

Nestled in the heart of Muhanga town, the Splendid Hotel lives up to its name, offering a blend of beauty and elegance that makes it a standout destination. With its grandeur self-contained rooms, delectable cuisine, and state-of-the-art conference facilities, all delivered with impeccable service, the hotel has become a beacon of hospitality in Southern Province.



Opened in 2008 as the first hotel in Muhanga, Splendid Hotel has not only maintained its position as a leader in the local hospitality industry but has also embarked on an ambitious expansion plan. It remains one of the most popular hotels in town, attracting a diverse clientele who appreciate its serene environment and beautiful views of Muhanga's rolling hills. The hotel is also conveniently linked to various shops, restaurants, and bars, making it a perfect base for visitors exploring the area.

Narcisse Kayitare, the proprietor of Splendid Hotel, recalls the early days when the town was in dire need of hotel services. Encouraged by the government's ambitious development agenda, he took on the challenge of investing in the area's development. However, the initial phase was challenging, as many locals were not yet accustomed to using hotel services, resulting in a low customer base. But today, the situation has dramatically changed. Splendid Hotel has expanded its offerings, now providing lodging, dining, event hosting, and conference facilities, all of which have seen increasing demand.

The hotel has played a significant role in enhancing the hospitality sector in Muhanga, contributing to the local economy by creating jobs, generating tax revenue for both central and local governments, and supporting local suppliers, including farmers.



*Narcisse Kayitare, the proprietor of Splendid Hotel*

Starting with just 17 rooms, Splendid Hotel has added more rooms, catering to a diverse range of guests, and boasts five conference halls. Recent additions include a swimming pool, children's amenities, further broadening the hotel's appeal.

Kayitare notes that their initial target was Muhanga residents, travelers passing through the town, and professionals seeking a tranquil work environment.

“Rwandans have come to appreciate Splendid Hotel, and they always return,” he says proudly.

Muhanga’s strategic location as the main gateway to the Southern and Western Provinces has made the town a popular stopover for travelers, who are treated to the superb services at Splendid Hotel.

Conference services at Splendid Hotel are on the rise, with the hotel now collaborating with various organizations that choose Muhanga as a meeting venue. The hotel management is also planning to introduce additional amenities, including sports facilities and more children’s activities, some of which are already in progress.



Kayitare acknowledges that the introduction of new services has been gradual, partly due to the slow uptake of customers, which he attributes to the underdeveloped tourism sector in Muhanga. The region lacks unique attractions to draw tourists and encourage longer stays, which has limited the potential for tourism-driven growth.

Another challenge faced by the hotel is the shortage of skilled personnel, which has led the management to rely on on-the-job training—a solution with its own limitations.



Muhanga town also grapples with water shortages that impact businesses, and the high cost of electricity remains a concern. Kayitare calls on the government to invest in infrastructure improvements that would benefit local businesses.

Despite these challenges, Kayitare is optimistic about the future. He applauds the government’s efforts in the progress of the area and for the last 30 years, businesses and citizens have been put at the centre of development. He also believes that Muhanga has untapped tourism potential that, if developed, could significantly enhance the local economy by attracting more visitors.