

South Africa: Richards Bay

Information

Time Zone	UTC +2
Dialling Code	+27 (035 local code)
Money	Rand (R)
Language	English and Afrikaans

Emergencies

Police	10111
Ambulance	10777

Useful websites

www.southafrica.net
www.southafrica.info

Pilotage Information

Charts 4173 Approaches to Richard Bay
4174 Richards Bay Harbour

Pilots South African Almanac (Morgan)
South African Cruising Notes (Herrick)

Visas

Passport holders from countries including most west European nations, USA, Australia, and Canada do not need a visa to visit South Africa. To check if you need a visa in advance, please visit www.southafrica.info/travel/documents/visas.htm or www.home-affairs.gov.za. Visas can be obtained from the South African High Commission in Port Louis, Mauritius T: +230 212 6925/6/7/8/9 E: francoisp@dirco.gov.za

Entry Requirements

Normally yachts must go to the Customs dock in Tuzi Gazi marina, and wait for Customs and Immigration to visit. World ARC Rally Control will inform you of any special arrangements.



Blue Wildebeest

General

Richards Bay, KwaZulu Natal was founded as a port by Commodore Fredrick Richards during the first Anglo-Boer war of 1880. One of the largest natural bays in South Africa it is now one of the most important harbours of the country. The town itself is becoming the holiday destination of the Natal coast, with fishing, beaches, and estuaries close by and game reserves within 1-2 hours drive. The Game Parks north of Richards Bay are fantastic and, compared to those further south, are home to many more animals. Richards Bay's surrounds have vast expanses of untouched and unspoilt indigenous vegetation as well as natural lakes and marshes, making KwaZulu Natal one of the most picturesque tourist destinations in the country.

World ARC participants are advised to use Richard's Bay as a base to travel up to the famous Kruger National Park and also the Drakensburg ranges which give a fascinating insight in to the lives of the Zulu and Xhosa peoples.

Don't Miss

The Big Five: This is Africa! Get off the boat and go on safari inland and spot Lion, Leopard, Elephant, Buffalo and Rhino.

Lake Mzingazi: The primary water supply of Richards Bay is a popular tourist attraction offering visitors the chance to view Nile crocodiles and hippos as well as over 350 species of birds - making it a bird watcher's paradise.

Richards Bay Game Reserve: Set up to protect lagoon animals formerly subject to intensive hunting, the reserve features a prodigious number of aquatic birds and animal species including hippos and crocodiles.

Ukhahlamba Drakensberg Park: a World Heritage Site and one of South Africa's prime eco-tourist destinations offering great open spaces in a world of gigantic peaks and soaring basalt buttresses just two hours from Durban.

1. Zululand Yacht Club

Commodore Close
PO Box 10387
Meerensee
South Africa
T: +27 35 788 0256
E: info@zyc.co.za
W: www.zyc.co.za



Mooring

The marina is well sheltered with floating pontoons. Larger yachts will moor stern-to the main quay, using their own anchor. Smaller yachts berth alongside floating pontoons.

The Zululand Yacht Club (1) are our hosts in Richards Bay, and they are confident that we will not find better hospitality anywhere on this coast. World ARC yachts will moor here rather than the Tuzi Gazi Marina (2) nearby. Some of the walk-on jetties have been recently renovated. The Club has 24-hour security and is considered safe. Every Monday evening there is a 'bring and braai' (BBQ) and bar happy hours take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

Travel Information

African Classic Encounters provide a travel service including excursions, car hire and internal flights. E: jc@classicencounters.com W: www.africanclassicencounters.com

Sure Quay Travel Tuzi Gazi Marina. T: 7880107

Airports

Richards Bay Airport (RCB) is a small provincial airport that connects to Johannesburg and then to other airports in South Africa.

There is a Flight Centre in the Boardwalk Centre and African Classic Encounters can also help.

Buses

There is no public transport running past the Yacht Club but taxis are inexpensive to the shopping mall or elsewhere.

Car Rental

Within Richards Bay there are several car hire companies and the ZLYC will be happy to organise this for you.

RIS Vehicle Hire T: 789 0260 E: sales2@rishire.co.za

Taxis

Call-a-Taxi T: 083 923 0109.

Jenevieve's Taxis T: 078 021 4634.

Train

With a large commercial port just across from the yacht club, there is a connection to the rail system that runs all through South Africa.

A to Z of What's on Shore

There is a shopping mall and industrial complex at the Boardwalk in the centre of Richards Bay. There is no other town centre.

Accommodation

Bay View Lodge E: baylodge@ion.co.za

Check also www.richardsbayaccommodation.co.za

Chandlery

Pro Radio & Marine at the Yacht Club. T: 035 788 0190 A good range of stock compared to Mauritius and Réunion. Can order most parts on a 7 day service. E: proradio@telkomsa.net

Dentist

At the **Medicross Medical Centre** (See Doctors).

Doctors / Hospital

Medicross Medical Centre: opposite the Boardwalk. T: 035 789 1564 Full range of health services including dentist and optician.

The Bay Hospital: opposite the Boardwalk. T: 035 780 6111 Emergency department and other medical services.

Emergency ambulance T: 10177

Diving

Zululand Fire Control Dollar Drive T: 789 23402
Offer dive tank refit and inspection only.

Electricity

220V electricity available on all berths, connect with marine 16AMP socket and local 3 pin sockets. Connectors available from the marine office or chandlery.

Fuel

Pro Radio & Marine offer a fuel delivery service for yachts alongside the wall. Price in 2014 was R12/litre.

Gas (Cooking)

In 2014, camping gas and US bottles could be refilled with LPG through the Yacht Club.

Hardware Store

Hardware store in Meerensee.

Ice

Widely available including at the Yacht Club bar.

Internet

ZLYC has wifi, ask at the marina office. There are also several internet cafes in Richards Bay.

Laundry

ZLYC has token-operated machines – buy tokens from the club office.

Happy Bubble Laundry wash, dry, fold, return service. Call 079 307 0608. Collection from club office.

Mail

Mail can be posted to the Zululand Yacht Club address at the start of this section. Put World ARC Yacht [name] in the address.

Markets

Boardwalk and Meerensee malls.

Pharmacy

Boardwalk and Meerensee malls.

Post Office

In Meerensee.

Rubbish/Garbage

Facilities at the Yacht Club.

Restaurants

Yacht Club members are happy to recommend a restaurant. There is lots of choice in the Richards Bay area around the Tuzi Gazi marina and elsewhere.

Supermarkets

Pick n Pay and **Spar** supermarkets in Meerensee and larger stores at the Boardwalk Mall.

Sports Facilities

ZLYC has a small swimming pool.

Telephones

To buy a local sim card, proof of residency must be shown. Collect from Rally Control or the Yacht Club office.

Pay phones: Calling cards for Telekom public phone booths are available in most shops.

Tourist Office

ZLYC has an information stand, and there is a tourist office in the Boardwalk.

Water

Drinking water available on the floating docks.



A warm welcome from ZLYC



A to Z of Repair Services

Durban (180km away) is the closest large centre for yacht services, and many Durban-based companies will travel to Richards Bay.

Boatyard

ZLYC Have a haulout and boatyard. Contact the Yacht Club office to book yard space.

Electrical and Electronics

Fonz Marine in Durban. T: 031 368 5222, M: 082 4553209. E: steve@fonzmarine.co.za. Contact Steve. Inverters. Repairs.

Battery Centre 13 Dollar Drive, Boardwalk. T: 789 3661, M: 082 8020194, Toll Free 0800 112600 Agents for Trojan and Deltec batteries.

Tuzi Gazi Marine Services M: 072 4502183. Contact Henny Korsman.

Navtron Meerensee T: 789 9784, M: 083 2889409 E: navtron@intekom.co.za Contact Lawrence W. Gallagher.

Pro-Radio Bullion Boulevard, Richards Bay. T: 07895548 / 07897244. Boat electronics.

Fibreglass/GRP Repair

Can be arranged through Zululand Yacht Services (Andrew Plastic) – ask at ZLYC.

Brad Boatman T: 035 7892212 M: 083 3218276. Has storage facilities and will boat-watch while you are away.

Haulout

Zululand Yacht Club has a slipway and a 30 ton travel hoist and boats can be put on the hard for major repairs and longer periods of time.

Tuzi Gazi Marina has a slipway (a municipal asset), which can be utilised by visiting boats at no charge.

Liferaft and Inflatables Servicing

Theo (via Tuzi Gazi Marina) Cell: 083 9428232. Inflatables.

Mechanical

Bay Boatique 151 Dollar Drive, Richards Bay. M: 083 2275166.

Coastal Charters and Marine 13 Grunter Gulley, Meerensee. T: 753 4698. Contact Eric Venter (does fishing charters as well).

Diesel and Auto Eng 19 Copper Corner, Alton. T: 797 3581.

Nels Marine 1 Commodore Close, Meerensee. T: 788 0257. Outboard engine repairs.

Frank Services 42 Ceramic Curve, Shop No 3, Alton Industrial Area, Richards Bay. T: 751 1551, M: 082 976 1138. Contact Frank Van Der Merwe.

Manie Duplessis (via ZLYC) T: 084 5564031.

Refrigeration

Afcon Industrial Equipment 9 Dollar Drive, Northway 4065 T: 789 5877.

Jacques (via Tuzi Gazi Marina) M: 083 4552301.

Rigging

Yacht Masts and Rigging Durban T: 1 7019363, M: 083 5570037 Contact Chris.

Sail Repairs

Sails and Boating 86 Blake Road, Durban. T: 31 301 3009. For North Sails. Contact Sandy Samways.

Quantum Sails (via ZLYC) T: 072 2278508 Contact: Craig Millar.

Watermakers

Jacques (see Refrigeration).

Zul Cool Meerensee T: 7898290, Mob Connie: 083 2560945, Raymond: 083 6583336 Air-condition sales, service and installations.

Welding / Metalwork

Jannie Smit (via ZLYC) T: 082 7870938. Stainless steel work.

BRP Engineering 10 Kabelkring, Alton T: 797 5155.

Bay Galvanizers 110 Alumina Allee, Alton T: 751 1942.

East Coast Electro Plating & Polishing 7 Maryshoek, Alton. T: 797 3707. Also galvanizing (not chain).

Gieppe (via Tuzi Gazi Marina) T: 845 114305. Stainless steel work.

RB Termal Applications Eagle Industrial Park, Unit 21, Alton. T: 797 4430 / 797 4431. Contact Hennie Martiz. Stainless steel work.

Universal Welding Tuzi Gazi Waterfront. T: 084 511 4305. All metals, including stainless steel.