

# TRAVELLERS' INFORMATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AID CONFERENCE 2017



Legal Aid South Africa looks forward to welcoming you to the 2017 ILAG Conference, being held in Johannesburg from 14-16 June 2017! This will be the first time the ILAG Conference is held in Africa – we have compiled some information to help you prepare for your trip to sunny South Africa.

## ARRIVING AT OR TAMBO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

When you land at OR Tambo International Airport, you will go through customs and collect your luggage.

You will walk out into the main airport building at Terminal A – International Arrivals.

There are a number of restaurants, shops, Foreign Exchange providers and banks at the airport for you to visit and enjoy.

While walking around, please do keep an eye on your luggage and documents. Do not leave your items unattended.

## GAUTRAIN

The quickest way to get to the main conference venue (the Crowne Plaza Hotel) is by using the Gautrain, a high-speed train that links the East of Johannesburg (where OR Tambo International Airport is) to the North and South of Johannesburg, and Pretoria.



The key conference sites are in the North of Johannesburg, so you will need to take the Gautrain from the East to the North (Sandton first, then Rosebank):

1. Upon walking out of Terminal A – International Arrivals at the airport, go to your right.
2. Go up the escalator that has the yellow 'Train' sign indicating when the next train departs for Sandton (this is the main station in the North that you will initially travel to).
3. At the top of the escalator, walk straight ahead (there will be a KFC on your right hand side) and go up the next escalator with the yellow 'Train' sign above it.
4. Once at the top of the escalator, go straight into the Gautrain area. You will need to buy a ticket. You can use the machines to your right or get help from the manned Ticket Kiosk, also to your right. In order to use the Gautrain, you must buy a Gold Card that looks like this:



5. Once you have your Gold Card, load the required fare to Rosebank and then use it to tap through the access gate and follow the signs to the Platform.
6. You will first be going to Sandton from Platform A.  
***Please note that eating and drinking is forbidden on the Gautrain.***

## **CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL, ROSEBANK**

1. As the train nears Sandton, an announcement will prompt passengers to change trains at the Sandton station.
2. ***If you are staying at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Rosebank, you will need to change trains.***
3. When the train stops at Sandton station, disembark and get onto the next train going South – this is at Platform B. ***You will take the escalator/lift up one floor to reach this Platform.***
4. Once you are on this train, you will get off at the next stop – Rosebank.
5. Exit the train and go up one floor using the stairs, escalator or lift.
6. You will need to exit on the North side of the station – there are signs indicating which side this is.
7. Tap your Gold Card to open the access gate.
8. Once you have gone through the exit points, go straight and turn to the left and go up the stairs or escalator.
9. You will come out with Oxford Road on your left and The Zone at Rosebank on your right – there will be a Chicken Licken restaurant immediately to your right.

### **IF YOU ARE WALKING TO THE CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL:**

10. Turn right, towards the Nando's and KFC, and then turn left into the pedestrian walkway that these 2 restaurants border.
11. You will walk past a Burger King, Kauai, Steers, Debonairs, American Express Forex and Krispy Kreme (all on your left) and a Father Coffee, City Sightseeing Johannesburg, Hamley's, Piza e Vino and Tasha's on your right.
12. Keep walking straight (go past RocoMamas and News Café on your right).
13. You will walk out of the pedestrian shopping area – Starbucks will be on your left here – and continue walking down 2 blocks. This is Tyrwhitt Avenue, which is the same road the Crowne Plaza Hotel is on. ***Please keep an eye on your luggage and personal items here – this is outside the mall, so fewer people will be around.***
14. The Crowne Plaza Hotel will be on your right at the end of the second block – you can either enter from the street you are walking up, or continue around the corner to your right and enter the hotel at the main entrance.

### **IF YOU ARE CATCHING A HOTEL SHUTTLE TO THE CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL:**

15. Once you come out of the Gautrain station with Oxford Road on your left and The Zone at Rosebank on your right (with a Chicken Licken restaurant immediately to your right), turn towards the road and look for a shuttle that bears the Crowne Plaza Hotel branding. ***This is the only official hotel shuttle that will take you to the***

***Crowne Plaza Hotel. The shuttle service runs on the hour at the following times:***

**Monday to Friday:** 06:30, 07:30, 08:30 and 09:30 in the morning

**Monday to Friday:** 16:30, 17:30, 18:30 and 19:30 in the evening

***Please note that corporate shuttles are not available outside of these times or over the weekends.***

## **ROSEBANK MALL AND THE ZONE AT ROSEBANK**

The Crowne Plaza Hotel is within walking distance to Rosebank Mall and The Zone at Rosebank – these two shopping centres are integrated and boast a number of international brand names, as well as popular local shops and eateries.

While you will find a Starbucks, Krispy Kreme, Burger King and KFC in the Zone, we urge you to try Motherland Coffee, Father Coffee, Steers, Spur and Anat! South Africa's food offerings are tasty and indulgent – try as many flavours as you can!

Rosebank Mall has a popular Sunday Rooftop Market (open 9am – 4pm) and an African Craft market is open daily (hours vary, see <http://www.rosebankartandcraftmarket.co.za/>).

***If you are walking from the Crowne Plaza Hotel to the shopping centres, please be wary of your surroundings and do not flaunt valuable items (cameras, jewelry and cash). Rather lock these in the safe in your hotel room. Carry limited amounts of cash with you, or opt to use a card.***



## OTHER WAYS OF GETTING AROUND

- **Cab companies:** there are a number of cab companies you can call to arrange a ride. Always request a metered taxi, so you are not overcharged. The Crowne Plaza Hotel will be able to call/recommend some for you.
- **Uber:** you can download the Uber app on your phone and book a car through there. You will be charged according to your data rates for international roaming.

### **How do I use Uber in another country?**

1. Take your phone and put a local SIM card in it.
  2. Then go to the Uber App settings and change the number to your new local number.
  3. Now you should be able to use Uber with the local data plan.
- **Gautrain buses:** At each Gautrain station, there are a number of buses you can board to travel further. Gautrain and Gautrain bus routes can be found here: <http://join.gautrain.co.za/map.aspx> and <http://join.gautrain.co.za/Buses.aspx>  
**Please note that Gautrain buses run on a limited route over weekends.**

### **GETTING BACK TO OR TAMBO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

You can take a cab or the Gautrain back to the airport. ***If you are planning on taking the Gautrain, do note that you will need to board the airport-bound train at the Sandton Gautrain station.***

#### **From Rosebank:**

1. You will need to get to the Rosebank Gautrain station.
2. From the Crowne Plaza Hotel, you can ask for a shuttle to take you to the station, or you can walk to the station.
3. If walking, note the directions on page 3 and 4 – you will exit the hotel and turn onto Tyrwhitt Avenue, facing towards Rosebank Mall/The Zone at Rosebank.
4. Walk straight down towards the shops; this is a 2 block stretch. Once you pass Starbucks on your right, continue going straight until you have passed Nando's on your right. Turn right there and enter the Gautrain pedestrian entrance across from Chicken Licken.
5. Go down the stairs or escalator and turn to your left to get to the access points.
6. Once you swipe in, go down the stairs or lift/elevator to Platform A going North.
7. Get on the next train and exit at the next stop – Sandton.
8. Exit the train here and go to Platform C (Eastbound) to OR Tambo International Airport.
9. Board the next train and disembark at the airport.
10. You will be prompted by signs to the Gautrain station exit – swipe out and go down the stairs or escalators to the airport – KFC will be on your left. From the foot of the stairs, turn left and you will see the International Check-In counters on your right hand side.

### **From Sandton:**

1. Swipe into the Sandton Gautrain station and go down 3 escalators/flights of stairs.
2. Go to Platform C (Eastbound) to OR Tambo International Airport.
3. Board the next train and disembark at OR Tambo International Airport.
4. You will be prompted by signs to the Gautrain station exit – swipe out and go down the stairs or escalators to the airport – KFC will be on your left. From the foot of the stairs, turn left and you will see the International Check-In counters on your right hand side.

### **SAFETY TIPS**

South Africa has gained a somewhat poor reputation for being dangerous and crime-ridden. While all stereotypes should be taken with a pinch of salt, it is always sensible to stay alert and aware of your surroundings. Avoid walking around alone late at night – especially long distances. Rather use a cab or the Gautrain. If you are renting a car and driving yourself, stick to the main highways and avoid driving around late at night. June in Johannesburg is winter, so the sun will set at around 5.30pm.

### **WHAT TO DO AND SEE IN JOHANNESBURG**

Wikitravel has an excellent list of places to visit: <http://wikitravel.org/en/Johannesburg>

There are a number of blog posts on Johannesburg (and other cities, if you are planning to travel further!).