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#### SA tourism industry celebrates excellence

#### 13 October 2014

Products and services offered by the tourism industry are contributing to South Africa's growth, competitiveness and transformation.

Speaking at the Lilizela Tourism Awards in Johannesburg today, the Minister of Tourism, Derek Hanekom, congratulated leading members of the industry for helping to grow South Africa's reputation as a leading tourism destination, and supporting the growth and development of South Africa's economy.

"South Africa's tourism industry has proven itself as an excellent vehicle for growing the economy and creating jobs," said Mr Hanekom. "All the finalists and award winners have done a fantastic job in advancing this important sector through their commitment to excellence in the products they have developed and the services they offer. "The Lilizela Tourism Awards are the premier awards programme for tourism businesses in South Africa.

"This means that South Africa's reputation as a world-class tourism destination continues to grow," said Mr Hanekom.

This year's Lilizela Tourism Awards experienced a growth of 854% in the number of votes received from 2013 to 2014 (784 vs. 7 480), which highlights the importance of consumer reviews. In addition, visitors to the Lilizela Tourism Awards website spent an average of six minutes compared to the two minutes they spent last year. This indicates that the two-year old brand is gaining traction among consumers.

This year's highly sought-after Minister's Award was presented to Mr. Mavuso Msimang. The award honours an individual or business that has made a noteworthy local and global contribution to tourism economically and socially.

Mavuso is currently the CEO of the Oliver and Adelaide Tambo Foundation and also sits on several company boards, for corporate and non-governmental organizations.

During his illustrious career, he has been called upon to work in fields of discipline ranging from international development through tourism, conservation and information technology. He has also been extensively involved in the transformation and restructuring of state-owned entities, namely www.lilizela.co.za are:

# 1. Lilizela IMVELO Awards Best Singe Resource Management - Water

#### Large

Establishment	Province
ATKV-Drakensville Vakansieoord	KwaZulu-Natal

### Large

Establishment	Province
V&A Waterfront Holdings	Western Cape

#### Small

Establishment	Province
Thaba Tshwene Game Lodge	North West

### **Best Single Resource Management – Waste**

### Large

Establishment	Province
Sandton Sun	Gauteng

#### Small

Establishment	Province
Southern Sun Newlands	Western Cape

### **Best Overall Environmental Management System**

### Large

Establishment	Province
Hotel Verde	Western Cape
Spier Wine Farm	Western Cape

#### Small

Establishment	Province
African Game Lodge	Western Cape

### **Economic Impact**

### Large

Establishment	Province
Aquila Private Game Lodge	Western Cape

#### **Small**

Establishment	Province
Bulungula Lodge	Eastern Cape

### **Investing In People**

### Large

Establishment	Province
The Twelve Apostles and Spa	Western Cape

#### Small

Establishment	Province
Garden Court Hatfield	Gauteng

### **Best Social Involvement Programme**

### Large

Establishment	Province
African Impact	Western Cape

#### Small

Establishment	Province
Bulungula Lodge	Eastern Cape

#### 2. Lilizela ETEYA Awards

WINNER	Limpopo Guest Manor
1ST RUNNER UP	Discover Durban Tours & Transfers
2ND RUNNER UP	Osiba Management
3RD RUNNER UP	Park Place Boutique Hotel and Guesthouse

#### 3. Lilizela Accommodation Awards

1 Star Hotel	Road Lodge East London
2 Star Hotel	Town Lodge Midrand
3 Star Hotel	Umthunzi Hotel and Conference
4 Star Hotel	Grand Café & Rooms
5 Star Hotel	Fusion Boutique Hotel
4 Star Guesthouse	Tranquility Guest House
5 Star Guesthouse	Strandloper Ocean Lodge
3 Star Bed & Breakfast	Tarentaal Oorslaap
4 Star Bed & Breakfast	Gaikou Lodge
5 Star Bed & Breakfast	Hyde Park Villas
4 Star Lodge	Tanamera Lodge
5 Star Lodge	Sarili Lodge
3 Star Self Catering Shared Vacation	Badplaas A Forever Resort : Chalets
4 Star Self Catering Shared Vacation	Orange Grove Farm
5 Star Self Catering Exclusive	Lawhill Luxury Apartments
3 Star Caravan and Camping	ATKV Hartenbos Caravan Park
4 Star Caravan and Camping	Dibiki Holiday Resort
4 Star Country House	De Doornkraal Historic Country House
5 Star Country House	Tenahead Mountain Lodge and Reserve
4 Star Backpacker & Hosteling	Tsitsikamma Backpackers
4 Star MESE	Maropeng Conference Centre
5 Star MESE	The forum   the campus

## 4. Universal Accessibility Mobility

Soli Deo Gloria

### 5. Visitor Experience of the Year

Action & Adventure	Wild 5 Adventures
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Umngazi River Bungalows & Spa
The Maboneng Precinct
Raggy Charters
Maropeng
Cape Point in the Cape Of Good Hope
Monkeyland, Birds of Eden and The Jukani Wildlife

### 6. Tourist Guides

Nature Tourist Guide	Isaiah Banda
Culture Tourist Guide	Rob Caskie

### 7. B-BBEE

Exempted Micro Enterprise	Ubuhle be narha tours
Large Enterprise	City Lodge Hotels Limited

To view the full list of national finalists winners and for images, please visit <a href="www.lilizela.co.za">www.lilizela.co.za</a>

Source: South African Tourism (SAT)