

Five-star 2010 accommodation almost fully booked

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WORLD CUP tourists are booking out upmarket establishments in Cape Town with five-star hotels nearly fully booked.

The Cape Times surveyed a number of establishments in the greater Cape Town area. Results showed high-end hotels to be booked to near capacity, while some middle-ranged establishments stood at between 50 and 70 percent.

The five-star Cape Grace Hotel at the V&A Waterfront is approximately 90 percent booked, with all group bookings taken.

"We're quite full for the period. We have the odd room

here and there still available but there aren't many. We'll definitely be fully booked by the World Cup," said a hotel reservations employee.

The five-star Table Bay Hotel at the V&A Waterfront only has five twin rooms and two family rooms available.

"There are still rooms available, but it's the bare minimum. The majority of the rooms are booked for the World Cup," the hotel's Yolisa Motsamai said.

Pepper Club, a soon-to-open hotel on Loop Street, has a recorded pre-booking for the tournament period of close to 95 percent.

"Five-star luxury hotels in upmarket urban areas are

proving to be the preferred choice for international guests visiting for the 2010 World Cup, with many of these establishments either fully booked or rapidly approaching capacity for the duration of the four-week soccer tournament," Pepper Club chairman and developer David Solomon said.

Ashanti Lodge in Green Point stands at about 60 percent capacity. "It's been constant, and we get a lot of group inquiries. I'm positive it will fill up," owner Lisa Mason said.

A Cat & Moose Backpackers' employee, who did not want to be named, said the establishment stood at about 70 percent full.

"We're getting quite a lot of overseas guests. We're expecting to fill up soon."

De Waterkant Cottages' Rochelle Davies said, although the establishment was not registered with Fifa's accommodation agent, Match, it had received a steady flow of bookings. "We're about 50 percent full and are expecting more bookings."

Capeinfo.com, which is endorsed by Cape Town Tourism, tracked changes in accommodation availability and pricing trends.

About 13 percent of the 624 establishments surveyed are fully booked.

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