an early age. Her first camping experience was in December 2014 when we went camping with my parents near Ficksburg/Fouriesburg. Earlier this year we went camping with some friends near Lundin's Neck, Barkley East. They have a baby daughter that is one week older than Nina. The Richtersveld trip was our first time that we would camp for such a long time with Nina. The two previous trips were only weekend trips.

This trip report will be on our trip off the Richtersveld and camping with a one year old. In my research I could not find a nice trip report on the Richtersveld. So I will share our experiences off the region and camping facilities.

Day 1, Saturday 25 April 2015

Bloemfontein to Keimoes, 600km, 8h



Day 1 route.

We left Bloemfontein on Saturday 25 April at 11:00 the morning. We still had to do some packing, so we got away a bit latter than expected. When traveling with a baby there are always some things that can only be packed the morning when you are leaving.

We drove with our Nissan Patrol 4.5 GL 1998 that we bought in September 2011. We opted not to take a trailer with. We packed some off the larger things on the roof rack. We also had a 50ℓ Pioneer roof rack water tank on the roof rack. In the back we had our 40ℓ Engel fridge/freezer, 4 Wolff Pack (Ammo) boxes, two larger plastic boxes with our bedding and air mattress, table and bags with our clothes. Some smaller items were also in the back where a space could be found for it.



Packed Car



Packed Car

We drove via Petrusburg, Kimberley, Griekwastad, Groblershoop and Upington to Keimoes. We slept at an old study friend of mine that is farming with grapes. Luckily for us Nina is a good passenger when driving. She sleeps quite allot and entertains herself when awake.



Nap time for Nina

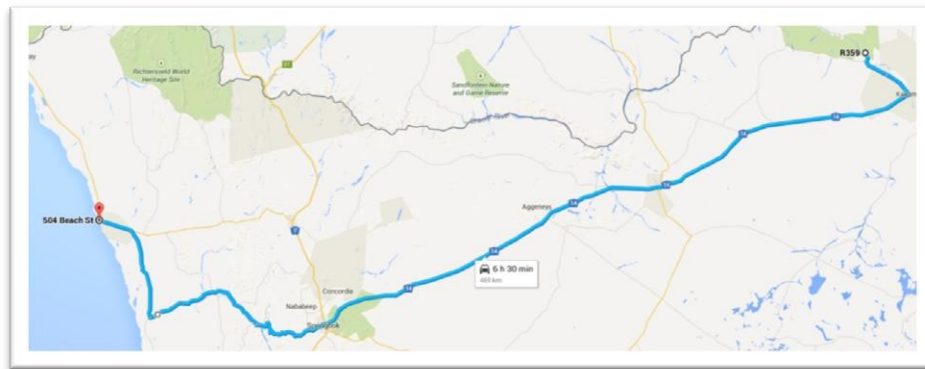
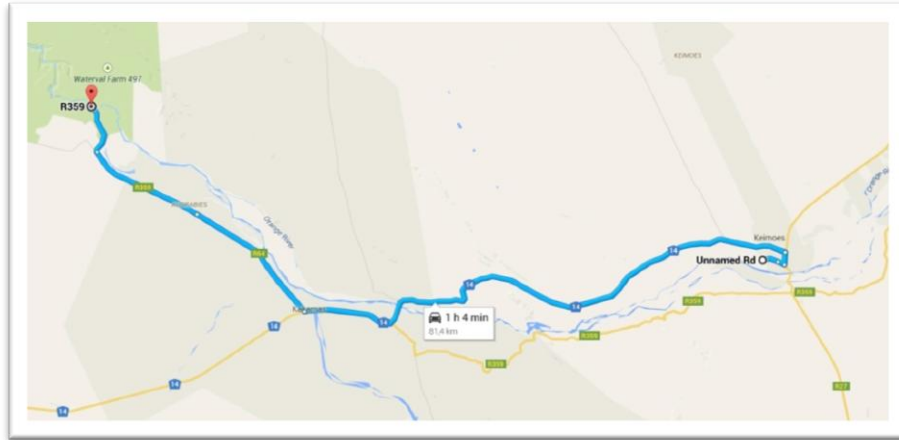
We used the Engel fridge/freezer as a freezer on the trip. I set it to -10°C for the trip, just under the no. 3 setting. We had some meat in the freezer but most importantly we had Nina's food in there for the week. My wife cooks vegetables and meat for her that we dice and pack in serving sizes. I used the battery box that I build before the trip to run the freezer off.



Battery box.

Day 2, Sunday 26 April 2015

Keimoes to Port Nolloth, 550km, 7h



Day 2 route.

We left Keimoes at 9:00 and filled the car with petrol. We also got some off the last things at Spar that we needed for the trip. Our first stop for the day is Augrabies waterfall. This was Rienie's first visit to the fall.