Dear Fair Trade Tourism friends

We are thrilled to report very pleasing growth to date this year with 23 new certified members and about a dozen other members who have embarked along the sustainability path with us. Over the last few months we have also focused on conducting sustainability training workshops for SMEs with industry partners which has been productive and rewarding.

For more information on how to get certified, join our membership programme or apply for sustainability training, please send an email to info@fairtrade.travel.

Grootbos Private Nature Reserve overlooking Walker Bay is an award-winning, 5-star nature reserve and was one of the first properties to be certified by FTT in 2006. It is renowned for its environmental conservation and social development projects run through its non-profit arm, the Grootbos Foundation.
**Once in Cape Town** is a trendy “poshtel” (posh hostel) in Cape Town’s vibrant Kloof Street and is the latest business to become FTT certified. Once prides itself on its great location, vibe and value for money. Unlike a typical backpackers’ establishment, each room is en-suite with a private bathroom.

FTT certified **Kwalata** hosted a Business Development Training workshop for SMEEs around the Pilanesberg Game Reserve area in partnership with **EICT** and FTT. The Kwalata model on how it engages the community made for the perfect case study.

FTT hosted a Spring Lunch at Hotel **Verde** in September to facilitate networking among sustainability-focused businesses and tour operators in the Western Cape and to introduce the benefits of our new membership programme.
FTT along with new member Shik Shack backpackers hosted a Business Development Training workshop for SMMEs in Hoedspruit. We also held a session to introduce our membership offering in partnership with the Hoedspruit Chamber of Commerce.

Fair Trade Tourism will host its annual Best Practices Workshop on Monday, 27 November, at Spier Wine Estate in the Cape focusing on the problematic areas of water and waste management in the responsible tourism sector. All FIT clients are invited to attend. Please indicate your interest here and also let us know whether you will require accommodation at Spier.
We are very happy to announce that SATSA has entered into a partnership with Fair Trade Tourism to conduct roadshows until the end of the year to promote responsible and sustainable tourism. Invitations will be sent out to SATSA tour operators to attend these networking events which will take place as follows:

13-Oct-17 **The Backpack** in Cape Town from 15:30

27-Oct-17 **The Peech Hotel** in Johannesburg from 12:30

22-Nov-17 KwaZulu Natal, venue and time TBC

This exciting partnership affords tour operators the opportunity to become part of the Fair Trade Tourism process by marketing products and activities that are Fair Trade Tourism certified in their itineraries. We encourage all our tour operator members to get involved and attend these roadshows.

*Stunned by the facts around the issue of plastic pollution, Bahia Mar has been making every effort to be *plastic pro-active* and environmentally sensitive.* They are currently looking for ways to reduce their plastic dependence. ‘Indestructible’ glass straws have been ordered and their bottled water purchases are under review as they investigate filtered glass drinking water. They are also in the process of changing their take-away containers to biodegradable and have moved away from individual amenities in the rooms in favour of bulk dispensers.

For more information on this initiative and ideas on possible solutions you can implement [click](#).
For this year’s International Coastal Clean-Up Day, White Shark Projects decided to focus on prevention and chose to clean the town centre of Gansbaai, preventing all the litter from blowing into the ocean in the first place.

Below is a list of some of the items we collected:

- 19 Bags of Recyclables were collected.
- Recyclables collected weighed in at 61kg.
- Only 2 bags of non-recyclables were collected.

Click here for a breakdown on the trash collected.
FTT certified Shamwari Game Reserve and Three Tree Hill Lodge have been awarded Gold and Platinum awards respectively at the Diners Club Wine List Awards 2017. Shamwari is pleased to have received this award during their 25th anniversary. Three Tree Hill encourages South Africans to arrange wine tasting events and experience the stories woven around South African wine culture and history.
**Uthando** is passionate about helping ECD centres to have a decent formal building with decent, clean and safe facilities from toilets to classrooms. The next ECD project is Zizamile "just do it" Educare and the new structure has been estimated to cost over 1 million rand. Every single cent from donors goes into the actual building, Uthando does not keep anything for administration. **DONATE HERE**

At **Pakamisa**, tucked into a little corner at the stables, on virgin soil, un-spoilt by commercial farming is a verdant vegetable garden which staff and guests are privileged to have access to. **The restaurant** picks fresh herbs, broccoli, cauliflower, beetroot, green beans, cabbage, 3 types of spinach, green peppers and onions.
**Something New**

*Kololo Game Reserve* is delighted to announce that 5 new Cape Eland have introduced to the reserve. They (4 young cows, 1 young bull) were transferred from Syringa Sands, a property not far from Kololo. It is important to introduce new animals once in a while, to keep the animals healthy and prevent inbreeding. This process would normally occur naturally but with Kololo being a private (fenced) area they sometimes need to assist a bit, and then let nature take its course.

**Travel Specials**

Spend 4 nights at *Spier* and get 25% off your stay!

Treat yourself to healthy farm-to-table dinners, award-winning wines, fresh air, walks out in the vineyards and farmland. Pre-book spa sessions, get comfortable next to the fire, and settle into a winelands winter, the way it should be. Includes full English breakfast. Valid from September 2017 – 21 December 2017 and Subject to availability. Click here more more info and to make a booking

**Out and about**

In partnership with the Dwars River Escape Route and Open Africa, *Coffeebeans* will, from 1 October start offering a range of culinary, heritage, street art and cultural tours in the *Dwars River Valley*, exploring the towns of Kylemore, Pniel, Johannesdal and Lanqueudoc. Between Stellenbosch and Franschhoek. For those seeking greater depth, and an opportunity to complement gourmet dining with traditional home-cooking, paired with local wines, the Escape Route range of tours will be a boon. Click here for bookings.
Did you know?

You can donate your key deposit at The Backpack to a Bursary Fund which helps staff fund their children or grandchildren's studies.