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THE

BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



**Namibia's tourism sector set to
generate N\$4.6 billion in 2025**

FRIDAY 23 MAY 2025

MAIN STORY



Namibia's tourism sector set to generate N\$4.6 billion in 2025

Namibia's tourism sector is projected to generate N\$4.6 billion in 2025, underpinned by a 5.5% growth rate and a 7.3% increase in visitor arrivals.

According to Simonis Storm, this growth is being driven by improved international air connectivity, targeted marketing efforts in Asia and Europe, and rising demand for eco-tourism and cultural travel experiences.

"This growth is largely supported by enhanced international connectivity, focused marketing campaigns in Europe and Asia, and a growing interest in eco-tourism and cultural experiences," said Simonis Storm Junior Economist, Almandro Jansen.

April 2025 recorded the highest monthly

occupancy rate so far this year at 54.94%, reflecting a 24.1% increase from March and edging slightly ahead of April 2019's 54.73%.

However, the year-to-date average remains

Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
 - * 18 June 2025
 - * 13 August 2025
 - * 15 October 2025
 - * 3 December 2025

at 41.49%, below the 2019 benchmark of 44.92%, suggesting that the sector still has room to recover.

“Namibia’s strategic pivot towards attracting high-net-worth travellers, through the development of premium lodges and exclusive eco-tourism offerings, is expected to provide resilience against global economic uncertainty,” Jansen said.

He added that the luxury travel segment tends to remain stable even during economic downturns, offering a more reliable revenue stream and supporting long-term sustainability within the sector.

Jansen meanwhile said efforts to position Namibia as a year-round travel destination are helping reduce reliance on traditional peak seasons. He said the campaigns complement broader sector reforms under the National Tourism Policy, the forthcoming Tourism Act, and the Spatial Tourism Development Master Plan.

“Ongoing promotional efforts to market Namibia as an all-year destination are reducing seasonality and encouraging more balanced regional demand. Our Economic Outlook for 2025 identifies tourism as a key growth driver for the remainder of the year,” said Jansen.

Tourism is also expected to benefit from private sector developments in areas such as green hydrogen, oil and gas, salmon

farming, and expanded mining and pipeline infrastructure, particularly around Lüderitz.

He said these projects are raising Namibia’s profile and boosting its attractiveness as a destination.

To sustain this momentum, Simonis Storm has identified four priority areas: streamlining visa processes, investing in infrastructure, enhancing flight connectivity, and enforcing sustainable tourism standards in line with global expectations.

“Efforts to align tourism development with the National Tourism Policy, the upcoming Tourism Act, and the Spatial Tourism Development Master Plan remain essential for strengthening investor confidence and supporting sectoral growth,” Jansen said.

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, through the Namibia Tourism Board, has launched a N\$51.3 million marketing campaign targeting Asia, the UAE, and North America.

The aim is to reduce the country’s reliance on European source markets and diversify visitor inflows.

“Diversifying markets introduces new revenue streams and shields the sector from downturns in traditional markets. Higher tourist arrivals are likely to boost foreign currency earnings, support job creation, and stimulate investment in hospitality and logistics,” Jansen said.



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Parliamentary committee calls for land subsidies to boost affordable housing

The Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Housing has called on the government to subsidise local authorities in their efforts to service land for housing development.

The committee believes this measure will reduce development costs and significantly

improve access to affordable housing, especially for low-income and landless communities.

The committee urged that all land developed under the Flexible Land Tenure Act should remain state-owned, with occupants granted rights of use rather than

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“The Government should fully service informal settlement land under flexible tenure arrangements and provide subsidies to support access to adequate housing and infrastructure for the urban poor and landless,” the committee said.

The committee further recommended that the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD), in partnership with local authorities, adopt a flexible co-ownership housing model for the urban poor.

This approach aims to safeguard residents from asset loss and promote long-term financial stability.

“The Government in collaboration with

Local Authorities should incentivise and facilitate private sector partnerships through land-sharing schemes and collaborative models to improve land access for marginalised,” the committee said.

According to the lawmakers, the government must create an autonomous National Land Agency (NLA) responsible for land management, policy implementation, and coordination among local governments.

“Local authorities should be empowered by the state to streamline land delivery processes and minimise the involvement of middlemen, ensuring more efficient and transparent access to land for communities,” they added.

Furthermore, MURD, in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform and all local authorities, has been tasked with developing a robust National Land Use Master Plan. This master plan is intended to prevent illegal land grabbing, ensure coordinated urban growth, and optimise land use across various sectors.

To address the issue of informal settlements, the committee proposed the introduction of structured rehousing programmes. These initiatives, led by major local authorities with central government support, would focus on upgrading informal settlements while ensuring that residents are not displaced.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Targeted Investment Promotion Missions to Algeria, Angola, Brazil, Japan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, South Africa and United States of America

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MISSION	EVENT NAME	EVENT DATE	DUE DATE
Angola	U.S-Africa Business Summit 2025	22 - 25 Jun 2025	10 Jun 2025
South Africa	Manufacturing Indaba	15 - 16 Jul 2025	30 May 2025
Japan	Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) / Osaka Expo	20 - 22 Aug 2025 / 25 - 29 Aug 2025	30 May 2025
Algeria	Intra Africa Trade Fair 2025 (IATF 2025)	4 - 10 Sept 2025	30 Jun 2025
United States of America	Worldwide Exhibition for Incentive Travel, Meetings and Events (IMEX)	7 - 9 Oct 2025	30 Jun 2025
China	China International Import Export Expo (CIIE)	5 - 10 Nov 2025	30 Aug 2025
Brazil	Conference of Parties (COP30)	10 - 21 Nov 2025	30 Aug 2025
Saudi Arabia	Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)	Dec 2025	30 Aug 2025

Interested participants are requested to express their interest by completing the form available by scanning of the QR Code or following the link below:
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NB: Participation is at own cost and Invitation to the first planning meeting will be done at the planning committee's discretion.

For any inquiries or additional information, please contact
Samuel Amputu via Email: Delegations@nipdb.com



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Disrespect closes doors that apologies can't open

By Junias Erasmus

In a world increasingly defined by connections and relationships, both personal and professional, how we treat one another holds immense weight. Words, actions, and attitudes leave lasting impressions that can shape destinies, build bridges, or burn them beyond repair.

“Disrespect closes doors that apologies can't open” is more than a mere saying; it is a profound truth that underscores the irreversible damage caused by carelessness, pride, and lack of regard for others. It is a sobering reminder that while mistakes are a part of life, some forms of disregard for human dignity create wounds too deep for words alone to heal.

Respect is the currency of trust, and trust is the bedrock of every enduring relationship, whether in business, friendship, family, or community. When one shows disrespect, it is not merely an act of rudeness; it is a signal to the other person that their worth is being diminished, their humanity ignored. This breach of mutual value cannot always be mended with a simple “I'm sorry.” An apology, no matter how sincere, does not erase the memory of humiliation, betrayal, or condescension. In many cases, the damage lies not in the words said, but



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in the shift of perception they create. Once trust is broken, the affected individual may no longer see the offender as reliable, kind, or safe, and that shift can be permanent.

We live in a society where apologies are often rushed and used as tools of convenience rather than instruments of transformation. A true apology requires change, humility, and time, but even then, it may not restore the lost opportunity or relationship. The door that disrespect closes might be one leading to a dream job, a loyal friend, a supportive mentor, or a loving partner. In the heat of

emotion or in pursuit of ego, many people sacrifice invaluable relationships, only to look back with regret when the silence becomes louder than any apology they could offer.

For the youth of Namibia, and indeed for anyone navigating a world filled with pressure, competition, and unpredictability, this principle must be taken to heart. No qualification, talent, or brilliance can fully compensate for a poor attitude. Emotional intelligence, especially the ability to treat others with consistent respect, can be the deciding factor in whether doors to success stay open or slam shut. Employers remember how you speak to colleagues. Elders remember how you respond to correction. Peers remember how you make them feel in their moments of weakness. Every interaction is a seed planted in the garden of your future.

Respect must become our lifestyle, not our strategy. It is the language of leaders and the shield of the wise. It is what keeps doors open even in moments of failure, because those who feel respected are more likely to forgive, to understand, and to offer second chances. But when someone is disrespected, especially in public, the door often closes with a finality that no polished apology can unlock.

Let us all commit to cultivating a spirit of respect, not because we are perfect, but because we understand the power of our words and the weight of our actions. Let us teach our children, our students, and our teams that kindness and humility are not signs of weakness but marks of strength. Because in the end, it is not our status, our possessions, or our apologies that will open the most important doors in life, it is our unwavering respect for others.

****Junias Erasmus works in the Financial Sector. He is a Management Scientist and Operational Researcher, a Strategic Scholar & a Motivational Speaker. This article is written in his personal capacity. For inquiries, contact him at Junias99@gmail.com***



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CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, 30 MAY 2025, AT 16H00

Please forward application to the email: stsrecruitment3@sinomine.na
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted, applicants, who are not contacted within two weeks after the closing date, should consider their application unsuccessful.

The recruitment process will be administered as prescribed by Namibian Affirmative Action Act. Women and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.

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APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

All applications meeting the minimum requirements must be accompanied by a non-returnable detailed curriculum vitae, certified copies of qualifications and identification documents. Applications should clearly indicate the position being applied for and should be sent as one PDF attachment. Applications not adhering to these rules will not be considered.

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HANDBOOK



Nandi-Ndaitwah appoints Shilunga and McLeod to head new petroleum unit under Presidency

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has appointed Kornelia Shilunga and Carlo Lord Muhamed McLeod as Special Advisors in the Presidency, tasked with establishing and managing the newly created Upstream Petroleum Unit.

The appointments, which take immediate effect, are made under Article 32 (3)(i)(hh) of the Namibian Constitution.

Shilunga, the former Deputy Minister of Mines and Energy from 2015 to March 2025, has been named Special Advisor and Head of the Unit.

McLeod, a former official in the Ministry of Mines and Energy and until now Deputy General Manager at Chevron Namibia, has been appointed as Deputy Head.

According to the Presidency, the two officials bring “vast policy and industry experience” and will be responsible for setting up the new unit, reviewing Namibia’s current petroleum regulatory

framework, and proposing governance policies for the upstream petroleum sector.

The shift of oversight for the oil and gas sector from the Ministry of Mines and Energy to the Office of the President marks a significant change in Namibia’s resource governance strategy.

The Presidency stated that the move is aimed at “maximising national benefits” from the country’s emerging oil and gas industry.

President Nandi-Ndaitwah express confidence in the respective abilities of Shilunga and McLeod to execute their duties and wish them well in the execution of their assignments.

The country’s oil and gas sector is projected to contribute around N\$11.5 billion annually once production begins, with estimates suggesting it could potentially double Namibia’s GDP by 2040.

- www.miningandenergy.com.na

Financial literacy cultivates a culture of savings

By Daniel Ndara

Savings culture is a lifelong discipline that can lead to an accumulation of personal wealth. Since financial literacy can cultivate a culture of saving, awareness through a targeted approach to achieve the appropriate financial objectives are required.

The ability to comprehend and effectively utilise financial skills is critical in the workplace and will be highlighted in this article. Having a savings culture is a necessity for the financial well-being of households and the economy of the country. The current level of savings by households, based on research, remains a concern. Literatures has highlighted that the adequacy of retirement savings is very low and as a result households do not accumulate sufficient wealth, which at the end of the day has profound implications to personal welfare as well as public policy. Low saving households may lack a buffer to deal with negative shocks in the long run, therefore it is highly likely that such households will depend on public support in the foreseeable future.

If this assumption is true, more deliberate effort needs to be made by employers to improve the savings culture amongst employees, to ultimately improve the understanding of the fundamental pillars of money matters that include, for example, budgeting, savings, debt and the importance of investing.

Financial literacy is one of the aspects that most employers do not consider as a necessary tool when embarking on various internal employee interventions,



The ability to comprehend and effectively utilise financial skills is critical in the workplace and will be highlighted in this article.

assuming that employers consider the provision of such basic financial literacy education as not being their responsibility, but rather a personal matter that an individual employee should take up with either their retirement savings service providers or banking institution. The assumption is that employees are already well informed about financial matters, hence their understanding of keeping additional savings can be managed at an individual level. The employers, by virtue of maintaining a compulsory pension scheme, assumes that the future financial needs of their employees are addressed and therefore further information regarding additional voluntary savings is not necessary.

This misconception results in many employees not having additional savings that could assist them during difficult times or simply just for the improvement of their retirement packages.

Employees are therefore advised to always have a certain level of savings to prepare for any eventualities that may arise. Employers are therefore encouraged to provide basic


financial education for their employees, as the absence of same does have some unintended negative implications to the sustainability of the company. Employees who are financially literate may experience improved mental health whereas for those who resort to borrowing excessively, may not be productive due to poor financial wellbeing, resulting in absence from the workplace and demanding for higher salaries and benefits and in some instances result in a higher turnover.

The GIPF encourages its employees to improve their future financial wellbeing by offering various additional monthly voluntary pension contributions which if taken up by employees at an early stage

of their career can enhance their future financial prospects. These additional voluntary contributions are one of the options that can be explored to enhance retirement savings. It's a savings plan that is supported by regulations and employees can participate in such a scheme from the time they enter the employment relationship with their employers. The Fund further provides various financial literacy awareness sessions internally by inviting financial experts to provide information on investments, savings and preretirement information and options available to them.

This is a good option to encourage savings, and is flexible in nature, since the option remains with the employees to participate in the scheme. It is my conviction that if voluntary pensions contributions awareness is encouraged more employees will participate and in the long run ultimately improve savings culture in the economy.

In addition, voluntary contribution adds to the equation of the current compulsory pension contribution and if taken seriously might increase the likelihood of good retirement benefits for employees. This additional amount is added to the monthly contribution to boost future retirement savings. It is always advisable to take the smaller voluntary contribution as a beginning point and gradually grow savings



NAMWATER
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BID INVITATION

NamWater is inviting registered and reputable firms to submit bids for the following procurement.

Reference Number	Description	Non-Compulsory Pre-Bid meeting	Restriction: Section (29)(1)(b)	Non-refundable Document Levy	Last day for clarification request	Closing Date
G/ONB/NW-003/2026	Supply and Delivery of Two (2) New 6x6 Water Tankers to NamWater	N/A	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015 as amended.	N\$ 300.00	26 June 2025	15 July 2025 at 11h00
G/ONB/NW-004/2026	Pre-qualification of Suppliers for the Supply and delivery of Branded corporate wear, display, outdoor branding, corporate gifts, and promotional items for 12 months	N/A	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015 as amended.	Free	26 June 2025	15 July 2025 at 11h00
NCS/ONB/NW-001/2026	Pre-qualification of Suppliers for various Services for a period of 12 months	N/A	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015 as amended.	Free	26 June 2025	15 July 2025 at 11h00
G/ONB/NW-005/2026	Supply and delivery of Construction Material for NamWater Ogongo - Oshakati canal refurbishment project for a period of 24 months	N/A	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015 as amended.	N\$ 300.00	19 June 2025	8 July 2025 at 11h00

Bidding documents will be available as of **23 May 2025**. Free bidding documents can be downloaded from www.namwater.com.na.

All prospective bidders who wish to do business with NamWater will be subject to the Public Procurement Act No 15 of 2015 as amended, Public Procurement Regulations 2017 and other directives issued under it.

Documents should be delivered to: The Quotation/Bid Box
Namibia Water Corporation Ltd.
176 Iscor Street, NamWater Head Office,
Aigams Building, Windhoek

Enquiries
The Procurement Management Unit
Fax : (+204 61) 21 0741
Email : bids@namwater.com.na :
NB: Please note that all enquiries should be made in writing.

Financial literacy is one of the aspects that most employers do not consider as a necessary tool when embarking on various internal employee interventions.

to a higher voluntary contribution as time goes based on sustainable and depending on individual circumstances. This will certainly increase and complement the benefits that are expected in the future. Therefore, the idea of voluntary contributions needs to be encouraged by employers as part of their commitment to improving financial literacy amongst employees.

The impact of voluntary additional pension contributions will be appreciated by employees in the long term, as it will help them to grasp the fundamentals of financial management and grow their savings to improve their future financial wellbeing.

Employers are encouraged to create the culture of saving by providing various information sessions on financial literacy to empower employees on the value of managing their own money and being prepared for any financial shocks that may arise.

*** Daniel Ndara is General Manager: Finance and Administration at the GIPF**

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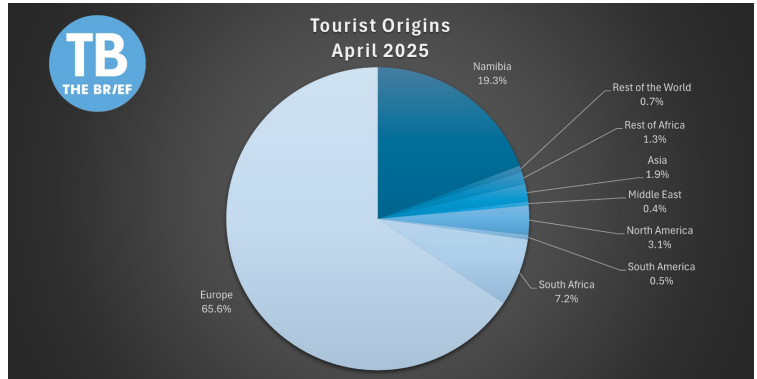
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Leisure travel leads as Namibia's hotel occupancy reaches 55% in April

Leisure travel continued to drive Namibia's hospitality sector in April, with room occupancy nationally reaching 54.94%.

According to Simonis Storm Junior Economist Almandro Jansen, this is slightly below the 58.19% recorded in April 2024 but marginally higher than the April 2019 pre-pandemic level of 54.73%.

"Leisure travel continued to dominate, accounting for 95.16% of all room nights in April. Business travel contributed 3.92%, while conference-related stays remained limited at 0.92%, consistent with April 2024 trends," he said.

The coastal region outperformed all others with

a 60.79% occupancy rate, up from 45.95% in March. The increase was driven by Easter holiday travel, particularly by inland residents visiting the coast.

"Business travellers showed a clear preference for coastal establishments, supported by international delegations tied to Namibia's energy sector. The coastal region's business occupancy reached 10.98%, the highest across all regions," Jansen said.

FlyNamibia's reinstatement of daily flights between Windhoek and Lüderitz also supported the rise in business travel.

Month-on-month, April occupancy rose 24.1% from March, marking the highest

monthly rate of 2025 so far.

However, the year-to-date average occupancy sits at 41.79%, still below the 2019 year-to-date average of 44.92%.

The economist noted that Namibia's focus on high-end international tourists is helping to shield the sector from broader volatility.

"Luxury travel tends to be more resilient during downturns, as affluent travellers are less likely to scale back on travel. This approach not only supports revenue consistency but also ensures continued inflows of high-spending international visitors who make a meaningful contribution to the economy," said Jansen.

Regional occupancy varied. The northern region reached 55.50%, supported by events such as the Newspaper Cup and Private Schools' Weekend in Outjo.

The southern region rose to 53.65% from 48.01% in March. The central region remained the lowest at 44.41%, though slightly improved from 41.55%.

German-speaking countries continued to dominate foreign arrivals.

"As in previous months, the majority of international visitors to Namibia in April 2025 came from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, collectively accounting for 40.29% of total arrivals," said Jansen.

Domestic travel made up 19.30% of occupancy, down

from 26.52% in March.

French tourists accounted for 6.90%. The Benelux market increased from 4.43% to 5.31%, driven by direct flights from Frankfurt and the new Munich–Windhoek route. South African visitors rose to 7.23% from 7.13%.



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- 1x Bachelor Degree of Environmental Management/ Science Hons. (Windhoek)
- 1x BSc in Microbiology (Windhoek)
- 1x Bachelor Degree in Accounting and Finance (Windhoek)
- 1x Bachelor Degree of Supply Chain Management and Logistics (Windhoek)
- 1x BSc/ Hons in Chemical Engineering /Chemistry/ any Water related fields (Windhoek)
- 1x BSc in Computer Science (Cyber Security) (Windhoek)
- 1x Diploma/Degree in Geomatics/ Geo-Information Technology (Windhoek)
- 1x Diploma/ Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety (Oshakati)
- 1x Bachelor's Degree/Certificate in Hospitality Management (Okahandja)
- 2x Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources (Windhoek)
- 1x Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Psychology (Windhoek)
- 1x Bachelor's Degree in Communications (Windhoek)
- 2x Certificate in Fitter and Turner Level 3 (Okahandja, Windhoek)

Application Requirements:

Students meeting the requirements should submit a cover letter, CV and the latest copy of the academic transcript. Applications can be submitted at NamWater reception desk. No email or fax will be accepted.

Addressed to:

Attention: The Talent Development Practitioners
Namibia Water Corporation Ltd
Private Bag 13389, Windhoek

Enquiries: Talent Development Practitioner
Tel: 061-712231 / 712080 / 712294 / 712256

Note: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted, and no CV's will be returned. Women and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Closing Date: 11 June 2025





PUBLIC INVITATION

PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF THE 2025/2026 END-USER TARIFF APPLICATIONS BY THE DIFFERENT LICENSEES

Date	Licensee	Town	Venue	Starting Time
2 June	Keetmanshoop Municipality	Keetmanshoop	Westdene Moth Hall	14:00 – 16:00
4 June	ERONGO RED	Walvis Bay	Municipality Hall	10:00 – 12:00
6 June	City of Windhoek	Windhoek	Khomas Regional Council Hall	14:00 – 16:00
9 June	CENORED	Tsumeb	Nomtsoub Community Hall	17:00 – 19:00
11 June	Oshakati Premier Electric (OPE)	Oshakati	Oshandira Lodge	09:00 – 11:00
	NORED	Ongwediva	Ongwediva Trade Fair Centre Conference Hall	17:00 – 19:00
12 June	NORED	Rundu	Regional Council Auditorium	17:00 – 19:00
13 June	NORED	Katima Mulilo	Ngweze Community Hall	17:00 – 19:00

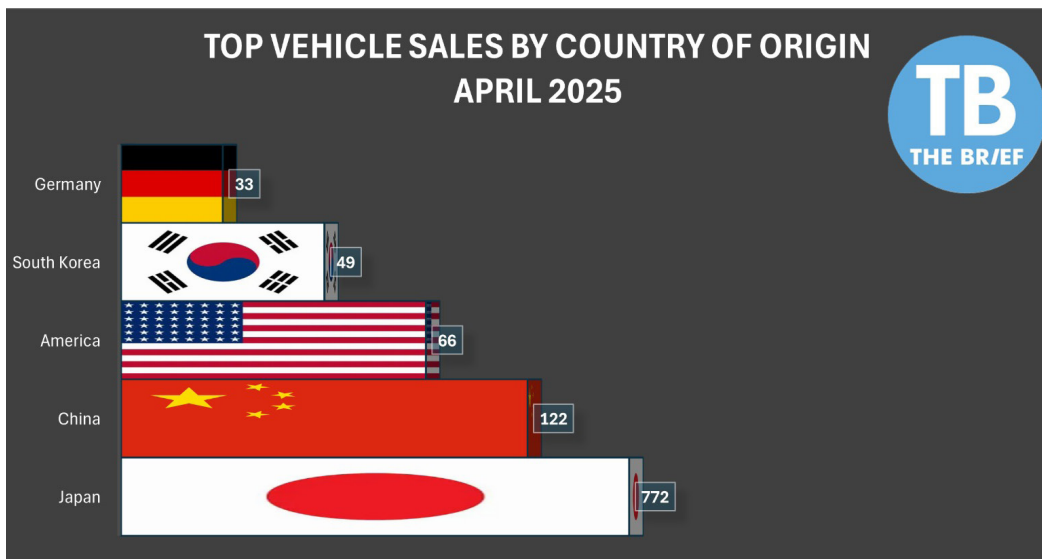
Members of the public will have an opportunity to engage their distribution licensee to clarify and explain their electricity tariff application.

We look forward to seeing you!

Alexforbes has partnered with the Nampharm Foundation to support free facial reconstructive surgery and holistic care for children across Namibia. The partnership will help extend life-changing treatment – including cleft lip and palate surgeries – to more children nationwide.

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Japanese, Chinese carmakers dominate Namibia's new vehicle sales

Japanese and Chinese brands led Namibia's passenger vehicle market in April 2025, with Toyota maintaining a commanding presence and emerging Chinese models steadily gaining ground.

Simonis Storm junior economist Almandro Jansen says sales figures reflect changing buyer preferences and a growing emphasis on affordability and practicality.

"An analysis of vehicle sales by country of origin highlights a clear preference among Namibian consumers for Japanese and Chinese brands, with Japanese manufacturers maintaining a dominant lead in the passenger vehicle segment," Jansen said.

Japanese vehicles made up 62.1% of total sales, with 772 units sold. Toyota accounted for 683 of these, equal to

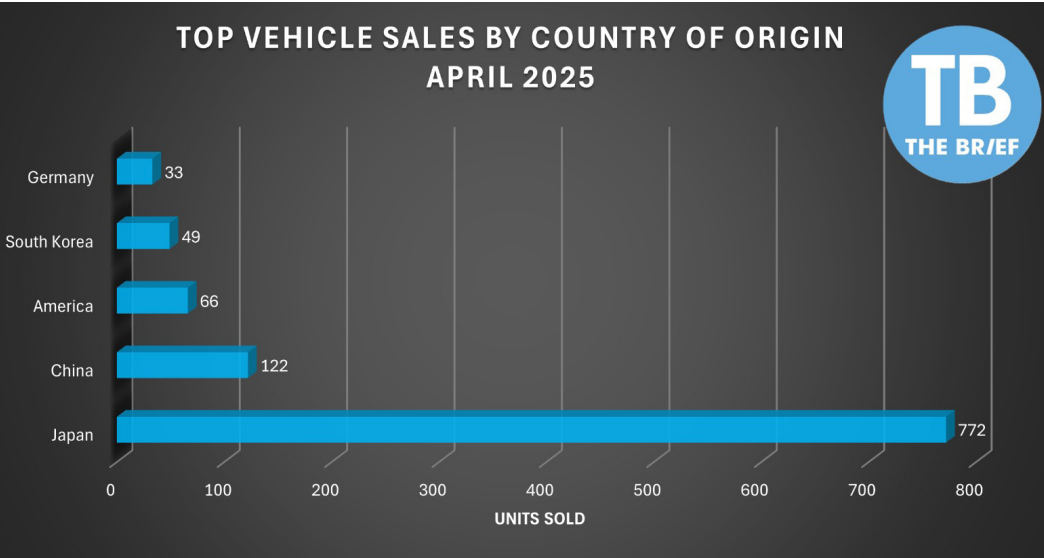
54.9% of the market.

"This performance underscores strong brand loyalty and trust, particularly in Toyota, which alone contributed 683 units and captured 54.9% of the total market, Toyota's sustained success reflects its reputation for reliability, affordability, and long-term value" Jansen said.

Chinese manufacturers followed with a 9.8% share, or 122 vehicles sold. Haval led the group with 31 units, while newer players like Jaecoo, Omoda, and Jetour are seeing early traction.

"These brands are benefitting from attractive pricing, contemporary styling, and increasing dealership support, particularly in after-sales service, positioning them to expand their footprint further," he said.

U.S. brands, mostly driven by Ford, recorded 66 units, making up 5.3% of



sales. South Korean manufacturers sold 49 vehicles (3.9%), holding steady in the entry-level and mid-range segments.

Meanwhile, German automakers posted the lowest figures at 33 units (2.65%). While known for quality and engineering, Jansen said rising prices are narrowing their appeal.

“Brands such as Volkswagen and Mercedes-Benz continue to enjoy brand prestige and engineering excellence, but rising affordability concerns are eroding their competitive edge in a market increasingly prioritising value over luxury,” he noted.

Jansen said the data points to a broader consumer shift as Namibia’s passenger vehicle landscape reflects

a broader shift in consumer priorities where affordability, fuel efficiency, and practicality are beginning to outweigh traditional preferences for prestige and performance.

He noted that this creates opportunities for industry players to rethink their offerings.

“This evolution presents new opportunities for local dealerships, financiers, and service providers to adapt their offerings in line with shifting consumer expectations focusing more on cost-conscious packages, servicing support, and competitive financing models tailored to the growing mid-tier vehicle segment,” Jansen said.



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Ngurare appoints two Executive Directors at the Presidency

Prime Minister Elijah Ngurare has appointed Mateus Kaholongo and Ambassador Neville Gertze as Executive Directors at the Presidency, following recommendations from the Public Service Commission.

Mateus Kaholongo has been appointed as Executive Director and Accounting Officer in the Office of the President. His appointment is on a fixed-term contract of three years and one month, effective from 1 June 2025.

Kaholongo is currently serving in an acting capacity in the same role. He previously held senior positions as Deputy Executive Director in the Office of the Vice President and as Director in the Office of the Prime Minister.

He holds a Bachelor of Laws degree and a Master's degree in Political Science, and is an admitted legal practitioner of the High Court of Namibia.

Ambassador Neville Gertze has been appointed as Executive Director in the President's Private Office. His fixed-term contract is for five years, also effective from 1 June 2025.

Gertze holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration and an MBA. He brings over two decades of diplomatic experience, having served in various roles including Commercial Counsellor to South Africa, Namibia's High Commissioner to Malaysia, and Ambassador to Germany.

Most recently, he served as Namibia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York from 2017 to 2025. He also served as Namibia's Chief of Protocol from 2015 to 2016.

The appointments were made in accordance with Sections 5(1), read together with Section 1(A)(1), of the Public Service Act, 1995 (Act No. 13 of 1995).

Inside Immigration: Namibia online Visa-on-Arrival program

By Ian Coffee

The Namibian Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (MHAISS) has launched an online Visa-on-Arrival (VoA) program, marking a significant step towards streamlining and advancing the country's visa application process. The program announced earlier this year is specifically designed for travelers from countries that do not have a reciprocal visa agreement with Namibia. Meaning a mutual arrangement between two countries where they grant visa waivers or simplify visa requirements for each other's citizens.

As of 1 April 2025, eligible applicants can also access and apply for the Visa-on-Arrival (VoA) from many nationalities. These include some who were previously exempt from Visa including the Schengen countries in Europe, UK, Australia, New Zealand and the USA among others. In addition to the online application, travelers have the option to submit their VoA application at a Namibian consular post or upon arrival at a designated port of entry.

During the first weeks of the online visa application system, several errors and functionality issues were experienced and even a few reports of European tourists cancelling their entire trip to Namibia. This has been addressed in the meantime, according to the MHAISS.

To apply for the VoA, applicants must provide several documents, including a valid



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The online VoA program is expected to attract more tourists, thereby contributing to the growth of Namibia's economy.

passport, a motivation letter, confirmation of sufficient funds (bank statements), confirmation of accommodation, and travel bookings in Namibia. This is quite an extensive list in my opinion.

One question remains on everyone's mind, with these document requirements being implemented: Will it not deter prospective tourists from visiting Namibia, especially European Travelers?

The VoA application fee is set at N\$ 1,600 (USD \$88 at the time of writing) for non-African travelers and N\$ 1,200 for African travelers. In our experience, this compares well with other countries in terms of pricing.

However, it is not always sunshine and roses. As with a lot of new things, with the new visa implementation, various reports indicate that tourists/visitors are facing long processing times at the port of entry, especially at Hosea Kutako Airport. Arrivals

sometimes take up to 2-3 hours to be cleared which has raised concerns among travelers to Namibia.

I called the helplines listed on the website, 7 calls over 2 days – No answers.

Imagine running against the clock to submit a visa application and having to make international calls with no outcome and no help. I guess only time will tell if we've made the right decision.

One of the other curveballs we must be on the lookout for - the duration. It is possible to apply for up to 90-days; however you must clearly state 30 days. If you need a multiple entry permit for tourism and visits to neighboring countries such as Botswana and South Africa, you must specifically request multiple entry from the immigration officer when you arrive. Multiple entry permits are granted at the discretion of the immigration officer, and if not approved you will need to pay for a new visa when you next enter Namibia.

The big question remains ... with all the hundreds of millions of Namibian dollars the government will receive this year from tourist visas (With the total revenue in the first months of 25.5 million Namibian dollars, we are currently looking at exceeding N\$ 300 million in the first 12 months after launch), how much will be used to enhance the tourism sector of Namibia, making it worthwhile for those visiting the country?

The Namibian government has yet to provide clear answers on how the revenue will be allocated to improve the tourism infrastructure and overall visitor experience, if any. We are on the "worldwide-stage" now – we need to impress and lead by example for other African Countries. We can't deliver sub-par services and expect substantial results.

This program by the MHAISS reflects Namibia's commitment to enhancing its tourism sector and making the country more accessible to international visitors. The online VoA program is expected to attract more tourists, thereby contributing to the growth of Namibia's economy.

However, addressing the current challenges and ensuring that the revenue is effectively re-invested into the tourism sector, will be crucial for the long-term success of this initiative.

The full impact of the implementation of Namibian



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Visas on Arrival and E-Visas, will only truly be reflected once we have analysed the economic benefit, as well as tourism numbers after a considerable time.

For more information on the VoA program and application process, travelers are encouraged to visit the official MHAISS website or contact their nearest local Namibian consular office.

The Visa on Arrival (VOA) is only applicable to tourism purposes and cannot be used for business, study, or volunteering. Entering Namibia on the incorrect visa can result in serious fines, being banned or even imprisonment, and take it from me, the MHAISS are following up and checking.

What Is The Purpose Of Travel *

Please Select

Please Select

Visiting Friend/Relatives

Holiday/Tourism/Recreations

In Transit/Stopover

Business/Conference/Meeting

Medical


The following options are available when using the Namibian Visa on Arrival System

Tip: When you receive your passport from the Immigration Official at the port of entry, please ensure your entry and exit dates are correct, as it is the passport holder's responsibility to ensure correctness.

****IanCoffee, a Namibian Immigration Expert at IBN Immigration Solutions***



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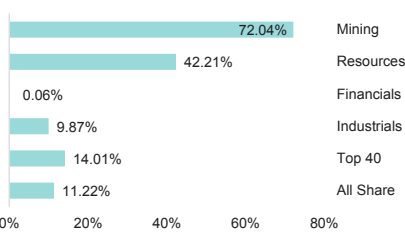
Commodities

Spot Gold	3354.98
Platinum	1091.56
Palladium	999.24
Silver	32.17
Uranium	70.50
Brent Crude	64.77
Iron Ore	94.62
Copper	9535.65
Natural Gas	3.35
Lithium	7.95

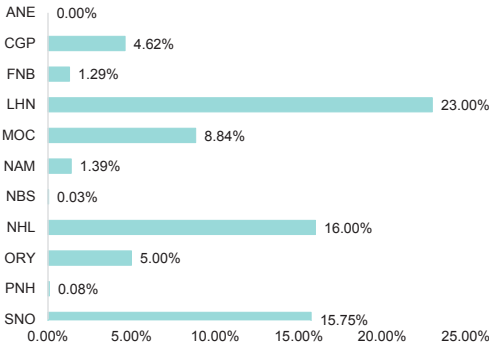
Currencies

USD/ZAR	17.8855
EUR/ZAR	19.2300
GBP/ZAR	24.1454
USD/CNY	7.1815
EUR/USD	1.1346
GBP/USD	1.3499
USD/RUB	79.5629
CPI	3.60%
Repo Rate	6.75%
Prime Rate	10.50%

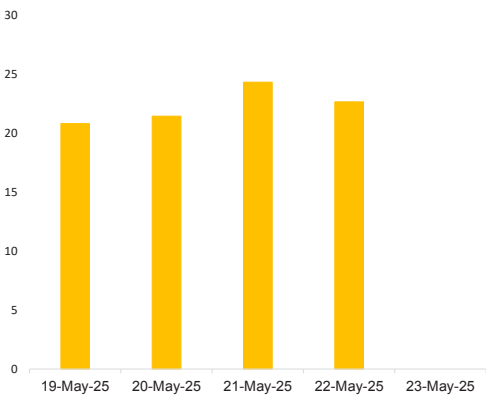
JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %



JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



Global Indices: Year to Date in %

