



Jeffrey Mthandeni Buthelezi

Isithumba Adv. Park: site manager

Personnel information:

Jeffrey Mthandeni Buthelezi a boy of 26 years old, I was born and raise in a small Zulu village called by Isithumba Village, which is nested in the valley of 1000 hills. Jeffrey matriculated in 2006 at Nogunjwa High, then in 2007 he joined Isithumba adventures as a trainee tourist guide. He obtain a National High certificate in tourism guiding through leanership programme initiated by department of tourism from 2007 -2008. The qualification assisted him with basic skill in his tourist guiding career while he was obtaining practical experience at **Isithumba Adventures**.

In 2009 Isithumba adventures went out of business, then he lost a job. Late in 2010 he joined **street scene** as assistance tourist guide on part-time basis. From 2011 till up-to-date he joined **Durban green corridor** as tourist Guide. He has been promoted into numerous position within the Durban green corridor, currently serving as senior tourist guide and site manager of Isithumba Adventure Park. Jeffrey is a register tourist guide.

Responsibility or role

Jeffrey maintains and oversees the daily operations of the tourism centre which comprises of trail teams, site gardeners, securities, tourists guides, maintains relationship with the community and relevant stakeholders, youth as well as mountain biking programme. Also responsible for coordinating Isithumba tourism route and liaising with local service providers. My role has allowed me to liaise with tourists both local and international. I plays an important role in the drawing up of itineraries and packages of the tours that take place in the Isithumba Valley.

- Am responsible for the safety and well-being of all tourists that visit the Isithumba Valley.
- Monthly operational reports and General administration.
- Supervision of 18 staff members.
- Supporting marketing and sport and event function.
- Jeffrey is the organiser of the Zulu dance completion and Maskandi, this event is a community event where by all the Local Zulu dance group from different areas compete against each other. The aim of this event is to keep youth active and also to emphasise cultural practices.

Tertiary education:

	Qualification name	Date completed	duration
Wildways academy	National cert. in tourism: guiding level 2	2008 June	1 year
Tourism world academy	NQF level 4: nature and cultural guiding, event support and customer care.	2013 May	1 year
MANCOSA college	Bachelor in Business administration	Expected 2017	4 years



Department of Tourism	Basic Russian language training	Sept – Nov 2016	3 months

Achievements:

- April 2013 – Granted opportunity by Ethekewini municipal to visit Reunion of Island (France) for (3 weeks) international tourism learning exchange programme through sister cities relationship between Ethekewini municipal and La Port municipal.
- 2013 and 2014 – founder and organiser of annual Maskandi and Zulu dance event.
- In 2015 he was honoured with a tourism Lilizela award as best cultural tourist guide in the province of KwaZulu Natal.

About Isithumba Adventure park:

Isithumba Adventure Park

Services or activities

Hiking and Mountain Biking trails

We have 3 different types of trails that we have; River trail – 12 Km, Bush trail – 21 Km and Rock trail 8, 5 Km. these trails were built by local employed trail team and it is under the maintenance of this local trail team. This trail team is funded by EPWP and IDT funds through Durban green corridor.

All these trail are used for the following activities: hiking and nature trails, mountain biking, environment educational tour and bird watching.

Venue Hire and picnic facilities:

Our venue cater wedding functions (traditional wedding, white wedding, and garden wedding), birthday parties, year- end function and conference. The venue can accommodate 200 people on the two roundovel (conference room and dining room). We also assist with event planning advises. We have local companies that provide catering, entertainment and decoration. These are companies has experience.

Zulu Cultural village tour:

This Itinerary is for Zulu cultural tour in a Zulu village located in the valley of the 1000 hills. The duration of the tour is 3 hours, includes the walk to all the four stop points /attractions points. See below brief about four attraction point.

First attraction point: Zulu traditional healer

- At this point visitor get a chance to learn about the role of traditional healers in the community and how to become a traditional healer?, the three different types of traditional healers (sangoma, Inyanga and spiritual healer/ umthandazi), a chance to interact with the traditional healer and learning about traditional superstitious believes as well as overall about religious types within the community.

Second attraction point: Spaza shop and local shebeen.



- This point is more about experiencing local lifestyle. In the point it where local youth interact and entertain themselves, where community is able to buy daily basic things e.g. Milk, bread, toilet rolls. Also get a chance to taste Zulu beer and local meal e.g. tribe meat/ umgxabiso, veotkok/amagwinya etc.

Third attraction point: sub chief house/ headman (Induna)

- This point it is where the visitors learn about Zulu families and Zulu Architecture style (roundovel house), as meet the family members.
- Learning about traditional leadership hierarchy from the top level (King) to lower level (sub-chiefs) and their roles in rural community.
- Learning more about the Zulu culture, traditional ceremonies, rule apply in the tribes and villages and local population (how does they survive, responsibilities on individual within the community)

Forth attraction point: River (Umngeni River)

- Learn about the events that takes place at Umngeni River, both traditional (sick fighting etc.) and sport events (Duzi canoe marathon etc.).
- Learn about the Zulu dating style (creating a Zulu love bracelets using the reed grass) and learning about lobola as well.

Contacts:

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