

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Eswatini

No.11

VOLUME 26

November/ Lweti

DROP THE CALL, DROP THE SPEED

FREE COPY

...Wake-up call for safer roads in Eswatini



Discover the bird hide haven of Shewula



Festive Flavours, Fine Experiences



Lubombo's festive favourite

.....
.....
.....

DROP THE CELLPHONE

That conversation can wait. A life can't. Drop the phone and Drive!



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MVA
eCLAIM



Drop the call, drop the

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...Wake-up call for safer roads in Eswatini



Why drive faster when you can stick to the speed limit? Whether on highways or in residential areas, driving too fast reduces reaction time, increases stopping distance and amplifies the force of impact in a crash.

THE festive season is upon us, a time of joyful reunions, travel and celebration. Yet, this joyous period often brings a stark reminder of one of the most urgent public concerns: road safety.

The Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accidents Fund (SMVAF) is leading the charge with its crucial 'Drop the Call' campaign, reminding every road user that safety isn't a government mandate, it's a personal responsibility. This



Phones are great — just not behind the wheel. Stay focused, stay safe. #DropTheCall

isn't just a warning; it's an essential guide and a plea. As you pack your bags and hit the road this holiday, remember: No call, no text and no extra kilometre-per-hour is worth a human life. It's time to confront these dangers head

New chapter in Southern African rail



Ses'khona: The Tourist Train is Here!

WHAT'S HAPPENING
Eswatini

- Up to 15 000 publications each month
- Monthly updated information and maps
- Distributed across the country
- Discounted rates on contracts

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THE launch of the Ses'khona Tourist Train by Eswatini Railways marks an exciting era for rail travel in Southern Africa. Scheduled for its third run in December 2025, this elegant train will journey along the Goba railway line, connecting Eswatini with Mozambique's bustling port city, Maputo.

This three-day adventure is more than just a scenic trip across borders. It's a celebration of culture, nature and connection, inviting travellers to slow down, take in the views and rediscover the romance of rail travel.

If you missed the train last year and snoozed on the fun this is your chance to climb aboard and experience one of the most exciting travel

adventures. The Tourist Train to Mozambique is back and this time it is bigger, better and beautifully curated with a brand-new itinerary.

The journey will once again link Eswatini to Mozambique's sun-soaked coastline. Mozambique offers not only its famous white sandy beaches and vibrant seafood cuisine, but also some of the best beef around.

According to Head of Marketing Vusane Simelane, added this travel adventure is an affirmation of their Efficiency Re-defined with upgraded packages designed to suit every traveller's comfort and style. The experience has been reimagined into three categories; Platinum, Gold and Silver, each offering a unique blend of luxury and adventure.

Last year's train ride was alive with laughter and song as travellers strummed guitars and filled the carriages with sweet melodies and joy.



Second class open coach.

The return trip departs Friday, December 19, 2025, and arrives back on Sunday December 21, 2025.

speed

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Drive within speed limits and adjust speed to road conditions
- Avoid all mobile phone use while driving
- Stay alert and gadget-free as a pedestrian
- Educate children and youth about road safety
- Support awareness campaigns like 'Drop the Call' in your community

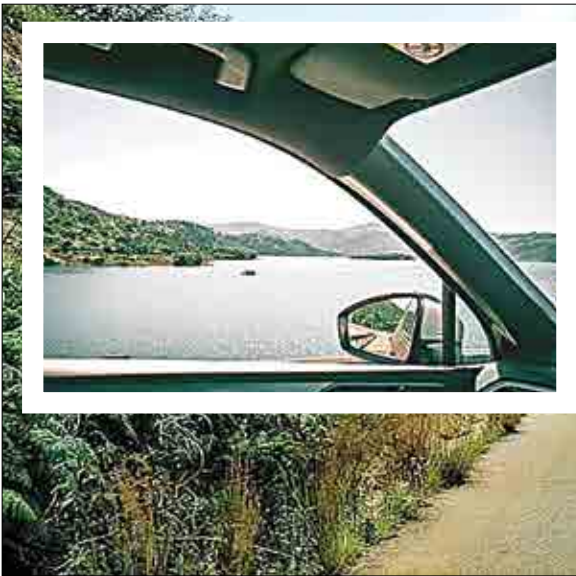
on, focus on the road and commit to a safer future for everyone traversing the beautiful Kingdom of Eswatini.

Road safety remains one of Eswatini's most urgent public concerns. Every year, lives are lost and families shattered due to preventable road crashes. As the country works towards the global goal of halving serious injuries and fatalities by 2030; as outlined in the Decade of Action for Road Safety; it's time to confront two major threats on our roads: Speeding and distractions.

The SMVAF continues to champion awareness through the 'Drop the Call' campaign, reminding all road users that safety begins with attention and responsibility.

SPEED: DEADLY MISCALCULATION

Speeding is not just a traffic violation; it's a leading cause of death on Eswatini's roads. Whether on highways or in residential areas,



driving too fast reduces reaction time, increases stopping distance and amplifies the force of impact in a crash.

Many drivers underestimate the danger of exceeding speed limits. A vehicle travelling at 80km/h takes nearly twice as long to stop as one going 50km/h. In emergencies, those extra seconds can mean the difference between life and death.

Speed limits are designed to protect everyone, drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists. They are not arbitrary numbers but calculated thresholds based on road conditions, visibility and traffic density. Ignoring them puts lives at risk.

DISTRACTIONS: HIDDEN DANGER BEHIND THE WHEEL

Mobile phone use while driving is a growing and deadly habit. Whether texting, scrolling, or answering calls, distracted driving is equivalent to driving blindfolded for several seconds: enough time to cause a fatal crash.

The SMVAF's 'Drop the Call' campaign urges motorists to silence or stow their phones before starting the engine. Hands-free devices are no safer; cognitive distraction impairs judgment and slows reaction time. No mes-

sage or call is worth a life.

Studies show that drivers using phones are four times more likely to be involved in a crash. The solution is simple: Focus on the road. If a call is urgent, pull over safely before answering. Your full attention belongs behind the wheel.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: STAY ALERT, STAY ALIVE

Pedestrians are increasingly vulnerable, especially as mobile devices become more integrated into daily life. Walking while texting, streaming, or wearing earphones can be just as dangerous as distracted driving.

Many pedestrian accidents occur because individuals fail to notice oncoming traffic, ignore signals, or cross roads without checking for vehicles. The use of gadgets impairs both hearing and vision, making it harder to detect danger.

Pedestrians must remain vigilant. Use designated crossings, obey traffic signals and avoid distractions when near roadways. Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and never assume a vehicle will stop. Awareness is your best defence.



The open road may tempt you to push the pedal a little harder, but resist the urge and keep it safe. The real thrill of a road trip is arriving alive to enjoy every moment of the journey.

EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY

Road safety is a shared responsibility. Government agencies, civil society and every citizen must work together to create safer streets. The SMVAF continues to invest in education, emergency response and victim support; but prevention starts with behaviour change.

TOWARDS SAFER FUTURE

The Decade of Action for Road Safety sets a bold but achievable target: reducing road deaths and serious injuries by 50% by 2030. Eswatini can lead the way; but only if we all commit to change.

Whether you're behind the wheel or on foot, remember: Drop the call, drop the speed and raise your awareness. Lives depend on it.

tourism



Think of it as a chance to slow down and savour the journey. With sweeping landscapes unfolding outside your window and laughter echoing through the carriages this is not just a trip to Mozambique but an experience that celebrates the joy of travel itself.

Seats are limited so be sure to book early; uloliwe is ready to roll!



Eswatini Railways with stakeholders during the tourist train launch at Sibayeni Lodge.

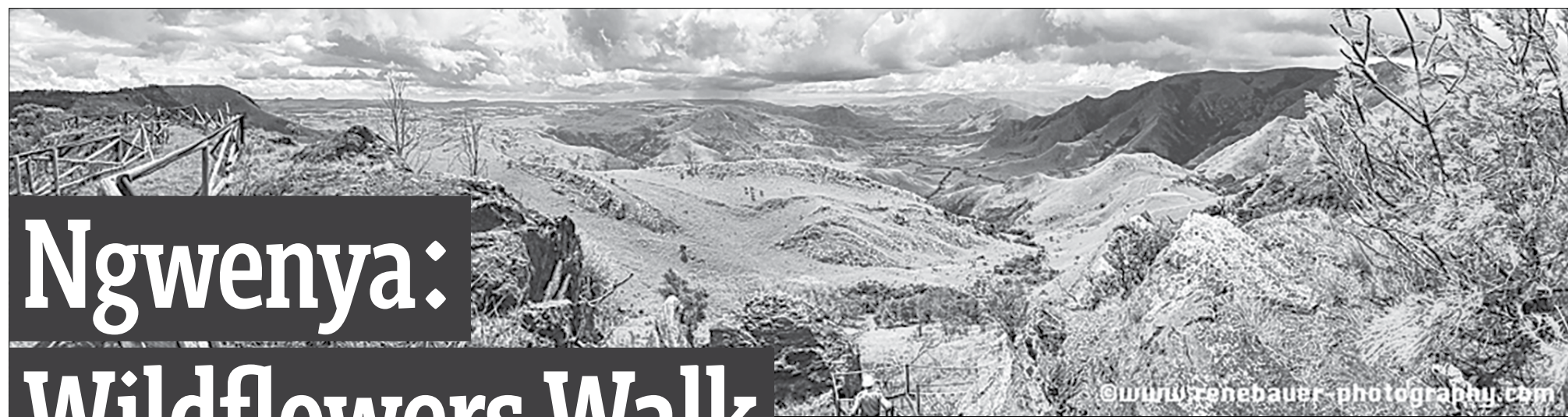


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Ngwenya: Wildflowers Walk

©www.renebauer-photography.com

Few places that capture the raw beauty of nature quite like the Ngwenya Mountains.

Date: November 9, 2025
Leader: Kate Braun

THERE are few places that capture the raw beauty of nature quite like the Ngwenya Mountains. This November, walkers are invited to join naturalist Kate Braun for a scenic exploration of wildflowers and sweeping landscapes at Malolotja Nature Reserve.

“...join
naturalist
Kate Braun for a
scenic wildflower
walk through
Malolotja’s
breathtaking
landscapes.

The walk will begin at the Ngwenya entrance to Malolotja where participants will park near the old open-cast mine before setting off towards the dramatic slopes of the Ngwenya Mountains. From here, the views stretch across the Steynsdorp Valley into South Africa offering a spectacular panorama over Hawane and onto Fonteyn in Mbabane. The outlook also takes in the Diepgezet Valley and the distant Makhonjwa Mountains with Emlembe rising proudly at Bulembu.

With the recent rains expected to bring a burst of colour the grasslands should be alive with blooms showing their full splendour. The route passes from the edge of the mined area through open grassland to a small rocky ridge of soapstone. Depending on time the group may explore the southern hilltop of the Ngwenya ridge to take in even more breathtaking scenery.

This is a short and gentle walk designed to allow plenty of time to enjoy the flowers and the views. It is suitable for families and for those seeking a relaxed morning in nature. More adventurous walkers may later explore the ridge along the border though this will not be part of the NHSe walk on this occasion.

Participants should meet at the Theatre Club at 7:30am for a prompt 7:45am departure or at the Ngwenya gate at 8:15am. Bring a backpack, at least 1.5 litres of water, snacks, sun protection including a broad-brimmed hat and E50 per person for entry to Malolotja. Hiking poles are recommended. Expect around 30 minutes of travel each way and up to three hours of walking.

This family-friendly outing promises an invigorating blend of gentle exercise and natural beauty. Please note that dogs are not permitted as it is a protected nature reserve. For more information contact Caroline via WhatsApp on 7602 8066 or email nhse@realnet.co.sz. Participants are encouraged to check weather conditions beforehand.



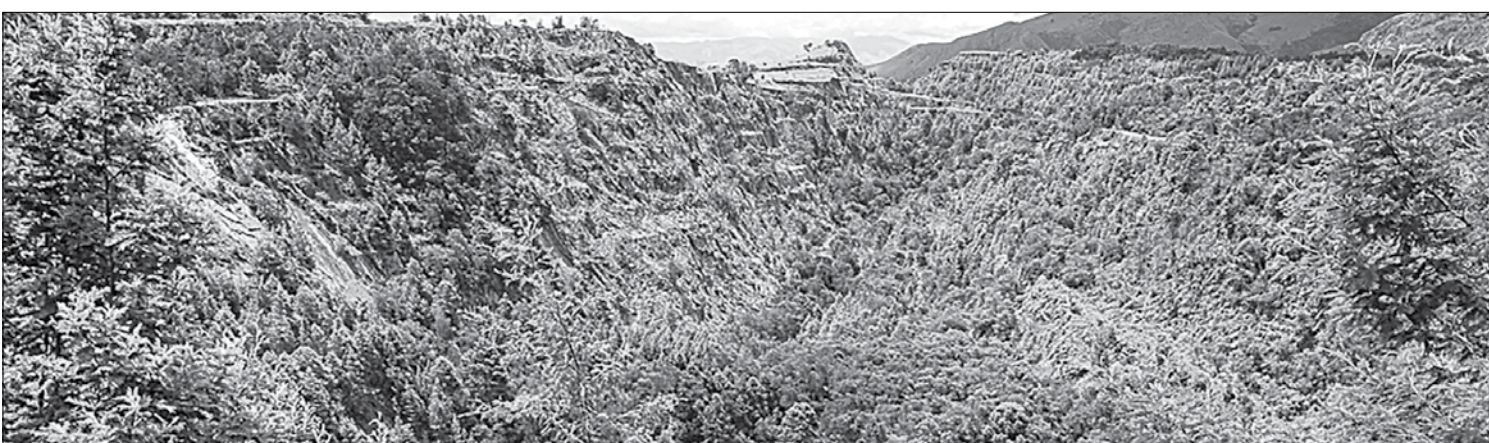
Aerial view of the scenic Ngwenya Walk trail.



The outlook takes in the Diepgezet Valley and the distant Makhonjwa Mountains with Emlembe rising proudly at Bulembu.



Dissotis canescens known as likhambi lemfula or dinganezwe in SiSwati, usually appear in dense clusters from January to April.(Photo cred: Malolotja)



The old-open cast mine in Ngwenya.

Discover the bird hide haven of Shewula

PERCHED within the expansive Shewula Nature Reserve, the Shewula bird hide is a must-visit for birdwatchers seeking both tranquillity and adventure. Covering 2,650 hectares of land set aside by the local community for conservation, the reserve forms part of the Lubombo Conservancy, a region celebrated for its remarkable biodiversity and scenic landscapes.

Nestled in a thriving wetland, the bird hide offers an exceptional vantage point to observe around 250 bird species

that call this area home. Among the most commonly spotted are the striking Purple-crested Turaco, the delicate Green Twinspot, the melodic Black-headed Oriole, as well as an impressive array of raptors and waterbirds. The calm setting invites visitors to slow down, listen to nature's chorus and enjoy an authentic Lowveld experience.

The reserve is also home to the Shewula Mountain Camp, a community-run eco-lodge perched atop the majestic Lubombo Mountains. From this spectacular location, visitors can gaze down to the Indian Ocean on a clear day and across Eswatini's sweeping plains to the Malolotja Mountains in the west. It's an ideal base for exploring both the

wetlands below and the cultural richness of the Shewula community.

Whether you're a seasoned birder or a nature enthusiast seeking peace and perspective, the Shewula bird hide offers a rare chance to connect deeply with Eswatini's wild beauty.

To visit the bird-hide, contact +268 7605 1160/7621 1058 or WhatsApp +268 76434920.

...SHEWULA MOUNTAIN CAMP EXPERIENCE

For visitors wanting to extend their stay, the Shewula Mountain Camp offers a warm community welcome and breathtaking views from one of

the highest points in the Lubombo Mountains. The camp is run by local residents, providing guests with a genuine glimpse into rural Eswatini life while supporting sustainable tourism.

Accommodation is simple yet comfortable, blending traditional design with eco-friendly principles. Guests can enjoy hearty Swati meals, guided cultural tours and hikes that reveal panoramic vistas stretching from the Indian Ocean in the east to the Malolotja Mountains in the west. As night falls, the sky bursts into a spectacular display of stars, completing a truly immersive nature experience.

Whether you're visiting for a day of birdwatching or an overnight escape, Shewula promises the kind of serenity that stays with you long after you leave.

...Whether you're a seasoned birder or a nature enthusiast seeking peace and perspective, the Shewula bird hide offers a rare chance to connect deeply with Eswatini's wild beauty.


**Shewula
Mountain Camp**

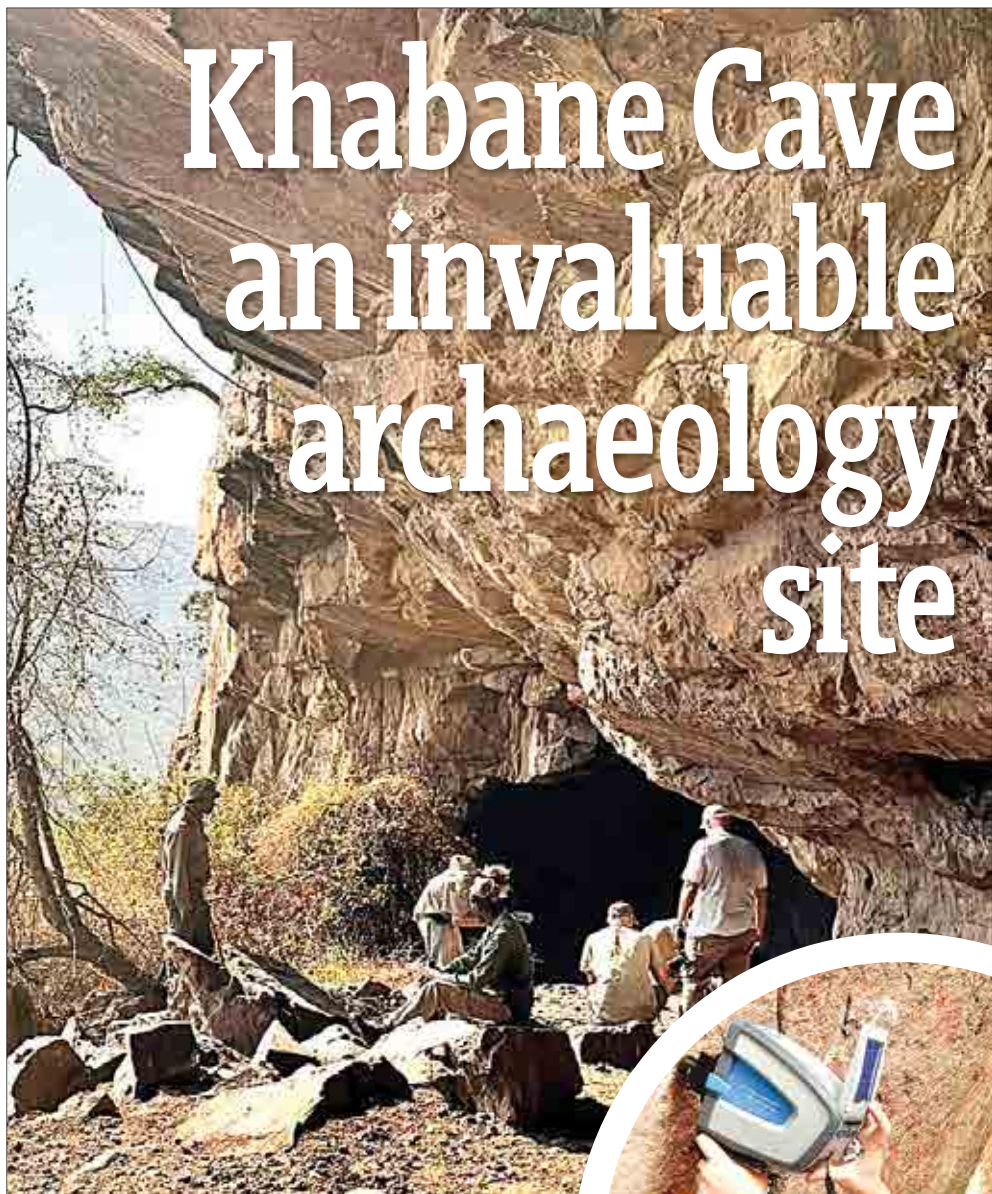





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Khabane Cave an invaluable archaeology site

Khabane Cave in Mlawula Nature Reserve.

A GROUP of archaeologists, German mostly, Canadian and American led by Culture Consultant Bob Forrester; finished a month of archaeology fieldwork in Mlawula Nature Reserve.

The group of archeologists was invited by Eswatini National Trust Commission (ENTC).

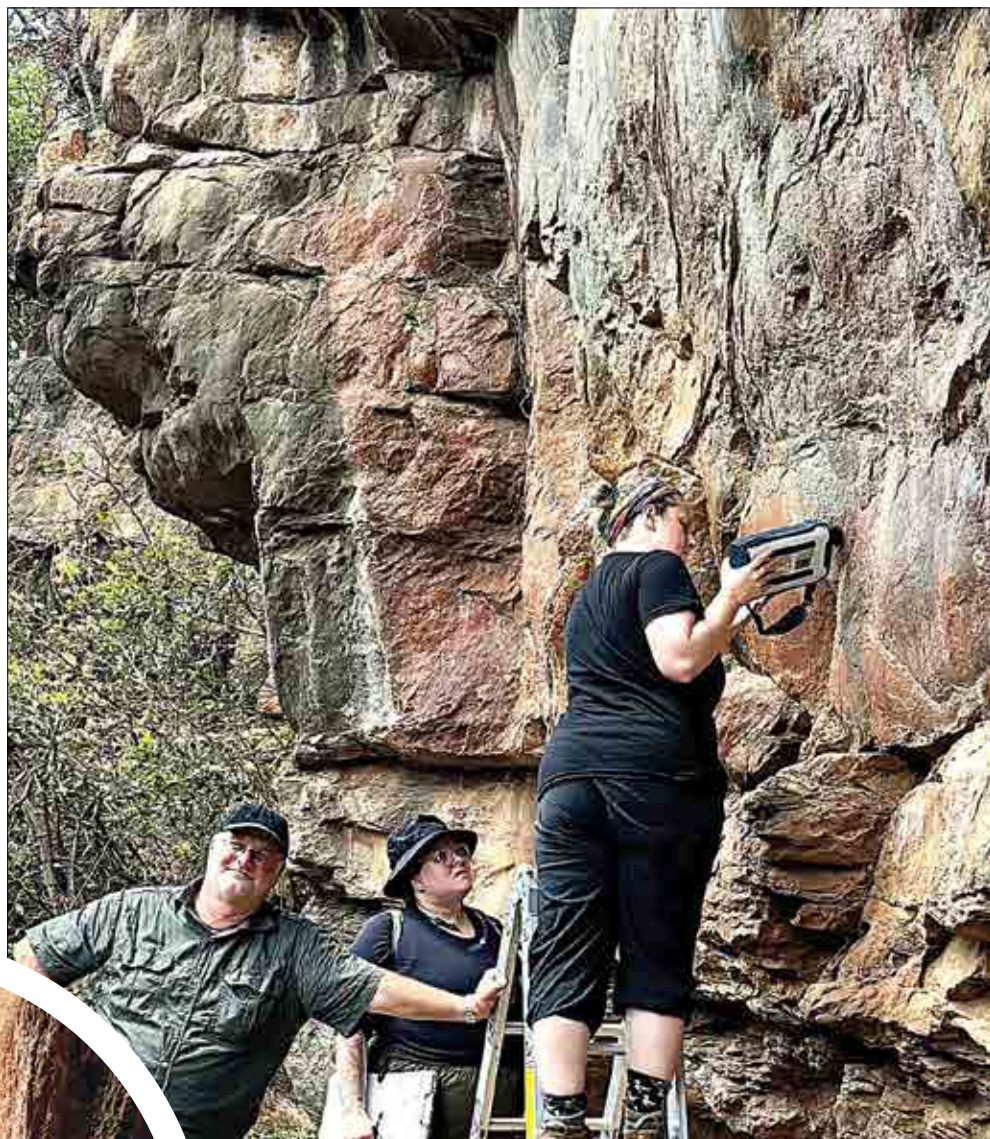
Their excavation of Khabane Cave revealed exceptional levels of preservation, thanks to the cave's unusually dry soils.

Thousands of archeological stone tools were found. Remarkably, even 'dassie droppings dating back thousands of years appear almost fresh, while ancient leaves and twigs remain so well preserved that they can still be identified,' wrote Your Environment Eswatini on their Facebook post. Such conditions are considered extremely rare in southern Africa, making Khabane Cave an invaluable archaeological site.

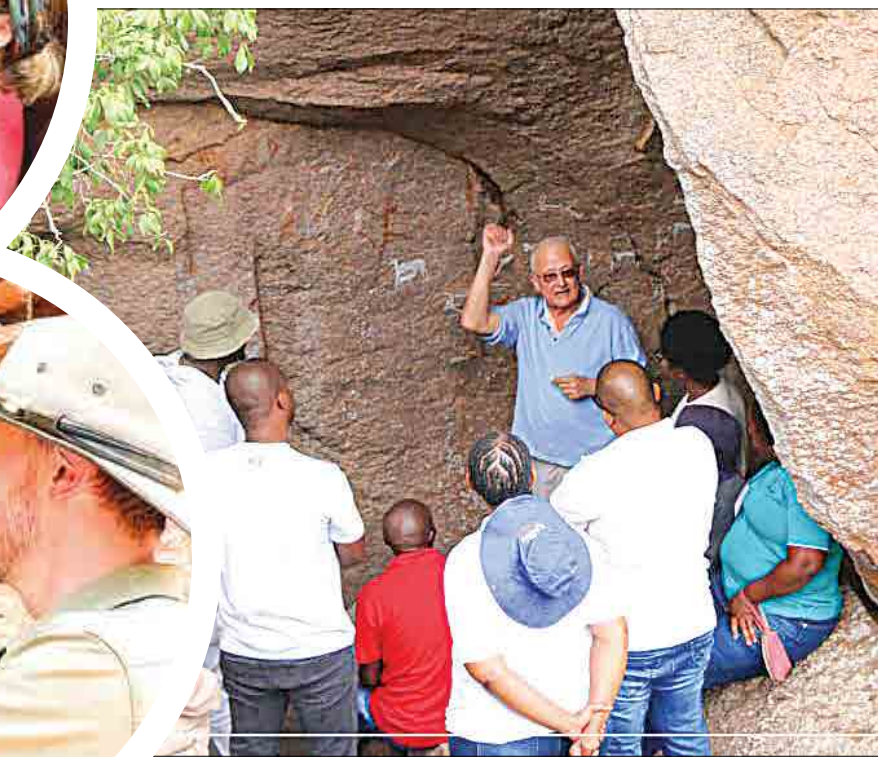
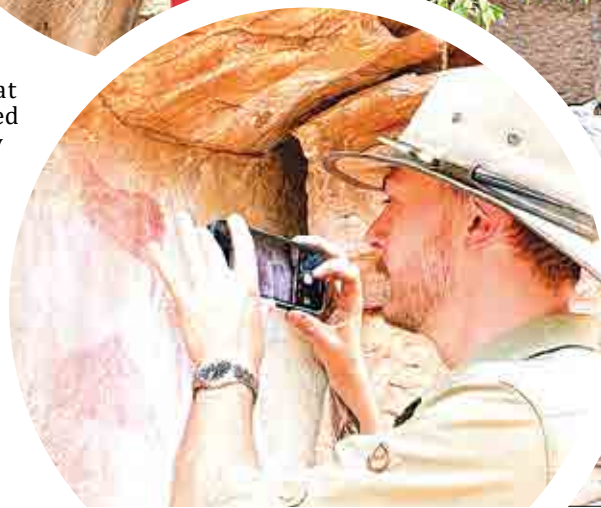
Beyond the excavation, the team also engaged in capacity building workshop. The workshop was hosted by the ENTC and engaged communities and Eswatini Tourism Authority, University of Eswatini and

others.

They conducted a hands-on training workshop for students, hosted an information session for Members of Parliament at Khabane and travelled across the country applying advanced scientific techniques to Bushman paintings. Using a portable X-ray device and handheld Raman machines that fire harmless laser beams, they were able to analyse the pigments without causing any damage to the art.



The archeologists carried out analyses to uncover the materials behind the ancient paint. Using a portable X-ray device and handheld Raman machines that beam lasers, they examined the Bushman paintings up close.



Eswatini's premium multi-sector platform

The Eswatini International Trade Fair
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NEXT YEAR.



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THE DATE**

Be a part of it today by submitting your suggestions for the theme of the EITF2026 to email: eitfcomms@sipa.co.sz or whatsapp 7950 0050

Festive Flavours, Fine ...at Happy Valley Hotel Ezulwini Experiences



THIS festive season, Happy Valley Hotel Ezulwini invites guests to experience a celebration of flavour, music and togetherness in an atmosphere of timeless elegance. From delightful buffets to relaxing weekend stays, every moment at Happy Valley captures the magic of Eswatini's premier hospitality destination.

At the heart of this season's excitement is the hotel's Christmas Buffet Luncheon, happening on December 25, 2025. Guests can indulge in a lavish festive spread featuring traditional favourites, gourmet roasts, decadent desserts, and vibrant live entertainment, the perfect recipe for a memorable Christmas celebration.

- Date: December 25, 2025
- Time: 1pm – 4pm
- Price: E695 per person (Children aged 3–7 years pay half price)
- Venues: Grand Hall or Palmera Restaurant

When booking, guests are encouraged to specify their preferred venue and use their first name and number of people as their payment reference; for example Anele14. Proof of payment will be required to confirm reservations.

Bookings can be made via phone (+268 2417 8100), email (reservations@happyvalleyhotel.com) or WhatsApp (+268 7922 9550).

Beyond Christmas, the Palmera Restaurant continues to be a favourite for buffet lovers. Every Friday and Saturday evening, guests can enjoy a Dinner Buffet at only E325 per person, from 6:30 pm to 10pm, with kids 12 and under paying half price. The culinary journey continues on Sundays with a sumptuous Lunch Buffet at E330 per person from 12.30pm to 3pm, also half price for children. Each buffet showcases a fusion of local and international dishes prepared with artistry and flair.

For those seeking a weekend escape, Happy Valley's Weekend Accommodation Special offers exceptional value available until December 22, 2025. Enjoy a Standard Pool Room (Bed & Breakfast) from E1560 or upgrade to a Superior Room from E1 899, valid weekends only.

Whether dining or staying, Happy Valley Hotel promises more than an experience, it's a celebration of taste, comfort and festive joy.

Happy Valley Hotel Ezulwini — where business meets leisure.





JOIN US FOR A MERRY

CHRISTMAS BUFFET LUNCHEON

WITH LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

Time 13.00 hours – 16.00 hours

PRICE: E695 P/P

(Children 3–7 years pay half price)

25 DEC 2025

For bookings call us at 2417 8100 or email reservations@happyvalleyhotel.com

Reserve a table. Payment secures your booking.





Plant Co: Where Good Food Meets Green Living



TUCKED away at Somnjalose, Ezulwini – on the grounds that once housed Emfuleni Lifestyle – Plant Co is your perfect escape to unwind and recharge.

More than just a café, Plant Co brings together a lush plant nursery and shop offering an impressive variety of plants and vegetable seedlings for growers of all scales. Whether you're

nurturing a home garden or running a farm, you'll find something to suit your green thumb. Inside, the Plant Co Café serves an inviting menu with meals that comfort and delight. Served on Thursdays, the oxtail has quickly become a local favourite – rumoured to be the best in Ezulwini. The coffee hits all the right notes and their signature dirty chai is an absolute must-try. Pair it with one of their sugar-free bites for a guilt-free indulgence or treat yourself to a slice of their decadent chocolate or carrot cake, both crowd favourites. With free Wi-Fi and a peaceful atmosphere, Plant Co is also a great spot to work away from the noise, sip a cup of good coffee and let inspi-

ration flow. Plant Co. is a place where wholesome food, delicious coffee and vibrant greenery come together beautifully. And before you leave, make sure to

take a little bit of Plant Co home; browse their nursery and pick a plant to brighten up your space. **Contact: 7854 7189 / 7999 6925**

Keep growing your business. Do your part.

Stay on top of your obligations and keep your business running smoothly.

File your Income Tax Return on **TaxEase** and pay by **31 October 2025**



#RetailBusiness



Espinho Restaurant & Bar Lubombo's festive favourite



Sip, savour, and enjoy the unique flavours of our signature cocktails.



Experience the perfect blend of ambiance and flavor at Espinho Restaurant.

HIDDEN in the quiet town of Siteki within scenic Lubombo Region, Espinho Restaurant & Bar is a place of style and warmth. It's not just a restaurant, it's an experience where every visit feels like a celebration.

As the festive season approaches, put Espinho in your radar it is an emerging as the place of choice for Christmas lunches, family outings and company parties.

From the moment you arrive, you are greeted by an atmosphere of understated elegance. The setting blends modern comfort with subtle sophistication, making it perfect for any occasion. Families gather on sunny afternoons to share laughter over hearty meals, while colleagues can raise a glass during festive office parties that sparkle with good cheer. For Christmas Day itself, Espinho promises a dining experience filled with flavour, joy and a touch of magic.

The culinary journey here is second to none. Every dish is a masterpiece, crafted with precision and passion. The chefs draw inspiration from both local produce and international favourites, creating a menu that caters to every palate. Whether you crave a festive roast, a signature Espinho platter or a refreshing seasonal cocktail, the experience is designed to delight. Each meal feels like a celebration of Eswatini's rich hospitality and the joy of togetherness.

Espinho's spacious layout and refined décor make it an ideal venue for special occasions. From intimate family gatherings to grand corporate functions, the team ensures every detail



For the truly hungry, our chef presents a lamb shank slow-cooked to perfection—tender, rich and unforgettable. Paired beautifully with a glass of red wine, this dish is more than a meal—it's a moment.



IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MENU — It's about that feeling of familiarity, the comfort of something known, in a space that makes you feel seen and safe.



Sweet treats! Yummy!!

air and the lights cast a warm glow, you can't help but feel you've found your festive home away from home.

What truly sets Espinho apart is its heart. It's a place where good food meets great company and where memories are made effortlessly. This Christmas, whether you're planning a family feast, a reunion with friends or a lively office celebration, Espinho Restaurant

& Bar invites you to celebrate in style.

So make your way to Siteki and let Espinho be the backdrop to your festive season; a destination where exquisite cuisine, warm service and unforgettable moments come together in perfect harmony.



Christmas LUNCH

Harvest Table

- Variety of starters
- Sushi
- Oxtail
- Lamb
- Ostrich
- Roast chicken
- Prawns
- Multiple starch options
- Wide range of Deserts

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Your host: Tree Tops Resort

...For
year-end
functions



One of the rooms where you can kick off your shoes and call it home for the night.



Take a refreshing dip and enjoy a few invigorating laps in this inviting pool.

NESTLED in the tranquil landscapes of Lubombo and surrounded by pristine nature, Tree Tops Game Resort is the ideal getaway destination.

Beyond its serene setting, the resort is also the perfect venue for hosting year-end functions or any special gatherings. With a spacious conference room that comfortably accommodates guests, there is plenty of room to move around while the attentive waitstaff deliver exceptional service. The in-house restaurant can be transformed into an

elegant gala hall, creating an unforgettable atmosphere for any occasion.

Meals are easily elevated to suit a gala dinner or festive celebration, ensuring your event feels truly special.

For added convenience, guests can stay overnight in the resort's comfortable rooms, removing the stress of late-night travel. To make the experience even more memorable, the resort's spa offers the perfect way to unwind. After a year filled with deadlines and targets, everyone deserves time to relax, whether it's a full day of pampering or even just an hour of indulgence.

The spa offers a range of massage treatments, from full-body and Swedish to soothing hot stone therapies. Guests can also take a refreshing dip in the pool, stretch their bodies with a few laps, and leave feeling completely rejuvenated.

Tree Tops Resort truly blends nature, comfort and celebration, making it the perfect choice for your year-end function.

Capacity
Meeting room: 12 people
Boardroom: 25 people
Conference room: up to 200 people



Go indulge your senses in spa treatment at Tree Tops Game Resort. (Internet pic)



Indulge yourself with spa treatment.

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- Spa
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FOR MORE INFO 7808 0801

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f x in treetopsgameresort

TREE TOPS GAME RESORT



Art Stop ...Yebo Art Gallery

YEBO Art Gallery was established by local artists in 2010 and to date has had 63 exhibitions featuring a wide variety of contemporary artwork by the best emerging and professional artists in Eswatini. The Ezulwini art gallery also has a workshop area where the unique Yebo range of tablecloths, T-shirts, wallhangings etc are screen-printed by hand.

The Ezulwini and Ngwenya gallery shops have their full range of products from magnets and colouring books to T-shirts, table runners and tablecloths and Yebo partners with DHL to pack and ship art globally. Yebo Art Gallery is an amazing creative experience you don't want to miss!

A new Yebo shop opens at Swazi Candles Centre in November!



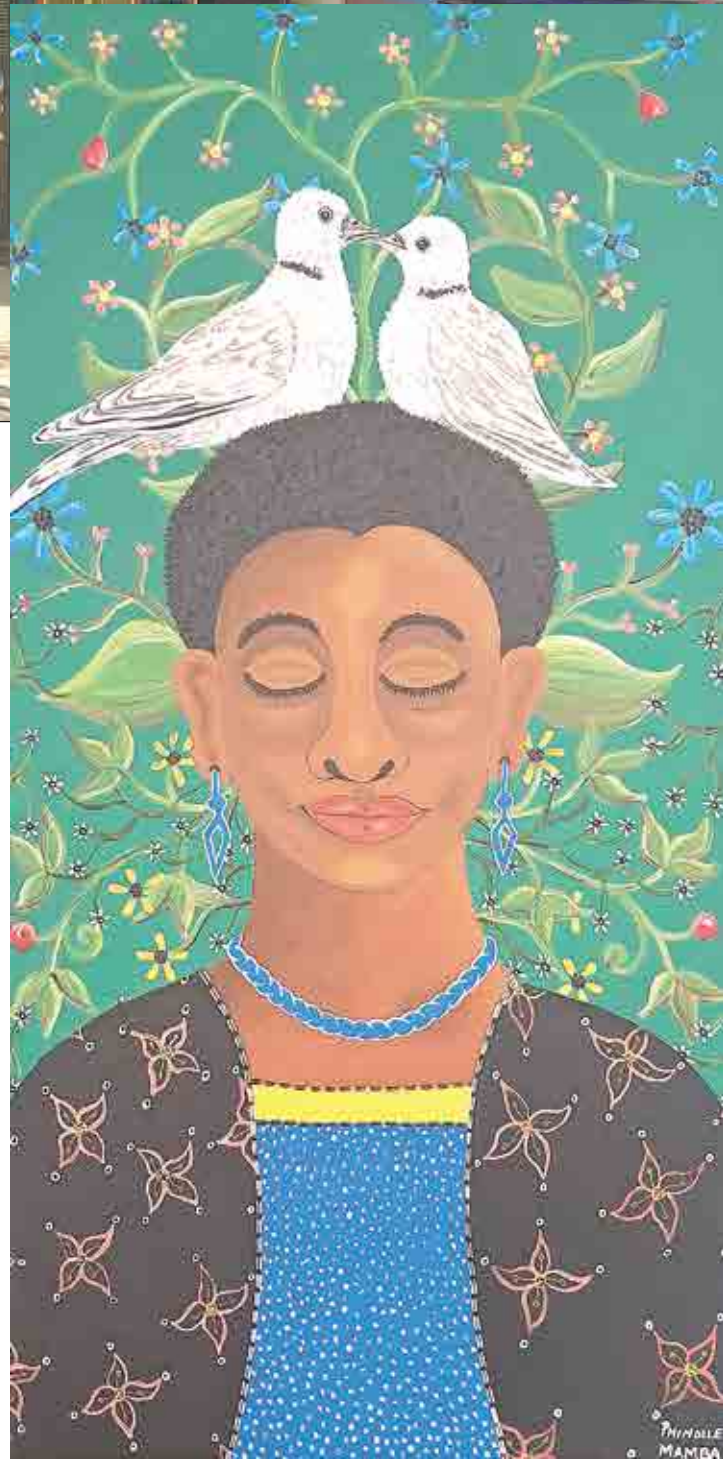
Step into Yebo Art Gallery and discover art that stuns, inspires and tells Eswatini's story.



Umhlanga by Mayenziwe Dlamini.



Weaver Birds Tshirt.



Prayer by Phindile Mamba.

EXPLORE ESWATINI

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PLANT CO PTY LTD

Nolu Events & Tours
Discover Eswatini's beauty and culture with Nolu Events & Tours

Our Services

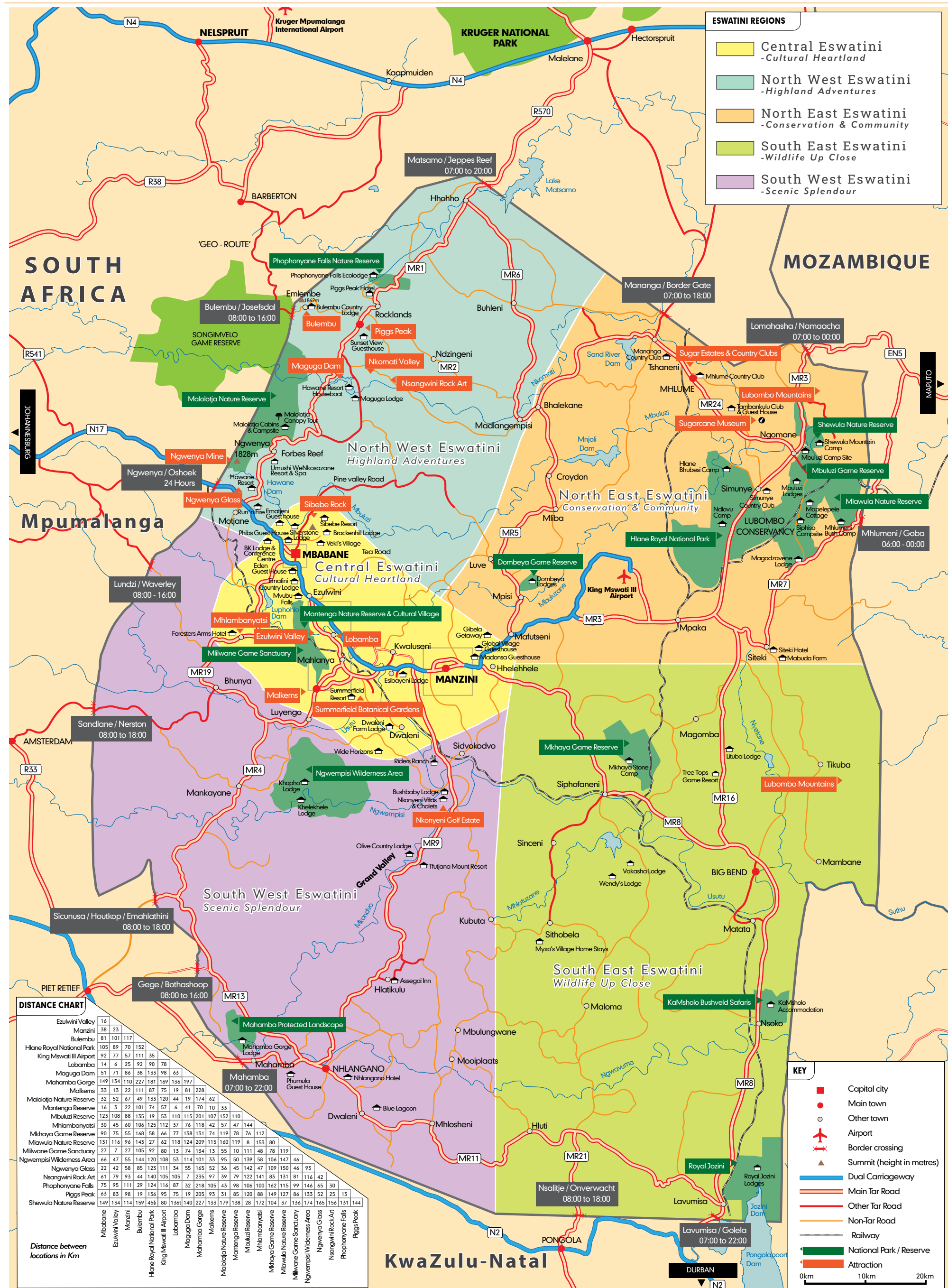
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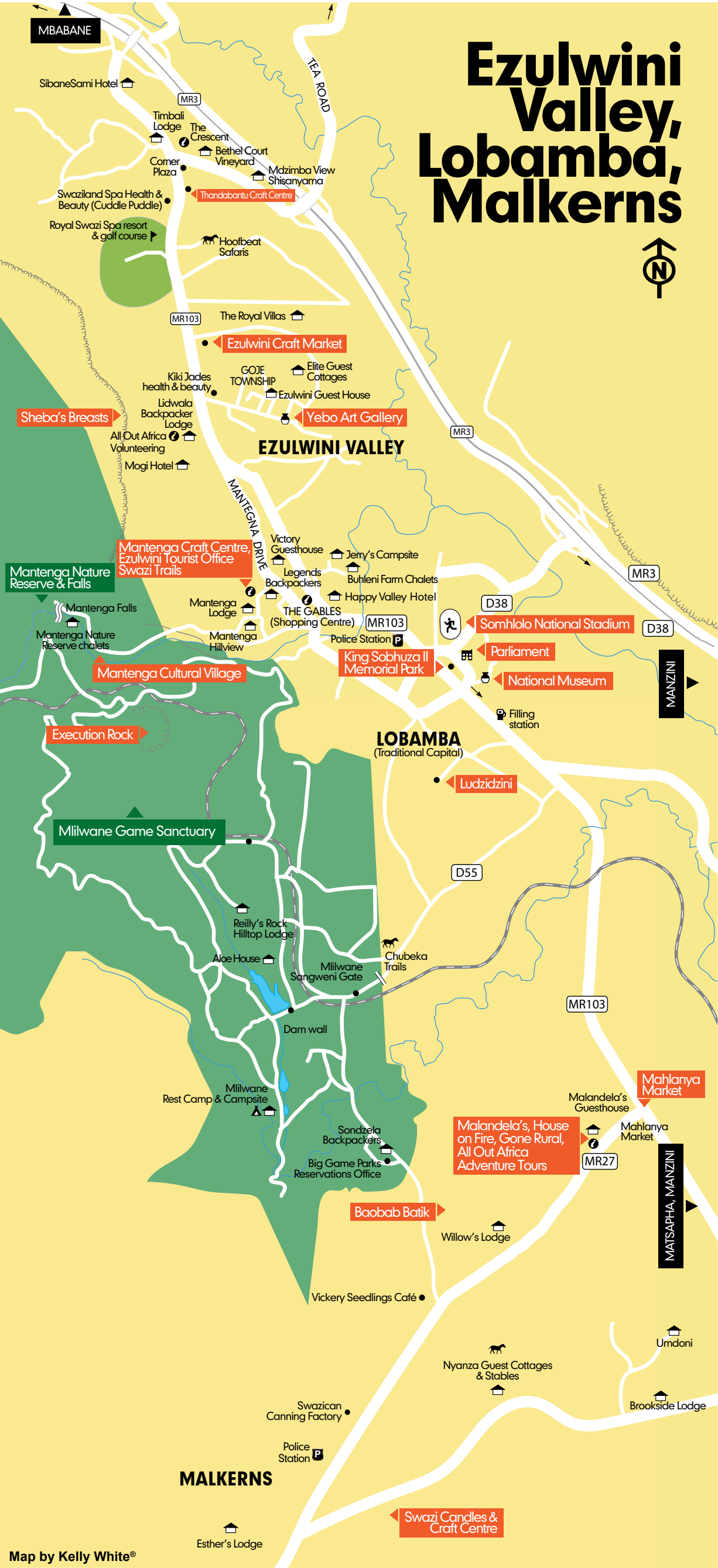
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RE-DISCOVER ESWATINI THE WANDERLUST



**TO BE
FEATURED
HERE CALL
7671 9334**





Map by Kelly White®

Ezulwini Valley, Lobamba, Malkerns

Spotted Spreadwing



DURING the hottest and coolest times of the day, Spotted Spreadwings are mostly inactive and spend long periods hanging vertically from emergent grass stems. At mid-morning, the males are often very active as they chase each other from stem to stem. The females are frequently seen with the males. Spotted Spreadwings are easily overlooked. Their blue-grey colouration and slender bodies blend perfectly with the grass and glare from the water.

The Spotted Spreadwing is most active from September to May.

DISTRIBUTION

It is native to much of the southern half of Africa, where it is widespread, but localised. Its range also extends to East and Central Africa, and parts of West Africa.



Zygoptera: Lestidae



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GENERAL INFORMATION



TODAY'S BANKNOTES IN ESWATINI: PRINTER: GIESECKE & DEVRIENT-GERMANY



10 EMALANGENI (US\$0.54)



20 EMALANGENI (US\$1.07)



50 EMALANGENI (US\$2.69)



100 EMALANGENI (US\$5.37)



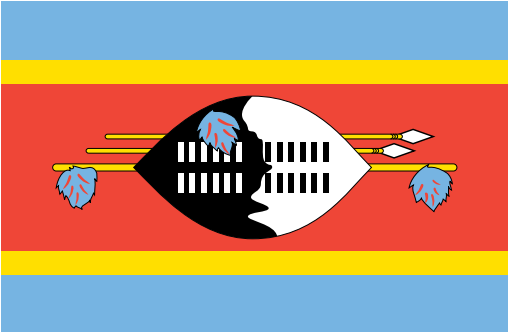
200 EMALANGENI (US\$10.75)

OUR COINS



The New Eswatini Coins currently in circulation.

THE ESWATINI FLAG



PANTONE 542 C
Process: C = 51, M = 16
Y = 0, K = 0



PANTONE 803 C
Process: C = 0, M = 9
Y = 100, K = 0



WHITE



PANTONE BLACK

Process: C = 0, M = 0
Y = 0, K = 100



PANTONE 157 C

Process: C = 0, M = 88
Y = 85, K = 0

The flag is rectangular, and its colors are red, blue and yellow. Each of these colors has a meaning:

RED: Stands for the battles of the past.

BLUE: Stands for peace and stability.

YELLOW: Stands for the resources.

The flag also has a picture of a shield and spear. These two symbols stand for protection of our country from enemies. The shield is black and white to show that black and white people live together peacefully in eSwatini.

THE SISWATI CALENDAR

- January** – Bhimbidwane (everybody satisfied)
- February** – Indlovana (little elephant)
- March** – Indlovulenkulu (big elephant)
- April** – Mabasa (kubasa-to make fire)
- May** – Inkhwekhwele (pick up everything you have)
- June** – Inhlaba (Aloe blossoms)
- July** – Kholwane (Hawk that nests in the moon)
- August** – Ingci (small wolf breeds in this month)
- September** – Inyoni (special bird mates)
- October** – Imphala (Antelope bears its young)
- November** – Lweti (star to see when women begin work early also Inkhosi lencane (little chief)
- December** – Ingongoni/ Mavulangamithi (Buffaloe month/ to swallow pickings of teeth) also Inkhosi Lenkhulu (big chief)

BORDER HOURS



Mhlumeni/ Goba Border	Open 24hrs
Lomasha/ Namaacha	Open 07:00hrs – 22:00hrs
Ngwenya/ Oshoek Border	Open 24:00hrs
Lavumisa/ Golela Border	Open 07:00hrs – 22:00hrs
Mahamba Border	Open 07:00hrs – 22:00hrs
Mananga Border	Open 08:00hrs – 18:00hrs
Matsamo/ Jeppe's Reef	Open 08:00hrs – 20:00hrs
Nsalitshe/ Onverwacht	Open 08:00hrs – 18:00hrs
Sandlane/ Nerston	Open 08:00hrs – 18:00hrs
Sichunusa/ Houdkop	Open 08:00hrs – 18:00hrs

LOCATION

Southern Africa, between Mozambique and South Africa Geographic coordinates:

Size: 26 30 S, 31 30 E
17 364sq km
Countries border 535 km
Total:
Border countries:

- Mozambique 105 km,
- South Africa 430 km

Lowerst point: Great Usutu River 21m
Highest point: Emlembe 1 862 m

YOUR EMBASSY/CONSULATE IN SD

- Cyprus Consulate: 2404 2650 / 2404 1138
- Danish-Norwigean Consulate: 2404 3547
- Honorary Consul of Finland: 7914 6951/7902 5270
- French Consulate: 2404 3667
- German Liason Off: 2404 3174
- High Commission of India 2417 1413
- Italian Consulate: 2404 4371
- Mozambique: 2404 3700
- Portugal Consulate: 2404 6780
- Republic of China (Taiwan); 2404 4740/1
- Seychelles Con: 2505 2415
- Singapore High Commission: 2404 2661/2/3
- South Africa: 2404 4651
- Turkish Consulate: 2422 0805
- USA: 24179000

MEDICAL HELP TEL: 7606 0911

Mkhiwa Clinic, Manzini private Hospital, 24h casualty & emergency, Tel: 2505 9299 or 2505 9293
The Manzini Clinic Tel: 2505 7430
Medisun Clinic , Ezulwini Tel: 2416 2800
The Mbabane Clinic 24th Trauma Care and Laboratory Service Tel: 2404 2423
Dentist: Mbabane Clinic Tel: 2404 2423
Good Shepherd Hospital, Siteki Tel: 2343 4133

ROAD DISTANCES TO ESWATINI (MBABANE) IN KILOMETERS:

- Johannesburg 635 (South Africa)
- Durban 368 (South Africa)
- Richards Bay 368 (South Africa)
- Gaborone 748 (Botswana)
- Maputo 236 (Mocambique)
- Maseru 736 (Lesotho)

TRANSPORT BETWEEN ESWATINI & SA

GETTING to eSwatini apart from traveling by coach with a group is very easy. Busses operate daily between **Johannesburg (Sandton and O. R. International Airports)** as well as daily flights:

BY AIR:

Airlink eSwatini | Tel. +268 251 86155
swaziairlink@flyairlink.com
www.flyEswatini.com

BUSINESS HOURS & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:

OFFICE and shop hours are usually 08h00-13h00 and 14h00-17h00 Mondays to Fridays. Bank hours are 08h30-14h30 Mondays to Fridays, 08h30-11h00 on Saturdays.

Post offices are open 08h00-16h00 Mondays to Friday and 08h00-11h00 on Saturdays.

New Year's Day	– 1 January
King's Birthday	– 19 April
National Flag Day	– 25 April
Worker's Day	– 1 May
Umdlango Reed Dance Day	– (end of August or early September)
Somhlolo Independence) day	– 6 September
Christmas Day	– 25 December
Boxing Day	– 26 December
December Incwala Day	– (December or early January)

SOME SISWATI WORDS:

Sawubona	Hello
Unjani	How are you
Ngiyaphila	I am fine
Ngiyabonga	Thank you
Wota lapha	Come here
Sikhulekile ekhaya	A Swati way of greeting a home as well as asking for permission to enter.
Sala kahle	Stay well
Hamba kahle	Go well



GENERAL INFORMATION



ADVENTURE

All Out Adventure Tours, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3423
Canopy Tours at Malolotja Nature Reserve, Tel: 2444 3241
Sibebe Rock: Cell: 7670 1667
White Water Rafting, Swazi Trails, Ezulwini Tel: 2416 2180
Paintball, Hoof Beat Cell: 76117655
Paintballing, Khuselwa, Cell: +268 7803 8838
Quad Bikes, Khuselwa Farm, Cell: +268 7803 8838

ART GALLERIES

Yebo Art Gallery, Zulwini Cell: +268 7914 651

BACKPACKERS

Legends Backpackers, Mantenga Tel: 2416 1870
Lidwala Lodge, Ezulwini Tel: 7690 5865
Mlawula Nature Reserve, north of Simunye Tel: 2383 8885
Sondzela Backpackers, Malkerns (Big Game Parks) Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cel : 7677 6772

BEAUTY & HEALTH

Maguga Lodge, Maguga Dam Tel: 2437 3975
Nkonyeni Golf Estate Spa Cell: 7602 7749
The George Hotel: Manzini Tel +2505 2260

ACCOMODATION

Big Game Parks, Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cell : 7677 6772
Brookside Lodge, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3765/ Cell: +268 76214228
Lebombo Villas, Big Bend Tel: 7603 6585
Malandelas, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3448
Mdzimba View Lodge, Cell: 7841 2930
Phumula Guest House, Nhlangano Tel: 2207 9099
Simunye Club, Simunye Tel: 2328 8894
Matsapha Inn, Cell: +268 7860 0820
Tree Tops Resort, Cell: +268 7808 0801 Email: treetops@madlamini.co.sz

BIRD WATCHING

Buhleni Farm Chalets Tel +268 2416 3505/8
Foresters Arms, Mhlambanyatsi Tel: 2467 4177
Simunye (Big Game Parks) Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cell : 7677 6772
KaMsholo Bushveld Safaris, South of Big Bend (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Mananga Country Lodge Tel 2323 2404
Malolotja Nature Reserve, Tel 2444 3241
Mkhaya Game Reserve, Phuzamoya (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Mlawula Nature Reserve, north of Simunye Tel: 2383 8885
Mlilwane Game Sanctuary, Malkerns (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Nkonyeni Golf Estate Tel: 2540 0024/5

Phumula Guest House, Nhlangano Tel: 2207 9099
Shield Guesthouse Tel: 2404 6072/ 7652 4021
Mhlosinga Nature Reserve Tel: +268 76300526
Royal Jozini +268 2550 4614/ +268 7680 7047

BUSHMAN PAINTING

Nsangwini Rock Shelter Tel: 7619 2665
Hhelehhele Rock Art:

CAMPING

Buhleni Farm Chalets Tel: +268 2416 3505/8
Brookside Lodge, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3765/ Cell: +268 76214228
All OUT Adventure Tours, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3423
Shewula Mountain camp and nature reserve: Tel: 2343 4524/ Cell 7605 1160/7603 1931
Mhlosinga Nature Reserve Tel: +268 76300526

CARAVAN SITES

Buhleni Farm Chalets Tel +268 2416 3505/8
Hlane Royal National Park Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cell : 7677 6772
KaMsholo Bushveld Safaris, South of Big Bend (Big Game Parks) Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cell : 7677 6772

CAVING

Swazi Trails Tel: 2416 2180

CRAFTS & ARTS

LaJojo's Craft, Malolotja Cell: +268 7657 8791
Gone Rural, Malkerns Tel: 2550 4936/ 7615 2736
Kwaziswazi, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3110
Ngwenya Glass, Tel: 2442 4053
Rainbow Angels Tel: 24162508
Swazi Candles, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3219

CULTURE

King Sobhuza II Memorial Park, ENTCLobamba Tel: 2416 2131
Maguga Lodge Tel: 2437 3975
Mantenga Cultural Village Tel:2416 1151
Sibebe Resort, Cell: +268 7804 9560
Shewula Mountain camp and nature reserve: Tel: 2343 4524/ Cell 7605 1160/ 7603 1931

FISHING

Royal Jozini +268 2550 4614/ +268 7680 7047
Foresters Arms, Mhlambanyatsi Tel: 2467 4177
Guided Fishing Tours Tiger Fishing at van Eck Dam +268 7602 5482
Maguga Dam Tel: 2437 3975
Mananga Country Lodge Tel 2323 2404
Mhlosinga Nature Reserve Tel: +268 76300526

GAME VIEWING

KaMsholo Bushveld Safaris, South of Big Bend (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Mlawula Nature Reserve Tel: +268 2383 8885

Mananga Country Lodge Tel 2323 2404
Malolotja Nature Reserve Tel: 2444 3241 or 7660 6755
Mkhaya Game Reserve, Phuzamoya (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Mlilwane Game Sanctuary, Malkerns (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Shewula Mountain camp and nature reserve: Tel: 2343 4524/ Cell 7605 1160/ 7603 1931
Brookside Lodge, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3765/ Cell: +268 76214228
Foresters Arms, Mhlambanyatsi Tel: 2467 4177
Nkonyeni Golf Estate Tel: 2540 0024/5
Mananga Country Lodge Tel 2323 2404
Simunye Country Club Tel: 2383 8894
Mhlosinga Nature Reserve Tel: +268 76300526

Matsapha Tel: 2518 4693
Royal Jozini +268 2550 4614/ +268 7680 7047

HORSE RIDING

Chubeka Trails, at Mlilwane Game Sanctuary Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cell : 7677 6772
Foresters Arms, Mhlambanyatsi Tel: 2467 4177
Hoof beat, Horse riding, Paintball Cell: 76117655.
Khuselwa, Manzini Cell: +268 7803 8838

HOTELS

Maguga Lodge, Maguga Dam Tel: 2437 3975
Nkonyeni Golf Estate Tel: 2540 0024/5 Phumula Guest House, Nhlangano Tel: 2207 9099
The George Hotel: Manzini Tel +2505 2260

LODGES

Brookside Lodge, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3765/ Cell: +268 76214228
Buhleni Farm Chalets Tel 2416 3505/8 Te: 2404 3387/ 7608 6229
Maguga Lodge, Maguga Dam Tel: 2437 3975
Mahamba Gorge Lodge Cell 7617 9880
Mantenga Cultural Village, Tel: 2416 1101/2416 1151
Mananga Country Lodge Tel 2323 2404
Manzini Lodge Tel: 2505 5382
Mbuluzi Nature Reserve North of Simunye Tel: 2383 8861/2
Mhlume Country club & lodge: Tel 2313 4350/ 2313 4777
Shield Guesthouse Tel: 2404 6072/ 7652 4021
Sibebe resort Tel: 3402 0406/76088228
Royal Jozini +268 2550 4614 +268 7680 7047

MUSEUMS

Bulembu Museum www.bulembu.org www.sntc.org.sz
King Sobhuza II Memorial Park www.sntc.org.sz
Mantenga Cultural Village www.sntc.org.sz Sugarcane Museum +268 23737334 / www.sugarcanemuseum.com

RESTAURANTS

Velvet Monkey, Zulwini,

Cell: +268 7663 4822
Esphino, Siteki, Cell: +268 7876 0543 Email info.espihno@swazi.net
Mdzimba View Shisanyama, Zulwini, Cell: 7841 2930
email: mdzimbaview@gmail.com Forester's Arms, Mhlambanyatsi Tel: 2467 4177
Sambane, Malkerns Tel: 2528 3466
Simunye Country Club, Simunye, Tel: 2383 8894
The Calabash: Ezulwini Tel 2416 1187
The George Hotel: Manzini Tel +2505 2260/ 7860 2020

Matsapha Tel: 2518 4693

SELF-CATERING

Big Game Parks, Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cel : 7677 6772
Buhleni Farm Chalets Tel +268 2416 3505/8
Veki's, Mbabane Tel: 7603 6396 Mhlosinga Nature Reserve Cabins Tel: 268 7602 5482
Lakeside Tiger Fish Cabins Tel: 268 7822 4905 ins@gmail.com
Royal Jozini +268 2550 4614 +268 7680 7047

TOURIST INFORMATION

All Out at Malandela's Internet Café, Malkerns, Tel: 2528 3423
Dept. of Tourism, Swazi Plaza, Mbabane Ezulwini Tel: 2416 2180

Swazi Trails Tel: 2416 2180

TRAVEL AND TOURS

Nolu Events & Tours Cell: +268 78603019
Wild Hogg Tours, Eddie +268 76047510/79047510

WALKING/HIKING

Simunye (Big Game Parks): +268 2528 1000/1 +268 7677 6772
KaMsholo Bushveld Safaris, South of Big Bend (Big Game Parks) Tel : +268 2528 1000/1 Cell : +7677 6772
Khelekhele Trail Cell: 7631 5308
Maguga Lodge, Maguga Dam Tel: 2437 3975
Maguga view point: Tel:2437 1056/ Cell 7606 5519/7607 1175
Mahamba Gorge Lodge: Cell 7617 9880
Malolotja Nature Reserve Tel: 2444 3241 or 7660 6755
Mananga Country Lodge Tel 2323 2404
Mkhaya Game Reserve, Phuzamoya (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Mlawula Nature Reserve, Tel: 2383 8885
Mlilwane Game Sanctuary, Malkerns (Big Game Parks) Tel: +268 2528 1000/1 Cell: 7677 6772
Nkonyeni Golf Estate Tel: 2540 0024/5
Phumula Guest House, Nhlangano Tel: 2207 9099
Sibebe Rock Cell: 7670 1667
Shewula Mountain camp and nature reserve: Tel: 2343 4524/ Cell 7605 1160/ 7603 1931
Royal Jozini +268 2550 4614/ +268 7680 7047



Treasure stop in the highlands

LaJojo's Craft



If it's souvenirs or gifts you're after, I know just the spot that might have what you want. Tucked away in the scenic highlands of Nkhamba, opposite Malolotja Nature Reserve, lies LaJojo's Craft, a colourful haven of handmade artistry that captures the spirit of Eswatini.

From the moment you arrive, you're greeted

by an inviting display of locally crafted treasures. Brightly woven baskets sit beside smooth wooden spoons and polished hand-carved stone pieces that glint softly in the morning light. Each item is a small story told through texture and craftsmanship; from intricate soapstone carvings of animals to the carefully wrapped handles of traditional grass brooms.



The craftsmanship on show is a celebration of creativity and culture. The carved animal figures, elephants, hippos and lions – seem to hold a quiet strength, each one shaped with skill and patience. Nearby, the etched soapstone ornaments tell their own tales through delicate drawings of wildlife and village life, making them perfect mementoes of Eswatini's natural beauty.

LaJojo's Craft isn't just a stall, it's an experience. It's the kind of place where you'll find yourself lingering a little longer, chatting to artisans about their work or watching as new pieces take shape. Whether you're shopping for a gift or something to remind you of your travels, this charming stop at Nkhamba offers a slice of Swati creativity you can take home.

EXPLORE ESWATINI



HORSE RIDING

- E100 per lap
- E220 for 10 minutes

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PAINT-BALLING

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- E150 for 50 bullets

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Soapstone, Baskets, art pieces. LaJojo's Craft Opposite Malolotja

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The Nkonyeni green escape

...Discover your golden moment

...more than a destination, Nkonyeni is an experience — a place where every moment becomes a golden memory

Experiences that highlight our natural assets and cultural depth include:

- **Nkonyeni Golf Cart Drive:** A scenic, relaxed tour ideal for soaking up the estate's beauty at your own pace.
- **Bushveld Golf Cart Tour:** A guided, intimate exploration deep into the bushveld and the estate to observe wildlife, indigenous flora and soak in magnificent views.
- **The Great Usuthu Walk:** A breathtaking guided walk along the Usutu River, offering spectacular views and opportunities to discover the Nkonyeni and Eswatini story.
- **Sigcineni Homestead Tour:** A unique cultural experience in the neighbouring Nkonyeni community providing insights into traditional Swati life and history.
- **Taste of Eswatini:** A new culinary and culture immersion experience allowing guests to connect with local heritage through authentic food preparation, dancing and storytelling.
- **Swazi Hike:** Guided excursions that blend physical activity with nature immersion, customised for different fitness levels.

The accommodation is built in nature and with nature in mind, providing serene retreats. It also feature two exceptional restaurants: Bushbaby for breakfast and light meals and Bunkers Restaurant for light meals, lunch and dinner.

For corporate needs, the conference and events venue and Nkonyeni Trailblazer Teambuilding programmes leverage the unique environment to foster collaboration and leadership.

This journey through nature and culture defines The Nkonyeni Green Escape. Every carefully crafted activity, meal, and stay culminates in a truly golden, unforgettable Moment, cementing our position as Eswatini's premier luxury and adventure destination.

Call (+268)78024736 or email: info@nkonyenilodge.com to book your green escape.

The accommodation is built in nature and with nature in mind, providing serene retreats.

NKONYENI Lodge and Golf Estate offers an adventure unlike any other in southern Africa. More than just a destination, Nkonyeni is committed to creating 'golden moments', those unforgettable experiences where luxury, nature and adventure perfectly align. Our unique positioning in the Kingdom of Eswatini, a country celebrated for its rich

culture and unparalleled biodiversity, allows us to offer an array of world-class activities, all within the estate's boundaries.

The estate is home to a world-class championship golf course, designed to challenge and delight players while offering stunning views of the surrounding bushveld. But the exploration doesn't stop at the 18th hole. Nkonyeni is a haven for eco activities

and cultural immersion, inviting guests to explore the pristine environment and deep heritage.

Guests can delve into our expansive 400-hectare game reserve, home to over 200 species of birds and diverse wildlife, showcasing our deep commitment to conservation and preservation of the bushveld's rich biodiversity.





NKONYENI GREEN ESCAPE

Nature, Community, Culture & Adventure Tours

50% DISCOUNT

CODE: NKGREEN

ON ACCOMMODATION (MON-THURS)

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email: info@nkonyenilodge.com

Comedy industry opening up!

It looks like the comedy industry is finally cracking open in the country and about time too! Dr Shakes recently hosted Eswatini Comedy Festival (ECOFEST), featuring a line-up of comedians from across Africa. The SibaneSami Hotel Hall was packed to the brim with people hungry for laughs and the comedians absolutely delivered.

Mdura, who apparently doesn't like pressure, was in fine form; we hope he keeps serving up more of that clever material. Darren and Bongiswa were their usual riotous selves, but the real chaos began when Darren decided to turn into a 'phara' mid-show and loot our money because it was his birthday. Or maybe that's not exactly how it happened...

At one point, Frank Chirisa even took us through a full-on biology lesson on reproduction and somehow, it was hilarious. I mean, the sweat, hardwork and sperms swimming hard not

“Darren turned into a ‘para’ mid-show and looted our money because it was his birthday – or maybe that’s not exactly how it happened...”

Dr Shakes with the riotous duo Darren and Bongiswa; they don't just tell jokes, they land punches that linger long after the laughter fades.

to drown in morning after. That's as far as I'll go; if you didn't buy your ticket, that's on you. The next ECOFEST is already locked in for September 25, 2026, so don't miss it this time.

Meanwhile, last month saw Thenjiwe Unplugged at Mbabane Theatre Club, with Thenjiwe headlining and bringing the house down. Fly Motion was a marvel – his jokes hit home hard, especially when he roasted our struggle as Blacks at the till counter, where we keep pestering the cashier with, “shaya lokhu, khipha lokhu.” And that look the cashier gives you... pure pain.

Thumbs up to the 'umlungu' who took every hit (joke) thrown his way like a champ. Thenjiwe kept them coming and even couldn't retreat. At some point, he was ready to submit his CV to umlungu – though Thenjiwe seemed in whether he had any



The look of a master at work. Mdura is one of the country's most seasoned comedians for a reason; he doesn't just tell jokes, he delivers punchlines that always hit home.



Cedric and Friends at The Molly's: Cedric's wittiness kept the crowd roaring.



Ntsetselelo is one of the emerging comedians and he is taking jokes to a new level.



Thando Mseleku, Cedric Simelane and Fly Motion served up jokes like Jack and Coke at happy hour and the crowd at Thenjiwe Unplugged at Mbabane Theatre Club drank it all in.

uncles or brothers! Anyway, that's enough. You didn't buy the tickets, so you'll just have to imagine the laughter. if you think you're ready for another dose of comedy, pop into Molly's Restaurant & Grill on Friday November 28,

2025, for Last Friday Gags with Cedric and Friends– unless, of course, Cedric decides to pull a joke on us all.

On Thursdays at Lounge 23:28 it is always Throwback & Comedy Night.

Spotlight: Eswatini's Rising Comics

- **Mdura** – The quiet genius who doesn't like pressure but always delivers punchy, relatable humour.
- **Thenjiwe** – Fearless, sharp, and queen of quick come-backs.
- **Sandile M** – Turning everyday struggles into comedy gold.
- **Darren & Bongiswa** – Proof that laughter really is the best workout.

This guy ... took all the punches for his hat.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Exploring the Beauty of Eswatini



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RE-DISCOVER ESWATINI
THE WANDERLUST



TO BE FEATURED HERE
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Grill. Groove. Good Times

...Count down begins at Mdzimba View



PERCHED against the majestic Mdzimba Mountains, where the air hums with the promise of adventure and vibrant local life, lies Mdzimba View Shisanyama; a spot redefining entertainment in Eswatini. This is not just a place to eat; it's an experience that captures the rhythm, flavour and energy of Eswatini nightlife.

“..this is not just a place to eat; it's an experience that captures the rhythm, flavour and energy of Eswatini nightlife.

Open from Tuesday to Sunday, Mdzimba View Shisanyama has become the heartbeat of weekend leisure, drawing in locals and visitors who crave a perfect mix of good food, live music and electric atmosphere. The venue blends rustic charm with a modern, lively pulse, offering an escape that feels both authentically local and irresistibly stylish.

As the sun sets behind the mountains, the lights come alive, the grill fires up and the music begins to roll. It's the kind of place where laughter spills



Tmax Express (SA) will ensure the dance floor stays alive well into the night on December 19.

across tables and where every evening turns into a celebration. From the irresistible aroma of sizzling meat to the friendly chatter of friends reunited, Mdzimba View has mastered the art of making every moment feel special.

This festive season promises an exciting line-up of entertainment that is bound to keep the spirit high.

- **November 1, 2025**, the crowd will gather for Bloss' Birthday Celebration (SA).
- **November 21, 2025**,

Jazzworx & Thukuthela (SA); a powerhouse duo whose music blends Amapiano and 3-step dance house deliver a polished, groove-packed sound that's topping The Official SA Charts and lighting up streaming platforms.

- **December 6, 2025** will see the Young Zesh Show (Home Coming) and Family Fun Day light up the venue, bringing families and friends together in a festive spirit.
- Closing the year in style, **December**



Young Zesh Show (Home Coming) is locked for December 6, 2025 and it will be coupled with Family Fun Day.



19, 2025 features Tmax Express (SA), ensuring the dance floor stays alive well into the night.

Adding to the excitement, Mdzimba View is introducing a new daytime experience; a fresh, elegant event featuring brunch-style bites, refreshing drinks and great music. It's a relaxed yet vibrant vibe designed for those who enjoy sunshine, laughter and good company.

Whether you come for the food, the music or the company, Mdzimba View Shisanyama promises more than a night out – it offers a taste of Eswatini's soul. So gather your friends, bring your energy and make Mdzimba View your go-to spot for unforgettable entertainment.



Jazzworx & Thukuthela (SA, a powerhouse duo whose music blends Amapiano and 3-step dance house deliver a polished, groove-packed sound that's topping The Official SA Charts.





01
NOV

DJ BLOSS
ALL BLACK AFFAIR

21
NOV

JAZZWORX & THUKUTHELA
THE ULTIMATE SHUTDOWN

06
DEC

YOUNG ZESH
HOME COMING

GIG GUIDE

SEAT OF ADMISSION RESERVED

Ready for adventure?

...Discover Phumula Guesthouse!

THIS isn't just a guesthouse; it's where adventure lives! Immerse yourself in an exhilarating outdoor experience filled with hiking trails that will take your breath away.

For those who love water, there's the thrill of bass fishing on serene waters. If you prefer two wheels, hop on your bike and get ready to soak in breathtaking mountain biking views at Phumula Guesthouse! Whether you're a pro or just starting, our trails have something for everyone. Don't miss out on this exhilarating experience! Book your ride now and let the mountains be your playground.

And when it's time to unwind, indulge in our luxurious accommodations that will make you feel right at home.

Are you ready to embark on the ultimate getaway?



After exploring you can enjoy a day by the pool too.






COME STAY WITH US

In our quiet picturesque garden setting, complete with lapa and braai area. We provide accommodation with warm and friendly hospitality within a traditional and homely atmosphere where you and your children will be made to feel exceptionally welcome by lodge owners Norma Robberts and Antonet Reid.



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 Reception Call: +268 78306775
 Email: phumulaguesthouse@swazi.net

Phumula

FARM GUEST HOUSE www.phumulaguesthouse.co.za



Wildlife Photography 2025: Nature’s Wonders Through the Lens

Each year, the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition reminds us that the natural world still holds extraordinary stories waiting to be seen. The 2025 winners have once again revealed the patience, passion and artistry that define true wildlife photography, capturing rare moments that blend science with beauty.

WE ONLY PICKED THREE FROM THE WINNERS;

Behaviour: Invertebrates – The Towering Caterpillar by Georgina Steytler

After years of searching, photographer Georgina Steytler finally encountered the elusive caterpillar she had been hoping to find. The clues were subtle but clear, eucalyptus trees with skeletonised leaves, proof that the tiny grazer had been at work. She seized the moment at sunset, framing the insect in a backlit glow while using a fill-in flash to reveal its living head beneath an extraordinary structure of old head capsules. Each layer of this natural helmet was retained through



WINNER IN THE BEHAVIOUR: Invertebrates category. The photographer had been looking out for this caterpillar for years when she noticed eucalyptus trees bearing skeletonised leaves, telltale signs that the animal had been grazing.

every moult, forming a fragile yet ingenious tower believed to confuse or deflect predators. It is a rare glimpse into one of nature’s quiet marvels



Winner in the Behaviour: Mammals category. The photographer had been keeping an eye out for wild cats such as servals for several days when a call came over the radio: one had been seen at Ndutu Lake. But it wasn’t a serval.

where survival meets creativity. **Behaviour: Mammals – The Caracal’s Unseen Hunt by Dennis Stogsdill**



Winner of the Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year. The photographer noticed this longhorn beetle while walking in the Lepini Mountains of central Italy, in an area once logged for old beech trees.

While tracking wild cats near Ndutu Lake, Stogsdill expected to find a serval. Instead, he witnessed a scene that few have ever documented, a caracal hunting

wading lesser flamingos. Known for their powerful leaps and diverse diet that ranges from insects to antelope, caracals are masters of stealth and agility. Yet this moment went beyond expectation as the cat prowled the lake-shore, moving with precision before striking its vibrant prey. The resulting image is both graceful and shocking, offering a rare record of adaptability and predatory skill in motion.

Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year – The Beetle and the Beech by Andrea Dominizi

Dominizi spotted a longhorn beetle resting on weathered bark in Italy. Once an area heavily logged for old beech trees, the forest now tells a story of loss and resilience. Longhorn beetles play a vital ecological role, tunnelling into dead wood and allowing fungi to enter, which in turn helps recycle nutrients back into the soil. It captures not just the beauty of the beetle but the delicate balance that sustains forest life. When habitats vanish, so too do the unseen threads that hold entire ecosystems together.

These images are more than technical triumphs; they are visual testaments to the intricate and fragile web of life that surrounds us, a reminder that even the smallest creatures have stories worth telling.

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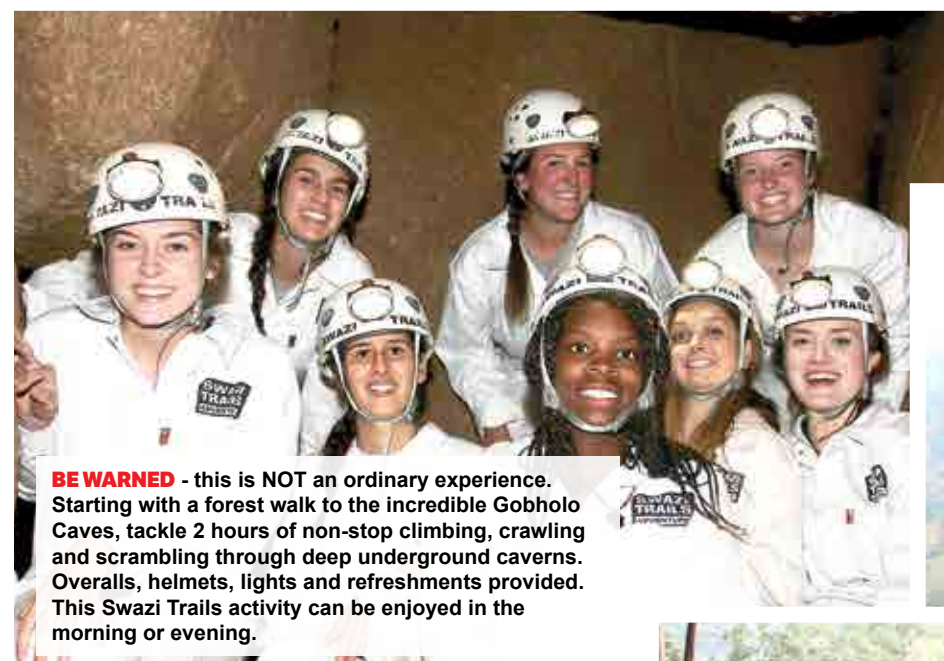
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Events CALENDAR





YOUR GUIDE

♦ **21 NOV – JAZZWORX & THUKUTHELA (SA)**

Location: Mdzimba
Get your dance shoes ready for a night of pure fun.

♦ **22 NOV – KUSEKHAYA CYCLING**

Location: Mhlume Country Club
Whether you're a seasoned rider or a passionate beginner, this is your chance to experience the thrill, the challenge and

the spirit of the Lowveld. Races include 5 km (free), 30 km (E150) and 50, 90 or 120 km (E200).

♦ **28 NOV – LAST FRIDAY NIGHT GAGS WITH CEDRIC AND FRIENDS**

Location: Molly's Restaurant, Mbabane
If you're in the mood for laughter, be ready to take a few comedic hits as the jokes come flying your way.

♦ **06 DEC – POETRY IN COMFORT**

Location: Manzini Liberty Centre
An evening of spoken word and soulful expression awaits poetry lovers. This coupled with serenading gospel music.



POETRY IN COMFORT

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