

NEWS

Kirsten and Edwin from 'Ik Vertrek': 'We now focus on the South African tourist'



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Kirsten and Edwin Autsema in their cottage in South Africa.
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BENNEKOM - Kirsten and Edwin Autsema from Bennekom rent out suites in South Africa. A corona variant has emerged in this country, causing other countries to limit travel to South Africa. The couple, who appeared in an episode of the television program 'Ik Vertrek' on Thursday, will not give up. "We are now not focusing on the European market, but on the South African tourist."

Kirsten and Edwin say they notice little of the corona variant in their hometown of Hoedspruit. "We are in South Africa's Friesland", Kirsten says with a laugh. Her husband adds, in a serious tone: "We are in the countryside. There are no large numbers of people here and you do not have large shopping centers, for example. If we want to get there, we have to drive five hours." In South Africa, the same basic rules apply as in the Netherlands, such as keeping your distance and washing hands.

Africans have time

The Bennekommers have been working on their suites in South Africa for a year and a half now. They have discovered differences between South Africa and the Netherlands. "The Dutch have a watch and Africans have time, haha. A deal is a deal in the Netherlands. In Africa they say they will come on Tuesday, but it can be a few days later. Another difference is that you always have stock in stores in the Netherlands. , while you sometimes have to wait weeks for something," said Edwin.

Own reality show

The life of Kirsten and Edwin, which was shown in *Ik Vertrek*, attracted almost two million viewers on Thursday. Does this taste like more? Your own reality show? Both laugh again. Kirsten says: "No, we're not going to be Girls. We'll stay normal."