



FACT SHEET

CITY OF CAPE TOWN: TOURISM

Sustainable Transport in Tourism

Why sustainable transport in tourism?

- Transport is the lifeblood of tourism.
- Without transport, tourists cannot reach their destinations. The transport sector is responsible for a large share of gas and particle emissions that impact negatively on the climate.
- These emissions threaten human health, crops, and the material infrastructure.
- The tourism industry contributes some 5% of global CO₂ emissions.
- Transport could negatively affect the environment and destroy the tourist attractions, therefore damaging the tourist industry.
- People are becoming more and more concerned about climate change, damage to the environment and the destruction of cultures and lifestyles.
- Growing awareness of the earth's crisis is spilling over into human behaviour, spending patterns and business conduct.

What is the impact of transport?

- The combustion of fossil fuels emits carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- In addition to CO₂ emissions, combustion engines emit nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), and unburned hydrocarbons, which are chemically transformed in the atmosphere, creating other gases such as ozone.
- Ozone is a greenhouse gas and poses a regional air pollution problem damaging human health and agricultural crops.
- Sulphuric fuels such as those used aboard ships create sulphate particles that increase the reflection of sunlight and thus have a cooling effect.
- Diesel engines emit considerable amounts of soot particles that absorb sunlight and thus lead to a warming of the climate.

What can we do?

- Engage globally: Gas emissions transcend geographical borders.
- Promote non-motorised and public transport in destination tourism.
- Develop innovative tourism products that do not rely on vehicle transport.
- Determine public transport shortcomings around tourist attractions and rectify these.
- Create awareness on responsible travel and travel operations through programmes such as the City of Cape Town's

- [Responsible Tourism Action Plan \(awareness of responsible tourism practices\)](#)
- Providing responsible tourism tips to visitors www.capetown.travel
- [Travel SMART programme](#).

What can we do as a destination?

In partnership with Cape Town Tourism, SA Rail Commuter Corporation, PRASA (Metrorail), SATSA and the private sector, the City of Cape Town has developed eco-friendly tourism products to ensure more sustainable and responsible transport & access.

These include:

MyCiti bus service: An Integrated Rapid Transport system that is being rolled out across the metropole to enable residents and visitors to use public transport.

City maps and pedestrian signage: The City has strategic programmes to promote pedestrian tourism routes by establishing dedicated pedestrian routes, improved signage, way finding maps, street sign numbering and by spreading tourism offices throughout the Cape metropole.

Rail services: Metrorail has embarked on a service improvement plan including new train sets and signalling system to reduce the reliance on private transport.

Southern Line Tourism Route: The City of Cape Town in partnership with PRASA and Cape Town Tourism created a tourism rail route from the Cape Town Central Business District (CBD) to Simon's Town. A Hop on Hop off ticket was developed to ensure easier access along the route. There are seven stations en route offering various tourist attractions within walking distance of each station. The stations are Cape Town, Observatory, Newlands, Muizenberg, Kalk Bay, Fish Hoek and Simon's Town. Each station displays maps of local tourist attractions and services.

Khayelitsha Express – an initiative between the City (Tourism Department, PRASA (Metrorail) and the tourism operators in Khayelitsha to promote the use of rail to visitors

Green Cabs: South Africa's first carbon-neutral transport service is based in Cape Town. The company's fleet of four taxis have been modified to run on a blend of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and biodiesel. In comparison with petrol, LPG renders 75% less carbon monoxide; 85% less hydrocarbon; 40% less oxide and nitrogen; and about 10% less carbon dioxide. Biodiesel can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 50%.

Park 'n Ride: The City has installed 26 Park-and-Ride stations. Additional facilities will be introduced over the next five years at a cost of R50 million. These will focus on stations with

the highest number of public transport users, i.e. on the central and northern line from Cape Town to Khayelitsha and to Bellville.

The City's Park-and-Ride programme caters for rail- and road-based transport. While the upgrades focus on parking demand for private vehicles, other modes of transport are also being accommodated, i.e. walking, cycling, and drop-off/pick-up facilities. These facilities enable residents to leave their vehicles at a secure facility and transfer to a bus or rail system for the rest of their trip.

Cycle routes: The City of Cape has several cycling lanes and routes across the Peninsula and more are to be developed in tandem with the roll out of the integrated rapid transport system. A private sector initiative, City Cycle Tours, offers eco-friendly cycling tours throughout the Cape Peninsula and Winelands.

Guidelines for Responsible Tourism Transport Operators

- Integrate environmental, social and economic principles into business practices.
 - HR management, office supplies and the production of printed material
 - Select destinations that minimise environmental, economic and social impacts
 - Ensure that transport is environmentally friendly
 - Alert customers on responsible behaviour and sustainability at their destinations
 - Proactively contribute to conservation and development projects
 - Include protected areas in itineraries.
 - Limit the size of tour groups.
 - Reduce visitor impact by discussing ways beforehand with protected area managers.
 - Support locally owned and operated suppliers.
 - Contribute financially to conservation and development projects.
 - Provide customers with opportunities to proactively support protected areas.
 - Share tips with customers on how to avoid negative impacts in sensitive areas.
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