



YALE ALUMNI SERVICE CORPS  CAPE TOWN 2018

Newsletter No. 6  
July 2018

Hello everyone,

**It's the final countdown...\***

Two weeks to go!

\*An extra serving of bobotie to whomever is first to identify the Swedish rock band that sang that 80's hit song. No Googling allowed!

**Hit Me With Your Best Shot**

As previously noted, South Africa does not require proof of any immunizations other than yellow fever if you are arriving from a country in the "yellow fever belt." That being said, you should consult your own physician or a travel doctor as well as the CDC website for advice on what immunizations are recommended for travel to South Africa and international travel in general.

Although Cape Town is not in a malaria zone, *if you're on any of the pre- or post-trip excursions*, you should definitely be taking precautions, including wearing proper clothing, using mosquito repellent, and taking anti-malarial medication. Be sure to consult with your own physician for advice and a prescription. Most of the anti-malarial medications have to be started before you arrive in the affected area. Here's some information about Kruger National Park.

<https://www.sabisandgamereserve.co.za/malaria-risk-area.html>

But again, we recommend that you consult the CDC website for more information.

**SIM-ple Twist of Fate**

If you happen to arrive at the Cape Town airport at the right time and are interested in getting a SIM card for your phone, there is a Vodacom store in both the Domestic (open 4:45 am to 11 pm) and International arrivals areas (open 9 am to 6

pm). Otherwise, there are stores that sell SIM cards within walking distance of the hotel.

### **Big Yellow Taxi**

For those of you arriving before July 26<sup>th</sup>, please be aware that taxis in Cape Town do *not* take credit cards. So be sure to get some cash in the airport or plan to use Uber to get yourself to the hotel. For everyone else, please watch your in-box in the coming days for an email from me outlining the shuttle bus schedule.

Whenever you do arrive, please know that we will be covering tips to the bellman and housekeepers at the hotel. And tips to the bus drivers and tour guides as well. Personal expenses—such as items from the mini-bar in your room—are your responsibility.

### **Katrina and the Waves**

It should not surprise you that we will be going to Robben Island by boat. If you're prone to seasickness, be sure to bring your favorite remedy—Dramamine, patch, wristband—as the waters can get choppy. When João and I were in Cape Town last fall, we weren't able to find a drugstore that sold patches or wristbands, although motion sickness tablets were readily available.

### **Working for the Weekend**

Some of you have asked about the schedule. Our first weekend will be pretty jam-packed. Orientation begins first thing Friday morning (there *will* be coffee!) and extends into the afternoon (and *more* coffee!). We'll break for project team meetings in the afternoon. Friday evening will be a welcome cocktail party followed by dinner and a special performance that night after dinner. You'll want to stay awake for this one!

On both Saturday and Sunday morning we'll be doing some exploring of Cape Town and in the afternoons, again, there will be time set aside for team meetings. So, for those teams that aren't able to nail down all the details of their projects before we arrive (which you're not stressing about, right?), there will be plenty of opportunity throughout the weekend to get ready for Monday morning in Philippi.

### **What's Going On**

If the Daily Maverick email updates aren't enough for you, Scott at Amandla has passed along some people you might want to follow on Twitter:

Osiame Molefe (@TOMolefe) - Wrote the SA column for the NY Times for a while, so some people may already know him  
Gugs Mhlungu (@GugsM)

Khaya Dlanga (@khayadlanga)

Nomboniso Gasa (@nombonisogasa)

Mmusi Maimane (@mmusimaimane)

Zama Ndlovu (@ms\_zamandlovu)

Eusebius McKaiser (@eusebius) - Also has a few interesting books about how younger people of colour who don't feel loyal to the African National Conference but aren't comfortable with the Democratic Alliance are finding their political space

Andile Mngxitama (@mngxitama)- Not for the faint of heart. Very radical leftists. But does inject some interesting things into the debate.

See you all very soon.

Rob

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