

De-risking tourism: Prioritising safety protocols across all sub-sectors

As part of de-risking the sector and in order to quicken the return to market during Covid-19, the Tourism Business Council of South Africa (TBCSA) reached out to the industry to make submissions on health and operational protocols which could be implemented to make tourism safer.



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This process is done as part of the industry-wide Tourism Recovery Plan which is led by South African Tourism in partnership with TBCSA.

A call for submissions went out to the sector last week and TBCSA is pleased to have received close to 3,000 submissions of which a third were incomplete (thus 2,000 fully completed) from tourism stakeholders, who are all working together towards recovery.

These submissions come from across the nine provinces, from big and small industry operators, local tourism chambers and from both TBCSA members and non-members.

"As TBCSA, we are pleased and encouraged by how the tourism industry has heeded the call and united to make submissions which are key to our industry's timely and safe recovery. Throughout this pandemic, the sector has stood together and the same is true as we pave a path towards recovery," said Tshifhiwa Tshivhengwa, CEO of TBCSA.

"We would like to thank our industry stakeholders for taking the time to make their submissions and for ensuring that their voices are heard," said Tshivhengwa.

The submissions spell out the mechanism that will be put in place to prevent the spread of Covid-19 within tourism.

"De-risking empowers the sector to put in place measures, including health and operational protocols, that can make it possible to open sooner," says Sisa Ntshona, CEO of South African Tourism.

According to Tshivhengwa, the next steps in the process are absolutely crucial to the sector's recovery.

"We will now consolidate the industry's input, then prepare a submission to Government for further engagement on the de-risking of the tourism sector," said Tshivhengwa.

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