

# Guest houses to benefit from 2010

**Penwell Dlamini**

GUEST houses and B&B accommodation facilities are starting to get more bookings for the 2010 FIFA World Cup as iconic five-star hotels are becoming fully booked.

A recent survey conducted by *Sowetan* among five-star hotels in Johannesburg revealed that finding accommodation between June 11 and July 11 this year will soon become hard.

Of the 10 five-star hotels surveyed, all were fully booked for the FIFA World Cup period.

Some hotels said FIFA had taken over the entire facility during the World Cup.

In Cape Town a R400 million Pepper Club, which is yet to be opened, is already 95 percent pre-booked for the soccer

tournament.

David Solomon of Solomon Brothers Property Holdings, which developed Pepper Club, said owners of guest houses and B&Bs should not be concerned because they stand to benefit from this.

"As long as rates are competitively priced, smaller players will benefit as the tournament draws nearer," Solomon said.

He said hotels in urban areas close to shopping centres, tourist attractions and nightlife are best placed to attract the majority of international visitors.

Carol Cooper of Cooper Craft B&B in Randburg is happy with her bookings.

"We are more than 40 percent booked and the tournament is still four months away," she said.

