

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

DURBAN TO DRAKENSBERG





KWAZULU-NATAL – AN UNDISCOVERED GEM FOR INCENTIVES

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substantial Drakensberg resorts, helicopter flips over the Berg and visits to the five-star Nambithi 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.

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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

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