

You are invited to:
TOURISM TALK
18 August 2016

"The Magaliesberg Biosphere: Its history and acceptance as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO".



The Tourism Talk sessions provide a forum for people interested in tourism development to network and discuss topical tourism issues in a relaxed and informal setting.

The session is opened by an experienced and well-informed tourism personality who gives a short talk about a topic of interest, which is followed by an open question and answer discussion.

The sessions are held every 3rd Thursday evening of the month from 17:30 to ±19:30 and are currently hosted at the Urban-Econ offices. Open invitations are extended to anyone interested in networking and broadening their understanding of the tourism industry, tourism marketing, technology, operations and new tourism developments.

The discussions of the evening are focussed around the main topic presented by the tourism personality.

Tourism Talk Guest, August 2016:
Willie Boonzaaier

"The Magaliesberg Biosphere: Its History and Acceptance as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO".

Willie was privileged to become the first administrative officer for the Pilanesberg National Park, eventually becoming Deputy Director: Parks and Wildlife for Bop Parks (now North West Parks Board), before starting his own consulting business in 1992. He now has 35 years of practical experience in the field of biodiversity and wildlife conservation, ecotourism and protected area planning, development, management and consulting. Willie furthered his studies during the later years of his career by completing a Bachelors and a Masters degree in Project Management in 2011. He has been involved with the development and management of various conservation and ecotourism projects in the southern-African, Middle-Eastern and Asian regions. This amongst other includes; overseeing the planning, development and management of the world-renowned Pilanesberg National Park and Madikwe Game Reserve in South Africa and initiating the Heritage Park project linking these two protected areas across private and communal land. More recently, he project managed the development of a management plan for the **Magaliesberg Biosphere Reserve and successfully facilitated the application process with UNESCO** (which will be the topic of his talk); facilitated the development of new tourism concessioning policies in Namibia; attracted new ecotourism developments into Namibian Parks and Conservancies; undertook a comprehensive feasibility assessment for opening the Royal Manas National Park in Bhutan; and just completed an Implementation Plan for unlocking tourism potentials in the Chobe-Zambezi Floodplain Complex in Namibia. Willie is recognised as a leader in the field of developing viable biodiversity conservation and tourism policies, plans and implementation models that are environmentally-friendly, market-orientated, financially viable, community-based, private sector driven and empowering to stakeholders. These models are now pursued by government agencies, non-government agencies and the private sector.

RSVP : Before Friday 12 August 2016
 Space is Limited

Our next Tourism Talk sessions will be held on:

- 15 September
- 20 October
- 17 November



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Time: 17h00 for 17h30 until 19h30



Date: 18 August 2016



Refreshments:

Wine, soft drinks and pizza are sponsored by the Tourism Unit of Urban-Econ Development Economists.



The Tourism Talk Sessions are proudly sponsored by:
The Urban-Econ Tourism Unit

GPS coordinates:
 25°46'19.44"S
 28°13'31.08"E

