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Dear

Knysna enjoyed an incredibly beautiful festive season - the tourists were great, the weather perfect for a holiday and the general feeling one of happiness and anticipation. The holiday makers basked in the sun and soaked in the warm water. Now winter is finally here accompanied by some long-awaited rain. The plants in Knysna nod a sigh of relief with every drop that falls. The Garden Route is looking beautiful and ready for the winter season.

The Lofts Boutique Hotel invites you to enjoy a special snug and cosy winter package - [see on our website](#). The evenings are special because of the breathtaking sunsets enjoyed together with a delicious cappuccino. Ahh, there is something so satisfying about spending a few days at The Lofts Boutique Hotel during the coming cold months.

It is also time for the soccer world cup in less than 21 days to kick off and for us to do the disk dance, shout "laduuuuma" at the top of our voices and show our collective national alliance with Bafana Bafana. We at The Lofts Boutique Hotel can assure you, once the first whistle blows, the first ball kicked and the first vuvuzela blown, our World Cup National Pride will kick in. When you visit us again you will notice for this "once in a lifetime" experience The Lofts has a new look.



Soccer 2010

To show our appreciation for support and welcome the French and Danish Soccer teams Thesen Harbour Town is transforming its streets into a soccer festival.

Knysna has the honour of hosting two soccer teams, thus the commercial owners inspired by Pat thought it would be a great idea to beautify, decorate and transform the area into a soccer festival. To make sure that many people share the excitement and also benefit by this, the community was mentored and involved in many respects.

With the help of Melissa Daitz this decoration project has been one of those stunning and outrageously successful projects.

- Over 20 well paid new jobs were created.
- New skills were taught to this group of people.
- Recycled plastic has been applied in the making of the decorations.
- Children have enjoyed workshops to contribute to this recycling and decorative art project.
- The décor is really beautiful, unique and one of a kind.



The main street onto Thesen Harbour Town is coming alive with beautiful handcrafted, recycled French roosters, oversized balls, the Danish lion, banners, hand made bunting and the traditional French drapes on the buildings. This stunning show is creating a buzz and has everybody excited and waiting in anticipation for the official opening.



The very involved owner of The Lofts, Pat, enjoys anything successful and beautiful. For a number of years she has been involved with art, décor, food and many other aspects of magnificence especially focussing on "one of a kind" features. Hence the "sexy" Lofts Boutique Hotel.

Moreover Thesen Harbour Town will have its own Soccer Viewing Area where all the matches can be seen on a big screen in an amazing assimilated soccer arena together with other fans. The vibe will be the best!



Award Winning

The Lofts Boutique Hotel comes out on top in this year's Welcome Awards ceremony at Indaba!

This year our dynamic and service orientated team at The Lofts has proved once again that it is still going from strength to strength. These competitions and the input from our guests motivate us to reach higher service standards. The awards for service excellence prove this.

The Lofts has received 3 remarkable awards in 2010 for service and service excellence by participating in the AA Accommodation Awards and SA Tourism's Welcome Awards. The Lofts Boutique Hotel reached semi-finalist status in the AA Accommodation Awards and was announced the proud winners of the Welcome Awards at Indaba on the 9th of May in the accommodation - bed & breakfast/guest houses/guest lodges category. SA Venues furthermore published and announced The Lofts Boutique Hotel to be one of the top 10 sexiest hotels in South Africa earlier this month, The great news is that The Lofts came 2nd overall out of the nominated top ten sexiest accommodation establishments in South Africa.

A warm and special thanks for the feedback and support from all our guests!

The Lofts Boutique Hotel's 2010 awards:

SA Tourism - Welcome Awards

[View SA Tourism Website](#)
[View Welcome Awards Website](#)



Welcome Awards Winner in the accommodation - bed & breakfast/guest houses/guest lodges category

AA Travel Guides (AA Accommodation Awards)

[View Accommodation Awards Website](#)



Finalist status in the AA Accommodation Awards
Highly Commended

SA-Venues (Top 10 Sexiest Hotels in South Africa)

[View 10 Sexiest Hotels Blog](#)



2nd place overall in SA's Top 10 sexiest hotels.

Your loyal, understanding and continuous support is much appreciated. All of us at The Lofts Boutique Hotel are looking forward to welcome each and every one of you, to constantly provide you with much deserved service and offer hospitality excellence. A special thanks also to all the organisers, sponsors and presenters of these prestigious awards, for making such a successful and joyful occasion possible!

Recipe for the winter

Like we previously said; it's winter time and with winter approaching it's also time for all the hard working people at Ile de pain to take a much deserved break, Ile de pain bread & café will be closed for the month of May to rest and work on some new creative and tasty recipe ideas for when they re-open on the 1st of June, just in time to welcome the France media staying at The Lofts Boutique Hotel and all the other soccer supporters in and around the Knysna area.

But proud owners of Ile de pain bread & café, Liezie & Markus gave us a tasty winter warmer recipe to keep you going until their return.

Thai chicken curry soup :: Serves 8



Because we use quite a bit of chicken on the menu, I wanted to find a way to use up the delicious broth, and that's how this recipe was born.

- 1 onion, finely chopped
- Vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon red curry paste
- ½ teaspoon turmeric
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped ginger
- 1kg diced butternut
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon fish sauce
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1,5litres chicken poaching liquid, strained
- 425ml can coconut milk
- 1kg skinless chicken breasts, poached
- ½ bunch coriander, chopped

Cook the onions until soft in a little vegetable oil in a saucepan. Add the curry paste, turmeric and ginger, and cook until spices are fragrant;

Add the butternut, brown sugar, fish sauce and lemon juice and cook for 5 minutes more;

Add the poaching liquid and coconut milk, cover and simmer for 10 to 15 minutes until the butternut is soft;

Cut the poached chicken into bite-sized pieces, add to the soup and heat through.

Finish with coriander leaves and serve with crusty bread.

The Lofts and Tourism "Meet & Greet"

For the second time The Lofts hosted a Knysna Tourism Meet and Greet on Wednesday 5 May 2010 in The Boatshed. Together with Shaun van Eck the CEO of Knysna Tourism and his staff, this event is an evening to remember indeed. Other small businesses who are members of Knysna Tourism and in the immediate vicinity of The Lofts linked up to make the event even more special.

All together we presented the following; the hotel rooms on view, high quality websites by S² Web Solutions and spectacular photos by Ian Fleming exhibited, a DVD from Tourism shown. Tasty in house ice tea, Avondale organic wines and spectacular food was served. Altogether with great guests made this indeed another one of the Lofts' spectacular 2010 accomplishments that we are truly proud of.





The lofts view of a sunset.

Have a www (Wonderful Winter World Cup)
Theo, Rhoda, Karin and staff

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