



Mall of Africa set to open its doors

The 'biggest' on the continent, this stunning complex will have everything shoppers need

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AFTER much anticipation the Mall of Africa will officially open its doors to the public on Thursday. Punted as "the biggest mall in Africa", it is actually the largest single-phase shopping centre development to date at 130 000m² of retail space.

However, gazing at the crystal ball of Atterbury Property Group, the Pretoria-based mall's developers, the shopping centre is but the central beginning of a multi-million rand mixed-use complex in South Africa's economic hub and gateway to Africa.

The Mall of Africa is situated in the Waterfall Estate between Midrand and Sandton, one of the fastest growing nodes in South Africa.

According to the developers, the mall would serve as the hub of the 323ha Waterfall development project estimated to cost R71 billion to complete, with 11 more years of development still to go.

The Waterfall development is expected in the next decade or so to become around the same size as Sandton.

Developers foresee the Mall of Africa as a hub around which other amenities would be clustered and set a new benchmark in mixed-use shopping and entertainment, forming an anchor around which a range of mixed-use developments including retail, offices, hotel, conference and recreational amenities and residential areas would grow.

Large corporations including Cell C, Altech Group, Cipla and Group Five have their headquarters in the precinct and the precinct masterplan's urban design seeks to promote an integrated live-work-play environment.

The mall is co-owned by two South African property companies.

Real estate capital growth fund Attacq Limited holds the commercial development rights to Waterfall and owns 80%



The Mall of Africa situated between Pretoria and Joburg opens to the public this week.

of the Mall of Africa. Atterbury Property Group owns the remaining 20% and is responsible for the mall's development project, on behalf of Attacq.

Louis van der Watt, chief executive of Atterbury, said the Mall of Africa had been designed and developed by Africans and stood proud with leading international retail centres globally.

"We have created a new shopping experience unlike anywhere else, in which every detail of the mall caters towards understanding and delighting customers.

"We have worked hard to ensure an

exceptional shopping experience for customers that will attract discerning shoppers from our local community at Waterfall, across South Africa and all corners of the African continent," said Van der Watt.

Atterbury began the construction of the R5 billion Mall of Africa in October 2012, nearly three-and-a-half years ago.

A major benefit of Mall of Africa would be its central location in Gauteng and easy access from all areas as it is situated halfway between Joburg and Pretoria.

It would be easily accessible from

the Allandale Road exit of the N1 Highway. Atterbury undertook major roads upgrades, spending around R290 million on upgrading the road network system around the development to make it easy for shoppers to arrive at the 26 entrances of the Mall of Africa.

Opening on Thursday, the Mall of Africa will form the iconic hub of the innovative Waterfall precinct.

Boasting over 300 shops and 7 000 parking bays, the mall would have anchor tenants such as Checkers, Edgars, Game, Woolworths and Ster-Kinekor, as well as leading South African brands The Fos-

chini Group, Mr Price, and Truworths.

H&M, Zara, Hamleys, Cotton On and Forever 21 are among the international brands that would be opening flagship stores at the mall.

Clicks Pharmacy would open its 500th shop at the mall.

Atterbury says over 90% of available retail space has been let to date.

Apart from shopping, the Mall of Africa promises to offer a choice of world-class entertainment and restaurants.

There will be nine state-of-the-art cinemas, including IMAX and Cine Prestige.