

The African Telatelist

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SOCCER WORLD CUP 2010 STADIUMS – PETER MOKABA, POLOKWANE

The Peter Mokaba Stadium is a soccer stadium in Polokwane (formerly known as Pietersburg), used for the 2010 FIFA World Cup. When completed in 2010 it will have a capacity of at least 46 000. It was named for Peter Mokaba, a former leader of the ANC Youth League. It is located 5 km from the city centre and is located just east of the existing Pietersburg Stadium

The stadium is one of five new stadiums built for the 2010 FIFA World Cup tournament. Initial plans to upgrade the current Peter Mokaba Stadium were abandoned in favour of the new R1 245 000 000 Peter Mokaba stadium.

The stadium will be used intensely for training and matches. Therefore the natural grass will be reinforced with artificial fibres, which anchors the field into a stable and a level grass surface: Desso GrassMaster.

Named after one of the renowned sons of the struggle and emancipation of South Africa against the apartheid regime, the Peter Mokaba Stadium holds much historical significance in South Africa. Peter Mokaba was born and bred in Polokwane and was renowned for his fighting spirit and for his inspirational leadership.

The design of the largely concrete structure is inspired by the locally iconic Baobab tree, with the steel structure supporting the roof plane gathered together at each corner of the stadium and supported by giant 'trunk' structures which accommodate vertical circulation ramps and service cores.

The stadium was built next to the old Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane.

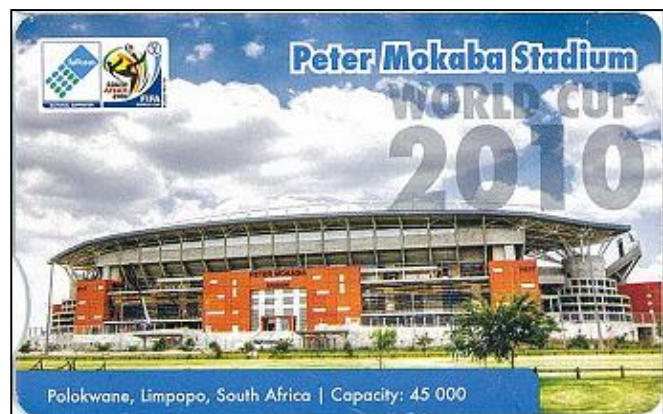
Former African player of the Year, Didier Drogba remains one of the biggest stars to play at this venue when he played for Côte d'Ivoire in a memorable and decisive CAF African Cup of Nations qualifier against South Africa at the old Peter Mokaba Stadium, with the home side prevailing 2-1.

2010 World Cup

The stadium hosted the following four FIFA 2010 Soccer World Cup group matches:

Date	Team 1	Res	Team 2	Round
13 Jun 10	Algeria	0-1	Slovenia	Group C
17 Jun 10	France	0-2	Mexico	Group A
22 Jun 10	Greece	0-2	Argentina	Group B
24 Jun 10	Paraguay	0-0	New Zealand	Group F

The stadium saw only five FIFA Soccer World Cup goals in 2010 – none by a losing side!



Source: Wikipedia.
Anton de Klerk.