

Grassroots Global Justice Alliance Delegation Logistics for Durban FINAL

What to bring:
Passport— be sure you have 2 empty visa pages
Towel (lodging does not provide towels)
Hat
Comfortable walking shoes preferably enclosed shoes
Mosquito repellent and Sunscreen
Organizational t-shirt for you and for gifts (for contacts you make with another organizations)
Sufficient supply of medication you take
Materials – buttons, flyers, propaganda Organizational banner
Light jacket, bring rain gear.
Pepto Bismol and/or Imodium Tablets
Hand Sanitizer and/or Wipes
Bathing suit
At least one nice outfit for going out, and slightly more formal clothes for people who are accredited
<i>What NOT to bring:</i> GGJ is not responsible for lost/stolen items
<i>Anything of great value or anything you risk losing</i>
<i>No expensive jewelry or of sentimental value</i>
<i>Expensive watches</i>
<i>Big cameras</i>
Safety:
We will be using the buddy system and communication trees
Don't wander off by yourself
Do not expose yourself as a tourist; we are here for political motives.

Preparing for Your Trip: Before You Leave

Visas

U.S. and Canada passport holders visiting the Republic of South Africa for ninety (90) days or less for tourism / business purposes do not need visas.

Non-US or Canada passport holders and nationals of other countries must check the list of [visa exempt countries](#) to see if they need to apply for visas. If the names of their countries are not listed, it means they need to apply for visas. There are also countries that are visa exempt if applicant is traveling to South Africa for a period of 30 days or less.

<http://www.southafrica-newyork.net/homeaffairs/visaexempt.htm>

NOTE: you must have at least 2 empty visa pages in your passport. You will not be allowed on your flight if you don't have 2 empty visa pages (the "endorsement" pages at the back of the passport don't count). If you do not have 2 empty visa pages, you will need to get additional pages for your passport.

Vaccinations

South Africa requires Yellow Fever vaccinations for all travelers who transit through the following countries: Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, Tanzania, and Zambia. **If you are not traveling through these countries, there are no required vaccinations.**

There is a low level of risk for Malaria in the northeastern KwaZulu-Natal Province. Durban is farther south than the risk area, so the risk in Durban is very low. Nonetheless, **please bring mosquito repellent since Malaria is mosquito-borne.**

Packing and Baggage Fees

TOWELS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED at the dorms: be sure to pack your own towel.

GGJ delegates will most likely be traveling on British Airways or South African Airways. Be sure to give yourself enough time—arrive at the airport 2 hours before your flight on the way to South Africa, and 3 hours ahead on the way back.

British Airways allows 2 free checked bags weighing up to 23kg and 90cm x 75cm x 43cm (35.5 x 29.5 x

16 inches), including the handle, pockets and wheels. http://www.britishairways.com/travel/bagchk/public/en_gb

South African Air allows 2 checked bags not exceeding 45 lbs, and one carry-on not exceeding 115 cm and 8 kg in weight. http://www.seatguru.com/airlines/South_African_Airways/baggage.php

Baggage fees for international flights are very expensive for extra bags (up to \$160 each) so pack light! You will be responsible for carrying your own bags, and for any baggage fees that apply, so don't over-pack!

For delegates who are accredited: please bring slightly more formal attire for the times when you are inside the conference. You don't need to go all-out—ties are not necessary—but nicer than casual. Regardless of whether you are accredited or not, you know GGJ likes to party! So please bring at least one nice outfit for going out.

About Social Movement Spaces in Durban

Folks organizing the People's Space have compiled a website of useful information and maps (which is still growing) to guide you through navigating the overly chaotic experience of the COP. <http://durbanclimatejustice.wordpress.com>

The site is designed to complement the C17.org.za site. Check them both out before you go to start getting familiar with the area and the events being planned.

Transportation

From the airport

**note - if you arrive when stores are still open, be sure to change money and buy an adaptor and SIM card if you need these before you leave the airport*

GGJ SHUTTLE

GGJ delegates arriving between Nov 28-Dec 3 will get picked up at the airport.

Go to the baggage claim area and look for someone holding a sign saying "GGJ".

IEN delegates and GGJ staff arriving early (before Nov 28) should get a cab or share a shuttle to the residence. GGJ staff will give you the address for where you are staying.

Here is one recommended shuttle service:

King Shaka Airport Shuttle Services (Private Shuttle)

Cost: R280 (\$35) to Berea neighborhood. (1-4 passengers)

You need to book ahead for these shuttles. You can book online here: http://kingshakashuttles.co.za/contact_us.php

Phone: (+27) 084-2311-363

Email: kingshuttles@vodamail.co.za

<http://kingshakashuttles.co.za/>

Local ground transportation

GGJ will be arranging transportation while in Durban. We will provide transport to relevant sites—once in the am and once in the pm. If you miss the designated times for group pick up, you are responsible for your own transportation.

The university will be hosting most of the social movement activities, therefore you will be within walking distance from the residence. The municipality will provide accessible transportation to town and beach.

Metered taxis are common, safe and relatively inexpensive. Registered metered taxis are clearly marked with an official eThekweni Transport Authority decal.

The People Mover bus system links the inner city with the beachfront. It is a special needs friendly, high frequency service, with air-conditioned buses running every 5-15 minutes.

The rail network links residential and accommodation nodes (especially to the south) with the City. Durban station is a short walk from the ICC. The People Mover bus links rail stations with other parts of the city.

Lodging

TOWELS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED, you must bring your own towel.

IEN delegates and GGJ staff arriving before Nov 28th will be staying at a residency, and then will move to the dorms at the University of KwaZulu Natal (see below for details) on Nov 28th.

From Nov 28th to December 10th GGJ and IEN delegates will be staying in single dorm rooms at the Howard College Campus of University of KwaZulu Natal in the Berea area. The Howard College Campus is located on Mazizi Kunene Road (formerly South Ridge Road). Bedding linens will be provided, including sheet, pillow, pillowcase and a blanket, and will be cleaned once a week. **TOWELS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED, you must bring your own towel.**

Dorms have communal gender-segregated bathrooms, separated by men and women. Some of the residences will also be segregated by gender, with male and female dorm rooms on different floor levels.

There is organized security for the dorms.

We will be hosted by the University's Centre for Civil Society: <http://ccs.ukzn.ac.za/>

Phone: from the US—27-31-260-3195... From within South Africa—031-260-3195

Email contact for accommodations: Philisa Zibi—philisa.zibi@gmail.com

Meals in Durban

GGJ will not provide any meals. You should account for \$25 per day for breakfast, lunch, snack and dinner. If you like to drink and/or smoke, please add accordingly.

There will be vendors on UKZN campus providing some South African foods—curry, beans, burgers, hot dogs, prepared meals, vegetarian meals etc.

Wi-Fi

Free wi-fi will be available in the dorms.

You can also pay for wi-fi—the most widespread wi-fi access is through a pre-paid service called AlwaysOn. Visit their website for hotspots in Durban: <http://www.alwayson.co.za/hotspotlocator/default.aspx>

For mobile wi-fi you can buy a prepaid cell phone starter pack (less than R10) and access the Internet with GPRS or 3G. Generally R2 per MB for out of bundle data from most providers (50c for Virgin Mobile), but it becomes a lot cheaper if you buy a data bundle. Vodacom prices range from 38c per MB on a 500MB bundle to 19c per MB on a 1GB bundle. MTN prices range between R1 per MB on a 10MB to 39c per MB on a 1GB bundle. Mobile data connections are always charged per MB as opposed

to per second (as is popular on many European networks).

Cell Phones

For those who would want to get phone access and have mobile phones in which you can put SIM cards, the best approach is to go to one of the operators inside the airport (turn left as you come out of either the international or domestic arrivals: it doesn't really matter which - MTN, Cell-C, Vodacom). You can buy a SIM card (they are around \$1) and buy pay-as-you-go airtime - you just have to give the address where you're staying and provide your passport.

About South Africa

Climate and Geography

Durban is the third largest city in South Africa, and is in the eThekweni district or municipality of the KwaZulu-Natal province on the eastern shore. It is a mild subtropical climate, and is generally hot and humid with occasional thunderstorms in the summer (November-March). The average temperature is 70 degrees. Weather will be warm and may be rainy. You should expect that the weather would be around 75-80 degrees in the day and around 65-70 degrees at night during the time of our stay. We recommend bringing a light jacket or sweater. Bring mosquito repellent, sunscreen and rain gear; even with the rain there has been sunny days in between so there is a high probability of getting sunburned. And the beaches are lovely!

For more information on the weather visit the following website:

<http://www.weathersa.co.za/web/home.asp?sp=1&f=&z=Ctry&v=7&g=gT&h=0&m=Strm&anim=aStr&av=AvWarn&uid=&p=&debug=&TL=&PC=&mw=w&ib=1&f=1143>

Water

Tap water is drinkable in South Africa's urban areas. You can also purchase bottled water but we encourage you to bring your own water bottle or canteen.

Language

South Africa has 11 official languages including English, Afrikaans, isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Siswati, Tshivenda and

Xitsonga. English is spoken widely. Road signs and official documents are in English.

Currency

The official currency of South Africa is the South African Rand (ZAR), which is divided into 100 cents. The conversion rate fluctuates and is assessed daily. But you can expect the buying and selling rate to be around \$7.87 ZAR for every \$1 USD.

We recommend you exchange or withdraw the money you will need for your trip at the airport—they give you the cheapest rate possible, there's no black market, and we may not be able to change money during the rest of the trip. If you want to take money out of ATM's, there are ATM's everywhere. Be sure to alert your bank that you will be traveling to South Africa so that you are able to make international withdrawals without any problems.

Rand bills (or notes) are issued in R10, R20, R50, R100 and R200, though many places don't accept R200 bills. Rand coins are issued in one, two, five, 10, 20 and 50 cents, and R1, R2 and R5. It is recommended to carry small bills because many vendors do not carry change. Do not accept a torn or damaged bill. Currency that is damaged in any way will not be accepted by any merchant, money exchange or bank. If somebody offers you a damaged bill, refuse to accept it.

R1 = \$.13 USD
R5 = \$.64 USD
R20 = \$2.54 USD
R50 = \$6.35 USD
R100 = \$12.50 USD

Tipping at around 10% of the bill is the norm.

Bank hours are from 9am to 3:30pm on weekdays and from 8:30am to 11am on Saturdays. Most banks have cash dispensing machines accepting Visa, MasterCard and Cirrus ATM cards.

Electricity

The power supply in South Africa is 220vAC, 50Hz. Electrical sockets are rounded and three pronged. You will need an adaptor plug and if you don't have one yet you should buy one at the airport - there

are very few places outside the airport that sell adaptors.

Time Zone

South Africa is on **South Africa Standard Time (SAST)** or UTC/GMT + 2 hours. During our trip, SAST will be 7 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time, 8 hours ahead of Central Standard Time, 9 hours ahead of Mountain Standard Time and 10 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time.

General Safety

Most places in the world have incidents crimes of survival, and tourists or people easily identified as not being from the area become easy targets. Here are some common sense tips from our S.African comrades: Be safe and alert. South Africa is a high crime country, and has high levels of violent crime. Avoid walking alone, particularly at night. Keep your wallet/purse hidden, not in back pockets, etc. Use metre-taxi's at night unless in areas where city is providing COPI7-related transport. **DO NOT EVER** get into cars with people you don't know, even if people seem very friendly or there are womyn in the cars.

Once we arrive, we will create a buddy system among delegates. We will stay together in groups as much as possible, and GGJ delegates should know where you are at all times. We will go over security at the dorms once we arrive, but as a rule do not bring anyone new that you meet back to the dorms.

Dialing Phone Numbers

To make international calls from Durban or from anywhere in South Africa to the US, you need to dial:

001+ area code + seven digit phone number.

To call South Africa from the US you need to dial 011-27 + area code (code for Durban is 31) + seven digit number

For international operator assistance dial 0900/0903. For the national directory dial 1023.

Check the following website for more information on calling codes:

<http://www.countrycallingcodes.com>

Please note: the GGJ staff will have cell phones, those numbers will be provided when you arrive in Durban.

Emergencies

In case of any emergencies there are public safety services like police officers, the fire department as well as various public and private hospitals. If an emergency does happen to occur please get in touch with Cindy or Jen immediately.

Important Numbers for the City of Durban:

General Enquiries: 031 311 1111

Fire Department & Metro Police: 031 361 0000

Water and Traffic Hotline: 080 131 3013

All Emergencies: 122

For more information please visit the following website:

<http://www.durban.gov.za/durban/>

US Consulate, Durban

Old Mutual Building, 303 Dr. Pixley KaSeme Street (also known as West St), Durban 4001

Tel: (27 31) 305-7600; Fax: (27 31) 305-7691;

consulardurban@state.gov

All Services: Mon-Fri: 08:30-12:30; 14:00-16:30

After Hours Emergency Assistance: (031) 305-7600

<http://southafrica.usembassy.gov/contact-us.html>