

Private Bag X424, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa. Tel. (+27 12) 444 6780, Fax (+27 12) 444 7027 Private Bag X9154, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa. Tel. (+27 21) 469 5800, Fax: (+27 21) 465 3216

MEDIA STATEMENT

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South Africa Marks Record High International Arrivals

South Africa's tourism sector continues to show strong and sustained growth.

October 2025 recorded 927 426 tourist arrivals, marking an impressive 32% increase compared to October 2024 and positioning it as one of the strongest Octobers on record.

From January 2025 to October 2025 some 8.56 million people visited the country, which marks an increase of 1.3 million new arrivals when compared to the same period in 2024.

"We are now in a period of sustained growth. These numbers reflect the hard work of our industry partners, the improved ease of travel, enhanced air access, and our continued focus on service excellence and new tourism experiences. South Africa is becoming more competitive, and visitors are responding," says Tourism Minister Patricia de Lille

The Minister also extends her appreciation to 1.8 million tourism workers: "To all the dedicated tourism workers across the country, thank you for your commitment. You are the heartbeat of this sector, and this growth is a testament to your resilience and professionalism. I also want to thank our workforce in advance ahead of the festive season peak, for their efforts to ensure our tourists experience South Africa's hospitality."

South Africa remains committed to building a thriving, inclusive and sustainable tourism sector that contributes meaningfully to jobs and economic growth. This is evident from the successful hosting of the recently concluded G20 Leaders' Summit. The full impact of the G20 Summit on tourism sector is currently being audited.

THE END

For streaming links, images, videos and further information please scan the QR Code and join the Tourism Department's National Multimedia WhatsApp Group.



Media Queries:

Aldrin Sampear

Spokesperson for the Minister of Tourism

Email: asampear@tourism.gov.za

Mobile: +27 67 138 3487