

# The Best PH's in the past 25 years

Boy, this is a difficult one! There are plenty of good hunters out there and I don't mean to exclude any of them, but let me try to rank just a few of the best (in no particular order) that I greatly admire for reasons of reliability, success, ethics and professionalism:

- Piers Taylor (Trophy Hunters Africa) - a great cat man.
- Gary Baldwin (Hippo Valley Safaris) - one of the best leopard men I have ever met.
- Greg Michelson (Leopard Ridge Safaris) - another of the best leopard guys in Africa.
- Butch Walker on Leopards, Buffalo and plainsgame combinations.
- Nicky Blunt - overall, one of the best in east Africa and probably the most ethical hunter in the world
- Michael & George Angelides - two of the best overall in east Africa.
- Robin Hurt - no question, the name says it all.
- Franz Wengert - perhaps not as good in cuisine as others, but a great "stick-to-it" attitude, especially on bongo and cats in east Africa.
- Franz Coupé - no question, he's hunted them all and throughout Africa. I hope he can last a few more years!
- Lionel Palmer, Dougie Wright and Harry Selby - in their time, three of the best Lion hunters in the world.
- Garry Kelly and Chris Williams in South Africa; Coenrad Vermack and Volker Grelman in Namibia along with Reine Rusch, Deiter Metzger and Paul Phelan. These guys are some of the best in hunting plainsgame as well as big game in many of their cases.
- Johan Strydom Jr and Sr. for small cats in South Africa.
- Jim Hunter in New Zealand. Stag hunter extraordinaire!
- Europe's finest are Kevin Downer in England and Eduardo de Araoz and Alfonso Fabres in Spain.

- Victor Rebrikov for bears in Kamchatka.
- Victor Emets for Marco Polo sheep and Adya in Mongolia for Altai and Gobi sheep.
- Tommy Baylor for antelope in west Texas.
- Jeff Johnson for giant Mule Deer in the Paunsagunt along with Raymond Heaton
- Joe Klutsch, Mel Gillis, Vern Humble, Mark Collins and Don Troutman for hunting in Alaska.
- Shorty Smith for Whitetail deer in Texas.
- Lubo Parmakov for running a great operation in Bulgaria.
- Nassos Russos in Ethiopia - great mountain nyala guide.
- Ronnie, Ian and Alistair McFarlane for Elephants and Cats.
- Hansie de Klerck for Elephants
- Basie Maartens in South Africa for birdhunting and fishing

Well done, guys and thanks for bringing your expertise and spirit to the hunting table. Here's to another 25 years of great hunting all around the world!