



Ecco Chamber

FORTNIGHTLY ITALIAN NEWS MADE IN
SOUTH AFRICA

TASTE OF ITALY A CHAMBER FIRST

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Taste of Italy

A Chamber First

From the 30th to the 31st of March 2022, the **Italian Chamber** was proud to host the inaugural **Taste of Italy Food & Beverage Expo**, at the **Italian Club Bedfordview**. This was a fine opportunity for Italian food and beverage producers to exhibit quality products to an audience of South African, buyers, importers, and restaurateurs.

Taste of Italy was born out of a desire to offer a results-driven platform for Italian producers that allows entrance or expansion into the South African market and onto local tables. This was done through the online matchmaking platform, which allowed exhibitors and attendees to meet both virtually and in person, including in the **Tingelo Business Lounge** sponsored by **Tingelo Enterprises**.



Over two days, exhibitors and visitors connected around the traditionally inspired stands which framed the quality Italian products on display. Between the 12 physical exhibitors and 5 virtual exhibitors there were over 30 unique Italian products represented. Furthermore, a post-event report will be provided to all exhibitors and attendees.



Taste of Italy was also proud to offer a virtual space where producers in Italy could be part of the proceedings without a physical presence. Facilitated by **Firehouse Technology**, online business matchmaking technology ensured exhibitors and visitors were matched with the most relevant persons. Excitingly, this allowed a few exhibitors to make their first steps towards entering the South African markets through virtual attendance.



Taste of Italy

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The first day was capped off with an evening welcome cocktail graciously sponsored by **Vinotria**, and **Clearworld Suppliers**. With special guests from the Italian embassy and the wider Italian community, the event offered another opportunity for guests and exhibitors to rub shoulders in a more casual setting and to further strengthen their relations.



Over the course of the event, **Arnold Chatz Cars** ran a competition for all attendees, who stood a chance to win an Italian-themed hamper valued at R2000. A Fiat Tipo was filled with balloons, and guests were invited to guess the number of balloons. Those who didn't win the hamper however did not leave empty-handed, as everyone was offered goodie bags filled with products from exhibitors.



Following months of hard work, Italcham is proud of its achievement, reflected exclusively in the new business brought to the fantastic companies which showed confidence in this event. Numerous exhibitors reported having already secured new clients and orders. Sights are now set on 2023 for an even better second edition that will again showcase the **Taste of Italy**.

Italcham!





Italian National Day

2022 – CSI Pretoria

And another year done and dusted!

After a two year gap because of the pandemic, the 29th of May saw, at the main event, over 100 Italian beauties parked on the CBC fields in front of Club Sociale Italiano in Pretoria, for what is rapidly becoming 'The Italian Angela's Picnic'. Last time we held the event at short notice, we had a bout 50 cars, yesterday was well over a 100 cars parked on the field. Alfa, strong as always created display of cars marking out "110+2" to show the 112 years since the formation of Alfa Romeo in Italy.

Abarth Club likewise setup "83" in their display, representing 83 years of Abarth cars. Fiat, Ferrari and Maserati all had good representation too, and it was good to see a total of 6 Lancia's present. Lancia Club seemed to have been in hiding for a while so good to see them. Sadly one lone Lamborghini is time they get past 1st gear!



Bike-wise, a plentiful supply of Ducatis on the field, with some Aprilia and Moto Guzzis present, sadly quite a few IMOC regulars were out of town and not able to bring their bikes. Lastly, the Desparado's arrived en-masse on their Vespas, with the usual flourish, demonstrating why I think real motorbikes are safer after one of them dropped his scoot on the wet grass, fortunately mainly damage to his ego (he was showing off).

Very brisk trade at the stalls and restaurants saw them run out of food by mid-afternoon, despite doubling up on 2019, looking forward to 2023 and a yet bigger success. Good results in both the Moto GP and the scaletrix races with a Ducati in 1st, 4th, and 5th and an Aprilia in 3rd, and Ferrari in 2nd and 4th in the Formula 1.

Thanks to Jean Tanzino for being the club Liaison. The club will be at the Ambassador's luncheon on the 2nd and at the Consul-General's reception on the 3rd too.



Scholarships

Milano Fashion Istitution

Milano Fashion Institute, a partner of the
Embassy Of Italy in Pretoria in the project

“Fashion Bridges -I ponti della moda”,

Is offering 2 scholarships worth
8.250 euros each
(which covers half of the
Master's economic value),

To young graduates with
South African citizenship
willing to study fashion
design at one of their
Master's programs
2023.

The deadline
for applications is
November 30, 2022.

[MORE INFO](#)



Embassy of Italy
Pretoria



ANNUAL DIGEST

*2021 SA-EU trade under the
SADC-EU EPA*

Highlights for 2021

- South Africa's exports have grown by 30% in 2021, largely on the back of a strong performance by the mining and minerals and the machinery and equipment sectors. Imports have also recovered strongly growing by 15%.
- The EU remains South Africa's largest trading partner, accounting for 22% of total trade.
- South Africa recorded its first trade surplus since the implementation of the TDCA in 2004, of R15 billion in 2021.
- South Africa's exports to the EU are more diversified than to other partners. The combined exports of agri-food, vehicles and transport equipment, chemicals and plastics and machinery accounted for 54% of South Africa's export basket to the EU in 2021.
- The EU market has been especially beneficial for the agricultural sector. In 2021, export growth of agricultural products to the EU was almost double that to the rest of the world.
- As a result, South Africa remains a net exporter of agri-food products to the EU, with a positive trade balance of R11 billion, R4 billion more than in 2020.
- The three largest agricultural commodities exported to the EU are citrus, grapes, and wine, which together account for about half of all agriculture exports. Major agricultural import commodities include wheat (13%) and undenatured ethyl alcohol (8%).
- Capital and higher value-added goods account for a larger share of South Africa's exports to the EU when compared to the rest of the world.
- Motor vehicles account for the highest share of South Africa's exports to the EU, at 22% of the total.
- South Africa's preference utilisation rate (PUR) for exports to the EU was 89% in 2021.
- Based on the EPA schedule, further tariff reductions in 2022 in both South Africa and the EU will only apply to seafood products.

[FULL ARTICLE](#)

Welcoming our New Member



JOUBERT & MAY

The Rech family immigrated from Italy in 1923 from Caupo, Veneto in the Dolomites and settled in the Tzaneen area. In the same year that the Rech family purchased their farm - Roma, namely 1929, the law firm Joubert and May was started by Danie Joubert and Captain May. Mr Aldo Elisio Rech is presently the senior partner of the firm. The relationship between Joubert and May and the Rech family can be traced back to as far as 11 May 1933, when Mr Aldo Rech's grandfather consulted Mr Danie Joubert in respect of a land transaction and paid to him an amount of 8 pounds 16 shillings and 11 pence.

The firm Joubert and May has served the lowveld for a period of almost 100 years and has assisted clients in many aspects of the law such as:

- Land claims;
- Expropriations;
- Water law; and
- Law relating to all aspects of commercial agriculture and the environment.



We act on behalf of some of the largest commercial farmers in South Africa and have facilitated joint ventures between these clients and clients from Europe including: Italy, Israel, Germany and the United Kingdom.



Welcome to Italcham!!

Welcoming our New Member



cavagna group

Wherever gas is used, we are there

The Cavagna Group, a world leader in the manufacture of equipment and components for controlling all types of gases, is pleased to announce it has strengthened its Worldwide presence with the opening of a Subsidiary in South Africa servicing countries of the South African Development Community (SADC) regions.

This development is in line with the Cavagna Group's commitment to customer service and the growth agenda of expanding the existing customer base into the SADC region, through the establishment of a direct presence in Johannesburg, South Africa. Local direct operations commenced in December 2021, with the business office established in the desirable Hyde Park business district of Johannesburg. Cavagna Group South Africa will be responsible to represent and promote all the lines of businesses of Cavagna Group, not only in the LPG markets but also in the industrial gases, medical gases, natural gas regulation, metering and engineering services, including the recent acquisition of Repco Milano who are already servicing clients in the region. Cavagna Group South Africa will also stock finished products and spare parts through a distribution centre located in Johannesburg and Cape Town industrial areas that will be capable of offering after-sales support and maintenance services. South Africa is one of the most developed countries in Africa, and the Johannesburg office will be well-positioned to take advantage of trade opportunities within the SADC region. The geographic area covers approximately 10 million km², with a combined GDP of 738 Billion USD, across a population of 234 million people.



Welcome to Italcham!!