

Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Africa's busiest cruise port pairs a sun-drenched Indian Ocean beachfront with deep Zulu heritage — you can surf North Beach in the morning and visit a traditional village by afternoon.

Docked (pier) Typical call: 8-10 hrs South African Rand (ZAR) Zulu, English

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Nelson Mandela Cruise Terminal, Point Waterfront — ships dock directly, no tender

Best For: Zulu culture, beach days, Big Five safaris, Indian-influenced food

Walk to center: 3–4 km to CBD / Golden Mile beachfront; rideshare or taxi recommended

Don't Miss: uShaka Marine World, Moses Mabhida Stadium SkyCar, Valley of a Thousand Hills

Getting around: **Taxi** ✓ R200–R350 (~\$11–\$19 USD) to city centre · **Rideshare** ✓ Uber, Bolt · **Hop-on hop-off** ✓ Ricksha Bus

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Big Five Safari — Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park** — A full-day drive (about 2.5–3 hrs each way) to one of Africa's oldest game reserves, home to the Big Five and renowned for white rhino conservation.
- **Tala Private Game Reserve Half-Day Safari** — Closer option (45 min from port) offering giraffes, zebras, white rhinos, wildebeest, and prolific birdlife on a private reserve.
- **Valley of a Thousand Hills & PheZulu Cultural Village** — Scenic drive into the misty hills west of Durban to experience authentic Zulu culture — traditional dance, beadwork, homestead tours, and a reptile...
- **uShaka Marine World** — The largest aquarium in Africa, themed around a series of four 'wrecked' cargo ships at Point Waterfront — minutes from the cruise terminal.
- **Moses Mabhida Stadium SkyCar** — Ride the aerial SkyCar to the top of the iconic 2010 World Cup stadium arch for sweeping panoramic views of Durban's skyline and Indian Ocean.

BEST WALKS

- **Golden Mile Beachfront Walk** 3 km · Easy · 45–60 min — Durban's famous 6 km beachfront promenade runs along shark-netted swimming beaches from South Beach north to uShaka Beach.
- **Point Waterfront to uShaka Marine World** 0.5 km · Easy · 10 min — A short waterfront stroll from the cruise terminal directly to uShaka Marine World's entrance — useful for orienting yourself on arrival or grabbing lunch at the...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)			
Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	77°	66°	10d
Jun	73°	58°	4d
Aug	72°	58°	8d
Sep	73°	62°	8d
Oct	74°	64°	12d

🌅 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Apr 6:15AM–5:36PM · Jun 6:49AM–5:03PM · Aug 6:29AM–5:31PM · Sep 5:54AM–5:48PM · Oct 5:18AM–6:05PM	

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Use ZAR, not USD. South African Rand is the currency. ATMs are available at the terminal and uShaka. USD is not widely accepted at local businesses.
- Uber/Bolt over taxis. Rideshares are safer, cheaper, and metered. Download Uber before arriving — it works well in Durban and eliminates fare negotiations.
- Beaches are shark-netted but check conditions. Durban's main beaches are patrolled and netted, making ocean swimming generally safe. Always swim between the flags near a lifeguard.
- Subtropical climate — pack light layers. Durban is warm year-round with high humidity. Summer (Nov–Mar) brings afternoon thunderstorms; winter (Jun–Aug) is mild and pleasant — peak cruise season.
- Rickshaw riders expect tips. The colorfully-dressed Zulu rickshaw pullers along the Golden Mile are a Durban icon — photos are welcome but they expect a small tip (R20–50 is fair).
- Safari day trips need an early start. Hluhluwe-iMfolozi is about 2.5–3 hrs away — book a guided excursion to ensure timely return. Tala Private Reserve (45 min) is the safer choice for shorter port calls.

cruiseports.org

The map shows Durban, South Africa, with the Durban International Airport (Moses Mabhida) located in the northern part of the city. The Durban Harbour is visible in the southern part of the city. Major roads and suburbs are labeled. A scale bar indicates 0.5 miles and 1 kilometer.

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