

Five things you'll pay more for in 2018

Budget 2018 is an austerity budget. In a nutshell, the country has been spending more than it earns so we have to tighten our belt, and pay a bit more in tax. So it's not surprising that the so-called sin taxes kicked in, and you'll pay more again this year for beer, ciggies and that latest iPhone.



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Five things that will cost more:

1. Alcohol and tobacco

Excise duties on the not so healthy items in our baskets increase from 1 March 2018. A pack of 20 cigarettes will cost R1.22 more and 25g of pipe tobacco will cost 38 cents more. Wine lovers will pay 30 cents more for a one-litre bottle, and when you're celebrating with a bottle of sparkling wine you'll need an extra 97 cents. Spirit drinkers will pay R4.80 more for a 750ml bottle of their favourite tippie. Beer and cider drinkers need deeper pockets too. 340ml cans of malt beer and cider increase by 14 cents.

2. Sugary beverages

Sugary drinks will be taxed if they contain more than 4g of sugar per 100ml. You can find the sugar content on the drink's nutrition label. A 340ml can of a well-known soda contains 10g of sugar per 100ml. For every gram over the 4g limit, an extra 2.1c is levied. Your can that cost R10 will cost R10.12 from 1 April 2018.

3. Petrol and diesel

On 4 April, the price of petrol will increase by 52 cents a litre, 30 cents of this is for the road accident fund levy and 22 cents for the general fuel levy.

4. Plastic bags and incandescent light bulbs

The plastic bag levy increases to 12 cents a bag on 1 April, and there's an increase from R6 to R8 on incandescent light bulbs. Switching to energy efficient light bulbs will save you some money.

5. Luxury goods

Electronics, cosmetics, smartphones and golf balls, among others, incur tax of between 5 and 7%, this will increase to

7 – 9%.

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