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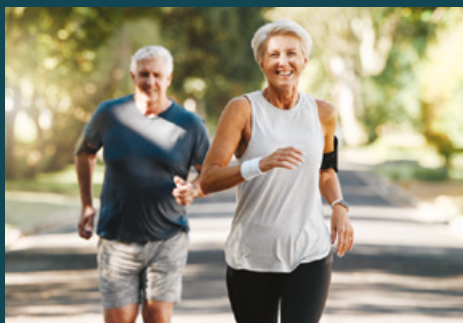
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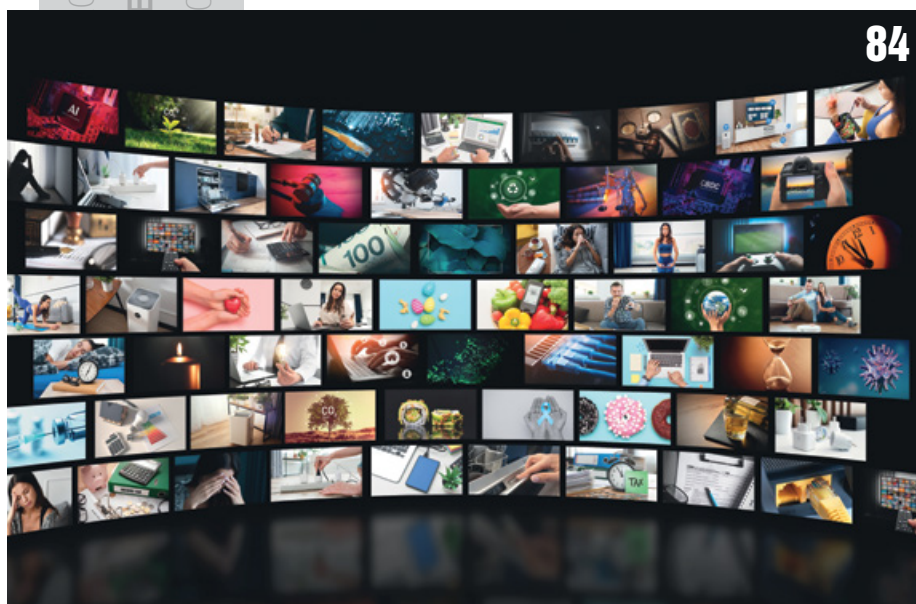


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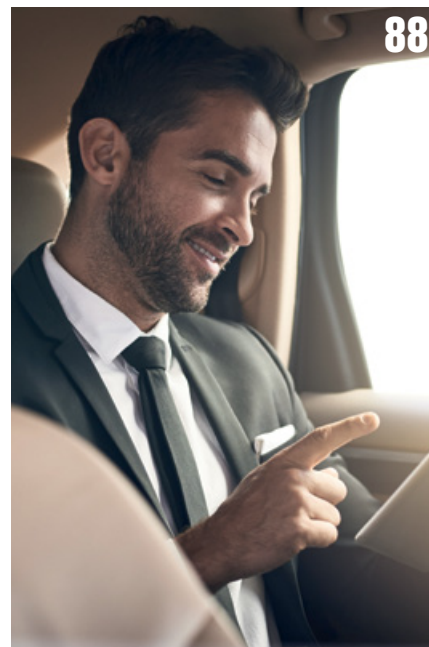
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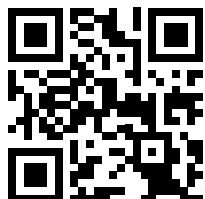
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1972

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80%

The percentage of the top 10 largest statues in the world that are images of the Buddha.



Airlink expands African connectivity with new Johannesburg-Zanzibar route launch

Tourism and **economic collaboration** will benefit from new routes

Airlink has officially launched the Johannesburg-Zanzibar route, marking an important milestone in strengthening air connectivity between South Africa and Tanzania. The inaugural flight was celebrated in Zanzibar by key industry stakeholders, partners and dignitaries, reflecting strong confidence in the route and growing demand for both leisure and business travel to the island destination.

Representing Airlink at the launch event was Nambita Mazwi, Executive Manager

for Legal. In her address, Mazwi highlighted the strategic importance of the new connection, emphasising its long-standing priority within the airline's network expansion plans. "The Zanzibar-Johannesburg route has been on our list for some time, as it is strategically important for both Tanzania and South Africa," she said. "Today's arrival marks the beginning of a twice-weekly return service, strengthening ties between our regions and opening new opportunities for tourism and trade."

The new route offers travellers increased accessibility to Zanzibar, one of East Africa's most sought-after destinations, known for its pristine beaches and rich cultural heritage. Beyond tourism, the service is expected to contribute positively to economic collaboration and regional integration.

Further expansion

In response to encouraging market demand, Airlink has announced plans to expand its operations in Zanzibar. A key development will be the introduction of a direct Cape Town-Zanzibar service, scheduled to commence on

3 October 2026. Initially operating once a week, this will become the first-ever non-stop Airlink service between Cape Town and Zanzibar, further enhancing travel convenience for passengers from the Western Cape.

The expansion reflects Airlink's confidence in the route's long-term viability and its commitment to improving intra-African connectivity through efficient and customer-focused services.

Airlink's Zanzibar flights are operated using modern Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, offering passengers a premium travel experience. The airline provides a full-service offering that includes complimentary meals and refreshments, generous legroom and a choice of aisle or window seating, ensuring comfort throughout the journey.

In addition, flight schedules have been carefully planned to maximise traveller convenience. By avoiding late-night and early-morning departures and arrivals, Airlink enables passengers to make the most of their time in Zanzibar from the moment they arrive. Recognising the diverse needs of modern travellers, including those visiting for leisure, sports and recreational activities, the airline has designed the service to support a seamless and enjoyable travel experience.

Overall, the launch of the Johannesburg-Zanzibar route represents more than just a new flight path. It signals a strengthening of regional ties, supports tourism growth and creates new opportunities for economic engagement between South Africa and Tanzania, reinforcing Airlink's role as a key connector across the African continent.



Text and photography | Supplied

For more information, go to flyairlink.com

FROM DEEP BLUE *To Island Blue*

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FROM 2 OCTOBER 2026



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- Indoor and Outdoor Showers

Shares priced from R1,1m

350,000

The number of coins with Superman on the heads side that were made legal tender in Canada in 2015.

100,000

The number of hairs the average adult human has on their scalp.



TRAVEL

Airlink to connect Cape Town and Mauritius

Airlink will launch twice-weekly direct Cape Town-Mauritius flights from 2 October 2026.

Bookings are now open for flights on the route, which will be Airlink's first to the Indian Ocean island.

Mauritius's legendary beach resorts, golf courses and visa on arrival system for citizens of over 140 countries, continue to make it popular with tourists.

At the same time, the island nation's thriving, sophisticated economy, which spans IT, financial services, textile manufacturing as well as traditional sugar farming and fishing – along with its tax and offshore business incentives – has transformed it into a key investment and trade centre.

Airlink will operate its brand new, state-of-the-art Embraer E195-E2 flagship aircraft on the new Mauritius service. They accommodate 124 passengers (12 Business Class and 112 Economy) with only window and aisle seats – there are no middle seats on any Airlink flights.

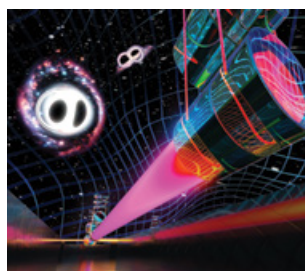
"Our new flagship aircraft, the E195-E2, makes it possible for Airlink to conveniently connect Cape Town with Mauritius. Cape Town is also an important

source market and connecting hub for leisure and business travel wanting to travel to the island while avoiding the hassle and additional time connecting in Johannesburg," said de Villiers Engelbrecht, Airlink CEO.

Cape Town is Airlink's second hub with domestic and regional flights as well as long-haul connections with Airlink's partner airlines from around the world.

Source: flyairlink.com

TECHNOLOGY



Music to their ears

Gravitational wave researchers working on the world's most sensitive scientific instruments have found a way to tune their detectors using a process akin to the pitch-correction used in music production.

Scientists at the international LIGO, Virgo and KAGRA (LVK) gravitational wave observatory

collaboration have employed the technique, which they call astrophysical calibration, to use gravitational-wave signals to measure the response of their incredibly sensitive instruments.

It enables them to ensure that they can clearly 'hear' the sounds of colossal cosmic events like the collision of black holes, even when one gravitational wave detector is slightly out of tune. This is crucial to accurately interpret the signals and find their source location.

By combining signals from other detectors with precise predictions from the laws of gravity, researchers can identify and account for subtle distortions in the data. The process is similar to how music production software such as Auto-Tune can correct a singer's errant pitch to meet the intended note in a melody.

Source: gla.ac.uk

TRAVEL

Bigger than bags

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) recently announced the launch of 'Save a Life, Not a Bag', a passenger safety campaign urging travellers

not to take cabin baggage during an aircraft evacuation.

Supported by aviation safety regulators, including the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the campaign reinforces what passengers must do when instructed to evacuate for their safety and the safety of all on board: follow crew instructions, leave all baggage behind and move quickly to the nearest usable exit.

"Taking bags during an evacuation is not a minor issue. Every second matters. Even taking one bag can affect the safe evacuation of everyone on board. Crew instructions are clear and simple: leave everything behind and move quickly. 'Save a Life, Not a Bag' is a message that passengers need to understand and act upon," said Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General.

The campaign responds to the growing number of cases where travellers have stopped to collect their baggage or take photos during aircraft evacuations. Evidence of this is seen in many videos posted online.

Source: planetalking.co.za



Your next stop: SuperSport Park

A season of **world-class cricket** is calling – and Centurion is ready to welcome you

23-27 NOVEMBER 2026	SOUTH AFRICA VS BANGLADESH TEST MATCH
13 DECEMBER 2026	SOUTH AFRICA VS BANGLADESH T20 INTERNATIONAL
26-30 DECEMBER 2026	SOUTH AFRICA VS ENGLAND BOXING DAY TEST

40
SuperSport Park
CELEBRATING
40 YEARS

Tickets for all three fixtures are available at ticketpro.co.za.

As your Airlink flight touches down and Centurion unfolds beneath you, let us point you in one very exciting direction: SuperSport Park – one of South Africa's most beloved cricket venues, and this season, one of the most electrifying places on the planet to watch international cricket.

Celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2026, SuperSport Park is more than a stadium. It is a landmark, a gathering place and a venue that families return to year after year – for the sunshine on the grass embankments, the hum of a crowd alive with expectation and cricket that gets talked about for decades.

Three unmissable fixtures in 2026/27

This summer, SuperSport Park sits at the centre of South African sport – and the schedule is a cricket fan's dream.

South Africa vs Bangladesh – Dafabet Test: 23-27 November 2026

The international season opens with a five-day test against Bangladesh. There is nothing quite like the contest of patience, skill and strategy that unfolds ball by ball. Pack a hat, grab refreshments and settle in for a sporting occasion that rewards the true fan.

South Africa vs Bangladesh – T20 International: 13 December 2026

If you prefer your cricket fast, loud and spectacular,

the T20 in December has your name on it. Big hits, electric fielding and a crowd that turns the stadium into a cauldron of noise and colour – and with the festive season just around the corner, it doubles as a pre-Christmas celebration you will not want to miss.

South Africa vs England – Boxing Day Test: 26-30 December 2026

And then there is the big one. The Boxing Day Test against England is as South African as a braai on a summer's afternoon. This fixture consistently sells out – a rivalry soaked in history, passion and pride. For the Proteas, pulling on the green and gold at home carries a special weight, and every delivery, every wicket, every boundary feels personal when you are in those stands.

Plan your visit

SuperSport Park sits in the heart of Centurion – easy to reach, easy to love. The venue offers great food, parking and a warm atmosphere that no screen can replicate. Whether you are visiting for business or leisure, a day at the cricket belongs on your itinerary.

Text and photography | **Supplied**

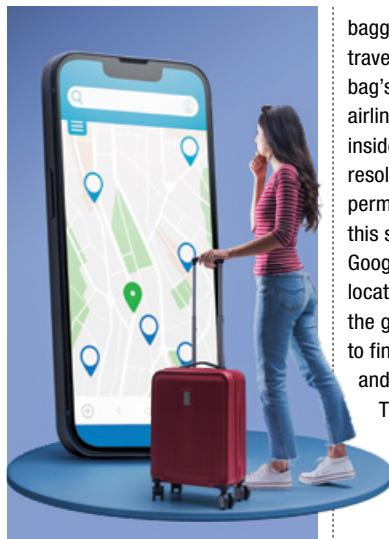


27

The number of years you could spend visiting a different beach every day in Australia.

5-7 pitches

The lifespan of the average Major League baseball.



TRAVEL

Tracing teamwork

Passengers sharing their bag location through personal devices is becoming a key part of airline

baggage recovery. As more travellers choose to share their bag's location when it is delayed, airlines can use that information inside their baggage systems to resolve cases faster and reduce permanent loss. To support this shift, SITA has integrated Google's Find Hub share item location feature into WorldTracer, the global system airlines use to find and reconcile delayed and mishandled baggage.

Traditionally, recovery relied on airport scans and airline-to-airline data exchanges. Passenger-authorized location sharing adds an additional source of visibility, helping teams narrow search areas and prioritise cases when a bag does not arrive as expected.

The process remains fully controlled by the passenger.



BIRD OF THE MONTH

Green twinspot

Some of the most colourful little birds in southern Africa are twinspots, a tiny and relatively shy

species that resides in and around forests, where it prefers dense areas with seeding grass. Fortunately, their high-pitched trills make them somewhat easy to locate if they are present. However, finding them and photographing them are two different things. Without the use of a hide, capturing images can be difficult. One place that has such a hide is Dlinza Forest Aerial Boardwalk in Eshowe, which is the oldest European settlement in Zululand.

Nearest Airlink airport:
Durban

Source: sacrp.org
dr.bobgraham@gmail.com

If a bag is delayed, the traveller can generate a secure link in Find Hub and provide it to the airline. Sharing can be stopped at any time. Links expire automatically.

Location data is encrypted, and only the passenger decides who can access it and for how long.

Source: google.com/android/find/people

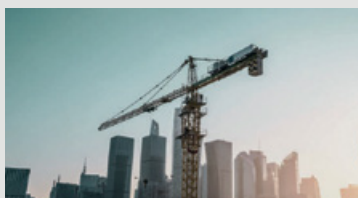


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1 million

The number of dogs in the US that are designated as heirs in their owners' wills.

22kg

The mass of skin cells the average person sheds in a lifetime.



TRAVEL

Landing all the awards

Airports operated by Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) achieved outstanding recognition at the 2025 Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Customer Experience Awards,

the world's leading global benchmarking system for airport passenger satisfaction. The awards were based on real-time feedback from passengers at over 400 airports in more than 110 countries, providing a

robust measure of service quality and operational excellence.

Multiple ACSA airports were celebrated across a range of categories, reflecting excellence in both operational performance and passenger experience. Bram Fischer

International Airport (Bloemfontein), Upington International Airport and Chief Dawid Stuurman International Airport (Gqeberha) were recognised as Africa's best airports in departures among airports serving under two million passengers, with Chief Dawie Stuurman International Airport earning accolades for having the most dedicated staff and providing the easiest journey in Africa.

Among the larger airports, Cape Town International Airport received multiple honours for departures among airports serving between five million and 15 million passengers, as well as for offering the easiest, most enjoyable and cleanest airport experience in Africa. King Shaka International Airport was recognised as one of the continent's most enjoyable airports.

Source: airports.co.za

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\$10,000

The amount Mike Tyson once offered a zookeeper to let him fight a gorilla (the keeper said no...).



Airlink's gorgeous green machine

Airlink recently revealed its latest bespoke-liveried aircraft, an Embraer E190, in a **gorgeous green getup**

The newly painted aircraft, registration ZS-YAE, made its debut at the end of June and will operate on Airlink's main domestic and regional trunk

services throughout southern and East Africa.

"The aircraft is one of three sporting our Airlink Skybucks customer loyalty programme

paint schemes. Its unveiling coincides with Airlink being named the Official Domestic Airline for the Rugby's Greatest Rivalry 2026 Tour, where we will

fly the New Zealand and South African teams and personnel between their matches," said de Villiers Engelbrecht, Airlink CEO.

The rugby tournament's official logo is also displayed on both sides of the aircraft and is also displayed on her black sistership, ZS-YDE.

A team of six specially qualified technicians, using electrostatic equipment, painted the aircraft at Airlink's new maintenance base at Polokwane's Gateway International Airport in Limpopo Province. The base also incorporates a dedicated 96 x 46m aircraft paint shop, which has the capacity to paint up to 13 aircraft a year.

The paint is certified for aircraft use and imported from AERO Technique in the Netherlands to South Africa.

Text | **Supplied** Photography | **Stephen Van Resburg**
For more information, go to flyairlink.com

Paint by numbers

Aircraft fuselage area painted	36.24m long with a 3.01m diameter and a 10.57m tail height
Coats	1 x primer and 2 x green coats
Paint used	Approximately 60ℓ
Weight of each coat	Approximately 35kg, excluding hardener and thinners
Thickness of each coat	55-75 microns – less than the thickness of a human hair
Drying time	About two hours between coats
Time to complete	29 days from start to finish, including stripping and disposing of the previous paint scheme and preparing the aircraft for repainting
How often Airlink repaints an aircraft	Every 5-7 years



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The first impression on arriving at Hotel Riu Palace Swahili on Zanzibar's north-west coast involves its scale. Entire boutique establishments could fit in the wide, pillared reception area, which has a 24-hour restaurant in one corner. Step into the hotel's central garden and there's an even fuller sense of the size, with the bulk of the 500-plus rooms arrayed around that space making it feel like you're entering the Colosseum.

Heading towards the beach, the first of the major facilities appear – a coffee shop, a high-end lounge, a luxury deck and bar and a huge open-sided theatre with a full lighting rig, ready to host artists for the resort's nightly entertainment slots (acrobats, dance troupes, singers and more). Downstairs, a row of restaurants echo the food districts around prestigious town squares in big cities before you reach the pools – three of them on two levels, one with a swim-up bar, one hosting pool basketball and other activities and another higher up and less bustling. The number of sunbeds is bewildering; regimented relaxation tempered by a sign that forbids the booking of sunbeds and denying someone else prime position if you're not going to be lying there yourself.

Folks of all ages and shapes and sizes are tanning, napping or scrolling through their phones, with one or two reading books. All suggest no apparent desire to shift – they're in for the day. That same reaction might occur for guests staying in the hotel's Elite Club rooms, which come equipped with their own rack of spirits for those who like having a nightcap without needing to ask anyone else to pour it for them.

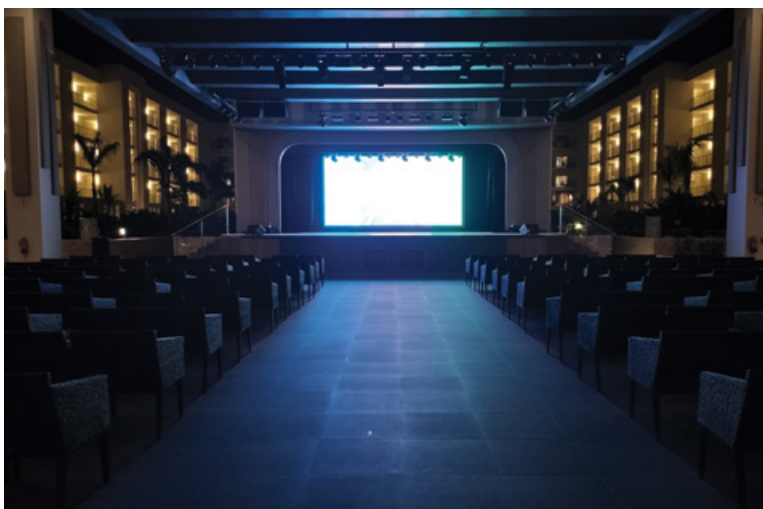
Sand and streets

In front of the hotel, Nungwi Beach (which becomes Kendwa Beach further along) is an entertainment and business hub – busier when the high tide makes the strip of sand narrower – with local entrepreneurs doing their best to sell crafts and skills to passers-by, paragliders drifting in to land and ridiculous mock sports car jet skis available to hire, should you need a lift out to an equally preposterous inflatable floating

playground. The sea is swimmer-friendly here, with long stretches where the seabed is sandy and free of sea urchins and other potential perils, inviting walkers to wander into the water.

For sundowners, guests are spoilt for choice. A gorgeous lounge juts out of the front of the main Swahili structure and there are seats at any of the restaurants, or you can branch out a little, with Hotel Riu Jambo's iconic jetty just next door and a dozen beach bars in easy walking distance. If you want to feel like you're inside a postcard (or perhaps, today, an Instagram post), book dinner at one of the restaurants on the Jambo jetty – the distinctive structure is a mainstay of almost *all* Zanzibar marketing campaigns. Plantain soup,

Hotel Riu Jambo's famous jetty (above) is the backdrop for swimmers at Hotel Riu Palace Swahili, who can also enjoy a fully equipped theatre!





Getting there

Airlink connects you from Johannesburg to Zanzibar and, from 2 October, from Cape Town direct to Zanzibar. For flight schedules, go to page 113.

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interestingly (if you've never had it, you might imagine it's just a sour banana smoothie), is fantastic.

A walk into nearby Nungwi village reveals a place buzzing with energy. As is often the case in tourist towns, many of the shops offer the same range of stock – football shirts, paintings, carved curios and *kikois* to wear around the pool. After a while, these outlets become less tempting as shopping destinations, but they provide a riot of colour for visitors to enjoy.

For those relying on their own memories for navigation, there's a pleasing cheat code: if you get lost, just ask someone for the closest beach access and stroll back along the sand. And toss off your shoes for a cooling, cleansing dip as you arrive back at the hotel.

Relative comforts

The Palace Swahili's neighbours are also its relatives – the aforementioned Hotel Riu Jambo and, one property further down, the Hotel Riu Palace Zanzibar. Children are allowed at the Jambo, which is older and less luxurious, with the chilled atmosphere around its upper pools reflecting that more relaxed approach. The pool at beach level is a different story, having been commandeered by a fitness instructor, guiding a

circle of enthusiastic guests through a planned activity. Close to that, the beach dining area is lovely, directly off a sun-lounging area on the sand shaded by palms and other trees.

The Palace Zanzibar has a completely different feel, with lush, extensive gardens – large trees, flowers, hedges and lawns everywhere. There are spread-out villas and collections of other rooms in larger buildings, some of those around another pool, creating a quiet, private space with a bar helmed by a knowledgeable barman who is on first-name terms with all the guests and who remembers everyone's orders. It's a lovely place to hang out away from the bustle closer to the beach, though the pool and restaurant above the sand offer spectacular views.

There's a tasteful farewell in store at the Steakhouse back at the Palace Swahili, where warm staff and succulent fare are a prelude to a performance by a skilled dance troupe if you have remaining energy after the rich food and a day in the sun.

Text and photography | **Bruce Dennill**

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The short transfer flight from Harare to Mana Pools National Park, right on Zimbabwe's northern border, takes in the capital's sprawling urban area, then small-scale farms, larger farms and the endless darker green of protected woodland. Then, on the horizon, a silver strip reflecting the sky – the Zambezi, at this point, sprawled around islands where hippos crop the grass, and the water offers lighter or darker shades of green depending on the sandbanks.



The plane loops briefly over Zambia before crossing back into Zimbabwe to land at the Mana West strip, where guide Faidon awaits with a safari vehicle and a cooler box full of drinks. The landscape is different to many safari areas, with dark, hard tree trunks as much a feature as open grassland, with tall palm trees dotted throughout.

One of the first sightings is ground hornbills – two separate groups – which is a great start, given how endangered the birds are. A young elephant then appears on one side of the road, inspiring happy sighs from guests. One curve in the road later, a rustle of branches announces the arrival of an older brother or uncle, a male in musth who is not keen on *any* other big creature being in his zone, even if it's a noisy metal box full of tourists.

Well into winter, the oncoming evening doesn't yet require a jacket and arriving towards sunset means being introduced to Wilderness Ruckomechi Camp when it looks like it's been dunked in amber, with *gorgeous* golden light on the wide deck of the common area and on the flanks of the safari tents on either side.

Those tents face the river and the Zambian escarpment on the other side, with glorious views from the couch, bed, writing desk... and shower (hopefully fishermen and booze cruisers are focused on what they're doing).



Into the darkness

A night drive sees Faidon handling a powerful torch with a red filter that makes the light less invasive for wildlife. This is immediately evidenced by a nightjar that sits calmly for inspection until the onlookers are distracted by a shadow in the darkness beyond – a colossal hippo that doesn't even deign to look over as he heads back to the water.

Large numbers of impassive impala suggest that not much is happening in terms of predator movement, and though a couple of crocodiles have broken the surface at a river crossing, it seems, for a while, like they are correct. However, after seeing first an elephant shrew and then its full-size counterpart, there is a sighting that confirms the need for the pretty antelope to remain steadfastly on alert. Something is crouched beyond a prominent tree root, its profile difficult to make it out – a jackal, a hyena? Then the animal stands up. It's a female leopard, ensuring that the dark bulk of the vehicle was not a threat before revealing herself. She's svelte and sleek, listening carefully and peering into the gloom as she prepares to hunt.

Our own meal is much easier to track down, arriving at mood-lit tables while a glowing bonfire attracts guests who've already dined to share favourite moments from their day. Delicious food, intelligently portioned, arrives with wine, with a refill a great

companion to joining the fireside chat and interpreting the night sky.

On the path back to the tent, another guide shares tales of the myriad creatures encountered on this same walk. He's still reminiscing as another elephant materialises, a few metres off the path and a short distance ahead. The route is altered to include improvised bundu bashing around a neighbouring tent to ensure all parties have enough space.

Safely in the tent, the night is both deliciously peaceful and alive with sound – coughing hippos, bickering frogs, the calling of various birds and the snapping branches nearby as the elephant completes his errands.

Cats and lairs

In the darkest part of the night, a lion roars. Insistently. The story (it transpires in the morning) is that he was calling to communicate with two lionesses who walked through the camp with their cubs. The females didn't answer – which explains the male's testiness – suggesting that they may have had concerns about the male's infanticidal tendencies.

Walking to breakfast involves passing a hippo grazing on the riverbank near the pool. The continental breakfast here, with the continent being *Africa*, involves sweet scones cooked over

Nature is right on your doorstep everywhere at Ruckomechi Camp.



glowing coals. With the big cat still in the area, this short fuel stop is attenuated in favour of a long lion linger as the young male – still alone, still calling – lies on a hippo-cropped lawn and enjoys a leisurely tongue bath before ambling into the bush. He stops often to both spray urine and rub his facial glands on clumps of grass and low tree branches: if he can't impose his will on the lionesses, he can at least make sure *everyone* knows he's around and in charge.

Shortly afterwards, there is the first of a number of starkly beautiful bird sightings – two tall, elegant saddle-billed storks. There is, more intriguingly, a huge baobab, towards which Faidon steers with a smile on his face. On inspection, the tree is hollow, with concentric circular steps carved into the inside, going upwards. Faidon explains that it was used by local Shona people to hide from raiding Matabele warriors. As many as 20 people could hide inside the tree, along with supplies, with a branch pulled across the entrance to conceal it.



Returning to the vehicle for coffee, we look up at a golden swathe of grassland, the site of the village's former farm fields. There is a sense of nature returning wherever it is allowed to, with the beautiful poetry of the current generation caring for the same land, but in different ways.

Text | **Bruce Dennil** Photography | **Bruce Dennil and Supplied**
For more information or to book a stay,
go to wildernessdestinations.com.



Getting there

Airlink connects you
from Johannesburg,
Cape Town and
Durban to Harare.
For flight schedules,
go to page 113.
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flightschedule](http://www.flyairlink.com/flightschedule)



Generational investment

The final morning includes a bush walk. A trio of lions is waiting in, according to Faidon, the *exact* spot he was hoping to park. There are, this time, two females and a male, with the ladies playing not-at-all hard to get, which is not necessarily a cuddly affair, involving much cuffing and snarling.

Faidon pulls over just 300m further up the road, where we dismount and follow Faidon, his rifle at the ready, stopping regularly to note and discuss the minutia of the landscape. There are harvester ants and their nests, the night-time business of porcupines and evidence of human settlements from the 1950s and before (Faidon's father lived there!).



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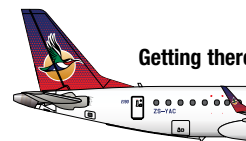


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KASANE



Getting there

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A hollowed-out
baobab tree in
Kasane once served
as the town's prison.

There are no fences between
Kasane and Chobe National
Park, meaning animals often
wander the streets – be aware!

The name **Kasane** comes from
the Chikuhane word *isani*, which
means 'hardwood', referring to
the vegetation around the town.

Kasane from the air.



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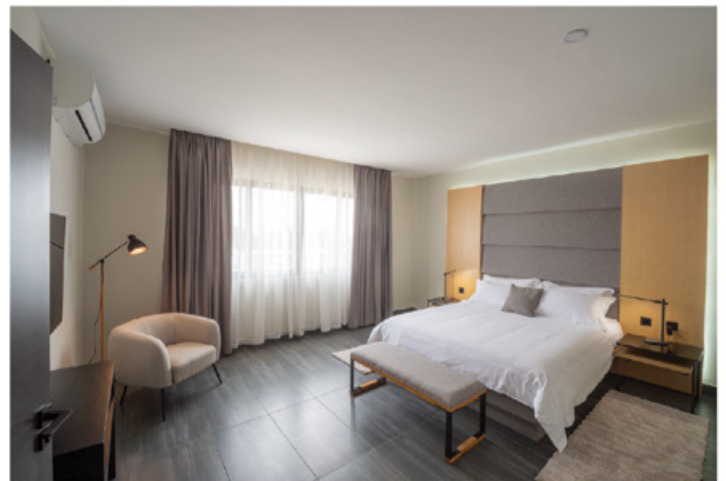


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mountainous escarpment
in Kenya's Chyulu Hills



The transfer aircraft is painted to look like a giraffe – is that a sign? Captain Morris holds open the door of the four-seater Cessna 206, with me scooching over to the co-pilot's seat, the fixed-wing plane is swiftly airborne. Landing at the Ol Donyo airstrip, a few Masai giraffe in the vicinity seem rather perplexed to see their sibling or distant cousin so strangely shaped, let alone making such a racket.

Which begs the question: why do giraffes always have a look of surprise on their faces? Granted that their lanky, statuesque frames provide them with the advantage of surveying their surroundings when towering at between 4.3 and 5.5m tall, so they certainly see more than the rest of us. Have you ever been witness to a tower of giraffes all looking in the same direction? It's a tell-tale sign of something lurking in the bushes and once the animals start running (the elegance of that is uncanny – it's all legs galloping with grace), look out for a predator that could be giving chase. On the way to the lodge from the airstrip, there is an adorable foal all on its own in the red oats grass, delivering its species' trademark stare.

Things are looking up

As part of the Great Plains Conservation portfolio of lodges in Africa, Ol Donyo Lodge occupies a prime location in the rocky outcrops of Chyulu Hills, set between Tsavo and Amboseli National Park, which gives it an air of exclusivity.

Sitting down for lunch, an agama lizard appears on the wooden deck adjacent to the table. He is striking, with an orange head, blue body and bright turquoise tail. Just beyond his reach is a rather drab-looking female, clearly the object of his affection for the moment.

In spite of his continual flirtation – he rears his upper body halfway up to resemble the stance of a body builder, which coincides with a little dance – she appears unimpressed and makes a hasty getaway. The meal of reversed seared chicken with zhoug sauce is delicious and the critters' antics are entertaining.

Luxurious safari pool suites are dotted across the landscape, with the cherry on top quite literally the suite's star bed. Spend the night on the rooftop of your suite, where a blanket of stars will illuminate the way

The transfer aircraft (below) is painted to fit in with the wildlife (above) at Ol Donyo.





Enormous luxury rooms tempt visitors to stay in camp.

to dreamland. Lying up there also offers a wonderful opportunity to listen out for the nocturnal sounds of hyenas whooping close by, or a lion roaring in the distance. With the suite just down the steps, guests can return to all the creature comforts they'd like to make the most of during their stay.

From the private pool deck, the vistas over the twin hills of El Mau are magnificent. Looking out towards the watering hole, a few zebras have congregated to quench their thirst. Once they leave, an elephant sashays over to do the same, while considering whether there is enough water for a mud bath. The answer is simply put: no. Turning away, he heads to a bigger source of liquid refreshment. The larger watering hole is the lodge's photographic hide and, here, it's like a scene from *Noah's Ark*. On a hot day, this is *the* place to be for the wildlife – and anyone with a camera or smartphone wanting to capture images at eye level.



spluttering hiss. A sub-adult cub is not taking kindly to the presence of the vehicle, and we remain static to see what unfolds. One by one, the rest of the pride starts waking up, with long languid stretches and yawns in typical cat fashion. A female has her eyes locked on something up ahead – an oryx busy feeding, none the wiser that he has a target on his back. Securing this meal could be exactly what the 26-strong Lesoit (which means 'rock' in the local Maasai language) pride needs to sustain itself for a while. As the lioness flattens herself, stealthily advancing on her prospective prey, the cubs mistake her stance for an invitation to play, alerting the antelope to head for the hills. Better luck next time!

Text and photography | **Helène Ramackers**

For more information or to book a stay, go to greatplainsconservation.com. Helène Ramackers's international flights on Airlink between Cape Town International Airport and Nairobi International Airport were sponsored by Extraordinary Journeys. For more information, go to extraordinaryjourneys.com.



Getting there

Airlink connects you from Johannesburg to Nairobi. Go to page 113 for flight schedules. www.flyairlink.com/flightschedule



Rocking the pride

The resident pride of lions has been spotted recently and guide Seki wants to try his luck in locating them on the afternoon game drive. It's quite a distance to get there, and his efforts are rewarded with a momentary glimpse of what *could* be a lion (it might very well be a rock) under a tree. If it starts moving, we have struck pure gold. The sun has begun to set, which hopefully will make whatever is there start to get active. Picking up his binoculars, Seki scans the rest of the escarpment. There is a brief rustle, which could be the wind. As he is squinting to focus properly, the 'rock' sits up suddenly – it is, in fact, a lion!

Edging closer in the vehicle, a low frequency snarl becomes clearly audible. This is closely followed by a



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Under the mountain

Golf, wildlife and architecture create a **multi-faceted** country attraction

The Legend Golf & Safari Resort is a pleasant drive from Johannesburg – just far enough to feel remote and exotic. The scale and form of the architecture support that latter perspective. The giant gate structure is a replica of Great Zimbabwe, with Hanglip, the distinctive mountain at the heart of the venue's visual identity, giving the place an extraordinary atmosphere on entry.

The estate is huge and sprawling, encompassing standalone villas and houses and side roads down to more units (self-catering and hotel rooms) before the driving range area of the Tribute Course opens up to one side. Alongside that – another suggestion that this is not a run-of-the-mill getaway – sits a helicopter, ready to ferry golfers to the upper flanks of the mountain for the venue's trademark 'Extreme 19th' activity.

A meal in the Tribute clubhouse allows new arrivals to orient themselves, with gorgeous views of the landscape through every window and a massive TV screen playing streams of wildlife images to get you in

the mood for a visit to the Entabeni Safari Conservancy adjacent to the estate.

Short stories

The Tribute Course comprises 10 holes, all par threes and all copies of iconic holes from famous courses. If you're unlikely (almost certainly true for most people reading this) to get on the tee at Troon's Postage Stamp, the tricky eighth at Augusta, the island green 17th at TPC Sawgrass, and other holes from St Andrews and Royal Melbourne, among others, it's a brilliant way to travel the golf world without needing to sell your house to do so.



The details are given the respect they deserve: the pot bunkers are terrifying, targets are lined up flush with the edge of streams and putting surfaces are variously tiny, massive or interrupted by a bunker in the middle of the green! If you're lucky, you may hit a great tee shot on the last – the Sawgrass copy – and be offered a beer by a stranger if you sink the birdie putt in front of the gallery (a young mom and her baby, a teenage influencer whose post of her meeting Bryson DeChambeau went viral and the marimba band whose music welcomes arriving guests). In related news, the beer was lovely.

Colossal concept

Stepping off the course and into a safari vehicle is a possibility, and plains game are spotted immediately after entering Entabeni. It's a Big Five reserve, but the calmness of the impala, zebra and wildebeest suggests nothing dangerous is in the immediate vicinity.

Hanglip and the surrounding mountains are the stars of a sundowners stop, with the sharp line of their crests delineating the edge of the sky. Two large eagle owls are seen but not heard – it's a good time not to be a mouse.

Our own evening meal is far more palatable and many times more spectacular, served in the Signature Course Clubhouse. It's a sprawling structure also incorporating the African kingdom concept – this time Zimbabwe's Fort Nyangwe, with which the clubhouse shares the exact architectural footprint. Drinks are served on the roof, which amazes with its scale, dotted with stone towers and offering 360° views.

Dinner downstairs includes being surrounded by cultural, historic and sporting memorabilia and artefacts. There are paintings, an incredible antique concert grand piano and a wall of photographs and golf bags honouring the 18 professionals who designed the individual holes on the Signatures Course. All of these experiences reflect the almost unboundaried vision of Legend founder Peet Cilliers, who has always wanted to showcase the unique attractions Africa can offer world travellers, as well as blurring the lines between golf (a game often criticised for its environmental impact) and conservation. And post a COVID-19-enforced change in ownership, that dream is now in full flow again, with the property recently fully reopened and welcoming guests again.

Views almost always include golf holes or the Hanglip mountain.



The resort's helicopter gives golfers lifts up to the tee box for the Extreme 19th hole.

High excitement

It rains during the night, so the morning dawns crisp and crystal clear, giving the impression that every aspect of the landscape is closer than it is. The weather is perfect for flying a helicopter, a fact much appreciated by the queue of guests readying themselves for the shuttle up to the Extreme 19th hole. A maximum of five passengers can be included per flight, so a bit of patience is required for large groups.

Seated and belted in, there's a wait for the temperature gauge to reach the necessary level. Once that happens, take-off is so easy, it's almost anticlimactic. The initial climb circles over the savannah of Entabeni before the aircraft climbs more steeply as it approaches the escarpment. Climbing over the crest of the cliff, a massive caldera is revealed – even more dramatic than the cliffs facing the resort; like entering a lost world.

Happily, it's friendly territory, if the wooden picnic tables are anything to go by. The helicopter sets down gently, with the golfers' drivers drawn out from under the seat. The tee, a rectangle of astroturf positioned right on the edge of the cliff, is thrilling just to stand on. From there, you peer down at the huge Africa-shaped, bunker-fringed green nearly 400m away – and at the awe-inspiring vistas to the right and left. Perhaps it's the sense of occasion, but every player on the platform hits some great shots that the spotter down near the green keeps a careful eye on as the ball takes an exquisitely long time to fall. It's an extraordinary – possibly unique – experience, fostering a deep appreciation of the landscape.

The Signatures Golf Course's 18 designers are all famous tour professionals (past and present) from Retief Goosen and KJ Choi to Trevor Immelman and Bernard Langer. The range of ideas makes for a fascinating golfing experience, if an unpredictable one, as there is not the same sort of flow as there is on a course with a single designer. The par threes are



generally gorgeous, and the par fours and fives are dependably long. Higher handicappers will do well to make greens in regulation on the longer holes, though they're unlikely to worry given that every hole has a version of a spectacular Hanglip-starring view – more proof that a couple of million years of geology is better at branding than an agency.

Text | **Bruce Dennill** Photography | **Bruce Dennill and supplied**
 For more information or to book a stay or golf, go to legendgolf.co.za.

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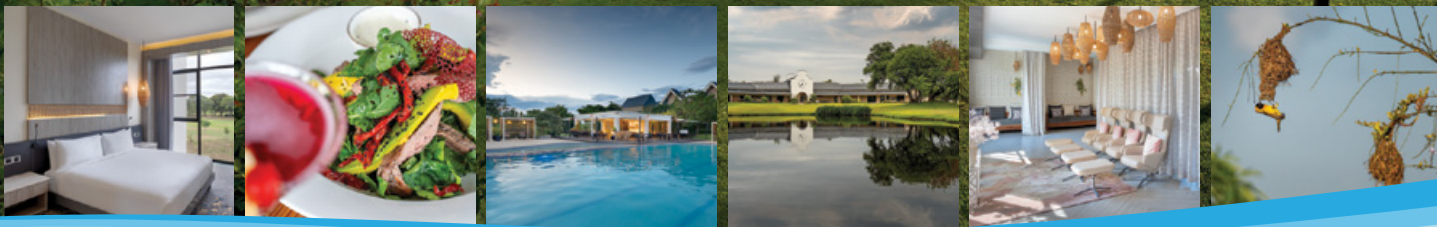
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GIVING WINGS TO RUGBY'S GREATEST RIVALRY

by Albert Heenop

There have been multiple red-letter days in the fierce 105-year-old rivalry between the All Blacks and Springboks, yet one which stands out above the rest is 24 June 1995.

Beyond the on-field intensity of the 1995 Rugby World Cup final, that winter's afternoon at Ellis Park will forever be cherished for the historic appearance by Nelson Mandela. As well as, of course, the surprise swoop by a Boeing 747 jumbo jet.

As the aircraft roared over the 60,000 crowd below, it not only screamed national pride but also spectacularly symbolised the heady heights reached by Rugby's Greatest Rivalry since 1921.

June 24, 1995, was not only the day when the Rugby World Cup as a tournament truly came of age, but also the landmark moment that took Rugby Union as a global sport to the next level. In terms of dramatic spectacle and turbulent momentum swings, that Johannesburg showdown remains one of sport's most dramatic and defining finals.

It certainly was no coincidence that the monumental final of RWC 1995 was contested between the Springboks and All Blacks.

Over the previous three-quarters of a century, the relentless rugby rivalry between New Zealand and South Africa had proved to be nothing short of riveting. And equal to the extreme.

Although the All Blacks conceded the narrowest of defeats in the 1995 showdown, their disappointment turned into sheer ecstasy the following year, when they managed to see off the Boks in a Test series on South African soil for the very first time. Their heart-stopping 33-26 triumph in the second Test at Loftus Versfeld in 1996 was every bit as epic as the RWC final of the previous year.

It was also the last time that New Zealand had embarked on a traditional tour of South Africa.

REIGNITING THE 'SUPERPOWER' RIVALRY

Now, 30 years on, Rugby's Greatest Rivalry 2026 Presented by Castle Double Malt, with Airlink as the Official Domestic Airline, is reviving one of the

greatest traditions in sport, a full tour involving the game's traditional arch-rivals.

The ferocious conflict between the teams was evident from the very beginning, when Theo Pienaar's pioneers sailed halfway around the world to take on the might of New Zealand 105 years ago, and the inaugural Test series ended in a 1-1 stalemate. Even the next series, during the All Blacks' maiden visit to South Africa in 1928, failed to produce a winner.

That all changed on 25 September 1937, when Philip Nel's side produced a commanding performance in the third and final Test at Eden Park to win 17-6 and claim a 2-1 win. Almost 90 years later, it still is the only occasion on which the Boks could secure a series triumph in New Zealand.

That is how tough it is to win away from home. The Springboks and All Blacks could both manage the feat only once, in 1937 and 1996, respectively.

The century-old rivalry has invariably been tight and confrontational, and the 2026 series will be no different.

More spice has been added to the traditional rivalry, with New Zealand and South Africa having dominated the Rugby World Cup scene, sharing among them seven of the 10 RWC titles since the inaugural tournament in 1987. To be sure, the Boks and All Blacks have firmly reaffirmed their status as the superpowers of world rugby over the past two decades.

In addition to the highly anticipated series of four internationals, the 2026 Kiwi tourists will take on South African provincial teams. The DHL Stormers, Hollywoodbets Sharks, Vodacom Bulls and Lions will be fizzing to put one over the All Blacks and become part of local rugby folklore.

The first domestic outfit in New Zealand to beat the Boks was Canterbury back in 1921, and again in 1956, while Waikato (1956), Wellington and Auckland (both 1965), and Otago (1994) also claimed the prized Springbok head over the years. The only Bok touring sides not to have lost outside of the Tests in New Zealand were those of Nel (1937) and Wynand Claassen (1981).

The All Blacks in South Africa have suffered

provincial losses to Transvaal (1928), Western Province (1928 and 1976), Border and Eastern Transvaal (both 1949), Free State (1960 and 1976), and Northern Transvaal (1976). The late Sir Brian Lochore's record-breaking side of 1970, although they lost the series 1-3, romped through all their non-Test engagements unbeaten.

Ultimately, the rivalry comes down to what happens in the Test arena and the scene is set for fast and furious action from 22 August, when the Test series kicks off at Ellis Park, through to 12 September and the grand finale at the 70,000-seater M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, Maryland.

The latter date in the USA will also mark the 45th anniversary of the infamous "flour-bomb" Test at Eden Park in 1981, considered one of the most dramatic sporting events in history due to the violent clashes in the streets of Auckland between anti-apartheid protestors and New Zealand police, as well as an activist, Marx Jones, who raided the playing field with flour bombs from a light aircraft for the duration of the Test. Fullback Allan Hewson famously succeeded with a last-ditch penalty for the All Blacks to pip the Boks 25-22 and clinch the series 2-1 in yet another thriller.

CALLING ALL THE HEROES

More magnificent memories will be made this year, and a host of new heroes will emerge to follow in the famed footsteps of so many before them. The rivalry's legacy of legends certainly reads like the who's who of the rugby world, with many inducted into the World Rugby Hall of Fame.

The late Colin Meads and Frik du Preez need no introduction as two of the most revered rugby players and were voted as their respective countries' Players of the 20th Century.

Flanker Ian Kirkpatrick, who scored an All Blacks' record of 16 Test tries, and centre Danie Gerber, who still boasts the best Bok try-scoring ratio of 79.2%, are two more giants from the previous millennium. Kirkpatrick was renowned for scoring spectacular tries, such as his solo effort in the second Test against the Boks in 1970, while Gerber stunned the All Blacks with a blistering brace of tries in the one-off Test that marked South Africa's return to the international fold in 1992.

Scrumhalf Joost van der Westhuizen is second after winger Bryan Habana on the Boks' all-time try-scoring list with 38, of which the one against New Zealand at Kings Park in 1998 is the most

memorable. However, the lasting memory of Van der Westhuizen, who passed away in 2017 after a battle with motor neurone disease, is his fearless tackle on Jonah Lomu in the 1995 RWC final.

Regarded as the best first five-eighth (flyhalf) to have ever worn the All Blacks jersey, and a strong candidate for the best rugby player of all time, Dan Carter is the top points-scorer in international history (1,598 points in 112 Tests). Carter's crowning glory was notching 10 match-defining points through two conversions, a penalty and a dropped goal in New Zealand's nail-biting 20-18 win against South Africa in the semi-final of RWC 2015, en route to clinching back-to-back titles.

Both countries have produced a legion of legendary leaders, too.

The 1937 touring team to New Zealand, dubbed the "Greatest Springboks", was splendidly led from the front by lock Philip Nel, while his vice-captain, Danie Craven, apart from popularising the dive pass, was a supreme leader and would go on to distinguish himself as one of the world's top administrators.

Craven also coached the Boks side that white-washed Fred Allen's All Blacks in 1949, with lock Felix du Plessis as captain. Two decades later, Du Plessis' son, Morné du Plessis, was one of Craven's protégés at Stellenbosch University before leading South Africa to series defeats of New Zealand (1976) and the British & Irish Lions (1980).

Morné du Plessis was also team manager when South Africa was under the captaincy of the eloquent Francois Pienaar.

When All Blacks flanker Richie McCaw retired two decades later, he did so as the most decorated international captain. Not only did McCaw boast a record 97 wins in 110 Tests as captain, but he also became the first captain to achieve back-to-back RWC titles in 2011 and 2015.

Still, Sean Fitzpatrick holds the unique distinction of being the only skipper to have steered New Zealand to a series triumph over the Springboks on South African soil.

If anyone can fathom the magnitude of the rivalry, it is the legendary "Fitzy":

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Improvised adaptation

New Johannesburg **jazz club** celebrates both what was and what could be

Cities harden long before they admit it. This happens when capital leaves faster than care can replace it, when leadership falters and buildings outlive the systems meant to sustain them. Johannesburg has carried that scar for decades. Empty offices, streets partially lit, pavements that feel negotiable after dark. The inner city has been declared finished more than once.

Braamfontein has absorbed each swing of that story. Once a commercial spine, later shorthand for decline, now a student quarter and steadily reclaiming its creative edge, it has learnt how to reset without pretending nothing happened. That instinct to rework what already stands rather than abandon it sits at the heart of Hugh's, the jazz club born of a partnership between Adam Levy of Play Braamfontein and the Hugh Masekela Heritage Foundation.

Perched 13 floors above Juta Street, the club looks directly onto the Johannesburg inner city. The skyline does not serve as backdrop; it becomes part of the experience. Music unfolds inside while the lights below continue their own choreography.

The grammar of exchange

For more than two decades, Levy's work in Braamfontein has resisted the urge to import glossy urban formulas and paste them over local complexity. Instead of replicating

London loft aesthetics or New York warehouse tropes, he has worked with the grain of existing buildings and the textures of the streets.

Hugh's follows that logic. The acoustics favour clarity over spectacle. The stage sits close enough to require presence. The architecture does not compete with the music; it supports it, like a steady line beneath a shifting melody. Jazz offers a language for this aesthetic. It is not only about electric solos. It is about how musicians pay attention to one another, how they respond in real time, how they leave space. The beauty lies in that exchange.

Hugh Masekela embodied that openness. Across exile and return, he moved between township melodies, American soul, protest song and bebop without apology. "He was never interested in being boxed in," Pula Twala, Masekela's daughter and foundation board member, reflects. "For him, music was always in motion."

Braamfontein's recent history mirrors Masekela's improvisational instinct to adapt. The work has not only been architectural but psychological, shifting how people move through the precinct, how long they linger, whether they trust it after dark. Repairing a building is one thing. Restoring the habit of gathering is another. A city begins to believe in itself again when people choose to stay.

Johannesburg in 2026 remains contested terrain. Inner city renewal sits alongside scepticism. To ask audiences to ascend 13 floors and truly listen is to ask for trust. Masekela rebuilt identity through sound that never surrendered its source. Levy tests whether space can do the same.

Hugh's does not promise redemption. It offers a counter melody. In a city accustomed to abrupt shifts, it creates a disciplined pause. A room where listening becomes a collective act, and adaptation is recognised as strength.

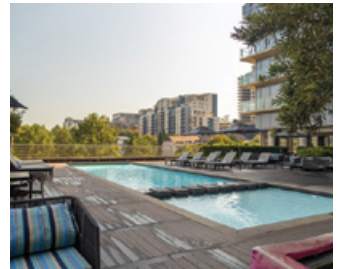
Text and photography | **Ryan Enslin**

For more information, go to hughs.co.za

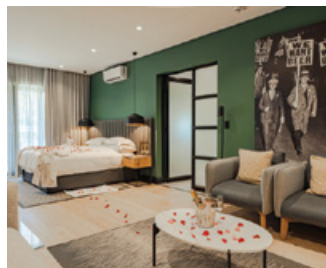
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Throwing shade

Cape Town author Mike Nicol explores police and political corruption in **tense thriller**



Why are you ruining the whole of Cape Town for me? Must the nasty characters in this story operate in places I love to visit?

Mike Nicol Ha – sorry! It's in the fabric of the stories. I have no experience of crime there other than a house break-in, but I know it can be wild if you're in the wrong place at the wrong time.

I also experience subliminal influences. I was editing *The Shadow State* [by Jeff Wicks] and *Confessor Cop* [by Michael Behr] while I was writing *Falls The Shadow*, so some of that could have translated into my story. I also wrote two books at the same time, going straight into the second one. That's like it was at the beginning of my career, when there was no pressure. There are no guarantees in this business, so we just carry on – hope that someone wants it!

Your use of language: present tense; short, sharp phrases; often cynical observations from the narrator. It's not 'normal' – in terms of the way people talk or even in too many books or genres – but it works on many levels (tension, pace, rhythm, tone). Do you need to continually work on it when writing?

That technique was not in the earlier books. I only really became aware of it while writing the book after this one, in which there's even more narrator interference. It organically grew without me noticing. For the narrator, I wanted someone outside of the character to give another dimension to the story. It's useful – it allows you to fill in backstories and changes how the book is structured, so it doesn't need to run chronologically.



Police, politicians and wall-to-wall corruption – the whole story is mired in criminality and greed, with even the good guys living more or less adjacent to the rules. All of this makes a powerful statement – there is no getting away from the stats and what is revealed by investigative journalists – but it also gives the whole story and series a pretty inescapable darkness. Why do you think readers are drawn to such stories?

I have a theory. I looked at a lot of fictional crime beforehand and thought that maybe this kind of thing qualifies as a sort of fairy story. You start with chaos, add more chaos, and then let things end a bit better. People are okay with that.



In the middle, you're manipulating people to *want* to get to the end. Crime fiction in particular involves a *huge* amount of manipulation – you need the anxiety to drive the compulsion.

I think also knowing it's fiction helps readers. Though for me, when I started writing in the seventies, it was almost all political writing, so I've always felt that what I write needs to be socially relevant.

Research: you have all parts of Cape Town (and other locations), you have weapons, you

have police and government structures, you have wheelchairs and paralysis, you have a touch of bondage... You've mentioned in other interviews that you don't do too much planning, so is that just a normal Tuesday for you?

Once a journalist, always a journalist! There are people who are happy to talk about guns or corruption. I also get sent piles of manuscripts I can learn from. And I live in the city. For the dialogue, I'm an inveterate listener to other people's conversations and how they put words together. For me, the way things sound and the way they look on the page is all-important.

Killing your darlings is something you're not afraid to do. It helps to keep readers on their toes, and it allows you to invent a new character to fill the gaps. Have you, though, sometimes found that such attrition has made a storyline you really like impossible because it only lands once you've eliminated a character that would have been involved?

I have regretted killing characters before – in one case, I did a *Dallas* thing and brought her back to life. In this one, we have Colonel Vula, who was shot in a previous book but returns in a wheelchair. I'm not contractually obligated to keep characters alive, which keeps me interested.

How much are you willing to trust what unfolds as you're writing, in the sense that you only discover what's going to happen to a character as you're putting in the hours each day?

I trust it all the time. It's that Raymond Chandler thing: "If you're stuck, bring in a man with a gun." Make something happen, then figure out the backstory and the consequences. I look at these books as having a sort of 'Y' structure. The stories can be separate to a point, but once they join, you need to follow that through to the end.

Think of it as a crucible – you put your characters in a spot where *they* have to resolve the story.

Text | **Bruce Dennill**

Photography | **Estée de Villiers** and supplied

Falls The Shadow by Mike Nicol, published by Pan Macmillan, is available now. For more information, go to panmacmillan.co.za.



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African rainforest is a treasure to explore and to **support conservation**

The Republic of Congo – not to be confused with its larger neighbour, the Democratic Republic of Congo – is an often overlooked, yet welcoming, breathtaking and peaceful destination that lies truly off the beaten track. As part of the world's second-largest rainforest after the Amazon, it boasts the stunning Odzala-Kokoua National Park, celebrated for its spectacular landscapes, immense biodiversity, and endangered wildlife, including the western lowland gorilla.

Covering vast tracts of pristine rainforest, savannah and swamp, the Republic of Congo forms part of the Congo Basin, one of the planet's most vital ecosystems. This region plays a pivotal role in regulating the Earth's climate, acting as a crucial carbon sink. The country alone absorbs an estimated 1.5% of the world's annual carbon emissions, making it one of the most ecologically significant nations on Earth. The country offers a rare chance to experience nature in its purest form, with wilderness areas largely untouched by tourism, providing an authentic and immersive experience for travellers seeking discovery and connection.

Culture and conservation

Visitors can explore a landscape shaped by rivers, ancient forests and remote clearings teeming with life, from forest elephants and buffalo to dazzling birdlife

and a kaleidoscope of insects. The jewel in the crown is the Odzala-Kokoua National Park. Spanning over 13,000km², it is one of Africa's oldest national parks and a sanctuary for thousands of species, many found nowhere else on Earth.

Travellers can trek through dense rainforest in search of gorillas, observe forest elephants bathing in mineral-rich *bais* (clearings) and encounter rare species such as bongos, chimpanzees and flocks of grey parrots. But the Republic of Congo offers more than wildlife – it offers perspective. This is a place where light and sound pollution are virtually non-existent, where nights glow only with starlight and fireflies, and the sounds of the forest replace the constant hum of modern life. It's an environment that invites reflection and a deep appreciation for the natural world.

Visitors to the Congo Basin can also experience a unique blend of culture and conservation. Local communities play a vital role in protecting the forest and its wildlife, with initiatives supporting education, sustainable livelihoods and environmental stewardship. Travellers can engage meaningfully with these communities, learning how traditional knowledge and modern conservation coexist to preserve this fragile ecosystem. With only around 300 visitors each year and small group sizes capped at just 12, exploring the Odzala-Kokoua National Park feels truly exclusive, a journey back to nature's untouched origins. Days are spent tracking gorillas or boating through ancient forests, while evenings are filled with the sounds of frogs, monkeys and birds echoing through the canopy.

For those seeking a destination that combines raw natural beauty, ecological importance and authentic connection, the Republic of Congo offers one of the last great frontiers of adventure, a place where every moment feels intimate, transformative and profoundly alive.

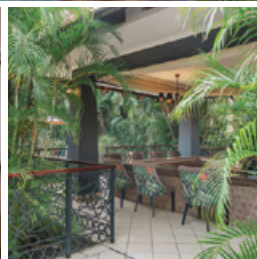
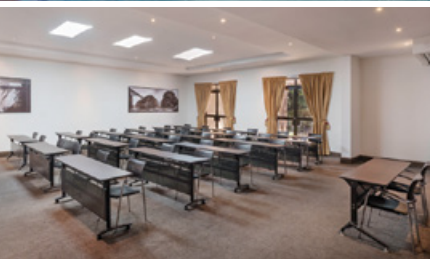
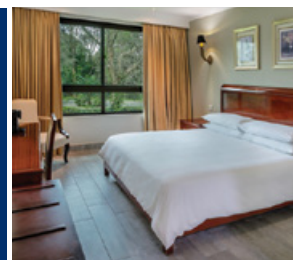
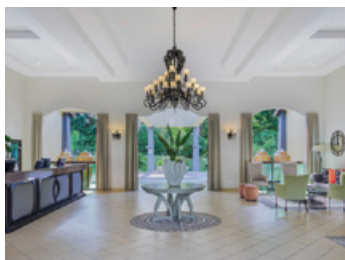
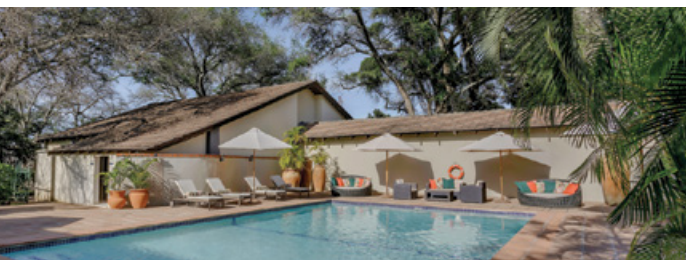
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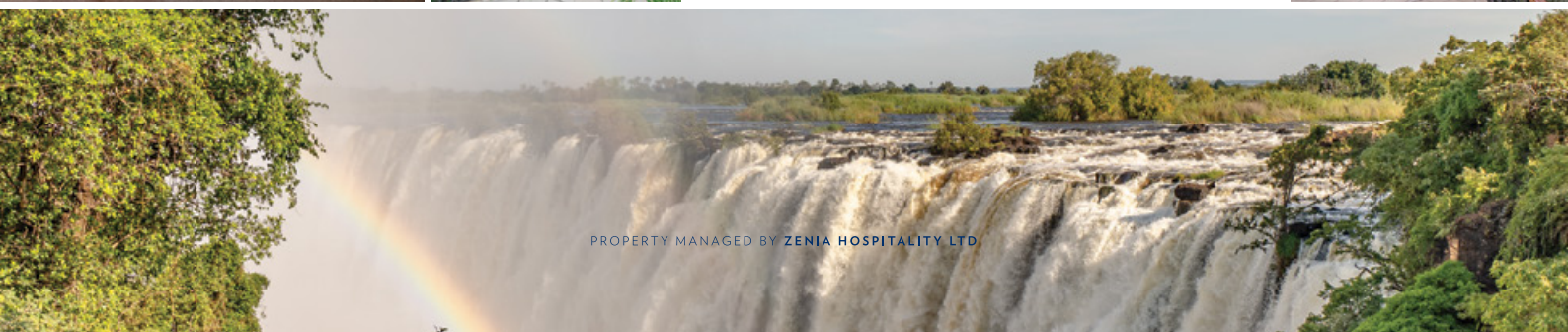
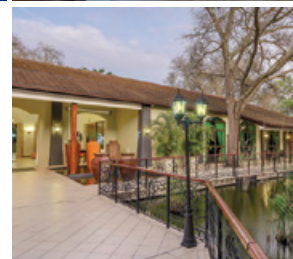
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The modest exemplar

New book about Walter Sisulu recalls leader's remarkable qualities

Asked by George Houser and Herbert Shore how he would like to be remembered, Walter replied: "As a man dedicated to the struggle of the people. I think that is what I was. That is what I did." His daughter Lindiwe recalls him as the "ultimate revolutionary". He certainly saw himself as having been involved in a momentously successful revolution.

Some people did not recognise it as such, he complained, because the apartheid regime had not surrendered on the battlefield. But this not only underestimated what had been achieved but misread how its victory had been won. Given the forces ranged against the people's demand for democracy, the election of the ANC in 1994 was "a miracle of the 20th Century", won by the strategic combination of passive resistance and non-violence with armed struggle. He remained adamant that armed struggle had been necessary and justified and stressed that the ANC had never said that the struggle had to be carried on only by violent means. The one mode of struggle had complemented and reinforced the other.

Ultimately, the South African revolution "was one of the greatest", not only because the

people had won, but because it had ended on 27-28 April 1994 at the ballot box, by people voting and with the triumph of democracy.

"This achievement is one of the greatest assets of South Africa. It is the beginning of something new." Yet he also ascribed the victory to leadership – by men like Oliver Tambo and Mandela and many others in history – who had guided the movement in proper ways.

This takes us back, ultimately, to the argument made in the preface that the individual contributions of Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu to the struggle against apartheid cannot and should not be considered in isolation, for, as Luli Callinicos has observed, "Their vision was indivisible."

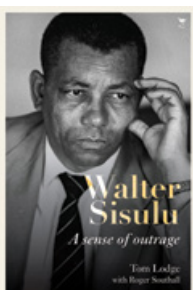
They had forged it together through nearly half a century of struggle and political experience, and each had made his own specific contribution to the final victory. Mandela had proved able to win over his enemies with his message of reconciliation, his common touch and his charisma. Tambo, perhaps the most loved of the three, had guided the movement in exile by his passion, his wisdom, his ability to listen and, above all, his capacity to bring people together.

Sisulu, "the perceptive kingmaker and modest exemplar", had always had a tireless and unrivalled capacity for organising and enthusing ordinary people on the ground. While their styles of leadership were different, their contributions were complementary and ultimately they cannot be separated one from the other. Together, they had been united in their selfless commitment to the winning of a non-racial and democratic South Africa.

Text | **Tom Lodge with Roger Southall**

Photography | **Supplied and Dylan Barnes**

Walter Sisulu: A Sense Of Outrage by Tom Lodge with Roger Southall, published by Jacana, is available now. For more information, go to jacana.co.za. This extract is published by permission.





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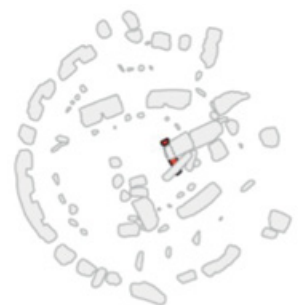
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ALTAR STONE
From the old red sandstone deposits
of northeast Scotland.

Major Stonehenge discovery deepens mystery around ancient monument

New findings suggest that a **key six-tonne stone** came from over 750km north of the circle

Cue the conspiracy theories: new research reveals that one of Stonehenge's central and larger megaliths came neither from England, nor Wales, but from the far northeast of Scotland – and we don't know how it got there. Experts think the six-tonne altar stone must have been dragged or floated at least 750km south to complete the prehistoric monument. Published in the journal *Nature*, the new findings contradict existing beliefs that the altar stone came from Wales.

Dr Robert Ixer, honorary senior research fellow at University College London (UCL) and one of the study authors, said the discovery was "a great surprise. My first thought was disbelief."

He added: "It has an enormous significance. This Wessex-Orkney Isles connection has been known for decades, but its significance has been disputed, hotly and acrimoniously."

The altar stone is a 50cm-thick sandstone block in the middle of Stonehenge's circle. It's believed that, along with the rest of the structure, the stone appeared in its current location near Salisbury about 5,000 years ago.

Previous analysis of the site identified two main types of stone used in the construction. These are sarsens, the iconic outer stones sourced from near Marlborough about 25km away, and the inner bluestones of Welsh origin from Pembrokeshire's Preseli Hills.

The largest of these bluestones, the altar stone, is barely visible to visitors, lying flat on the ground and mostly covered by two large, fallen sarsen stones. The research team studied the age and chemistry of mineral grains retrieved from fragments of the altar stone. Their analysis matched the stone's profile with old red sandstone deposits from northeast Scotland

– while also highlighting key differences with Welsh bedrock.

"Our analysis found that specific mineral grains in the altar stone are mostly between one to two billion years old, while other minerals are around 450 million years old," said lead author Anthony Clarke, PhD student at Curtin University, Perth, Australia. "This provides a distinct chemical fingerprint, suggesting the stone came from rocks in the Orcadian Basin in Scotland."

Moving the stone from Scotland would have been significantly harder than from Wales. Geographical features and forests throughout Britain at the time would also have made the process difficult, suggesting the use of unexpectedly advanced transport methods and societal organisation at the time of the stone's arrival in England.

"Transporting such massive cargo overland from Scotland to southern England would have been extremely challenging, indicating a likely marine shipping route along the coast of Britain," said Christopher Kirkland, a professor at Curtin University and a co-author of the study. "This implies long-distance trade networks and a higher level of societal organisation than is widely understood to have existed during the Neolithic period in Britain."

While the team has celebrated establishing the age and chemical 'fingerprint' of the Scottish stone, mysteries still remain – including its precise original location. Current candidates include Orkney, a patch of land in Caithness or a narrow coastal strip stretching from Inverness to Elgin.

Images | Nalamy, nature/clarke/kirkland/bevins et al

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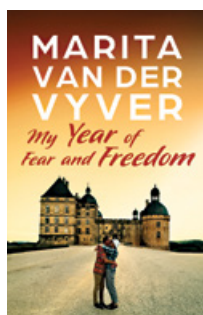


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Journey of discovery

Much-admired author recounts 'geriatric gap year' in new book

My Year Of Freedom And Fear by Marita van der Vyver tells of a gap year she and her French husband, Alain Claisse, took as COVID-19 was fading. They travelled through Europe, the US and South Africa.



The book was born out of the dregs of the pandemic. Her income had reduced, and her husband was battling the effects of depression and addiction. He had been unable to work for a year and was then retired with less money than they thought they would have. There was no way they could keep their beautiful house in Provence and had to make the difficult but necessary decision to sell their home. When it sold more or less immediately, they made the decision to go on a 'geriatric' gap year (they are both in their sixties).

The 15-month journey took them through France, Italy, Switzerland, Greece, the southern States of the US and then through the Karoo in South Africa. Previously, Claisse had not been able to take extended breaks to see the country, but without work, this was now possible.

There were all sorts of doubts as the couple set off – would this enforced closeness make or break their relationship? There was no way of knowing, but they leapt off the deep end and made their plans. Early in the book, contemplating the journey, Van der Vyver writes, "This journey, this expedition, this quest, whatever you want to call it, is increasingly becoming a journey towards acceptance of all the things I cannot control. I no longer want to dwell on what I have lost. I rather want to appreciate what I still have."

In that spirit, they take off in their old Renault Kangoo, and the result is a travelogue that touches gently on the personal, which also brings alive the sights and the author's impressions of the places they visit. The book is also suffused with quotes from other writers, woven into these impressions. In the US, for example, John Steinbeck's 1960 road trip around the United States in the company of his standard poodle Charley, titled *Travels With Charley*, becomes a travel guide companion, while there are also references to Olive Schreiner, Andre Brink, Joan Didion, DH Lawrence and more.



Culture curation

Van der Vyver describes Paris as an "old friend you've known long enough to forgive her all her sins, her pretension and conceit, her fake façade and her shameless flirtation with every American tourist. ... I've lived close to her for long enough to know that her breath often stinks."

She also muses that the more languages you know, the more you change with every language. Having studied French and lived in Paris since the turn of the millennium, Van der Vyver finds she is reserved in that language, less likely to joke, while in English, she is



self-assured, and in Afrikaans, you might think she is an extrovert.

In the US, the couple hire a hand-painted camper van to tour through the southern States. It's painted with yellow and orange flowers; a distinctive way to drive through the country. They often stay on farms or in State Parks. Through Tennessee and Mississippi and onto New Orleans – an exuberant city, garlanded with women on expensive hen parties – Van der Vyver brings both her sense of humour and descriptive

powers to bear. The American road trip ends in California, after a drive along the wild beauty of Big Sur before hitting San Francisco.

Van der Vyver, asked if she kept a diary while travelling, says, "While I was travelling, I was writing a monthly column for *LitNet*. And I was doing food travel columns for *Daily Maverick* in English. Newspapers would ask me to write, so that helped. That was almost a way of keeping a diary. I did also, of course, make notes. I didn't know if I was going to write a book. I didn't know if this trip was going to work. It might have been a complete disaster. As we progressed, the idea started taking shape that this could actually become a book. Then, the biggest problem was deciding what to put in."

Measuring time

While not a fan of technology – Van der Vyver describes Claisse as a lover of his Kindle, but it's a device she can't get used to – she does say that the timeline on a phone when using the GPS was a good way to recollect where they had been on such and such a day. So the book came together, told in a chronological way, with fresh, immediate present tense that puts you right in the action.

In South Africa, Claisse wants to see wild animals, and the journey takes them through Addo Elephant National Park and rattling into Cape St Francis, to dining in Cradock and visiting Olive Schreiner's home there. Also on the agenda is Helen Martins's magical Owl House. But the heart of the South African journey is the contemplative time they spend in the Karoo.

Through the journey, there is the ever-present thought of home, or of being 'homeless' and wondering where they will end up. Was there a single impression that remained from the trip?

"There are so many, and I think if you ask me tomorrow, I'll probably give you another answer. There's a quote by Steinbeck where he says he's setting down his truth, and when the next traveller comes along, she will find another truth."

Text | **Arja Salafranca** Photography | **Supplied**

***My Year Of Freedom And Fear* by Marita van der Vyver, published by Jonathan Ball, is available now.**

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Parent-teacher meeting

Having a school scenario that is a meaningful part of the village it takes to raise a child **is valuable**

You know that moment when you're sitting in traffic, staring at brake lights, and your mind is racing through the list: Did I pack the lunchbox? Did I pay the electricity bill? Will I make it to the office on time? And then: Am I even doing enough for my child?

This is the reality for many South African parents. We are carrying an invisible weight that no one sees, the emotional load that comes with raising children in a country where safety concerns, economic uncertainty and relentless work-life pressure collide every single day.

Beneath the surface, many of us are running on fumes, trying to be present for our children while silently wondering if we're failing them. Parenting here is not about perfection. It is about survival. And yet, in the middle of this chaos, something powerful often goes unnoticed: the role of early childhood education in lightening that load.

When parents feel supported, children thrive. High-quality early childhood education does not just teach ABCs; it becomes an emotional anchor for families. It is the teacher who notices your child's anxious face and gently reassures them. It is the predictable routine that gives your little one stability, so you can breathe a little easier. It is the educator who

greet you by name, shares a small win about your child and reminds you that you are doing an excellent job, even on the days you feel like you're barely holding on.

Easing concerns

There's a kind of 'heart culture' involved in collaborating with a school: a way of being that says, "We see you. We are with you." It is the quiet reassurance that you are not alone in this. It is sending a photo of your child's joyful moment during the day so that, while stuck in traffic, you feel connected instead of guilty. It is creating spaces where children feel loved, and parents feel seen.

Imagine this: a mom who has been up all the previous night worrying about bills walks into a centre where her child runs into the arms of someone who truly knows them. The teacher smiles and says, "He told me the funniest story today," and suddenly, for a moment, the weight lifts. That moment matters. It is not just childcare; it is care for the whole family.

You don't need a Pinterest-perfect routine to ease the emotional load. Start small. Create one predictable ritual, like a bedtime story or a morning hug. Name feelings aloud, for yourself and your child. "I'm tired today, but I'm happy to be with you." Lean on your child's educators, share what is hard and celebrate what is working. Partnership starts with honesty.

Text | **Kelly Eyre** Photography | **SeventyFour**

Kelly Eyre is Quality and Pedagogy Lead at Dibber South Africa.
For more information, go to dibber.co.za.

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The art of the matter

Attracting visitors using creativity and culture leads to **economic opportunity**

Arts and culture have long played a role in shaping South Africa's identity, but their economic potential is often underestimated. Inclusive economic development requires models that harness cultural assets while creating equitable pathways for participation. Arts-based tourism can become a tool for shared community prosperity.

Traditional tourism models often concentrate revenue in established businesses, creating limited trickle-down benefits for surrounding communities. However, arts-driven township tourism reimagines local residents as active partners in the tourism economy. By using homes as galleries and neighbourhoods as cultural districts, communities become central to the experience. This expands economic opportunities to families who may not have access to formal employment.

One of the key strengths of arts-based tourism is its ability to create multi-layered value. Visitors engage with artistic expression, learn about community histories and participate in immersive cultural encounters. At the same time, artists gain access to markets, entrepreneurs develop services to support tourism flows and households earn income through hosting or selling complementary products.

The diversity within township communities becomes a strategic advantage. From painters and sculptors

to musicians, dancers, poets and designers, multiple creative disciplines converge to create a vibrant cultural ecosystem. These artistic expressions are not only aesthetic but also economic: they attract visitors, stimulate spending and reinforce community pride.

Working together

Partnerships play a critical role in scaling inclusive economic development. Collaborations between cultural organisations, government departments, development agencies and private sector entities can expand visibility, provide training and bring investment into township creative economies. When partnerships are designed with community ownership in mind, they promote sustainable growth rather than short-term, extractive engagements.

Inclusive development through this kind of tourism also aligns with global trends. Travellers increasingly seek experiences that are ethical, socially conscious and rooted in authentic narratives. This shift positions South Africa's township arts sector as a competitive destination in the global cultural tourism landscape.

The long-term impact extends beyond economics. Arts-based tourism helps to build social cohesion, preserves cultural memory and bridges divides between communities and visitors. It also creates opportunities for young people to see themselves as innovators capable of shaping their own futures, contributing to reduced unemployment and improved community resilience.

As conversations around inclusive economic development continue nationwide, models like the Maboneng Township Arts Experience demonstrate that culture is not a peripheral sector – it is a powerful economic engine. By centring creativity, community ownership and storytelling, arts-based tourism offers a path toward a more equitable and economically vibrant South Africa.

Text | **Supplied** Photography | **Rich T Photo**
For more information, go to maboneng.com.

Never face the flames alone

Few **business owners** consider that a single spark could stop their business in its tracks

Whether operating a restaurant where equipment could catch alight or a supermarket where a fire could devastate not just the infrastructure but also all stock in the storerooms and fridges, the risk of fire is a real one to consider when putting in place a business insurance policy.

An unexpected spark

Fire doesn't just destroy infrastructure and production – it can cause injuries, loss of life, operational downtime and huge financial losses. Workplace fires can be caused by a variety of sources, including electrical faults, flammable materials, human error, heating and kitchen equipment, poor housekeeping and even alternative power sources like lithium-ion battery storage systems. Ageing infrastructure and unrest can also lead to fires through no fault of a business, its staff, customers or machinery.

Proactive care

Of course, insurance is just one way to protect a business against losses from fire – the best fire safety measures are proactive and preventative.

Regular fire risk assessments, maintenance of fire detection and suppression systems, the provision of comprehensive staff training and fire safety regulation compliance checks are the best way to provide fire safety and help protect employees, assets and ensure business continuity.

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Auto&General is the insurer that actively works to limit your risk, ready to step in when the unexpected happens, standing with you to keep your business moving forward – and 'Never Not There'.

Text | **Supplied** Photography | **Shutterstock**

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Case dismissed... **differently**

Updates to legislation **promote fairness** when employees need to be shown the door

People are the beating heart of every business.

They bring the perspective, ingenuity, skills and experience that help organisations excel and deliver. But it doesn't always work out. A person might not be suitable for their role and duties, they might not align with the company culture or they could conduct themselves poorly. In such cases, dismissal becomes an option.

Dismissals are rarely pleasant, and they can become complicated, sometimes collapsing into finger-pointing and accusations of unfairness. The Code of Good Practice on Dismissal (Dismissal Code) guides employers and employees on this process, clarifying expectations for each party and promoting fairness.

In late 2025, South Africa's Minister of Employment and Labour gazetted an amended version of the Dismissal Code with important new updates. Many of the updates are geared towards modernising the Code, especially around practicalities that have come up recently, particularly post-COVID. The amendments try to ease that by putting in place guidelines for certain instances. For example, incompatibility or probation.

Bad fits

South Africa's labour laws are based on fairness, and the amended version brings more clarity and scope to

that principle. One of the most notable shifts focuses on people employed during a probationary period.

Employees cannot simply be let go after a probationary period. They deserve due process – a fair hearing, being presented with grievances and time to respond. The employer must demonstrate that they supported a probationary employee to develop their skills and address shortfalls in their performance.

Employers now have more leeway when dismissing probationary employees. Expanding from performance issues, they can now include gross misconduct and compatibility. If the employee is not a good fit, it can now be grounds for dismissal. Somebody can be superb at their job, but they're just not a good fit in the culture or there are personality issues. Companies shouldn't be prohibited from dealing with that kind of thing, as it can change the culture of an entire team or organisation if one person is not compatible.

Rights both ways

The amendments also consider smaller companies that struggle to manage dismissals formally. There is a heavy relaxation for smaller businesses that don't necessarily have an HR department. Small businesses now have the leeway to handle things informally according to the Code and the Labour Relations Act's requirements.

The amended code also strengthens employees' rights to proper notice, disclosure of evidence, keeping of proper records of proceedings and demonstrable efforts to correct and support employees through warnings, counselling and performance management.

Dismissal should always be a last resort. The amended code provides clearer guidance for all parties involved and reinforces consistency over cases being treated differently. Thus, the quality of records and witnesses will have the biggest impact on any settlement or verdict.

Text | **Merlisha Haripal** Photography | **People Images**

Merlisha Haripal is Executive for Employment & Litigation at CHM Legal.
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Raising the floor

Wage adjustment makes a **real difference**, but needs careful oversight

From 1 March 2026, South Africa's national minimum wage increased to R30.23 an hour, a 5% rise taking the rate past the R30 mark for the first time. For millions of low-paid workers, the increase offers modest relief against rising living costs. But in an economy with stubbornly high unemployment and weak growth, the adjustment also raises an important question: how do we protect vulnerable workers without putting further pressure on job creation?

In the bigger picture, the wage increase is important. While the adjustment is modest, it forms part of a series of annual increases aimed at keeping wages in line with inflation and rising household costs. For low-income workers, even small changes can make a difference. Higher transport, food and housing costs continue to put pressure on household budgets, and this increase helps prevent wages from falling further behind.

It is important to understand what the national minimum wage is meant to do. It is not designed to dramatically improve living standards overnight. Its purpose is to set a basic level of protection – a wage floor that helps safeguard vulnerable workers.

Higher wages also have an impact on how businesses operate. For labour-intensive companies working with tight margins, rising wage costs are a major expense. This doesn't mean employers are against fair pay but, in a weak economy, every increase in costs means tough decisions.

Businesses need to stay competitive, especially those that compete in global markets. To manage higher labour costs, some may invest more in automation, mechanisation or new technology. Others may slow down hiring, restructure their operations or reduce their reliance on lower-skilled roles.

Predictable future

In South Africa's past, the availability of affordable labour had been one of the factors that attracted investment. As labour costs increase, this advantage becomes less certain. If higher wages are not supported by improvements in productivity, skills and economic growth, businesses may become more cautious about expanding or investing. This is why minimum wage increases cannot be looked at on their own. Protecting workers is important, but lasting wage growth is only possible if the economy becomes stronger and businesses remain competitive.

One important shift since the introduction of the national minimum wage is predictability. Employers now expect an adjustment each year from 1 March and build this into their budgeting cycles. While the exact percentage may vary, the increase itself is no longer a surprise.

Not all sectors are equally affected. Industries covered by bargaining councils or sectoral determinations often operate above the national minimum. The greatest pressure falls on smaller and labour-intensive employers that rely heavily on entry-level workers. As wage costs rise, workforce flexibility is becoming an essential strategy. Many businesses experience fluctuating demand, with periods of peak activity followed by quieter cycles. Maintaining a full-time workforce through these changes can be difficult, particularly as labour costs increase each year.

Flexible staffing approaches, including the use of temporary employment services (TES) providers, allow employers to scale their workforce in line with operational needs.

Text | **Donné Nieman** Photography | **Hyejin Kang**

Donné Nieman is Sales Director at Workforce Staffing.

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Pile it up!

Trip stacking is a **strong strategy** for saving money and ensuring the wellbeing of employees

The kind of work travel that sees your team make three separate trips within a six-week period, book flights with less than five days' notice or add unnecessary expense, complexity and stress to already-packed schedules? It must go.

It's time to master trip stacking: the art of grouping client visits, piggybacking on trade shows, clustering commitments by region and slashing travel budgets while protecting a team's energy.

The true cost of a business trip extends beyond airfare and accommodation. It's time away from family, productivity lost to airports and the mental fatigue of constantly being on the go. Bundling different commitments into one well-planned journey just makes good business sense. On so many levels.

Trip stacking can boost productivity and engagement. It seems obvious, but combining trips reduces travel days, meaning team members are more available, more productive and a lot less tired – even when on the road. Rather than dreading another ad-hoc trip, it pays to plan ahead. Of course, you can build in flexibility, but 'stacking' means you'll become more mindful about each trip and more protective of your energy and productivity.

Research presented at the GBTA's Southern Africa Conference in 2025 showed that over and above the demands of business travel (which include length, frequency and intensity of business trips), the number one stressor for frequent travellers is 'making family arrangements'. Business trips don't happen in a vacuum. They often require a serious support network in the background. Someone at home is handling school runs, childcare and everything else that doesn't stop just because you're travelling. When you stack trips strategically, you're not just saving on airfare; you're respecting the people covering for you and giving yourself the headspace to be actually present for the work that matters.

Lead time

When trips are planned weeks ahead rather than days, your team gains something valuable: the option to extend their stay. That might mean catching up with friends in the destination city, exploring somewhere new over a weekend or simply decompressing before heading home. Bundling business and leisure is a key

retention tool. You've saved on flights; they've gained an experience, and everyone wins. It's great for team morale, balance and personal development.

Fewer trips equal a lighter footprint. Bundled stays cut costs and carbon. South Africa's Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 introduces legally binding climate actions for anyone doing business in South Africa. It includes carbon budgets, caps on greenhouse gas emissions and mandatory reporting. Businesses, big and small, are going to have to consider, measure and report on every trip. The wins stack up quickly. Advance booking secures lower fares and better hotel rates, while one





extended stay replaces multiple car rentals and premium last-minute prices.

But the real advantage goes beyond the budget: instead of three fragmented two-day trips stealing six days from the office, one strategic four-day visit accomplishes more while keeping the rest of the fortnight productive. You're also 'in the zone' for consecutive meetings, building momentum that opens unexpected doors – the colleague who suggests lunch, the prospect available tomorrow, the site visit that happens because

you're already there. And when travel becomes purposeful rather than reactive, everyone benefits: smaller carbon footprint, better work-life balance, sharper focus on the work that actually matters.

Prioritise what matters

Start with the anchor. Identify your non-negotiables – the conference, quarterly review or industry event you're *definitely* attending. Build everything else around these fixed points rather than booking trips in isolation.

Map by region, not urgency. When a Durban meeting request lands, ask what else you could accomplish on the east coast. Stack client visits in Umhlanga with supplier meetings in Pietermaritzburg and that networking event you've been postponing. Geographic clustering turns one journey into multiple wins.

Book early and stay flexible. Advance bookings secure better rates and sidestep last-minute premiums. But book flexible fares and leave breathing room in your schedule for opportunities (or challenges) that surface once you've landed.

Choose proximity strategically. Pick venues where you can meet, eat and sleep within walking distance. Hours saved on airport transfers and traffic multiply across multi-day trips. Sometimes, a slightly pricier central hotel beats budget accommodation that demands constant car rentals.

Think in purposes, not trips. Before clicking 'book', ask: what else needs to happen in this city or region? Can you schedule the team workshop alongside client meetings? Could one extra day accommodate that overdue site visit?

Partner with a travel management company (TMC). A good TMC will have strong supplier relationships and booking tools, which make bundling a breeze. Flights, hotels and cars – savings compound when it's all co-ordinated. But ultimately, the shift from reactive to strategic travel isn't just about cutting costs; it's about respecting the most limited resource any business has: time. Companies that master bundling don't just save money; they create competitive advantage by being smarter about when, where and why they travel.

Text | Herman Heunes Photography | New Africa

Herman Heunes is GM of Corporate Traveller South Africa.
For more information, go to corporatetraveller.co.za.

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After the fact



Courts **may condone** employee lateness when following up on disputes

South Africa's labour laws that existed pre-transformation were replaced with revolutionary legislation in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The trade union movement, which by that time was very strong and growing in size, was integrally involved in revolutionising labour legislation.

In particular, COSATU, a large, left-wing union movement, was, and still is, in an alliance with the ANC, which further strengthened the hand of the labour movement. Furthermore, the legislation has been revised several times over the past 25 years.

As a result, the current labour legislation heavily favours the rights of employees and trade unions and poses a major challenge to employers. Arbitrators and court judges are obligated by the law to watch over the rights of employees, who are seen as having less power and resources than employers and therefore as vulnerable and in need of strong protection. And many of these arbiters are happy to oblige.

This state of affairs has prompted many employers to use technical issues as a weapon for avoiding litigation. And many employers have the money and the access to legal expertise to wage this type of legal battle. Technicalities that employers might use in this way include applying for reviews and rescissions of arbitration awards and rulings and dragging cases through the Labour Appeal Court, Supreme Court and Constitutional Court.

Another tactic is opposing applications for condonation of lateness. Where the employer succeeds with opposing condonation applications, the effect is that the CCMA or bargaining council

effectively throws out the employee's case before arbitration can take place.

Tardy winner

However, this tactic is not always successful.

In the case of *Tunzi vs UPS South Africa* (Lex Info, 30 January 2026; Labour Court case no JR158/22), the employee was dismissed for fraud in that he allegedly filled in an attendance register wrongly. His defence had been that he had filled it in correctly, but someone else had amended the record.

He referred his dispute 124 days late and had to apply for condonation of lateness. The employer argued that this degree of lateness was excessive and that Tunzi had failed to explain certain of the periods of lateness in that period. The employer added that the employee had failed to argue prospects of success in his application for condonation. The employee's response was that he had indeed argued prospects of success and that his lateness had been due to his union being remiss. As the arbitrator turned down the employee's condonation application, the employee took that ruling to court.

In the Labour Court, the employee was not represented. The Court found in the employee's favour, basing its ruling on the point that the employee would be greatly prejudiced if his unfair dismissal case was not heard and ordered the bargaining council to set a date for arbitration.

This outcome reflects the ongoing shift of court decisions to the left and emphasises the importance of employers making sure that their managers are able to understand and implement labour law in a way that is unassailable in court.

Text | **Ivan Israelstam** Photography | **Pressmaster**

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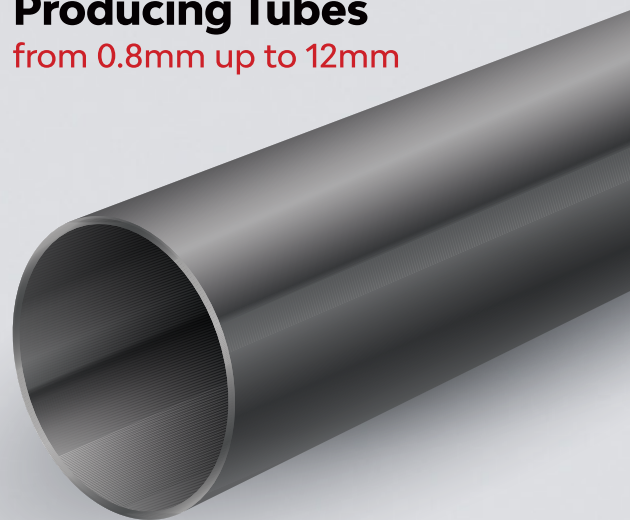
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Digitalising digging

Africa's mining sector is stepping into a new era, driven by the **accelerating pace** of digital transformation

From autonomous vehicles and robotics to AI-powered analytics and drone surveillance, the adoption of advanced technologies is fundamentally altering how minerals are discovered, extracted and processed. While progress is uneven across the continent, there's no doubt that digital tools are making operations smarter, safer and more efficient – laying the groundwork for a more competitive and sustainable industry.

Technologies such as automation, robotics, drones, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) are leading the charge in adoption across Africa. These tools offer the highest immediate impact on productivity, operational safety and cost efficiency. Autonomous systems are being deployed in open-pit operations to minimise human risk, while drones support rapid surveying and terrain analysis, offering cost-effective alternatives to traditional methods. AI and ML are transforming exploration and predictive maintenance, enabling companies to optimise resource planning, reduce downtime and make faster, data-driven decisions. Robotics, particularly in southern Africa, are now a common sight in operations looking to reduce labour-intensive processes and human exposure to hazardous environments.

While these technologies are advancing quickly, others are still in the early growth stages. Collision avoidance systems (CAS), for instance, are gaining traction across various sites. These systems are proving to be crucial for preventing accidents in underground and open-cast mining environments, particularly where large machinery operates in close quarters. Although adoption is still growing, their impact on safety metrics is already noteworthy, particularly as mines invest more in risk mitigation strategies. Augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), 3D modelling and digital twins are supporting real-time monitoring, remote collaboration and predictive scenario planning. Blockchain, internet of things (IoT),

3D printing and wearable technology are still in their infancy in the African mining context.

IoT could transform operational efficiency by interlinking devices and machinery for real-time feedback and automation. Yet, high upfront costs, underdeveloped infrastructure and inconsistent power supply continue to constrain their uptake. 3D printing and wearables, although useful for remote part fabrication and monitoring worker health, are not yet broadly integrated, often hindered by lack of technical capacity and cost justification at scale.

Continental curve

Southern Africa stands at the forefront of digital mining. The region boasts the most mature adoption of AI and automation, supported by relatively stronger infrastructure, more established mining players and better access to digital skills. However, scaling up these innovations across the sector presents serious challenges. High operational costs, legacy systems and slow change management often limit broader implementation.

Across the continent, infrastructure remains the most significant barrier to full-scale digital adoption. Patchy electricity, limited broadband access and poor transport connectivity compound the challenge of integrating complex systems into remote and rugged mining environments. Alongside this, skills shortages – particularly in data science, systems integration and automation – further restrict implementation, while geopolitical instability in some regions continues to dissuade investment in long-term transformation.

The African mining sector is clearly on a digital trajectory. While adoption is uneven and barriers remain significant, the progress already made – particularly in southern Africa – demonstrates the value of a tech-driven future. The potential for smarter, safer and more responsible mining is no longer hypothetical. It is, increasingly, the reality.

Text | **Johan Coetzee** Photography | **Shutterstock Gen AI**

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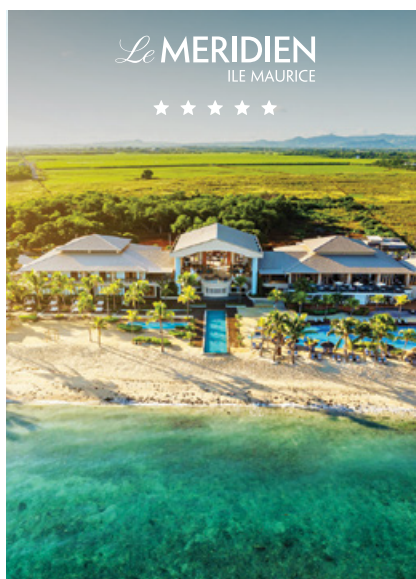
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Tweaking of talent

With human skills and AI becoming more integrated, **hiring patterns** may change

The trend of companies cutting back on staff and teams getting leaner has been accelerating as AI quietly infiltrates entire layers of junior and specialist roles that once existed to support the experts.

We are witnessing an era wherein pure specialisation is in decline, while the most valuable professionals are those who combine deep expertise in one domain with broad, applied competence across many. The winners are no longer the narrow PhD or the single-skill technician; they are the specialist generalists or the modern jack-of-all-trades who is master of one.

For example, 10 junior analysts of the past have become two versatile strategists, relationship builders and executors, with AI handling the rest. Four paralegals have been replaced by one commercially sharp

lawyer who knows how to prompt, validate and apply AI-generated research. The pattern is repeating itself across marketing, finance, operations, tech and even HR.

But it's not just about reduced hiring. The organisations that will thrive going forward will be those that stop treating AI as a headcount-reduction tool and start using it to amplify versatile, high-judgement humans. And the professionals who thrive will be the ones who deliberately build T-shaped skill sets: a strong vertical spike of genuine expertise, sitting on a wide horizontal bar of data fluency, financial acumen, tech literacy and the ability to learn anything fast.

Ask the right questions

For years, companies have been drowning in data, yet most have failed to leverage it. That is rapidly changing. Five years ago, few roles required serious data skills. That figure has been rapidly growing since, and soon, few roles will *not* require substantial data literacy. That means everyone, from marketers and HR professionals to operations and finance staff, must become data-literate. The shift is not about producing endless, pointless insights but about zeroing in on the specific business questions to be solved.

Modern analytics dashboards and AI tools have commoditised access to information, which means the new competitive edge lies in knowing which questions to ask, how to interpret results and how to turn insight into action. In short, data is no longer the domain of a dedicated analytics team but is becoming the common language of business.



2g

The mass of the bumblebee bat – the world's smallest mammal.

113

The emergency number South Koreans can call to report spies.

With AI tools now cheap, abundant and embedded in everyday software, artificial intelligence is filtering into every corner of every company.

The implication is that every employee will be expected to use AI to make their own job more effective and efficient. Roles that remain entirely manual (outside certain artisan crafts) will be the exception rather than the rule. This is not about replacing whole jobs overnight but about augmenting them. A social-media manager will still need judgement and creativity, but AI will handle scheduling, basic copywriting and performance analysis. The human's value will lie in discernment and strategy.

Keep the future in mind

The most substantial shift will be the decline of pure technical specialists. Companies are deliberately moving away from narrow experts toward a tighter talent complement, as access to expert knowledge via AI becomes instantaneous. The result is that teams will become leaner, especially at entry level.

There is danger in being swept up with the tide before considering the consequences of rapid downscaling of junior roles. While the short-term efficiency gains

are obvious, the unintended consequences could wreak havoc. Companies that do away with junior appointments for the most part should be aware that they may emerge in five to 10 years' time with no mid-career or senior talent bench because no one came through the ranks.

The roles that traditionally served as training grounds, such as writing basic code, conducting routine legal research, building sales pipelines and producing financial reports, will still remain the best place for graduates to develop sound judgement and decision-making skills and should therefore still form part of the talent pipeline strategy.

Companies that want to remain competitive in the long term should resist the temptation to over-automate junior roles and instead find ways to accelerate real-world experience for high-potential talent. Yes, AI will do the easy stuff brilliantly. But ultimately, the winners will be those organisations that train humans to do the hard stuff even better.

Text | **Advaita Naidoo** Photography | **Fabrika Simf**

Advaita Naidoo is Africa MD at Jack Hammer Global.

For more information, go to jhammerglobal.com.



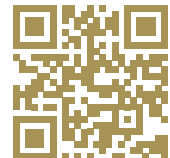
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Harvesting higher **value**

Artificial intelligence could help farmers in Africa keep more of **their profits** on the continent

Artificial intelligence has rapidly shifted from a distant technological aspiration to a concrete driver of economic transformation, and its relevance for Africa, particularly South Africa, has grown significantly over the past year.

As global value chains become more digital, more transparent and increasingly governed by data-rich compliance requirements, the continent stands at a crossroads. Either African economies integrate AI strategically to reposition themselves within these value chains, or they risk further marginalisation in an era defined by technological acceleration. The agricultural sector, long considered Africa's economic backbone and a significant employer across southern, East and West Africa, presents one of the clearest opportunities for meaningful change.

Recent research on AI in African agriculture, with a focus on cocoa, coffee and sugarcane value chains, highlights a structural reality long familiar to South African agribusiness: value is disproportionately captured outside the continent. While Africa supplies much of the world's raw commodities, high-value processing, branding and retail largely remain offshore. For South African business leaders, the emerging AI landscape provides both a warning and an opportunity. Without digital traceability, climate-aligned verification and AI-enhanced logistics, African exports risk exclusion from premium markets such as the EU,

where sustainability regulations have tightened sharply in recent times.

Increased opportunities

AI-enabled tools are already demonstrating impact across Africa's agricultural chains. Predictive analytics are being used to forecast climate risks, machine learning models support yield prediction and computer vision technology aids in quality grading. For South Africa, these applications are particularly relevant as the country works to enhance competitiveness under continued loadshedding pressures, rising input costs and intensifying climate volatility.

In the sugar industry, for instance, Mozambique and South Africa remain pivotal exporters, yet value capture still leans heavily towards commercial mills rather than smallholder growers. AI-driven traceability and digital payment systems can close this gap by improving transparency, enabling certification and strengthening bargaining power for growers who have historically operated on the margins.

Yet the success of AI adoption extends beyond technology deployment. It depends on inclusion, governance and skills development. Across Africa, women, youth and persons with disabilities remain at risk of exclusion as the agricultural sector digitises. In southern Africa, women form the backbone of labour in sugarcane and horticulture but remain underrepresented in leadership and have lower rates of smartphone ownership, reducing their access to AI-enabled tools.

South Africa has an opportunity to design inclusive AI strategies that recognise these disparities and deliberately bridge them. Youth unemployment, for example, remains one of the nation's most pressing challenges, yet young people benefit from higher digital literacy and a strong interest in emerging technologies. Positioning youth as digital intermediaries or agri-tech innovators could simultaneously enhance AI adoption and drive broader economic participation.

Text | **Varaidzo Mureriwa** Photography | **Gan Chaonan**

Varaidzo Mureriwa is Managing Director, Health & Public Service at Accenture, Africa. For more information, go to [accenture.com](https://www.accenture.com).

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Pay attention to interactions

Family members communicate in many ways in the digital world, which provides **many opportunities** for scams

Kaspersky's latest research shows that, in South Africa, 91% of people communicate with family via messaging apps, 68% have regular video calls and 53% have joint streaming service accounts. While digitalisation offers unprecedented convenience and flexibility in family communication, increased online connectivity demands a heightened awareness of digital safety practices and the protection of devices.

Communication in the digital sphere has become an integral part of everyday life. Thanks to video calls and instant messaging, we can maintain connections with our loved ones, no matter where we are. Digitalisation has reshaped not only how we communicate, but also how we spend our free time together.

In the survey, regular messaging via WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, Viber and other messenger apps were top of users' choices when communicating with their families. Globally, people in the 35-54 age group were the most likely to engage this way, with 89% of respondents choosing this option. Video calls were a much less popular option among all survey respondents as a way of keeping in touch with relatives, with only 58% choosing this digital solution.

Another popular way of staying connected online for many families is exchanging posts and memes on social media and messengers (51% in South Africa). The 18-34 age group globally leads this trend with a 58% participation rate. The older generation (above 55 years old) is in general less digitally engaged than other ages, though the share of those globally who chat with their families in messengers is on par with the average (85%). Despite the fact that older people are more active in the digital sphere, they may still not be ready to face cyber threats and scams.

Stay safe

Even for advanced users, communication online carries potential cyber-security risks. From phishing attempts disguised as legitimate messages to sophisticated social engineering attacks, the digital battlefield operates within our most personal communication channels. To ensure complex protection for messengers, it's highly recommended to enable two-factor authentication where possible, use unique, complex passwords for each account, remain sceptical of unexpected links or attachments, use a reliable security solution with anti-phishing protection for messengers and follow security tips from experts.

The survey shows that in their free time, 70% of all participating families choose to watch movies together, with 44% having family streaming accounts. Online games do not have such popularity as a family pastime, with only 35% of general respondents opting for them. In South Africa, 78% of families choose to watch movies together, 53% have family streaming accounts and 35% choose online games as a family pastime.

While sharing streaming subscriptions and gaming accounts may seem like a cost-effective solution, it opens the door to a host of digital vulnerabilities that can compromise your family's security and privacy, especially when an account is used by different family members under the same login and password. If one family member's device is compromised, hackers gain access to the entire account.

Text | **Marina Titova** Photography | **LightField Studios**

Marina Titova is Vice President for Consumer Business at Kaspersky. For more information, go to kaspersky.co.za.

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Visitors are encouraged to enjoy Namibia's landscapes, wildlife, meat, and produce while helping to protect the country's FMD-free status through responsible travel.

FMD is a highly contagious viral disease affecting cloven-hoofed livestock and wildlife. While harmless to humans, it can spread through contaminated clothing, footwear, vehicles, and animal products. Travellers therefore play an important role in preventing its introduction into Namibia by complying with biosecurity measures.

When entering Namibia, travellers must comply with biosecurity measures at official entry points, including disinfecting footwear and vehicles and following guidance from veterinary officials. Products of cloven-hoofed animal may not be brought into the country without a valid veterinary import permit.

These simple measures help protect Namibia's FMD-free status and safeguard its agricultural sector and economy. Enjoy Namibia responsibly and help preserve the systems that protect this unique country and its world-class produce.



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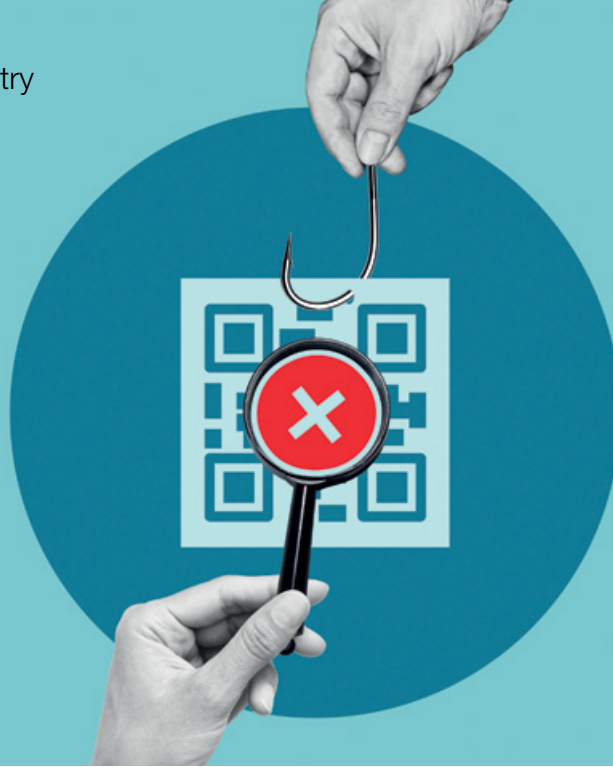
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Speaking in code

Cyber criminals are aiming to dupe consumers using **scannable codes**

Detections of phishing emails containing malicious QR codes jumped from 46,969 in August 2025 to 249,723 in November 2025 – a more than fivefold growth – as cyber criminals increasingly exploit QR codes, a trend that will likely continue this year and beyond. Attackers use QR codes in emails more frequently because they provide a simple and cost-effective way to conceal malicious URLs, evading detection by many protective solutions.

These QR codes are often embedded directly in email bodies or, even more commonly, within PDF attachments – an evolution that both masks phishing links and encourages users to scan them on mobile phones, which may have weaker security than work PCs.

Malicious QR codes commonly appear in mass phishing campaigns as well as targeted ones. Links embedded within them may lead to:

- Phishing forms impersonating login pages for services like Microsoft accounts or internal corporate portals, designed to steal usernames, passwords and other credentials.

- Fake HR notifications urging employees to review or sign documents, such as vacation schedules, or even view lists of terminated staff, ultimately directing them to credential-stealing sites.
- Fraudulent invoices or purchase confirmations in PDF attachments, often combined with vishing (voice phishing) tactics that prompt victims to call provided phone numbers to 'cancel' or clarify the transaction, enabling further social engineering attacks.

These tactics exploit trust in routine business communications, leading to credential theft, account takeovers, data breaches and financial fraud.

Difficult to ignore

Malicious QR codes have evolved into one of the most effective phishing tools, particularly when hidden in PDF attachments or disguised as legitimate business communications like HR updates. The explosive growth recently highlights how attackers are capitalising on this low-cost evasion technique to target employees on mobile devices, where protection is often minimal. Without advanced image analysis at the email gateway and safe scanning practices, organisations are left vulnerable to credential compromise and downstream breaches.

To defend against this escalating threat, companies should educate employees around cyber security and deploy a mail server security solution that provides a trusted and secure corporate email exchange, countering spam, email-borne infections, all forms of phishing, business email compromise (BEC), QR code attacks and other threats.

Text | **Roman Dedenok** Photography | **Jack_the_sparow**
Roman Dedenok is an Anti-Spam Expert at Kaspersky.
For more information, go to kaspersky.co.za.

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Practising purpose

Brands that truly stand for something are more likely to **attract attention**

In a landscape crowded with products, promises and polished marketing, one truth has become non-negotiable: brands with purpose earn trust faster, last longer and grow deeper than those without it. Whether you are a business competing for market share or an NGO competing for attention and funding, purpose has become the new currency of credibility.

Today, the result of standing for something clear, meaningful and consistent will gain the most attention. Purpose has moved from being a 'nice-to-have' statement on a website footer to being the foundation of brand authority.

The question is not whether your organisation has a purpose. The real question is whether the world can feel it. Brands must articulate their purpose in ways that resonate emotionally, build credibility and inspire action, ensuring that purpose is not just declared, but felt.

Markets have shifted. Consumers and stakeholders are no longer persuaded by product features or business claims alone. They want to back brands that reflect their values, solve real problems and make a meaningful contribution. Purpose provides the narrative context that allows people to understand why you exist beyond what you sell. It is also the filter that shapes decision making, communication, partnerships and culture.

When articulated clearly, purpose does three things: it creates trust, builds visibility and drives authority. In other words, purpose gives your brand a reason to be believed.

Why are you here?

Purpose is not a tagline. It is not a mission statement. It is the guiding belief that drives every part of your business. Every brand, business or NGO should answer three questions with clarity and honesty.

1. **What problem do we exist to solve?** This is the anchor of purpose. A brand's authority grows when it can clearly articulate the need it meets: social, emotional, functional or economic.
2. **Who specifically benefits from what we do?** Purpose becomes powerful when it is tied to a



real community or niche group whose lives are improved by your work.

- 3. What change do we want to see because of our existence?** This focuses on impact rather than activity. It shifts communication from selling outputs to championing outcomes.

Purpose beats product because products can be copied, services can be replicated and technology can be matched. When businesses compete only on product, they compete on price, features and speed factors that fluctuate and are often out of their control. NGOs face a similar challenge: programmes and initiatives can look similar across the sector.

Purpose builds emotional loyalty, not transactional loyalty. It gives teams a shared direction, not just tasks to complete. It strengthens resilience when markets shift. And it turns marketing from persuasion into service.

Build belief

When a brand's purpose is clearly expressed, something powerful happens: customers move from buying what you do to believing in why you do it. Belief is the driver of long-term loyalty, word-of-mouth advocacy, community building, reputation resilience and higher perceived value.

People stay loyal to brands they feel aligned to. The greater the alignment, the deeper the trust and the more resilient your brand becomes against competitors, crises and market noise. This is where brand authority is truly built.

Across sectors, some of the world's most recognisable brands have proved that purpose is not just a moral compass, it is a strategic growth engine.

Unilever: Its Sustainable Living Brands from Lifebuoy to Dove grew faster and more profitably than the rest of the portfolio by anchoring their campaigns in authentic social purpose.

LEGO Foundation (NGO): Rooted in the belief that play drives learning, the foundation's purpose has made it one of the world's most influential non-profits in early childhood development.

These examples prove one thing: purpose is not a cost; it is a multiplier.

Be seen

Visibility without purpose is noise, and purpose without visibility is a missed opportunity. When both work together, you create a brand that stands out, stands for something and stands the test of time. Brands with a clear purpose communicate more consistently, attract the right audiences, build stronger partnerships, earn media more easily, strengthen leadership positioning and create internal alignment and culture.

The key takeaway is that purpose is the new currency of brand authority. It builds trust faster than any marketing tactic and provides the context for everything you communicate. Growth is driven when purpose is authentic, lived and visible.

When stakeholders can feel your purpose, they begin believing, not just buying. Clarity starts with three questions: What problem do you solve, who benefits and what change do you create? The answers define your strategic direction.

Text | **Nadia Hearn** Photography | **Mdisk**

Nadia Hearn is a brand strategist, founder of Get Published and co-founder of Brand Growth Track.

Re-focus

If your purpose feels vague, outdated or inconsistent, here are three ways to regain clarity:

1. Audit your public message:

Look at your website, social channels, campaigns and internal communications. **Ask:** "Would someone understand why we exist after seeing this?"

Action tip: Align your top-line brand message with your purpose in one clear sentence.

2. Speak to your stakeholders: Purpose is validated through the people you serve.

Ask: "What do our customers, donors or partners believe we stand for?"

Action tip: Conduct short interviews or surveys to uncover how your purpose is perceived.

3. Reconnect with your founding intent: Why was your organisation started?

What need triggered its creation?

Action tip: Write a one-page purpose summary linking your founding story to your current direction.



Twice as caring

When both parents require time off to nurture a baby, **workplace practices** are affected

When the Constitutional Court introduced shared parental leave in 2025, South Africa celebrated a major equality victory. But inside workplaces, the shift has been more complex, happening in HR offices, management meetings, WhatsApp family groups and at kitchen tables.

For the first time, South African law has said clearly and unapologetically: caregiving is not a woman's job. It belongs to parents, all of them. And suddenly, workplaces built on decades of unspoken assumptions are being forced to catch up.

Consider the following: A Cape Town-based logistics manager recently shared his story. When his daughter was born, he took 10 days of paternity leave, as many fathers before him had done. This time, however, things were different. His wife had just been promoted into a demanding executive role and they made the decision together: he would take the primary caregiving role.

When he submitted a request for extended parental leave, the response was polite but uneasy. There were questions about operational impact. About whether this was "temporary". About whether his career would be affected. None of it was said directly. But the discomfort was palpable. The Constitution may have settled the question of fairness, but culture is still negotiating with itself.

Changing the narrative

For decades, workplaces were structured around a predictable worldwide narrative: women take long leave, men return quickly, caregiving is maternal

and earning is paternal. The Constitutional Court has now dismantled that narrative. The categories of 'maternity' and 'paternity' leave have given way to a single idea. Parental leave: flexible, shared and driven by family choice. But organisations do not change simply because policies do. They change when people feel safe enough to live differently inside them.

Many employers now face a new reality. There is a father who takes two and a half months of leave, a mother who returns after six weeks, two parents in the same company splitting leave, small teams carrying extended absences and managers dealing with unfamiliar dynamics. This is an identity shift for parents, for managers and for organisations.

While the judgement is rightfully celebrated for its human impact, employers may be grappling with quieter, less discussed pressures. How do you plan for operational continuity when leave is split unpredictably? How do you prevent resentment from teams who feel the strain of prolonged absences? How do small businesses, already stretched, absorb months of shared parental leave? How do you administer UIF when the framework itself is still being rebuilt?

Updating parental leave policy is only the first step. Employers must actively address perception, bias and career fear, especially for men taking extended leave and women choosing to return early. Manager training, internal communication and visible leadership support are essential to prevent subtle discrimination from replacing formal inequality.

Shared leave introduces flexible but uncertain absence patterns. Employers should review succession planning, cross-training, temporary placements and job-sharing models now, rather than reacting ad hoc when multiple parental leave requests arise simultaneously.

Text | **Cwenga Gogodla** Photography | **Monkey Business Images**
Cwenga Gogodla is a Dispute Resolution Official at CEO SA.
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Looking downstream

Contemporary **viewing habits** are being fed by ever more options

Every new year brings a fresh wave of predictions about where streaming is headed, with experts peering into their crystal balls (or smart screens) to try to foretell where audiences will go. As South Africa celebrates 50 years of broadcasting in 2026, it's rapidly becoming one of the most dynamic markets in the world, with mobile-savvy viewers who are quick to experiment and to adopt new habits.

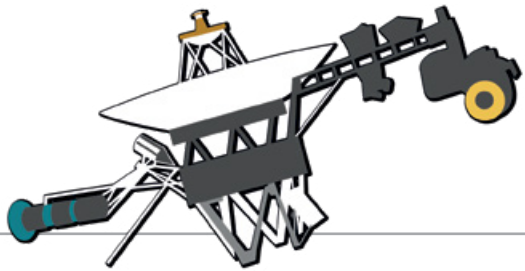
The biggest current trend this year starts with a simple idea: viewers aren't just watching anymore; they're creating. They're making fan videos and recreations, playing with and remixing their favourite shows and characters. The next step? Fan-made, AI-assisted content going mainstream. Disney's partnership with OpenAI shows how seriously streamers are starting to treat this shift, with the studio calling it a move toward "new possibilities in imaginative storytelling". The challenge for these legacy brands will be walking the tightrope between protecting their intellectual property and giving fans free rein.

As attention spans become shorter and shorter, the days of hour-long episodes might be over. Sometimes, viewers just want to finish a story while in the taxi or on a break. That's why short and vertical formats, such as phone-native videos built for quick viewing, are gaining ground. These formats work because they're fast, addictive and deliver an instant hit of dopamine-fuelling entertainment. This doesn't mean that long-form viewing is over. But viewers increasingly want both slow and fast viewing to fit their mood and diary, and the streamers who serve both will be the ones audiences return to.

New goals

After years of non-stop growth and expansion, the streaming universe is starting to streamline and mature. Companies are consolidating and looking for better ways to grow audiences and revenue, with bundle deals, shared platforms and content partnerships offering viewers more bang for their buck. In South Africa, there are partnerships as well as mergers, especially when it comes to billing. This makes subscriptions easier to manage and gives the streamers who make it easy for their viewers a competitive edge.

If there is one thing that pulls in live viewers, it's sport and, up until recently, it's been the edge that traditional TV has held over streaming.



48

The number of years NASA's Voyager 1 had been in space by the time it ran out of fuel in 2025.

This year, streamers are going to get into the action in a big way. Netflix is moving into live sports, including coverage of events such as the Africa Cup of Nations. DStv has the English Premier League. Disney is streaming ESPN channels.

All these outlets hope to hook loyal and loud sport fans who watch together, comment in real time and keep talking and debating long after the final whistle. By stepping into this space, streamers gain access to an audience who shows up consistently and spends generously. This year, viewers can expect more sports rights deals, as well as the kind of around-the-game content fans love, such as the build-up, behind-the-scenes moments and post-match analysis.

Live on screen

Who would've thought that watching someone else play a video game would be such a lucrative and fast-growing format in entertainment? Live streaming has shot out of niche viewing straight into the mainstream. YouTube Live, Twitch and TikTok Live have normalised real-time broadcasting, including musicians doing live studio sessions, sport

watch-alongs and lifestyle creators doing interviews in real time. For brands, it offers a space where audiences show up primed to engage and interact.

Connected TV (CTV) has moved from taking a smaller, experimental part of the media spend pie to something brands now budget for in a serious way, with research from Kantar showing strong gains in purchase intent linked to the medium. Covering any television that streams via apps – whether that's a smart TV or a screen connected to a PlayStation, Chromecast or Apple TV – CTV is how many households watch their shows today. It combines the impact of traditional television with the accuracy of digital targeting, which matters in a market where people hop between streaming apps but still gather around the main screen at home. In many ways, it is becoming the place that brands are directing more and more of their TV spend to – and no longer just what is left over from the digital bucket.

Text | **Leslie Adams** Photography | **Proxima Studio**

Leslie Adams is Sales Director at Reach Africa.

For more information, go to reachafrica.com.

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Invisible architecture

Technology and **thoughtful design** help travellers to have more satisfying experiences

Something has shifted in how South Africans think about getting away. Travellers are prioritising experiences that feel meaningful, restorative and rooted in place, rather than ticking off yet another generic resort.

At the same time, the old divide between 'business trip' and 'holiday' is fading fast. A midweek conference in Gqeberha or Cape Town easily becomes a long weekend. Hybrid work means it's normal to add a laptop to the packing list and stay on for a few extra days. Guests are looking for hotels that make it easy to plug into work when they need to and unplug into leisure as soon as they can.

Wellness has moved into the centre of the picture too. It's no longer a spa voucher bolted onto a hotel stay – it's baked into decisions about where to go and how to travel. For many, the point of getting away is to come back feeling better in body and mind, not simply more tired and more broke.

None of this happens without infrastructure that most travellers will never consciously notice. Biometric gates that process boarding passes at speed. Algorithms that rebook disrupted journeys before passengers arrive at the desk. High-speed connectivity and hardware that allow a guest to present to their global team from a quiet corner of the hotel, then meet friends at the bar 20 minutes later. The best travel experiences are now being built on systems that work simply and silently in the background.

Flexible options

The same invisible architecture is what allows people to treat work trips as part-holiday instead of a grind between airports: reliable WiFi, comfortable spaces to join a call and rooms that feel more like compact apartments than overnight boxes. When those elements are there, guests can choose one hotel that serves both the business and leisure parts of the trip, instead of paying twice for separate stays.

High-speed connectivity and flexible spaces mean guests can stay in the same room while their pattern changes: two nights of meetings, then a partner or family joins for three more days of safari and sea. Instead of paying for a business hotel in the week and a leisure resort over the weekend, one stay can stretch across the entire trip, which is a far more cost-effective way to travel and far kinder on work-life balance.

International travel is undergoing similar transformation. Airlines are pushing behind-the-scenes tech that aims to make journeys smoother and more personalised.

Health and wellness have become non-negotiable. Wellness, in this case, is not just about massages. It's about creating spaces that work for how people actually live and work. That means a proper gym you don't have to fight to access, outdoor areas designed for families and Instagram and rooms where you can clear email in the morning, head to a meeting and still make time for the beach or the wine farm by the afternoon.

Text | **Marc Wachsberger and Lisa Sebogodi** Photography | **4045**

Marc Wachsberger is CEO of The Capital Hotels, Apartments & Resorts and **Lisa Sebogodi** is MD of Batsumi Travel. For more information, go to thecapital.co.za and batsumitravel.co.za.

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Is it **worth** going the **distance?**

Executives needing to attend meetings far and wide are making **new demands**

The business travel agenda is increasingly set by those on the front lines. Employees aren't pushing back against travel itself, but they're asking harder questions. Is this trip worth my time? Will I be looked after? Does it support my work *and* my wellbeing?

Smarter, more selective travel is now the name of the game. A flight every other week to attend a half-day lunch-and-learn? That's increasingly hard to justify. Today, big isn't necessarily better; more often means less and being away from your desk now needs a solid reason.

This shift is driven by carbon budgets and travel costs, but there's more to it. As the 2025 Deloitte *Corporate Travel Study* shows, today's business travellers expect more purpose, better tech, less admin and more care.

The pandemic proved that remote collaboration works. Obviously, that's not true for all sectors. Energy, mining and many others still need to move teams around the world, but in the main, corporate employees now expect business

travel to clear a higher bar: demonstrable value, reasonable conditions and respect for their time and wellbeing.

While business travel spend is up (Deloitte reports that three in four corporate travel managers reported bigger budgets this year), some big players are quietly pumping the brakes. Around 20% of companies spending more than R120 million a year on business travel say they're planning cuts, twice the number from 2024.

Even where budgets are stable or growing, trip frequency is going down. That's especially true among frequent flyers. They're not ditching their suitcases entirely, just skipping the third trip of the month. Because people have lives. And also, Teams exists.

The latest FCM *Travel State of the Market* survey shows that 46% of companies in Europe, the Middle East and Africa plan to increase their travel spend. This is up from 39% last year. At the same time, though, traveller experience reigns supreme, and corporate flexibility remains essential, with organisations adopting more adaptive frameworks to accommodate shifting traveller needs.

Adjust policies

Put simply, employees aren't allergic to travel. They just want it to be worth the effort. Waking up at 4am, spending 10 hours flying to sit in a meeting that could've been an email isn't winning anyone over, especially when they're conscious of their carbon footprint and can video call from the comfort of their home office.

People want choice. They want control. And they'd rather not be treated like walking invoices. Beneath the spreadsheets and policies, your travellers are just people trying to do good work without losing their minds.

Today's employees want more say in how they travel, for good reason. It's not about dodging policy; it's about



1997

The year in which a cat named Stubbs was elected mayor of the town Talkeetna in Alaska.

30,000

The number of visas issued by Portuguese diplomat Aristides de Sousa Mendes in 1940, to help Jewish families flee the Nazis.

making it work for real life. That means better flight and hotel options, some wiggle room in the schedule and yes, maybe tacking on a weekend now and then for a 'bleisure break' in a new destination.

It's not that difficult to accommodate a traveller's needs. You can widen property selection by adding favoured hotels or serviced apartments into your travel programme, updating traveller profiles with preferred airlines and travel times, allowing travellers more say in their journey.

Plan for the whole

Employees want clear safety measures, support for their mental health and policies that don't treat constant travel like a badge of honour. Think rest between trips, time for family and the kind of backup support that says, "We've got you," not just "Good luck."

Business travellers are pushing for acknowledgement that constant travel takes a mental and physical toll. This means creating policies that limit excessive travel, mandate rest periods between trips and provide practical support for managing family responsibilities. Treating frequent travel as a status symbol rather than a burden has become a recruitment and retention risk.

Business travellers are done struggling with clunky platforms and endless tabs. They want tech that just works: simple booking tools, mobile apps and chatbots that actually help and real-time updates. Throw in instant, 24-hour travel support when things go wrong, and you're speaking their language.

If employees are hopping on planes for work, they want to know it's worth it. Every trip should have a clear purpose – and the chance for some downtime. And if they have to stay productive, make it easy. That means good WiFi, decent workspaces and expense tools that don't feel like a second job.

Business travel is evolving into something far more positive and intentional.

Companies that recognise this shift have an advantage. They can build programmes that reduce unnecessary travel while improving the experience of trips that matter, creating systems and policies that employees trust rather than resent.

Text | **Mummy Mafojane** Photography | **People Images**

Mummy Mafojane is GM of FCM South Africa.

For more information, go to fcmtravel.co.za.



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Striking an extension chord

Keeping WiFi signal **strong throughout** a property involves making some choices

You can have a blazing-fast fibre line and still struggle with buffering, laggy Zoom calls or no signal in the back bedroom. That's because fibre is only the internet pipe coming into your home: what really determines your day-to-day experience is how well that WiFi spreads from your router to every corner of your house and to every device. This is where mesh systems, repeaters and extenders come in.

Mesh WiFi is a system of multiple WiFi 'nodes' (think: mini routers) that work together as one unified network. You have a main router connected to your fibre optical network terminal (ONT) – the small fibre box – and you then have two to three (or more) mesh nodes around the home. These nodes communicate

intelligently, automatically choosing the best path for your connection as you move around with your mobile devices.

With mesh, you have one WiFi name (SSID) across the whole house, which means you get seamless roaming. Your phone or laptop shifts from node to node without dropping and you get smart routing, which means the mesh adapts around walls, interference and congestion.

Mesh is ideally suited to medium-to-large homes, double-storey houses, long or oddly shaped homes, homes with many devices (smart TVs, streaming, gaming, smart home tech and phones) and so on. It's the best solution for homes with fibre speeds of 50Mbps and above, where you want to actually feel and experience this speed performance throughout the house.

Mesh provides the best overall experience for whole-home WiFi with seamless roaming (no manual switching), handles lots of devices and heavy usage well, and the app-based setup is usually



1 million

The estimated number of spiders per acre of land.

straightforward. Mesh is more expensive than single boosters and placement still matters – mesh nodes still need decent signal or a wired backhaul option.

And again...

A repeater is the simplest type of WiFi booster. Simplistically, it 'listens' to your router's WiFi signal and then rebroadcasts it further away. The big catch, though, is that because it typically uses the same WiFi channel to receive and retransmit, a repeater often halves your effective throughput (speed) and adds significant latency (delay), which affects gaming, video calls and responsiveness. Speed drop is common (and often significant) and can be frustrating when the whole point of getting fibre is to increase your speed.

The best application for repeaters is typically for a small, specific dead spot (one nearby room) and low-usage areas, like a guest room or garage, and homes on lower fibre speeds or where usage is mostly browsing, using WhatsApp or email.

While it may be the cheapest option with a simple set-up and a quick fix for light usage, it comes with the aforementioned, making roaming clunky with devices that 'stick' to the weaker signal. It's not the ideal solution if you're paying for fast fibre and want that speed everywhere.

More points

People often use 'repeater' and 'extender' interchangeably but, in practice, many extenders are more flexible than basic repeaters. An extender can be a wireless repeater or a wired access point, which provides much better performance than a repeater when it connects back to your router via an ethernet cable. When wired, the extender behaves like a second WiFi access point, which means far better speeds, more stability and often near-full fibre performance in that area when compared to a repeater. Some modern extenders also support same-SSID and limited roaming assistance (better than old-school repeaters, but not as seamless as mesh).

The best applications for extenders (especially wired) include a far room where you can run a cable, like a garden office, an upstairs study or a flatlet. It's ideal for rooms that need strong, stable WiFi (or

even LAN ports) but you don't need a full-home mesh system.

It can provide excellent performance when wired and is a good option for a specific high-importance area and more cost-effective than full mesh if you only need one strong zone. On the downside, when wireless only, it behaves much like a repeater (with the same speed and latency penalty) and wired setups may require cabling and a bit more configuration.

Fitted to purpose

It's important to point out that not all equipment brands are compatible with every router, so speak to your internet service provider (ISP) before investing in a solution.

Scenario 1: Small flat or townhouse with one or two minor dead spots: Before buying anything, if you have a separate router that can be moved, try moving your router to a more central location using a longer cable to your ONT. If you still need help, a single repeater or small extender can solve a corner dead zone (like a spare room or study). A repeater or extender can be a good fit, depending on budget and speed needs.

Scenario 2: Medium-to-large home, lots of walls, upstairs/downstairs: This is where single boosters usually disappoint. A mesh system is almost always the best experience because you get one WiFi name everywhere, smooth and seamless roaming across your connected devices and better handling of streaming, Zoom, gaming and multiple devices.

Scenario 3: You can run a cable to another area (garden office or outside room): If you can, run ethernet, add a wired extender or access point in that area. This gives near-full fibre speeds at the far end and is a much better option than a wireless repeater trying to 'catch and rebroadcast' signal. Your best fit is either a wired extender or access point, or mesh with wired backhaul.

Scenario 4: Budget is tight and speed isn't critical: A basic repeater can be a quick and affordable solution – as long as you accept the speed and latency compromise.

Text | **Brett Russell** Photography | **DC Studio**

Brett Russell is Head of Product and Chief Information Security Officer at MetroFibre.

For more information, go to metrofibre.co.za.

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Weathering the inevitable

Climate change is no longer a distant threat – it's a **present-day disruptor** reshaping industries, economies and ecosystems

In Africa, few sectors are as exposed – or as vital – as mining. Intensifying droughts, erratic rainfall and rising temperatures are placing growing pressure on water availability and operational stability. For mining companies, the compounded risks of environmental volatility and resource scarcity demand urgent attention.

Climate variability has shifted from rare disruptions to an operating baseline, reshaping how the mining sector plans and protects its people. Weather extremes are no longer outliers but a reality that must be engineered into every decision to ensure operational stability and long-term value.

For many African countries, mining is not just a sector – it's an economic backbone. In South Africa, for instance, mining contributes approximately 6% to the national gross domestic product (GDP). Any disruption to operations – such as those triggered by the early onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown measures – can reverberate across the economy, affecting employment, exports and fiscal revenue. Recovery from such shocks is often slow and complex, underscoring the sector's critical role in economic resilience.

Plan for the extraordinary

Unlike sudden disruptions, the risks posed by climate change are largely predictable – yet the risks are intensifying in both frequency and severity. The Lloyd's Register

Foundation Global Safety Evidence Centre reports that mining workers are increasingly on the frontlines of this growing threat, facing extreme weather events and rising temperatures that compromise safety and productivity. The Foundation's World Risk Poll reveals that one in five workers worldwide (18%) faced harm at work in the past two years – a number that rises to 21% in the mining and quarrying sector. Workplace health and safety conditions are further compounded by operational challenges – especially in water-scarce countries like South Africa, where the ongoing water crisis adds another layer of complexity to mine sustainability and resilience.

One of the most significant and complex climate-driven challenges facing mining operations across Africa is the need to manage water effectively. Water risk in mining is no longer just about scarcity; it's about volatility. Sudden stormwater surges, prolonged dry spells and shifting water quality demands require adaptive systems that can capture, store, treat and reuse water efficiently and safely.

During extended drought periods, mines struggle to secure the water necessary for core functions such as mineral processing, dust suppression and equipment cooling. This is especially problematic in arid regions where water scarcity is already a concern.

In a country as water-stressed as South Africa, long-term performance relies on circularity, such as protecting catchments, designing for reuse and treating water as a shared resource to sustain both operations and communities. Additional rainfall would not resolve mining's water challenges. When high-intensity or out-of-season storms do occur, they frequently overwhelm mine infrastructure, flooding pits, tunnels, haul routes and waste areas, disrupting operations and introducing substantial safety hazards.

Out with the extra

Managing excess water becomes a delicate balancing act: mines must determine not just how to remove it, but where and how to discharge it without breaching environmental regulations or causing downstream harm. Failure to do so can result in contamination, legal consequences and reputational damage.



33 million

The number of people living in the Tokyo-Yokohama metropolitan area in Japan.

Compounding these challenges is outdated or insufficient infrastructure that was often built in an era when climate volatility was not a design consideration. Many mining facilities weren't designed to withstand today's extremes, let alone meet evolving regulatory standards.

This means that the infrastructure was not designed for extreme events or even for the current design requirements being stipulated by global standards. Regulatory requirements have also improved over the decades, and design criteria for climate impact must be revised from the original design requirements.

Whether it is underground, opencast or open-pit mining, the act of mining has an impact on water resources and water quality, while inflow from rain, runoff, recharge and lateral groundwater ingress is inevitable.

Find the middle ground

To stay resilient, mining companies must strike a careful balance – adopting innovations in production and methodology to improve water efficiency, while also developing strategies to capture and store excess water during the wet season for use in the dry.

During high rainfall events water availability is not an aspect of concern for communities and industries, but

during the dry season, that's when water quantity and quality become an issue.

In many African countries, the relatively low cost of water – particularly in regions where pricing models fail to account for scarcity or environmental stress – can diminish the financial incentive for mining companies to invest in robust water management practices.

While water stewardship has often been deprioritised in favour of more immediate profitability, this is changing.

Mining companies should reassess their risk profiles, operational plans and environmental commitments. This includes reviewing infrastructure against best practice design standards by conducting design reviews, reliability assessments and risk analyses. There should be a risk-based action plan that identifies vulnerabilities and prioritises upgrades, particularly for critical systems and facilities.

Infrastructure upgrades are gaining momentum, with emphasis on building resilience into tailings storage facilities, haul roads and processing plants.

Text | **Kierra Chetty and Nirvishee Juggath** Photography | **Bilanol**

Kierra Chetty is a Principal Consultant, Climate Change and **Nirvishee**

Juggath is Director: Water Management at WSP in Africa.

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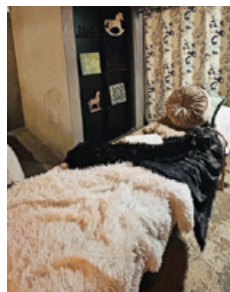
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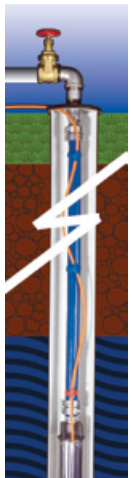
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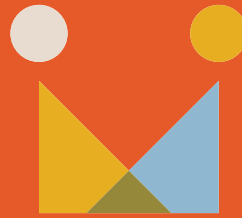
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Safety information for passengers

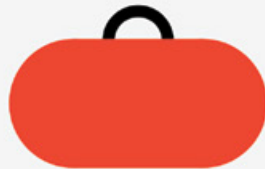


Electronic devices and lithium batteries.

**THESE ITEMS CAN BE A FIRE RISK IF NOT PROPERLY PACKED OR USED SAFELY.
CHECK YOUR AIRLINE'S WEBSITE FOR ANY RESTRICTIONS ON WHAT CAN BE CARRIED.**



Try to reduce the amount you carry and **only bring those that you need.**



We recommend that you only **pack them in carry-on baggage.**



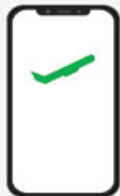
Switch them off completely when you are not using them.



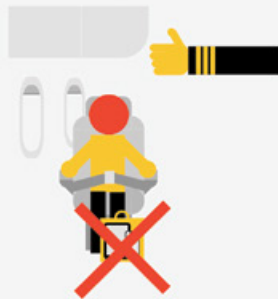
These items **MUST NOT** be packed in your suitcase:

- Power Banks
- Spare batteries
- Electronic cigarettes

Using your electronic devices safely.



Always **activate Flight Mode** before departure.



Occasionally the Captain may require that **ALL** electronic devices are switched off.



Small devices, like phones or tablets, can **usually be held** for taxi take-off and landing.

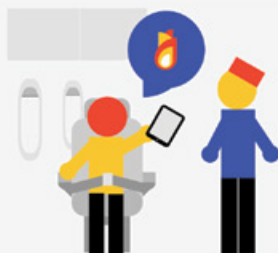


Larger devices like laptops must be safely **put away during taxi take-off and landing.**

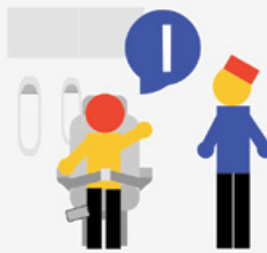
Keeping your electronic devices safe.



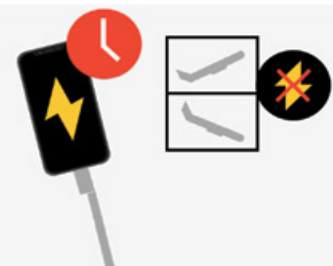
We recommend that you keep them near you, i.e. **not in your checked baggage.**



If they become unusually hot, call a cabin crew member immediately



If you drop them into your seat, **do not move the seat** and call a cabin crew member immediately.



Do not leave anything to charge unattended, or while sleeping.

Charging is not usually permitted during take-off and landing.

Safety information for passengers

Alcohol and intoxication.



Only consume alcohol in **moderation**.



Avoid alcohol completely if you are taking medication for anxiety, or to help you sleep.

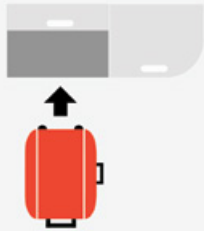


You are only permitted to consume alcohol **served to you onboard by cabin crew**.



Cabin crew will refuse to serve alcohol to passengers who show signs of possible intoxication

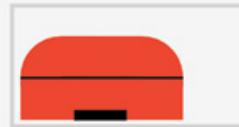
Storing your wheeled bag correctly.



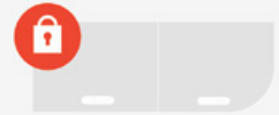
Wheels go in first.



If possible, turn on its side.



If not possible, lay on its back.



Make sure the locker closes before taking your seat.

Essential safety information.



If told to evacuate, **DO NOT take any bags with you**.



Keep your **seatbelt fastened at all times** while in your seat.

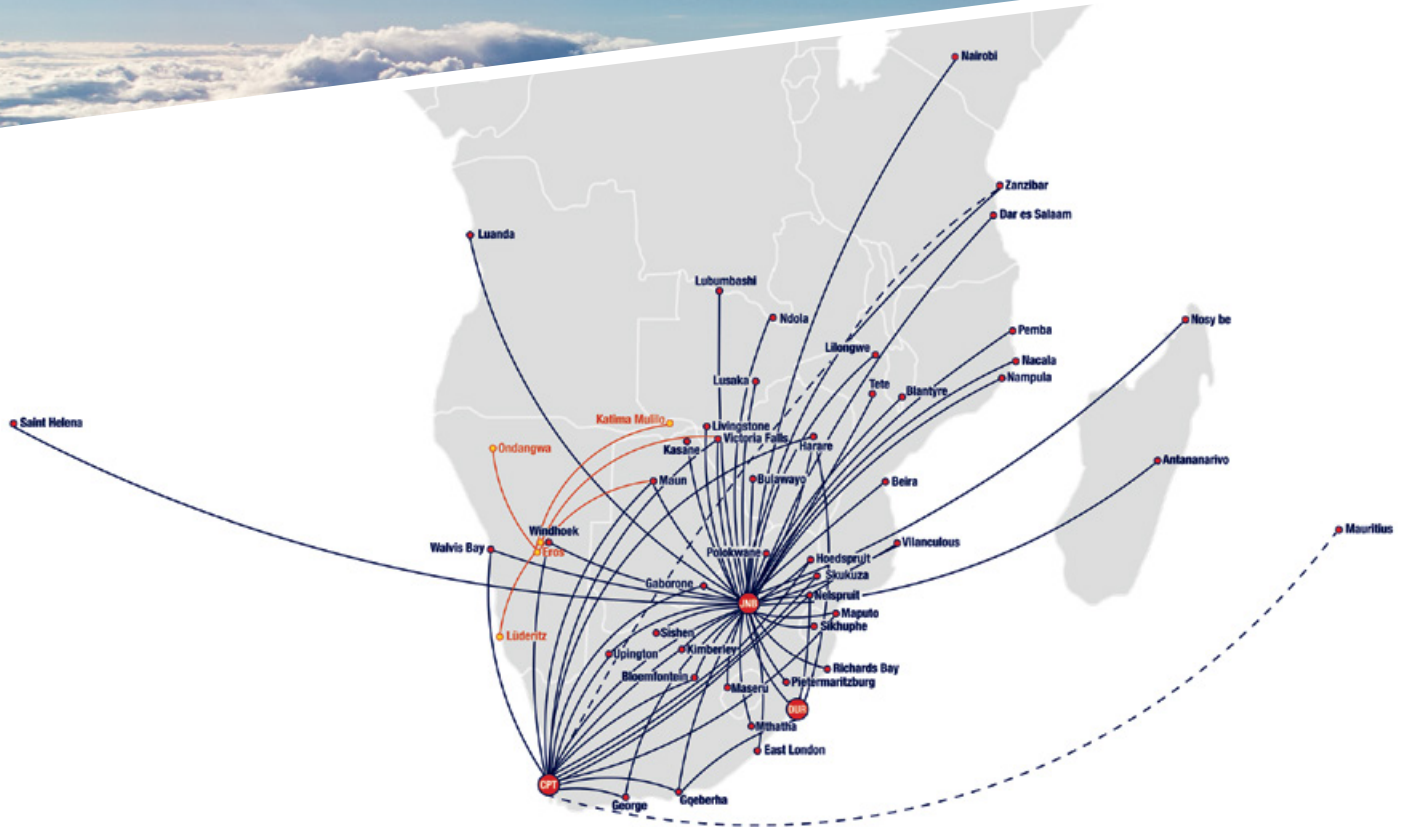


Do **not smoke anything, anywhere** onboard the aircraft.



Disruptive, violent or **abusive behavior is not tolerated**. Please be patient, be calm and be kind.

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*Cape Town – Zanzibar direct from 03 October 2026

Our fleet

Embraer E195-E2 E-Jet – 7 Aircraft

124 to 136 Seats

Business Class – 12 | staggered configuration.

Economy Class – 112 to 136 | 2-2 configuration.

Embraer E195 E-Jet – 6 Aircraft

107 to 116 seats.

Business Class – 11 | 1-2 configuration.

Economy Class – 96 to 116 | 2-2 configuration.

Embraer E190 E-Jet – 28 Aircraft

98 to 106 seats.

Business Class – 6 to 11 | 1-2 configuration.

Economy Class – 88 to 106 | 2-2 configuration.

Embraer E175 E-Jet – 4 Aircraft

88 seats.

Economy Class – 88 | 2-2 configuration.

Embraer E170 E-Jet – 2 Aircraft

74 seats.

Business Class – 6 | 1-2 configuration.

Economy Class – 68 | 2-2 configuration.

Embraer E140 ERJ – 11 Aircraft

44 seats.

Economy Class – 44 | 1-2 configuration.

Embraer E135 ERJ – 16 Aircraft

37 seats.

Economy Class – 37 | 1-2 configuration.

FLIGHTS – Domestic

FLIGHT	ROUTE		DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY							AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Cape Town - Bloemfontein - Cape Town													
4Z606	Cape Town	- Bloemfontein	16:50	18:20	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 295	136	
4Z607	Bloemfontein	- Cape Town	19:00	20:40	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 295	136	
Cape Town - George - Cape Town													
4Z621	Cape Town	- George	07:00	07:55	1	2	3	4	5		Ejet 295	136	
4Z633	Cape Town	- George	12:55	13:50					6	7	Embraer 135	37	
4Z637	Cape Town	- George	15:20	16:15	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z635	Cape Town	- George	17:20	18:15	1	2	3	4	5	7	Embraer 140	44	
4Z622	George	- Cape Town	08:25	09:20	1	2	3	4	5		Ejet 295	136	
4Z634	George	- Cape Town	14:20	15:15					6	7	Embraer 135	37	
4Z638	George	- Cape Town	16:45	17:40	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z636	George	- Cape Town	18:45	19:40	1	2	3	4	5	7	Embraer 140	44	
Cape Town - Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) - Cape Town													
4Z671	Cape Town	- Gqeberha	06:10	07:25	1				5		Ejet 295	136	
4Z675	Cape Town	- Gqeberha	17:10	18:25	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 295	136	
4Z672	Gqeberha	- Cape Town	08:00	09:20	1				5		Ejet 295	136	
4Z676	Gqeberha	- Cape Town	19:00	20:20	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 295	136	
Cape Town - Hoedspruit - Cape Town													
4Z655	Cape Town	- Hoedspruit	08:35	11:05	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z657	Cape Town	- Hoedspruit	10:15	12:45	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 295	136	
4Z658	Hoedspruit	- Cape Town	13:25	16:10	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 295	136	
4Z656	Hoedspruit	- Cape Town	14:10	16:55	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
Cape Town - Kimberley - Cape Town													
4Z611	Cape Town	- Kimberley	06:15	07:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	Embraer 140	44	
4Z617	Cape Town	- Kimberley	16:15	17:50	1	2	3	4	5	7	Embraer 135	37	
4Z612	Kimberley	- Cape Town	08:20	09:55	1	2	3	4	5	6	Embraer 140	44	
4Z618	Kimberley	- Cape Town	18:20	19:55	1	2	3	4	5	7	Embraer 135	37	
Cape Town - Mbombela (Nelspruit) - Cape Town													
4Z661	Cape Town	- Mbombela	07:50	10:10	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 170	74	
4Z663	Cape Town	- Mbombela	10:25	12:45	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 295	136	
4Z664	Mbombela	- Cape Town	13:30	16:05	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 295	136	
4Z662	Mbombela	- Cape Town	15:10	17:50	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 170	74	
Cape Town - Skukuza - Cape Town													
4Z651	Cape Town	- Skukuza	10:30	12:55	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z652	Skukuza	- Cape Town	11:45	14:35	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
Cape Town - Upington - Cape Town													
4Z641	Cape Town	- Upington	06:45	08:00	1				5		Embraer 140	44	
4Z645	Cape Town	- Upington	12:40	13:55	1	2	3	4	5		Embraer 135	37	
4Z642	Upington	- Cape Town	08:35	09:50	1				5		Embraer 140	44	
4Z646	Upington	- Cape Town	14:25	15:40	1	2	3	4	5		Embraer 135	37	
Durban - Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) - Durban													
4Z520	Durban	- Gqeberha	06:15	07:40	1	2	3	4	5		Embraer 140	44	
4Z528	Durban	- Gqeberha	16:20	17:45	1	2	3	4	5	7	Embraer 140	44	
4Z521	Gqeberha	- Durban	08:15	09:35	1	2	3	4	5		Embraer 140	44	
4Z529	Gqeberha	- Durban	18:25	19:45	1	2	3	4	5	7	Embraer 140	44	
Durban - Mbombela (Nelspruit) - Durban													
4Z505	Durban	- Mbombela	09:40	10:45	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Embraer 140	44	
4Z506	Mbombela	- Durban	16:20	17:25	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Embraer 140	44	
Johannesburg - Bloemfontein - Johannesburg													
4Z701	Johannesburg	- Bloemfontein	06:10	07:15	1	2	3	4	5		Ejet 170	74	
4Z707	Johannesburg	- Bloemfontein	08:30	09:35						7	Embraer 135	37	
4Z703	Johannesburg	- Bloemfontein	09:15	10:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	Embraer 135	37	
4Z711	Johannesburg	- Bloemfontein	12:40	13:45	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Embraer 140	44	
4Z709	Johannesburg	- Bloemfontein	14:05	15:10					6		Embraer 135	37	
4Z705	Johannesburg	- Bloemfontein	17:10	18:15	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z702	Bloemfontein	- Johannesburg	07:50	08:40	1	2	3	4	5		Ejet 170	74	
4Z708	Bloemfontein	- Johannesburg	10:10	11:00						7	Embraer 135	37	
4Z704	Bloemfontein	- Johannesburg	10:55	11:45	1	2	3	4	5	6	Embraer 135	37	
4Z712	Bloemfontein	- Johannesburg	14:20	15:10	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Embraer 140	44	
4Z710	Bloemfontein	- Johannesburg	15:40	16:30					6		Embraer 135	37	
4Z706	Bloemfontein	- Johannesburg	18:50	19:40	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 190	98	
Johannesburg - Cape Town - Johannesburg													
4Z921	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	07:30	09:45	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z927	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	10:25	12:40	1	2	3	4	5	6	Ejet 190	98	
4Z923	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	12:20	14:35	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z931	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	15:05	17:20	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 195	107	
4Z951	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	16:20	18:35	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z929	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	17:40	19:55	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z937	Johannesburg	- Cape Town	20:35	22:50	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z926	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	06:05	08:10	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z920	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	07:00	09:05	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z922	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	09:00	11:05	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z950	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	09:55	12:00	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z928	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	14:00	16:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	Ejet 190	98	
4Z924	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	15:20	17:25	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	Ejet 190	98	
4Z932	Cape Town	- Johannesburg	18:25	20:30	1	2	3	4	5	7	Ejet 195	107	

Flight Schedule Guide subject to change – latest updates available at <https://www.flyairlink.com/flightschedule>.

Day 1 = Monday, Day 7 = Sunday

FLIGHTS – Domestic

FLIGHT	ROUTE		DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY							AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Johannesburg - Durban - Johannesburg													
4Z553	Johannesburg	- Durban	09:25	10:40	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 295	136
4Z555	Johannesburg	- Durban	15:05	16:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z569	Johannesburg	- Durban	18:35	19:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z552	Durban	- Johannesburg	07:00	08:10	1	2	3	4	5	6		Ejet 190	98
4Z554	Durban	- Johannesburg	11:15	12:25	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 295	136
4Z556	Durban	- Johannesburg	17:00	18:10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - East London - Johannesburg													
4Z915	Johannesburg	- East London	10:30	12:00	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z917	Johannesburg	- East London	18:05	19:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z914	East London	- Johannesburg	07:30	09:00	1	2	3	4	5	6		Embraer 135	37
4Z916	East London	- Johannesburg	12:35	14:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - George - Johannesburg													
4Z693	Johannesburg	- George	11:45	13:45	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z694	George	- Johannesburg	14:20	15:55	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) - Johannesburg													
4Z789	Johannesburg	- Gqeberha	13:20	15:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 295	136
4Z797	Johannesburg	- Gqeberha	10:10	11:55	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z799	Johannesburg	- Gqeberha	18:15	20:00	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 295	136
4Z792	Gqeberha	- Johannesburg	07:00	08:35	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 295	136
4Z798	Gqeberha	- Johannesburg	12:40	14:15	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z790	Gqeberha	- Johannesburg	15:45	17:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 295	136
Johannesburg - Hoedspruit - Johannesburg													
4Z871	Johannesburg	- Hoedspruit	10:30	11:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 195	107
4Z875	Johannesburg	- Hoedspruit	12:30	13:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 170	74
4Z873	Johannesburg	- Hoedspruit	12:50	13:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z876	Hoedspruit	- Johannesburg	11:45	12:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 170	74
4Z872	Hoedspruit	- Johannesburg	12:10	13:10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 195	107
4Z874	Hoedspruit	- Johannesburg	14:30	15:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Kimberley - Johannesburg													
4Z721	Johannesburg	- Kimberley	07:00	08:05	1	2	3	4	5	6		Ejet 190	98
4Z723	Johannesburg	- Kimberley	09:15	10:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z727	Johannesburg	- Kimberley	16:25	17:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z722	Kimberley	- Johannesburg	08:40	09:35	1	2	3	4	5	6		Ejet 190	98
4Z724	Kimberley	- Johannesburg	10:55	11:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z728	Kimberley	- Johannesburg	18:10	19:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Mbombela (Nelspruit) - Johannesburg													
4Z823	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	07:00	07:55	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z829	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	10:05	11:00		2		4		6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z827	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	10:25	11:20	1		3		5		7	Embraer 135	37
4Z827	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	10:25	11:20	1						7	Embraer 135	37
4Z841	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	11:05	12:00	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z839	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	13:35	14:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 170	74
4Z845	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	15:55	16:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z837	Johannesburg	- Mbombela	18:10	19:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z838	Mbombela	- Johannesburg	07:15	08:10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z824	Mbombela	- Johannesburg	08:25	09:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z840	Mbombela	- Johannesburg	10:50	11:45	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 170	74
4Z842	Mbombela	- Johannesburg	12:40	13:35	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z822	Mbombela	- Johannesburg	16:15	17:10		2		4		6	7	Embraer 140	44
4Z846	Mbombela	- Johannesburg	17:20	18:15	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 140	44
Johannesburg - Mthatha - Johannesburg													
4Z751	Johannesburg	- Mthatha	06:15	07:35	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z757	Johannesburg	- Mthatha	12:25	13:45	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z759	Johannesburg	- Mthatha	14:10	15:30					5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z755	Johannesburg	- Mthatha	15:50	17:10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z752	Mthatha	- Johannesburg	08:00	09:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z758	Mthatha	- Johannesburg	14:15	15:35	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z760	Mthatha	- Johannesburg	16:00	17:20					5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z756	Mthatha	- Johannesburg	17:40	19:00	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Pietermaritzburg - Johannesburg													
4Z733	Johannesburg	- Pietermaritzburg	07:00	08:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z735	Johannesburg	- Pietermaritzburg	12:35	13:40	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z743	Johannesburg	- Pietermaritzburg	16:35	17:40	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z739	Johannesburg	- Pietermaritzburg	18:15	19:20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z730	Pietermaritzburg	- Johannesburg	07:05	08:10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z734	Pietermaritzburg	- Johannesburg	08:45	09:50	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
4Z736	Pietermaritzburg	- Johannesburg	14:05	15:10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z744	Pietermaritzburg	- Johannesburg	18:20	19:25	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Polokwane - Johannesburg													
4Z801	Johannesburg	- Polokwane	06:10	07:05	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z803	Johannesburg	- Polokwane	09:35	10:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z813	Johannesburg	- Polokwane	14:20	15:15						6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z815	Johannesburg	- Polokwane	16:20	17:15	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z802	Polokwane	- Johannesburg	07:35	08:30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z804	Polokwane	- Johannesburg	11:00	11:55	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z814	Polokwane	- Johannesburg	15:40	16:35						6	7	Embraer 135	37
4Z816	Polokwane	- Johannesburg	17:45	18:40	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Embraer 135	37

Day 1 = Monday, Day 7 = Sunday

FLIGHTS – Domestic

FLIGHT	ROUTE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Johannesburg - Richards Bay - Johannesburg						
4Z881	Johannesburg - Richards Bay	06:30	07:40	1 2	Ejet 170	74
4Z883	Johannesburg - Richards Bay	10:35	11:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z885	Johannesburg - Richards Bay	16:00	17:10	3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z882	Richards Bay - Johannesburg	08:20	09:30	1 2	Ejet 170	74
4Z884	Richards Bay - Johannesburg	12:25	13:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z886	Richards Bay - Johannesburg	17:50	19:00	3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
Johannesburg - Sishen - Johannesburg						
4Z771	Johannesburg - Sishen	06:30	07:45	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z773	Johannesburg - Sishen	07:00	08:15	1	Embraer 135	37
4Z779	Johannesburg - Sishen	15:30	16:45	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z777	Johannesburg - Sishen	16:00	17:15	3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z772	Sishen - Johannesburg	08:15	09:30	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z774	Sishen - Johannesburg	08:45	10:00	1	Embraer 135	37
4Z780	Sishen - Johannesburg	17:15	18:30	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z778	Sishen - Johannesburg	17:45	19:00	3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Skukuza - Johannesburg						
4Z861	Johannesburg - Skukuza	10:05	11:05	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z865	Johannesburg - Skukuza	13:05	14:05	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z862	Skukuza - Johannesburg	13:35	14:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z866	Skukuza - Johannesburg	14:35	15:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Upington - Johannesburg						
4Z761	Johannesburg - Upington	07:05	08:40	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z763	Johannesburg - Upington	10:15	11:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z769	Johannesburg - Upington	15:55	17:30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z762	Upington - Johannesburg	08:50	10:10	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z764	Upington - Johannesburg	12:20	13:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z770	Upington - Johannesburg	17:55	19:15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37

FLIGHTS – Regional

FLIGHT	ROUTE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Cape Town - Gaborone - Cape Town						
4Z364	Cape Town - Gaborone	10:50	13:00	2 4 6	Embraer 140	44
4Z365	Gaborone - Cape Town	13:45	16:00	2 4 6	Embraer 140	44
Cape Town - Harare - Cape Town						
4Z382	Cape Town - Harare	13:50	17:00	1 3 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z383	Harare - Cape Town	09:25	12:40	1 2 4 6	Ejet 190	98
Cape Town - Maputo - Cape Town						
4Z375	Cape Town - Maputo	10:35	13:05	1 3 5 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z376	Maputo - Cape Town	13:40	16:30	1 3 5 7	Embraer 140	44
Cape Town - Maun - Cape Town						
4Z314	Cape Town - Maun	10:35	13:05	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z315	Maun - Cape Town	13:50	16:20	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Cape Town - Victoria Falls - Cape Town						
4Z390	Cape Town - Victoria Falls	09:45	12:40	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z391	Victoria Falls - Cape Town	13:25	16:30	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
Cape Town - Walvis Bay - Cape Town						
4Z341	Cape Town - Walvis Bay	10:50	13:05	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z342	Walvis Bay - Cape Town	13:50	15:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Cape Town - Windhoek - Cape Town						
4Z320	Cape Town - Windhoek	07:00	09:10	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z326	Cape Town - Windhoek	10:40	12:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z328	Cape Town - Windhoek	18:15	20:25	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z329	Windhoek - Cape Town	07:05	09:10	1 2 3 4 5 6	Ejet 190	98
4Z321	Windhoek - Cape Town	09:50	11:55	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z327	Windhoek - Cape Town	13:40	15:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Cape Town - Zanzibar - Cape Town (Start Date 03-Oct-2026)						
4Z356	Cape Town - Zanzibar	08:15	14:30	6	295	124
4Z357	Zanzibar - Cape Town	15:15	19:4	6	295	124
Durban - Harare - Durban						
4Z410	Durban - Harare	10:35	12:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z411	Harare - Durban	13:25	15:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
Johannesburg - Antananarivo - Johannesburg						
4Z252	Johannesburg - Antananarivo	10:00	14:00	1 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z253	Antananarivo - Johannesburg	14:45	17:05	1 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Beira - Johannesburg						
4Z214	Johannesburg - Beira	10:45	12:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z215	Beira - Johannesburg	13:05	14:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Blantyre - Johannesburg						
4Z450	Johannesburg - Blantyre	11:15	13:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z451	Blantyre - Johannesburg	14:10	16:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37

Day 1 = Monday, Day 7 = Sunday

Flight Schedule Guide subject to change – latest updates available at <https://www.flyairlink.com/flightschedule>.

FLIGHTS – Regional

FLIGHT	ROUTE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Johannesburg - Bulawayo - Johannesburg						
4Z112	Johannesburg - Bulawayo	07:15	08:30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z110	Johannesburg - Bulawayo	10:30	11:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z114	Johannesburg - Bulawayo	14:20	15:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z113	Bulawayo - Johannesburg	09:15	10:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z111	Bulawayo - Johannesburg	12:35	13:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z115	Bulawayo - Johannesburg	16:10	17:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
Johannesburg - Dar es Salaam - Johannesburg						
4Z036	Johannesburg - Dar es Salaam	22:00	02:30	1 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z037	Dar es Salaam - Johannesburg	03:25	06:10	1 2 4 5 6	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Gaborone - Johannesburg						
4Z172	Johannesburg - Gaborone	06:20	07:15	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 140	44
4Z174	Johannesburg - Gaborone	08:45	09:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z176	Johannesburg - Gaborone	11:00	11:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z180	Johannesburg - Gaborone	15:25	16:20	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z178	Johannesburg - Gaborone	16:50	17:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z184	Johannesburg - Gaborone	18:05	19:00	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z185	Gaborone - Johannesburg	07:25	08:15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z173	Gaborone - Johannesburg	07:55	08:45	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 140	44
4Z175	Gaborone - Johannesburg	10:15	11:05	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z177	Gaborone - Johannesburg	12:35	13:25	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z181	Gaborone - Johannesburg	17:00	17:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z179	Gaborone - Johannesburg	18:20	19:10	1 2 3 4 5 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Harare - Johannesburg						
4Z100	Johannesburg - Harare	06:20	08:05	1 2 3 4 5 6	Ejet 195	107
4Z098	Johannesburg - Harare	08:20	10:05	1 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z104	Johannesburg - Harare	10:55	12:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z106	Johannesburg - Harare	14:40	16:25	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z102	Johannesburg - Harare	16:10	17:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z108	Johannesburg - Harare	18:45	20:30	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z109	Harare - Johannesburg	07:10	08:55	1 2 3 4 5 6	Ejet 190	98
4Z101	Harare - Johannesburg	08:50	10:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z099	Harare - Johannesburg	10:50	12:35	1 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z105	Harare - Johannesburg	13:30	15:15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z107	Harare - Johannesburg	17:05	18:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z103	Harare - Johannesburg	18:40	20:25	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Kasane - Johannesburg						
4Z306	Johannesburg - Kasane	11:50	13:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z307	Kasane - Johannesburg	14:15	15:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
Johannesburg - Lilongwe - Johannesburg						
4Z460	Johannesburg - Lilongwe	10:50	13:10	1 3 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z461	Lilongwe - Johannesburg	14:00	16:30	1 3 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Livingstone - Johannesburg						
4Z482	Johannesburg - Livingstone	10:50	12:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z483	Livingstone - Johannesburg	13:15	15:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Luanda (Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto) - Johannesburg						
4Z044	Johannesburg - Luanda	09:40	12:30	2 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z045	Luanda - Johannesburg	13:25	17:50	2 4 5 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Lubumbashi - Johannesburg						
4Z021	Johannesburg - Lubumbashi	10:40	13:15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z022	Lubumbashi - Johannesburg	13:55	16:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Lusaka - Johannesburg						
4Z166	Johannesburg - Lusaka	07:40	09:40	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z162	Johannesburg - Lusaka	11:30	13:30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z168	Johannesburg - Lusaka	14:25	16:25	5 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z164	Johannesburg - Lusaka	17:00	19:00	1 2 3 4 5 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z161	Lusaka - Johannesburg	07:30	09:35	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z167	Lusaka - Johannesburg	10:20	12:25	1 2 3 4 5 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z163	Lusaka - Johannesburg	14:15	16:20	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z169	Lusaka - Johannesburg	17:05	19:10	5 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Maputo - Johannesburg						
4Z276	Johannesburg - Maputo	08:05	09:15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z272	Johannesburg - Maputo	13:55	15:05	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z274	Johannesburg - Maputo	18:10	19:20	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z271	Maputo - Johannesburg	07:20	08:25	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z277	Maputo - Johannesburg	09:55	11:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z273	Maputo - Johannesburg	15:45	16:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
Johannesburg - Maseru - Johannesburg						
4Z050	Johannesburg - Maseru	06:25	07:25	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z052	Johannesburg - Maseru	09:45	10:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z062	Johannesburg - Maseru	15:00	16:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z051	Maseru - Johannesburg	07:55	09:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z053	Maseru - Johannesburg	11:15	12:20	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z063	Maseru - Johannesburg	16:25	17:30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Maun - Johannesburg						
4Z300	Johannesburg - Maun	12:05	13:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z302	Johannesburg - Maun	10:55	12:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z301	Maun - Johannesburg	14:30	16:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z303	Maun - Johannesburg	13:15	14:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Nacala - Johannesburg						
4Z236	Johannesburg - Nacala	10:30	13:25	1 5	ER3	37
4Z237	Nacala - Johannesburg	14:00	16:50	1 5	ER3	37

Day 1 = Monday, Day 7 = Sunday

FLIGHTS – Regional

FLIGHT	ROUTE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Johannesburg - Nairobi - Johannesburg						
4Z070	Johannesburg - Nairobi	13:30	18:30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z071	Nairobi - Johannesburg	06:30	09:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Nampula - Johannesburg						
4Z230	Johannesburg - Nampula	10:30	13:05	2 4 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z231	Nampula - Johannesburg	13:40	16:30	2 4 6	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Ndola - Johannesburg						
4Z150	Johannesburg - Ndola	10:15	12:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z152	Johannesburg - Ndola	16:20	18:40	1 3 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z153	Ndola - Johannesburg	07:00	09:35	2 4 6	Embraer 135	37
4Z151	Ndola - Johannesburg	13:20	15:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Nosy Be - Johannesburg						
4Z246	Johannesburg - Nosy Be	09:40	14:10	2	Ejet 190	98
4Z247	Nosy Be - Johannesburg	14:55	17:45	2	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Pemba - Johannesburg						
4Z202	Johannesburg - Pemba	07:30	10:30	1 3 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z204	Johannesburg - Pemba	11:30	14:30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z203	Pemba - Johannesburg	11:15	14:20	1 3 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z205	Pemba - Johannesburg	15:05	18:10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
Johannesburg - St Helena - Johannesburg						
4Z131	Johannesburg - St Helena	09:00	13:35	6	Ejet 190	98
4Z132	St Helena - Johannesburg	14:30	21:15	6	Ejet 190	98
Johannesburg - Sikhuphe - Johannesburg						
4Z084	Johannesburg - Sikhuphe	13:10	14:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z085	Sikhuphe - Johannesburg	14:30	15:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
Johannesburg - Tete - Johannesburg						
4Z220	Johannesburg - Tete	10:25	12:35	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
4Z221	Tete - Johannesburg	13:15	15:25	1 2 3 4 5	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Victoria Falls - Johannesburg						
4Z492	Johannesburg - Victoria Falls	10:00	11:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z494	Johannesburg - Victoria Falls	11:35	13:20	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z493	Victoria Falls - Johannesburg	12:25	14:10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z495	Victoria Falls - Johannesburg	14:00	15:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
Johannesburg - Vilanculos - Johannesburg						
4Z260	Johannesburg - Vilanculos	11:15	12:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z261	Vilanculos - Johannesburg	13:30	15:15	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 170	74
Johannesburg - Walvis Bay - Johannesburg						
4Z141	Johannesburg - Walvis Bay	10:20	12:55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z143	Johannesburg - Walvis Bay	14:05	16:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z142	Walvis Bay - Johannesburg	13:40	15:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z144	Walvis Bay - Johannesburg	17:25	19:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 135	37
Johannesburg - Windhoek - Johannesburg						
4Z120	Johannesburg - Windhoek	06:30	08:40	1 2 3 4 5 6	Ejet 195	107
4Z124	Johannesburg - Windhoek	10:40	12:50	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z126	Johannesburg - Windhoek	15:30	17:40	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 170	74
4Z128	Johannesburg - Windhoek	17:35	19:45	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z129	Windhoek - Johannesburg	07:10	09:00	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 195	107
4Z121	Windhoek - Johannesburg	09:20	11:10	1 2 3 4 5 6	Ejet 195	107
4Z125	Windhoek - Johannesburg	13:45	15:35	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Ejet 190	98
4Z127	Windhoek - Johannesburg	18:20	20:10	1 2 3 4 5 7	Ejet 170	74
Johannesburg - Zanzibar - Johannesburg						
4Z10	Johannesburg - Zanzibar	12:00	16:35	3 7	Embraer 295	136
4Z11	Zanzibar - Johannesburg	12:00	14:55	1 4	Embraer 295	136
Mbombela (Nelspruit) - Victoria Falls - Mbombela (Nelspruit)						
4Z476	Mbombela - Victoria Falls	11:35	13:25	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z478	Mbombela - Victoria Falls	11:35	13:25	2 4 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z477	Victoria Falls - Mbombela	14:00	15:40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Embraer 140	44
4Z479	Victoria Falls - Mbombela	14:00	15:40	2 4 7	Embraer 140	44
Mbombela (Nelspruit) - Vilanculos - Mbombela (Nelspruit)						
4Z258	Mbombela - Vilanculos	12:00	13:10	1 3 5 7	Embraer 135	37
4Z263	Vilanculos - Johannesburg	13:40	15:25	1 3 5 7	Embraer 135	37

When planning your next flight, for business or pleasure, this flight schedule will come in handy. Take this FREE copy of Skyways with you.



Previous and new livery

For now, Airlink can be recognised by both its previous and its new livery as all their 60 aircraft in the fleet are repainted over the upcoming months. When you spot the new Airlink tail, share your image and tag #FlyAirlink.

FLIGHTS – Operated by FlyNamibia

FLIGHT	ROUTE	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	AIRCRAFT	SEATS
Eros - Ondangwa - Eros						
WW*4Z8505	Eros - Ondangwa	06:30	07:30	1 2 5	EMBRAER 145	50
WW*4Z8595	Eros - Ondangwa	16:20	17:20	2 3 4 5 7	EMBRAER 145	50
WW*4Z8506	Ondangwa - Eros	08:00	09:00	1 2 5	EMBRAER 145	50
WW*4Z8596	Ondangwa - Eros	17:50	18:50	2 3 4 5 7	EMBRAER 145	50
Windhoek - Victoria Falls - Windhoek						
WW*4Z8135	Windhoek - Victoria Falls	10:15	11:40	2 4 6	EMBRAER 145	50
WW*4Z8136	Victoria Falls - Windhoek	12:45	14:15	2 4 6	EMBRAER 145	50
Windhoek - Maun - Windhoek						
WW*4Z8137	Windhoek - Maun	10:15	11:15	3 5 7	EMBRAER 145	50
WW*4Z8138	Maun - Windhoek	14:15	15:15	3 5 7	EMBRAER 145	50
Windhoek - Mpacha - Windhoek (One stop)						
WW*4Z8137	Windhoek - Mpacha	10:15	12:25	3 5 7	EMBRAER 145	50
WW*4Z8138	Mpacha - Windhoek	13:05	15:15	3 5 7	EMBRAER 145	50

Day 1 = Monday, Day 7 = Sunday



FlyNamibia and Airlink

Airlink franchisee, FlyNamibia, is a strategic partnership that exemplifies a commitment to growth and collaboration. This co-operation not only strengthens FlyNamibia's regional presence but also expands its global reach, enhancing its network through Airlink and its global partners.



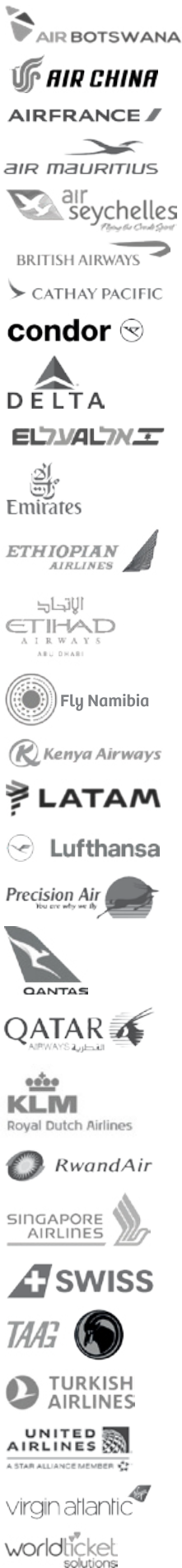
A string of pearls in the Indian Ocean.

Alegandary beauty of 115 islands scattered between 4° and 10° south of the Equator like pearls in the western Indian Ocean's warm azure waters!

www.seychelles.com



AIRLINE PARTNERS



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LEVEL 5 BBBEE

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58%
35-50+ YEARS



GENDER

44%  **56%** 
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PASSENGERS**

IN EXCESS

4,200,000

PER MONTH

30,000

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**SKYWAYS IS AVAILABLE IN THE SEAT POCKETS
AND PASSENGERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE
THEIR FREE COPY.**

CURRENTLY AIRLINK HAS 43 GLOBAL PARTNERS.

sudoku

Try the addictive game of sudoku. The aim is to fill each block with a number from 1 to 9. Each number must not appear more than once in each row, column and square.

If you can't finish this puzzle during your flight, please take this free copy of *Skyways* with you. The cabin attendant will make sure that the next passengers get their own magazine, with a clean sudoku for them to puzzle over!

easy

	4		5	1		8		
6	2		3			9		5
		5	6		4		1	
9				2			7	3
				5				
1	7			6				4
	3		1		5	2		
8		2			6		5	1
		6		4	9		8	

medium

							3	4
9		8	3					7
				4	1	6		
8	1		6		2			3
				5				
6			1		4		8	2
		7	2	8				
5					7	9		1
4	2							

battleship

Battleships is a solitaire version of the classic strategy game in which you must locate and sink a hidden fleet.

The numbers indicate the number of squares in each row/column that contain a ship or ship segment. Clues may indicate water, specific ships, or parts of ships.

Circles indicate submarines (one-square ships). Semicircles indicate ends of larger ships. Large squares indicate ship middles. Diamonds are unspecified ship pieces. The complete list of ships is shown on the right side of the puzzle. No ship may touch another ship, even diagonally.

Easy

	1	5	1	2	1	4	0	5	
4		⊞							
2									
1									
3									
3								⊞	
1									
3	⊞								
2									

Medium

	1	3	2	2	2	4	4	1	
5									
0									
2									
3					⊞				
1		⊞							
3									
0									
5			⊞						



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Caramelised butternut and lentil curry

Combining the **exotic and the healthy** in a tasty meal

This recipe serves two.

Method

1. In a small pot, add your jasmine rice, salt and about double the amount of water. Bring to the boil on a medium to high heat for about 12 minutes. Once done, strain the rice and run it under cold water to stop the cooking process. Make sure to do this step, as jasmine rice may overcook fast, and you can end up with a sticky, mushy mess.
2. Add oil, butternut and onions into a medium-sized pot on medium heat. Add the bay leaf and curry leaves and cook until the onions are fully caramelised.
3. In a separate pot, boil your lentils until half done so that you do not have starchy lentils in your curry. Once done, strain and set aside for finishing off your curry.
4. Blend your ginger, lemongrass and coconut milk until the flavours are fully bonded and then strain to remove any stringy bits.

5. By now your onions should be ready, so add garam masala, tomato paste and chillies. Cook on medium for about five minutes. After the time has passed and the spices are fully cooked in, add in the coconut milk mixture and let the mixture cook on a low heat for 30 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes to make sure your food does not burn. At this stage, you can also season your curry. Once done, add in your fresh bruised basil and stir through.

To plate:

1. Warm rice in a pan with butter and fresh lemon zest. Portion into two bowls or deep-dish serving plates.
2. Spoon on some of the curry and garnish with fresh coriander and a lemon wedge.

Ingredients

- 1 cup of jasmine rice
- Salt to taste, for rice boiling
- 70ml olive oil (you can use normal vegetable oil)
- 1 medium butternut, peeled, seeded and chopped into rough chunky bits
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 stick of curry leaves
- 50g lentils, brown or black
- 20g ginger
- 10g lemongrass
- 1 tin coconut milk
- 45g garam masala
- 2 tbsp tomato paste (you can use whole, grated or peeled tomatoes too)
- 2 red chillies, pipped
- Salt to taste
- 10g fresh basil
- 50g butter, for rice finishing
- Lemon zest and wedge
- 5g fresh coriander

Text and photography | **Supplied**

For more information, go to grannymouse.co.za.



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The amount of saliva the average person produces during their lifetime.

4.22 seconds

The world record for solving the Rubik's Cube.



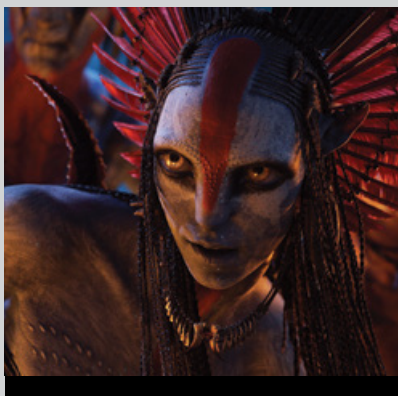
Media

This issue: Sagas, singers, seashores and sexism

Avatar: Fire and Ash (PG13V)

At 197 minutes, it's clear that one of director James Cameron's goals in revealing the ongoing *Avatar* saga is maintaining an epic scale. In that regard, it's a huge success, particularly as a showcase for the various technologies involved in motion capture of the live cast and creating the detailed surroundings in which they exist.

The story sees Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) and Neytiri (Zoe Saldana) continuing to grieve the death of their son Neteyam (Jamie Flatters), which is made more complicated by the presence of their adopted son Spider (Jack Champion), the son of Colonel Quaritch (Stephen Lang),

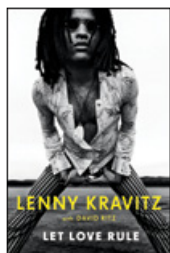


the military commander of the greedy, violent human forces who aimed to colonise Pandora and strip it of its resources.

Extra conflict is introduced in the arrival of the warlike Mangkwan clan (volcano

dwellers, hence at least part of the film's title), led by the ruthless Varang (Oona Chaplin), who, while they have a similar lineage to the peace-loving Metkayina clan, the reef people who share a profound connection to the ocean and its creatures, are more focused on gaining resources and power for their own benefit.

All of the many, many scenes in which this chapter plays out – heroes struggle through new challenges; new and established villains create new obstacles and danger – are driven by well-established film tropes. As such, if you're not a card-carrying fan of the franchise, how necessary several long passages are becomes debatable. Fortunately, the aforementioned massive scale balances things out to some degree.



Let Love Rule by Lenny Kravitz with David Ritz

This autobiography deals with most of the first half of Lenny Kravitz's life, up until the success he enjoyed after the release of the eponymous album. The tone is smooth and engaging, dipping into non-preachy spirituality and glossing over, to a large degree, the edgier bits and pieces. It's a life story that could hardly *not* turn someone experiencing it into a charismatic, artistic star – Kravitz's parents were both involved in television; he grew up in New York and Los Angeles, and he was constantly exposed to people who, like him, were driven to create and perform, including those who, like actress Lisa Bonet, became potent muses.



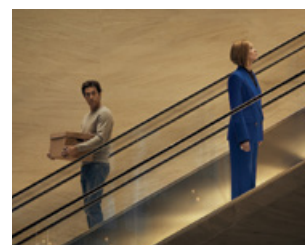
Explore The Shore by Charles Griffiths and Matthew Griffiths

There are not too many people who don't like walking on and exploring a beach when they get a chance. Such an experience can be made immeasurably richer if you know what you're observing or could be looking for, and *Explore The Shore* is an excellent guide to equip walkers or swimmers with *any* level of interest in their surroundings with a solid working knowledge of the habitats and creatures of the shoreline. There are sections for life forms that are easy to see (everything from coral to otters) and for those less obvious to the untrained eye (zoanthids, hydroids and more), with each entry including information well beyond basic expectations.



Michael Jackson: The Verdict (16LV)

Released soon after the hugely successful but hagiographic *Michael* biopic, *Michael Jackson: The Verdict* (available on Netflix) balances the overall telling of the troubled singer's story, though without much subtlety. It uses the usual true crime drama tropes – dramatic music and voice-overs, and interviews with both friends and foes of the protagonist – to create a breathless narrative about the already tense unfolding of the unravelling of the life of Earth's most famous man at the time in the face of multiple charges of paedophilia and associated activities. Revisiting such disturbing material is unlikely to bring viewers any joy, but this short series at least offers equal propaganda to the film.



Ladies First (16L)

Ladies First is not high art, but it makes an important point clearly. Sacha Baron Cohen is a smooth and appropriately unlikeable misogynist who gets his comeuppance when his reality flips, and women become the dominant gender in his rude, macho world. The film doesn't feature the wanton crudeness of Cohen's *Borat* output, and Rosamund Pike is a suitably commanding adversary for his character here. The script goes in predictable directions, but it does so with unexpected heart, and the result is an enjoyable battle-of-the-sexes caper that correctly confronts sexism and toxic masculinity.



Airlink young storytellers' competition

Do you know of a **budding young writer**?
Airlink wants to hear their stories!

As part of our The Link programme, Airlink invites children between the ages of 10 and 18 to write a story themed 'If I could fly to any Airlink destination in Africa...'

Airlink is calling on businesses, schools, NGOs and community organisations to help inspire the next generation of innovators through its Young Storytellers' Competition. Open to children and teenagers aged 10-18, the competition invites entrants to submit an original aviation-themed short story for the chance to have their work published and win exciting prizes.

More than a creative writing exercise, the initiative encourages young people to explore themes of science, technology, innovation and problem solving through storytelling. Airlink believes that today's imaginative storytellers could become tomorrow's engineers, pilots, scientists and business leaders.

By sharing the competition with employees, customers, learners and community networks, organisations can play a meaningful role in nurturing creativity, literacy and STEM-related thinking among South Africa's youth.

The challenge

Airlink is inviting young people aged 10-18 to write an original short story inspired by air travel in southern Africa.

Participants are encouraged to imagine boarding an Airlink flight and embarking on a journey of discovery. Their stories might explore the region's diverse destinations, cultures, wildlife, people and landscapes, while showcasing creativity, imagination and problem solving.

Young writers can draw inspiration from exciting destinations, unexpected adventures, remarkable wildlife encounters, fascinating fellow travellers or even innovative ideas that could shape the future of aviation and travel.

Eight young writers will have their work published in a printed magazine and win some amazing prizes, too.

Schools and NGOs are
welcome to get involved!
Let's encourage our youth
to use their creativity.

Scan the QR
code for more
information on
how to enter!



The Link is a programme created by Airlink in 2016. It identifies bright young minds that have the potential to become excellent STEM mavericks. This group is mentored by Airlink while in high school for a period of three years and stand a chance of being awarded an Airlink bursary for completion of their tertiary studies.

1 in 3

The proportion of US divorce filings in 2011 that contained the word 'Facebook'.

1,710

The number of steps you must climb to reach the top of the Eiffel Tower.



Did you know?



Test your general knowledge with this month's quiz

1. What old prefix word makes five new words in front of: gram; centre; cure; tome; and thalamus?
2. Catatonia is a technical term for: ancient Cyprus; human stupor; salt water; or feline miaowing?
3. The 16th-Century vast eight-choir musical work *Spem in alium* by Thomas Tallis became a best seller in 2012 after featuring in which controversial book?
4. The successful and regionally dominant people called Goths in medieval times were: North African; South Asian; East Germanic; or West Indian?
5. What February saint's day traditionally sees a following rise in residential property markets?
6. What informal term for illicit or counterfeit product derives from smuggling liquor in footwear?
7. The Astros, Rockets and (defunct) Oilers are sports clubs in which city?
8. Scorpion W2 (USA), Woodland Pattern (USA), Flecktarn (Germany), and Multi-Terrain Pattern (UK) are notable designs of what?
9. K'ung Futs'e (Venerated Master Kong) is better known as which major philosopher and religious founder?
10. The world's bitterest chemical, denatonium, branded 'Bitrex' and 'Aversion', is used in: beer; Haribo Tangfastics; MacDonald's sauces; or shampoo?
11. Which famous striped creature shares the same genus as the onager and kiang?
12. US veterinary pathologist Daniel Salmon (1850-1914) oversaw the discovery of what, named eponymously?
13. The Greek word *praxis* refers to what, contrasting with theory: practice; experimentation; intuition; or nonsense?
14. Which South Asian curry dish is named from Persian 'two onions'?
15. The bench seats of the British House of Commons and House of Lords are respectively: green/red; blue/green; black/brown; or silver/gold?
16. In music, what note is a tone above B?
17. The traditional African instrument called a *djembe* is a small: drum; harmonica; trumpet; or piano?
18. Which city has the most moving bridges in the world: Venice; London; Chicago; or Riyadh?
19. The famous song *Una Paloma Blanca* means in Spanish a white: rose; dove; wine; or knuckle?
20. The threads of a water-dwelling mussel that attach to a surface are commonly called its: hair; beard; moustache; or sideburns?
21. An enemy group within and threatening a larger entity is called a '____ Column': Second; Third; Fourth; or Fifth?
22. Which medieval war cry, popularised by Shakespeare with the phrase 'dogs of war', means destruction?
23. *Mate* (or *maté*, *yerba mate*, or *chimarrão*) is a popular South American-originating: drink; dance; jerky (dried chewing meat); or horse-riding contest?
24. Which two of these are not among the five biggest cities of Spain: Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia, Palma, Benidorm?
25. According to the noted sociobiologist/zoologist Desmond Morris, the OXO brand chiefly succeeds because it represents: oxen (beef cattle); plates and cutlery; ancient hieroglyphics for 'family meal'; or the human face?

Clue to question 8.



Text | Courtesy of www.businessballs.com

Photography | Shutterstock



38

The number of days the average person will spend brushing their teeth over the course of their lifetime.

Clue to question 6.



- 21. Fifth
- 22. Havoc
- 23. Drink
- 24. Palma and Benidorm
- 25. The human face

- Answers
- 1. Epi
- 2. Human stupor
- 3. Fifty Shades of Grey
- 4. East Germanic
- 5. St Valentine
- 6. Bootleg
- 7. Houston
- 8. Camouflage
- 9. Confucius
- 10. Shampoo
- 11. Zebra
- 12. Salmoneia
- 13. Practice
- 14. Dopiza
- 15. Green/red
- 16. C#
- 17. Drum
- 18. Chicago
- 19. Dove
- 20. Beard

Get the answer

Solutions to sudoku and battleship.
Puzzles on page 122.

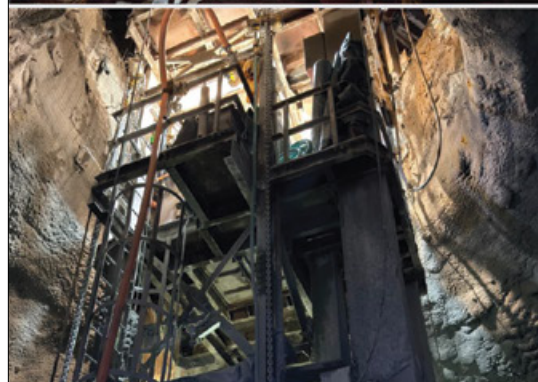
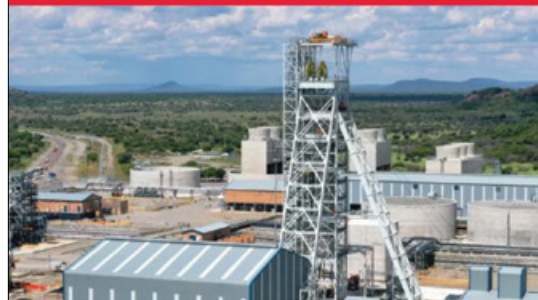
Sudoku

7	4	9	5	1	2	8	3	6
6	2	1	3	7	8	9	4	5
3	8	5	6	9	4	7	1	2
9	5	4	8	2	1	6	7	3
2	6	3	4	5	7	1	9	8
1	7	8	9	6	3	5	2	4
4	3	7	1	8	5	2	6	9
8	9	2	7	3	6	4	5	1
5	1	6	2	4	9	3	8	7

Battleship

7	6	1	9	2	8	5	3	4
9	4	8	3	6	5	2	1	7
3	5	2	7	4	1	6	9	8
8	1	9	6	7	2	4	5	3
2	7	4	8	5	3	1	6	9
6	3	5	1	9	4	7	8	2
1	9	7	2	8	6	3	4	5
5	8	6	4	3	7	9	2	1
4	2	3	5	1	9	8	7	6

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The **measure** of a **marriage**

You can't always expect to
win a cup for your efforts

I was ordering something on Takealot when I remembered that the half-cup measuring thingy I use for my morning oats had gone missing in action. Rather than convening a summit or opening an investigation into its disappearance, I simply navigated to 'kitchen utensils' and ordered a set of measuring cups that appeared to meet my oatmeal-related requirements.

A few days later, the package arrived. I opened it, walked into the kitchen where my wife was busy, and announced proudly, "Look what I ordered."

I removed the brightly coloured plastic measuring cups from their dusty packaging and tossed them into the drawer with all the other measuring implements that have accumulated over the years. I'm not saying that I expected a standing ovation. But I did feel that a small acknowledgement of initiative would not have been entirely inappropriate.

As I closed the drawer, I was already composing my acceptance speech. "It was nothing," I would say modestly. "No need to make a fuss. Your measuring cups are my measuring cups. And if we cannot order measuring cups for the kitchen, then who are we?"

When I turned around, however, I was confronted by something unexpected. My wife appeared to be engaged in an internal struggle of epic proportions. Her body

language was a riot of contradictions. She was trying very hard to look grateful while simultaneously looking like someone who had just watched a stranger try to brush her child's hair.

The wheels were grinding as they turned. Years of marriage manuals. Decades of relationship advice. Thirty-five years of rabbinical wisdom gathered from classes, sermons and conversations. All of it was being rapidly reviewed before she responded.

Rather than forcing her into the awkward position of pretending everything was fine, I decided to help. "Let me put this into words for you," I said.

She nodded.

"The plastic multi-coloured measuring cups are not what you would have chosen. You want them in metal. You would not have put them into the drawer without washing them first. And you definitely would not have tossed them in the way I just did."

I paused.

"You want to be appreciative because I was trying to help. But at the same time, your irritation is winning."

"Yes!" she said.

After 35 years of marriage, it is clear that men and women don't look at measuring cups in quite the same way. To me, the measuring cups represented a problem to be solved. We had a missing measuring cup. We now had measuring cups. To my wife, these measuring cups represented a series of new problems. They were the wrong colour. They didn't match the existing set. They were in plastic. They had bypassed the mandatory washing phase. And they had been introduced into the drawer with all the subtlety of a military invasion.

I suspect this explains a great many things about marriage. Neither approach is wrong. And 'helping' is sometimes in the eye of the beholder.

Text | **Howard Feldman** Photography | **Life morning**
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STORES

GAUTENG: FOURWAYS • KRAMERVILLE • EDENVALE • ROODEPOORT • ALBERTON • CENTURION • BROOKLYN
HAZELDEAN • **WESTERN CAPE:** DE WATERKANT • TABLE BAY • SOMERSET WEST • HERMANUS • GEORGE
KWAZULU-NATAL: BALLITO • HILLCREST • **EASTERN CAPE:** PORT ELIZABETH • **MPUMALANGA:** NELSPRUIT
LIMPOPO: POLOKWANE • **NAMIBIA:** WINDHOEK | DESIGN HUB • **MAURITIUS:** BLACK RIVER | BANGALOW



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