



SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM

TOURISM TUESDAYS

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#TourismTuesdays

A word from the editor

Dear Industry Partner,

#KeDezemberBoss! Welcome to the last month of 2023.

This week's edition is filled with exciting updates and noteworthy achievements that underscore our commitment to excellence and inclusivity in the world of tourism.

Last week, South Africa made a remarkable mark on the global stage with our active participation at IBTM World in Barcelona, Spain. It was an incredible opportunity to showcase the richness of our business events offerings, engage with industry leaders, and strengthen partnerships that will undoubtedly propel our business events sector to new heights.

Minister de Lille has warmly welcomed the establishment of a direct flight between Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and Johannesburg. This strategic connection not only enhances our accessibility but also opens up new avenues for cultural exchange and economic collaboration between our nations.

One of the sector's core principles is the belief that tourism should be accessible to all. With a firm commitment to this principle, we are actively promoting Universal Accessibility to ensure that tourism becomes an inclusive experience for everyone.

As usual, we also feature some new and exciting products all a testament to South Africa's wide variety of offerings from both leisure and business tourism.

Have a great week

Kind regards,

Tourism Tuesdays Team



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South Africa's Business Events Showcased at IBTM World 2023

For any destination to stay ahead in a rapidly evolving global industry, it is essential to enhance brand awareness. This is why South Africa's business events sector participated in the prestigious IBTM (Incentive, Business Travel, and Meetings) World, which was held in Barcelona, Spain.

As the biggest event in the global business events industry, IBTM World – which took place from the 28th to the 30th of November 2023 – provided a unique platform for engagement, connection, and business interactions.

Known for its networking opportunities, IBTM World events included educational sessions highlighting the latest trends and innovations in the industry. In addition to that, IBTM World is essential for professionals seeking insights and new contacts in the global business events market.

[Click here for more information](#)



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Minister De Lille welcomes direct flight between Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and Johannesburg

As we look forward to a bumper summer tourism season and the global tourism sector's recovery moves rapidly, we are pleased to welcome the return of the Saudi Airlines direct flight between Jeddah and Johannesburg starting this month.

This is a significant boost to our efforts to grow tourism arrivals between South Africa and the rest of the world.

Direct flights and increased air access are essential to our mission to ensure ease of travel that will encourage travellers and help increase the performance of the tourism sector.

[Click here for more information](#)



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Universal Accessibility to promote Tourism for All

Every year on the 3rd of December, International Day for Persons with Disabilities is observed with the aim to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development. Universal access refers to the ability of all people to have equal opportunity and access to a service or product from which they can benefit, regardless of their social class, ethnicity, ancestry or physical disabilities.

This year, to observe International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa (TGCSA) visited **Ximuwu Lodge**, a premier luxury safari destination nestled within the Klaserie Private Nature Reserve. The lodge, has been successfully graded as a 5-star game lodge with a Universal Accessibility (UA) Mobility 3 rating. This exceptional accolade places Ximuwu Lodge at the pinnacle of luxury and accessibility within the Greater Kruger National Park.

According to World Health Organisation, an estimated 1.3 billion people worldwide live with disabilities, and face many barriers to inclusion in many key aspects of society.

Through the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa, the custodian of quality assurance, South African Tourism works in partnership with tourism stakeholders to create awareness and encourage tourism businesses to be universally accessible to all travellers while maintaining service excellence through best-practice standards.

Note: TGCSA does not penalise businesses for not meeting universal accessibility criteria. However, all tourism businesses are strongly encouraged to create an environment that is fully accessible for people with disabilities.

**EVERYTHING YOU
SHOULD KNOW ABOUT
UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY**



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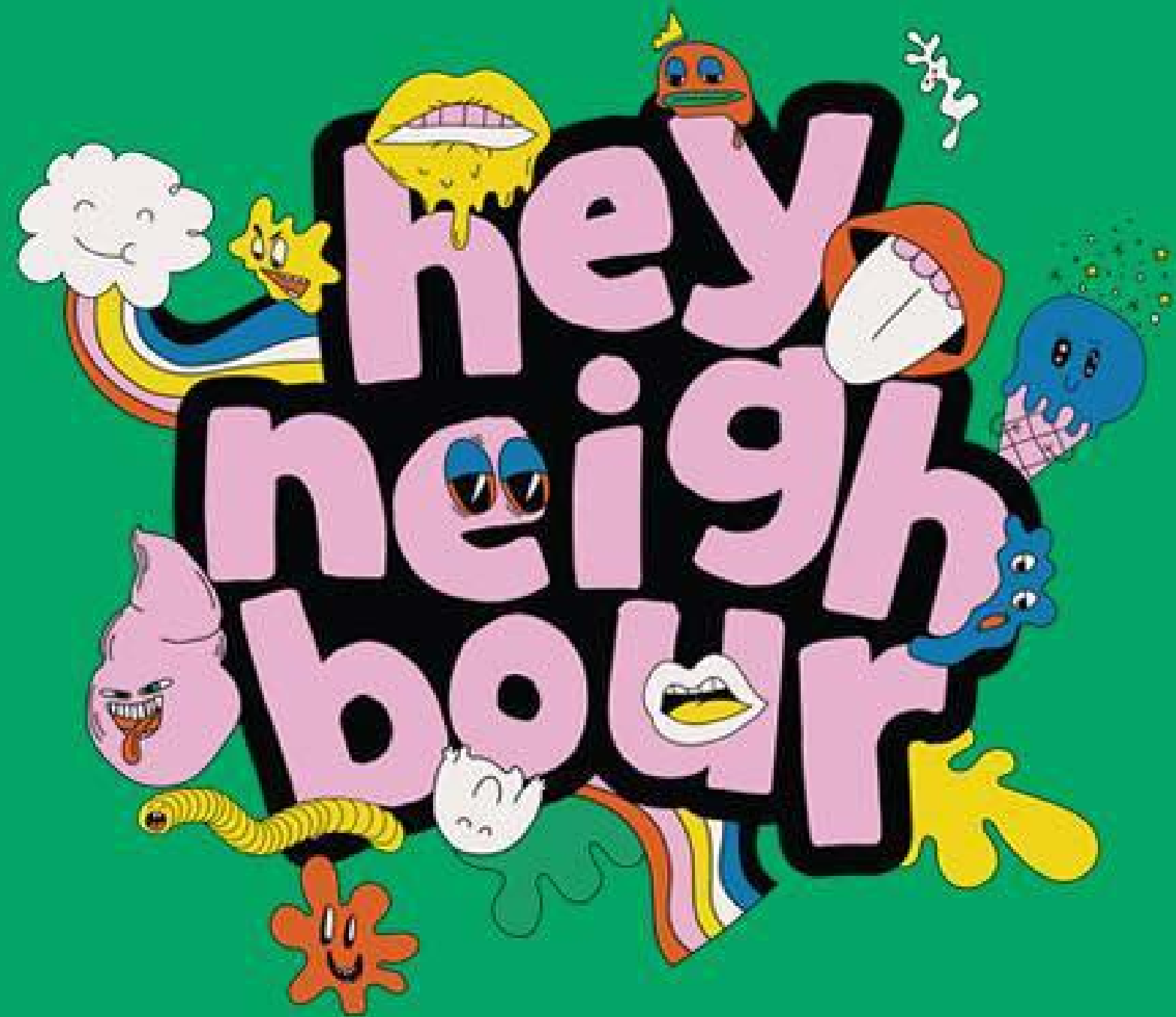
Gauteng officially kicks off Festive Summer enaLanto with the Hey Neighbour Festival, 8 to 10 December

The capital city, Pitori is set to go abuzz this weekend with this signature musical festival and promises to give visitors the capital city's local culture, history, and heritage together with natural splendour. The 3-day event will bring significant economic results for accommodation and tourism businesses in the region. Camping sites for over 2000 people are opening for check in from Thursday, meaning more bed nights, jobs and socio-economic benefits.

The festival which takes place at Legends Adventure Farm in Pretoria promises a sonic journey unlike any other. From the freshest, most exciting talent on the scene, to the chart-topping legends, showcasing artists who are making waves and shifting paradigms in the music world.

Beyond the music, the festival offers a sensory feast of food, drinks, merchandise and much more. Festival tickets, camping, park and ride passes are still selling at [Ticketpro.com](https://www.ticketpro.com)

Download the Gauteng Travel App for more things to do in Gauteng



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Brand Experience, New Product: Tanda Tula Safari Camp

Location: Hoedspruit, Limpopo

In the heart of Timbavati Private Nature Reserve, the newly reimagined Tanda Tula Safari Camp stands as a testament to the perfect union of exquisite design and unspoiled wilderness. More than just a visually stunning retreat, this safari camp is crafted to submerge guests in the natural beauty of its Nhlalarumi River locale in South Africa. From a concealed hide to an inviting library and an open-air bar, the camp provides spaces for both communal gatherings and moments of solitary contemplation. Rooted in a deep respect for the land's heritage, the interiors pay homage to South Africa's Tsonga people, the original guardians of this territory. Modern luxuries cater to every guest's comfort, while the camp's commitment to sustainability shines through its solar-powered, water-wise practices, ensuring an eco-conscious and enriching experience.



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Brand Experience, New Product: Amber Villa

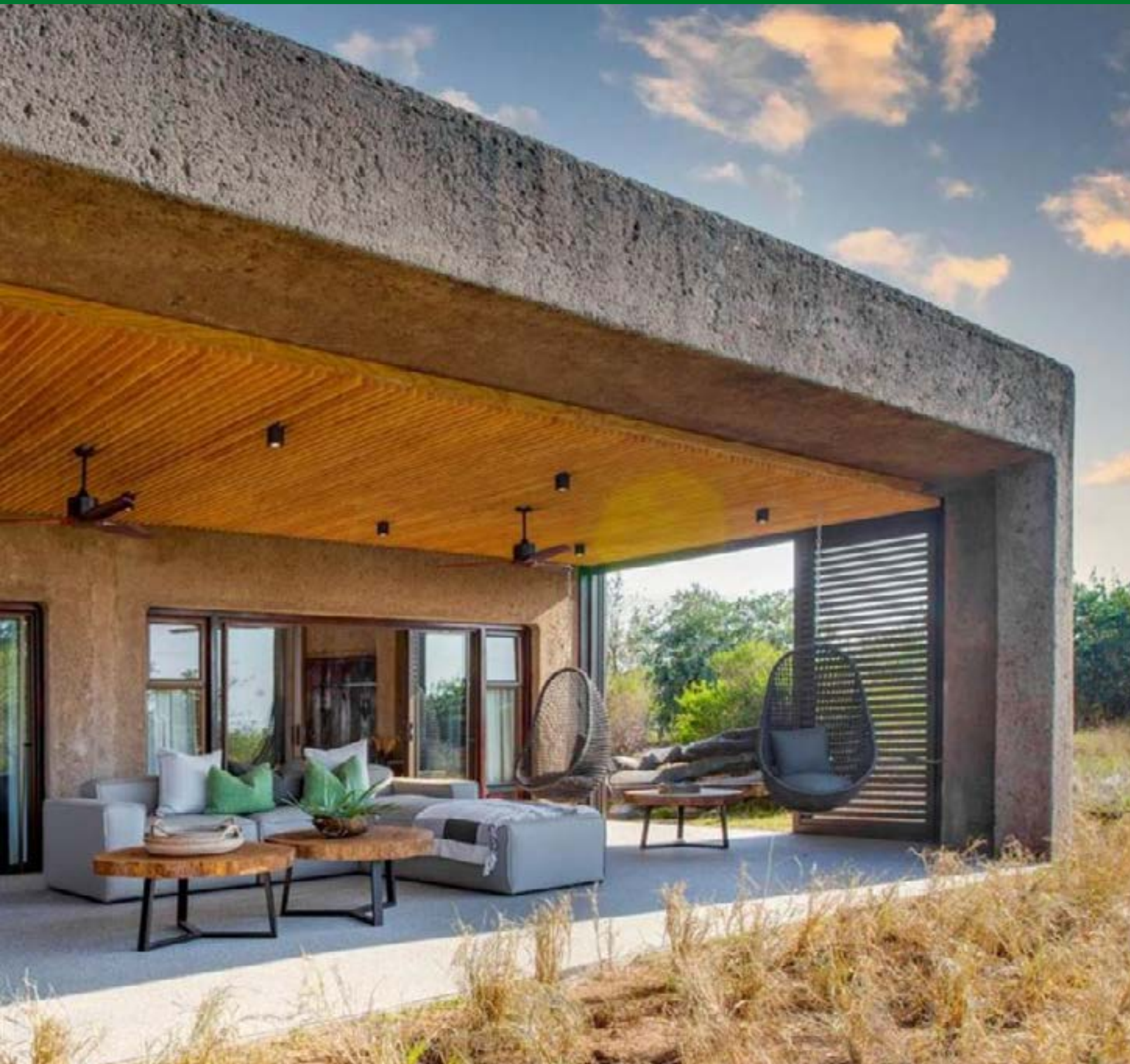
Location: Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga

The magnificent Amber Villa is a shimmering jewel of privacy and space. The 2-bedroom villa boasts an expansive master bedroom with elegant ensuite bathroom, dressing room and a private fitness area. The second bedroom comfortably accommodates two people and also has a dressing and vanity area.

Leading from the sizeable living area is a terrace lounge complete with oversized couches and leather hanging sling chairs. This space invites moments of togetherness and connection while being immersed in the wild with picturesque views onto the surrounding bush. The private plunge pool adds the finishing sparkling touch.



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Brand Experience, New Product: Samara Karoo Reserve

Location: Graaff-Reinet, Eastern Cape

Award-winning Samara Karoo Reserve is a conservation journey on 67,000 acres of born-again wilderness in South Africa's heart-stopping beautiful Great Karoo region. Founded in 1997, Samara has pioneered the rewilding of this semi-arid yet uniquely biodiverse landscape, catalysing an ambitious vision to expand the conservation estate to a 3-million-acre footprint in a Global Biodiversity Hotspot.



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Brand Experience: MAQAQA exclusive lifestyle

Location: Cele, Kwazulu Natal

The Maqaqa Exclusive Lifestyle, offers warm luxury services and a life-changing experience. Offering a venue to host your exclusive event, Maqaqa, offers a premier entertainment empire featuring Shisanyama, a car wash, and a salon. Visitor will enjoy good music and bask in the sophisticated ambience of Maqaqa Exclusive Lifestyle. Experience personalized luxury that transcends the ordinary



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Experience of the week: E Cape virtual tours

Location: Eastern Cape

E Cape virtual tours, is intended to give visitors a feel for the province before they visit physically. The virtual tours are enhanced when paired with virtual reality goggles and controllers which will give users a full 360-degree immersive and interactive tour.

The tours can be accessed from anywhere where there is internet connectivity, and can be used for educational purposes, and to help people with disabilities immerse themselves in experiences that otherwise would not be accessible to them.

Chosen to offer a mix of adventure, nature, marine and historical experiences with a wide geographical spread, they represent most of the province's tourist attractions.



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