

NEWSLETTER

M O S S E L B A Y

the Point

H O T E L ★ ★ ★ ★



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Explore Endless Horizons

Unique Township Tourism Model For Mossel Bay

Township Tourism can be an interactive, socially-minded and potentially empowering activity for both the visitor and the communities involved. But it has courted controversy in the past over concerns for the safety of both visitors and inhabitants, and over fears that the South Africa culture was being misrepresented.

With this in mind, the Harris family, who own The Point Hotel, Mossel Bay's popular 4-star hotel, and the Hotel Portao Diaz, a comfortable 3-star hotel located within the previously disadvantaged area of D'Almeida, have put a product together which aims to benefit the local community whilst providing visitors with a unique and life-enriching experience.

Although the community surrounding it is described as previously disadvantaged, the Hotel Portao Diaz offers stunning sea views and a panoramic vista over varying residential areas ranging from upmarket to shanty town - a clear reflection of the cultural diversity of the Mossel Bay area.

What makes the Mossel Bay township experience unique, however, is the fact that it's not run by an operator as such - rather, it's about a stay in a quality hotel in a previously disadvantaged community. As an added extra, the partnership has sourced talent and products in the community so that ground handlers can arrange the experience according to their clients' wants and needs.

"A typical itinerary would see guests staying a night at the Hotel Portao Diaz, where a children's dance group and visual artists from the local community will meet and entertain them.

During the day - and as an optional extra - we can arrange a step-on guide who can take you to visit people and places in the community like an artists' collective, a shebeen, and a traditional healer. Then - on the second night - you stay at the seaside at The Point Hotel," says Louis Harris, owner of both hotels and originator of the idea.



"Alternatively, if the itinerary is limited, you could stay at either of the hotels for one night and visit a shebeen on your way to Oudtshoorn the next day.

"Whichever way you do it, a visit to the townships of this area will open your eyes to the way in which a large number of South Africans live. Despite these difficult circumstances and living conditions, though, the Mossel Bay township experience is bound to reaffirm for you the vibrancy and spirit of the South African people."

For further details please contact admin@pointhotel.co.za

TAKE NOTE!!

Holistic Massage Therapy

Remove yourself from the rigors of the modern world - stay at The Point Hotel**** and de-stress with a fantastic Back, Neck and Shoulder massage or treat yourself to African Rungu - performed with a traditional wooden Rungu stick and a dance of the hands on the body. Rejuvenate with this African Experience.

Our in-house Massage Therapist who adopts a holistic approach to massage therapy will provide the therapy in the comfort of your own room. Please contact our Front Desk to schedule a treatment.

View our website www.pointhotel.co.za for a comprehensive list of the therapies on offer or email thepoint@pointhotel.co.za

The Point Hotel,
Point Road, Mossel Bay

Tel +27 (0) 44 691 3512
Fax +27 (0) 44 691 3513

Web site:
www.pointhotel.co.za

Email:
admin@pointhotel.co.za

Winter Special Offer!

It's Winter - time for a break to recharge your batteries!! What better way to enjoy the wet weather than getting wetter and going diving with a Great White shark or meandering around the Diaz Museum complex lost in the rich cultural history of Mossel Bay and then choosing from countless restaurants to enjoy a warming Winter Meal.

Book a Two Night Stay at The Point Hotel between 1 June and 31 August 2009 at the fantastic rate of **R425 per person sharing per night** including a fabulous English Buffet Breakfast and you can enjoy our four star friendly hospitality while exploring all that Mossel Bay and the surrounds have to offer. Enquiries to 044 6913512 or thepoint@pointhotel.co.za

Offer valid for bookings from 1 June 2009 to 31 August 2009. Minimum two night stay. Pre-booking Essential. For more details on activities in Mossel Bay and surrounds please look at www.visitmosselbay.co.za

“Big 5” due to become the “Big 7”!

The Whale and Great White Shark commonly seen around the Western Cape region and regularly in Mossel Bay, are due to be added to the “Big Five” making South Africa the only country to boast a “Big Seven”.

According to Environmental Affairs Minister, Buyelwa Sonjica, this will have a significant impact on tourism for the area as the Big 5 which currently includes lion, leopard, elephant, rhinoceros and buffalo are a must-see for all tourists visiting our country.

Mossel Bay is lucky enough to enjoy regular sightings of whales and shark-cage diving and viewing operators enable close encounters of the Great White variety. Mossel Bay also boasts with three game reserves which contain the Big 5 at present enabling tourists the full Big 7 experience within the Garden Route region. For more information on whale seasons, shark cage diving or viewing and game reserves in the area please go to www.visitmosselbay.co.za

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