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## NAVIGATING SOUTH AFRICA'S LOAD SHEDDING FOR TRAVELLERS

### What is load shedding?

Load shedding, or load reduction, is a controlled method to limit the amount of electricity being used in an area to protect the country from a total blackout. This is done through various Stages of load shedding.

- The frequency of load shedding increases as higher Stages are announced.

### Does load shedding happen every day?

It is important to note that you could visit South Africa and not experience any load shedding, but it could happen every day at different times and for periods of approximately 2 ½ - 4 hours at a time. Your place of accommodation should be able to inform you of the details.

### What will be affected by load shedding?

Depending on the type of accommodation you have, all of the list below could be affected. But many establishments have independent electricity generators.

- Electric geyser and electrically heated water supplies.
- Electric appliances such as e.g. stoves, kettles, toasters, irons etc.
- Electric lights.
- TV and hi-fi equipment.
- Wi-Fi
- Cordless phones, fax machines and answering machines that run on electricity
- Electrically motorised security gates and garage doors.
- Personal computers
- Electric air conditioning.
- Mains powered electric clocks and alarm clocks.

### What is usually not affected by load shedding?

Generally speaking, the following will continue to operate despite load shedding:

- Electronic systems and devices with battery backup or UPS support.
- Telephones that do not rely on mains electricity.
- Cell phones.
- Laptops and tablets.



### Where can I find out if my area is being load shed?

Your accommodation establishment should have the necessary information on hand to advise when load shedding is scheduled to take place. If you have a smartphone with data, you can also download such apps as EskomSePush and MyEskom (available on both the Apple iStore and Google Play Store). These will give you continuous updates on current and forecast load shedding times in any areas you select, as well as what stage load shedding is underway.

### What is the impact of load shedding for travellers?

While load shedding can be a temporary inconvenience for travellers, many accommodation providers and tourism establishments have equipped themselves with diesel-powered generators to ensure minimal inconvenience for their guests and visitors. This applies for most shopping centres and restaurants too.

- Remember, power cut times differ between regions and even within a city.
- Make sure that your phone and camera are fully charged prior to the power cuts.