



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

TOURISM TUESDAYS

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

#TourismTuesdays



Observing the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children



Annually from 25 November to 10 December, the world at large observes 16 Days of Activism of No Violence Against women and children. Founded by activists in 1991, this initiative aims to bring awareness to gender-based violence suffered by women and girls globally as well as to call for the prevention of violence against women and girls.

Gender-based violence, in the context of South Africa has continued to increase despite joint efforts from both the government and the private sector to curb this phenomenon.

One of UN's Sustainable Development Goals is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030, which aims to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres.

As a tourism sector, the empowerment and safety of women are key to the success of our industry, particularly considering that women make up the majority of the population (over 51%).

From a safety perspective, it is critical that we are able to protect the women within our country, in order to demonstrate to women from other parts of the world that South Africa is a welcoming country for travellers of all genders, especially women.

This is why it is important that we not only shine the spotlight on eliminating gender-based violence during this period, but throughout the year.

Economic emancipation is one of the key vehicles at our disposal to reduce the scourge of gender-based violence. As a tourism sector, we are continuously working hard to provide opportunities and resources to women to thrive within our sector. When women have economic stability and adequate resources at their disposal, they become more empowered.

Through a partnership with the Department of Tourism and Nedbank, we facilitated an initiative that saw 225 women from all 9 provinces go through a business development programme which provided them with mentorship to effectively improve the operations of their tourism businesses. Our business events unit, the South African National Convention Bureau offers market access to SMMEs some of which are women owned, by exposing them to the global stage at international trade shows.

These are some of the initiatives which South African tourism undertakes to ensure that women are critical contributors to the economy. I would like to encourage everyone to unite in working together towards the elimination of gender-based violence, for the benefit of the women of this country and the travellers alike.

Regards
Nomasonto Ndlovu
Chief Operations Officer



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

**TOURISM
TUESDAYS**

SANCB announces partnership with the AIPC to advance conference facilities on the continent

In its continued efforts to advance the quality of business events in South Africa and on the continent, the South African National Convention Bureau (SANCB) has announced its partnership with the International Association of Convention Centres (AIPC) to host the continent’s first AIPC Summit.

Speaking at a press briefing at IBTM World in Barcelona last week, Acting Chief Convention Bureau Officer at the SANCB, Zinhle Nzama said that business events has a big role to play in the overall recovery of the global tourism sector and that bringing the Summit to Africa is one way in which South African Tourism is taking the lead in the recovery of the continent’s tourism sector.

The AIPC is a global industry association for professional convention and exhibition centre managers, which encourages and recognizes excellence in convention centre management, while providing the tools to achieve high standards through research, educational and networking programs. “We are excited to host the first AIPC summit on the continent and to be at the forefront of the opening of the Africa chapter of the AIPC. As the SANCB, we are committed to capacitating convention and exhibition centres to ensure that they are able to provide excellent standards to host international conferences. We want to ensure that the continent’s venues are in line with global standards and provide impeccable service,” said Nzama.

The Africa chapter of the AIPC summit will take place at the 2023 edition of Meetings Africa on 27 February at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg. The Summit will provide an information and knowledge-sharing platform for convention and exhibition centres on how to elevate the standards of convention and exhibition centres on the continent. Nzama said this was the ideal time to host this summit, as the continent’s business events products will already be gathered in one place for Meetings Africa and get to benefit from this summit.



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



TOURISM
TUESDAYS

SAA Introduces new destinations & increased frequencies ahead of the festive season

South African Airways (SAA) introduces new routes just in time for the festive season. The airline commences services to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, Windhoek in Namibia, and a special schedule for Gqeberha from Johannesburg, OR Tambo International Airport.

On Thursday, 8th of December 2022, SAA commenced twice daily flights to Windhoek in Namibia, 7 days a week. SAA has made it easier for customers to enjoy unique safaris which connect you to the earth and beautiful sunrises and sunsets against a majestic backdrop of either sea or sand.

SAA has added Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe to its growing route network from Wednesday, 14th December 2022. Flights are available six days a week, except for Saturdays with departures from Johannesburg at 10h50, arriving at Victoria Falls International Airport at 12h25. Departures from Victoria Falls is at 13h10 each afternoon arriving in Johannesburg at 14h50.

Victoria Falls remains a popular tourist destination and the airline is proud to take its customers to the magnificence of one of the World's largest waterfalls. Flights are available six days a week, except for Saturdays.

With our domestic travelers in mind, SAA has added an option to fly to Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) over the holidays. Commencing Monday, 12 December 2022, the airline offers 3 return flights per day to the Eastern Cape Province. SAA's Executive Commercial, Mr. Tebogo Tsimane says, "We are thrilled to start flying to Gqeberha as demand is high over the holiday season and we are happy to play our part in bringing families together this festive period."

To accommodate customers ahead of the festive season, SAA has increased frequencies to Harare in Zimbabwe from 7 to 10 a week and Mauritius from 4 times a week to 7 times a week. Limited seats are available, access www.flysaa.com for all flight schedules and best fares.



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



**TOURISM
TUESDAYS**

SA Tourism continues to advocate for disability inclusion in the tourism sector

Travelling can be challenging for those who have impairments. The lack of adapted and accessible hotel rooms, restaurants, stores, bathrooms, and public spaces is one of the most significant challenges.

Through the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa (TGCSA), South African Tourism works in partnership with all key stakeholders to create awareness and encourage tourism businesses, operators and establishments to implement best-practice standards and be universally accessible to all travellers.

TGCSA, as the custodians of quality assurance and service excellence, has universal accessibility criteria which ensures that accredited establishments are able to provide guests with universally accessible tourism product offerings that comply with global standards. Universal Accessibility (UA) refers to the design of products and services that are accessible to all people. It ensures that all individuals, regardless of their socio-economic class, ethnicity, or physical disability, have equal access to services and products for their benefit.

Tourism is open for all to enjoy however, persons living with disabilities still face challenges such as inaccessible hotel and accommodation establishments.

In raising awareness on issues related to lack of accessible services, the International Day for Persons with Disabilities is observed annually on 3 December. The day aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development. The United Nations (UN) has declared the theme for 2022 International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) as “Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fuelling an accessible and equitable world”.

According to the World Report on Disability, released by the World Health Organization - globally, it is estimated that there are over one billion (or about 15% of the world’s population) people living with disabilities, in addition there are more than two billion people, such as spouses, children and caregivers of persons with disabilities. As a welcoming and inclusive destination, South Africa boasts an array of universally accessible quality assured tourism products and experiences.



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



**TOURISM
TUESDAYS**

Experience of the week: Vodacom World

Everyone should be able to gain access to buildings and use the facilities there, regardless of their level of disability. With this in mind, it is key to include basic features such as accessible restrooms, ample handrails and adjustable workstations.

This week, we feature Vodacom World Events, they have Conference & Event Venues ideal for banquets, conferences, cocktail parties & exhibitions.

- The venue has wheelchair friendly, easy-to-access parking lots.
- All conference & event venues in the building are accessible by wheelchair.
- The venue is equipped with a lift between two floors, and the whole building has flat floors which make it easy to move up and down.
- All visitors can access the stage by a wheelchair ramp.
- Both floors have accessible restrooms

For over 20 years they have ensured that they only provide the best service and facilities, that is why Vodacom World has a 5-star rating.

The design and layout of their studios are equipped with plug and play functionality, allowing for a limited number of presenters to be in the same place at the same time and can be branded to customers' requirements.

Vodacom World Events | Vodacom World



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



TOURISM
TUESDAYS