

# Welcome to the Lower South Coast!





## **Welcome To The Lower South Coast**

## Interesting Info About:



## **Port Shepstone**

The Port Shepstone Museum details the town's maritime history. Founded in 1867 when marble was discovered near the mouth of the Umzimkulu River, the town flourished from 1879 when William Bazley blasted away the rocks at the mouth to create the Umzimkulu breakwater. British adventures, Norwegian settlers, Indian entrepreneurs and many sugar plantation labourers settled here. Artifacts of the Khoi & San people have been found. Dick King encountered the daunting Umzimkulu mouth in his epic horseback ride to get help for the British forces under siege at Durban's Old Fort. A visit to the Port Shepstone Lighthouse is an interesting and informative lesson. The Kapenta Bay Resort and Conference Hotel can be found on the beachfront of Port Shepstone, where up to 300 delegates can be accommodated at one time.

## **Shelly Beach**

One of the fastest growing towns in the South Coast. It is a launch spot for many ocean adventures, scuba diving at Protea Banks, dolphin & whale watching or deep sea fishing. You can also take a boat trip to view the shark nets and learn about the role sharks play in the ecology and tourism of the coastline.

The South Coast Malls boasts 80 shops and includes Mugg & Bean, Ocean Basket, Mr Price Home, Game and Checkers amongst its anchor tenants.

The Shelly Centre boasts 114 shops, 6 cinemas, 11 restaurants and 5 banks, with Pick 'n Pay, Edgars and Mr Price being major tenants.

The skyline Nature Reserve near Shelly Beach has some 76 indigenous coastal tree species, 300 other indigenous trees and 400 exotic species. Well worth taking a stroll in the forest.

## Margate

Margate is a vibrant holiday mecca, with scores of restaurants, bars, and shops, Volleyball and touch rugby games can be played on the sprawling 1km beach, or you can shop in the quaint shops or along the beach for surf ware, crafts and collectables. Take a walk next to the beach to the fishing pier along the recently renovated promenade road. In nearby Kwa Gamalakhe, tour groups offer community-based tour with accredited local guides where you can learn about the traditions of Zulu folks.





This is our most southern town which is bordered by the Umtamvuna River Gorge. Places like Silver Beach (popular for sun – worshippers) and Splash Rock (rock fishing, surf fishing and ski boat launching, Sao Joao Monument (place to watch whales & dolphins) and North Sand Bluff Lighthouse are well known. Water Skiing, jet skiing, hiking and mountain bike trails are available. The Mars-like Red Desert (smallest desert in the world), Beaver Creek Coffee Farm on Cragadour Ridge and the Space Centre (private collection of astronomical and optical equipment) are well worth a visit. The impressive Wild Coast Sun Resort and Casino complex is just five minutes away. The Wild Coast Sun Country Club boasts a rugged and beautiful golf course, ranking in South Africa's top 10 list. (Golf carts are compulsory.)

Wild Coast Water World can be reached on 039 305 3024 for information regarding their cruise boat, and jet skis, tube rides, water snake rides, speed boat rides, water skiing, motor boats, paddle boats and canoes.

## What do our local beaches offer?

## **Shelly Beach**

A shell collector's paradise, where the finest miniature lady shells can be found hidden among the many varieties which make Shelly Beach famous.

### St Michaels-on-sea

One of the best point breaks in South Africa, making it one of the finest local and international surfer's beaches. Fun paddling boats and a tidal pool as well a giant slide during holiday seasons and two restaurants on the beach front as well.

## Uvongo

Famous for its 23m waterfall, which plunges into one of the deepest lagoons in the country. Tidal pool, a baby paddling pool, fishing pier, paddling boats, tearoom and an Italian restaurant, sheltered from the wind.



## Lucien Beach (Manaba)

Ample parking, tidal pool and long stretch of pristine white sand. Tuck shop and ablutions in parking lot.

## Margate

This "Mile long" beach is a beehive of action and exciting entertainment in the school holidays with numerous restaurants, pubs and coffee shops. Daily vendor market on the pavement. Kiddies' pool and tables and umbrellas available. Well known fishing pier for avid fishermen.

## Ramsgate

Peaceful haven for those who enjoy the quieter life. Braai & picnic facilities in a park like shaded setting. Beautiful Ramsgate Ramble walkway as well as the Whaledeck which is a viewing deck to spot the whales in this lovely area. Many restaurants including the famous Waffle house. Take a walk through the Tanglewood Forest and visit the Resonant Circle. Paddle boats on the lagoon with a giant slide during holiday seasons.







This is an organization in Kwa-zulu Natal which is unique in the world.

It was established in 1964 to provide shark attack prevention measures for beach users.

The NSB proudly performs this duty on a daily basis at our popular bathing beaches.

Launching their boats at dawn, highly trained teams negotiate a sometimes volatile surf zone to reach their installations and begin the task of checking each net for entangled marine life, ensuring all is in order before the onset of beach users.

Most sharks pose little or no threat to humans who enter the sea, however, there are certain factors and conditions which can play a role in increasing the possibility of an encounter.

While its key focus is protecting humans from shark attacks, the NSB promotes conservations of all marine life. Net reduction together with tagging and releasing of all live specimens has resulted in a significant drop in fatalities.

For the more adventurous – an early morning boat trip to see the shark nets being cleared and the schools of dolphins passing by as well as seabirds and sometimes whales.

Shark nets are generally installed 400 meters off-shore. Swimmers are urged to swim only at netted beaches as the nets greatly reduce the numbers of sharks which come into contact with swimmers and surfers.

In the last 20 years, there has been only one serious shark attack on a netted beach.

## Stay Safe This Holiday

\*WILCOME\*

Always swim at beaches protected by shark nets



Swim at beaches with lifeguards and obey their instructions



Don't swim at dawn or dusk as the sharks come more inshore to feed



Alcohol and swimming do not mix



Never underestimate the power of the sea



Do not swim in dirty water or in a river mouth



Avoid Swimming when blue bottles and jellyfish are present



## Places to visit in the area

#### Kart Freaks ~ 039 312 1514

Feed the need for the speed? Then try Kart Freaks (behind Cornhill Butchery (old Freys) in the dip). Also have paint ball and play park on site. Dad can have the car washed while the family are enjoying themselves.

#### Pure Venom Snake Park ~ 039 685 0704

The largest educational reptile farm in South Africa with a restaurant and curio shop. About 13 kms from Margate. Take Izotha School road and follow the signs.

#### Riverbend Crocodile Farm ~ 039 316 6204

Watch the crocodiles being fed and enjoy an educational talk on breeding of crocodiles.

Restaurant and art gallery on site. Ramsgate/Southbroom area.

#### Wild Coast Water World ~ 039 305 3024

Splash out with speed boats, water skiing, aqua scooters, motorboats, jet skis etc or go for a leisurely trip up the Umtamvuna River on the Spellbound Rambler.

(Beyond Port Edward)

#### Wild Coast Sun ~ 039 305 9111

Children's swimming theme park, 10 pin bowling, horse riding, gambling, games arcade

#### Pistols Saloon ~ 039 316 8463

Real cowboy hospitality where Bandit the Pig and Huckleberry the Donkey will greet you. Some gaming machines. Live music on certain days.

#### Lake Eland Game Reserve ~ 039 687 0395

Drive, walk, cycle or ride to get really close to nature and wild life. Picnic area with braai facilities plus a licensed restaurant. Walk on an 80m suspension bridge, 50m above the tree tops to the Eagles Nest view site.

#### Oribi Gorge ~ 039 687 0253

If you are an "adrenaline junky" then Oribi Gorge has it all. The Wild Gorge Swings allows you to fall in a 100 meter arc above the gorge floor and is the highest swing in the world. In addition there is the Wild Slide, abseiling, water rafting, horse riding, go-karts and much more. Visit the Gorge Hotel, Lake Eland and Leopard Rock Café. (Take the old scenic road through the Gorge. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> turn off - don't take 1<sup>st</sup> turn off as it takes you past cement factory)





Sugar cane tour at Lake Eland and Banana tour at MacBanana in Palm Beach area.

#### Adventures Extreme ~ Ocean Safaris ~ 082 960 7682

One of the most mystical creatures on our planet has to be the dolphin, yet only a fortunate few ever get close to them. Book a trip weather permitting ~ one hour trip for 11 people – experienced guide to answer your questions.

#### Offshore Adventures ~ 079 576 5254

Deep sea swimming, shark cage dives, scuba diving and family fun pleasure trips are all offered with a guide as well as a photographer

#### Aqua Planet ~ 039 315 7524

Get wet with one of our Scuba courses ranging from beginner to professional. All equipment to meet your scuba, spear fishing and snorkeling needs.

#### **Jolly Boats**

Hire paddle boats on St Mikes, Ramsgate, Uvongo and Margate lagoons.

#### Beaver Creek Coffee Estate ~ 039 311 2315

Visitors to the Estate can sample and purchase a range of freshly roasted coffees. The estate Café serves delicious meals and a range of freshly roasted coffee all day.

#### Mac Banana Estate ~ 039 319 1033

Farm fresh produced & preserves local jam, nuts, treats and coffee, Pancake house, Butterfly Dome, Rope Adventure Park, Pony Rides, Paint Ball, Mini Golf, Quad Bikes, Wine Cellar, Mac Farmyard, restaurants and Banana Tours ~ 039 319 1454

#### The Dino Park ~ 084 620 1644

Open Thursdays to Sundays – 10am to 4 pm. Beach Road, Melville, Port Shepstone.

#### Helicopter Flips ~ 082 781 2492 / 039 315 0894

4 People + Pilot "Bell Jet ranger" or Robinson 44
Short Scenic flips, Coastline or inland
2.5 hour tour to Oribi Gorge
2.5 hour tour to Wild coast

#### Ramsgate Flea Market ~ 078 175 5839

Open every Saturday, weather permitting at the Lions Hall in Ramsgate.

Homemade pies, biscuits, arts and crafts, plants and books for sale.

#### Exploring South Coast Hiking Trials ~ 083 380 6641

The stretch of coastline at the Wild Coast Sun is known for its fossil reefs and caves which are lined with petrified trees, amenities, giant clams, turtles and ancient shells. Explore new trials and bond with others whilst finding painted rocks.

#### Ushaka Marine World ~ 031 328 8000

About an hour's drive away - whether you are looking for the ultimate adrenaline rush or a water-filled adventure, there's no better place to enjoy the ride than Wet 'n Wild world of slides and pools!

#### **Uvongo Flea Market** ~ 039 315 7600

Open every Saturday, weather permitting. Relax in the lovely open air tea room. Take home fresh bread, pies and biscuits.

See the exciting African Arts and Artifacts.

#### Spiller's Wharf in Port Shepstone ~ 039 684 0277

Is a collection of individual businesses that sell unique products that showcase the best of the South Coast. These include food, art, antiques, fresh seafood, crafts and coffee. It also offers boating and river adventures,

#### Margate Mardi Gras ~ 039 317 2202

Every Wednesday in holiday season, (if its raining then the event is postponed to Thursday) enjoy a wide variety of music, dance and other entertainment, delicious food and snacks. Stalls and shops open for your shopping extravaganza.

#### Klipspringer Ecoventures~ 082 779 1935

4x4 track, quad trails, mountain bike, bass fishing, off road go-karts, hiking, abseil, rock climbing, archery, paintball target shooting.

#### Crag's View Care Centre ~ 039 311 2488

Book for informational talk about Wild Life

#### Health and Fitness Centre ~ 039 317 2949

Need to go to the gym, then try Superbodies opposite Hibiscus Mall in Margate.

#### The Pont Water Sport Resort ~ 039 311 2211

Picnic Sites, braai areas, licensed restaurant and bar, kiddies playground, boat launching ramps, function venue, swimming pool, boating, waterskiing, tube riding

#### Xcaped ~ 082 290 6906

Xcaped offers a truly fun and entertaining experience for all occasions. There are two rooms. Play one of two escape rooms, which challenge every player on every level.

## **Restaurants/Coffee Shops in the area**

Blue Lagoon Restaurant	039 314 4149
Breakers	039 315 6174
Chefs on Marine	067 771 6312
Coffee on the Square	039 316 8442
Cow Shed Coffee Shop	082 414 3239
Earth Shed Coffee Shop	060 756 3661
La Scali Restaurant	079 571 7388
Flavours Restaurant	039 314 4128
KC's Coffee Shop	039 940 6687
Genuine Indian Cuisine	078 942 2964
Georgia Spur	039 315 1444
Highland Fryer	039 315 6454
So Chinese	083 231 6304
Daily Grind	039 317 3993
Larry's	039 315 0190
Lobster Pot	039 314 9809
Packshed	078 812 7272
Paparikas	081 327 8138
Popeye's Pub & Grub	039 314 9565
Hardekool	071 444 6897
Mozambik	082 547 3995
The Grove	082 680 5200
Waffle House	039 314 9424
Rocky Ridge	076 996 4405
Tom, Dick & Harry	039 314 4510
Casa Do Joao	082 717 1086
Tree Top Cafe	082 719 2822
VT Coffee Café/Village Tavern	079 552 8165
Tiagos	039 312 2565
Chippies Diner	084 227 2485
Resh's	071 914 6074
Journey Café	064 856 4697

## **Shopping Malls in the area**

#### **Hibiscus Mall**

Corner of Wartski Drive & Windsor Ave Margate
Tel: 039 312 0680 or Fax 039 317 4303

Margate Centre
Corner of National & Wartski Drive
(Opposite Police Station)

Shelly Centre
Marine Drive, Shelley Beach
Tel: 039 315 1304

South Coast Mall
Old Main Road, Izotsha Road,
Tel: 039 315 7515



