

Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

One of Africa's largest coal ports doubles as the gateway to Zululand's Big Five safaris, UNESCO wetlands teeming with hippos, and centuries of Zulu heritage — all within a 90-minute drive.

 Pier (industrial quay — no walking out)

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 South African Rand (ZAR)

 English & Zulu

 Safari destination

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — ships berth at Richards Bay industrial port; shuttle to gate required

Best For: Big Five safari, hippo boat cruises, Zulu culture, Indian Ocean beach

Walk to centre: Not walkable — mandatory shuttle to Tuzi Gazi Waterfront or port gate (~10 min)

Don't Miss: Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park or iSimangaliso Wetland Park (UNESCO)

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  ~80 ZAR (\$4–5 USD) for a short trip ·  **Rideshare**  Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park Big Five Safari** — Africa's oldest proclaimed game reserve, credited with saving the southern white rhino from extinction.
- iSimangaliso Wetland Park & Hippo Boat Cruise** — UNESCO World Heritage Site encompassing lakes, estuaries, coral reefs, and beaches.
- Zulu Cultural Village Experience** — DumaZulu or Shakaland Cultural Village offer immersive half-day visits to a traditional Zulu homestead — watch...
- Alkantstrand Blue Flag Beach** — Richards Bay's main beach is Blue Flag certified — clean, warm Indian Ocean water, shark nets, lifeguards, and grassy...
- Richards Bay Game Reserve & Birdwatching** — A compact estuarine reserve right in the city, best known for flamingos, pelicans, hippos, and over 300 bird species.

BEST WALKS

- Tuzi Gazi Waterfront Stroll** Easy • ~1 km • Free — From the waterfront shuttle drop-off, walk the marina promenade past the Zululand Yacht Club, browse craft stalls, and choose a...
- Alkantstrand Beach Walk** Easy • ~2 km beach front • Blue Flag — Take a taxi to Alkantstrand Beach and walk the shore.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		80°	67°	11d
Jun		74°	59°	6d
Aug		75°	60°	7d
Sep		78°	63°	8d
Oct		78°	64°	13d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:10AM–5:33PM · Jun 6:43AM–5:01PM · Aug 6:24AM–5:28PM · Sep 5:49AM–5:44PM · Oct 5:14AM–6:00PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Port is not walkable. Richards Bay is a working bulk-cargo terminal with heavy vehicles and coal dust. Passengers must use the cruise line shuttle to exit — do not attempt to walk...