

GTTP

THE GLOBAL TRAVEL & TOURISM PARTNERSHIP
A BUSINESS AND EDUCATION ALLIANCE

INSIDE TRACK-TOURISM EDUCATION

News from South Africa

Howzit! from South Africa

Despite the difficulties our industry has faced due to the pandemic, at GTTP-SA we remain optimistic about the coming year. In South Africa tourism has had a very difficult 2020 with a second wave of COVID-19 impacting the industry so instead of the small shoots of recovery we had hoped to see, there are lockdowns, flights grounded, booking cancelled. Learners studying tourism in schools become aware of our beloved industry's despair, frustration and fear but we simply refuse to give up because there is passion, collaboration, resilience and innovation. That's how we know this industry will survive. Let us share some of our stories with you.

The New Normal - Virtual Learning

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many learning and teaching challenges in South Africa. In September 2020 the University of Stellenbosch made their recording facilities available to produce tourism learning and teaching resources for schools. GTTP-SA Director, Elsabé Engelbrecht played TV presenter to two sessions of 2 hours each to record curriculum material which was broadcast to schools through the Telematics programme. Learners engaged with hard copies while watching the streaming of the learning material in class.



GTTP-SA Director, Elsabé Engelbrecht, at the University of Stellenbosch recording curriculum material.

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Protea Hotels by Marriott reaches out to Cape Flats school

High school learners in South Africa who study Tourism & Hospitality at school level do not always regard the tourism sector as a future career path. The GTTP-SA and Protea Hotel Breakwater Lodge played a significant role in exposing learners from disadvantaged communities to experience real life tourism environment. The hotel hosted learners from Crystal Secondary School in the gang-ridden area of Hanover Park, commonly known as “The Cape Flats”. These learners are regularly exposed to gangs openly engaging in gun wars during daytime with no regard for innocent lives. The learners and teachers who participated in this outreach project did so voluntarily on a Saturday morning. Creating an opportunity for the young people to leave the area where they live and visit a hotel indicates how serious they are about changing the course of their lives. The site visit included an introductory talk by the General Manager Mr Colin Naiker on the value of tourism for the economy of a country and an introduction to the Protea Hotel group by Marriott representatives. Learners enjoyed the site visit to bedrooms, the kitchen, the restaurant, conferencing facilities, housekeeping and front of house where they talked to staff members to get a better understanding of what working in the hotel entails



Students from Crystal Secondary School visiting Protea Hotels.

Banele Motsoeneng – Digital Photograph winner

Banele does not get many opportunities to travel, but when she does, she loves to take photographs of the beautiful surroundings of the Mpumalanga Province. Her winning photograph of the Three Rondavels in Mpumalanga not only won her a prize in the South African competition, but she also received 2nd prize in the GTTP’s international Digital Photo Competition. Click [here](#) to listen to what Banele has to say.

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Travelport Tourism Teacher of the Year - 2019 / 2020

Travelport and GTTP-SA recognised deserving Tourism teachers for the excellent work they are doing in South African Schools to prepare the future workforce for the tourism industry.



Travelport Tourism Teacher of the Year Mr Venesan Govender.

Winner: Mr Venesan Govender

Dilizela High School, Nyonyane Area, Pomeroy, Dundee, KwaZulu Natal Province.

Mr Govenders has played a key role in inspiring students, staff and the wider community at Dilizela High School. Thanks to Mr Govender's numerous projects, learners and community members became aware of the importance of sustainability in their community and how tourism can play a key role. The community, which was once very hostile, is now welcoming visitors to the area and understands the contribution tourism can make on the livelihood of the community. Under Mr Govender's leadership, tourism learners are now educating other learners on World Heritage Sites and the value of conservation. The improved results of the school through the introduction of tourism has been commended by the Chief (Inkosi) of the area.



Travelport First Runner-up Mr Mlungisi Magagula

First Runner-up: Mr Mlungisi Magagula

Kwaza- mokuhle Secondary School, Mpumalanga Province.

'I teach because I care' is the motto of this young inspiring teacher born in Kwazamokuhle, Hendrina, a small township in Mpumalanga. Mlungisi (27) graduated in 2015 from University of Witwatersrand with a Bachelor of Education. In 2016 he started teaching, as a tourism educator, at Kwazamokuhle Secondary School, a township school whose learners come from poor backgrounds. One of many challenges faced is lack of motivation. When he started teaching, he made a pact with himself – To inspire and change lives "one learner at a time".

HERO STORY- JANEL BLAAUW (GTTP-SA ALUMNI)

Janel Blaauw (23) was inspired by the GTTP-SA research competition and a love of languages to pursue a career in travel and tourism. At 17, Janel was studying tourism at Diamantveld High School in the Northern Cape province. “I won a prize in the photo competition and was runner-up in the research competition”, he said, "GTTP-SA gave me the key to open the door to my future. I was curious about other countries, cultures and experiences and knew that I wanted to work in this industry.”

In 2016 Janel won a scholarship from the Northern Cape’s Premiers fund to study Tourism Management and Event Management at the Central University of Technology. He was one of two students selected by each university in South Africa to take part in the Future Leaders initiative at Meetings Africa.

Following two German exchanges, Janel graduated in 2019 with a degree in Tourism Management. His first job was with Amazon Germany and he recently accepted a position as a German speaking Travel Advisor with Egencia. In his free time Janel completed his Tour Guiding qualification for the Western Cape province and is now studying to become a national tourist guide.



GTTP SA Alumni Janel Blaauw studying abroad in Germany, graduating in 2019 and working for Egencia as a Travel Advisor.





NOW LET'S HEAR FROM ANNE:

As I reflect on the stories in this newsletter, it strikes me that these students have had to take risks to accomplish what they want - and that takes courage. From the young men and women who are trying to leave behind a difficult and challenging environment to the photo competition winner and our hero who had an ambition and pursued his dreams, they all showed great courage.

Belief, challenge, commitment, determination shines out.
Well done to everyone involved!

A final word from GTTP-SAWe greet you from one of the most beautiful countries in the world... Stay strong and safe, keep fighting. Collectively, the industry is stronger than anything the external world can throw at us.

