

# RISE WITH OUR ZULU KINGDOM

## *KWAZULU-NATAL INCENTIVE FACT BOOK*



NATIONAL CONVENTION BUREAU

*Durban – KwaZulu-Natal*





## KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

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KwaZulu-Natal is known as the Zulu Kingdom and is a fantastic incentive destination for a number of reasons. Durban is a thriving port city with a multi-cultural population and world-class facilities, not to mention superb beaches. When it comes to activities and attractions, there are two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the province – the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park and iSimangaliso Wetland Park - in addition to the Big Five wildlife reserves along the Elephant Coast. When it comes to cultural heritage, great Zulu Kings and chiefs are part of the province's history, as is the great humanitarian, Mahatma Gandhi, and those who fought on the battlefields of KwaZulu-Natal. In the great outdoors, the mix of beaches, mountains and urban life is a winning formula. Combine all of the above with more than 300 days of sunshine a year and you have one of the country's best incentive, leisure and adventure destinations.





## KEY ATTRACTIONS AND INSPIRING ACTIVITIES:

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- Dine with the sea creatures at uShaka Marine World, the fifth-largest marine park in the world. You can book an exclusive dinner in the facility's aquarium for a unique dining experience.
- Take a sundowner cruise on the St Lucia Estuary, which forms part of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park - a UNESCO World Heritage Site boasting a wide diversity of flora and fauna for visitors to explore and enjoy.
- Take a rock-art tour in the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park - a UNESCO World Heritage Site with exceptional natural beauty and an estimated 40 000 San paintings spread across hundreds of different sites.
- Walk in the footsteps of Mahatma Gandhi at the Phoenix Settlement in Inanda, where he lived with his family for some years. This is part of the Inanda Heritage Route, and an integral part of KwaZulu-Natal's history.
- Zululand is an unspoilt haven offering everything from traditional Zulu village experiences to spectacular Big Five game-viewing opportunities in numerous private and provincial game reserves.
- The Battlefields Route boasts the largest concentration of significant battle- and war-related sites, with 82 battlefields, museums, old fortifications and places of remembrance - more than anywhere else in South Africa.
- Experience the Big Five up close and personal at a number of game reserves, including Hluhluwe-iMfolozi National Park. Or take a safari drive with the 'chameleon whisperer' when visiting iSimangaliso Wetland Park.
- Take an excursion down the South Coast for a day of adventure - dive the Aliwal Shoal, bungee jump at Oribi Gorge and take a turn at the Lake Eland Zip Lines (the longest zip-line tour in Africa).
- Shop up a storm in Durban - there is the Gateway Shopping Centre in Umhlanga (the biggest mall in the southern hemisphere) or the Victoria Street Market - or both.



# KWAZULU-NATAL: DURBAN

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## Rise with our Zulu Kingdom

South Africa's second largest city, Durban, is the country's most popular leisure destination and for good reason. With a fantastic climate, excellent beaches, first-world infrastructure and a vibrant and multi-cultural population, Durban is the place to be. Incentive travellers will be drawn to the heady mix that is this port city - vibrant urban offerings combined with a wealth of outdoor and adventure activities make for a destination of choice. Within easy reach of the city there are game reserves, iconic mountains, two UNESCO World Heritage Sites and incredible cultural attractions. Durban is an exciting hub of creativity and is one of South Africa's fastest growing cities, which continues to wow travellers from around the world - whether they are visiting for business or pleasure.

## Accessibility

Durban is easily accessible through King Shaka International Airport, with direct flights to and from Dubai in the Middle East.

Other cities served via short 60-minute connecting flight from O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg (the largest airport in Africa) include:

- Europe: Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Istanbul, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Munich, Paris, Zurich

- Middle East: Abu Dhabi, Dubai
- North America: New York, Atlanta, Washington DC
- South America: Buenos Aires, Sao Paolo
- Asia: Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Singapore
- Australia: Perth, Sydney
- Africa: all major cities

## Where to stay

There are more than 5 929 graded establishments in Durban (and nearby surrounds) to choose from - all offering top quality accommodation. The Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani Hotel, the Hilton and the Sun Coast Casino are all popular choices for groups.

If you're looking for something a little different from the norm when it comes to incentive travellers, there are some wonderful golfing and lifestyle estates in the Drakensberg, such as the Champagne Sports Resort. Or how about staying in traditional Zulu beehive huts at Shakaland in the heart of Zululand? There are some wonderful game lodges along the coastline and a few choice places to stay overlooking the KwaZulu-Natal battlefields.





## Venues with a difference

The obvious choice for conferences/ meetings and conventions in Durban is the Durban International Convention Centre – a venue that has won a string of local and international awards for excellence. However, if you are looking for something a little different for your incentive group, consider the following:

- The iconic Moses Mabhida Stadium is an architectural masterpiece of note and a multi-purpose venue that can host anything from large to small events, exhibitions and extravaganzas, team-building days, gala dinners and launches.
- AmmaZulu African Palace is situated on the edge of the Kloof Gorge and Krantzkloof Nature Reserve. It is a luxury lodge with unique architecture and decidedly African artifacts and décor.
- Shakaland outside Eshowe is a phenomenal venue that can host up to 90 delegates. Dining in the Shisa Nyama restaurant is a highlight – the restaurant is made up of two authentic Zulu-style beehive domes and dishes are inspired by Zulu culture.
- Audacia Manor Boutique Hotel is a beautifully restored colonial mansion that overlooks the city and the ocean in Berea – ideal for smaller, stylish functions.

## Exceptional incentive activities:

From Durban, there are numerous incentive activities and experiences on offer:

- Take a city cultural tour that includes a visit to the famous Victoria Street Market, the Juma Masjid Mosque (the largest mosque in the southern hemisphere) and past the Hare Krishna Sri Sri Radha Radhanath Temple of Understanding in Chatsworth.

- Visit Moyo's restaurant in Durban and enjoy delicious cocktails and sundowners at the pier bar that stretches into the ocean, giving one perfect views of the Durban coastline.
- Take a helicopter flip over the Drakensberg mountains, landing for a glass or two of bubbly and snacks (and to take photographs). Follow this with a visit to the Kwa Cheetah Sanctuary.
- The grand arch of the Moses Mabhida Stadium is 350 metres long and 106 metres high. Take a hi-tech sky car to the top and see the incredible views at its peak. Your incentive visitors can always tackle the Big Rush Big Swing if they so desire, or simply organise a champagne breakfast and enjoy the view.
- Half an hour inland from the city, the Valley of a Thousand Hills promises a taste of African culture, while further into the countryside, the Midlands Meander features about 150 art-and-craft outlets for city-dwellers in search of fresh air and homemade fare.
- The South Coast has a number of adventure options, from visiting the Oribi Gorge, to diving with tiger sharks at the Aliwal Shoal, to abseiling and wild-water rafting.
- A bicycle tour of Durban's Golden Mile and Umgeni Bird Park is an option for those wanting a soft adventure.
- Visitors can inspect the shark nets with the Sharks Board based in Umhlanga, as well as enjoy a visit to this incredible research and rescue facility on the North Coast.
- No trip to KwaZulu-Natal is complete without visiting one of the game reserves along the Elephant Coast. The province has some of the best game-viewing in the country and there are numerous top-class lodges in the region to facilitate an unbeatable safari experience.





*Durban – KwaZulu-Natal*

## **THE TIME TO RISE IS NOW. JOIN US.**

*For destination expertise  
and convention planning support,  
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