

## New Sun Meropa Hotel to boost Polokwane tourism and economy

The opening of the upmarket Sun Meropa Hotel marks the start of a new era for Sun Meropa, part of Sun International. The opening of the hotel comes less than a year after Sun International and the Domba Empowerment Corporation announced the expansion plans for the complex.



From left to right: Peter Guthrie (General Manager, SunMeropa), Serobi Maja (Chief Executive Officer, Limpopo Gaming Board), Anthony Leeming (Chief Executive Officer, Sun International), Raleigh Maesela (Chairman, Sun Meropa) and Demi-Leigh Peters-Nel (Miss South African 2017)

Sun International's R76m investment in the hotel at Sun Meropa forms part of the company's commitment to the City of Polokwane and the Limpopo Gambling Board. In the last financial year, Sun Meropa directly contributed over R1.2m in Soc Economic Development projects mainly in education, sports and culture initiatives, and through the Domba Trust has also ploughed back over R8.9m in various projects focused on education.

### Contributing to the local economy

The hotel development provides economic stimulus for the region, through job creation and tourism to the area. Approximately 475 jobs were created directly and indirectly through the development, with the majority of labour sourced from the local community.

Sun Meropa's General Manager, Peter Guthrie says the development reaffirms Sun Meropa's commitment to supporting the city's economic priorities and growing Polokwane into a destination of choice for international and domestic travellers. "We continuously strive towards excellence to enhance Sun Meropa's appeal so as to promote tourism to the city and thereby contribute to the local economy. By enhancing Sun Meropa with a quality hotel, offering a high standard of accommodation we believe we can increase our contribution to economic growth and tourism in the area.

### Sun Meropa poised to become the premier business and leisure destination

"We are delighted with the results of what has been a demanding, yet exciting, construction phase. With the largest, contemporary casino floor in Polokwane, a selection of dining and entertainment options and our beautiful new hotel, Sun Meropa is poised to become the premier leisure, business and conferencing destination in the region."

The new Sun Meropa Hotel flows seamlessly into the casino complex and reflects the discerning Moroccan styled, architecture and aesthetics that make the complex distinctly Sun Meropa. The hotel boasts 60 immaculate rooms with a Moroccan theme. Including four suites and two luxury suites. Catering to business and leisure travellers, the hotel features

amenities and the high quality of service that Sun International's guests are accustomed to.

Sun Meropa, which celebrated its 15th anniversary in March this year, is a vibrant entertainment hub at the heart of Polokwane, offering an array of entertainment and experiences for young and old. The complex features the upmarket Harvest Grill & Wine restaurant, the contemporary Jembe Tavern which hosts regular live entertainment, and a well equipped and versatile conference centre. Sun Meropa hosts a variety of events annually, with artists such as Mi Casa, Candy, Muz Brothers and Loyiso Gola amongst the well-known entertainers that have graced its stage. The casino itself boasts 417 slot machines and 17 tables, including classics like Roulette, Blackjack and Poker.

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