

# ASAMBENI TAXI TIMES



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## Women Are Redefining Strength & Independence in South Africa

As we recently commemorated International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March 2025, this is an opportune moment to reflect on the remarkable strides South African women have made in redefining strength and independence. This year's IWD theme, "Accelerate Action," emphasised the urgency of advancing gender equality, resonating deeply within the South African context.

In recent years, a powerful shift has been unfolding across South Africa. Women are increasingly stepping into roles traditionally dominated by men, embodying the phrase "becoming the strong men we wanted." This movement signifies a profound transformation in societal norms, as women assert their independence, leadership, and resilience in various sectors.

### Leadership and Entrepreneurship

Today, South African women continue to break barriers, particularly in leadership and entrepreneurship. The country boasts a growing number of women entrepreneurs who are not only contributing to the economy but also challenging traditional gender roles. Initiatives like the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) aim to unlock significant funding for women entrepreneurs, addressing the financial challenges they often face.

### Financial Independence

Financial independence remains a cornerstone of empowerment. Efforts to enhance financial literacy and provide access to tailored financial

products are crucial in enabling women to achieve economic autonomy. Such initiatives empower women to make informed decisions, support their families, and contribute meaningfully to the economy.

### Education and Skills Development

Education is pivotal in this transformation. South African women are increasingly pursuing higher education and specialised skills, positioning themselves for leadership roles across various sectors. This shift not only enhances their career prospects but also challenges traditional gender norms, inspiring younger generations to follow suit.

### Community and Social Impact

Beyond individual achievements, women are making substantial contributions to their communities. Through social entrepreneurship, they address pressing issues such as healthcare, education, and environmental sustainability. Their efforts foster inclusive growth and uplift marginalised communities, embodying the spirit of ubuntu—a sense of shared humanity.

Despite these advancements, challenges persist. Gender-based violence, pay disparities and underrepresentation in certain sectors remain significant issues. However, the unwavering spirit of South African women continues to drive change, advocating for policies and practices that promote equality and protect women's rights.

- Sources: bizcommunity.com, Reuters.com



As we celebrate International Women's Day, we honour the resilience, power, and evolution of South African women. By redefining strength and independence, they are not only transforming their own lives but also contributing to the nation's socio-economic development. Their journey serves as an inspiration, reminding us that true strength lies in unity, resilience, and the relentless pursuit of equality.

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# Human Rights Day: A Significant Commemoration for South Africans

Human Rights Day, celebrated annually on 21 March, holds a special place in the hearts of South Africans. This day is not only an opportunity to honour the values of equality, dignity, and freedom, but it is also a solemn remembrance of a pivotal moment in the country's history. For many of us, Human Rights Day is a reminder of the struggles endured to secure the basic freedoms that many now take for granted. Its significance is rooted deeply in both the history of the apartheid era and the ongoing commitment to human rights that is central to the democratic values of the nation.

## Historical Background

The date, 21 March, is particularly significant in South African history due to the Sharpeville Massacre, which occurred on this day in 1960. The massacre took place when thousands of black South Africans gathered in the small township of Sharpeville to protest against the apartheid regime's pass laws. These laws, a central pillar of the apartheid system, required black South Africans to carry passbooks that severely restricted their movement and freedom of association.

On that day, police opened fire on the unarmed crowd, killing 69 people and injuring over 180 others. The event shocked the world and marked a turning point in the fight against apartheid. The brutality of the Sharpeville Massacre garnered international attention and condemnation, leading to sanctions and increasing pressure on the apartheid government. This tragic event became a catalyst for intensified resistance against apartheid, both within South



Africa and globally.

In 1994, following the end of apartheid, Human Rights Day was officially declared a national holiday. The date was chosen not only to commemorate the Sharpeville Massacre but also to emphasize South Africa's commitment to protecting the human rights of all its citizens, regardless of race, gender, or social standing.

## Significance to the South African People

Human Rights Day is not just a reflection on past struggles but also a reminder of the continuous need to protect and promote human rights in South Africa. The country's Constitution, adopted in 1996, enshrines human rights as the foundation of the nation's democracy. It guarantees a range of fundamental rights, including the right to life, equality, freedom of expression, and access to education and healthcare. These rights were once

out of reach for the majority of South Africans, but today they form the bedrock of a society built on justice and equality.

The significance of Human Rights Day is deeply intertwined with the ongoing work required to address the social and economic inequalities that persist in South Africa. While the legal framework protecting human rights is in place, the reality is that many South Africans still face poverty, inequality, and discrimination. Human Rights Day serves as a reminder of the need to ensure that the promise of equal rights is fully realised for all citizens, particularly the most vulnerable communities.

Additionally, Human Rights Day is an opportunity to reflect on the progress made since the end of apartheid, as well as the challenges that remain. It is a time that we recognize the sacrifices made by countless individuals who

fought for freedom and equality and to renew our commitment to building a society where human rights are respected and protected for all.

## Global Recognition and Local Impact

Internationally, Human Rights Day is observed on 10 December, in recognition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations in 1948. However, South Africa's celebration of Human Rights Day on 21 March serves as a unique and poignant reminder of the country's specific history and struggles for freedom. The day is observed with various events, including public speeches, educational programmes, and community initiatives aimed at raising awareness about human rights issues both locally and globally.

In conclusion, Human Rights Day is an important occasion for the South African people to reflect on the historical significance of the Sharpeville Massacre and to celebrate the nation's achievements in human rights since the end of apartheid. It also serves as a reminder of the ongoing work needed to ensure that every South African has access to the full range of human rights, underscoring the nation's commitment to justice, equality, and human dignity.

## Sources:

- South African History Online. (n.d.). The Sharpeville Massacre. [southafricanhistory.org](http://southafricanhistory.org).
- United Nations. (1948). Universal Declaration of Human Rights. [un.org](http://un.org).
- South African Government. (2020). Human Rights Day. [gov.za](http://gov.za).

## From Taxi Ranks to TikToks

In recent months, a gospel song from 2001 has experienced an unexpected resurgence, becoming the soundtrack to a viral TikTok trend that humourously reflects the daily realities of South African commuters. "Sobonan' Emathuneni," originally performed by the Lusanda Spiritual Group, translates to "We will see each other at the graveyard," a phrase that has taken on new life in the digital age.

By humourously suggesting a meeting at the graveside, the phrase underscores the daily risks associated with taxi travel. This dark humour reflects a broader cultural tendency to use wit as a coping mechanism in the face of adversity.

The song's revival can be traced back to Sandisiwe Mathamo, an emerging artist known for his unique gospel renditions on TikTok. Mathamo's remix of "Sobonan' Emathuneni" added a contemporary flair to the classic, resonating with a younger audience. TikTok users quickly embraced the track, using it as a backdrop for videos depicting scenarios where individuals find themselves in precarious situations, often with a humorous twist. The trend has gained significant popularity, with users applying the song to everyday experiences that metaphorically feel life-threatening.

## A Mirror to Commuter Experiences

One of the most striking applications of this trend is its association with South Africa's minibus taxi industry. Commuters have used the song to highlight the paradox of relying on taxis that, while being the fastest and most efficient mode of transport, often pose significant safety risks. Videos showcase passengers humorously acknowledging the dangers of high-speed driving, erratic manoeuvres, and overcrowding, all set to the ominous yet catchy tune of "Sobonan' Emathuneni."

## The Dual Nature of Minibus Taxis

Taxis are the lifeblood of South Africa's public transportation system, providing affordable and accessible transit for millions daily. However, this convenience comes with challenges. The industry has experienced issues such as taxi violence, unregulated operations, and safety concerns.



Historical accounts reveal that deregulation in the late 1980s led to a surge in taxi associations, some of which resorted to violent measures to dominate lucrative routes. This period, known as the "taxi wars," resulted in numerous casualties and a legacy of instability within the sector.

Despite ongoing efforts to formalise and regulate the industry, it still faces challenges. As taxi commuters, we face the dilemma of choosing between efficiency and safety, a choice that has become a focal point in the TikTok trend. The trend also underscores a broader cultural phenomenon where we use humour to cope with this struggle. By framing our daily struggles within a comedic lens, we can express dissatisfaction, raise awareness, and foster a sense of community. The videos exemplify this resilience, transforming a sombre song into a vehicle for social commentary.

## The Role of Social Media in Social Commentary

TikTok, with its vast reach and user-friendly interface, has become a powerful platform for social commentary. The trend shows how digital spaces can amplify local issues, bringing them to national and even global attention. By participating in the trend, you contribute to a larger conversation about public safety, transportation infrastructure, and the complexities of life in South Africa.

## Uthando Olungaphezu Kwezothando

Ulimi alulona nje ithuluzi lokuxhumana; luwukushaya kwenhliziyo / ukuphila kwamasiko, ubuwena kanye nomphakathi. ENingizimu Afrika, ngokuhlukahluka kwamasiko ayo okucebile, ukulondoloza izilimi zomdabu kuyisihluthulelo sokulondoloza amagugu ahlukahlukene esizwe.

## Ukubaluleka Kwamasiko Ezilimi Zomdabu

Izilimi zomdabu zihlanganisa umlando, amasiko, nemibono yomhlaba yezikhulumi zazo. Zidlulisela ukubonakaliswa okuyingqayizivele kothando, izibopho zomndeni kanye nezindinganiso zomphakathi. Njengoba iNingizimu Afrika igubha iminyaka engamashumi amathathu yentando yeningi, ukuzindla ngokuhlukahluka kwezilimi kuba okubalulekile. Naphezu kokubaluleka kwazo, izilimi eziningi zomdabu zibhekana nezinseselele ezinjengokwenqaba ukusetshenziswa, ikakhulukazi ezizukulwaneni ezisencane, nokumelwa okulinganiselwe kwabezindaba nezemfundo. Ukulahleka kwalezi zilimi kungasho ukulahleka kobunikazi bamasiko nezinhlelo zolwazi zendabuko.

## Izinhlelo Zokulondoloza Nokukhuthaza Izilimi Zomdabu

Imizamo iyaqhubeka nokuvuselela nokukhuthaza izilimi zomdabu kulo lonke elaseNingizimu Afrika. I-Pan South African Language Board iqalise amaphrojekthi afana nokukhiqizwa kwesichazamazwi solimi lwesiSwati, ihlose ukuhlinzeka ngosizo oludingekayo kothisha nokwakha izinhlelo/amasistimu ezincwadi zezibalo zesiSwati. Ukubambisana nabashicileli, njenge-MacMillan, ifaka isandla ukusiza le mizamo.

## Indima Yabezindaba Ekulondolozeni Ulimi

Abezindaba badlala indima ebalulekile ekukhuthazeni izilimi zomdabu, nokho kuye kwehla ekuqondeni nasekusetshenzisweni kwalezi zilimi, ikakhulukazi kubantu abasha.



Ukuze kubhekwane nalokhu, kuye kwahlelwa amasemina nezingxoxo, okuhlenganisa ababambi qhaza abasemqoka abanjenge-Pan South African Language Board kanye nabasebenza ngolimi lwendabuko ukuze bathole izixazululo eziwusizo zokuvuselela lezi zilimi.

## Imizamo Yomphakathi Nendlela Eya Phambili

Imiphakathi nayo ibamba iqhaza elibonakalayo ekulondolozeni ifa layo lolimi. Ngokufundisa izingane ngezilimi zazo zomama/zebele nangokugxilisa umuzwa wokuziqhenya ngamakhono azo olimi, ikusasa lezilimi zomdabu lingavikeleka. Ukulondoloza izilimi zomdabu akukhona nje ukugcinwa kwamagama nohlelo lolimi; kumayelana nokuvikela ingqikithi yobunikazi bamasiko nokuqinisekisa ukuthi ukuhlukahluke kwengcebo yamagugu aseNingizimu Afrika iyaqhubeka nokuchuma. Ngemizamo yokubambisana emfundweni, kwezobuchwepheshe, kwabezindaba nasemphakathini, uthando ngalezi zilimi lungavuselelwa, luzivumele ukuba zichume ezizukulwaneni ezizayo.

Sources: [Southafrica.un.org](http://southafrica.un.org), [Culturalsurvival.org](http://Culturalsurvival.org), [SAnews.gov.za](http://SAnews.gov.za)



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# Strong Mind, Strong Life: Mental Health Tips for Busy Taxi Commuters in South Africa

For millions of South Africans, commuting via minibus taxis is part of daily life. Research shows that 65% of public transport users rely on taxis, spending an average of 65 minutes a day traveling to and from work, school, or other obligations. While the taxi system is an essential lifeline, it also comes with its challenges: overcrowding, unpredictable delays, and, for some, safety concerns. All of this can add stress and anxiety to an already hectic day.

In such a fast-paced environment, it's crucial to take care of your mental health during these commutes. Here are some practical tips to help maintain a strong mind and build resilience on your daily journey:

## 1. Build and Maintain Social Connections

Strong relationships are vital for emotional well-being. Use your taxi commute to connect with family and friends through phone calls or chats with fellow commuters. A simple conversation can help reduce feelings of loneliness and offer much-needed support.

## 2. Engage in Regular Physical Activity

Exercise can significantly reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression. While you may not be able to hit the gym during your commute, try to incorporate walking or stretching into your daily routine. Physical activity is a great way to improve mood and overall health, and it doesn't have to be complicated—small steps can make a big difference.

## 3. Practice Mindfulness and Relaxation Techniques

Commutes can be stressful, but taking a few moments to breathe deeply and focus can

help you stay calm. Mindfulness exercises, such as closing your eyes and focusing on your breathing, can create a sense of peace and clarity. You can also try listening to calming music or meditative podcasts to help ease the tension.

## 4. Seek Professional Support When Needed

If feelings of sadness or anxiety persist, don't hesitate to seek professional help. In South Africa, organisations like the South African Depression and Anxiety Group (SADAG) offer valuable resources and support. Talking to a professional can help you manage stress and find strategies to improve your mental well-being.

## 5. Access Community Resources

There are many community programmes available that offer mental health support, especially in low-income areas. These services can provide coping strategies, counseling, and social support, all of which can improve your overall mental health.

## 6. Limit Substance Use

While it may be tempting to rely on alcohol or drugs to cope with stress, these substances can make mental health problems worse. Be mindful of your consumption and consider reaching out for support if you feel your substance use is becoming problematic.

## 7. Set Realistic Goals

Sometimes, the stress of everyday life can feel overwhelming. One way to manage this is by setting small, achievable goals. Break down tasks into manageable steps and celebrate

each accomplishment along the way. This approach can help you feel more in control and less stressed.

## 8. Maintain a Healthy Diet

What you eat has a direct impact on how you feel. A balanced diet, rich in fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins, can improve your mood and energy levels. Even if you're on the go, try to incorporate healthier snacks into your routine, such as nuts or fruits, to keep your body and mind in peak condition.



Commuting in South Africa's busy taxi system can be tough, but by incorporating these mental health strategies, you can foster a strong mind and a more resilient life. While it's easy to overlook mental health amidst the hustle and bustle of daily life, taking small steps toward self-care can make a big difference. Remember, a strong mind leads to a stronger life.



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# Making the Most of Your Salary: Financial Tips For South African Taxi Commuters

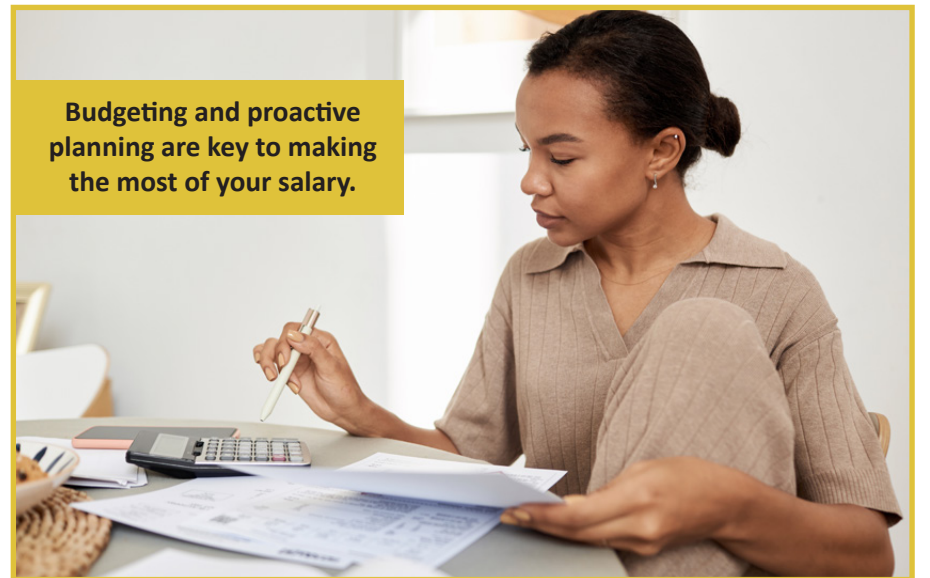


In South Africa, the Living Standards Measure (LSM) is a tool used to categorise the population based on their living standards, considering factors like income, education, and access to amenities. LSM 4 to LSM 7 typically represent the middle-income bracket, where individuals and households have a moderate level of disposable income but often face financial constraints. Source: [www.1hourguide.co.za](http://www.1hourguide.co.za)

Effectively managing your salary within this bracket requires strategic planning and disciplined financial habits. Here are some practical steps to help you optimise your income:

- 1. Create a Detailed Budget**  
Start by tracking your monthly income and expenses. Allocate specific amounts for necessities like housing, utilities, groceries, and transportation. Ensure you also set aside funds for savings and discretionary spending.
- 2. Establish an Emergency Fund**  
Life's unpredictability requires an emergency fund to cover unexpected expenses such as medical bills or urgent home repairs. Aim to save at least three to six months' worth of living expenses. This safety net provides financial stability and reduces reliance on credit during emergencies.
- 3. Prioritise Debt Management**  
If you have existing debts, develop a plan to pay them off efficiently. Focus on high-

Budgeting and proactive planning are key to making the most of your salary.



interest debts first while maintaining minimum payments on others. Avoid accumulating additional debt, especially for non-essential items, to prevent financial strain.

- 4. Limit Unnecessary Expenses**  
Distinguish between wants and needs to curb impulse spending. Implement strategies like the "five-day rule," where you wait five days before making non-essential purchases. This practice helps prevent buyer's remorse and promotes thoughtful spending. Shop around for the best possible prices, this will allow for you to save money where possible. Source: [www.debtline.co.za](http://www.debtline.co.za)
- 5. Utilise Financial Literacy Resources**  
Enhance your financial knowledge by accessing resources and training programmes. Understanding financial principles empowers you to make informed decisions and avoid common pitfalls. Organisations like the Financial Planning Institute of Southern Africa offer valuable information and guidance. Source: [www.fpi.co.za](http://www.fpi.co.za)

By implementing these strategies, commuters can enhance their financial well-being, achieve greater financial stability, and work towards long-term financial goals. Remember, disciplined budgeting, continuous learning, and proactive planning are key to making the most of your salary.

## Ukuqinisa Imindeni Nobudlelwano

Ubudlelwano obunempilo buyisisekelo semindeni eqinile nemiphakathi echumayo. Iqaphela lokhu, uMnyango Wezokuthuthukiswa Komphakathi (Department of Social Development [DSD]) yethule amacebo amaningana okusekela imindeni, ukuqinisa ubudlelwano nokunikeza usizo kubazali abangabodwa.

### Izinhlelo Zemindeni Ezisekelwa Uhulumeni

I-DSD inikeza izinsizakalo zokweluleka mahhala nezixhaswe ngemali, imihlangano yokucobelelana ngolwazi kubazali/yabazali, nezinhlelo zemfundo yezobudlelwano. Lezi zinyathelo zihlose ukuhlomisa imindeni ngamathuluzi okubhekana nezinsalelele ezinjengokucindezeleka ngokwezimali, izingxabano zobuzali/zabazali, nenhlalakahle engokomzwelo.

- Imihlangano yokucobelelana ngolwazi yabazali-Amaseshini aphaathelene nokuthuthukiswa kwezingane, ukukhulumisana, namasu okuyala izingane.
- Ukwelulekwa Ngezongobudlelwano – Izinsizakalo zamahhala zabantu abashadile nemindeni ebhekene nobunzima.
- Amaqembu Okusekela Abazali Abangabodwa – Izindawo zokukhulumisana eziqhutshwa ontanga ukuze kwabelwane ngokokuzithokozisa futhi bathole ukusekelwa.

### Izinyathelo Eziqhutshwa Umphakathi

Ama-NGO amaningana endawo nawo anikeza ukweseka okubalulekile:

- I-LoveLife SA – Inikeza izinhlelo zokufundisa ngokuqeqesha intsha.
- Inethiwekhi Yokusekela Imindeni yase-SA – Inikeza izinsizakalo zokulamula kumalungiselelo okubambisana ngobuzali.
- Kulabo abadinga usizo, i-GBV Command Centre (0800 428 428) inikeza ukwelulekwa kwamahhala nokudluliselwa.

Ngokusebenzisa lezi zinsiza, imindeni ingakha ubudlelwano obunempilo obuzuzisa kokubili abantu ngabanye kanye nomphakathi uwonke.

Sources: Department of Social Development, LoveLife SA



### Emergency contact numbers

**GBV Command Centre:** 0800 428 428 / \*120\*7867 from any cellphone  
**People with disabilities:** SMS 'help' to 31531  
**Childline:** 0800 055 555  
**South African Police Service (SAPS) Crime Stop:** 08600 10111 / SMS Crime Line: 32211  
**National AIDS Helpline:** 0800 012 322  
**National Human Trafficking Helpline:** 0800 222 777  
**Stop Gender Violence:** 0800 150 150  
**Suicide Helpline:** 0800 567 567

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# Cost Effective Holiday Activities In Gauteng To Keep The Kiddies Entertained

Keeping the kids entertained without breaking the bank can sometimes feel like a challenge. With so many pricey options, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. However, there are plenty of affordable yet fun activities you can enjoy with your children in Johannesburg. Here's a collection of exciting outings, all priced under R200, ensuring you have memorable adventures without emptying your wallet.

## Bunny Hop Haven (Observatory)

A delightful sanctuary for small animals and an educational play centre, Bunny Hop Haven is a perfect spot for kids to interact with gentle creatures like bunnies, goats, ducks, and more. Located at 59 Frederick Street, Observatory, this haven offers endless fun for both younger and older children.

## Montecasino Bird Gardens (Fourways)

For a spectacular day of family entertainment, visit the Montecasino Bird Gardens. Wander through enchanting walkways in stunning

gardens, marveling at colorful birds, mammals, reptiles, and other unusual animals. There's also a play area next to a coffee shop where parents can relax while the kids have fun.

## Johannesburg Zoo (Parkview)

Johannesburg Zoo, situated in the northern suburb of Johannesburg, offers a full day of adventure. Established in 1904, the Zoo spans 54.7 hectares and features beautifully maintained enclosures. It's a great spot for families with older children, but there are also accessible playgrounds for younger kids. Don't forget to pack a picnic or enjoy the available food options.

## Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens (Roodepoort)

Known for their lush landscapes and natural beauty, the Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens are ideal for a day out with family and friends. Enjoy the scenic waterfall and well-kept gardens. Bring a picnic to make the most of your visit. Tickets are available online or at the gate.



Create some memorable adventures without emptying your wallet.

## Monkey and Bird Park (Benoni)

A relaxed environment with various birds, wildlife, and monkeys, the Monkey and Bird Park in Benoni is a great family outing destination. The park features a tea garden and a large kids' play area. Located at 244 Swallow Road, Rynfield AH, Benoni, make sure to catch feeding times for an extra treat.

## Lori Park Zoo

Lori Park Zoo, an animal and owl sanctuary, offers engaging conservation and educational programmes. It's an excellent venue for birthday parties, where kids can have fun while learning about nature. The zoo is open from 10:00 to 16:30 daily.

## Wonderboom Nature Reserve

Located near the Magaliesberg, Wonderboom Nature Reserve is famous for its flora, including the historic 'Wonderboom' wild fig tree. Ideal for families of all ages, the reserve charges a modest entrance fee. Visit from 07:00 to 17:00 pm for a day of exploration.

## Melville Koppies Nature Reserve

A City Heritage Site and the last preserved remnant of Johannesburg's ridges before the gold rush, Melville Koppies Nature Reserve is perfect for nature walks and tours. Open daily for walks in the East area, it's a wonderful destination to appreciate indigenous flora and highveld grassland.

## Some fun activities in Tshwane

**Pretoria Zoo (National Zoological Gardens of South Africa):** Explore a wide variety of animals and enjoy activities like golf cart rides, jungle train rides, and the big wheel while entertaining the kids on a budget.

## Groenkloof Nature Reserve

As Africa's first game sanctuary, this reserve offers hiking trails, picnic spots, and opportunities to spot various wildlife. Entrance fees vary based on activities and group sizes.

## Sci-Enza Science Centre

Located at the University of Pretoria, Sci-Enza provides interactive science exhibits and educational programmes. They offer Camera Obscura tours for groups of five or more at R50 per person, available between 14:00 and 15:00 on weekdays.

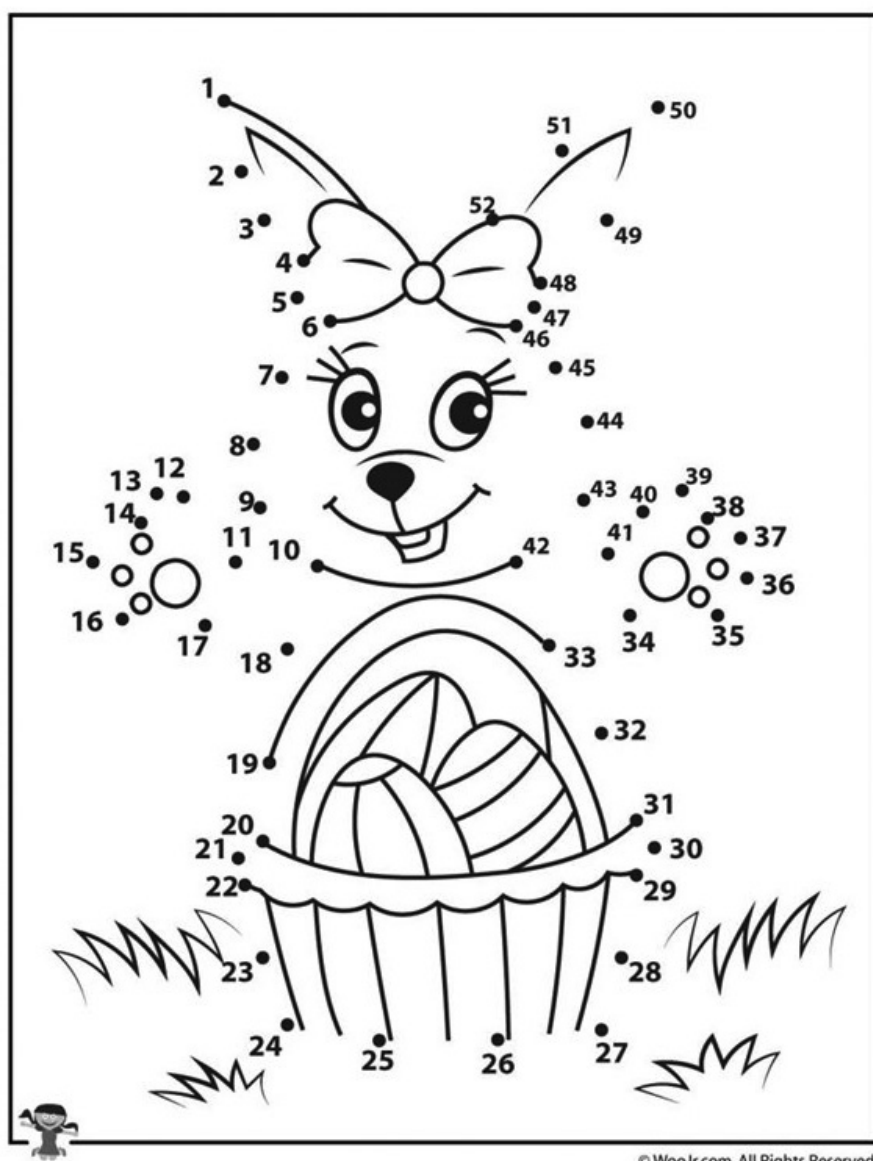
## Acrobranch Centurion

Experience an aerial adventure with obstacle courses, Tarzan swings, and a 300-meter zip line for a fun-filled day in nature.

## Family Fun Awaits

Enjoy these affordable and enjoyable outings in Johannesburg, ensuring quality time with your kids without the hefty price tag. Embrace the adventure and create lasting memories with these fun activities.

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## Marie Biscuit Face Cookies: A Fun Treat For School Holidays

Prep Time: 10 minutes | Total Time: 10 minutes

Looking for a quick and fun treat that kids can make on their own? These Easy Face Cookies are the perfect solution! Whether for a birthday party, school celebration, or just a fun afternoon activity, these creative cookies are sure to bring a smile to everyone's face.

### Ingredients:

- 1 packet of plain round biscuits (such as Marie biscuits)
- 1 cup icing sugar (powdered sugar)
- 2-3 tbsp lemon juice
- Assorted sweets for decoration

### Instructions:

- Start by cutting your sweets into small pieces using scissors or a knife. Make sure that an adult is present when you are working with a sharp tool.
- In a small bowl, mix the icing sugar with lemon juice, adding the juice a little at a time, until the mixture forms stiff white icing.
- Spread the icing generously over each biscuit.



Image source: [www.picklebums.com](http://www.picklebums.com)

- Decorate your cookies with the cut-up sweets to create fun faces—let your imagination run wild!

These adorable face cookies are a sweet and easy way for kids to get involved in the kitchen and enjoy a delicious homemade treat.



# Empowering Township Women: Lucrative Side Hustles For 2025

In South Africa's vibrant townships, women are increasingly turning to side hustles to supplement their income and achieve financial independence. These entrepreneurial ventures not only provide additional revenue streams but also foster community development and empowerment.

Here are some viable side hustles tailored for women residing in South African townships:

## 1. Starting Your Own Spaza Shop

Spaza shops are informal convenience stores integral to township life, offering daily essentials to local communities. Starting a spaza shop can be a profitable venture with relatively low startup costs but it is essential that all food safety standards are adhered to and that your business is registered with your municipality as a spaza shop.



### How to Start:

- **Location Selection:** Choose a spot with high foot traffic to ensure consistent customer flow.
- **Product Sourcing:** Stock essential items like maize meal, bread, and toiletries.
- **Compliance:** Stay updated with local regulations and health standards to operate legally and safely.

**Note:** Recent health inspections have emphasized the importance of adhering to food safety standards in spaza shops. Ensure compliance to maintain community trust and avoid potential closures.

## 2. Home-Based Catering and Baking

If you have a passion for cooking or baking, offering homemade meals or baked goods can be a lucrative side hustle. There's a steady demand for affordable, tasty food within township communities.

### How to Start:

- **Menu Planning:** Develop a simple, cost-effective menu featuring popular dishes or treats.
- **Marketing:** Promote your offerings through word of mouth, local community boards, and social media platforms.
- **Delivery:** Offer delivery services to cater to customers unable to pick up orders themselves.

## 3. Laundry and Ironing Services

Providing laundry and ironing services addresses a common need in the community, especially for working individuals and families. This side hustle requires minimal investment and can be operated from home.

### How to Start:

- **Equipment:** Invest in quality detergents and irons.

- **Pricing:** Set competitive rates based on local market standards.
- **Promotion:** Advertise your services through community networks and local advertising.

## 4. Hair and Beauty Services

Offering hairdressing, braiding, or beauty services caters to the grooming needs of the community. With proper training, this side hustle can become a sustainable income source.



### How to Start:

- **Skill Development:** Attend local workshops or online courses to enhance your skills.
- **Equipment:** Purchase essential beauty tools and products.
- **Clientele Building:** Offer services to friends and family initially, then expand through referrals and local advertising.

## 5. Childcare Services

Providing babysitting or early childhood education services meets the needs of working parents and contributes positively to community welfare.

### How to Start:

- **Certification:** Obtain basic childcare certifications to ensure safety and professionalism.
- **Safe Environment:** Create a child-friendly space equipped with toys and learning materials.
- **Networking:** Connect with local parents and advertise your services through community channels.

## 6. Tutoring and Educational Support

Assisting students with their studies can be a fulfilling and profitable side hustle, especially with the ongoing emphasis on education.

### How to Start:

- **Subject Expertise:** Identify subjects you excel in and can confidently teach.
- **Materials:** Gather relevant teaching materials and resources.
- **Promotion:** Offer your services to local schools, community centers, and through online platforms.

Starting a side hustle not only provides additional income but also fosters personal growth and community development. For women in South African townships, the opportunities are abundant. By leveraging existing skills and identifying community needs, township women can embark on successful entrepreneurial journeys, contributing to their financial independence and the economic vitality of their communities.

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| <p><b>169<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Firstwatch Extra Fine Whisky 750ml</p>            | <p><del>WAS: 239<sup>99</sup></del><br/><b>SAVE: 40</b><br/><b>199<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Label 5 Classic Black Blended Scotch Whisky 750ml</p> | <p><b>179<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>KWV Three 3Y/O Brandy 750ml</p>                                                             |
| <p><b>154<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Stretton's Gin Range (Excl. Double Cut) 750ml</p> | <p><del>WAS: 49<sup>99</sup></del><br/><b>SAVE: 10</b><br/><b>39<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Liquor City Live Wine Range 750ml</p>                   | <p><b>119<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>4th Street Wine Range 3L<br/>4th STREET SWEET ROSE 3 LITRE RANGE</p>                        |
| <p><b>164<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Amarula Cream Liqueur Range 750ml</p>             | <p><del>WAS: 199<sup>99</sup></del><br/><b>SAVE: 40</b><br/><b>159<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Merrys Irish Cream Liqueur Range 750ml</p>            | <p><del>WAS: 259<sup>99</sup></del><br/><b>SAVE: 60</b><br/><b>199<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>Fläminger Jagd Herb Liqueur 1L</p> |
| <p><b>8<sup>99</sup></b> each<br/>#Energy Can 500ml</p>                               | <p><b>109<sup>99</sup></b> /pack<br/>Heineken Can 6 x 500ml</p>                                                                                    | <p><b>139<sup>99</sup></b> /combo<br/>Castle Lite Can 410ml 2 x 6 Packs</p>                                                     |
| <p><b>84<sup>99</sup></b> /pack<br/>Bernini Range NRB 6 x 275ml</p>                   | <p><b>99<sup>99</sup></b> /pack<br/>Brutal Fruit Range Can 6 x 500ml</p>                                                                           | <p><b>99<sup>99</sup></b> /pack<br/>Hunter's Dry/Gold Can 6 x 440ml</p>                                                         |

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# South African Premiership Matches

## Fri, 14 Mar

|           |                      |                   |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| AmaZulu   | Fri, 14 Mar<br>19:30 | Royal AM          | Fri, 14 Mar<br>19:30 |
| TS Galaxy |                      | SuperSport United |                      |

## Sat, 15 Mar

|                |                      |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Magesi         | Sat, 15 Mar<br>15:30 | Cape Town City | Sat, 15 Mar<br>15:30 |
| Golden Arrows  |                      | Gallants       | Sat, 15 Mar<br>15:30 |
| Chippa United  | Sat, 15 Mar<br>20:00 |                |                      |
| Polokwane City |                      |                |                      |

## Sun, 16 Mar

|                   |                      |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Richards Bay      | Sun, 16 Mar<br>15:30 | Orlando Pirates   | Sun, 16 Mar<br>15:30 |
| Kaizer Chiefs     |                      | Mamelodi Sundowns | Sun, 16 Mar<br>15:30 |
| Sekhukhune United | Sun, 16 Mar<br>17:30 |                   |                      |
| Stellenbosch      |                      |                   |                      |

## Sat, 29 Mar

|               |                 |              |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Chippa United | 29 Mar<br>15:30 | Magesi       | 29 Mar<br>17:45 |
| AmaZulu       |                 | Stellenbosch |                 |

## Sun, 30 Mar

|                   |                 |               |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Polokwane City    | 30 Mar<br>15:30 | Golden Arrows | 30 Mar<br>15:30 |
| Richards Bay      |                 | Kaizer Chiefs | 30 Mar<br>15:30 |
| SuperSport United | 30 Mar<br>17:30 | TS Galaxy     | 30 Mar<br>17:30 |
| Cape Town City    |                 | Gallants      |                 |

## Fri, 04 Apr

|              |                 |  |  |
|--------------|-----------------|--|--|
| AmaZulu      | 04 Apr<br>19:30 |  |  |
| Richards Bay |                 |  |  |

## Sat, 05 Apr

|                   |                 |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Kaizer Chiefs     | 05 Apr<br>15:00 | Golden Arrows     | 05 Apr<br>15:00 |
| TS Galaxy         |                 | Chippa United     | 05 Apr<br>15:00 |
| Gallants          | 05 Apr<br>15:00 | Mamelodi Sundowns | 05 Apr<br>17:30 |
| SuperSport United |                 | Stellenbosch      |                 |
| Royal AM          | 05 Apr<br>20:00 |                   |                 |
| Magesi            |                 |                   |                 |

## Sun, 06 Apr

|                 |                 |                   |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Polokwane City  | 06 Apr<br>15:00 | Cape Town City    | 06 Apr<br>17:30 |
| Orlando Pirates |                 | Sekhukhune United |                 |

## Sat, 19 Apr

|                   |                 |               |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Gallants          | 19 Apr<br>15:00 | Chippa United | 19 Apr<br>15:00 |
| Golden Arrows     |                 | Kaizer Chiefs | 19 Apr<br>15:00 |
| Sekhukhune United | 19 Apr<br>17:30 | Stellenbosch  | 19 Apr<br>20:00 |
| Polokwane City    |                 | AmaZulu       |                 |

## Sun, 20 Apr

|           |                 |                   |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Magesi    | 20 Apr<br>15:00 | SuperSport United | 20 Apr<br>17:30 |
| TS Galaxy |                 | Orlando Pirates   |                 |

## Fri, 25 Apr

|                 |                 |  |  |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Orlando Pirates | 25 Apr<br>19:30 |  |  |
| Magesi          |                 |  |  |

## Sat, 26 Apr

|                |                 |                   |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Cape Town City | 26 Apr<br>15:00 | Polokwane City    | 26 Apr<br>15:00 |
| Royal AM       |                 | SuperSport United |                 |
| Kaizer Chiefs  | 26 Apr<br>15:00 | Mamelodi Sundowns | 26 Apr<br>17:30 |
| Gallants       |                 | Richards Bay      |                 |
| Stellenbosch   | 26 Apr<br>20:00 |                   |                 |
| Chippa United  |                 |                   |                 |

## Sun, 27 Apr

|               |                 |                   |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Golden Arrows | 27 Apr<br>15:00 | TS Galaxy         | 27 Apr<br>17:30 |
| AmaZulu       |                 | Sekhukhune United |                 |



# ASAMBENI TAXI TIMES

## SPORTS