

Durban: South Africa's Melting Pot



VISUAL TRAVEL TOURS

Maps Show You Where... We Show You Why!

Table of Contents

[Cover](#)

[Tour Summary](#)

[Overview](#)

[Tips](#)

[Chapter 1 - African Culture: Bones, Herbs & Medicine](#)

[Chapter 2 - Colonial Influences: St. Emmanuel Cathedral](#)

[Chapter 3 - Jumma Masjid: The Oldest Mosque South of the Equator](#)

[Chapter 4 - Discovering Contemporary African Traditions](#)

[Chapter 5 - Souvenir Shopping at Victoria Street Market](#)

[Maps](#)

[Author Biography](#)

[Publisher](#)

Tour Summary

Durban, a diverse city situated on the east coast of South Africa, is a melting pot of Indian, African and colonial cultures all colliding with each other on a daily basis. On this tour you will walk down a street where a cathedral, a mosque and a Zulu muti market are neighbors. Visit the oldest and second largest mosque south of the equator, then discover modern African traditions and shop for unique souvenirs. This tour will give you insight into the cultural roots of the city and the people who live there.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Overview





The tour begins and ends at the Victoria Street Market. Pink, purple, yellow, and green, the market is like a large Diwali sweetmeat in the skyline of Durban's

bustling metropolis. From this point you are able to navigate this neighbourhood of hybrid cultures in a perfect square.



Explore a Zulu muti-market, where you'll find a wide range of items for traditional medicine - herbs, animal skins, and even bones!



Here you can purchase “Ikunzi Emavana”, which is very popular with people who have been victims of muggings and attacks, as protection from future incidences of crime.



As you exit the market, the first thing you will see is St. Emmanuel Cathedral, a peaceful face-brick giant in contrast to its frenzied inner city surroundings.



We'll take a walk through the inside of the Cathedral, and admire it's 'late Gothic Revival Style' architecture and stunning stained glass windows.



The streets that surround the Cathedral are filled with quaint shopping areas and interesting public art.



In an effort to forge a new identity, the local government has changed the names of many streets. Unfortunately many maps and tourist guides have not changed, so it can be a bit confusing.



One of the most imposing structures in this neighborhood of many cultures is Jumma Musjid, the oldest and now the second-largest Mosque in the southern hemisphere.



On this section of Bertha Mkhize Street there are many shops selling traditional African clothing, including animal print vests worn by Zulu men to traditional ceremonies.



Discover the best places to find traditional textiles and unique, handcrafted jewellery that have become part of South Africa's contemporary culture.



Spices, African masks, beads and Indian bangles are just a few of the local treasures you can find at the Victoria Street Market to take home with you.



As you explore this vibrant melting pot, you'll find a city where many diverse cultures have been coexisting on each other's doorsteps for the past 100 years.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)