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WINS HOME
AND AWAY

JOSEPH CWINYA-AI
IS THE AMATEUR
CHAMPION

MEHTA
GOLF CLUB
UPGRADES
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MADOYA
UPSTAGES ALL
AT UGANDA OPEN

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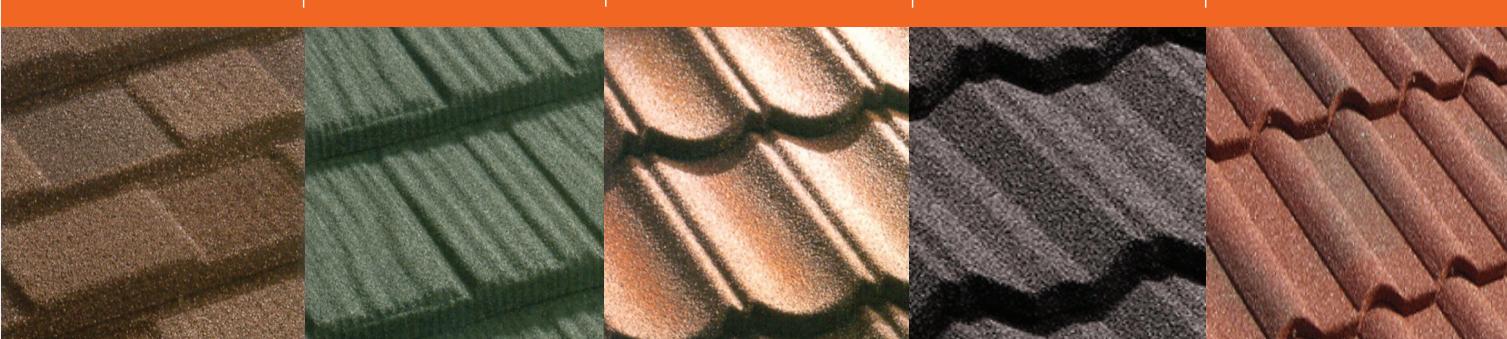
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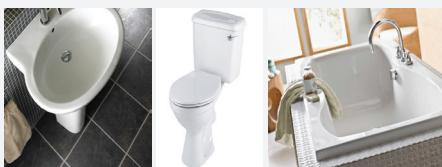
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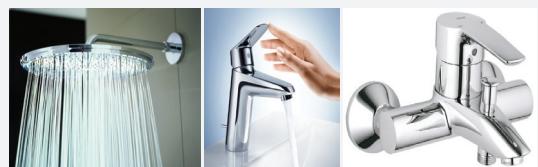
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Envisaging The Future

“

The digital proliferation, especially in the current times, has made us to believe more that now is the time to dive deep in digital waters. TrueGolfer is in the kitchen cooking to bring to you a menu embracing Print, Web and Social for real-time engagement.

”



The year end is always a time for business reflections, both on where we have been in the year that is ending and where we want to venture in the coming year.

Certainly, Coronavirus with its evil variants has raged havoc on us, whether you look at it at personal, family or business levels. We have lost our dear ones, we have lost business opportunities and to say the worst, we have lost jobs and many businesses have closed shop.

The lockdowns have pushed us to glance into our retirements where we have sat home without earning and yet we had to pay bills – I believe most of us are not ready for it. And of course, covid-19 is still around with Omicron raising its ugly head.

At a time when many print publications, both newspapers and magazines, have closed due to unbearable economic downturn, we glorify God that TrueGolfer is publishing the 50th edition. Most importantly, We thank our readers and advertisers who have trusted us over the past twelve years.

The digital proliferation, especially in the current times, has made us to believe more that now is the time to dive deep in digital waters. TrueGolfer is in the kitchen cooking to bring to you a menu embracing Print, Web and Social for real-time engagement.

Over the years, we have studied and understood that our ardent readership, the golfers, need more than golf stories. We have therefore extended our content to include Business, Tourism, Financial Matters, Lifestyle, Education and Liquid Assets. The tagline has changed from “Play Golf. Enjoy Life” to “Driving Your Ambition.”

We believe you love the new direction we are taking.

TrueGolfer – Driving Your Ambition.

Eric Mukhwana
Publisher



PUBLISHER

True Golfer Company Ltd
P.O. Box 33877, Kampala.
(+256) 0414 - 668571
(+256) 0783 534 126
truegolferpost@gmail.com

RWANDA OFFICE

True Golfer Rwanda Ltd.
4th Floor, Dorona House,
Kalisimbi Avenue, Kigali.
(+250) 782 166 086
(+250) 788 351 739

EDITOR

Jesse Mwesigwa

MANAGER, STRATEGY AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

James Odeke

ADVERTISING

Milton Mukhwana (Uganda)
Emmanuel Nkurunziza (Rwanda)

DESIGN & LAYOUT

Bagyenda Nicholas
0703838001

PHOTOGRAPHY

Donald Kirya
Linda Nanyondo

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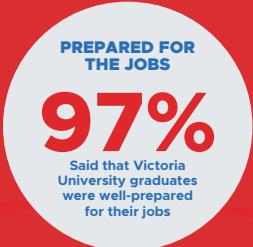
2021/22 FEES STRUCTURE

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What The Industry Says About Us





NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TUITION FEES PER SEMESTER

FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT		DURATION	UGX	USD
MASTERS				
Master of Business Administration (MBA Generic)		2	1,608,500	515
Master of Business Administration (MBA Acc and Fin)		2	1,608,500	515
Master of Business Administration (MBA Human Resource Mgt)		2	1,608,500	515
Master of Business Administration (MBA Marketing)		2	1,608,500	515
Master of Business Administration (MBA Real Est. and Prop. Mgt)		2	1,608,500	515
Master of Monitoring & Evaluation		2	1,608,500	515
Post Graduate Diploma in Monitoring & Evaluation		1	1,317,800	422
BACHELORS				
Bachelor of Business Administration		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Real Estates and Property Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Science in Banking and Finance		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Procurement & Logistics Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Tourism and Hospitality Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of International Business		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Science in Oil and Gas Accounting		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Hotel and Hospitality Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Tourism Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Events Management		3	938,700	300
DIPLOMAS				
Diploma in Procurement & Logistics Management		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Banking and Finance		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Business and Administration		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Tourism and Hospitality Management		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Human Resource Management		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Real Estate and Property Management		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Events Management		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Tourism Management		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Hotel and Hospitality		2	509,100	163
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCE		DURATION	UGX	USD
MASTERS				
Master of Science in Global Health Nutrition (F/PT)		1.5/2.5	1,823,300	583
Master of Science in Public Health (F/PT)		1.5/2.5	1,760,100	563
Masters of Science in Sexual and Reproductive Health (F/PT)		1.5/2.5	1,823,300	583
Masters of Science in Health Service Management (F/PT)		1.5/2.5	1,760,100	563
Masters of Science in Applied Clinical Nutrition (February 2022)		2	1,760,100	563
Masters of Nursing (Critical Care) (August 2022)		2	1,760,100	563
Masters of Nursing (Midwifery and Womens Health) (August 2022)		2	1,760,100	563
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS				
Post Graduate Diploma in Nutrition and Leadership (C/W)		1	1,494,800	478
Post-Graduate Diploma in Public Health. (February 2022)		1	1,494,800	478
Post Graduate Diploma + Masters in Human Nutrition (C/W/R)		2	1,823,300	583
BACHELORS				
Bachelor of Science in Public Health (F/PT)		3	1,254,700	401
Bachelor of Midwifery Science (TOP UP)		2.5	1,254,700	401
Bachelor of Nursing Science (DIRECT)		4	1,254,700	401
Bachelor of Nursing Science (TOP UP)		2.5	1,254,700	401
Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition and Dietetics		4	1,254,700	401
Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (August 2022)		5	1,254,700	401
DIPLOMAS				
Diploma in Nursing (Extension) (August 2022)		1.5	509,100	163
Diploma in Midwifery (Extension) (August 2022)		1.5	509,100	163
Higher Education Certificate (HEC) in Biological Science		1	520,100	166
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY		DURATION	UGX	USD
MASTERS				
Master of Science in Information Technology		2	1,696,900	543
Master of Science in Big Data Analytics		2	1,823,300	583
BACHELORS				
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Business Information Systems		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Information Technology		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Commercial Art & Industrial Design		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Agriculture & Rural Innovation		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Science in Animation and Visual Effects		3	938,700	300
DIPLOMAS				
Diploma in Information Technology		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Visual Effects and Animation		2	509,100	163
Higher Education Certificate (HEC) - Physical Science		1	520,100	166
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE		DURATION	UGX	USD
MASTERS				
Master of Arts in Public Admin. and Mgt (MA-PAM)		2	1,570,600	503
Master of Arts in Mass Communication		2	1,570,600	503
Master in Diplomacy and Global Studies		2	1,570,600	503
BACHELORS				
Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration & Management		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Social Work and Social Administration		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Media Studies		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Arts in Int. Relations & Diplomatic Studies		3	938,700	300
Bachelor of Development Studies		3	938,700	300
DIPLOMAS				
Diploma in Social Work and Social Administration		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Int. Relations & Diplomatic Studies		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Journalism and Media Studies		2	509,100	163
Diploma in Public Administration		2	509,100	163
Higher Education Certificate (HEC) - General		1	482,200	154
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION & LIFE-LONG LEARNING		DURATION	UGX	USD
MASTERS				
Master of Education (M.Ed) in Advanced Teaching Practices (F/PT)		2	1,570,600	503
Master Of Education In Educational Administration, Leadership And Management		2	1,570,600	503
BACHELORS				
Bachelor of Arts in Education (BA. Ed)		3	711,300	228
Bachelor of Science in Education (BSC. Ed)		3	812,400	260
Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (EVENING)		3	711,300	228
Bachelor of Education (BEd) (Distance Education)			711,300	228
Bachelor of Education (BEd) (In Service)			460,000	126
Diploma in Education (BA. Ed)		2	509,100	163
SCHOOL OF LAW		DURATION	UGX	USD
MASTERS				
Master of Criminology & Criminal Justice Administration (Coming Soon)		2	1,570,600	503
BACHELORS				
Bachelor of Laws		5	1,570,600	503
Bachelor of Criminology & Criminal Justice Administration (Coming Soon)		5	938,700	300

KEY:

F/PT- Full Time/ Part Time, C/W- Coursework, C/W/R- Coursework and Research

ANNUAL FUNCTIONAL FEES

ENTRY FEES	FACULTY	PROGRAMS	NATIONAL STUDENTS - UGX	INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS - USD
APPLICATION FEE UGX 50,000/= USD 16	Business and Management	Master/ Bachelor/ Diploma	650,000	\$208
REGISTRATION UGX 100,000/= USD 32	Science and Technology	Master/ Bachelor/ Diploma	650,000	\$208
CAUTION FEE UGX 50,000/= USD 16	Humanities and Social Sciences	Master/ Bachelor/ Diploma	650,000	\$208
IDENTITY CARD UGX 10,000/= USD 3	Health Sciences	Higher Education Certificate	350,000	\$112
		Bachelor	740,000	\$237
		Master/ Diploma	650,000	\$208
		Higher Education Certificate	350,000	\$112



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10 Golfers land Absa Sponsorship

Winners of Pro-Am during the Uganda Golf Open have landed an opportunity to attend the Magical Kenya Open slated for March 2022 at the prestigious Muthaiga Golf Club. The sponsorship will cover the players' participation in the Pro-Am tournament of the signature Kenya golf open, a European Golf Tour tournament.

The top 10 amateur players from the Pro-Am event are Collin Subika (65), Jenina Nasimolo (66), Alexander Matsiko (67), Walter Tukahirwa (68), Patrick Kagoro (69), Joseph Adrapi (70), Wendy Angudeyoy (70), John Muchiri (70), Joseph Kimani (71) and Robert Ejiku (71).

The sponsorship announcement was made by Absa Bank Uganda's Managing Director, Mumba Kalifungwa, during the awards ceremony for the Pro-Am tournament of the Uganda Golf Open at the Entebbe Golf Club.



Mumba Kalifungwa, Managing Director, Absa Bank Uganda

Absa is the official banking partner of the Uganda Golf Open, having come on board with a package of about shs120 million, in addition to being the title sponsor of the Pro-Am Tournament.

Martha Babirye Retains UGC Ladies Open Title After a Play-Off



Two-time Uganda Ladies Champion, Martha Babirye, continued with her impressive performance with another victory at the 2021 Uganda Golf Club Ladies Open at the par 72 Uganda Golf Club in Kampala.

Playing off handicap four, Babirye started with a seven-over-par 79 in the first round, improved by one stroke in second round and finished with a two-over-par 74 in the third and final round. The n-form Uganda Golf Club-based golfer shot a cumulative 231 gross points over 54 holes tying with Tooro Golf Club golfer, Peace Kabasweka, leading to a sudden death show down to determine the winner.

The sudden death was held on Hole 12 where Babirye played four strokes to Kabasweka's six after her initial tee-shot landed in the infamous Kitante stream causing her to lose a stroke.

Uganda Golf Club Ladies Open was sponsored by National Medical Stores in partnership with Pepsi, Case Medical Care and NCBA Bank.

Tiger Woods Rules Out Full-Time Return To Golf



The 15-time Major winner told Golf Digest in an interview that although he is confident of eventually making a return to the sport, he expected he would only play select tournaments from now on. The 45-year-old former world No.1 suffered compound fractures in his right leg after a car he was driving in a Los Angeles suburb in February veered off the road and flipped several times.

Before the accident, Woods was already playing a reduced schedule following multiple surgeries on his back and knee over the years. He told Golf Digest that his days as a full-time member of the PGA Tour were now effectively over, saying he expected to "pick and choose" events in the future.

Woods, who completed a fairytale return from back-fusion surgery to capture his 15th Major title at the 2019 Masters, questioned whether he had the same drive to return to the pinnacle of his sport.

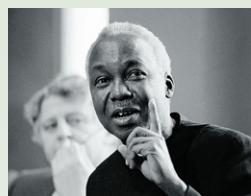
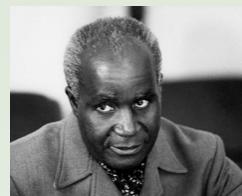
Kaunda, Nyerere Honoured: TAZARA, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club Introducing Kaunda-Nyerere Friendship Tourney.

The Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) has partnered with Tanzania's Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Sorts Club to launch a golf tournament in memory of the friendship between the founding leaders of the two countries.

The tournament will be in memory of the friendship between Tanzanian former President Julius Nyerere and his Zambian counterpart, Kenneth Kaunda, the brainchild behind the construction of TAZARA.

TAZARA was constructed as a turnkey project between 1970 and 1975 through an interest-free loan from China, with commercial operations starting in July 1976, covering 1,860 km from Dar es Salaam in Tanzania to New Kapiri Mposhi in Zambia.

The debut Kaunda-Nyerere Friendship Golf Tournament will be held at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Golf Club in Dar es Salaam on December 9, 2021, which is the Independence Day of Tanzania and the date on which Kaunda traveled all the way from Zambia to celebrate Tanzania's Independence with a game of golf in 1987.



Kaunda and Nyerere did not only share a closely knit friendship, but also agreed on many political and ideological thoughts, including pan-Africanism and the desire to liberate many African countries from colonial oppression and unite the entire continent of Africa, said the statement.

Chikwanha at the Helm Of Zimbabwe Golf Association

Martin Chikwanha has taken over as president of Zimbabwe Golf Association uncontested after the outgoing president, Mufaro Chivonivoni, stepped down ahead of the AGM in Royal Harare Golf Club.

"I am very confident that the incoming president and his team will

do very well. I have known Chikwanha for many years and he is very committed and dedicated to sport so I'm not in doubt. The privileges that have happened in my tenure are that we managed to host the all Africa golf championships, send a

golfer to the Olympics and also managed to get all the courses in the country rated and this allowed us to be part of the World handicapping system," , " said Chivonivoni.

Chivonivoni also noted that the gap that needs to be filled in the long run is recruiting young golfers that will stay in the field for long.

Melisa Nawa Giving To Golf

Zambia's Melisa Nawa, winner of 2007 Uganda Ladies Open, set up Nawa Girls Golf Academy as a way of contributing to golf in her home country. The academy was formed in 2014 to teach girls from underprivileged backgrounds the sport of golf.

"I decided to give back to the community by starting the first ever girls golf academy in Zambia. This was formed solely to empower and reach the underprivileged girls of the country who have the drive and determination to make a career out of sport. The academy has produced girls that have won local and international tournaments," revealed Nawa.

Born in 1991, Nawa is the first female professional golfer in Zambia. She started playing golf at the age of six. She has won several tournaments around Africa. Her father and trainer, Stephen Nawa, and younger sister, Tina Nawa, are also professional golfers. She currently lives in the United States. She is a graduate of Alabama State University here she offered a Degree in Sports Management (Golf Course Operations and Grounds Management).

John Muchiri Wins Seniors' Trophy

Kenyan golfer, John Muchiri, was the lucky winner of Uganda Seniors' Open after he returned 162 gross over 36 holes at Entebbe Golf Club. Playing off handicap 10, Muchiri edged Joseph Bagabo by two strokes to bag the seniors' title. Uganda Seniors' Open is one the seven series of the Tusker Malt Uganda Golf Open Championship.

He opened with a one-under-par in the first-nine. He did the same in the front nine upto

the 17th hole when he dropped 2 strokes. He parred the 18th hole where his opponents double-bogeyed. He received a trophy from Alfred Balikagira, Uganda Breweries Limited Supply Director, for his effort.

Kenya's Jastas Madoya Upstages All At Uganda Open

Madoya had already created a difference of five strokes in the three rounds that gave him a big advantage over his pressure group challengers.

“ The 35-year-old golfer held on to his five-shot lead from day three to fend off 2018 champion Dismas Indiza and Robinson Chinhoi who tallied 276 and 278 respectively.



The signal was clear from the onset when Jastas Madoya shot six-under-par 65 on Day One to top the leaderboard. The aggression of defending champion Robson Chinhoi of Zimbabwe and legendary Dismas Indiza of Kenya could not stop on-form Madoya from winning his first major – The Uganda Open.

Indiza scored five-under-par 66, same as Madoya on day three to take the second place and book a final pressure group slot coming to the fourth and final round. The main pressure group had the trio of Madoya, Chinhoi and Indiza. The second pressure group had Deo Akope, Visitor Mapwanya and Ronald Rugumayo. Mike Kisia, Greg Snow and David Wakhu were drawn in the same group.

The 35-year-old golfer held on to his five-shot lead from day three to fend off 2018 champion Dismas Indiza and Robinson Chinhoi who tallied 276 and 278 respectively. Madoya had already created





Dismas Indiza Finished Second

a difference of five strokes in the three rounds that gave him a big advantage over his pressure group challengers. He found himself in a comfortable lead despite his not-so-impressive shot of one-over-par 72 in the final round. He grossed 271 to claim 2021 Tusker Malt Lager Uganda Professionals Open title.

The only Ugandan to finish in the top five was Ronald Rugumayo who grossed a 279 with a five-under. Other Ugandans who made it in the top 10 are Deo Akope and Silver Opio, both tying in the ninth place with Kenya's Paul Chidale.

The Great Rift Valley Resort Club player returned a level par score on the front nine where he briefly demonstrated his hunger for the title with an eagle on the par-5 seventh hole. Having pulled seven shots clear of Indiza, Madoya had the luxury of dropping three shots on the eighth, tenth and 12th holes but his challengers failed to take advantage of the blip. Scenting victory, Madoya upped the tempo with a pair of birdies on the fourteenth and fifteenth holes to seal the championship victory.



*Ronald Rugumayo, Finished Fourth,
was the best Ugandan Player*

The pair of Indiza and Chinhui threw in the towel on the back nine after the veteran Kenyan pro picked bogeys in the last two holes while the Zimbabwean's fate was sealed on the par three tenth hole when he double bogeyed.

Visitor Mapwanya of Zimbabwe finished in fifth place, S. Wemba

was sixth, Samuel Njoroge was seventh, Erick Ooko was eight while the trio of Paul Chidale, Deo Akope and Silver Opio tied in the ninth place.

Madoya took up golf in 2003 in Naivasha at the age of 17. He enjoyed a stellar career in the amateur ranks breaking into the Kenya team in 2012 where he donned the national colours for three years. During this period,



he featured in several events including the East Africa Challenge and Zone Six contests in South Africa, Namibia and Uganda.

Since turning pro in 2016, Madoya has enjoyed little success in the paid ranks save for a rare victory in 2019 when he won the Entebbe Open. And early this year when he won the Safari Tour leg at his home ground.

Form and consistency aside, Madoya has been banking on one weapon in his armory which is beyond most of his competitors—salvation. Having “seen the light” in 2009, Madoya is a staunch Christian currently serving as a Youth Pastor at the Repentance and Holiness church in Naivasha. Madoya’s daily routine involves waking up as early as 3 am for the morning glory devotion, a routine that has dovetailed perfectly with his golf schedule.

The professionals played for a total kitty of UGX. 100 Million, courtesy of Uganda Breweries Limited under the Tusker Malt Lager brand.

The 2021 edition of Tusker Malt Lager Uganda Golf Open attracted players from Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Sweden and South Africa.

Robson Chinhui of Zimbabwe, Defending Champion, Finished Third

Leaderboard- Top 10

No.	Name	Country	Par
1.	Jastas Madoya	Kenya	-13
2.	Dismas Indiza	Kenya	-8
3.	Robson Chinhui	Zimbabwe	-6
4.	Ronald Rugumayo	Uganda	-5
5.	Visitor Mapwanya	Zimbabwe	-3
6.	S Wemba	Kenya	-1
7.	Samuel Njoroge	Kenya	Par
8.	Erick Ooko	Kenya	+2
T9.	Paul Chidale	Kenya	+3
T9.	Deo Akope	Uganda	+3
T9.	Silver Opio	Uganda	+3

Deo Akope Wins on Safari Golf Tour Series



I am happy I made two good birdies and in particular the down-hill one at the 18th hole. I am excited because this is the first win for a Ugandan in the Safari Tour. It is an encouragement to the rest of Ugandan pros who are members of the Safari and who look up to me.

Deo Akope Displays His Trophy at Nyali Golf and Country Club

Deo Akope, Uganda top professional, held off competition from experienced legion of Kenyans to win the Nyali Leg, the fourth leg of Safari Golf Tour Series, earning himself \$18100 (UGX.64M) in prize money. Akope carded 282 gross over four rounds to win the fourth round of this season's Safari Tour Golf Series events at Nyali Golf Club in Kenya.

Deo Akope is one of the most experienced professional golfers in Uganda and East Africa who also doubles as captain of Uganda Professional Golfers Association. He becomes the first non-Kenyan to win a Safari Tour Golf Series event since its inception.

Akope's level par 71 in the final round gave him a four rounds total of two-under-par 282 to top the leaderboard. Two birdies at the last two holes of the final round saw Akope clinch the fourth leg of the 2021/22 Safari Tour Golf series at the par 71 Nyali Golf and Country Club.

Before his back-to-back birdies enroute home, Akope had picked up a double bogey at the 417-yards par four-16th hole.

"I had a bad approach shot at the 16th which resulted in a double bogey but my caddie Amos encouraged me and told me to forget about the hole and focus on the remaining two holes. I am happy I made two good birdies and in particular the down-hill

one at the 18th hole. I am excited because this is the first win for a Ugandan in the Safari Tour. It is an encouragement to the rest of Ugandan pros who are members of the Safari and who look up to me," said Akope.

He had dropped one shot at the first nine's seventh hole, while before his double-bogey six at the 16th, he had birdied the 15th. He beat senior pros Dismas Indiza and Simon Ngige by two shots.

Indiza also fired level par 71 in the final round for a total of level par 284 to tie with Ngige in second place. He had four birdies and an equal number of bogeys for the day. Meanwhile, Ngige shot two over par which



Deo Akope Fires his shot During Nyali Leg

included a bogey at the par three-18th where he shot to the right rough, followed with a poor roll to the greens. Coming to the 18th hole, Ngige was at par with Akope and he just needed a birdie also to force a play-off which unluckily for him did not happen.

Tying in fourth place was Erick Ooko, Mutahi Kibugu and third leg winner, David Wakhu, on two-over-par 286.

Ronald Rugumayo was the other Ugandan who made the cut having notched a hole-in-one in the first round but tied for tenth with Kenya's Simon Njogu and Zimbabwe's Visitor Mapwanya.

Akope, after scoring 50 points at Nyali, he is now ranked the fourth best non-Kenyan

on the Safari Tour charts with a cumulative 70.9 points in the run-up to the European Tour events; Kenya Open and Savannah Classic events due March, 2022.

A total of 22 players made the six-over-par second round cut in the event which attracted a field of 65 professionals from Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Rwanda.

Final Leaderboard

No.	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Deo Akope (Uganda)	75	68	68	71	282
T2	Dismas Indiza (Kenya)	72	70	71	71	284
T2	Simon Ngige (Kenya)	70	71	70	73	284
T4	Erick Ooko (Kenya)	70	75	72	69	286
T4	Mutahi Kibugu (Kenya)	71	74	69	72	286
T4	David Wakhu (Kenya)	73	72	68	73	286
T7.	Robson Chinhoi (Zimbabwe)	72	68	75	74	289
T7.	Tranos Muradzikwa (Zimbabwe)	72	73	71	73	289

David Wakhu Wins Safari Tour Third Leg in Great Rift Valley

Wakhu won the event trailing Samuel Njoroge by three shots. The over-par score denied him more cash usually given out as an under-par scores bonus... all the same, he bagged Ksh.276, 667 in prize money.

David Wakhu of Golf Park claimed the Third Leg title of the 2021/22 Safari Tour Golf Series at the par 71 Great Rift Valley Lodge and Golf Resort in Naivasha. The champion fired four rounds total of one-over-par 285 to carry the day. He won the coveted title despite bogeying six holes in the final round where he blamed slow pace of the game by teams that were ahead of his batch on the fairways.



David Wakhu in action at Great Rift Valley



Samuel Njoroge

"I really wanted an under par in the final round, but along the way I started putting badly despite having started with a birdie on the first hole which ended up being the only one of the round," said Wakhu.

Wakhu won the event trailing Samuel Njoroge by three shots. The over-par score, however, denied him more cash usually given out as an under-par scores bonus. All the same, he bagged Sh276, 667 in prize money.

Njoroge, who was in the last flight with Wakhu, shot four-over-par 75 for total four rounds of four-over-par 288 finishing second as round one leader. Greg Snow, posted 76 for five-over-par 289. Youngster Mathew Wahome shot one over par 72 for a total of 290.

The only under par score of two under 69 was posted by Rwanda's Aloys Nsabimana which pushed him to ninth place on 293. The Rwandese is sponsored by Falcon Country Club of Rwanda, courtesy of leading amateur golfer in Rwanda, Innocent Rutamu.

It was a bad final round for home pro and defending champion Jastas Madoya, who after third round's 69, picked up a number of bogeys in the final round for a disastrous 83 to drop to 14th place on 298, tying with second leg winner Robson Chinhoi of Zimbabwe and Golf Park's Eric Ooko.

Irene Nakalembe Finally Gets It After 7 Years Wait

It has taken me seven years of waiting. I feel great to be a champion. I thank God for this victory. I had the belief that I would win and worked for it.



Irene Nakalembe with UBL's Marketing and Innovation Director, Emmy Hashakimana after she won the Uganda Ladies Open at Entebbe Club.

T wentieth November will go in history as Irene Nakalembe's greatest day in her golf career. The day when she upstaged all to win the coveted Uganda Ladies Golf Open, the title she has chased for seven years with near finishes. In all these years, she would come close but not there.

Facing a stiff challenge from former

champions, Martha Babirye and Neema Olomi in the last round, Nakalembe put up all her energies to emerge champion of this year's edition.

Looking history, Nakalembe finished second and third in 2019 and 2020 respectively when Martha Babirye won the topmost ladies crown. In 2018 she finished third and Neema Olomi of Tanzania took the

title. She came second in 2017 and Eaton Angel of Tanzania took the crown. She came third in 2015 and 2016 when Flavia Namakula, now a professional golfer, took the gong. She came fourth 2014 when Flavia Namakula again took it. That is how Entebbe-based golfer has struggled to reach the podium.

"I feel great to be a champion. It has taken



Irene Nakalembe watches her shot at Entebbe Golf Course

me seven years of waiting. I thank God for this victory. I had the belief that I would win and worked for it. I thank my caddie, my coach Vincent Araali Byamukama, my manager, Yunus Bbaale and everyone that has supported me," said Nakalembe after being declared the ladies champion.

"I prepared more like the any other game. But this time, the exposure from other countries and involvement of a manager helped me a great deal. The pressure was too much from all angles but I thank God I overcame," Nakalembe disclosed.

Nakalembe, arguably East Africa's finest amateur lady golfer had won almost all the big tournaments in the region but the Uganda Ladies Open crown had eluded her. For instance, she had won Entebbe Ladies Open for a record seven times. Coming to this tournament, she had won the prestigious Tanzania Ladies Open in Dar-es-Salaam and Ikoyi Ladies Open in Nigeria.

Playing off handicap four, Nakalembe shot a total of 222 gross over three rounds.

She beat Kenya's Mercy Nyachama who finished second on 235 gross, by three strokes on her home course.

Now, Nakalembe is mentioned in the same sentence of history with Martha Babirye, Flavia Namakula, Jasper Kamukama, Norah Kagonyera and Alice Kego of Uganda; Mercy Nyachama and Mary Karano of Kenya, Neema Olomi and Eaton Angel of Tanzania and Mellisa Nawa of Zambia.

Defending champion, Martha Babirye, settled for third place with a total of 232 gross, Kenya's Mercy Nyanchama after returning 225, Kabasweka was fourth with 236 while round one leader Meron Kyomugisha finished fifth with 243 gross.

Gloria Mbaguta finished sixth with 247, Vicky Elias of Tanzania was seventh with 247, Lillian Koowe was eighth with 253, Dianah Nambalirwa was ninth with 255 while Resty Nalutaaya finished 256 closing the leaderboard of Top 10.

Uganda Golf Club golfer, Gloria Mbaguta, who has always been on course with her

“

My biggest challenge now is to get better players who can give me a real challenge. What I need now is to play with more affluent ladies in bigger tournament to enable me take my game to another level.

”

praises Nakalembe as talented and steady golfer. "Irene is a very good and steady player. Her victory is meticulously earned," Mbaguta noted.

Distance, focus, patience and ability to contain pressure are the key winning attributes of this Entebbe based golfer. Nakalembe is a long-hitter, who maintains her composure while on the course. She focuses on her game rather than people. She doesn't count her scores as she plays. She is so focused to the game. This is what makes the difference.

"My biggest challenge now is to get better players who can give me a real challenge. What I need now is to play with more affluent ladies in bigger tournament to enable me take my game to another level. I am waiting for this wonderful year to end to reveal my next plans," said Nakalembe, a born-again golfer.

Her success has not come as a result of individual effort. She would have never come this far had it not to be the supportive members of her home club – Entebbe Golf Club.

"Entebbe Golf Club members have been supportive from the time I started playing golf to this day. Every trophy I win is for us, not mine," said Nakalembe.

She is right. Entebbe Golf Club's congratulatory message on her Facebook wall reads...

It might be your greatest win, but it is built from your other wins; It might be your win Irene, but we at Entebbe Club share in its glory, for it is also our win; It might be just one win among many, but it is no light feat and a demonstration of your might and your legacy...Uganda's greatest lady golfer. Entebbe Club congratulates you.



Irene Nakalembe and Gloria Mbaguta show off the Ikoyi Ladies Open Trophy in Nigeria.

Top 10 Leaderboard (Ugandan unless stated):

No.	Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
1.	Irene Nakalembe	78	71	73	222
2.	Mercy Nyanchama (Kenya)	77	74	74	225
3.	Martha Babirye	81	73	78	232
4.	Peace Kabasweka	77	79	80	236
5.	Meron Kyomugisha	70	89	84	243
6.	Gloria Mbaguta	82	81	84	247
7.	Vicky Elias (Tanzania)	78	85	84	247
8.	Lillian Koowe	88	83	82	253
9.	Dianah Namabalirwa	85	83	87	255
10.	Resty Lutaaya	86	87	83	256

In Nigeria, Entebbe-based golfer put up a spirited fight to beat all to Ikoyi Ladies Open title at IBB International Golf and Country Club, Abuja. She garnered 236 gross over 54 holes to emerge champion in an event that attracted over 60 golfers. The duo of Rachael Danjuma and Amina Wilfred, both Nigerians, fought hard to stop her but could only settle for second and third position after returning 248 and 252 gross scores respectively.

Nakalembe is the third Ugandan golfer to win the coveted crown after former Uganda Ladies Union President, Eva Magala, and Uganda's only lady professional, Flavia Namakula. Magala was the defending champion who finished in the fourth place. Other Ugandans who made it in the top ten were Gloria Mbaguta, Evelyn Asiimwe and Peace Kabasweka who finished 7th, 9th and 10th respectively.

Born in 1982, Irene Nakalembe is a mother of two daughters – Erika and Amber. She holds a Bachelor of Development Studies and works with CIC General Insurance in Kampala.

She gave her life to Christ in 2016 and believes in God in everything she does.

To her, life is a journey with ups and downs. And says that how you deal with downs takes you up if you trust God.

Uganda Ladies Open was part of the seven tournament series sponsored by Tusker Malt Lager in partnership with Absa Bank Uganda, Pepsi, Britam Uganda, Case Medical Services, Egis Road Operation Uganda, Liquid Intelligent Technologies, Abubaker Technical Services & General Supplies, National Council of Sports (NCS), NTV Uganda, Pinnacle Security Limited and Uganda Tourism Board (UTB).

Uganda Ladies Open Winners Since 2007 (All Ugandan unless stated)

- 2021: Irene Nakalembe
- 2020: Martha Babirye
- 2019: Martha Babirye
- 2018: Neema Olomi (Tanzanian)
- 2017: Angel Eaton (Tanzanian)
- 2016: Flavia Namakula
- 2015: Flavia Namakula
- 2014: Flavia Namakula
- 2013: Angel Eaton (Tanzania)
- 2012: Angel Eaton (Tanzania)
- 2011: Flavia Namakula
- 2010: Flavia Namakula
- 2009: Jasper Kamukama
- 2008: Melissa Nawa (Zambian)
- 2007: Mary Karano (Kenyan)



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Joseph Cwinya-ai Is the Champion

Handicap two golfer, Joseph Cwinya-ai of Tooro Club, is the new Uganda Amateur Open Champion after he dethroned Kenya's John Lejirma during the 2021 Tusker Malt Uganda Golf Open Championship played at par-71 Entebbe Golf Club at the close of November.

Coming from behind, Cwinya-ai put up a spirited fight to over a huge field of fine players in the final round. In the fourth and last round, he shot three-under-par 68, returning an overall score of three-over-par 287 to upstage defending champion Lejirma who was atop the leaderboard after third round.

In the years 2019 and 2020, the coveted title went to Daniel Nduva and John Lejirma, both of Kenya, respectively after the former taking it from Uganda's sensational, Ronald Otile.

Cwinya-ai, fresh from winning Rwenzori Golf Open, pushed himself in the daunting four-people pressure group after finishing outside the podium in the first three rounds.

"My strategy was to come from behind because I am good at chasing. I didn't want to put myself under pressure. If at all I was to lead from Day One, I would have collapsed. So, I planned to come from behind the way Tiger Woods does and it worked," said Cwinya-ai, also the captain of the National Golf Team.

In the opening round, Cwinya-ai tied for 11th position with six others after returning four-over-par 75. He was five strokes off from round one leader, Reagan Joseph Akena. In round two, Cwinya-ai moved to ninth, tied with 3 others, after scoring six-over-par 148; reducing the gap to four strokes from the summit.

The third round, he finished fourth with six-over-par 219 and four strokes from the summit – earning a place in pressure group in the final round. Lejirma had stormed the summit in the third round, followed by Zambia's Chanda Bwembya and Uganda's

My strategy was to come from behind because I am good at chasing. I planned to come from behind the way Tiger Woods does and it worked.



Joseph Cwinya-ai takes his putt during the Open.

“

I grew up watching Stephen Kasaija play golf. He was very smart and played good golf. Later, I fell in love with the game approach of Titus Okwong and Lawrence Muhenda.



Marvin Kibirige was in third place. The foursome found themselves in the pressure group in the last and determining round.

Cwinya-ai was on top of his game, shooting three-under-par 68, just enough to give him victory with an overall total of three-over-par 287.

Lejirma's game was didn't go well - shooting four-over-par 75 to finish second with an overall score of six-over-par 290, three strokes behind Cwinya-ai.

Uganda's Tom Jingo capped the podium with seven-over-par 291 hence tying with Zambia's Chanda Bwembya.

Marvin Kibirige shot 292, Bulhan Matovu 293, James Koto 294, Denis Asaba 295, Ibrahim Aliga 296 and Elton Thembo 298 finishing in the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth positions respectively.

If there is anything that could have added to Cwinya-ai's good play, it should be his wonder golf kit. The Callaway branded kit bag has Callaway Irons, Callaway Driver, Tliest Wedges 52, 56, 60, 3-Wood Epic Flash, White Hot Putter and a Callaway Bag – thanks to his UK-based sponsor, Isaac Aisu. You just can't play good golf with bad drivers and putters.

During his early school days at Buhinga Primary School, Cwinya-ai was an avid footballer as well as a caddie at the nearby Tooro Golf Club. It was during his secondary studies at Fort Portal Secondary School that his sports love switched completely to golf, drawing inspiration Stephen Kasaija, a golf professional and then upcoming golfers like Lawrence Muhenda and Titus Okwong. He wanted to connect with people in his class of aspiration and he has never looked back.

“I grew up watching Stephen Kasaija play golf. He was very smart and played good golf. He also used to encourage us to play the game. Later, I fell in love with the game



Joseph Cwinya-ai displays his victory trophy

approach of Titus Okwong, now based in the United States, and Lawrence Muhenda, now a professional golfer,” Cwinya-ai reveals 27-year-old golf champion.

Cwinya-ai is the first born to Keuber Palyel Samson and Acheng Nancy in Pakwach, West Nile District. He comes from a family of six, four girls - Pacoryema Irene, Mwacan Moureen, Lyaleng Rhoda and Kwiocwiny Vivian and two boys – himself and Rwothomio Emmans. He was raised up in Bukwali village, Fort Portal, Western Uganda where his father, now departed, was working as a Police Officer.

His next move is to join professional golf and play for money. Uganda Professional Golfers Association (UPGA) gives a Uganda Amateur Golf Champion a green pass to join paid ranks. However, Cwinya-ai is quick to

disclose that he is on contract with Uganda Golf Union as Captain National Golf Team; and therefore would need their release. I am ready to join paid ranks.

Before the lockdown of schools resulting from Covid-19 pandemic, Cwinya-ai has been a Plumbing student of Kichwamba Technical School in Fort Portal. He hopes to resume his studies once government opens up institutions of learning early next year.

Tusker Malt Lager was the signature sponsor with Absa Bank Uganda, Abubaker Technical Services & General Supplies, Britam Uganda, Case Medical Services, Egis Road Operation Uganda, Liquid Intelligent Technologies, National Council Of Sports, NTV Uganda, Pepsi, Pinnacle Security Limited and Uganda Tourism Board as partners.

Past Winners Since 2010

2021:	Joseph Cwinya-ai	(Tooro Golf Club)
2020:	John Lejirma	(Kenya Railway Golf Club)
2019:	Daniel Nduva	(Nyali Golf & Country Club)
2018:	Ronald Otile	(Tooro Golf Club)
2017:	Ronald Rugumayo	(Tooro Golf Club)
2016:	Ronald Otile	(Tooro Golf Club)
2015:	Ronald Otile	(Tooro Golf Club)
2014:	Willy Deus Kitata	(Entebbe Golf Club)
2013:	Peter Ssendawula	(Entebbe Golf Club)
2012:	Philip Kasozi	(Uganda Golf Club)
2011:	Rogers Byaruhanga	(Uganda Golf Club)
2010:	Brian Mwesigwa	(Kasese Golf Club)



Mehta Golf Club Upgrades To 18-Holes; Excites Golfers

“ The golf course was early this year upgraded to Par-70 18-holes championship course, adding to the already existing five championship courses in Uganda. Imported Tif Dwarf, Bermuda grass from the United States has been used on the new greens and has been spread out even to the old holes whose sizes have also been increased.



Nestled within the lush undulating hills and scenic valleys of Lugazi within the Mehta Group Complex, Mehta Golf Club is fast becoming one of the golf destinations in Uganda. Located 50 km East of Kampala City and 35 km West of Jinja City along Jinja highway at 1,240 metres from sea level, the course has comfortable climate all around the year.

The golf course is not very long , but hilly.

It does slope a bit, but learning how to hit sidehill lies only makes you a better golfer. The greens are large, well-kept, undulating and fast. Many are characterized by multiple fountains, created streams and tree hazards. The fairways are well maintained at all times. Mehta Golf Club is the first private and most beautiful golf course in Uganda.

The golf gem was early this year upgraded

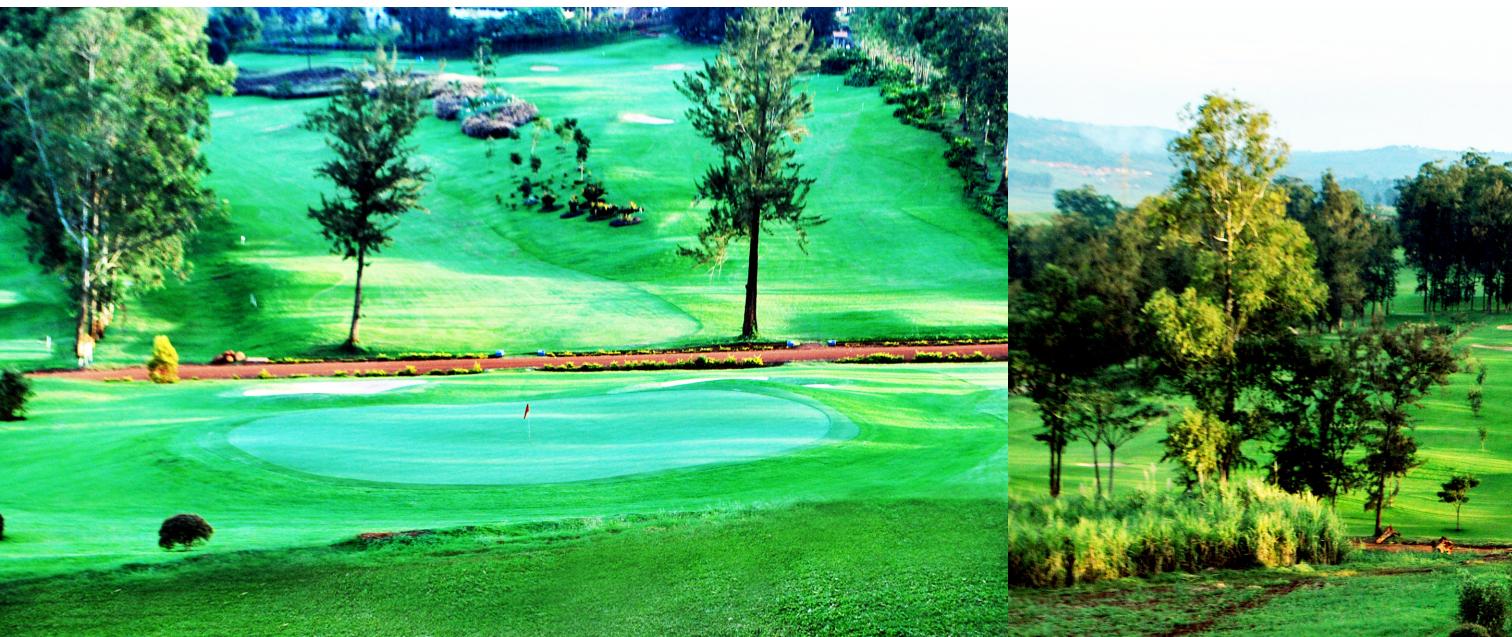
to Par-70 18-holes championship course, adding to the already existing five championship courses in Uganda. The upgrade was skillfully designed by David Hemstock of Hemstock Design, a member of the European Institute of Golf Architects. Imported Tif Dwarf, Bermuda grass from the United States has been used on the new greens and has been spread out even to the old holes whose sizes have also been



increased. Extension work for the extra nine holes that started in 2016 was completed early 2021.

Mehta Golf Club becomes the sixth 18-holes course after Uganda Golf Club, Entebbe Golf Club, Kilembe Mines Golf Club, Garuga Golf Club and the Lake Victoria Serena Golf Resort. The number of par 5s has been increased from two to three, the par 3s are five each with hole no: 13 having a distance of 220 yards, the par 4s are eleven and par 5s are five. The new holes on the course are No. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11& 13. Hole No.4 is now well designed with a water hazard. There has been a change in the numbering and apart from the new holes some of the old holes have new Tee boxes.

Hole 1 is a par 3 whose yardage is 193 but the green sits exceedingly so down the tee-box and, for a first timer, choosing the right club can be a nightmare. The risk of over-clubbing looms large. Hole 2, a par-4, is a blind shot to the fairway with out-of-



bounds situated to the left and right of the fairway, and the green located deep down from the fairway. Hole 3 is a 166-yard par-3 that requires you to pump your tee-shot over a pond that sits right behind the green. Hole 4 is a dog-leg left par-4 which calls for a straight shot to lay up and a perfectly timed second shot to a protected green that has a water hazard right before it. Hole 5 is a 195-yard par-3 that crosses the valley and has a very elevated small, narrow green. Sitting on for one calls for an inch-perfect shot. The first par-5 is hole 6, an intimidating 582-yard hole that has a sharp left dog-leg and out-of-bounds staring in the face of long-hitters. According to Mr. N.J. Paul, Mehta Golf Club's Golf Captain, the expansion of the course adds to the number of 18-hole championship courses in the country and enables golfers to have better tournament preparations. He also believes the new course will promote tourism.

"Our chairman M.N. Mehta through the Mehta Golf Course and the Mehta Golf Academy is committed to the development of golf in the country and is continuing to promote the game by sponsoring and giving free coaching to young players who will be the future golfers for our country," Paul stated.

What makes Mehta Golf Club special is the attention to detail, especially the white sand bunkers and unique tree species that pose a real challenge to golfers. More than one hundred thousand tree species have been purposefully planted - adding



to the existing areas of indigenous floral life giving Mehta Golf Club a distinctive look. More interesting are the birds nested in the trees. It is inspiring to see peacocks spread their beautiful feathered bodies onto the lawns.

The dramatic and highly detailed bunkers create a visual experience that is both rare and inspiring - their natural shapes

blending beautifully with the gentle slopes. You own everything around you; cherish every moment while you are at the golf course and making your appetite grow exponentially for showcasing your golfing prowess. This is the reason why the place becomes the best golfing spot among the ones available in and around the country.

Each hole offers variety and challenging



strategic options, rewarding golfers who think their way around the course. To play this course, a tactical approach is required and a golfer needs to find the correct side of the fairway from which to attack the green. The greens are large, undulating and fast. Many are characterized by multiple fountains, created streams and tree hazards. Depending on the winds and

flag positions of the day, every hole can be played in a multitude of ways.

The signature hole is believed to be hole number four; a short, tight driving hole with a big dogleg left. The second shot may be a blind approach over a deep troublesome gulch to a sloping green. Most golfers like the short par 3 ninth/eighteenth with its distinctive bunker in the middle of the green for the last two holes.

Mehta Golf course has attracted rave reviews from amateurs, artisans and professional golfers who have played it since its re-opening.

According to Ronnie Bukenya, Mehta Golf Club Professional, the most challenging holes according to Bukenya are holes No. 6, 13, ,15 and 18. The tenth tee 'Tiger tee' on the new redesign stands at the highest point with expansive views of the entire course and part of the Sugarcane plantations. Bukenya noted that golfers will have to adjust to the new conditions, from the clubs they formerly used on the old course because the yardage is now longer. They will also encounter new challenges like bigger and faster greens.

"Golfers will have to be patient and also take time to read the greens because the grass on the greens is also different, therefore the putting will have to change. There are so many ups and downs, curves and bends so they have to be very careful," Bukenya noted.

Brian Toolit, a Ugandan professional played the course and drove his tee-shot out of

bounds. He remarked, "This is a very challenging course but at the same time beautiful and world-class. I have no doubt in my mind that sooner than later this course will either be hosting the Uganda Open or a leg of the Safari Tour."

"Hole 15 is a very tough one because pumping your second shot up the hill to attack the green, you can even struggle for a stance," said Deo Akope, captain of Uganda Professional Golfers Association.

Mehta is not a course for the faint hearted. It requires top fitness levels to play all 18 holes given its length and the undulating terrain. You are either walking uphill or downhill and the hills and slopes are as steep as they are sharp when descending.

The nature lovers and non-golfers will not only enjoy the beautiful landscaping on the course but also the nature walkways designed by Mrs. Mehta and the cool breeze from the surroundings.

Mehta Golf Club is your golf club while in Uganda. The green fees are very reasonable – just a UGX. 30,000 or USD 10. Mehta Golf club is not crowded and is an ideal course to have your small group (20-40 players) for friendly tournaments. You are welcome to share their exquisite clubhouse, a private oasis where you can sit back, relax with a chilled beer or a drink and some tasty varieties of Rolex and other snacks. And those of you who want to enjoy it further can stay in the lovely Villa Anona Guest house which is in the same campus and having a balcony view of the golf course.

Play at Mehta Golf Club, Stay at Villa Anona

Villa Anona has been sustainably designed by Sri Lankan architect Channa Daswatte, aesthetically incorporating organic materials tastefully complemented by warm earth tones to blend in subtly with the natural environment.



Fifty kilometers away from the hustle and bustle of Kampala city, within the complex of Mehta Group lay the naturally built Villa Anona Guest House. Villa Anona is nestled on the edge of the Mehta Golf Course, a challenging 18-holes championship course meandering through a picturesque valley of Lugazi sugar estate, set amidst the greenery of hundreds of acres of lush sugarcane plantation.

A small boutique guesthouse, Villa Anona has been sustainably designed by Sri Lankan architect Channa Daswatte, aesthetically incorporating organic materials like murram stone and grass reeds. These have been tastefully complemented by warm earth tones to blend in subtly with the natural environment.



Stylish interiors by Jaimini Patel of Artizans, Kenya, create a contemporary but homely ambience in the nine double bedrooms and two suites of the guesthouse. A quaint dining room serves whole vegetarian meals on set menu basis, using high quality, fresh ingredients.

A small meeting room is available to guests. Meeting and seminars for larger groups along with catering can also be arranged on request.

In addition to scenic golf course, the estate offers many walking trails through sugarcane plantations or through Lugazi prized botanical nature walk. This is a kaleidoscopic landscape of hundreds of varieties of flora and fauna, indigenous as well as rare species of plants and trees, nut orchards and a variety of tropical fruits. Among these is the exotic Anona fruit, a sweet and soar pulpy fruit from the family of Custard Apples.

The source of the Nile located in Jinja and the Mabira forest nearby also offer exciting opportunities for boating, hiking, cycling and various other activities.



Gary Player Designs a \$44Billion Golf Course in Rwanda

The course, the first of its kind in Rwanda, sitting on 52 hectares, is a shot by Rwanda at the global golf tourism market.



Gary Player has achieved worldwide acclaim that most athletes can only dream of. Despite just turning 82 he remains an incredible business man. His prolific company, Gary Player Designs, is behind some of the most exciting golf courses in the world. While he is most widely known for the masterpieces in his homeland, his influence has spread across the globe.

One of his most recent projects is the design of multi-million dollar 18-holes Rwanda Ultimate Golf Course Ltd, a subsidiary of Rwanda Social Security Board. Construction work was done by a French firm, Gregori International from October, 2019 and completing in August, 2021.

The course, the first of its kind in Rwanda, sitting on 52 hectares, is a shot by Rwanda at the global golf tourism market which is

estimated to be valued at \$44 billion. The facility features 23 bridges, nine lakes, three rain shelters, a hallway house and an underground tunnel took about 15 months to construct. The main works were completed in December 2020.

The firm executed 380,000 cubic metres of earthworks in three months, built storm drainage canals, set up irrigation systems and oversaw the grow-in period. Fairways



are grassed with Kikuyu Zouina, greens with Agrostis Ignite and the course is playable throughout the year.

According to Director General of RSSB, Regis Rugemanshuro, the investment was informed by the opportunity therein given the global demand for quality facilities. He said that Rwanda's opportunity is partly driven by the fact that while the global golf tourism market is estimated at \$44 billion and growing by 11 per cent annually, Africa has less than 1,000 courses, which is about 2 per cent of courses in the world.

"The majority of courses in Africa are in South Africa while a significant percentage of courses in Africa are not at international level. This presented a huge opportunity for Rwanda. Having built it at a high standard, it further makes Rwanda eligible as a tourism and sports destination," said Rugemanshuro.

RSSB has invested around Rwf 17.7 billion to develop this course; including about

\$11 million to develop the golf course as well as additional sums for aspects such as shelters, tunnel, expropriation, buying machines among others. Before investing Rwf17.7 billion, Rugemanshuro said that RSSB took on assets valued at Rwf16.8bn which included land and the clubhouse before this was upgraded. The old course, which was a nine-hole, was run by Kigali Golf Club.

The golf course is only the first phase of the project which is expected to continue for the next five or so years. The second phase includes a resort and apartment complex with initial investment estimates of around Rwf145 billion.

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However, RSSB stated that it will not go into phase two alone. They plan to bring on board other investors, some of whom have already submitted their proposals so far.

"This is not an undertaking that RSSB plans to do alone. The most important part was creating the infrastructure which has seen a number of investors express interest in working with us going forward. As we finalize the terms of reference, we are keen on ensuring it will be profitable," Rugemanshuro said.

The investment in the golf course is estimated to generate returns of an average of 13 per cent for the next 15 years.

Rwanda Ultimate Golf Course Ltd, has brought on board UGOLF, the company that manages about 600 golf courses with over 3,000 registered members around the world, to manage the facility. UGOLF's main role is to organize tournaments and bring on board professionalism in the running of the facility.

Josue Dushimimana, the General Manager of the Rwanda Ultimate Golf Course Ltd said that they are hoping to have atleast 500 members in the next 5 years. He added that they have also developed an academy that will train interested participants irrespective of age and gender to drive demand.

Rwanda Ultimate Golf Course Ltd is open to members, players and those who want to learn the game. It is open for tournaments and ready for partnerships with corporations to organize tournaments at the same time observing measures against Covid-19.



INTRODUCING... **TG BUSINESS**

- **INTERVIEWS**
- **BRANDS**
- **PROFILES**
- **PRODUCT LAUNCHES**

Conquering The Covid-19 Blues



Ms. Meseret Tsegaye, Area Manager of Ethiopian Airlines

Ethiopian Airlines is Africa's oldest and biggest airline flying to over 129 flight destinations in 75 countries. Despite the Covid-19 havoc that has hit hard the airline industry, Ethiopian Airlines has remained strong with their offices open to business. *TrueGolfer Publisher*, Eric Mukhwana, had an interview with Ms. Meseret Tsegaye, the new Area Manager of Ethiopian Airlines Uganda at her Kimathi Avenue offices and...

Q1. Madam Meseret Tsegaye, you are the new Area Manager of Ethiopian Airlines in Kampala. I hope you have been well received.

Yes, the people of Uganda are hospitable and supportive and I am happy about being here. I was warmly welcomed and a pleasant stay so far with support from colleagues, business

partners and the entire community at large.

Q2. Who is Meseret Tsegaye? What is your training and work background that you are employing in your new role at Uganda office?

As the Area Manager, I am responsible for coordinating the activities of distribution channels and handling

Ethiopian
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When the passenger number plummeted due to the pandemic, we shifted focus to our cargo business and converted 25 passenger aircraft into freighter. These are some of the results of our strategic crisis leadership that helped Ethiopian stay afloat during the pandemic.

”

Agents (Technical, Commercial and Catering); Maintaining harmonious relationship with the government authorities of the country I represent and implementing an effective business plan annually.

I joined the airline in 2002 and have served the airline for 19 years in different Managerial positions including Team leader ADD HUB Cargo Import, Team Leader ADD HUB Cargo Export, Team Leader ADD HUB Cargo Mail & Courier, Manager ADD HUB Cargo Export and Area Manager Uganda, my current position. I have Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Jimma University, BA Degree in Accounting



Ethiopian Airlines Team in Kampala

from Addis Ababa University. I am married and a mother of 3 wonderful children.

Q3. The Covid-19 Effect: Last year witnessed a global lockdown where passenger airlines across the world stopped flying. How did this affect Ethiopian Airlines as Africa's biggest airline and how are you navigating out of this crisis? The pandemic hit the aviation business hard and Ethiopian Airlines is no different. However, we were different in that we implemented various strategic measures to stay afloat and maintain the business without any government bailout and employee layoffs. We capitalized on our cargo and MRO capabilities to generate revenue. When the passenger number plummeted due to the pandemic, we shifted focus to our cargo business and converted 25 passenger aircraft



into freighter. These are some of the results of our strategic crisis leadership that helped Ethiopian stay afloat during the pandemic.

Q4. What are your current flight destinations?

We have currently 127 flights destinations in five continents with our more than 130 modern fleet.

Q5. Inside Boeing 787 Dreamliner: What is in Ethiopian Airlines' Boeing 787 Dreamliner



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We are offering various packages for our travelers who book online. Among them are discounted ticket fares and baggage allowances. We have digitized our baggage handling system to reduce irregularities to zero.

”

First Class, Business Class and Economy Class?

We have numerous entertainment options onboard Boeing 787 Dreamliner economy and business class. In our business class seats, you will get a multi-course meal in a spacious leg room.

Q6. Uganda has had two lockdowns that kept people home and offices closed. Coming out of the second lockdown, how is business at Ethiopian Airlines picking up?

Ethiopian business is thriving across Africa with the opening up of countries borders after long lock downs. We are working hard to restore passenger confidence ensuring safety throughout our operations. We have recently introduced new technology in partnership with HygenX to enhance safety and protect the wellbeing of our customers as they

fly Ethiopian.

Q7. What innovations are you implementing to increase business at your Uganda office?

We are offering various packages for our travelers who book online. Among them are discounted ticket fares and baggage allowances.

Q8. Golfers are frequent travellers to different destinations of the world. What message do you have for them?

Ethiopian Airlines appreciates the Business Partnership it has had for years with the golfing community in Uganda. Golfers are part of the Ethiopian Airlines family and we pledge to keep and grow the partnership in the coming years.

Q9. What special offers do you have for travellers this Decem-

ber, January Festive Season?

We will prepare special offers via our ET holidays office- a segment of Ethiopian airlines set up to facilitate tourist travelers. Usually, there are different seasonal packages during Ethiopian festive season.

Q10. Often times, travellers lose their luggage aboard airlines – of course not Ethiopian. What is your customer promise?

We have digitized our baggage handling system to reduce irregularities to zero. We promise to our customers that they will be well taken care of when they fly Ethiopian.

Q11. Where do we see Ethiopian Airlines in the next five years?

Ethiopian will be among the best global carriers with the completion of our mega airport to be constructed at the outskirts of Addis Ababa.

Victoria University; Championing Experiential Learning

Victoria University is one of the fast growing private universities in Uganda. Located in the heart of Kampala Capital, the university is implementing strategic innovations that have enabled attraction over 2000 applicants despite the prevalence of Covid-19 pandemic. TrueGolfer had an interview with Dr. Lawrence Muganga, Victoria University's Vice Chancellor...

Q1: Recently, there has been a lot of talk on social media about Dr. Lawrence Muganga. Who is Dr. Lawrence Muganga? What is your nationality, your academic background and your experiences?

I am a Ugandan Born-Canadian Researcher, academic administrator and an award winning author of several books that have been ranked by Amazon as best sellers around the world. Currently I am honored to serve as Vice Chancellor of Victoria University Uganda. I am the author of both "You Can't Make Fish Climb Trees" and "Transform". I also happen to be the first Education Scholar to research and introduce Authentic Learning Education in Uganda, with emphasis on Real-World Learning for all levels of education. I am an ardent advocate for the implementation of a real-world Education Model that emphasizes both Experiential Learning (EXL) & Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) programs to ensure that students maximize their learning and gain meaningful education.

In terms of Education background, I have had the opportunity to pursue my studies





Dr. Lawrence Muganga, Victoria University's Vice Chancellor

“

Victoria University has and continues to put together a talented and experienced team whose role is to steer education innovation and transformation in Africa. Currently I am happy to share that the team at Victoria University is working day and night to introduce Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) technology in education.



at several universities around the world including Makerere University, where I obtained both a Bachelors and Master's Degree in Economics, then University of

Alberta in Canada where I successfully attained both a Master's in Education and PhD in Educational Administration and Leadership. Because we live in a world

where lifelong learning has become part of us; I further ended up at Harvard University to pursue my Post- Doctoral studies focusing on Higher Education Teaching. Some of my work as an educationist has focused on transforming education to make it fit in the times we live in now and those we anticipate in the future, in fact, one of my education books focusing on authentic learning attracted several awards and grants including a \$1,300,000 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Q2: How are your experiences in education and background shaping your approach to achieve VU Vision and Mission?

I am an educator who has gone through the education system of Uganda and I would find it difficult to tell my child to go through the same system which only cares about what a learner has crammed in his head rather than what he/she can do with what they know. Students are coming out of several universities knowing a lot of stuff but cannot do much with all the staff they carry in their respective heads – This in itself is an education pandemic! Which calls for urgent transformation and at Victoria University we are not sleeping, we have chosen to be a World Class university for transformational education.

Our core mandate as an education institute is to transform society and society is people. Therefore, it is our job as Victoria University to transform people, to empower them to become problem-solvers. It is our mandate to deliver an education that works for everyone, an education that solves society's problems and lastly ensuring that the learning provided by the university is one that is pandemic-proof but most importantly an education that prepares graduates to ably face the unpredictable future of work. Everything we are doing at Victoria University focuses on making sure that we achieve the kind of education alluded to above. In addition, on a daily basis I have leveraged my experience to infuse an education model that positions Victoria University to the top providing an education experience that meets and addresses the interests, needs and passion of every student that pursues studies at Victoria University.



Cultural Diversity at Victoria University

Q3: What capabilities at Victoria University are you riding on to keep your institution firmly and strategically moving?

To begin with, we are the first university in East Africa to introduce and implement authentic learning, an education model that allows students to explore, discuss and meaningfully construct concepts and relationships in contexts that involve real world problems and projects that are relevant to the learner. Our education model involves a wide variety of educational and instructional techniques focused on connecting what students are taught in school to real world issues, problems and applications. We deliver this through both experiential learning and work integrated learning programs where we partner with several companies in the labor market to co-educate our students – to Victoria University students and teachers, learning is by doing; together with our industry partners we are developing problem solvers and graduates that are ready to work or create jobs before or after graduation.

The reason why we have adopted the authentic learning/experiential learning education model is the fact that students are more likely to be interested in what they are learning, more motivated to learn new concepts and skills, and better prepared to succeed while in university, careers and during adulthood if what they are learning mirrors real life contexts, equips them with practical and useful skills and addresses topics that are relevant and applicable to their lives outside the university.

The other important aspect that we ride on as Victoria University is the ability of the promoters of the university who are enthusiastic about transforming Uganda's education to make it one that serves the interests of the country and people by ensuring that they support the university to develop a productive human capital. Fortunately, Victoria University happens to be the only university in East Africa that is surrounded by over 47 sister companies all within the Ruparelia Group, this to us as a university has come as a huge advantage to our students where getting placements for them to work as student employees becomes a walkover.

All in all our experiential learning education model, the ability of promoters to support Victoria University and belonging to the Ruparelia Group of companies have enabled us to strategically keep moving in the direction of becoming a top provider of transformational education in the region.

Q4: Victoria University is relatively a new institution in Uganda. What strategic innovations are you implementing to make VU a university of choice by sponsors, student advisors and potential students? What are your milestones so far?

With our aspiration to ensure that all Ugandans must embrace digital literacies, we are currently implementing the following strategies:

- a) Victoria University implementing a state of the art learning management system (LMS) that ensures that students in Uganda, East Africa and around the world are enjoying online learning from their respective destinations including the comfort of both their homes and workplaces. We are working hard to become Africa's biggest classroom and a destination for anyone searching for meaningful education.
- b) In the quest to make our students proficient in the 21st century skills, we have made acquisition of digital literacy a priority for all students and teachers. We have accomplished this by doing the following;
 - i) Becoming the first university that requires students to write exams digitally and discarding the traditional method of handwritten scripts.
 - ii) We have also become the first university in Uganda to give free textbooks in digital version to all interested students and Victoria University does this to further immerse them in digital literacy learning.
 - iii) To those students and families that have found it difficult to support their studies online, Victoria University has provided free education data and iv) Victoria University has also offered free basic computer training to students who are not tech savvy or have never been exposed to computer use.
- c) Victoria University is currently implementing a unique education model (Authentic learning – learning by doing), this education model is the first of its kind in Uganda and Africa, focusing on both experiential learning and work-integrated learning programs. Both these education models are implemented by Victoria University to enable students pursue real-life situations while undertaking their education by being placed in real jobs to gain work experience.



Victoria University promoters Jyotsana Ruparelia, Rajiv Ruparelia, Niaya Khagram, Vice Chancellor Dr. Lawrence Muganga and Victoria University Staff.

- d) Much as education doors were closed due to Covid 19 pandemic, the virtual doors remained open at Victoria University, thanks to our robust online learning system which made it possible for the university to onboard about 2000 new students in a period when other higher education institutions were struggling to provide dependable online education.

Q5: Universities are blamed for training graduates who turn out to be job seekers instead of entrepreneurs. What is your take in light of the academic programs you offer at Victoria University?

At Victoria University we do not just educate, we follow an education formula which prioritizes employability of our students. To us, every student who comes to Victoria University must exit/graduate with 2-3 years experience.

As earlier said, our education formula is driven by achieving employability for our students, we believe that employability is a function of one's interest + personalized teaching + work integrated learning (WIL). When a student joins Victoria University we conduct an interest assessment where we ask the students about their interests, passion, strengths and where they see themselves in the next 10 years. After obtaining this information then the student's learning is personalized to their interests and passion and teachers will support students accordingly. The major part of our education formula is where we attach every student to a job of their interest

through our university's work integrated learning program which is implemented through several partners in the industry.

The education approach we follow at Victoria University is one that enables students to graduate with 2-3 years of experience as may be required by different employers. Most students who leave with this experience end up actually becoming job creators and self-employed.

Q6: Golfers constitute a significant market for Victoria University as students or sponsors. What message do you have for them?

At Victoria University, our goal is to bring education closer to people and we know that golfers around the world attract multitudes of people as their fans and as such Victoria University is happy to be part of the golf community. We would welcome the opportunity to work with Uganda's Golf community as providers of meaningful education and sponsors of different golf activities. We therefore call upon the golf community in Uganda to join us on a productive journey transforming education through sport and become our co-educators.

Q7: What competence-based programs do you have for employees who want to improve on their skills at their workplaces?

Victoria University believes in empowering people to solve problems in their respective communities and workplaces. We have several partnerships with different top universities around the world and through these partnerships, we have developed a rich portfolio



Cultural Performance at Victoria University

of professional courses that Ugandans can benefit from to enhance their competences and gain unique skills that are required in their various respective workplaces. We therefore invite Ugandans to join Victoria University and benefit from the rich experience that they would gain through pursuing our diverse internationalized professional development courses.

Q8: What's the outlook of the cultural diversity at Victoria University?

Victoria University is privileged to have the most diverse student community in Uganda. We have students coming all the way from Kuwait, Haiti, Oman, Afghanistan, India, Comoros, Nigeria, Chad, Liberia to mention but a few. We are non-discriminatory institution and we call ourselves 'The University of You'.

Q9: Covid-19 Effect: The lockdown of schools, colleges and universities in Uganda by government to curb Covid-19 spread over the past two years has adversely affected educational institutions, Victoria University inclusive. How are you navigating the Covid-19 Crisis?

Like many other higher education institutions, Victoria University has also been affected by several lockdowns as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic however, as physical doors closed, Victoria university immediately opened virtual doors of education. Victoria University developed an interactive state of the art learning management system that kept students learning without any interruption. V-Class

(our online learning management portal) was vetted by Uganda's National Council for Higher Education and was accorded a score of 80% - making it one of the top learning management systems in the country.

Q10: With hundreds of universities spread all over Uganda and East Africa why should a student choose Victoria University?

Currently over 100,000 students graduate from universities every year and the majority come out with zero years of work experience yet all employers in the country and beyond are looking for graduates with 2-3 or 4 years of experience – This is an education-employment dilemma that is facing everyone going to the university today and those that aspire to join university. I am happy to tell readers that Victoria University is different, we help our students create knowledge and we teach them experience, when you come to Victoria University you are assured that you will graduate with 2-3 years experience and to some you have an opportunity to be accorded a job placement through our partner organizations within and out of the country. We are the only university in East Africa that is implementing an experiential learning model through our work integrated learning program – the priority of this program is to make sure that every student of the university is placed in a real job to gain real experience needed in the labor market. So when you come to Victoria University we will teach you experience.

Secondly, people should choose Victoria

University because we are a university that welcomes everyone and their diverse needs for example; if you are busy with your job and cannot come to Victoria University, we have the best on-line learning platform that will help you pursue your education seamlessly. You do not need to come to Victoria University, Victoria University will find you where you are.

Thirdly, you can choose us because we are a university that understands you, when you are failing to support your online education, Victoria University will give you free education data, when you fail to purchase relevant textbooks required for your learning, Victoria University will give you free digital textbooks to support completion of your studies.

All in all, we are the University of You and you can comfortable choose Victoria University for a greater and memorable education experience.

Q11: It is reported that you are putting together a talented, experienced and optimistic team at Victoria University. Tell us what you and your team hope to have accomplished in five years.

Yes, Victoria University has and continues to put together a talented and experienced team whose role is to steer education innovation and transformation in Africa. Currently I am happy to share that the team at Victoria University is working day and night to introduce Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) technology in education. The purpose of this is to make Victoria University graduates ready to face the labor market of the now and the future where technology is going to dominate the labor market. Through education technology we are creating graduates and a workforce that can work and serve anywhere in the world – a workforce without borders is being developed by Victoria University. And in the next 5 years Victoria University will become Africa's Premier 4th Industrial Revolution Compatible Entrepreneurial University. Therefore, amidst this education revolution at going on at Victoria University we are happy to welcome every stakeholder that is interested in transform education. We believe that together we can create an education experience that will solve the unemployment pandemic faced by every school-going child in this country and beyond.

Join Victoria University on this journey of transformation education.

CARAN HOTEL...

For Comfort and Tranquility

Simple, high-raising and effortlessly chic, Caran Hotel is an oasis of tranquillity where the impeccable service and stunning scenery guarantee an unforgettably relaxing stay.



Nestled in Kisugu Hill overlooking Muyenga Hills, surrounded by a luxurious residential neighbourhood and with breathtaking views of Kampala City, Nakawa and Bugolobi in a distance, Caran Hotel is the place to be. You will be welcomed by a team of enthusiastic and dedicated team who take pride in providing a personal experience to all our guests.

It is a boutique hotel with 21 rooms, designed to give a comfortable and tranquil rest for the business traveller. It is located in a

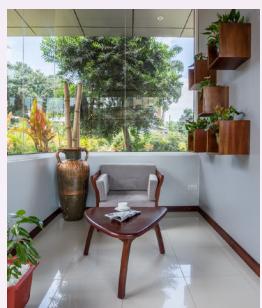
residential neighbourhood with easy access to shopping and banking facilities.

Caran Hotel has four types of rooms; Standard, Deluxe, Twin and Suites. The hotel rooms are designed to provide exceptional comfort for travellers. Each room has air conditioning system, pressure warm and cold water, direct dial phones, separate bathtubs and showers, makeup/ shaving mirrors and a comfy chair with great views and mature gardens for relaxation. The Twin

Rooms are elegant and tasteful, decorated in a mixture traditional and modern style, and feature two single beds, plasma TV, bathrooms with hot and cold showers and toiletries. Breakfast in bed for the twin rooms is provided.

Deluxe rooms are well decorated, accommodate up to 2 persons and the rooms let you relax as you admire a beautiful view of the hotel. Bed mattresses and duvets are thick and comfortable.

Guests also have a choice of soft or hard pillows to ensure a good night rest. Each room offers a unique perspective and experience with interiors skillfully tailored



to fit the relaxed nature with the aim to immerse you into the genuine feel with each well-appointed detail.

If you just don't feel like leaving the luxurious warmth of your room, who could blame you? This is why we make in-room dining an option available 24-hours-a-day. With our extensive in-room dining menu we aim to satisfy everything from the pickiest of palates to the grandest of hungers. Let us know and our chefs will do it your way.

Experience culinary delight like never before with a magnitude of fine wine and dining tailored to meet your needs. Our talented team of chefs and bartenders provide exceptional service to enhance your food and drink pairings. Our commercial kitchen, restaurant and bar maintain an exquisite atmosphere to enjoy savory and

delectable cuisine with diverse cocktail options.

From specialty cocktails and wine tastings to interactive food stations and plated dinners, Caran catering team will create a menu sure to please all palettes. We will customize the entire experience tailored to ensure your event is everything you have ever dreamed of.

Caran Hotel event starts with a venue

catered to your every need. Whether you are planning an intimate cocktail reception, grand birthday celebration or company retreat, we have a special event venue for every occasion.

Birthday parties, graduation parties, anniversary celebrations and everything in between. Your party deserves the best of the best. Host your celebration at our lavish gardens for an unforgettable experience.

Caran Hotel has a 30-50 person conference room and a 5-7 person private lounge ideal to host your meetings, and can be quickly transformed into a speakeasy for a cocktail reception. The hotel provides complimentary WI-FI, Stay connected as you enjoy free WiFi and watch movies with our 32-inch LCD TV. Besides, the hotel provides private car parking, standby generator, solar inverter system, 24/7 security guards, cameras and an electric fence.

***The Caran Hotel Experience
Caran Hotel Kisugu located
Plot 609/611, Zzimwe Road, Kisugu
Cell Phone: +256 778 303256 - WhatsApp***

All Students are Individuals; All Students Can Learn

*By Simon Gillespie, Head of School,
International School of Uganda*



Senior School Students participating in a STEM challenge

When you interact with your children, you can see similarities and differences. Comparisons between yourself as a parent, and your child are often made, "she gets her math skills from her mom" or "he looks just like his dad." We often make comments, "can't you be more like your brother," but more often, we recognize that each of our children is unique, has their own strengths, talents, passions, and differences. At times these differences can be a challenge to learning, and therefore, we must understand how best to support each child on their individual learning journey.

“We come together as a whole school, a community of learners, to develop a sense of belonging for everyone. We support, guide, and empower the community throughout the journey of inclusion and lifelong learning.

At International School of Uganda, we come together as a whole school, a community of learners, to develop a sense of belonging for everyone. Accepting each of our unique identities promotes the development of

international mindedness, argentic learning, and responsible citizenship. We support, guide, and empower the community throughout the journey of inclusion and lifelong learning.



ISU Teachers Undergoing Professional Development



Junior School Learning Support Developing Gross Motor Skills



Junior School Grade 5 Book Launch

As a community, we understand that everyone can learn and reach their full potential given access and ownership. We accept the responsibility for educating and enabling students, staff, and parents in realizing our philosophy. We strive to remove the barriers to an inclusive education and provide all learners with experiences that cultivate agency, embrace partnership, and nurture strengths.

How do we create this culture of inclusion? Based on our beliefs, we ensure that we have the resources and professional learning in place for all of our educators. Resources include trained

learning support teachers, assistant teachers, speech and language therapist, occupational therapist, access to an educational psychologist, assistive technologies, and access to high quality resources, training and workshops held by experts around the world. We believe all teachers are teachers of all children. We have a culture of collaboration so that when planning, teachers are able to create learning experiences that are differentiated and personalized to support each child where they are at on their journey.



ISU Campus Ariel Shot



grade level.

We are also on a hill and have many stairs. How did we adapt when a child applied who uses a wheelchair? We created new pathways throughout the campus with ramps to allow access. This continues to be a journey, but our attitude is to make it work, so that all children can access learning and be a part of our community.

A final way we are demonstrating our commitment to all individuals is through our hiring practices. Recently, we partnered with the Angel Center in Wakiso, an organization committed to supporting individuals with down syndrome and cognitive delays. They work to educate children, and to also support adults with skill development to help them gain independence, and ideally employment. The challenge has been finding organizations that will rise to the challenge of including all individuals and giving opportunities to those who may not otherwise be considered. We now have two support staff with down syndrome who are exceptional employees and demonstrate to our students and to our community that we believe everyone can be a contributing member of society.

Our journey towards inclusion continues at ISU. We are proud that we recognize differences, and that all children can be successful. Learn more about our programs and the dynamic learning environment by visiting our website at www.isu.ac.ug.



Senior Art Student Expressing Diversity



Our journey towards inclusion continues at ISU. We are proud that we recognize differences, and that all children can be successful.



At admissions, we seek to know the individual child that is enrolling at ISU. We gather as much data and information, not to decide whether to admit or not, but to make sure we have the best program possible and the resources in place. Whether a child has mild, moderate, intensive learning needs, or is highly able, we need to have a strong understanding of the child's strengths and difficulties so that we can put the right support in place

to appropriately challenge the child and help them to grow and achieve their best.

To further live our philosophy of inclusion we have had to adapt our environment. If you have been to our campus you know it is a beautiful 33-acre oasis of green and nature with state of the art science labs, a new arts center and theater space, sports facilities and learning spaces that are developmentally appropriate at each

Simon Gillespie, Ed.D. is the Head of School at International School of Uganda, an International Baccalaureate World School. Simon has been a leader of international schools in Germany, Philippines and most recently the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Simon is a co-director of the Next Frontier Inclusion organization, supporting international schools to be inclusive of all students regardless of their learning style and challenges. He looks forward to continuing to connect with the educational community in Kampala and supporting the development of a strong learning environment for our students.

EYE CARE CENTRE

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& at VICTORIA MALL

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Also open on Sundays from 11:00am to 4:00pm

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Eye Examination

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Cell: 0712/0752/0772-786 400

E-mail : sales@eyecareug.com Website: www.eyecareug.com



Hassan Alibhai

EYE CARE CENTRE

From a simple optical shop in 1996, Mr. Hassan Alibhai has grown Eye Care Centre into the largest optical business with outlets in plush locations of Kampala and Entebbe.

“

Over the past 25 years, we have mastered the optical business and we have now carved a niche as Uganda's leading dispensing opticians.



You own the largest chain of optical centres in Uganda. How did it all start?

I opened a simple optical shop on Plot 3, Johnstone Street in Kampala Business District for my wife, Shahida Alibhai - since she is an optician to keep her busy and earn some income. In just three months, we were already busy with customers lining up for different optical solutions. Our vision grew bigger and this is how Eye Care Centre Ltd was born.

What is the core business of Eye Care Centre Ltd?

Our business focus is on offering visual impairment control ability and maintaining the high standards of optometry facilities in Uganda. This is facilitated by providing free eye checks to all visiting clients across all our branches.

Over the past 25 years, we have mastered the optical business and we have now carved a niche as Uganda's leading dispensing opticians.

Who are your customers and where do they come from?

Optical cases are everywhere. We serve a wide range of clientele ranging from families, schools, companies, embassies, government and Non-Government Organizations. We serve all age-groups – children, youths, adults and the elderly.

Eye Care Centre continues to attract customers from near and far. Some of our customers come from as far as South Sudan, DRC, Rwanda and Kenya. We also serve tourists from foreign countries abroad. We continuously get referral clients because of our quality service.

What capabilities have you developed over the years?

Eye Care Centre's vast experience and extensive research has enabled us to develop the state-of-the-art process for eye-testing available at all their branches across the country for Free. This eye test involves the utilization of modern computerized eye-testing equipment together with the expertise of qualified Optometrists.



A display of some of Eye Care Centre lenses.

“

We deliver outstanding satisfaction with continued professionalism by successfully combining medical and business attributes as well as the skills of highly qualified and experienced optometrists.

”

At all our showrooms, customers can have a wide range of products which includes the renowned international brands and regional strong brands. Not only the best products, all our branches are equipped with the latest and well equipped tech instruments.

The company has a lens processing lab that makes clients get their prescribed lenses in a matter of hours. Progressive, bifocal and other high prescription lenses in both glass and plastic can now be produced at the lab. In the past, we used to order lenses from Nairobi and this took days and inconvenienced our customers. With this new innovation, our clients can now have their lenses within a few hours.

How are you handling customer service especially

in the area of product accessibility?

Eye Care Centre has grown, spreading our branches outside the central business district of Kampala, and adding to those already in existence. From our first outlet at Plot 3, Johnstone Street, we have since opened branches at Garden City along Kitante Road, Lugogo Mall along Jinja Road, Village Mall in Bugolobi, Acacia Mall at Kisementi and Victoria Mall in Entebbe.

To enhance services to our customers, Eye Care Centre has an in-house ophthalmologist at our Johnstone Street branch. All our branches are equipped with Tonometry instruments to measure the eye intraocular pressure.

We understand the value, importance and indispensability of quality, dedicated service and the role it plays in



Eye Care Centre outlet at Acacia Mall, Kisementi, Kampala.

enhancing the customer experience.

Customer Experience: What are you doing to ensure customer satisfaction?

We believe that our services should not begin and end at the showroom but continue to assist customers through after sales services. Our vision is to be a leading brand and distributor in East Africa.

We deliver outstanding satisfaction with continued professionalism by successfully combining medical and business attributes as well as the skills of highly qualified and experienced optometrists. Every staff at Eye Care Centre is dedicated towards guiding and assisting customers through the process of determining which product effectively satisfy their needs. Our dedicated approach towards customer service has remained consistent to ensure customers

obtain the best value in their eye-care experience. Commitment, hardwork and dedicated personal customer service are the factors underpinning our success.

How has Covid-19 pandemic affected Eye Care Centre business?

Covid-19 has affected every sector of the economy, not only in Uganda but globally. We have had months of lockdown where Eye Care Centre was locked to customers, meaning no business. Despite the lockdowns, we continue to pay rent. Many people have lost jobs hence no salary earnings – with the little money in hand, they have to decide between buying food and attending to their optical needs. Schools that constitute a significant segment of our business have been closed for almost two years. Import costs are very high. Generally, the pandemic Covid-19

has cast gloom on our businesses. I pray that we get out of this economic downturn.

Are you worried about your competitors?

We are not worried at all. We have kept ahead of competition by giving customers innovative and high-value products. Even in my absence or the absence of my wife, Eye Care Centre will continue to effectively exist and grow under the leadership of our son, Jamil Alibhai, who is a qualified optician and is already inducted in the business.

How has Eye Care Centre contributed to the country?

Obviously, we pay those unfriendly taxes. Besides, Eye Care Centre has created jobs for thirty five full time staff, most of them Ugandans.



Engineers with a Broader Outlook

Analysis, Studies, Design, Procurement and Supervision

Gauff Consultants is a member of Uganda Association of Consulting Engineers, a FIDIC member. It is registered with the Ministry of Works and Transport and Uganda National Roads Authority for provision of consultancy services.

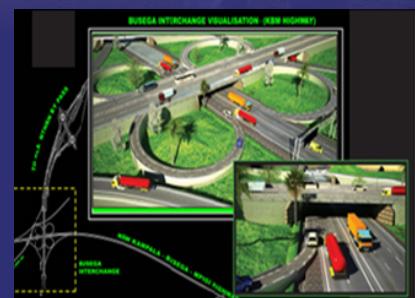
Gauff Consultants (U) Ltd, Gauff, was established and duly incorporated in Uganda as a local company in 2002 as an offshoot of Gauff Group which carried out various projects in Uganda since 1980. Gauff is accredited and conforms to the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System. The company is a member of Uganda Association of Consulting Engineers, a FIDIC member. It is registered with the Ministry of Works and Transport and Uganda National Roads Authority for provision of consultancy services. It is also registered with Petroleum Authority of Uganda as well as Public Procurement Disposal of Assets

Gauff activities are concentrated on multi-disciplinary engineering through the employment of experienced and motivated engineers and other experts in the following fields:

Public Utilities: Water Resources, Management of Water Sales Activities, Management of O&M, Water Supply, Drainage, Sewerage Treatment and Liquid and Solid Waste Disposal.

Transportation: Roads, Highways, Railways and Ports.

Construction: Town Planning, Urban and Rural Development and Industrial Construction.



Gauff Services

Within the above fields of specialization, the following services are offered:

- **Support and Analysis:** Project Finding, Project Preparation Missions, Risk Analysis, Ecological and Environmental Analyses, Economic Analyses, Participation in Public Hearings, Surveys and Surveying and Cartography.



- **Studies:** Pre-Investment Studies, Feasibility Studies, Environmental and Sociological Studies, Geology and Soil Mechanics, Economic Studies and Master Planning.
- **Design:** Conceptual Design, Preliminary Design and Final Design.
- **Management for Investment Projects:** Management and Supervision of Works, Site Inspection, Quality and Quantity Control, Procurement, Reception and Expedition and Project Organization.
- **Assistance for Operations and Maintenance of Utilities:** Improvement of Administrative, Accounting and Technical Organization, Organizational, Administrative and Accounts Support, Technical Support and Legal Advice.

Oil and Gas Sector:

Gauff is venturing in Oil and Gas sector to carry out various projects in water, access roads and wellpads. Presently, it is carrying out the following projects:

- **Tilenga Project Lake Albert Basin – Constructing Water Supply Services for Tilenga Upstream Development (2021).**

The project is divided into different service units:

SU1 – Planning of temporary water abstraction of surface and ground water.

SU2 – Design and installation of water abstraction infrastructure including associated permit applications with relevant authorities:

Design, drilling and commissioning of ground water wells including existing TOTAL water well stock (33 No.)

Design and installation of temporary surface water abstraction facilities.

SU3- Management of water supply and servicing and maintenance of the water abstraction facilities including monitoring and reporting obligations with the water and local authorities.

- **Kingfisher Pre-drilling Wellpads Detailed Design: May 2018 – August 2018**

The scope of the service included:

FEED Design Package review of all information provided by CNOOC;

Review the existing preliminary geotechnical report and perform detailed geotechnical surveys to determine the soil design parameters required to size foundations and provide material requirements for construction;

Carry out topographic surveys to define the general layout

of the wellpads and provide design data for horizontal and vertical alignment of the access and infield roads; Carry out hydrological surveys to define the drainage pattern of the area under development (Pads 1, 2 and 3); Carry out engineering design for foundations of structures within Pads 1, 2 and 3 and infield and access roads; Preparation of Invitation To Tender (ITT) package for civil works; Issue as-built drawings; To provide technical support by providing answers and clarifications to engineering design to support construction.

- **Engineering Services for Reinstatement of Ngassa 2 Wellpads and Access Road, Buliisa District, 2014.**
The scope of service included:
Design and inspection of Ngassa 2 concrete blocks for the rig;
Design of the anchor blocks;
Supervision/Inspection of fabrication of steel cage and casting concrete therein.
- **Design Review and Construction Supervision of Kingfisher Access Road (17KM) in the Albertine Oil Exploration Area, 2014-2015 (CNOOC).**

The Project Road is situated South of Hoima District, Western Uganda. It starts at Ikamiro on top of the Rift Valley escarpment and descends through 3KM of hairpin bends before descending gradually across a near vertical 3.62KM escarpment. At the floor of the Rift Valley, four roads totaling to 8.89KM are to be constructed over the expansive clay soil roadbed to access the oil discovery area on the Ugandan side of Lake Albert. The area includes four wellpads and Central Processing Facility. The project is a design and built by CCCC as the contractor while the Consultant, Gauff, reviewed the designs and ensured quality for CNOOC, the client.

Gauff reviewed the detailed engineering design and recommended appropriate design amendments built by the Contractor in consultation with the client. The design reviewed covered various documents such as Materials, Hydrological, Topography Survey and Geometric Design Reports in addition to masonry retaining and bridge structures.

The supervision of work activities involved daily inspection of works, quality control and submission of daily, weekly and monthly progress reports; attending weekly meetings in addition to the review of technical queries and method statements for the smooth running of the assignment.

- **Design Verification Study for Critical Road No.3 (Hoima Wanseko Road – 111KM) Phase 1: November 13, 2013 – December 20, 2013.**

The main objective of the verification of the detailed design and tender documentation was to determine whether the design was correct, buildable and suitable to meet the minimum logistical requirements for development of the oil and gas resources in the Lake Albertine Region. Checking accuracy of topographical survey; Checking accuracy and adequacy of Design – geometrical and pavement; Checking accuracy and adequacy of the bridge and drainage structures design; Checking adequacy of geotechnical and material investigations; Checking the design documentation and quantity estimates; Checking cost estimate and the construction work programme; Review of RAP issues.

History of Work

▪ WATER, SEWERAGE, ENVIRONMENT AND IRRIGATION *Analysis, Studies, Design, Procurement and Supervision*

Construct for consultancy services for Feasibility Studies and Detailed Engineering Design for Lumbuye & Bukagolo Irrigation Schemes in Iganga and Bugiri Districts, 2021 – 2022, IDA Funded.

Design Review and Construction Supervision of Drainage Improvement Works in Kampala. Lot 1: Lubigi Primary and Lot 2: Nakamiro Secondary Drainage Channels, 2020-2022 IDA Funded.

Kampala Water Lake Victoria WatSan Project: Package 2B – Preparation of Detailed Designs, Tendering and Supervision for the Rehabilitation, Restructuring and Extension of Kampala Water Supply Network, 2020 – 2024, GoU, EU-ITF, KfW & AFD.

Kampala Water Lake Victoria WatSan Project: Package 4B – Preparation of Detailed Designs, Tendering and Supervision of the Katosi – Kampala Transmission Mains, 2016 – 2020, GoU, EU-ITF, KfW & AFD.

Feasibility Study, Preliminary and Detailed Design for an Integrated Water Supply Settlement and host Communities in Yumbe District, May 2018 – August 2018.

Albertine Graven Cluster (North) – Feasibility Study and Pre-Design for Development of Water and Sanitation Infrastructure for Hoima-Masindi Areas, 2015 – 2016, NWSC.

Arua Water Supply and Sanitation Project, 2004-2013, NWSC. Gulu Water Supply and Sanitation Project, 2004–2013, NWSC.

Kampala Water and Sanitation Programme Phase 1: Component 3 Transmission Mains, Uganda, 2004–2007, KfW. Kampala Water Supply Rehabilitation of Gaba I Water Treatment Works, Uganda, August 1998 – May 1999, EU. Uganda Second Water Supply Project, Expansion of Water Supply and Sewerage Systems for Kampala, Masaka, Mbarara, Mbale and Tororo Districts, October 1992 – October 1998, IDA.

Kampala Water Supply Rehabilitation of Gaba II Water Treatment Works, Uganda, May 1988 – December 1993, EU. Final Design, Kampala Water Supply Expansion Project, 1988 – 1989.

Final Design, 7 Towns Water Supply Expansion Project,

1989 – 1990.

Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe (7 Towns Water and Sanitation Project, Phase II Design, 1987.

Supervision of Kampala Water Supply Phase II including the Updating of Gaba Water Works, 1987.

Master Plan Updates and Feasibility Study and Preliminary Design of Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe, 1981 – 1983, IDA Funded.

▪ STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING – BUILDINGS

Analysis, Studies, Design, Procurement and Supervision

Investment Programme for Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training, 2007 – 2010, KfW Funded.

Construction of Office and Staff Houses within various Protected Areas Management and Sustainable Use, (PAMSU) Project, 2006 – 2009.

Promotion of Private Training Providers, Phase 2, PPTP, 2003 – 2005.

Promotion of Private Training Providers – Phase I TP, 1999 – 2002, KfW Funded.

Rehabilitation and Limited Upgrading of Selected Health Units in Mpigi, Iganga, Mbale, Arua and Gulu Districts, 1997 – 2001, IDA Funded.

Rehabilitation of Produce Warehouse in Tororo and Gulu, 1992 – 1993, KfW Funded.

Rehabilitation of Mulago Hospital Complex, 1990 – 1995, IDA Funded.

▪ TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING – ROADS

Analysis, Studies, Design, Procurement and Supervision

Design and Build of Kira – Matugga and Improvement of 5 No. Junctions (21Km) Design 2021.

Design Review and Construction Supervision of the Upgrading of Kigumba-Bulima Road Project, 2015 – 2020, ADB Funded.

Consultancy Services for: Construction Supervision for Upgrading of Kamwenge – Fort Portal Road, 2013 – 2017, GoU/IDA Funded.

Kalangala Infrastructure Project: Road Construction Supervision of Kalangala Road, 2013 – 2016, Infraco Funded.

Feasibility Study, Detailed Engineering Design, Tender Assistance and Project Management for Capacity Improvement Projects: Kibuye-Busega-Mpigi Road (32km), 2010 – 2016, GoU Funded.

Design Review and Supervision for Upgrading of the Fort Portal – Bundibugyo – Lamia Road, 2009 – 2014.

Feasibility Study, Design and Supervision of the Karamoja Roads Development Programme, 2007 – 2011, EU Funded. Albertine Rift Development Project – Road Transport Study: January 18 2010 – end of March 2010.

Kalangala Infrastructure Project – Road Engineering and Design of Kalangala Road, 2006 – 2007, Infraco Funded.

Periodic Maintenance of Selected Roads in Preparation for CHOGM, 2007, GoU Funded.

Rehabilitation of Malaba/Busia – Bugiri Road, 2000-2002, KfW Funded.

Road Programme IV – Eastern Uganda.
 Design of Bugiri – Jinja Road, Uganda
 Emergency Repairs of the Kasese – Fort Portal and Equator Roads, Uganda.
 Strengthening of Malaba – Jinja Road, Uganda.
 Road Rehabilitation Project Phase II, Uganda
 Road Maintenance Programme, Eastern Uganda.
 Transport Rehabilitation Project, Uganda.
 Rehabilitation of Kibuye-Busega; Nakulabye – Nansana Roads (City Roads) – 11.5km.
 Design and Construction Supervision of Bweyogerere Industrial Estate Access Roads, 2007-2011.

▪ **STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING – BRIDGES**

Analysis, Studies, Design, Procurement and Supervision

El Nino Emergency Road Repairs Project (Component C: Emergency Repairs and Replacement of Bridges and Box Culverts).
 Rehabilitation of Road Birdges, Uganda
 Rehabilitation of Enyau Bridge in Arua District, UNHCR Funded.
 Design Review and Construction Supervision of Aswa and Awoja Bridges (60m span) 2011, EU Funded.

▪ **STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING – INLAND PORTS/ INFRASTRUCTURE**

Analysis, Studies, Design, Procurement and Supervision

Development of New Kampala Port at Bukasa.
 Master Plan Studies for Arua Airport Development 2015 – 2016, GoU Funded.
 Kasese Airport Development Project, 2011, GoU Funded.
 Gulu International Airport, 2011, GoU Funded.
 Preliminary Engineering Design of the Uganda Standard Gauge Railway Network (Phase I): Modernization of Malaba-Kampala Railway Line, 2012 – 2014.
 Preliminary Engineering Design of Kampala – Kigali Standard Gauge Railway, 2014 – 2015.

1. CORPORATE CITIZENRY

▪ **Training**

In a bid to improve the engineering industry, Gauff supports young engineering students by recognizing the best engineering male and female students at Makerere University with Certificate of Excellence and prize money to start a new life.

▪ **Social Responsibility**

Every year, in September or October, Gauff sponsors the most prestigious golf tournament at Entebbe Golf Club. In the 1980s, contributed towards maintenance of Mbale Golf Course. They have in addition supported individual golf players.

Red Cross Services

Gauff contributes annually to Mama's Bag which assists mothers in the Internally Displaced People Camps (IDPs) in Northern Uganda.



Professional golfer, Richard Baguma, receives a dummy cheque of 20M/= from Gauff Managing Director, Emmanuel Mugamba.



Charlotte Nakasula receives a Prof. Eng. Dr. Albert Rugumayo Memorial Award certificate for being Outstanding Engineering Student 2019 of Makerere University



Joshua Mwanga receives a Prof. Eng. Dr. Albert Rugumayo Memorial Award certificate and 1M/= cash prize for being Best Engineering Student 2019 of Makerere University

MTN Marathon

Gauff supports staff to participate in the yearly MTN Marathon as a contribution to the given cause MTN is funding.

**Plot 53, Upper Kololo Terrace,
 P.O Box 201, Kampala – Uganda**
Tel: +256 414 236798, +256 414 236799
Fax: +256 414 259 508
jbgkam@gauff.co.ug
www.gauff.co.ug

Visiting Mbale?

Elgon Palace Hotel

is The Place To Be



“ Elgon Palace Hotel offers a serene environment for accommodation with splendor and delight. They comprise of 83 suites, all en suite, two conference rooms, restaurant, bar and children play area.

”

Elgon Palace Hotel is situated against the backdrop of the slopes of Wanaale Hill in the heart of Mbale city. The hotel is located away from the hassle and bustle of Mbale City; but still it is close enough to the great views, culture, shopping and the

glorious nature.

Each day at Elgon Palace Hotel brings new wonders to discover. You can make the most of complimentary access to the 9-hole championship golf course, go on a guided nature walks in the reserve or take a tour to

and enjoy breathtaking views of cascading waterfalls, picturesque cliffs, cascading waterfalls and green cultivated slopes that supplement the allure of the hotel. Your living here is at its most inspiring.

The lounge area allows you to work, relax

and rest from the same space. All suites have balconies with beautiful Mbale city views. The staff here is the friendliest and most helpful you will find in this part of Uganda. The management is a team of qualified and experienced people, everybody plays their role with humility and great passion. You will always receive a warm welcome and feel at home.

Elgon Palace Hotel offers a serene environment for accommodation with splendor and delight. They comprise of 83 suites, all en suite, two conference rooms, restaurant, bar and children play area.

The rooms are Single, Double, Twin and VIP/Executive rooms. All rooms are elegantly furnished with furniture, luxury en-suite facilities with air-conditioning, flat screen LCD TV, fine linen and towels, bathrooms, direct-dial phones.

There are 10 VIP/Executive rooms featuring ambience, large seating area, luxury beds, self-catering with a kitchenette that allows guest to make their own meals, luxurious in terms of ambience, ample storage and mini fridge. The Twin/ Double rooms provide views over landscaped hills and gardens. This room has two single beds, a seating area and mini fridge. The single rooms are suited for single occupancy as they have limited space and storage. Housekeeping is offered daily.

Some of the rooms have balconies with spectacular panoramic views of Mbale City, Wanaale and famous Semei Kakungulu Gangama Hills. Each room feels rich and timeless and has all the amenities to pamper you. Be ready to experience an entirely new level of affordable luxury.

Elgon Palace Hotel has two conference/meeting rooms. The large one has a capacity of 150-200 people and is located at the topmost floor of the hotel, with breathtaking views at Wanaale Hill spread out like a sheet of white paper. The smaller facility accommodates 20-50 people and is located strategically on the ground floor.

Unlike the old way of competitive marketing, Elgon Palace Hotel prefers to work with other stakeholders to boost tourism in Bugisu subregion. They look at other hotels as sister companies contributing accommodation and conferences facilities to local and international visitors. They do not advertise rates but prefer to handle guests case by case with flexibility based on client budgets.

The hotel caters for locals who are in most



cases ignored by major hotels. Their rates are affordable and in Uganda currency. They promote domestic tourism as well providing for international visitors. Local dishes and the famous malea (local delicacy) accompany every meal to give a guest the Bugisu experience.

Like any other in the hospitality industry, Elgon Palace Hotel too has been hit hard by Covid-19 pandemic through loss of accommodation and evening business due to lockdowns and travel restrictions. However, there is hope for the hotel to pick up when the economy fully opens up

in early 2022.

Complimentary parking is available and security is guaranteed. The hotel is located near police posts with in Mbale City and tourism police by Mt. Elgon Conservation Area hence assuring security of guest lives and property. There is a standby generator to provide alternate power in case of power outage by Umeme.

Elgon Palace Hotel is an ideal place for you this Festive Season. You will enjoy the comfort, ambience, traditional meals and hospitality.



MercedesBenz:

THE NEW 2022 C-CLASS A NEW BREED OF BOLD

2022 C-Class It looks pretty similar to the outgoing car. The underlying platform is the same, but virtually no stone has been left unturned, and certainly everything that the driver interacts with is all-new.

Mercedes Benz's 2022 C-Class is slightly longer, wider and lower than it was, but the cab-rearwards silhouette is familiar. As for the styling, it's the good old Russian doll effect – it looks like an E-Class that is parked further away. Vertical taillights make way for horizontal ones, there are slimmer

headlights and the grille has been flipped upside down. Incremental stuff that's unlikely to offend, and in the right colour and trim we reckon it looks rather good. The wheelbase and tracks are longer while the suspension remains double wishbone at the front and multi-link at the rear. It is



worth mentioning from the outset that our German-spec car was fitted with adaptive dampers and rear-wheel steering.

The 2022 Mercedes-Benz C-Class entry-luxury car segment is in for a shakeup with a complete redesign. The C-class has long served as the entry point to the Mercedes-Benz lineup, but new additions to the brand in recent years such as the A-class sedan have allowed the C-Class to move upmarket and better battle rivals such as the Audi A4, BMW 3-series, and Genesis G70. The all-new 2022 model will continue to be built on a rear-drive platform, powered by a turbocharged four-cylinder engine and will offer all-wheel drive as an option. The cabin is where we see the most modernization as the C-class inherits styling elements and technology from the newly-redesigned 2021 S-Class sedan.

Everything is new. Even though the new



C-Class' styling isn't a huge departure from the 2021 model, the 2022 model year marks the start of a new generation with more luxury and a greater number of high-tech features.

Mercedes-Benz will offer three distinct trim levels on the 2022 C-Class: Premium, Exclusive, and Pinnacle. A breakdown of available features indicates that the mid-range Exclusive trim would satisfy the broadest swath of buyers, as it includes niceties such as a 360-degree exterior camera system, a self-parking feature, wireless smartphone charging, and a Burmester premium stereo system. All models come standard with a large infotainment display, a digital gauge display, heated front seats, automated high-beam headlamps, wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, a sunroof, and much more. Mercedes-Benz's 4Matic all-wheel drive system is optional, but we will leave that up to you to decide if you need it.

The 2022 C-Class will continue to be powered by a 255-hp turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine, but this time around it's enhanced by a 48-volt hybrid system that can temporarily provide up to 20 extra horsepower. All-wheel drive remains an option with rear-wheel drive being the

standard setup; a nine-speed automatic is the only gearbox offered. Mercedes-Benz estimates that it will hit 60 mph in 5.9 seconds.

The most dramatic change for the C-Class comes in the form of a new high-tech cabin. All models come with a digital gauge display, touch-sensitive controls, and a host of amenities. The new model sports a steering wheel that looks similar to that of the redesigned S-Class sedans and Mercedes offers a generous list of standard luxury features such as heated front seats with memory settings, a sunroof, open-pore wood trim, and aluminum accents.

Overall, the 2022 C-Class is about 2.5-inches longer than the outgoing model and its wheelbase has been stretched by an inch. Mercedes-Benz says that results in more rear-seat legroom.

A large, 12.3-inch vertically oriented infotainment display similar to the one in the redesigned S-Class sedan sweeps up from the center console and toward a trio of round air vents on the upper dashboard. The touchscreen is tilted slightly toward the driver for easier use while driving and runs the most up-to-date version of Mercedes's MBUX infotainment system—complete

with the voice-activated digital assistant, wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, and online access via a Wi-Fi hotspot. All models also come with an 11.9-inch digital gauge display and a fingerprint sensor to authenticate the driver's unique profile for memory settings. A head-up display, a wireless smartphone charging pad, an ambient lighting system, and a Burmester surround sound stereo system are all optional extras.

C-Class is equipped with a host of standard driver-assistance features but unfortunately the car's coolest tech, which includes an adaptive cruise-control system that utilizes navigation data to adjust the vehicle's speed for upcoming curves and roundabouts, is still optional.

Although rivals such as BMW, Genesis and Volvo offer three years of complimentary maintenance, Mercedes-Benz omits that benefit from its standard warranty offerings. Otherwise, all new Benz's come with an industry-standard plan that covers most things for up to four years or 50,000 miles.

ELGON PALACE HOTEL

**Elgon Palace Hotel
Is The Place To Be
While In Mbale City**



Our rooms are Single, Double, Twin and VIP/Executive. All rooms are elegantly furnished with furniture, luxury en-suite facilities with air-conditioning, flat screen LCD TV, fine linen and towels, bathrooms, direct-dial phones.

For Bookings: +256 785 114899

The Bittersweet Christmas Gift

“ Johnnie Walker Blue Label could be your best choice liquid to gift your loved one this Christmas.



Johnnie Walker Blue Label is an unrivaled masterpiece, an exquisite combination of Scotland's rarest and most exceptional whiskies. Only one in every ten thousand casks has the elusive quality, character and flavor to deliver the remarkable signature taste. It is an extraordinary whisky for extraordinary occasions.

The liquid is perhaps the most recognizable brand of premium scotch in the world. Long before there was the modern single malt craze, this blend was the bottle that



defined luxury spirits. When it debuted in 1992, \$150 was an exorbitant sum for any style of liquor. Today it sits on shelves at \$200, a drop in the bucket compared to its sherried malt counterparts.

If we are to take parent company Diageo at its word, then "only one in every 10,000 casks has the elusive quality, character and flavor to deliver the remarkable signature taste."

Although there's no way to verify that specific methodology, we can say that Blue Label is an exceptionally elegant dram suited to sipping. And it has remained remarkably consistent throughout the years.

We can never know for sure what exactly goes into the Blue because the laws of scotch whisky actually prevent a label from fully disclosing what goes into a blend. And since this particular bottling has never worn an age statement, we don't even know definitively how old its components are, although it has been reported that they are between 28 and 60 years in maturity.

For Johnnie Walker fans out there, this festive season promises to be a particularly auspicious time for their liquid of choice. The brand celebrated last year its 200th anniversary with a special edition of Blue Label built off of malt from distilleries that existed all the way back in 1820. The 28-year-old scotch carries whiskies from a handful of now-shuttered distilleries.

Patrons want something new and exclusive and that won't be around for long. In that regard, Blue Label truly is a relic. It will always be there on shelves, as reliable and resplendent as you remember it. There's nothing wrong with that.

ATTENTION WRITERS

**You Can Write For Us
From Where You Are.
We Pay For Every Story.**



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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 