

# KWAZULU-NATAL

## Incentive Guide and Catalogue



## The Zulu Kingdom World's best kept secret

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business events destination  
never to be forgotten



Durban KwaZulu-Natal  
CONVENTION BUREAU



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**The Durban KwaZulu-Natal Convention Bureau** is an independent body dedicated to promoting and marketing the region's many business tourism facilities, capabilities and assets, both nationally and internationally. As such, we are perfectly equipped to help plan delegates' itineraries and provide marketing collateral while offering relevant on-site event support and assisting meeting planners to create a unique experience. Committed to transforming Durban and KwaZulu-Natal into South Africa's premier

meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions destination, we can provide organisers, planners and business tourists with the latest information and unbiased advice.

Whether you require assistance with planning and organising your conference in Durban or anywhere in KwaZulu-Natal, information on accommodation and places of interest or simply want to provide feedback on your experience to an independent source, the Durban KwaZulu-Natal Convention Bureau is your first port of call.

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Durban KwaZulu-Natal  
CONVENTION BUREAU



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## ONCE IN A LIFETIME – DURBAN TO DRAKENSBERG

– the ultimate KwaZulu-Natal incentive programme can be found within this catalogue

## FOREWORD

KwaZulu-Natal is rich in its diversity of people and experiences. The province has “something” which offers visitors leisure, cultural and action adventures ranging from the bush, the berg, the battlefields, the beaches to the “Big Five” wildlife.

Styled as the Zulu Kingdom, KwaZulu-Natal has incentive activities which are varied and numerous, in the setting of magnificent vistas and modern facilities, and conducted by operators of the highest standard who are able to create itineraries to suit a wide variety of requirements.

It’s a kingdom where the “Spirit of Summer” flourishes all year round. KwaZulu-Natal is one of South Africa’s most important tourism provinces and is an area renowned for its conservation efforts, natural attractions, pre-historic and historical sites.

Two excellent examples of incentive programmes which this province can offer are, firstly, an itinerary that includes some of the excellent 4- to 5-star hotels of Durban with some of Africa’s best spas on the Midlands Meander and the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park.

The Drakensberg mountains are renowned for rock art evidence of the early San people or Bushmen, and this was one of the reasons why it was declared a World Heritage site. It is also regarded as one of the world’s most important examples of an erosional mountain.

Some of KwaZulu-Natal’s most fascinating historical sites are the battlefields of Blood River, Isandlwana, Rorke’s Drift, Talana, Colenso and Spionkop. These are all found in close vicinity that this magnificent mountain range.

One of the most exciting elements



James Seymour

of such a programme includes a “helicopter flip” over some of the highest peaks at the top of the “Berg” which includes sipping a glass of champagne at the edge of the mountain’s escarpment.

The Durban component of this programme can include a visit to the Inanda Heritage Route. This includes a visit to **Mahatma Gandhi’s** Ashram in Phoenix. This route also includes the Ohlange Educational Institute and home of Rev **John Dube**, the first president of the African National Congress.

This is the site where **Nelson Mandela** cast his first vote and went on to report, to Rev Dube at his gravesite, which is also found in the grounds of this Institute that “we are finally free”. This symbolically also represented the end of former President Mandela’s “long walk to freedom”.

Another fascinating element of such a programme could be a visit to the Victoria Street market and the Warwick Triangle markets. This is a rich example of business practices of the biggest Indian population concentrations outside mainland India, to the arts and crafts of the famous Zulu people.

We are also proud of our “beach culture” that is influenced by a range of world-class beaches, internationally-recognised surf spots and shark diving reefs. These can be experienced just to the north and south of Durban at sites such as “Aliwal Shoal”.

This scuba diving site is regarded as one of the top 10 shark diving experiences in the world.

Close by is the famous Oriba Gorge, which includes one of the third most significant “bungy swings” on the globe.

These Durban experiences can also be weaved into a second incentive programme which includes the iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage sites, game reserves such as Hluhluwe-iMfolozi, South Africa’s oldest game reserve where the white rhino was saved from extinction; and Tembe Elephant Park, which reportedly has the biggest elephant in Africa.

Some of Africa’s finest private game reserves, such as Phinda and Thanda, can be used as excellent bases to savour these experiences and other experiences such as turtle spotting, whale watching and diving the reefs off Sodwana Bay.

Sodwana Bay’s reefs are the southernmost coral reefs of Africa and one of the world’s top 10 diving sites.

This rich heritage and tourism environment will assist in ensuring your incentive delegates not only have a rich, meaningful incentive, but an experience which will extend their knowledge of, and broader understanding of, this region and its diverse resources.

Yours in business tourism.

**James Seymour**  
**CEO: Durban KwaZulu-Natal**  
**Convention Bureau**



# KwaZulu-Natal ... delivering life-changing incentive trips



Amanda Kotze-Nhlapo

South Africa's third-smallest province, KwaZulu-Natal, has a wealth of scenic and cultural attractions that include the country's most popular beaches lying to the south and north of Durban.

From its mountains, rolling hills and pristine beaches to World Heritage sites and a perennially warm climate, KwaZulu-Natal is always ready to welcome incentive participants.

Add to that its bushveld reserves to the north, historic battlefields and the dramatic Drakensberg mountains, and you can see why it's popular with incentives.

South Africa's self-styled playground province is home to two World Heritage sites: the iSimangaliso Wetland Park and the uKhahlamba-Drakensberg Park. This 332 000ha wetland park features three lake systems, eight eco-systems, swamp forests, pristine reefs, Africa's largest estuarine system, more than 500 bird species and some of the highest sand dunes in the world.

Game and nature reserves, unspoilt beaches and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park dominate the Elephant Coast north of the port city of Durban, while the Sapphire and Hibiscus coasts to the south comprise small holiday towns, holiday accommodation and numerous Blue Flag beaches.

Culturally speaking, KwaZulu-Natal is a mix of Zulu, Indian and colonial influences, with each heritage reflected in historical and cultural trails, architecture, township cuisine and Durban's fine Indian curries.

So, whatever it is you are looking for, Durban and KwaZulu-Natal will always be in a position to deliver life-changing incentive trips. We extend a warm welcome to our beautiful country, and look forward to seeing you soon. ■

## KZN has beach, bush and berg

I recently had a meeting with a few key players in the MICE tourism sector in KwaZulu-Natal and I was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm among them.

KwaZulu-Natal really needs more credit than what is currently given by industry peers.

We, as DMCs all know that incentive groups focus on the "sea and safari" combo, which inevitably includes a private lodge safari experience in the north and Cape Town in the south.

Well, guess what? KwaZulu-Natal has safari, sea and mountains. While most incentive groups might go for the classic South African programme on a first round, there is no reason why they shouldn't consider a second trip to South Africa, but into a different region with completely different offerings.

Local Site member, **Bradley Glen** of Inside Edge, related an amazing programme they had recently run for an international incentive group. This included a combination of luxury accommodation in Umhlanga and Phinda Game Reserve, three hours north of Durban.

The activities were "once-in-a-lifetime" and included a private beach day and swimming with whale sharks.

KwaZulu-Natal offers a vast array

of unique experiences for all types of MICE groups and events. Game lodge offerings have expanded over recent years and can accommodate from tight budgets right up to superb luxury experiences.

New hotels and venues have mushroomed and old ones renovated back to former glory.

There certainly is no lack of historical experiences. Dating back more than 200 years, the Zulu Kingdom is firmly set in the history books.

Then we had the Anglo Boer War towards the end of the 19th Century, with the Battlefields making for some interesting discoveries. No visit to Durban would be complete without a smattering of civil rights activist **Mahatma Ghandi**, not to mention a taste of real Durban curry.

From an adventure angle, it is "Adrenaline Junkie Paradise", along with many athletic events taking place in the province each year.

Disciplines include the Comrades Marathon, regular international surfing contests, the Dusi Canoe marathon and the Midmar Mile swimming contest, to mention but a few.

In addition, they have sharks ... yes, you can meet them up-close-and-

personal; you can get to swim with a whale shark; you can swoosh over the highest zipline in the world ... I need another page to write about that.

The Durban International Convention Centre attracts many and massive events into the region, having excellent capacity with many surrounding hotels and venues to support smaller events.

Great news is that hotel and lodge operations, DMCs and tour operators are starting to work together with the Durban-KwaZulu-Natal Convention Bureau to help give the region the recognition it deserves. ■



Tes Proos



# KwaZulu-Natal South Coast – a gem in the making

By Tes Proos, Site Southern Africa president

It has been years since I visited the South Coast of Kwa Zulu Natal. Once upon a time it was the hub of South African holiday makers and fell out of favour for a number of years.

A few months ago I returned on a familiarisation trip, having heard some positive noises about developments in the region. I was pleasantly surprised with what I found. Many of the “old favourites” have been refurbished and restored to their former glory and more in the process. Margate even boasts a brand new hotel – The Desroches - with elegant conference space and in the process of expanding into small convention centre, as well as a great new Sky Bar with capacity for up to 500 guests, great for cocktail events and welcome parties.

Wild Coast Sun near Port Edward, was refurbished last year and still offers the largest conference space in the region with capacity for up to 900 guests.

The brand new Oribi Gorge Lodge is breath taking with only 6 luxury suites overlooking the gorge. The nearby Zip-lining operation offers one of the highest and longest ziplines in the world

## SOME FAST FACTS ABOUT THE REGION:

- Geographic spread: Umkomaas – Port Edward and the Wild Coast, stretching into the hinterland including the Oribi Gorge and Weza Ingeli Forests.
- 365 days a year destination – 9 months of warm summer, 3 months of perfect winter
- 120km of pristine beaches
- Hinterland offerings – breathtaking gorges, forests, farming scenes
- 6 internationally recognised Blue Flag Beaches
- The greatest shoal on earth – 700 000 000 sardines visit the shores between July and August each year, making for significant oceanic activity

- Deep sea charters, shoreline fishing, inland dam fishing
- Home to 2 of the top 10 dives sites in the world
- Hosts national and international sporting events – infrastructure available



How often does your conference or incentive programme **BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY** you live in?

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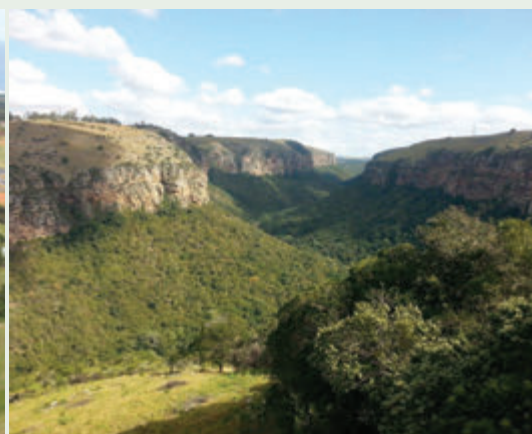
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### Continued from page 3

- Home to over 14 key annual events including Africa Bike Week – shows work of world class event organisers and facilities available
  - Total of 230 events throughout the year – showing diversity of offerings throughout geographic area of the South Coast.
  - 14 diverse birding routes and 365 species of birds – managed by national association – no harm to animals
  - Cultural festivals – traditional Zulu settings, homesteads, authentic cast, dancers
  - Direct flights from OR Tambo, Johannesburg – 90 minute flight plus many private helipads
  - 11 Golf courses
  - Over 42 sporting disciplines and 17 sporting clubs such as hiking, water rafting, abseiling, rock climbing, excellent MTB terrain, forests, beaches, mountains with over 59 adventure sporting members of Tourism – facilitation of facilities under one roof
  - Host to national and international events such as multi discipline Africa Expedition, SA Women's Golf, SA Schools Netball, beach events and competitions, Triathlons
  - Game reserve plus 9 nature reserves
  - 322 Guest houses and B&B's
  - 28 hotels, resorts and lodges
  - 44 conference venues
  - 52 restaurants
  - 4 contemporary shopping centres
  - Lighthouses and shipwrecks
- KZN South Coast is a golfing mecca, with 9 championship golf course, including Wild Coast Sun, San Lameer, Selbourne and Southbroom. San Lameer has been expanded and now offers additional team building facilities and a new Camelot Spa.
- There is no shortage of adventure opportunities, ideal for executive getaways and team building. Activities range from abseiling, hiking and zip-lining in Oribi Gorge, Shark diving in Umkomaas, mountain biking and moto-cross riding. One of the latest additions is the exhilarating Dezzi Racetrack, especially designed for drifting!
- Great news is that brand new highways are being constructed while Margate's main road has been completely resurfaced.
- When you go visit, keep your eyes peeled for some famous faces - the area has become increasingly popular for international film making, which brings about all sorts of new opportunities for tourism development. ■



## Want to know more about business events in KwaZulu-Natal?

**Durban KwaZulu-Natal**  
CONVENTION BUREAU



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**SOUTH COAST CONFERRING ESTABLISHMENTS**

CONFERENCE VENUE	AREA	PHONE NUMBER
Banana Beach Holiday Resort	Banana Beach	039 681 3229
Ugu Sports & Leisure Centre	Gamalakhe	039 315 0422
Carousel Holiday Resort	Hibberdene	039 699 2406
Khaya Lamanzi Lodge & Conferencing	Hibberdene	039 699 3909
Mzimayi River Lodge B&B	Hibberdene	039 699 3077
Ingeli Forest Lodge	Ingeli	039 553 0600
Izotsha Creek	Izotsha	082 447 5147
Happy Wanderers	Kelso	039 975 1104
T O Strand Holiday Resort	Leisure Bay	039 319 2729
Desroches Hotel	Margate	039 312 0435
Margate Country Club	Margate	039 312 0571
Margate Hotel	Margate	039 312 1410
Margate Sands	Margate	039 312 8100
Margate Sports School Group	Margate	039 317 4234
Oasis Lodge	Margate	039 312 2727
Lake Eland Game Reserve	Oribi Gorge	039 687 0395
Oribi Gorge Hotel	Oribi Gorge	039 687 0253
The Gorge Private Game Lodge & Spa	Oribi Gorge	039 687 4000
Hillbillion Estate	Oslo Beach	082 524 7209
Oslo Beach Lodge	Oslo Beach	039 685 4807
The Gorgez View	Paddock	039 679 1345
Botha House	Pennington	039 975 1227
Port Edward Holiday Resort	Port Edward	039 311 2333
Premier Hotel Edwardian	Port Edward	039 311 3618
The Estuary Country Hotel	Port Edward	039 311 2675
The Pont Holiday and Water Sport Resort	Port Edward	039 311 2211
Wild Coast Sun	Port Edward	039 305 9111
Kapenta Bay Hotel	Port Shepstone	039 682 5528
Port Shepstone Country Club	Port Shepstone	039 695 0140
Spillers Wharf	Port Shepstone	082 882 2187
Rocky Bay Resorts	Rocky Bay	039 976 0336
San Lameer Resort Hotel and Spa	San Lameer	039 313 0011
Blue Marlin Hotel	Scottburgh	039 978 3361
Cutty Sark Hotel	Scottburgh	039 976 1230
The House of the Rising Sun	Scottburgh	039 978 2769
Honeywood	Seapark	039 695 1036
Paradise Holiday Resort	Southbroom	039 313 0655
Southbroom Country Club	Southbroom	039 316 6026
White Shores Guest House	Southbroom	039 316 6534
Dieu-Donneé River Lodge	Southport	073 993 4008
St. Michaels Sands Hotel	St Michael's	039 315 1230
Royston Hall	Umtentweni	039 695 0083
Umdlalo Lodge	Umtentweni	039 695 0224
Umtunzi Hotel & Conference	Umtentweni	039 695 0852
Venture Inn Hotel & Conferencing	Umtentweni	039 695 0110
Pumula Beach Hotel	Umtentweni	039 684 6717
Stepward Estate	Uvongo	039 315 5926

**VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES**  
 Scottburgh 039 976 1364  
 Hibberdene 039 699 3203  
 Ezinqoleni 039 687 7561  
 Shelly Centre 039 315 7065  
 Margate 039 312 2322  
 Southbroom 039 316 6139  
 Munster 039 319 1193

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# Markets of Warwick tour adds value to City of Durban

**M**arkets of Warwick tour is a 2,5- hour walking tour through nine distinct markets in Warwick Junction. Warwick Junction lies on the edge of Durban's inner city and is the primary public transport interchange in the city with the confluence of rail, taxi and bus transport, accommodating an average of 460 000 commuters, and at least 6 000 street vendors in these markets.

Markets to be visited include the Muthi (herb), Brook Street, Early

Morning, Victoria Street, Berea Station, Music Bridge, Lime and Impepho, Beads and Bovine Head markets.

Tours are guided by trained informal traders and a Traders Against Crime (TAC) member. Visitors will be able to experience the vitality and energy in this unique South African urban space and the value it gives the City of Durban.

Tours are run twice daily except Sundays. Booking is essential. Tour time(s): 9:30–12:00 and 13:00–15:30 (approx 3km walk). Tours start and

end at Victoria Street Market, located in 151 Bertha Mkhize Street (formerly Victoria Street), Durban.

Underground parking is available from this market. Meeting spot's outside the Coffee Shop area inside the Victoria Street Market, on the ground floor. Cost: R100 per person and group bookings of eight people and more, fee is discounted to R70 per person. Children under 12 years are free of charge when accompanied by a minimum of two adults. ■



## An authentic African urban experience!

- 2,5 hour walking tour.
- Two tours per day, except Sunday.
- Experience the vitality and energy of this urban space.
- Tours start and end at Victoria Street Market.
- Cost: R100 per person
- Children under 12 free but must be accompanied by minimum of two adults.
- Group bookings of eight or more, fee is discounted to R70 per person.





# ONCE IN A LIFETIME

## *DURBAN TO DRAKENSBERG*







# KWAZULU-NATAL – AN UNDISCOVERED GEM FOR INCENTIVES

BY IRENE COSTA

EDITOR OF BUSINESS EVENTS AFRICA



Set against the backdrop of majestic mountains, sun-kissed beaches or bush retreats, it is no wonder that KwaZulu-Natal has made significant gains in the business events market.

From an incentive perspective, the Drakensberg, Midlands, combined with some of Durban's fine hotels is increasingly being seen as an ideal programme. This experience can include some of the world renowned spas of the Midlands, stays in

substantial Drakensberg resorts, helicopter flips over the Berg and visits to the five-star Namibithi Private Game Reserve and the Cheetah Sanctuary.

KwaZulu-Natal is still in many instances an undiscovered by the incentive market. With the help of the South Africa National Convention Bureau (SANCb) it hopes to grow its incentive market share over the next few years.

With regular flights from Johannesburg and Cape Town, KwaZulu-Natal is easily accessible. Many charter operators fly directly into key incentive offerings such as Phinda from Johannesburg.

*Business Events Africa*, in partnership with the SANCb is running a series of supplements and case studies focusing on the South Africa incentive industry.

## By James Seymour, head of the Durban KwaZulu-Natal Convention Bureau

The Durban KwaZulu-Natal Convention Bureau is committed to assisting incentive organisers in bringing their incentive groups to the "Zulu Kingdom" or South African Province of KwaZulu-Natal.

Specific support includes:

- Site inspections for decision makers;
- Provision of examples of broad programmes;
- Securing DMC quotations;
- Welcoming function at King Shaka International Airport;
- Negotiating best possible airfare, accommodation and attraction rates; and
- Welcome packs.

**Contact details: Tel. +27 31 3667580 or [James@durbankzncb.co.za](mailto:James@durbankzncb.co.za)**







# DURBAN AND DRAKENSBERG

## POST MEETINGS AFRICA 2015 BUYER TOUR

### DAY 1

- Depart for Durban from OR Tambo.
- Transfer from King Shaka International to Elangeni/Maharani.
- Followed by dinner at The Cargohold at UShaka Marine World or Moyo's for a more African feel or the Oyster Box for a five-star experience.

### DAY 3

- 09h15 Transfer to Barney Swarts Nambithi Kalepa Safaris.
- 10:30 – arrive at Kwa Cheetah (Nambithi Woodlands Gate).
- 11:00 to 12:30 – Cheetah Interaction at Kwa Cheetah.
- Lunch at Kwa Cheetah.
- 13:00 – 3 hour Game Drive.
- 16:30 – head back to hotel.
- Dinner at Champagne Sports Resort.
- Overnight at Champagne Sports Resort.



### DAY 2

- 09h10 After breakfast transfer to Moses Mabida Stadium for Skycar ride.
- 09H30 Skycar Ride.
- 10h30 Depart for Champagne Sports Resort stopping for lunch at Fourdoun (12h00 for 12h30) along the Midlands Meander.
- 13h30 transfer to Champagne Sports Resort.
- Helicopter flip into the mountains followed by a landing and champagne.
- Overnight at Champagne Sports.
- Dinner at either Drakensburg Sun, Champagne Sports Resort or Champagne Castle Hotel.

### DAY 4

- Depart for King Shaka International after breakfast at 09h00.
- Departure - Transfer.



# WHAT THE BUYERS HAD TO SAY ABOUT DURBAN AND DRAKENSBERG:



Mahendra Rawal, representing the UAE and India

What the buyers had to say about Durban and Drakensberg:  
The Drakensberg is an out of the world and a once in a lifetime experience. One of the main highlights was helicopter flip and Kwa Cheetah was a very adventurous experience. Moses Madhiba offers a stunning view of the city if you take the Skycar. Elangeni is very nice with a sea view. I would like to promote South Africa as an adventure destination.



Rohan Grover, an international buyer from India

Durban has a lot to offer. It has beautiful sites and beautiful facilities and big hotels. South Africa is famous for its Big 5. One of the big highlights was playing with cheetahs and going to Drakensberg. The helicopter flip was amazing. It was a beautiful moment having champagne on the top of the Drakensberg. Champagne Sports is a beautiful golf resort. It is a perfect mix for meetings and golf. South Africa has a flavour of your home, flavour of professionalism, just perfect.



Angela Daw, a buyer from the UK

We started in Durban - was fantastic to see the stretches of the beach and the Moses Madhiba. The weather was just amazing - warm and humid - great for the UK market. Kwazulu-Natal is a beautiful province. We drove up to the Midlands - breath taking views. Popped into a cheetah sanctuary ... got a lot closer than I expected. It was great, and groups from the UK would love it. The helicopter experience blew my brains. Just amazing, just thrilling, so exciting. So green and lush, looks like the beginning of earth. Really enjoyed it - an adrenalin rush. This is something would be great for my groups. Champagne Sports - definitely got the luxury element in the relaxed way, get to feel like you are in the countryside. It is great alternative to Cape Town and the connections are great. Can't wait to bring my family back.



Sharad Manchanda - an international buyer from India

Durban for Indians especially is a good place. Firstly because it is on the seafront and has scenic view of the sea, also it has a large Indian population. For Indians - Durban, will satisfy their local taste buds. Durban is a place they can get their Indian food. Food plays an important role in any group. The various cuisines we have had over the last four days have been really good. The helicopter flip was an enlightening experience. The interaction with the cheetah and the game drive was out of this world.

Champagne Sports - very spacious, has all the facilities and the rooms kept spit and span and very spacious. The staff are very friendly. Sure it is a destination that people back home would love and enjoy the scenic beauty. South Africa as a destination is a great one for Indians.

## FAST FACTS



### Accommodation

- 800 **graded** establishments
- 2 381 establishments



### Aircraft

- 144 457 international passenger arrivals
- 2,1 million domestic passenger arrivals
- 1 115 international aircraft arrivals



### Top Experiences

- Midlands meander
- uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park
- 600km coastline
- Battlefields Route
- Large number game reserves



### Top Activities

- Moses Mabhiba Stadium
- uShaka Marine World
- iSimangaliso World Heritage Site
- Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve
- Oribi Gorge Big Swing
- Best diving spots in the world





# KwaZulu-Natal – a hub of activities

KwaZulu-Natal offers a heady mix of cultural, historical and natural attractions with majestic mountain ranges and World Heritage sites. Durban is a seaside city with Blue Flag beaches and entertainment and activities of all varieties. You can also explore the fascinating traditional Zulu culture at an authentic cultural village.

**T**his is the Zulu Kingdom – a heady cultural, historical and natural mix of attractions. The province is known for its particularly good weather (320 days of sunshine per year) as well as two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, fantastic Blue Flag beaches, majestic mountains, rolling midlands and incredible wild places that boast the Big Five and so much more.

KwaZulu-Natal has an incredible cultural heritage. Once home to the legendary King Shaka, this province has one of the largest Indian communities outside India and also has a strong British colonial heritage.

You'll see evidence of this mixed heritage on the streets of Durban and Pietermaritzburg, two major hubs of the province.

Durban is known as "South Africa's Miami" with its glorious Golden Mile. The Durban beachfront is a popular KwaZulu-Natal tourist attraction. Walk the entire length of this beautiful stretch of beach, from Moses Mabhida Stadium to uShaka Marine World, a world-class aquarium and dolphinarium.

Have a drink at the superb Moyos cocktail bar on the pier. Pay a visit to Wilson's Wharf, catch a sunset Durban harbour cruise and explore local cultural markets – in particular the historic Victoria Street Market.

The city has a host of fantastic restaurants, pubs, clubs and world-class hotels spread out across its Golden Mile and Durban's Florida Road is the spot for fun and entertainment into the wee hours of the morning.

Heading away from the bright city lights of Durban along the North Coast, you'll find the "Big Five" game reserves and wonders of the iSimangaliso Wetlands Park (a UNESCO World Heritage site).

To the east of Durban, you'll find the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park (another UNESCO World Heritage site) boasting the highest mountain range in Africa – next to

Kenya's Kilimanjaro.

There are the lush Midlands with fantastic guest houses and pubs and the historic hallowed grounds of the KwaZulu-Natal battlefields with fascinating legends and stories of heroes long gone, but definitely not forgotten.

Durban is no stranger to hosting major events. Durban's conference and meeting venues include the renowned Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre, which has won numerous international awards. There are also a range of fantastic business hotels, boutique establishments, meetings venues and conference centres worth investigating in this fun-loving province.

## EXTREME ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

In the market for some insane, crazy fun? Just for laughs, hop over the edge of a football stadium (the Moses Mabhida Big Rush Big Swing) or hurl yourself down a waterfall (Oribi Gorge Wild Gorge Swing). For the less brave, Moses Madhiba also offers a stunning view of the city if you take a ride on the skycar.

Shark enthusiasts, visit the KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board, a world authority on sharks and shark protection, or bite the bullet – go shark cage diving in Durban, or simply scuba dive among the sharks, if you dare, at Aliwal Shoal.

## MORE SERENE ACTIVITIES

### The Drakensberg

The Dutch settlers called it the Drakensberg (dragon mountains) and the Zulu, the uKhahlamba (barrier of spears). There's no doubt about it, Southern Africa's highest mountain range is certainly impressive. An area of stunning natural beauty, the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park is KwaZulu-Natal's second World Heritage site. Enjoy a helicopter flip over the Drakensberg and when you land, champagne on arrival with breathtaking views.





### The Valley of 1000 Hills

Some 40 kilometres inland from Durban, you will find the spectacular Valley of 1000 Hills. Take in the scenery, visit the Phezulu Safari Park and Cultural Centre, or take a ride on the Umgeni steam train.

### North Coast Beaches

Travel northwards from Durban, up the North Coast, and explore the many fantastic beaches from Umhlanga, Ballito, Salt Rock, Sheffield Beach, and beyond.

### Surf and Safari

The area known as Maputoland stretches from Swaziland in the west to the Indian Ocean in the east, in the northern region of KwaZulu-Natal. While other regions might offer a chance to see Africa's big game, or laze about on fabulous beaches, Maputoland offers the best of both worlds – the authentic African safari experience and a great beach experience, in one. What better reason to put Maputoland on your list of KwaZulu-Natal places to visit?

### Whale Watching

If you'd prefer an encounter with a gentle giant, consider a KwaZulu-Natal whale tour. From May to September, Humpback and Southern Right Whales migrate from the colder waters of the Antarctic up to their breeding grounds off the coast of Mozambique. During this time, whales can be spotted all along the KwaZulu-Natal coastline.

### Game Reserves

A tour of KwaZulu-Natal wouldn't be complete without a safari. Get up close and personal with Africa's "Big Five" at one of

KwaZulu-Natal's game reserves, including Hluhluwe-Umfolozi and iThala Game Reserves (managed by KZN-Ezemvelo Wildlife) and Phinda Private Game Reserve. Those who enjoy experiencing the African wild at its wildest will enjoy the fact that game reserves in this area (Maputoland) are less crowded than the more popular game reserves of the Mpumalanga lowveld.

### Lake St Lucia

St Lucia Estuary (Lake St Lucia) is found in the massive iSimangaliso Wetland Park (Greater St Lucia Wetland Park), and is one of two World Heritage sites in KwaZulu-Natal. St Lucia is a paradise for birdwatchers and fishermen alike. Just watch out for crocodiles and hippos.

### Cape Vidal

Travelling north-east from the town of St Lucia, you will come to the scenic and unspoiled bay, Cape Vidal. Here, you can access both African game on the eastern shores of St Lucia Estuary and marine life on the coast. For those who enjoy a history mystery – the Dorothea shipwreck, which ran aground in 1898 and was said to be carrying the Kruger Millions, is reputed to lie somewhere near Cape Vidal.

### Sodwana Bay

Carry on north, up the coast from Cape Vidal and find another wild gem – Sodwana Bay. This area boasts spectacular coral reefs and an abundance of colourful marine life, all in a protected National Marine Reserve. Go snorkelling, diving, hiking and horse riding, or simply enjoy the beaches. A highlight, though, must be going on a turtle tour – loggerhead, leatherback and green turtles all breed here between November and February.

### Shakaland

For a Zulu cultural experience like no other, visit Shakaland – a larger-than-life Zulu village adapted from the sets of local television series' Shaka Zulu and John Ross.

### The Battlefields Route

It's hard to imagine that the now tranquil African bushveld of the Battlefields Route was once the setting for a plethora of bloody battles, from the Battle of Blood River (between the Boers and the Zulu), to the Anglo-Zulu Wars (between the British and the

Continued on page 11



### DINING EXPERIENCE

Dine with the sharks in one of Durban's most spectacular settings, offering the most unique and sophisticated ambiance. Nestled in the stern of the Phantom Ship, with superb views of the ocean and shark tank, this captivating world-class venue restores the splendour of yesteryear.

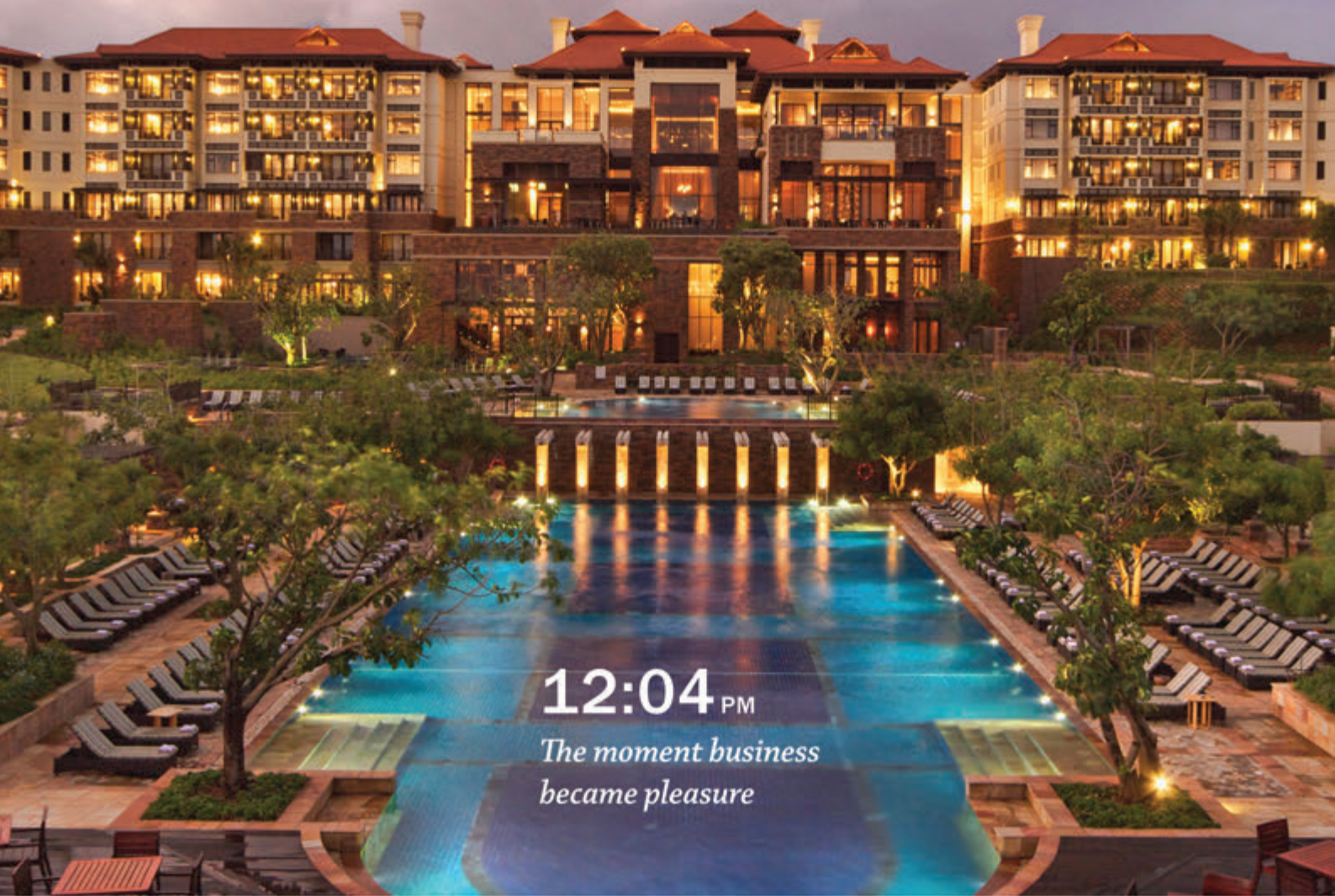
### CULINARY ADVENTURE

Laden with flavours from all corners of the world, including spicy, fruity and exotic remnants combined with the freshest of KwaZulu Natal's local product, gives our passengers the culinary journey of a lifetime.



For reservations and further information, please call (031) 328 8065/6.





12:04 PM

*The moment business  
became pleasure*

Fairmont Zimbali Resort is the ultimate destination for clients looking to close their next business deal. As a premier conferencing destination, with 5-star service and state of the art facilities, your next strategic session will be a memorable one.

The Marula Ballroom accommodates up to 260 guests, leading out to a private courtyard for external activities. A more intimate venue, hosting up to 12 guests is the Sanderling Boardroom, while the new Imbali Boardroom can host up to 6 guests.

The facilities further include 154 sumptuous rooms, mouth-watering dining options and sparkling swimming pools. After a successful day, delegates can unwind at the Willow Stream Spa or the fully equipped gym. For those who enjoy the outdoors, a round of golf or mountain biking awaits.

Fairmont Zimbali Resort is a 15-minute drive from the King Shaka International Airport.

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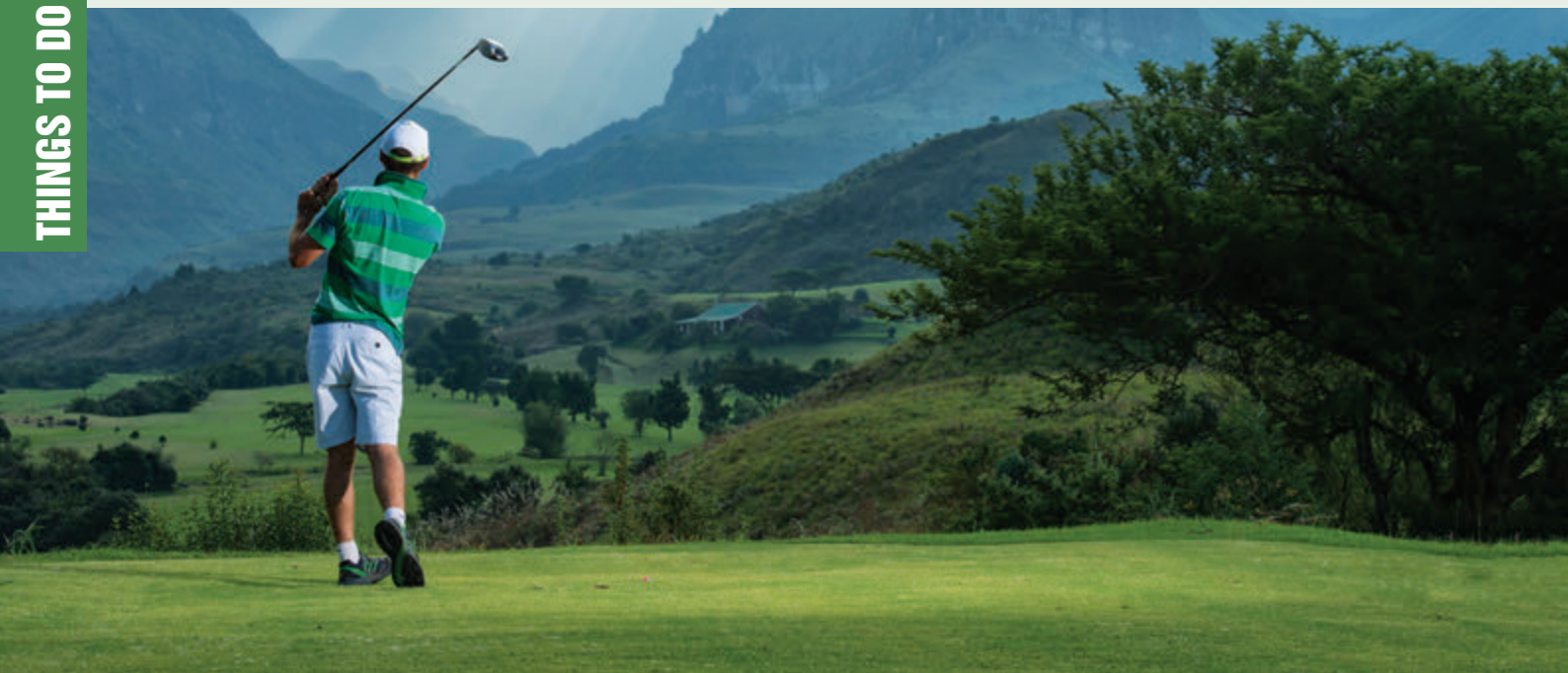
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# Cathedral Peak for a host of activities



Discover a paradise of fresh mountain air and exquisite surroundings. Cathedral Peak is renowned for its natural beauty and the award-winning four-star hotel is one of South Africa's firm favourites. From its cosy setting in a quiet valley, visitors look out onto a jagged ridge of mountains known as the Cathedral Spur. The escarpment looms above the hotel to the south and west.

For three generations, the Van Der Riet family has offered guests hospitality, quality and value-for-money. The lure of the great outdoors combined with the hotel's many facilities, brings guests back time and again.

Hotel guests can enjoy a host of sports activities, including heated splash and paddling pools, swimming pool, tennis, squash, horse and pony rides, trout fishing, bowls, floodlit mini-adventure golf, volleyball, archery, quad bikes, mountain bike trails, and gym with steam room. Helicopter sightseeing tours and transfers are available by arrangement.

The challenging nine-hole golf course has a fully equipped clubhouse with panoramic views. This picturesque "Thinking Golfer's Course" has alternate tees for an 18-hole game.

The history of the San people lives on in the well-preserved Bushman paintings found in the nearby foothills.

Doreen Falls is picturesque in its natural beauty, while the Rainbow Gorge features a spectacular mist of water droplets which creates a colourful rainbow effect – and offers cooling refreshment to passers-by.

An exclusive conference facility offers multi-variable seating for up to 200 delegates in a choice of five venues.

Just 250 km from Durban and 400 km from Johannesburg, the famous Cathedral Peak Hotel is easily accessible to its many visitors from all over South Africa and abroad.

Cathedral Peak Hotel offers a wide variety of accommodation. All hotel rooms provide tea/coffee making facilities, heaters, fans, telephones, televisions and en-suite bathrooms with both bath and shower. ■



THE Berg Hotel in a World Heritage Site - where the fun never sets!



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Zulu) and the Anglo-Boer Wars (between the Boers and the British). Military history buffs will be in their element exploring all that this region has to offer.

### The Midlands Meander

Not only does the Natal Midlands resemble the English countryside, with its rolling green hills and rambling rose bushes, but it's quintessentially English in character, too.

Browse the many arts and crafts places, and have tea and scones at a local café. Don't forget to pay homage to South Africa's first democratically-elected president, **Nelson Mandela**, at the Mandela Capture Site, outside Howick.

### Sani Pass

Sani Pass is the road between Underberg, KwaZulu-Natal and Mokhotlong in Lesotho. A steep mountain pass, it's only traversable by 4x4 vehicles. To get right to the top – where you can have a drink in the highest pub in Africa – you will need to bring your passport.

### South Coast Beaches

Heading south down the coast from Durban, beach bums will delight in yet more stunning, sandy beaches ... Warner Beach, Margate, Ramsgate, St Michael-on-Sea, Uvongo, Port Edward – take your pick.

### Go Fish

KwaZulu-Natal is a fisherman's paradise. Whether you enjoy angling from the rocks along the coast, deep sea sport fishing for game fish, or the more genteel pursuit of fly fishing for trout

(in the cool streams of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands), you can do it in KwaZulu-Natal.

### Supersized Sporting Events

What is it with KwaZulu-Natal and ultra-sporting events? Paddle the Dusi River Canoe Marathon, run the Comrades Ultra Marathon, or play the horses at Africa's biggest horse race, the Vodacom Durban July.

### Snorkelling and Diving

KwaZulu-Natal offers snorkellers and scuba divers some of the top dive spots in the world. Warm water, good visibility, historical shipwrecks and a vast array of marine species are why so many dive enthusiasts return to dive KwaZulu-Natal time and time again.

Popular dive sites in KwaZulu-Natal include Aliwal Shoal, off the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast, and Sodwana Bay and Kosi Bay on the North Coast. ■



## Unique location. Unique conferencing.

The Oyster Box provides the ideal environment to ensure a successful meeting, conference, product launch, cocktail party or banquet.

Our repeated success lies with our - Dedicated and Professional Staff; State-of-the-Art Technology; Delicious Catering; Innovative Activities and Exceptional Service.

Is there any other choice?





# Tsogo Sun ... fun, sun, sand and entertainment galore

**T**sogo Sun is the leading hotels, gaming and entertainment company in South Africa, providing a variety of hospitality and exciting entertainment and leisure experiences. Combining an established heritage with a professional and energised approach, the group proudly encompasses 14 casinos and more than 90 hotels in South Africa, Africa, the Seychelles and Abu Dhabi.

With warm weather all year round and award-winning Tsogo Sun hotels in KwaZulu-Natal, visitors can look forward to a relaxed experience where beautiful beaches, awesome food, great entertainment and upmarket accommodation provide the comfort, fun and pampering necessary to rejuvenate and revitalise body and soul.

## BEVERLY HILLS

Where can you find a hotel that offers more than half a century of

brehtaking style, gracious hospitality, spectacular ocean views and located on the beachfront? Well, there is no other ... Tsogo Sun's Beverly Hills Hotel on the uMhlanga Rocks coastline remains the most glamorous, luxurious and prestigious hotel in Durban.

Nestled alongside a glorious golden beach and the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, only a 15-minute drive from King Shaka International Airport, lies the iconic Beverly Hills hotel.

For decades the hotel has been delighting guests with award-winning service and impressive facilities and is the much-loved address for those seeking a relaxing getaway, a romantic escape or an extraordinary family holiday.

Every one of the 88 lavish, elegant rooms and suites offer uninterrupted views of the Indian Ocean. The service is as close to perfect as you are likely to find – sophisticated and discreet, available when you want it and

unobtrusive when you don't.

A distinctive collection of outstanding restaurants, including The Sugar Club, with its dramatic views of the Indian Ocean, a fitness centre, business centre and a large ocean-facing pool are par for the course, while poolside spa treatments and access to nearby wellness and entertainment facilities makes Beverly Hills the hotel of choice.

Imagine ... starting your weekend on the sun-drenched pool deck with glorious views of the beach, sipping your favourite drink while enjoying a relaxing Indian head massage or a luxurious foot and hand massage, hearing the waves crashing and the seagulls gliding in the crisp clear blue skies.

Imagine ... enjoying the famous Beverly Hills High Tea with a choice of four sweet or four savoury delicacies accompanying the beautifully creamy coffee plungers and large pots of



perfectly brewed tea on the terrace of the hotel.

Imagine ... ringing the special dolphin bell when these majestic creatures decide to show off.

Imagine ... an indulgent dinner at either The Sugar Club, an elegant and intimate restaurant offering gourmet cuisine, or The Elements Cafe Bar, the informal trendy café located on the lower pool terrace.

Now, imagine how you will feel after a visit to the Beverly Hills Hotel.

The perfect place to relax, unwind and enjoy the finer things in life.

## SOUTHERN SUN ELANGENI & MAHARANI

Radiating energy and elegance across the Golden Mile, Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani invites you to take your place in the sun. Located just metres from the best beaches, the famous 7km promenade and Durban's major attractions, this 734 sea-view room hotel has everything a traveller desires.

The largest hotel on the beachfront and, undoubtedly, the brightest star on the Golden Mile, the Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani has a myriad of offerings to satisfy every need.

The spacious en-suite rooms are beautifully furnished in a modern style and include the latest technology and an impressive array of amenities.

The large variety of restaurants, bars, amenities and relaxation areas guarantee that you will find many reasons to relax and unwind amid the inviting atmosphere of the hotel.

Mangwanani Boutique Spa, on the hotel premises, is an upmarket and exclusive boutique spa designed to relax and rejuvenate your body with luxurious natural products and gentle fragrances to calm your spirit, soothe your soul and simply de-stress.

A choice of six restaurants and bars, each uniquely different in theming and cuisine, ensure guests won't go hungry at the Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani.

The celebrated grill house called The Grill Jichana has the basics right: good steak, burgers and great chips while the Lingela restaurant offers a buffet with everything from seafood to roasts, soups, salads, cheeses and desserts.

Two gyms, three heated pools, a courtesy shuttle to the Suncoast Casino & Entertainment, uShaka Marine World and the Valley of a 1000 Hills promise that you will be spoilt for choice on how to fill your days.

The Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani truly has everything under one sun.

## SUNCOAST TOWERS

Suncoast Towers provides guests with the perfect blend of tranquillity and excitement; delight in spectacular seaviews, exclusive accommodation, superbly warm service and thrilling entertainment options. A boutique hotel, offering just 37 luxurious rooms, Suncoast Towers' accommodation aims to provide a tranquil oasis amid the hustle and bustle of the casino and entertainment complex..

Dining at the Jeera Restaurant gives a new meaning to Indian cuisine. Stylish, wonderful flavours and exotic delicacies provide a unique opportunity to explore a fusion between ancient authentic recipes and a blend of signature spices.

The restaurant's name reflects the distinctive flavour and aroma of its dishes; as well as that earthy and warming feeling of good food.

The imaginative and skilful style in cooking, complemented by the chef's signature blend of spices and sauces, provides each dish with its own distinct regional influence and flavour.

Guests can relax on the Suncoast Sundeck – a magnificent, grassed sundeck, ideal for relaxation and soaking up the Durban sun, or visit the Suncoast Spa.

The Spa offers seven treatment rooms, two of which are dual rooms. Each is a private en-suite facility with spectacular ocean views which creates a comfortable space for you to relax while enjoying pure pampering and soul-nurturing bliss.

Try the soothing spa for an array of treatments, savour authentic Indian cuisine at the Jeera Restaurant, sip ice-cold cocktails by the pool, work up an appetite at the fitness centre, and then head out for a night to remember at the world-class Suncoast Casino & Entertainment .

All of this is just a hint of things to come as you will soon discover. Plan your Suncoast Towers getaway to see what else lies ahead. ■





# YOUR PERFECT INCENTIVE TRIP DESTINATION



## WORK



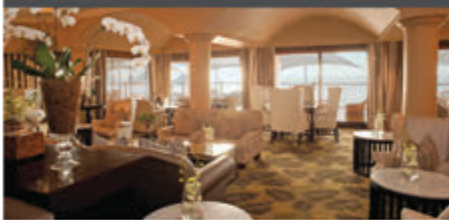
## PLAY



## STAY



## EXPERIENCE



## DINE



## RELAX



## SO MUCH TO CHOOSE FROM. ONLY ONE CHOICE.

With a portfolio of over 90 hotels and 14 casinos, we have a variety of hospitality and exciting entertainment and leisure experiences in key destinations.

Tsogo Sun's Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani, Suncoast Towers and Beverly Hills are the ideal hotel choices for your company's Durban incentive trips. All three hotels are close to the best beaches, Suncoast Casino & Entertainment World and the cities hottest attractions.