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29 COM WHC-05/29.COM/INF.1 Paris, 15 April 2005 Original : English/French

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-ninth session

Durban, South Africa 10 – 17 July 2005

GENERAL INFORMATION

For complete information on the 29th session, please visit the following website:

http://www.29whc.org

This website has links to the necessary information regarding visa requirements, travel and accommodation, pre-registration forms and tourist information.

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1. PURPOSE

1.1 **The World Heritage Committee** consists of representatives from 21 of the States Parties to the *Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage*, elected by the General Assembly of States Parties to the *Convention*.

The current composition of the Committee is: Argentina (Rapporteur), Benin, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, South Africa (Chair) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The essential functions of the Committee are to:

- (i) identify, on the basis of nominations submitted by States Parties, cultural and natural properties of outstanding universal value which are to be protected under the *Convention* and to inscribe those properties on the World Heritage List;
- (ii) monitor the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, in liaison with the States Parties; decide which properties included in the World Heritage List are to be inscribed on or removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger; and decide whether a property may be deleted from the World Heritage List; and
- (iii) examine requests for International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund.
- 1.2 In July 2004 the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee accepted South Africa's offer to host the 29th session in Durban, South Africa, from 10-17 July 2005.

2. THE SOUTH AFRICAN SECRETARIAT AND CONFERENCE ORGANISERS

2.1 South Africa will host the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee in Durban.

Contact details of the South African Secretariat are:

Address:	Private Bag X894 Pretoria 0001 South Africa
Contact person:	Ms Joan de Villiers Tel: +27 12 337 8584 Fax: +27 12 337 8520 e-mail: Joan.Devilliers@dac.gov.za

The Conference Organisers are Siyenza Management (website: <u>www.29whc.org</u>)

Physical Address:	1 st Floor Twin Towers East Sandton City Sandton Johannesburg South Africa
Postal Address:	P O Box 3738 Cramerview 2060 Johannesburg South Africa
Contact Persons:	Ms Liz Hart Managing Director, Siyenza Tel: +27 11 783 5313 Fax: +27 11 884 4458 E-mail: <u>liz@siyenza.za.com</u> Ms Margaret Agocs Events Manager, Siyenza Tel: +27 11 783 5313

PROGRAM AND RELATED EVENTS

3.1 The full social program of the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee will be available nearer to the event.

E-mail: margaret@siyenza.za.com

Fax: +27 11 884 4458

3.2 Excursions: Two of South Africa's World Heritage properties (Greater St Lucia Wetland Park and uKhahlamba / Drakensberg Park) are within the borders of KwaZulu-Natal, the province in which Durban is situated. Given the distances, delegates should select which property they would prefer to visit. This field trip is free for all delegates. Please select your choice from the two options for the field trips in **Annexure D** and complete the booking form in **Annexure B**.

4. TRAVEL VISA, INSURANCE, AIRPORT TAXES, ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

4.1 Travel Visa and Insurance

Every visitor to South Africa must have a valid passport. Passport holders from more than 80 countries can visit South Africa without a visa. Information regarding visas can

3.

be obtained from the website <u>www.home-affairs.gov.za/migration/visas/schedule.htm</u>) or the South African diplomatic or consular representative in your area. Visa application forms may be downloaded from the website <u>www.home-affairs.gov.za/documents/bi-84.pdf</u>. Delegates requiring visas, and who intend taking tours to neighboring Southern African countries, are advised to secure a multiple entry visa. Visas cannot be obtained on arrival. Delegates/Tourists must satisfy immigration officers that they have the means of support for the duration of their stay in the country and return/onward tickets.

It is recommended that participants have travel insurance coverage prior to arriving in South Africa.

4.2 Airport Taxes

Airport Departure Taxes vary from one airport to another but will always form part of the cost of your air ticket.

4.3 Airport Arrivals and Departures

On arrival at Johannesburg International Airport you will proceed through the immigration desk, collect your luggage and proceed through the green door of the "clear customs" area (unless you have something to declare).

There will be Welcome Desks at both Johannesburg International Airport and Durban International Airport on 9, 10 and 11 July 2005 to assist delegates on arrival. It is of the utmost importance that you do inform *Turners Conferences and Conventions* of your flight details (Annexure B) to enable them to assist you on arrival.

If you are scheduled to arrive outside of these dates, please reserve your transfers with *Turners Conferences and Conventions*. A company representative who will have a name board displaying your name will then meet you in the International or Domestic Arrivals hall.

On departure, transport will be provided from the hotels to the airport as long as you book it in advance with *Turners Conferences and Conventions*. (See Booking Form at **Annexure B**.)

Should you not have been able to obtain South African Rand in your country, you will be able to do the exchange at the airport or at the ICC.

4.4 Transportation from Airport to the ICC and Hotels

We recognize that you will have traveled a long way to attend the conference and are committed to providing you with a smooth and comfortable transfer between Durban International Airport and your hotel. A pre-booked and pre-paid transfer costs R100 per person one way. A transfer paid on arrival costs R120 per person (one way). Uniformed personnel will be at the airport welcome desk to assist you (on official dates only). Look

for the World Heritage Committee meeting banner. You will be taken directly to your hotel.

4.5 Car rental

Cars can be rented in South Africa from local or international companies. You will require a valid international driver's license to rent a car. Drivers and all passengers must wear seat belts. There is a speed limit of 120 kilometers per hour on freeways and 60 kilometers per hour on urban roads. All cars are right-hand drive (drive on the left-hand side of the road) with manual gear change. Hired cars may not normally be driven across the border to other African countries. Please contact *Turners* for rates and reservations.

5. VENUE

The venue of the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee is the Durban International Convention Center (ICC), 45 Ordnance Road, Durban 4001, South Africa. The ICC is centrally located and just a quarter of an hour from the airport, and within minutes from hotels and beaches. Palm trees form a welcoming avenue while at the entrance to the Center three baobabs, Africa's tree giants, bid a regal greeting.

6. PARTICIPANTS/REGISTRATION/ACCREDITATION

6.1 Participants

The primary participants at the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee will be the 21 members of the Committee.

<u>States Parties</u> to the *World Heritage Convention* that are not members of the Committee may send representatives to the session as observers.

<u>Non-States Parties</u> to the *Convention* that are Member States of UNESCO or of the United Nations may also be permitted by the Committee, upon written request, to attend the sessions of the Committee and its Bureau as observers.

Representatives of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (<u>ICCROM</u>), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (<u>ICOMOS</u>), and the World Conservation Union (<u>IUCN</u>) will attend <u>in an advisory capacity</u>.

The United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as, upon written request, other international governmental and non-governmental organizations, permanent observer missions to UNESCO and non-profit-making institutions having activities in the fields covered by the *Convention*, may be authorized to participate in the sessions of the Committee.

6.2 Pre-Registration

We encourage all participants to pre-register before the Conference via internet. This will ensure that your full registration pack is readily available on your arrival. This will assist the Conference Organizers, as well as the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, to prepare an accurate List of Participants. For pre-registration please complete the registration form at the following address: www.29whc.org

PLEASE NOTE: As part of the registration process it is imperative that we receive one photograph of the registering delegate either by e-mail or mailed to the organizers in order to collect your conference bag with all the relevant information on arrival.

6.3 Accreditation in Durban

On arrival participants will be taken to their hotels and thereafter to the International Convention Centre for registration. Every delegate will be given a bag containing the information on the World Heritage Committee session and badge. For security purposes, please wear the badge when attending the meeting, other activities and excursions.

7. ACCOMMODATION & OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

7.1 Hotel Reservation

We have negotiated special rates with all of the key hotels in the city that we believe will provide the most suitable accommodation. Accommodation may be booked through *Turners Conferences and Conventions*. Please see **Annexure C** for further details on accommodation and complete the accommodation booking section on the booking form **Annexure B**.

<u>**Please note</u>**: All participants will be responsible for their own costs, including expenses such as telephone, facsimile, laundry, refreshments and meals.</u>

7.2 Optional Excursions

Optional pre- or post meeting excursions/tours are available. Please consult the link on the website <u>www.29whc.org</u>. A travel desk will also be available at the ICC to assist with any tour/excursion requests.

8. CONFERENCE SERVICE AND FACILITIES

8.1 Bilateral meeting room

The South African Organising Committee will assist the delegates to reserve the bilateral meeting room. Delegations wanting to use them should apply to the South African Secretariat in advance at the beginning of the session in Durban.

8.2 Public Office Area

The South African Organising Committee will provide a Public Office area with an internet café. It will be open every day during the meeting sessions. The area is equipped with the following facilities: Computers (with internet access), printers, photocopiers, telephones (local only) and office furniture. For international calls a World Call Card will be available, starting from R50 per card.

A small shop will be available on site to buy any necessary computer accessories. Technical staff will be on site to assist you.

8.3 Medical Services

A Medical Advisory Center is available in the International Convention Centre Durban, with a doctor and a nurse. An appointed hospital provides emergency service to delegates during the Conference.

8.4 Cafeteria

A cafeteria is available in the ICC where you can buy a light meal during lunch time or have some light snacks during the day. A selection of meals (catering for vegetarians, halaal, kosher) will be available from R12 up to R35.

9. MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS

The Media Centre is the work place for the media to cover the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee. Only appointed and accredited media will be able to access the room. All interested media should contact *Kagiso Communications* via the e-mail address: whcmedia@kagisotv.co.za

10. GENERAL INFORMATION

10.1 Survey of Durban

The city of Durban, in the province of KwaZulu-Natal, situated on the subtropical East Coast, is South Africa's third largest city and a prime tourist destination in Southern Africa. The city surrounds Durban Bay, the busiest port in Africa and is the world's ninth largest. Superb air and land transport infrastructure exists, with many of the major international airlines flying directly to South Africa. Durban is nestled on the coast of the warm Indian Ocean with golden beaches, parks, museums, theatres and world-class shopping malls. Durban's subtropical weather is sultry in summer and mild in winter, with an average of 320 sunny days per year. Durban is noted for its rich cultural diversity and delegates will be greeted by a kaleidoscope of, amongst others, Indian, Colonial and African traditions that have prospered in the city, giving rise to a wide variety of cuisine, restaurants, arts and crafts, and ethnic dance forms. Within a two-hour drive from Durban, delegates can be on safari at a game reserve, visiting traditional Zulu villages,

hiking or trout fishing in the majestic Drakensberg Mountains. KwaZulu-Natal boasts two World Heritage properties – one in the Drakensberg mountains (uKhahlamba), which contains one of the highest waterfalls in the world, and the St Lucia Wetlands Park, which is adjacent to Sodwana Bay, the site of the recent rediscovered coelacanth. To further explore Durban and KwaZulu-Natal, visit <u>http://www.southafrica.net</u> and <u>http://www.durban.org.za/</u>

10.2 Local Transportation

A free shuttle service between the International Convention Centre and the official conference hotels will be provided. Buses will transport delegates from the hotel and the ICC in the morning and back to the hotel at the end of the day's session. Mini vans will be on standby during the day to shuttle delegates between the hotels and the ICC.

For any other private transport requests, *Turners Conferences* will be able to assist you to obtain a taxi service. Normal rate for a local taxi from the ICC to the city centre is approximately R20 (one way).

10.3 Currency Policy

The currency unit in South Africa is the South African Rand (ZAR) and is indicated with a capital R so that, for example, three Rand and fifty cents would be written R3,50. South Africa has a decimal currency system with one Rand equaling 100 cents. Denomination of Rand notes are R200, R100, R50, R20, and R10 and of the coins are R5, R2, R1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c, 2c, and 1c. The following exchange rates were applicable on 1 April 2005:

1 United States Doll	ar = ZAR 6.18
1 British Pound	= ZAR 11.68
1 Euro	= ZAR 8.02

Facilities for cashing traveler's cheques are available at the International Convention Centre. This Foreign Exchange office will be open on both Saturday 9 July and Sunday 10 July 2005 for the benefit of arriving delegates. This facility of also available at banks (operating hours weekdays 09h00 – 15h30, Saturdays 08h30 – 11h00) and at most hotels. Banks are closed on Sundays. Automatic teller machines are open 24 hours and are located at most banks. You are permitted to take ZAR500 in South African bank notes out of the country, thereafter a levy is charged on additional amounts.

10.4 Driving Licenses

Foreign Delegates with valid International Driving Permits are permitted to drive in South Africa.

10.5 Electricity Supply

The electricity supply is 220-240 volts, 50 Hz. The connection for appliances is a round three-pin plug. Adaptors will be available at the ICC. Most hotels provide dual-voltage two-pin razor sockets (100-120 volts and 220-240 volts).

10.6 Postal Service

Post Offices generally open from Monday to Friday from 08h30 to 16h00. Hotel reception desks will also be able to assist you with postal and courier services.

10.7 Smoking Regulations

Smoking is prohibited by law in most public buildings in South Africa (airports, International Convention Centre Durban, etc), except in some that have specially designated areas where smoking is allowed.

10.8 Time

Time in South Africa is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

10.9 Weather

The weather in Durban in July is normally mild and pleasant, with temperatures ranging between 24°C during the day and 14°C overnight. It is recommended that you bring some warm clothes for the evenings, and a jacket or raincoat.

If you intend participating in the field trip it is advisable to bring warm clothes. Temperature in the Drakensberg can fall below zero during night and some light snow might occur high in the mountains.

10.10 Health

If you will be traveling from one of the countries listed below, then you will be required to have a yellow fever vaccination before entering South Africa. This list is subject to change and it is advisable to consult the website: <u>www.doh.gov.za</u> for the most updated information just before you leave.

Africa: Angola, Burundi, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ghana Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda.

South America: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guyana, Panama, Peru, Surinam, Venezuela

Although Durban has no health risks, certain areas of the country, including the northeastern half of KwaZulu-Natal are malaria regions. If you anticipate traveling to a malaria area it is essential that you take prophylactics before arrival and the necessary precautions while in the area (e.g. protective clothing, insect repellents). South African doctors and dentists are highly trained and hospitals are well equipped. It is strongly advised that delegates take appropriate health insurance prior to their arrival.

It is safe to drink tap water throughout South Africa. However, for those who prefer bottled mineral water, it is readily available in various stores and hotels.

List of Annexures

- Annexure A: Registration Form
- Annexure B: Booking Form for Accommodation and Field trip
- Annexure C: List of Hotels
- Annexure D: Excursion options
- Annexure E: Map of Durban

REGISTRATION FORM



10 – 17 July 2005 29th session of the World Heritage Committee International Convention Centre Durban

Personal Informatio	Personal Information					
First Name	Last Name					
Nationalities			Gender			
Personal						
Address						
Title/Position						
Organisation/						
Address						
Passport No:		Pass] by	port Issued			
Tel		Fax				
Zip Code	E-mail					
Identity number						
1. Other Inform	1. Other Information					
Meal Requirements	Kosher	Hala	al	Vegetarian		

Please return this form by mail or fax to:

Siyenza Management Telephone: +27 11 783 5313 Fax: +27 11 884 4458

Email: margaret@siyenza.za.com

NOTE: It is imperative that you include and/or attach photograph for accreditation

Annexure **B**

29th session of the World Heritage Committee ICC Durban, South Africa 10 – 19 July 2005 (including the excursions)





HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE CONFERENCE? IF NOT PLEASE REGISTER ON THE WEBSITE USING THE ONLINE BOOKING FORM.

HOTEL, TOUR AND TRANSFER BOOKING FORM

To book, kindly complete this form and email, fax or post it to Turners Conferences and Conventions, P.O. Box 1935, Durban, 4000 South Africa Tel: +27 31 3321451 Fax: +27 31 3686623 Email: gills@turnergroup.co.za

Last Name / Family Name		First Name		Title: Dr/Prof./ Mr/ Mrs / Ms		Nationality			
Company Institution									
Postal Ac	ldress								
City					State			Zip Co	ode
Country					hone: Inc. ode			Mobil	e:
E-mail Address								Fax: in code	ncl.
Special D Requests	Dietary								
Other Requests (specify)	Specia	al							

I ACCOMMODATION:

For full details of the hotels see **Annexure C** or visit the conference website. Please select the hotel of your choice from this list, and indicate your preference in the space provided below. All rates are quoted in South African Rands (ZAR) and are subject to change. Rates include bed and breakfast, VAT at 14% and 1% Tourism Levy. A deposit equal to one night's accommodation is required with your reservation. Balance of the accommodation must be paid directly to the hotel. As this is high season in Durban (coinciding with the school holidays), you may only cancel your reservation up to 10 June 2005 will full refund, less an administration fee of R100. Thereafter your full deposit will be retained by the hotel.

Hotel Name: 1st Choice								
Hotel Name: 2nd Choice								
In the event that my preferred hotel is unavailable, please book me in a		k Similar		Higher	Lowe	r	Category of accommod n	
Arrive Date		Depart I	Depart Date		·		No. of Nights	
Room Type Required	Single	Double	Double Twin					
Other special ho	. non smoki	on smoking room						
	dation : He	ation: Hotel Depo			ZAI	R		

II EXCURSIONS

Delegates are entitled to a complimentary tour of one of the World Heritage Properties in KwaZulu Natal from19 to 19 July 2005. Please indicate your choice in the table below. Full itineraries are available on the website (<u>www.29whc.org</u>). The expense for partners or any other person accompanying the delegate is as follows (price per person):

- Drakensberg / uKhahlamba R1412.00 (sharing a double room); R2060.00 (single room)
- St Lucia Wetlands
- R1638.00 (sharing a double room); R1739.00 (single room)

Field Trip		Delegate	Partner / Other
Drakensberg/uKhahlamba			
St Lucia Wetlands			
II Excursion:	Total for Accompanying People		ZAR

III AIRPORT TRANSFERS

If you would like to book transfers between Durban airport and the International Conventions Centre, please fill out the details below. A pre-booked and paid transfer costs ZAR100.00 per person one way. A transfer paid on arrival costs ZAR120.00 per person one way.

Date of Transfer	Pick up from	Flight Time	Flight No.	Drop off Point	No. of persons	Cost
	Durban Airport					ZAR
				Durban Airport		ZAR
III Airport Transfers : Total						ZAR

IV OPTIONAL PRE- AND POST MEETING EXCURSIONS / LEISURE TOUR PROGRAM:

For full details please visit the congress website www.29whc.org.

Please select the tour of your choice from the tour list on the website and complete the tour booking section. A deposit of 20% of the total tour value is required within 14 days of booking to confirm the tour reservation. The balance of the tour price must reach *Turners Travel* by the 10 June 2005. Any tours booked after this date must be paid in full immediately.

ALL tours are subject to *Turners* and their appointed tour operators' terms and conditions.

Cancellation of Tours: Once tours are confirmed they will be subject to the following cancellation fees:-R100.00 administration fee if cancelled before 01 June 2005, 20% cancellation fee if cancelled between

01 June 2005 and

10 June 2005 and 100% cancellation fee if cancelled after 10 June 2005. All cancellations must be sent in writing to *Turners Travel*.

Tour No	Tour Name	Tour Cost per person	Depart Date	No. of Persons	Total Cost
IV	Optional pre- and post meeting	ZAR			

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE

(Use this section to summarise your requirements and calculate the total of your payments due)

Sectio	on: Items:	Sub-totals	ZAR Amount
Ι	Accommodation		ZAR
II	Excursions (accompanying person only)		ZAR
III	Airport Transfers		ZAR
IV	Pre- and post meeting tour options		ZAR
	G	RAND TOTAL	ZAR

PAYMENT DETAILS (Please enter X in the appropriate box)

Option One Bank Transfer	Please specify "World Heritage Committee Meeting" on your bank transfer. Forward to: Turners Conf/ DACWHCM First National Bank - <u>Account No</u> . 62078806282- <u>Branch</u> - Durban Main Branch 221426 - <u>Swift No</u> . FIRNZAJJ762. (Please fax a copy of your transfer to Turners)
Option Two Credit card	Should you choose to use this option, please complete the authorisation below to enable Turners to debit your credit card.

I, the undersigned, do hereby authorize *Turners Travel* to debit my credit Card for the following amounts: (please fax a copy of the front and back of your credit card to Turners)

TOTAL:	Accommodation, Tours & Transfers	ZAR	

Credit Card Type X	Master		Visa		Diner s		American Express	
Credit Card number			Expiry date					
Cardholder's name on card			3 Digit no. on reverse side (where applicable)					
Cardholder's				Date of	signatur	e		
signature								

All transactions are conducted in terms of Turners standard conditions of trading. They are available on application.

Annexure C

The hotel grading are as follows: ***** - 5 star – Superior; **** - 4 star – Luxury; *** - 3 star – Moderate; ** - 2 star - Budget. (The higher the grade the more expensive the accommodation and the higher the quality and services.)

On the Accommodation page of the website there are links to a page for each hotel with a link to a fact sheet. Should you need more information on any of these hotels, please use this facility. We have negotiated special hotel rates for this event and will do rate checks on a weekly basis to monitor them.

Rates quoted are per room per night (bed and breakfast), VAT and the 1% government tourism levy.

HOTEL	LOCATION	ROOM TYPE (all rooms with a full bathroom)	RATES
Durban Hilton ****	Next to ICC		
Standard room		Single Double	R 859.00 R 989.00
Luxury Corner Room		Single Double	R1221.00 R1363.00
Superior Suite		Single Double	R1363.00 R1483.00
Terrace Suite		Single Double	R3888.00 R4008.00
City Lodge Durban ***	Walking Distance from ICC	Single Double	R 586.00 R 817.00
Road Lodge **	Walking Distance from ICC	Single Double	R 318.00 R 348.00
Holiday Inn Garden Court North Beach ***	Durban Beachfront	Single Double	R 829.00 R 901.00
Royal Hotel ****	City Centre	Single Double	R 667.00 R 768.00

To view the exact location of the hotels, please consult Annexure E.

EXCURSION 18 - 19 July 2005

South Africa will provide a complimentary tour to the delegates to one of the World Heritage Properties in KwaZulu Natal from 18 to 19 July 2005. Please find the costs for partners or any other person accompanying the delegate at **Annexure B II**. Full itineraries are available on the website (<u>www.29whc.org</u>).

On Monday 18 July 2005 delegates will leave Durban by bus to the different World Heritage Sites. The buses will depart at 09:00. Accommodation will be at or near the two sites. On Tuesday 19 July 2005 the buses will return to Durban to arrive at 13:00, in time for your departure to your next destination. It is advisable to take an overnight bag with you, while your other luggage are safely stored at your hotel.

OPTION 1: DRAKENSBERG/uKHAHLAMBA (MIXED PROPERTY)

The Drakensberg contains landscapes and features of exceptional natural beauty, including the mountain barrier with its jagged high peaks and intervening spurs, the high escarpment walls of dark basalt lying above the light coloured Clarens Sandstone, pristine steep-sided river valleys and rocky gorges, grasslands, thickets and waterfalls. A total of 2153 species of plants have been described in the Park and the fauna life is equally rich.

The Drakensberg region ranks as one of the most important archaeological areas in South Africa – from Early, Middle and Late Stone Ages, as well as the Late Iron Age. The first evidence of human occupation dates from the Middle Stone Age (20 000 years ago), but it was the Late Stone Age people – the San – who inhabited the area. The San were hunter-gatherers and often lived in caves and rock shelters, many of them adorned with rock paintings. Depart for the Drakensberg/Ukhahlamba.

OPTION 2: GREATER ST LUCIA WETLAND PARK (NATURAL PROPERTY)

There are few comparable protected coastlines within the tropics as pristine as St. Lucia's. The Park is one of the outstanding natural wetland sites of Africa. It lies on a tropical-subtropical interface with a wide range of terrestrial, wetland, estuarine lake, coastal and marine environments, which are scenically beautiful and basically unmodified by people. There include coral reefs, long sandy beaches, coastal dunes, lake systems, swamps, and extensive reed and papyrus wetlands, critical habitat for a range of species from Africa's sea, wetlands and savannahs. The interaction of these environments with major floods and coastal storms in the Park's transitional location have resulted in exceptional species diversity and ongoing speciation.

