



# SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

## IZINDABA

*Welcome to Izindaba (which is Zulu for news in case you were wondering).  
This is our new monthly trade newsletter where we will update you on the latest news, product  
developments, hints and important pieces of information from SAA.*

*Read on and learn more!*

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### **Professor John M. Lamola appointed permanent CEO of SAA**

The South African Airways (SAA) Board has welcomed the approval by the Minister of the appointment of Professor John M. Lamola as its Group Chief Executive Officer. Professor Lamola has been at the helm at SAA as interim CEO since May 2022.

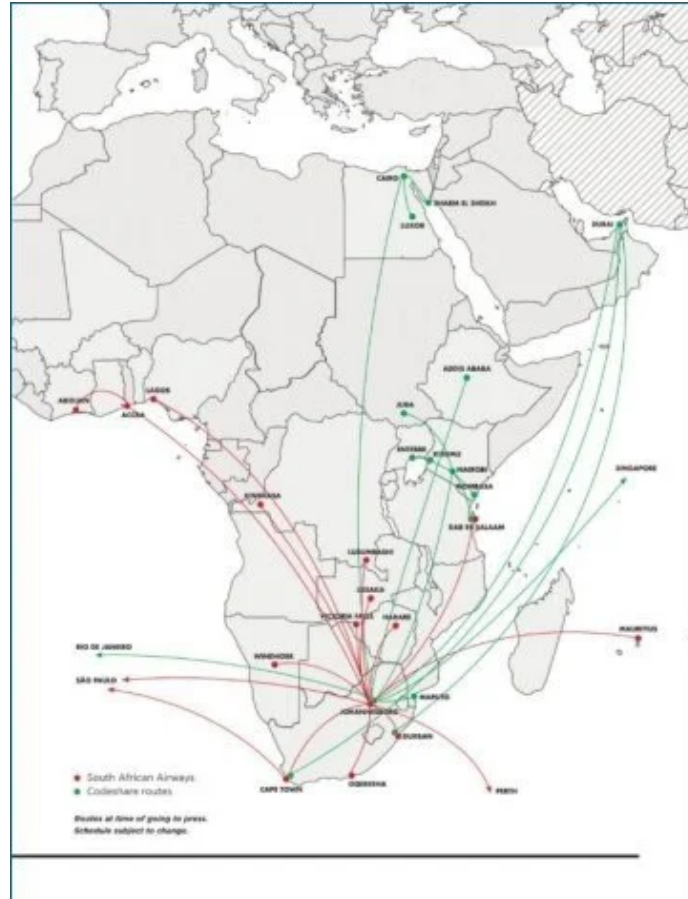
He is deeply conversant with the airline's past and has been intimately involved in planning its future. His proven leadership will ensure stability and continuity in SAA's governance and operations.

In his position as interim CEO, Professor Lamola ensured SAA's return to profit-making status. In the 2022/23 financial year, SAA reported a net profit of R252-million, marking its first profitable year since 2012. Revenue in the same year was R5.7-billion, up from R2-billion in the previous financial year (2021/22).



## Connections beyond JNB

SAA continues to rebuild its network and now can offer onward connections from Johannesburg to Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Dar es Salaam, Harare, Mauritius & Windhoek to name a few. Please see the latest network map below.



## JNB OR Tambo International

## Airport transit hotel and Lounge guide

Click [here](#) to access our guide, or try [here](#), for transit hotel suggestions for short stays in Johannesburg. These are the hotels within a short distance of JNB airport for those with an extended transit or overnight stop. For those with shorter transits, we list the JNB Airport paid lounge options [here](#) with instructions on how to book these.



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### Name Correction Policy

If your booking contains only SAA 2 or 3 digit flight numbers and a name correction is required, the name corrections and changes should be requested via <https://www.flysaa.com/change-passenger-data>, the request is to be logged with a passport copy as name changes and corrections can only be authorized and processed by SAA Johannesburg.

Name corrections on fares booked in G / W / L class are not permitted in **\*any\*** circumstances and must be refunded with the applicable fare cancellation penalty.

Name changes PNR's containing codeshare flights or flights on other airlines, cannot be processed via the online system. The process involving tickets with codeshare & Interline carriage only, is as follows.

- Split the passenger off the existing PNR
- Create a new PNR in the correct name
- Purchase and issue a new ticket at current fares (the fare cannot be backdated to match the original ticket) RBD and endorse with NAME CORR FROM (and original PNR reloc)
- Submit the original ticket via BSP for refund consideration, less AU\$60 admin fee per application, noting the new ticket number and reason NAME CORR with copies of passports. Please note BSP refunds can only be considered for Interline Itineraries & the waiver of the cancellation penalty cannot be guaranteed in these instances, and will be at SAA Head Office discretion.

- Name corrections on fares booked in G / W / L class are not permitted and must be refunded with the applicable fare cancellation penalty.

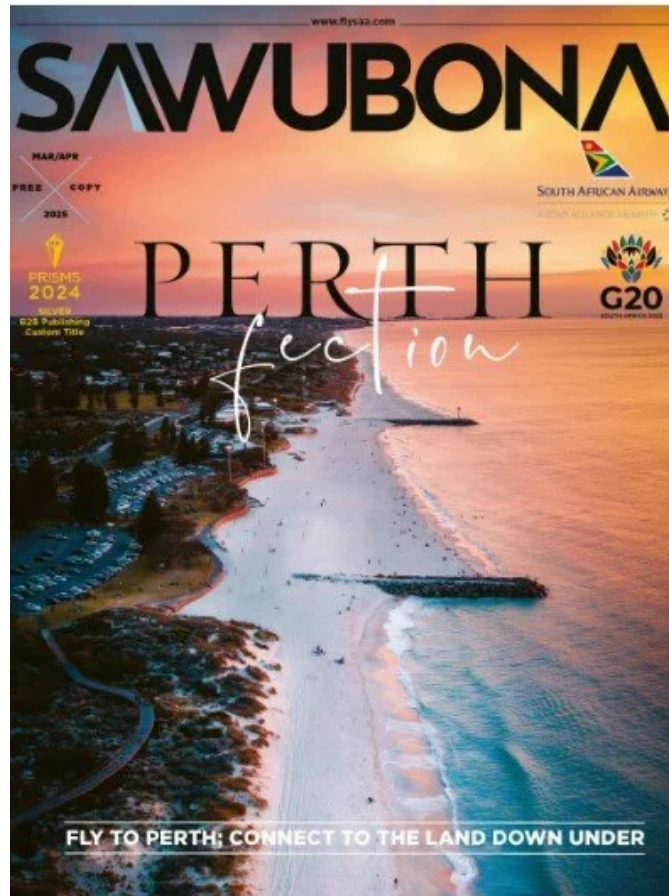


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## **SAWUBONA Magazine**

Click [here](#) for the latest edition of our Inflight Magazine SAWUBONA or utilise our QR code below:





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## Out of Africa by Greg Atkins



*Our NSW/QLD Account Manager, Greg Atkins, was fortunate enough recently to be a participant in South African Tourism's Mega Lekker Agent Famil last month. Here is a brief account of his experience!*

Mega Lekker Escape 2025 was an absolute whirlwind of the best kind. Over 100 travel agents and media from Australia and New Zealand, most of them experiencing South Africa for the first time, so the excitement was real. The journey for me started in Sydney, connecting through

Perth, where the SAA team went above and beyond to make sure everything ran smoothly. A special shoutout to them for the warm send-off and the in-flight announcement from the SA281 crew. A nice little touch before the real adventure began.

Landing in Johannesburg, the group split into ten different itineraries, each showcasing a different part of South Africa. I was lucky enough to join Caryn Young and the Adventure World NZ crew (Big shout out to them, and Adventure World for putting together such an incredible itinerary). We started off as a bunch of strangers, ended up as great mates. We were off to explore KwaZulu-Natal, one of South Africa's best kept secrets.

A quick domestic flight to Durban, and we hit the ground running, straight to our first stop - the Oyster Box Hotel in Umhlanga. Spent the night in absolute comfort, right on the beach with the iconic red-and-white lighthouse in view. The food? Next level. After a solid night's rest, it was time to swap ocean views for the bush.

Three nights at Rhino Ridge Safari Lodge in Hluhluwe-iMfolozi, and it did not disappoint. Unreal game viewing, including rhinos, elephants, and lions, plus a visit to Mpembeni village, where we saw first-hand how the lodge works with the local community. Very eye-opening. And yeah, the food was once again out of this world.

Next stop: iSimangaliso Wetland Park, where we spent two nights at Makakatana Lodge. This place was something else – the lodge is in the wetlands, hippos chilling nearby, and a true beach-to-bush experience. One minute you're spotting wildlife, the next you're standing on an untouched beach. South Africa really does it all, food – again incredible.

Then came Sungulwane, a private Big 5 lodge in Zuka Game Reserve. We had the whole place to ourselves, unreal game drives, and easily one of the most intimate safari experiences I've had. Seeing a cheetah with her cubs on a fresh kill was a 'WOW' moment. I also got to learn about the drone team working on anti-poaching efforts, which was fascinating. At this point, it goes without saying - the food was once again top tier.

After a week in the wild, it was back to Johannesburg. We stayed at The Hyde in Rosebank, which was in a great spot for up market shopping and restaurants. Spent the next day diving into South Africa's history - Apartheid Museum, Nelson Mandela's house, Vilakazi Street in Soweto. Even squeezed in a bungee jump at Soweto Towers which was a personal highlight.

Then it was off to Sun City, where all the groups reunited for two days of networking and training. The energy was unreal, everyone buzzing to share their experiences. Best part was the trivia night, where we came out on top. The prize? A massage at the Palace Spa, which after a week of non-stop travel was a great little way to end the trip!

Wrapped things up in style with a long lunch on the Rovos Rail in Pretoria before heading back to OR Tambo for the journey home. Looking back, it was one of those trips that really showed just how much South Africa has to offer. Safari, beaches, culture, history, city life, all in one place and of course the food, where I have brought back a few extra kg's as a souvenir.

It was experience none of us will be forgetting anytime soon.



Australia: +61 02 9286 8960

Mon - Fri 09:00 - 17:00 Eastern Standard Time

Mon - Fri 09:00 - 17:00 Western Australia Standard Time

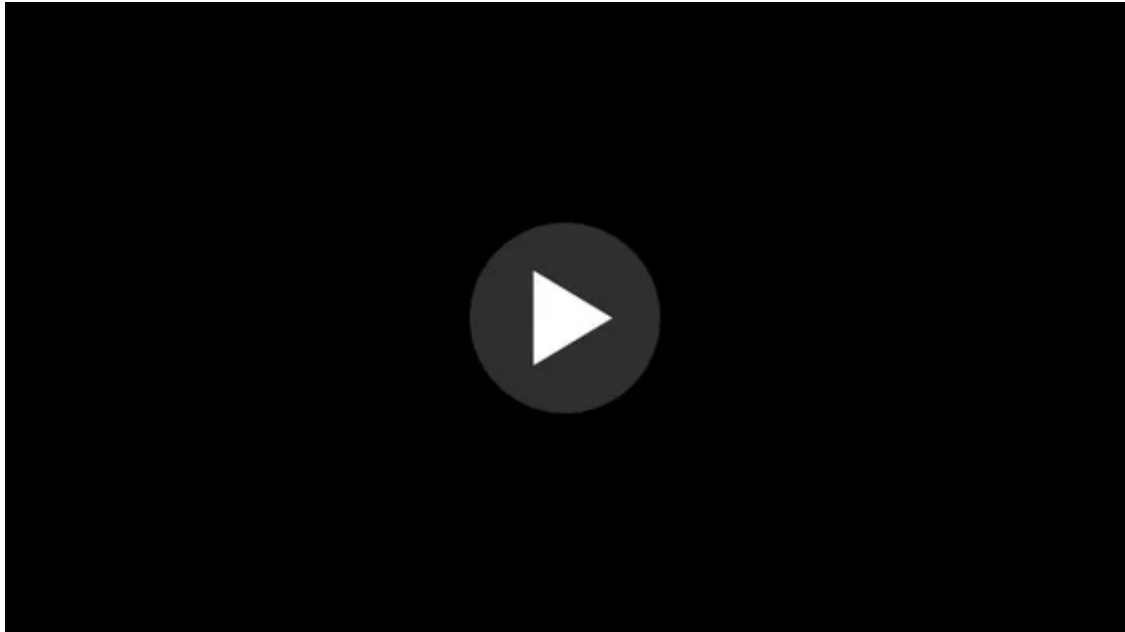
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New Zealand: +64 9 977 2237 Mon - Fri 0900 - 1700 NZ Standard Time

Email: [NZReservations@flysaa.com](mailto:NZReservations@flysaa.com)

*NGIYABONGA - KEA LEBOHA - BAIE DANKIE - THANK YOU*

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