

City Views

Spring 2025

YOUR FREE CAPE TOWN CBD NEWSPAPER



STRIKING A POSE

*Gavin Furlonger &
the Gallery F story*

The Sheriff
Gavin Furlonger



**CCID 24-HOUR
EMERGENCY
NUMBER**
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www.capetownccid.org

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the CBD skyline

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new Bree St bar

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in town



Published by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID)



FROM THE CEO

Spring has arrived in town, and we couldn't be more delighted. It's the season of rejuvenation and, as the Cape Town Central City Improvement District, we look forward to sharing new projects and innovations with you in this final quarter of the year.

Let's start with our Urban Management department, which always provides interest in the CBD through its beautification projects. If you work or do business in town, or if you're visiting, you'll have noticed the hundreds of trees wrapped in pastel colours. Read more about it on this page.

We're delighted to welcome a stylish new retail offering to Bree St, namely Tannin. This plush wine bar is a must-visit venue, beautifully renovated and drawing the crowds.

Adding a unique cultural bent is Gallery F, which is not a new venue but one which deserves our attention. This gallery, owned by well-known South African photographer Gavin Furlonger, is a custodian of the works of legendary photographers and their iconic images, which are all for sale.

We're also proud to launch our annual award-winning economic report, *State of Cape Town Central City Report 2024 – A year in review*, which shows just how well we're doing as the economic powerhouse of the city.

We look forward to welcoming you to the CBD this Spring!

TASSO EVANGELINOS
CEO of the CCID

PRETTY IN PINK

The CBD is in full bloom after the cold and grey winter thanks to the CCID's Urban Management department, which has wrapped 520 trees in town in pastel fabric.

Part of the department's spring beautification programme, trees in pedestrian-friendly areas such

as Heerengracht, Walter Sisulu Ave and Waterkant St have been adorned in fabric to celebrate the arrival of the new season.

"We chose soft pastels, from gentle blues and greens to warm yellows, and pretty pinks to ring in the new season and to inspire renewal

and hope," says Kally Benito, head of Urban Management. "In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, we included a range of pinks to spread a message of support, awareness, and unity. We invite people to take a stroll through the CBD and enjoy the vibrant display of colour and optimism."



Numbers THE CCID AT WORK FROM MAY – JULY 2025

SAFETY & SECURITY



Made **332** arrests with Law Enforcement agencies

Responded to **4** alarm activations and secured **21** premises and vehicles

1 028 CCID-funded Law Enforcement Officers issued **1 028** fines for non-moving traffic violations to the value of **R909 200** & **99** fines for bylaw and moving traffic violations to the value of **R94 400**

Responded to **92** medical & rescue callouts

72 Rendered public assistance **72** times

Assisted at the scene of **211** motor vehicle accidents



Conducted **1 208** crime-prevention initiatives

22 Dealt with **22** illegal trading offences



CCID-funded Traffic Wardens issued **6 697** fines to a total of **R4 008 500**

COMMUNICATIONS



Generated **80** media clips to an advertising value equivalent (AVE) of **R2 433 990** with a potential reach of **88 498 641** people



Wrote **268** Facebook posts on the CCID's **3** Facebook pages

2 Sent out **2** e-Newsletters which each reached **10 408** subscribers

Boosted **1** Facebook post which reached **46 786** people



Produced, published, and distributed **City Views Winter 2025**

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Interacted with **527** homeless individuals



Provided **20** counselling and support services

Distributed **1 400** care packs

26 Conducted **26** employment readiness assessments

38 Placed **38** adults in shelters in the CBD

Assisted **6** adults to return home



Carried out **102** cases of First Aid care/wound cleaning

URBAN MANAGEMENT

Removed **302** tonnes of litter & illegally dumped waste to landfill

Cleared **12 747 kg** of waste from municipal & storm water drains



Undertook **249** road maintenance repairs

Collected **32 252** litter bags at night for collection by the City



Cleaned municipal drains **1 567** times & cleaned **348** storm water drains

Maintained **299** tree wells & removed a total of **436 kg** of debris

906 Removed **906** strings & stickers

Removed **633 kg** of cigarette butts from ciggie bins



Trimmed **30** trees & removed **2 224 kg** of garden refuse



Removed **404** incidents of graffiti



Cleaned **37** channels & removed **840 kg** of waste

Collected **7 502 kg** of recycling from businesses & green bins

CityViews

is a free Cape Town Central City community newspaper published by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID), a non-profit company. It is the CCID's vision to ensure that the Central City is safe, clean, caring and open for business for all who use it, whether they live, work, play or invest here.

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For more Central City news, subscribe to the CCID newsletter.
Go to www.capetownccid.org



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OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The CCID welcomes these new business owners to town.



Q&A WITH JIM DAI FROM BEN WEI THE ASIAN KITCHEN

Ben Wei: What's in a name?
Funnily enough, many people call me "Ben", assuming it's my name. More often than not, I indulge them and say, "Hi". But in Chinese, *ben wei* means "original taste".

Tell us about your business journey ...

My sister owns a restaurant in Table View, and a few years ago, while I was living in China, I came to visit her. After that trip, I started putting things in place to move to Cape Town, arriving in 2006. My first job was in her restaurant. I then moved to other well-known establishments working as the sushi chef at both The Vineyard and Cellars Hohenort hotels and then moving on to Fugu at Wembley Square. In 2017, I bought Fugu and opened Ben Wei, moving to Long St in 2024.

How are you finding the Long Street vibe?
It is totally different to the Gardens, with a mixed, eclectic clientele. Having high-end curio stores as neighbours, and the City Sightseeing Long St bus stop across the road, we're in a tourist hub. We therefore serve many tourists during the day, as well as office workers, who are key customers. Our Dim Sum wine bar upstairs lures the after-work drinks segment.

What is Ben Wei's signature dish?
Our most popular dish is Spicy Beef: AAA-grade beef is coated in potato starch and fried until crispy, with the addition of stir-fried vegetables. We add a splash of our secret sauce (which includes Chinese black vinegar, chilli, light soya sauce with a hint of sweet

and sour). It's a winner! Our décor is not your standard 'Chinese restaurant' look. The interior was designed by Philip Tyers Design Studio, and some of our murals are by muralist MAK1ONE (Xam||Kwaggo), who has done the CCID's bollard art in the CBD. Our menu has Asian favourites from Thailand, Korea and Indonesia, hence our name, Ben Wei - The Asian Kitchen.

Your favourite menu item?
Sushi is my favourite. We use salmon flown in from Norway and local yellow-fin tuna. Our customers get the freshest, tastiest sushi, at affordable prices! We specialise in office platters - and we also have office drinks platters and City Bowl residential online orders, which are popular.

84 Long St
021 461 2966
@benweisushi

For more Central City news and views, subscribe to the CCID's e-Newsletter. Go to www.capetownccid.org and fill in the pop-up window.

NEW VENUES

EAT

RocoMamas
RocoMamas is back in town! This new venue (which is halaal) serves all the favs beloved of this well-known restaurant chain. Expect smash burgers, ribs, wings, thick-cut fries and more. Don't miss the famous smash-burger menu option, Make Your Own.
14 Long St
@RocoMamas

MARU Korean Steakhouse

The new member of The Pan Collection (think Iron Steak and Bar, Scala Pasta/Bar, Nikkei, Hacienda Coastal Mexican) in Bree St, MARU serves crispy Korean fried chicken, fire-grilled steak and more, fusing modern flavours with timeless tradition.
107 Bree St
@maru_za

DRINK

Tannin
Pull into this sophisticated cocktail bar, a new addition to glam Bree St. The interior is as impressive as the 430-label wine list. Then there are tasty seasonal, small plates and platters, too.
86 Bree St
@tannin_on_bree

USEFUL CONTACTS

EMERGENCY

CCID 24-HOUR EMERGENCY
(Available via cell phone or WhatsApp)
082 415 7127
(Cape Town CBD only)

AMBULANCE, HEALTH, NOISE & FIRE
107 / 021 480 7700
(24 hours)
107 from landlines only

SAPS CENTRAL CITY
021 467 8001/2
(24 hours)

CITY OF CAPE TOWN SERVICES

INCIDENT REPORTING & ENQUIRIES
Refuse collection, water issues, street lights and electricity faults
0860 103 089

Traffic signal faults
0800 656 463

Reporting illegal dumping
021 444 6223/4
021 480 7700 (a/h)

Cable theft
0800 222 771

Disaster Risk Management
080 911 4357
021 597 6000 (24 hours)

SOCIAL CONCERNS
CT Drug Counselling Centre
021 447 8026
073 755 1913 (WhatsApp)

Childline Western Cape
021 762 8198

WC Social Development
0800 220 250

CCID Social Development
021 286 0836

BYLAW & TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENTS
Law Enforcement
021 596 1999 (24 hours)

Traffic Police
0860 765 423

Metro Police
0860 765 423

LAUNCH OF CBD ECONOMIC REPORT

The latest edition of the CCID's prestigious economic report, *State of Cape Town Central City Report 2024 - A year in review*, has been launched. The award-winning, annual publication is produced by the CCID's Communications department.

Says Sharon Sorour-Morris, head of the department and the report's author and editor:

"The report showcases how the various economic sectors in the CBD have fared in the past year, giving a detailed analysis of the commercial and residential property sector, office and retail vacancies, the business and retail economy, hospitality, and other key factors at play in the inner city that ensure its continued success. Once again, in 2024, the CBD has delivered solid

economic results, far outshining other city centres in South Africa."

The report is a key tool for local, national and international investors keen on understanding the dynamics of the region for business and investment purposes. The report is available on www.capetownccid.org. For a print copy, email aziza@capetownccid.org.



LIFE THROUGH A LENS

Gallery F, the brainchild of renowned South African photographer Gavin Furlonger, is a special, light-filled space that's shaping, and preserving, South Africa's photographic heritage.

By Sharon Sorour-Morris

The glossy, black double doors in vibey Shortmarket Street in inner-city Cape Town hint at an interesting interior but they don't give the full picture.

This is revealed the minute one of the doors opens. The compact entrance foyer and the walls of the steep staircase leading to the first floor are lined with powerful black-and-white photographs.

It's arresting. All the big names are here: Roy Zetisky, Jürgen Schadeberg, Paul Alberts, Jodi Bieber, Jillian Edelstein, Keith Bernstein, Juhan Kuus, Ginger Odes, Billy Monk, David Lurie, Pierre Crocquet, Ian Difford, Günther Komnick, Obie Oberholzer. And more.

At the top of the staircase is an office filled with interesting paraphernalia, cameras, and equipment. The oxblood-red walls are covered with more photographs. Then, finally, a clean, bright space – with large windows that let in natural light – reveals itself. The walls are also filled with striking black-and-white images. Welcome to Gallery F, and the



FURLONGER'S FAVES – IN HIS OWN WORDS



Downtown

I look at this 1950s Ginger Odes image almost daily; it could've been shot in New York City but then one's eye falls on the number plate of the car and the Truworthe's logo on the truck and you know you're in the heart of the Cape Town inner city. Ginger had an advertising agency in town called Odes. I suspect this was taken for one of his campaigns.



Muizenberg Station

In the mid-1970s, I did a series of commercial photographs for a clothing brand, *Rich Rags*. These shoots were usually very spontaneous; I'd pack my Combi and ride around looking for an inspiring spot to shoot. There was lots of space to set up wardrobe, styling, make-up and the usual crowd that came along to turn it into an event. Michael Van Moyland (aka *The Cocktail Kid*) took the lead. These images are timeless and became iconic posters in their day.



From *Between Dogs & Wolves*

This is one of my favourite images. It's by award-winning South African photographer, Jodi Bieber. Bieber excels at photographing everyday life, especially in the townships. Always keen to challenge mainstream media narratives, she is known for her compelling exploration of gender, politics and identity. This work is from the book, *Between Dogs & Wolves*, which was the culmination of 10 years' work. I just love the composition of this image: the action, the silhouette. She caught it at just the right time ... a moment captured in time.

world of Gavin Furlonger, photographer extraordinaire, and, in his time, one of South Africa's greatest commercial and fashion photographers.

Today, while he still takes the occasional shot, he specialises in preserving and archiving photographs for posterity and exhibiting them at Gallery F in the bustling heart of the Mother City.

BEST OF THE BEST

Charming, erudite and a great raconteur, Gavin has an encyclopaedic knowledge of photography and his fellow photographers. After nearly 50 years in the industry, his passion is uncontained.

"I established Gallery F in 2002 to honour the work of my fellow photographers. I wanted to promote and sell fine-art photography, so that I could give collectors and enthusiasts the opportunity to buy rare, limited-edition prints," he says, before starting to tell captivating stories about the photographers whose works fill the space. Some are still alive; others are long gone. Many of them are, or were, personal friends, acquaintances, colleagues. In the process, Furlonger is shaping the medium's cultural conversation, and encouraging the appreciation and recognition of the work of South Africa's photographers locally and internationally.

LENSMAN EXTRAORDINAIRE

When I visit the gallery, Gavin and his son, Sean, are in the throes of curating an exhibition, *Beyond the*



ABOVE and OPPOSITE: South African stalwart photographer, Gavin Furlonger, in his office at his Shortmarket St gallery; a light-filled space, Gallery F houses an extensive collection of analogue photography spanning from the 1950s to the early 2000s.

Lens, for the debut SA Photography Festival. For me – as a former women's magazine journalist familiar with, and highly appreciative of, his renowned fashion spreads (which dominated the glossies for decades), it's exciting and enthralling being in his orbit. Sean shares his enthusiasm and commitment. As partner and manager, he has overseen curation and sales since 2020. He's intent on growing the gallery's presence and influence, here and abroad, and to draw attention to its definitive and extensive collection.

Gavin's generosity in sharing his work, expertise and knowledge about photography is contagious. It's not

surprising that, as I leave, he presses *Memories of Madiba*, a collection of prints which he created for a Keith Bernstein exhibition, into my hands. But not before I've heard the long and fascinating story behind it.

There's much more to see, learn, enjoy. I'll return to this welcoming space, where the work of photographers "who captured the everyday and the extraordinary during one of the most complex periods in South Africa's history" is so poignantly on display.

Gallery F | 78 Shortmarket St | www.galleryf.co.za | [@furlongergallery](https://www.instagram.com/furlongergallery)

THE POWER OF PAPA-SA

Gavin Furlonger established the Photographic and Archival Preservation Association of South Africa (PAPA-SA) in 2002. The main aim of the NPO is to locate, preserve, catalogue and protect historically significant works. Through his vast network, he has obtained the rights to rare works, working with photographers, estates, families and institutions. He says: "There are over 500 000 negatives in our care ... there is a strong focus on analogue photography."

Working in partnership with his son, Sean, he showcases these images through exhibitions, sales and representation. "It's important that these fine photographs continue to be seen and appreciated, and that they remain accessible for future generations," he says. Sean points out that the collection spans over eight decades of photography, "from rare, signed vintage handprints to contemporary fine-art photography". But it's not only about heritage photography. The work of emerging photographers is exhibited alongside Gallery F's historic and contemporary collections.



Nadine Gordimer

This beautiful portrait of the late South African author Nadine Gordimer was shot by award-winning London-based photographer, Jillian Edelstein. Edelstein cut her teeth as a press photographer in Joburg in the 1990s.



Portrait of Annelie Kriel-Bacon

I've been shooting with Annie since the mid-1970s. She's always had a love affair with the camera and has a gift for being spontaneous in front of the lens. Together we're in perfect sync. It's hard to take a bad shot of her. She's a great friend.



Fleeing Mozambique

This image by Canadian-born photographer James Soullier, then chief photographer of *The Sunday Times*, came second in the World Press Photo competition in 1975. Entitled *Patrol in Mozambique*, it was taken in 1974 on a train. The image of a Mozambican soldier on guard while the child of a Portuguese colonialist sleeps is very arresting and never fails to intrigue visitors to the gallery.

SHAPING THE SKYLINE

Property investment in the Cape Town CBD is booming – and women are helping to drive it. Here we profile women who are shaping the urban landscape.



1

‘Sustainability is a top priority for property managers.’

– SAMANTHA LAMBERT



3

‘The creative energy in the CBD is truly unmatched.’

– THUTHUKILE MOLOTO



5

‘The biggest opportunities lie in regeneration.’

– SARAH DIVARIS



2

‘Investing in property in the CBD makes commercial sense.’

– JOY MILLAR



4

‘The city offers excellent and affordable living standards for many visitors.’

– RONEL STRAUGHAN

1 SARAH DIVARIS
A leading female force influencing the future of the city centre is Sarah Divaris, COO of Boxwood Property Fund. The company has invested over R4.5 billion in retail, commercial and industrial spaces, of which R1.4 billion has been in the CBD. A new mixed-use build, The Matrix, valued at R1.6 billion, is in the planning phase. “The biggest opportunities lie in regeneration. It’s about reimagining ageing buildings and overlooked sites into vibrant, relevant spaces that meet the needs of the next generation of urban users. There’s been a clear shift away from purely commercial buildings to residential, mixed-use and green spaces,” she says.

Divaris has overseen several successful developments, including the transformation of the old Shell House in Lower Burg St into Boxwood’s flagship building, The Box, a vibrant, community-inspired office block. It’s this type of creativity that drew her to the property sector. “We’re not just developing buildings – we’re shaping skylines, communities, and the environments in which people live, work and connect.”

2 SAMANTHA LAMBERT
Sustainability is also a top priority for property managers, says Samantha Lambert, general

manager at Redefine Properties and a member of the CCID board. Redefine Properties, a listed REIT with an extensive portfolio in SA and Poland, owns several properties in the Cape Town CBD and beyond.

Lambert says property managers are taking a “long-term view” with respect to balancing immediate operational needs with future sustainability requirements.

“This resonates with investors as they are increasingly looking to combine operational efficiency with environmental responsibility.”

3 JOY MILLAR
Joy Millar, asset manager at Benzing Properties SA and CCID board member, says Cape Town is a highly desirable location for global companies looking to expand or relocate. “What’s more, with the CBD being stable and business-friendly (thanks in large part to the work of the CCID), investing in property here makes commercial sense. Beyond the numbers, investing in the inner city contributes to its broader revitalisation – creating jobs, supporting small businesses, improving urban safety and helping shape an important space for the local community.”

Millar is passionate about the revival of Long St, “the pulse” of the city centre. “We are on a mission to create an exciting and vibrant node which is inclusive and showcases the melting pot of cultures that Cape Town offers. Revitalising Long St, along with other stakeholders, means creating safe and welcoming spaces that support local businesses, attract tourism and boost the sense of pride Capetonians have about their city.”

4 THUTHUKILE MOLOTO
“The creative energy in the CBD is truly unmatched. Within a few city blocks, you can discover world-class art galleries, historic architecture, thriving markets, and destination dining,” says Thuthukile Moloto, new GM of Pullman Cape Town, the first Pullman hotel to open in South Africa.

She points to the value of strategic partnerships strengthening Cape Town’s appeal. “The intersection between property development and tourism is fundamental. Thoughtful property development creates spaces where visitors want to stay longer, while active tourism breathes life into these developments.” This extends to the partnership between the private and public sector, exemplified by organisations like the CCID, which, she says, has changed the inner-city narrative from one of crime-and-grime

to clean, safe streets that can easily be explored on foot.

5 RONEL STRAUGHAN
Director of Straughan Inc. Attorneys, a law firm in the heart of town which specialises in property, commercial law, and conveyancing, Ronel Straughan says Cape Town is an excellent drawcard for national and international property investors. “With generous exchange rates, decent value growth and a stable legal framework, the city offers excellent and affordable living standards for many visitors who bring their expertise, employment and investment potential,” asserts Straughan.

Underpinning the city’s success story is renewed interest from both local and foreign investors. Almost R2.5 billion was spent by international buyers across Cape Town from January to May 2025, the highest five-month total in five years. Two-thirds of all foreign investment occurred in the Atlantic Seaboard and City Bowl, including the CBD.

“We are involved in some substantial planned development in the city centre where old office blocks are being converted into residential, retail and co-working spaces, supporting a lifestyle where people can live, work and play in the CBD,” she says.

SIP & SAVOUR

Bree Street welcomes Tannin, a plush, multi-storey wine bar filled with local labels, tasty plates and inspiring art.

By Kim Maxwell

Discovering sought-after South African wines was an incentive for Brit Dominic Wood when he decided to move continents to make a life and a livelihood in Cape Town. But he and wife Lisa also fell hard for the friendly people and relaxed lifestyle.

The couple had run an old Cotswold country inn, operating a restaurant, bar and rooms in an English village. They'd enjoyed a few South African holidays, but three months in Cape Town during Covid persuaded them to gamble on a more permanent experience. "I just fell in love with this country and didn't want to go home," explains Dominic Wood. The couple moved to Cape Town in April 2024.

RED, RED ... TAPE

Wood planned to open a premium wine bar, but finding a location wasn't easy. "I was looking at any building in central Cape Town commercially available. I probably saw between 60 and 80 properties."

Wood finally found a building that had housed an accounting firm. It wasn't zoned for a restaurant, had building challenges and ... red tape. "The quickest way, we were told, was to get a business investment visa. You must spend a certain amount on a business and get it open within 12 months, which we did. We couldn't open as early as we wanted, because we were waiting for other red tape to go through," he says.

"We went through hundreds of names. Then we said 'Tannin' and somebody went, 'Oh I like that'. It just stuck, so we went with it."

STYLISH & SOPHISTICATED

Sketch Interior Architects were brought in. "We worked on it together ... the first



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: The first-floor dining space has oak floors and tables, and neutral tones; owner Dominic Wood behind the bar; the small-plates menu includes tasty fish, seafood and meat dishes, as well as creative vegetarian delights; a wall of art soars towards a glass ceiling.



thing we did was bash through all the stud walling and just open the space out."

Retaining elements of the heritage building sometimes meant gutting and reusing elsewhere. Spaces are richly elegant, with thoughtful touches. "We wanted to build something that's here to stay. The driving force behind all the natural tones, using wood everywhere, keeping that warm homely feel."

The focal point is the light-filled central wall of art that soars towards a

ceiling. Dom's wife Lisa took it on when he was "stressing about timelines". Art was sourced all over South Africa, the collection curated by Claudia Bentel and Roman Handt of W17 Gallery. Some interesting works hang elsewhere in Tannin, too.

The food works well, a comfortably sized menu of small plates or platters, for those after meat, fish and vegetarian. When I joined friends for lunch, we ordered two small plates each and then mixed it up. Enjoying tangy freshness

in a beetroot, goats cheese salad; creamy gnocchi with smoky guanciale, accompanied by a glass of white; mussels in a coconut lemongrass broth with a spicy chilli hit; and a tuna dish which delivered deliciously different Asian zing.

There's a global mix from head chef Blaine Coetzer. His plates are pretty, herby flavours or tangy sauces making it tasty. "We're trying to keep it fresh and seasonal," he says.

The desserts are worth leaving space for. An intensely chocolate dessert is on the menu at Wood's insistence. Our group tried an unusual pineapple and coconut option (lovely), plus the star, a rounded éclair filled with milk tart, plus vanilla ice cream. Officially the cookie crunch on top was *choux au craquelin*, but Chef Coetzer's description was more fun: "Choux with a crack on top".

Wood says they'll monitor how guests make use of Tannin, and tweak around it. "We're finding a lot of people are coming in to have a drink at the bar, going upstairs for some food, and then coming back down to the bar again." Nothing wrong with that.

ABOUT THE WINE

Tannin is an enticing space, operating on three floors. On entering, a magnificent bar showcases wines, decanters and imported Riedel stemware, with cosy tables for sipping set further back. Dining is on the mid-level, with a glassed-in kitchen.



For wine lovers, taking the stairs to the third floor is the bonus prize. The walk-in cellar offers a superb selection of South Africa's finest labels.

The list is about 430 strong with about 8 500 bottles in total. Tannin has off-site cellarage for wines for later release.

Expect the big boys such as Sadie, Savage and Thorne & Daughters, to Alheit, Newton Johnson and Crystallum. (The wine community has been "amazingly" welcoming.)

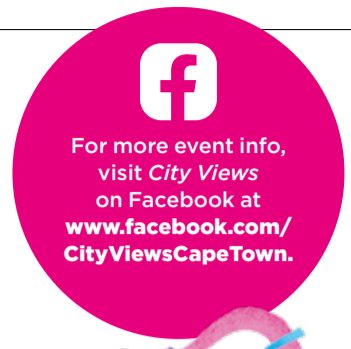
"We want to keep changing the list, keep it fresh and interesting, 40 by-the-glass will always be available." This is top-notch everything: wine preservation systems, wines, Gabriel-Glas stemware as the

house glass, with varietal-specific Riedel for serious tastings. Pricewise, we've tried to keep it competitive. So around R85 a glass, all the way up to, well, there is no limit ..."

Tannin | 86 Bree St | 010 825 6086 | Tuesday to Saturday for lunch and dinner; bar snacks and platters from 12h00-21h30.
tannin.co.za
[@tannin_on_bree](https://www.instagram.com/tannin_on_bree)

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN

It's warming up in town in more ways than one! Take in these must-see shows and events lighting up Cape Town this summer.



ST GEORGE'S UNPLUGGED

This series of free, classical music lunchtime concerts takes place in St George's Cathedral on the first Tuesday of the month. On 4 November, the Zakwantu African Ensemble (from UCT's SA College of Music and led by Vuyisani Mkwambi) will present a programme of indigenous African music inspired by nature and cultural heritage; on 2 December, Albert Combrink and Friends will play pieces from classical to tango. The concerts are free but donations are welcome.

Where: St George's Cathedral, 5 Wale St

When: First Tuesday of the month; 4 November 2025, 2 December 2025

Time: 13h15-14h00

✉ info@ctconcerts.co.za

KIDS LOVE JAZZ

It's time to boogie with your nearest and dearest! Fun, vibrant and creative, *Kids Love Jazz* brings a timeless music genre to jazz lovers of all ages, with a theatre production combining all the vibes, lights, and thrills you need to celebrate youth culture. Expect timeless classics as well as new interpretations. Book now for a family-friendly evening of rhythm, energy and innovation. What's not to love?

Where: District Six Homecoming Centre, Cnr Buitenkant & Caledon Sts

When: 9 November 2025

📄 www.homecomingcentre.co.za/events

MOTHERHOOD: PARADOX AND DUALITY

This large art exhibition offers a fascinating look at the complexities of motherhood in an evolving world, though the eyes of 70 diverse South African artists across different media and time periods - from acclaimed painter Penny Siopis and the late photographer David Goldblatt to renowned Venda sculptor Noria Mabasa. Also on show is the Keiskamma Art Project's much-lauded *Rose Altarpiece*.

Where: Iziko South African National Gallery, Government Ave, Company's Garden

When: Until February 2026

📄 www.iziko.org.za/exhibitions/motherhood-paradox-and-duality/

SURF EXPO AFRICA

South Africa's first dedicated ocean sports and beach lifestyle trade show will be a three-day affair focused on everything surfing, swimming, paddling and diving. You'll find a vast array of brands, retailers and small businesses catering to ocean lovers from across the country. The focus is on the blue economy, and the trade show will highlight products and services and facilitate industry networking.

Where: CTICC 2, Cnr Heerengracht & Rua Bartholomeu Dias

When: 28-30 November 2025

📄 www.eventsincapetown.com/events/surf-expo-africa/



CATS

Book now for one of the festive season's biggest theatrical treats: Andrew Lloyd Webber's enduring musical *CATS*, in association with Cape Town Opera. Pieter Toerien's cast promises to bring all the magic, energy and nostalgia associated with this spectacular. Don't miss the mischievous Jellicle cats and hits such as *Memory*, *Macavity: The Mystery Cat* and *Magical Mr Mistoffelees*.

Where: Artscape, D.F. Malan St

When: 10 December 2025 -11 January 2026

📄 www.artscape.co.za/event/cats/

DIPTYQUE TEA EXPERIENCE

Indulge in a unique high-tea experience at Labotessa Luxury Boutique Hotel and enjoy the Diptyque Tea Experience, a sensory journey where Diptyque's signature fragrances are paired with fine TWG teas and dainty treats. High-tea guests enjoy a glass of alcoholic or non-alcoholic bubbly and learn more about the Diptyque collection before moving on to the Labotessa Café & Terrace for the pairing at R650 per guest. Be sure to book in advance. Six guests can be accommodated at a time.

Where: Labotessa, 5 Church Square

When: Daily from 08h00 until 20h00.

📄 www.labotessa.com/boutique/



IT'S BOOGIE TIME

A live band, local singers, dancers and a touch of comedy - what better recipe for a great evening out in the Mother City? Kick back and get your feet tapping with this high-energy musical trip down memory lane, all the way back to the Seventies and Eighties. Expect Motown magic, disco and power ballads to suite every taste. It's bound to get everyone's toes a tapping.

Where: Artscape, D.F. Malan St

When: 19-23 November

📄 www.artscape.co.za/event/14155/

