



International Hydrographic Organisations Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC - 11) Cape Town, South Africa - 6-9 May 2019



The 11th HSSC meeting of the International Hydrographic Organisation will be hosted by the South African Navy Hydrographic Office (SANHO) in Cape Town, South Africa, 6-9 May 2019. As the organisers of the meeting, the SANHO is pleased to welcome you to Cape Town and provide the following logistical information.

HSSC 11 will be held in Newlands, a suburb of Cape Town, South Africa. Cape Town is home not only to beautiful wine lands, stunning beaches and a multicultural population, but is also home to one of the 7 Natural wonders of the world – Table Mountain.

Cape Town is the provincial capital city of the Western Cape. As the seat of the National Parliament it is also the legislative capital of South Africa.

Located on the shore of Table Bay, Cape Town was first developed by the Dutch East India Company as a supply station for Dutch ships sailing to East Africa, India, and the Far East. Jan van Riebeeck's arrival on 6 April 1652 established the first permanent European settlement in South Africa. Cape Town quickly outgrew its original purpose as the first European outpost at the Castle of Good Hope, becoming the economic and cultural hub of the Cape Colony. Until the Witwatersrand Gold Rush and the development of Johannesburg, Cape Town was the largest city in South Africa.

Newlands is an upmarket suburb of Cape Town, South Africa. It is located at the foot of Table Mountain in the Southern Suburbs, and is the wettest suburb in South Africa due to its high winter rainfall.

It is best known for Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, Newlands Forest, Newlands Cricket Ground and Newlands Stadium, a rugby union and football venue. It is also the original home of Ohlsson's Cape Breweries, which is still located next to the rugby grounds.



Your Chart, Our Art
The foundation of your Past, Present and Future



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HSSC 11 SANHO Organiser:

For any queries, additional information not supplied herein, special arrangements, letters of invitation etc. please contact:

Ruth Farre

Tel: +27 (0)21 787 2403

Email: hydrosan@iafrica.com
sanho.tides@outlook.com

Visa Requirements

Depending on your nationality, and the purpose and duration of your visit, you may need a visa to visit South Africa.

All relevant information regarding South African visa types and requirements can be found at <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/applying-for-sa-visa>

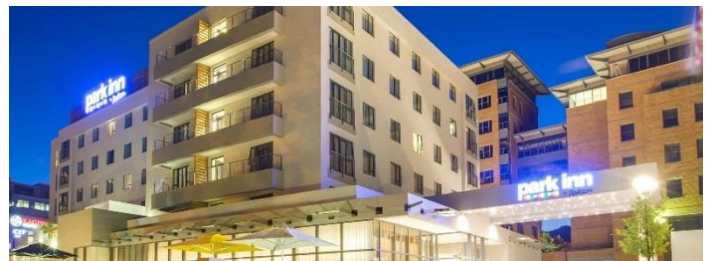
How to get to Cape Town:

Many airlines offer direct flights to Cape Town International Airport, however if your flight lands in Johannesburg (OR Tambo International Airport) you will need to take a connecting flight to Cape Town (± 2 hour flight.) If you fly via Johannesburg, you will be required to collect your luggage and check in again, even if you have booked yourself and your luggage directly though to Cape Town

From Cape Town International Airport, you can either take a taxi to the hotel or alternatively you can arrange a shuttle with the hotel when you make your reservation.

The Meeting Venue and Accommodation:

The **Park Inn by Radisson - Newlands** is the preferred hotel and the SANHO has negotiated a special rate for the HSSC 11. (<https://www.parkinn.com/hotel-capetown-newlands>)



The hotel is within walking distance of Newlands train station, a large Pick 'n Pay (supermarket), several restaurants and two shopping malls- Cavendish Square and Stadium on Main.



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Block Booking rates (A limited number of rooms have been block booked)

5 – 9 May 2019.

Standard en-Suite room (Single) R2 080,00 per night

Should you wish to bring your partner/spouse an additional fee of R250 will be added to the special rate.

If you wish to arrive earlier or stay a bit longer and enjoy our beautiful city, please feel free to do so. A special rate has been negotiated for you for this as well.

You must reserve your room **no later than 8 April 2019**

Should you wish to stay at an alternative hotel/guest house please be aware that a daily cost of up to R1 000,00 for teas, lunches, Wi-Fi usage and parking, will be applicable for payment by you.

The SAN Hydrographic Office is unfortunately not able to provide daily transport from and to other hotels.

NOTE:

1. The special rate includes

- Accommodation
- Buffet Breakfast
- Lunch
- 15% tax (VAT)
- High speed Wi-Fi

but does NOT include

- 1% of accommodation for SA Tourist Levy
- Anything out of the mini- bar or room service
- Extras such as telephone calls and laundry

Early check-in and late check-out available on request and may be subject to an additional cost.

Making your reservation:

Please email your reservation request for HSSC 11 using **HSSC 593222** as the **booking reference**, to:

Bronwyn Wakefield (bronwyn.wakefield@parkinn.com)
cc in Ruth Farre (sanho.tides@outlook.com) and
SA Navy Hydrographic Office (hydrosan@iafrica.com)

Please indicate in your reservation request if you wish to pay your accommodation on arrival or in advance. Should you wish to pay for your accommodation in advance, Bronwyn will email you a pro-forma invoice as well as a secure link (valid for 3-5 days) to make payment directly to the Park Inn – Newlands.

If you need to cancel for any reason, please do so before the 26 April 2019 or a cancellation fees may be payable to the hotel.



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Airport Transfers:

If you wish to arrange airport transfers, please indicate so when making your reservation. Airport transfers will be charged at R425 for 1-2 guests one way. Due to fuel/gas price fluctuations this may price may increase, but the hotel can arrange a quotation upon request.

Registration Form:

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO RETURN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM TO THE SANHO BEFORE 8 April 2019.

Please **DO NOT forget** to indicate any dietary restrictions for religious or health related reasons (including allergies) so that we can make sure these needs are met.

It is important to note that at the Park Inn the kitchen is Halaal friendly and all beef chicken and lamb is sources from certified Halaal suppliers, however the kitchen is not Halaal certified.

Partner/Spouse's Programme:

Should there be adequate, confirmed interest, a spouse's programme will be put together. This would be at own cost and the details of which will be relayed closer to the time. Please email Ruth Farre by **31 January 2019** to indicate your interest.

Functions:

06 May 2019.

An "at own cost" ice-breaker has been arranged for the evening of 6 May 2019, at the Park Inn by Radisson in Newlands. Should you be checking in during the ice-breaker, please feel free to join in.

The cost per person is still to be confirmed but will be approximately R200/per person (±€10, US\$12 exchange rate dependent.) Should you be attending, the amount for the function can be charged to your room account. A cash bar will be available.

Details, times and cost will be promulgated closer to the time.

08 May 2019.

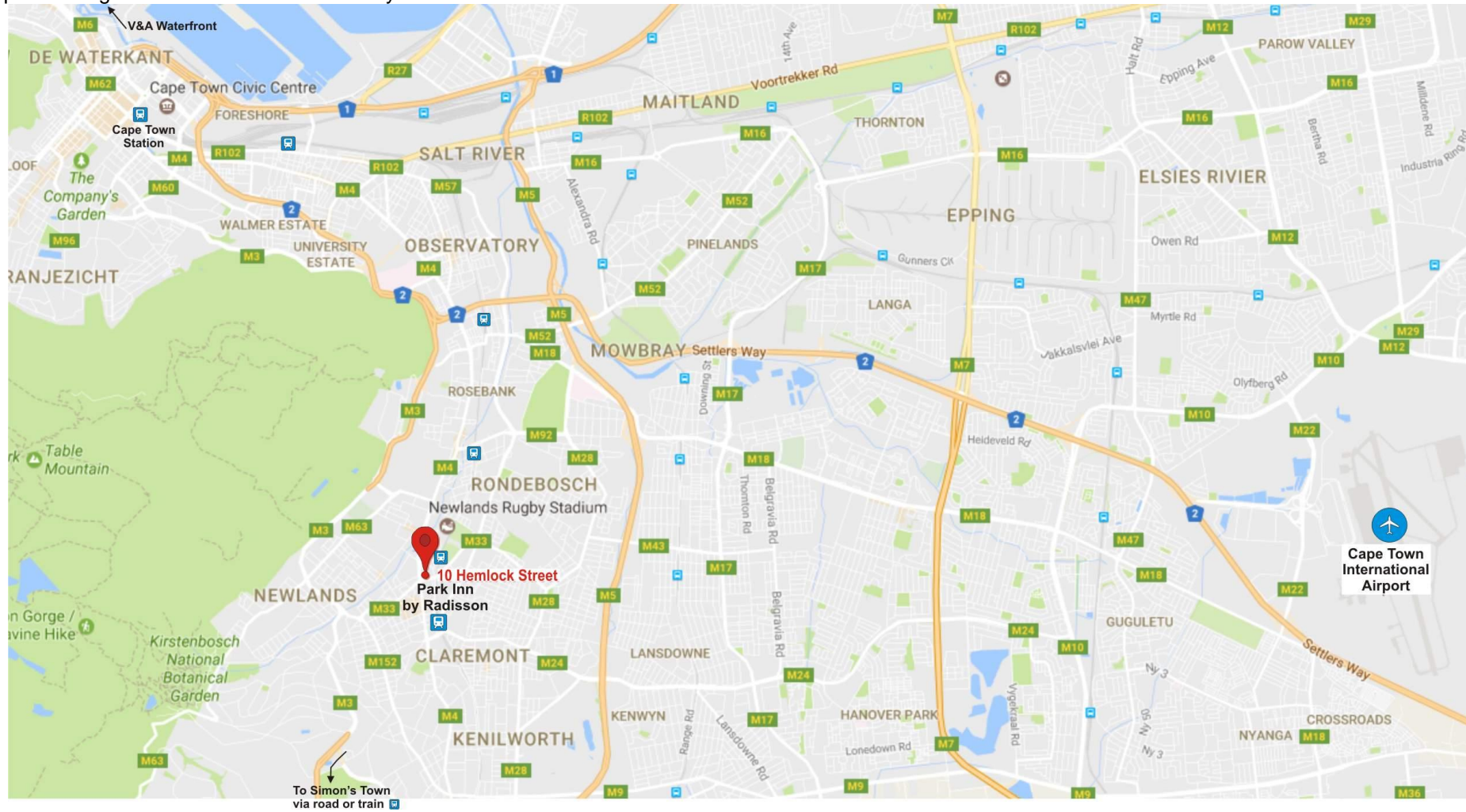
The SANHO will be hosting a function on the evening of 08 May 2019. For catering and costing purposes it is requested that you please indicate your interest/or not in this event on your registration form.



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Map indicating the location of the Park Inn by Radisson - Newlands

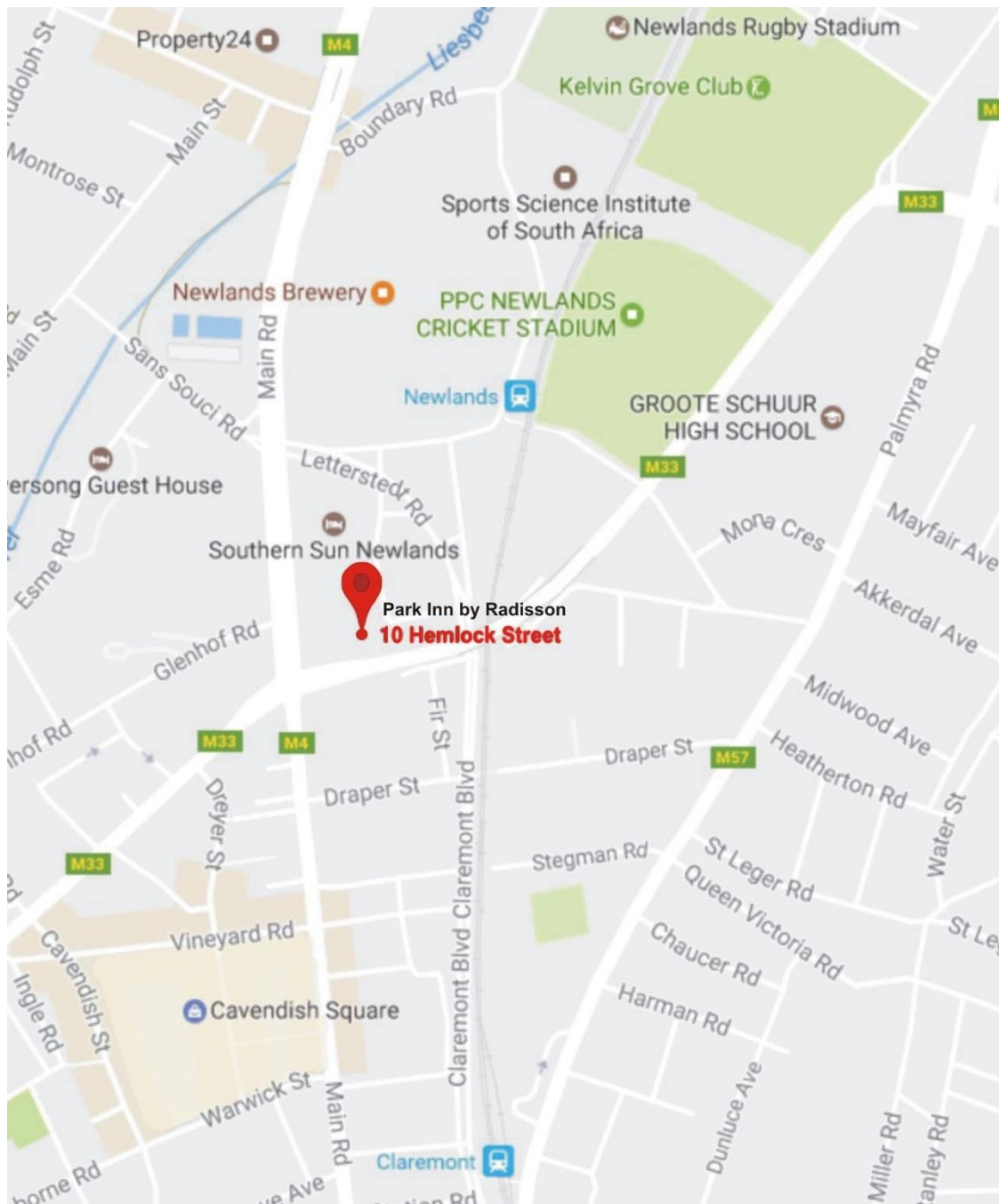




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Map indicating some points of interest within walking distance of the Park Inn by Radisson - Newlands



Water in Cape Town:

As has been widely reported in the international news and on social media, in 2017 Cape Town experienced the worst drought in 100 years. Luckily a very wet winter in 2018 has alleviated some of the drought conditions. However, we ask that you please be water wise when visiting our beautiful city.



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Currency

The South African Rand (sign: R, code: ZAR) is the currency of South Africa. The rand is subdivided into 100 cents (sign: c). Unlike the US Dollar, the decimal separator between a rand and cents is expressed by a comma (i.e. R1 045, 96). The ISO 4217 Code is ZAR from the Dutch Zuid-Afrikaanse Rand.

South African Currency: Rands and Cents



The 5c is no longer in circulation



This older R5 is still in circulation

Some of these older notes are still in circulation



These new commemorative notes are coming into circulation. The Image of the Nelson Mandela side of South African Notes will be replaced with the below images.





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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is the weather like?

Cape Town enjoys mild winters and pleasant warm summers. As you will be visiting Cape Town in May, this is nearing the end of autumn with temperatures ranging from about 10 - 20° C [50-68°F]. The rainy season is generally starting and strong to fresh (sometimes gale force) winds can be expected. Due to the strong winds and driving rain (it rains at an angle in Cape Town) the use of umbrella's are impossible so a waterproof jacket is advised.

Will I be understood if I speak English?

The RSA has 11 official languages (English, Afrikaans, Ndebele, Xhosa, Zulu, Northern Sotho, Sotho, Tswana, Swazi, Venda and Tsonga), but not to worry most people speak English.

What electricity supply is used in South Africa?

RSA uses 220/230 volts AC 50Hz electricity supply. Most plugs have three round pins. Adapters can be purchased at the airport and local supermarkets but may be in short supply. US made adapters may require a transformer.



What Tax system is used?

RSA uses 15% VAT (value added Tax) and this is included in all prices given, so the price you see on a price tag is the price you pay. Please don't forget that you can claim your VAT back from the South African Government for goods purchased when the total value exceeds R250,00. For details on this process please go to <http://www.dfa.gov.za/consular/vat.htm>

Is it safe to travel by train?

Yes it is, however please stay on the southern suburbs train line that runs from the City Bowl directly down to Simon's Town, going past Newlands and Claremont. For your own safety, please only use the first class carriages and do not travel on the trains after 20:00.

Is Uber safe in Cape Town?

The lovely thing about Uber in South African is that you can pay using cash. Uber is very safe for use from Newlands to the City Centre and Uber XL can take a group of people (up to 6 people) in one vehicle, thus cutting the cost down even further. Uber is also about half the cost of a metered taxi.

Do I have to tip?

The standard practice is to tip hospitality industry staff (waiters, bar staff and hotel porters). The standard is 10% however many South Africans follow the practice of "the tip starts at 10%, if the service is excellent the tip will increase and poor service gets less than 10%."

How intense is the sun's UV?

The UV throughout RSA is very strong all year round. It is recommended to wear a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 20 or more if you burn easily.

Can I drink the water?

All water in the RSA can be drunk straight from the taps, however if you prefer bottled water it is readily available from all supermarkets and cafés (small local shop selling similar items to a supermarket.)

If you have any specific questions you would like answered (or that Google can't) please feel free to contact Ruth Farre (sanho.tides@outlook.com; hydrosan@iafrica.com) and she will assist you in any way that she can.



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ENJOY YOUR STAY IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.