

# NEWSLETTER

M O S S E L B A Y

the Point

H O T E L ★ ★ ★ ★



VOLUME 9, FEBRUARY 2009

## Explore Endless Horizons

### ITB 2009 - BERLIN

Rated as one of the World's leading travel shows and with an estimated 180 000 visitors and 10 000 exhibitors ITB Berlin runs this year from 11<sup>th</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> March.

The Point Hotel represented by owner, Mr Louis Harris will be co-exhibiting with Your Travel Companion and can be found at Stand 118, Hall 20.

For appointments please contact him on [marketing@pointhotel.co.za](mailto:marketing@pointhotel.co.za)

### TUR 2009 - GOTEBOURG

Scandinavia's largest travel and tourism fair which has been running since 1984 will this year take place from 19<sup>th</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

The Point Hotel represented by owner, Mr Louis Harris will be co-exhibiting with the South African Embassy and can be found at Stand A01:40.

For appointments please contact him on [marketing@pointhotel.co.za](mailto:marketing@pointhotel.co.za)

## The Point Hotel Celebrates 10 Years!

Its ten years since Mossel Bay's The Point Hotel opened its doors - and owner Louis Harris celebrated the milestone in the iconic establishment's conference room with a dinner for his family and some of their friends this week.

"We used to dance on a concrete slab here on the rocks when we were kids," he said, "but twenty years ago the area had become quite degraded - so when the hotel was built, it brought a welcome kick-start to the rebirth of The Point, which is now an important attraction for Mossel Bay as a whole."

In the years since its opening, the hotel has received four nominations as a finalist in the AA Accommodation Awards (in the Luxury Hotels category in 2000 and in the Full Service Hotels category in 2004, 2005 and 2008) - and it took the trophy for the best Full Service Hotel in 2002.

Also in 2002, it received three star grading from the South African Tourism Grading Council and was graded as a Highly Recommended Leisure Hotel by the AA Quality Assurance Programme (this would later be up-scaled to Superior Hotel: Leisure). A fourth star followed in 2003 - making The Point the first hotel in Mossel Bay to receive 4-star grading.

In 2007 the hotel received an international Top Listing for Environmental Awareness and - perhaps its crowning glory so far - was named a finalist in the category World's Best Luxury Coastal Hotel in the 2008 World Luxury Hotel Awards.

The five-story hotel offers a low visual profile due to the careful way in which the building was tucked into its site. The reception area and the Lighthouse Restaurant are positioned at street level - so what appears to be the ground floor is, in fact, the middle level of the building.

All 52 sea-facing bedrooms have recently been refurbished and now boast a new, crisp look which complements their position above the rocks at the edge of the biggest natural tidal pool on the South African Coast.

As befits what is probably the best place for whale-watching in the area, all the sea-facing guest bedrooms - and the restaurant and conference room - have massive picture windows and wide, comfortable balconies.

"Building and running The Point Hotel has been one of the greatest challenges of my life," said Mr Harris, "but it's also been one of the most rewarding. "It says a lot that I'm as excited about the next ten years as I was at the start. Of course this has to do with our unique position at the edge of the Indian Ocean - but it's got even more to do with the fantastic team who've helped to establish the hotel as something of an international icon for tourism in the Garden Route.

"In the end, it's the staff who deserve all the credit."

## TAKE NOTE!!

### 10 Years of Service!

Letty Blauw, housekeeping staff member for 10 years retired from permanent service as of January 2009.

Letty has been with The Point Hotel since its inception and will be sorely missed as a valuable member of staff. We wish her all the best for the future!

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# St Blaize Hiking Trail: Further Upgrades approved

The second phase of the St Blaize Trail Rehabilitation project was approved in late November 2008 and will be completed in March 2009. Essential follow up clearing of alien vegetation will be undertaken as well as further pathway construction and maintenance along selected eroded areas.

Further informative signage will be erected along the trail as well as large information boards at the Mossel Bay and Dana Bay entrances to the trail. The St Blaize Trail is a Mossel Bay icon for overseas and local nature lovers and hikers. The trail will remain open throughout the project.

[www.visitmosselbay.co.za](http://www.visitmosselbay.co.za) for further information.

## Reminder: Online Booking Details

Website: [www.pointhotel.co.za](http://www.pointhotel.co.za) or Direct Email: [thepoint@pointhotel.co.za](mailto:thepoint@pointhotel.co.za)

### GDS System Codes for The Point Hotel

Sabre:	YX 71081	Worldspan:	YX GRJPH
Galileo/Apollo:	YX 86071	Amadeus:	YX MZYTPH

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