

# Durban

**Province:** Kwazulu-Natal

**Population:** 3 064 624

**Weather (June/July):** Durban enjoys a very temperate climate with sunshine for at least 320 days of the year. Winter temperatures range from 16 to 25° C.

**Geography:** The east of Durban is adjacent to the warm Indian Ocean and the west of the city is bordered by the Drakensberg Mountains. To the south lies the colder Atlantic Ocean.

**Altitude:** 0m

## Closest Airport:

Durban International

Help desk Tel: 031 451 6758

Flight information Tel: 086 72 77 888

Website: [webmaster@acsa.co.za](mailto:webmaster@acsa.co.za)

## Tourist information:

Tourism KwaZulu-Natal

Tel: 031 366 7500

Email: [ksznta@iafrica.com](mailto:ksznta@iafrica.com)

Website: [www.toursim-kzn.org](http://www.toursim-kzn.org)

## Taxi Services

Durban taxis are metered and are best ordered in advance. Taxi & Shuttle services operate from the airport.

### Zippy Cabs

Tel: 031 202 7067/8

Website: [www.zippycabs.co.za](http://www.zippycabs.co.za)

### Umhlanga Rocks Taxis (Ucabs)

Tel: 031 561 1846

Website: [www.ucabs.co.za](http://www.ucabs.co.za)

### Mozzie Cabs

Tel: 031 303 5787 or local toll share: 086 066 9943

Website: [www.mozzie.co.za](http://www.mozzie.co.za)

## Emergency Services

Any Emergency (Public service): 107 (not from mobile phones)

Any Emergency (Public service): 112 (only from mobile phones)

Ambulance (Public service): 10177

Automobile Association Emergency Rescue: 0800 01 01 01

Automobile Association Medical Rescue: 0800 033 007

Flying Squad – Police: 10111

Netcare Emergency response (Private service): 082 911

## Hospitals

### **Entabeni Hospital**

148 South Ridge Road, Berea  
Tel: 031 204 1300  
Email: Susan.West@lifehealthcare.co.za

### **Umhlanga Private Hospital**

323 Umhlanga Rocks Drive, Umhlanga  
Tel: 031 5605500

### **Parklands Private Hospital**

75 Hopelands Road, Overport  
Tel: 031 242 4000

### **Westville Private Hospital**

7 Spine Road, Westville  
Tel: 031 251 6911  
Email: Tricia.Stoole@lifehealthcare.co.za

### **St Augustine's Hospital**

107 Chelmsford Road  
Tel: 031 268 5000

## Bars

### **Bean Bag Bohemia**

18 Windermere Road, Morningside  
This well established bar/restaurant is a must do for all visitors to Durban. It comprises a two storey National Monument building built in 1885 and has an open courtyard where one can dine al fresco. A good start to any night out on the town.  
Website: [www.beanbagbohemia.co.za](http://www.beanbagbohemia.co.za)

### **Zack's**

Shop 23, Wilson's Wharf, 14 Boatman's Road  
A jazz bar/restaurant situated on the water's edge. Enjoy smooth jazz and blues on Wednesday evenings or Sunday sessions starting at 15h00 while enjoying a drink or some fine food.  
[www.zacks.co.za](http://www.zacks.co.za)

## Clubs & Nightlife

### **Vacca Matta**

An excellent spot for cocktails at sunset as it overlooks the Indian Ocean. Café Vacca Matte is an excellent party venue and famous for their themed parties and choreographed coyote-style dancing. The place to be seen.  
Address: Sun Coast Casino  
Tel: 031 368 6535  
Website: [www.vaccamatta.co.za](http://www.vaccamatta.co.za)

### **Joe Cools**

THE place to be on Durban's beachfront. Great views and perfect for sundowners, boasting 5 bars. Stay until late as Joe Cools transforms into a hot nightspot playing hits from the 80's and 90's as well as the latest commercial tunes.

Address: Durban Beachfront

Tel: 031 332 9698

Website: [www.joecools.co.za](http://www.joecools.co.za)

### **80's**

This club has a great vibe and is highly popular among the locals. The music makes for a lot of dancing and fun and there are pool tables for those who would rather chill out.

Address: Walter Gilbery Road, Kingspark

Tel: 082 954 7396

### **Tiger Tiger**

This hotspot is definitely one of the best in Durban. Tiger tiger plays all the old and new commercial hits that get everyone on the dance floor.

Address: 15 Mitchell Crescent, Greyville

Tel: 031 303 7681

## **Restaurants**

**Cuisine** R150+ per person

**Informal** R80 – R150 per person

### **Baanthai Restaurant** **Informal**

This enchanting Thai restaurant serves many small dishes with the idea of being able to enjoy a variety of flavours. Good food and service.

Address: 138 Florida Rd, Morningside

Tel: 031 303 4270

Website: [www.baanthai.co.za](http://www.baanthai.co.za)

### **Café 1999** **Cuisine** **Informal**

Great vibe as well as innovative and creative preparation of dishes of contemporary and Mediterranean food. There is an extensive wine list.

Address: Shop 2, Silverause Centre, Berea

Website: [www.cafe1999.co.za](http://www.cafe1999.co.za)

### **Bangkok Wok** **Cuisine**

Excellent Thai food with contemporary Zen décor. Bangkok Wok's sister restaurant is situated right on the beachfront at Wilson Wharf.

Address: 116 Florida Road, Morningside

Tel: 031 303 8250

Website: [www.bangkokwok.co.za](http://www.bangkokwok.co.za)

### **Rainbow Terrace** **Cuisine**

This fine restaurant boasts an impressive breakfast and lunch buffet. There is an extensive offering of seafood and the restaurant African themed with an outside terrace.

Address: Hilton Hotel, Walnut Road, Durban CBD

Tel: 031 336 8100  
Website: [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com)

### **Fabulous Moroccan Restaurant** Cuisine

Belly dancing on Friday and Saturday nights. Open for dinner only. You can enjoy Moroccan delicacies in one of the Harem Rooms, the Marrakech Room downstairs or sit in the herb fragranced Perfume Garden. Excellent night out.

Address: 37 St. Thomas Road, off Botanical Gardens Road

Tel: 031 201 7292

Website: [www.fabulousrestaurant.co.za](http://www.fabulousrestaurant.co.za)

### **Havana Grill and Wine Bar** Cuisine

All meat and seafood lovers will enjoy this restaurant with its wine bar, cigar bar and good vibe. The 180 degree views from the Havana Grill and Wine Bar are excellent.

Address: Shop 22, Suncoast World of Entertainment, Durban's Golden Mile

Tel: 031 337 1305

### **Roma Revolving Restaurant** Cuisine

Being a revolving restaurant in a tall building in the Durban city centre, this establishment boasts 360°C views of Durban. Not only are the views fantastic, but the Italian menu is impressive...if you are willing to pay the premium for such a view.

Address: 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor, John Ross House, Esplanade, Victoria Embankment

Tel: 031 368 2275

Website: [www.roma.co.za](http://www.roma.co.za)

## **Attractions**

### **Wilson's Warf**

This attraction overlooks Durban Harbour and the Natal Royal Yacht Club. There is a browser's market with stalls selling arts and crafts, curios, clothing etc. Up market restaurants line this strip with offerings of exotic seafood.

### **Durban Waterfront**

The Durban Waterfront consists of 4km of beautiful beachfront stretching from Addington in the south to Club Blue Lagoon in the north. This relaxed atmosphere is a welcome change from the bustle of the CBD.

### **uShaka Marine World**

This "marine themed" venue will keep you busy for the whole day. There is a dolphinarium and daily shows with dolphins, penguins and seals. Restaurants, shops, water slides and pools as well as beach and surf action will satisfy any adventure seeker.

Website: [www.ushakamarineworld.co.za](http://www.ushakamarineworld.co.za)

### **The Natal Sharks Board**

This is a surround sound presentation on what the NSB does as well as an illustration of the role of sharks and other marine animals in the marine ecosystem. This fascinating presentation comes recommended as it is highly interesting.

Address: 1a Harwood Drive, Umhlanga

Tel: 031 566 0400

Website: [www.shark.co.za](http://www.shark.co.za)

### **Umgeni River Bird Park**

One can amble around this bird park and view waterfalls as well as walk through their impressive aeries and view some of the rarest birds in the world.

Tel: 021 579 4600

Website: [www.umgeniriverbirdpark.co.za](http://www.umgeniriverbirdpark.co.za)

### **Mitchell Park**

Beautiful park and picnic spot with a delightful tea garden and small zoo.

Address: Corner of Innes and Ferndale Roads, Morningside.

Tel: 031 3032275

Website: [www.durbanandall.co.za](http://www.durbanandall.co.za)

### **Durban Botanic Gardens**

This popular picnic spot has an impressive cycad collection, a Braille trail, the Ernest Thorpe Orchid House, a herb garden, sunken garden, a tea garden and a useful information centre.

Address: Off Sydenham Road

Tel: 031 309 1170

### **Bergtheil Local History Museum**

This fascinating museum is situated in the oldest house in Westville, dating back to the 1840s. It includes, among other things, exhibits revolving around the first German settlers to Natal.

Address: 16 Queen's Avenue, Westville

Tel: 031 203 7107

## **Outdoor**

Coral reef scuba diving and shark diving

Aqua Planet Dive Centre (Website: [www.aquaplanet.co.za](http://www.aquaplanet.co.za))

Mountain Biking & Cycling

Rock climbing and abseiling

Kite Surfing

Paragliding

Sea Kayaking

Hiking & Kloofing

## **Shopping Centre's & Markets**

### **The Pavillion**

Jack Martens Drive, Westville

Tel: 031 265 0558

Fax: 031 265 0367

Website: [www.thepav.co.za](http://www.thepav.co.za)

### **Gateway Shopping Centre**

No. 1 Palm Boulevard

Umhlanga Ridge

Tel: 031 566 2332

Website: [www.gatewayworld.co.za](http://www.gatewayworld.co.za)

### **Sanlam Centre**

Pinetown  
Tel: 021 529 9799/8  
Fax: 021 529 9795  
Website: [www.durban.co.za/aff/sanlamcentre/](http://www.durban.co.za/aff/sanlamcentre/)

### **Florida Road**

Florida Road, Durban is a vibrant and happening street lined with boutique shops, restaurants, bars.

### **Stadium**

King Senzangakhona Stadium  
Situated 6kms from Durban's city centre  
Capacity: 60 000

### **Unsafe Areas**

It is not safe to walk anywhere near the beachfront area after 18h00. This also applies to the CBD.

### **Safety Tips**

Avoid walking alone after dark. Stick to crowded areas and keep your belongings close and concealed. Rather take a taxi than walk through unlit areas. Don't exhibit mobile phones, cameras, cash or valuables in the open. Watch out for pick-pockets.

Street children and beggars may approach you for a hand out. Many social workers counsel against giving money to the children as it usually gets handed over to some older figure or is used for sniffing glue. If you wish to do good for these children, rather give them food.

When driving, keep car doors locked and be aware of loiterers standing around at traffic lights. You should also be aware of who is in the immediate vicinity when getting into or out of your vehicle in the parking lot at the supermarket or mall.

It's advisable not to leave bags, cameras, mobile phones etc lying around on car seats, thieves are known to break the windows, snatch valuables and disappear into the crowd.

Ensure that hired or borrowed vehicles are reliable, recent models that have been serviced recently. Make sure that you have sufficient fuel for your journey and avoid stopping unnecessarily on the highway.