

Blue Flag status for St Francis Bay Canals



Greg Miller from St Francis Bay's canals (Blue Flag Marina) with WESSA CEO, Dr Thommie Burger; Godfrey Louw, Director of Social Services (Kouga Municipality); Sir Daney Benson Dadamasi (Kouga Municipality); Gcobisa Dadamasi (Kouga Municipality) and Minister of Tourism, the Honourable Ms Tokosile Xasa

The Blue Flag has been awarded to St Francis Bay's pristine canals – the only marina in the Eastern Cape to receive this award.

St Francis Bay's canals is now one of only five marinas in South Africa with Blue Flag status together with Thesen Island, Western Cape; False Bay Yacht Club, Western Cape; The Water Club, Western Cape; YachtPort SA Western Cape.

Blue Flag Status is a significant achievement for St Francis Bay according to the Riparian Homeowners

Association committee which says: "We must meet the tough set of criteria to earn this accolade. The committee is proud to receive this accolade and thanks must go to William Lotter and his team who are employed by the St Francis Bay Riparian Home Owners Association to manage and maintain the canal network."

The Eastern Cape achieved a Blue Flag for seven beaches and one marina. Dolphin Beach in Jeffreys Bay, six other beaches, and one marina were awarded the Blue Flag in the Eastern Cape. This



Photo supplied by Riparian Association

was announced at the national Blue Flag launch at Dolphin Beach, Jeffreys Bay, in the Eastern Cape earlier this month. Kouga Municipality hosted the event.

The Western Cape achieved the highest number of Blue Flag sites, with 28 of its beaches, 11 boats and six of seven Blue Flag marinas. KZN has nine Blue Flag beaches.

According to WESSA 62 Blue Flags will be flown at 44 beaches, seven marinas and on 11 sustainable tourism boats in South Africa during the 2017/18 South African Blue Flag season starting 1 November this year.

Earlier this year all applications for the Blue Flag eco-label were reviewed by a

South African and international jury panel. It was a rigorous multi-stage approval process involving both national and international assessments.

An additional 22 beaches across the three provinces will participate on the Pilot Programme. This is an important developmental stage for potential Blue Flag sites, during which WESSA works with beach managers and Tourism Blue Flag Beach Stewards towards the longer-term goal of achieving full Blue Flag status.

Internationally more than 4,400 beaches, boats and marinas currently hold Blue Flag status in 46 countries.

Edited by Bev Mortimer



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Try Our Word Puzzle

See how many words you can make from the letters. No words to be less than four letters. Every word has to contain the middle, bold letter. The goal is to also find the nine letter word/s. No plural nouns, capital letters, slang, or foreign language words (unless accepted in the Oxford English dictionary). This month's puzzle: 51 words excellent; 50 words good; 40 words fair. Note: Words ending in 's' like 'pass' have been allowed. The correct solution is on p14.

Word Puzzle compiled by Bev Mortimer

A	D	N
	G	
	I	E
I	M	T

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Advertising: Bev Mortimer (083 609 5835);

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News/Advertisement physical drop-off point: Calibre Security, St Francis Bay Village Centre.

Material Deadlines: 25th of every month
Display Advert Space Bookings: 21st of every month.

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