

MEDIA STATEMENT

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TO: ALL MEDIA

Premier Dr Ramathuba Congratulates Shekinah Lion & Game Lodge on International Award

The Premier of Limpopo, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, has congratulated Shekinah Lion & Game Lodge, situated in Vaalwater in the Waterberg region, on being named Best Luxury Lodge in South Africa at the 2026 World Luxury Hotel Awards.

The prestigious international recognition, announced at a gala ceremony held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 24 October 2026, is a proud achievement for Limpopo's tourism sector and affirms the province's growing potential as a destination of choice for domestic and international travellers.

Premier Dr Ramathuba said the achievement demonstrates the value of investing in quality tourism experiences that showcase Limpopo's natural beauty, wildlife, hospitality and economic potential.

"We congratulate the management and staff of Shekinah Lion & Game Lodge on this remarkable international achievement. Their recognition places Limpopo firmly on the global tourism map and demonstrates that our province has the capacity to compete with the best in the world," said Premier Dr Ramathuba.

The Premier further acknowledged Shekinah Lion & Game Lodge as one of the investors who participated in the Limpopo Investment Conference, emphasising the importance of partnerships between government and the private sector in driving economic growth, tourism development and job creation.

"We appreciate Shekinah Lion & Game Lodge for its confidence in Limpopo as an investment destination and for contributing to the development of our tourism offering. The progress achieved by establishments such as this demonstrates the importance of translating investment commitments into tangible projects that enhance our province's appeal, create opportunities and stimulate local economic development," she said.

The Premier reiterated the provincial government's commitment to creating an enabling environment for investment and supporting tourism enterprises that contribute to sustainable development and employment.

The international award comes as Shekinah Lion & Game Lodge approaches its third anniversary, having opened its doors on 28 October 2023. This milestone highlights the possibilities that can be achieved through vision, investment and a commitment to excellence.

The Limpopo Provincial Government wishes the lodge continued success and encourages more travellers to experience the Waterberg's distinctive hospitality and wildlife offerings.

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