



Southern Africa is tops for enriching experiences

The plethora of arts, cultural, heritage and entertainment experiences on offer in Southern Africa ensure that a lasting impression is left on all who visit. *Tourism Update* investigates some of the latest developments in this sector of the tourism industry...

Upgraded boat ride at Maropeng



MAROPENG HAS launched an upgraded boat ride, depicting the history of the earth. The enhancements to the ride focus on the senses of touch, smell, sight and sound.

The boat experience starts at the present day and moves on a trip back through time, retracing various stages in Earth's creation. Snow-making and ice-producing machines will give guests an indication of what the most recent ice age may have been

further in time, when the world was submerged in water and beyond that to the formation of the Earth's crust and the shifting of the tectonic plates. Finally the beginning is reached, when the Earth was a fiery ball of molten rock and the ride ends dramatically in a simulated 'black hole'.

Visitors continue on foot for three metres in the 'black hole' before emerging in front of an audio-visual presentation of the

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NEW UPPER DECK EXTENSION

THE UPPER Deck in Plettenberg Bay has unveiled a new extension to its current gallery, increasing its size by 72 square metres.

The extension, designed by architect Peter Oosthuizen, will first house an exhibition from a group of local female artists; including Sally Arnold, who will display work from her Karoo Basics and African Suite series, Lynette ten Kroonden and Susanna Swart.

Noelle Bolton, Upper Deck Gallery Art Director and Owner says: "To welcome these three exceptional female artists back home to showcase their extraordinary talent is a privilege.

"The new extension is the ideal space to do their works justice."

BEAUTIFUL BEADS ON DISPLAY



THE WORK of Ubuhle Beautiful Beads will be in display at the Gold of Africa Museum until February. Anglogold Ashanti recently commissioned two large pieces from Ubuhle Beautiful Beads for their new building in Newtown, Johannesburg and the exhibition at Gold of Africa Museum is in acknowledgement of this event and a celebration of African artists.

The exhibition features a collection of beaded artwork by a group of women from KwaZulu Natal. The artworks were inspired by their

Karoo Basics and African Suite series, Lynette ten Kroonden and Susanna Swart.

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