

Proposal for the 2018 JACoW Team Meeting
hosted by iThemba LABS, Somerset West, South Africa
(1-6 December 2018)

General

iThemba LABS is located on the outskirts of Cape Town, in the Mediterranean climate Winelands region between the towns of Stellenbosch and Somerset West. The Cape Town International (Airport) is within a 30-minute drive from any of these venues. The proposed TM'18 will be about in the midst of our summer season with long sunny days, but be prepared to brace yourself for our windy season. Cape Town sunrise and sunset in December is about 05:30 and 19:30, respectively. The local currency is the South African Rand (ZAR), denoted by R for “Rand”.

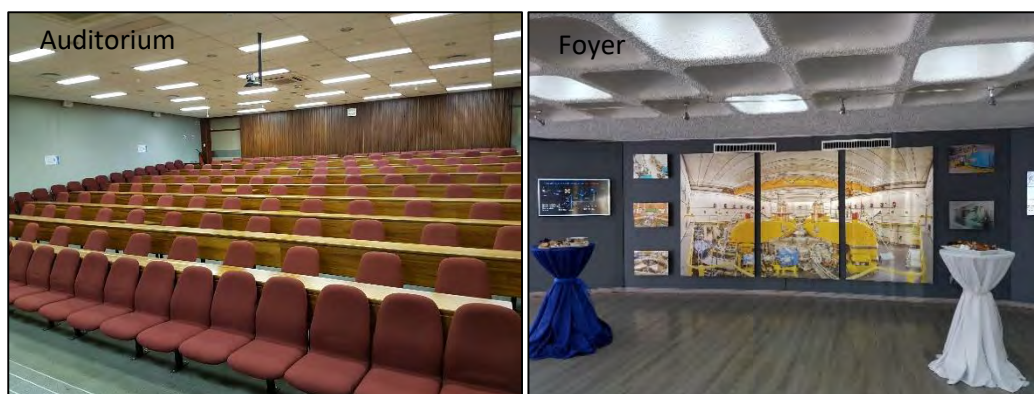


Note: An exchange rate of 14.7 ZAR/EUR (for 25 Jan 2018) was used for this presentation, though it may change considerably in any direction. Our relatively high inflation rate (6-10%) was also not incorporated.



Team Meeting Space

The pre-team meeting will be at one of the accommodation venues, still to be determined. For the team meeting proper, iThemba LABS offers a >100-seater auditorium, several 20-seater meeting rooms, 2x10-seater meeting rooms and a 20-seater computer room, available to be best utilized for the parallel sessions. Registration, posters, tea breaks, lunch and reception function will be hosted in the foyer of the auditorium. The number of posters will determine whether to rather use the service passage of the cyclotron hall for that purpose.



For the odd opportunity of a few leisure minutes, you may treat yourself with a stroll on the iThemba LABS premises to see some of the wild buck grazing. The eland, springbuck, zebra and bontebok are all over the place and if you are lucky you may see a shy duiker and the mountain tortoises as well.

Transport

A 60-seater bus will be used for daily transport between iThemba LABS and the town of accommodation.

Uber has become a popular method of ad hoc transport in the Cape Metropole. Any of these towns (and others) and the city is within easy reach by uber/taxi for those that want to explore further from their base of accommodation. (example: about R300 from the airport to Stellenbosch and about R700 from Stellenbosch to the Cape Town Waterfront and Central Business District).

Within the Cape Town city limits the MyCiti bus service is excellent, cheap and clean and covers just about every corner of the city. Several card options are available for multiple trips. <https://myciti.org.za/en/home/>



A selection of airport shuttle services.

<http://www.stellenboschshuttles.co.za>

Car Rental services: Hertz www.hertz.co.za, Avis www.avis.co.za and Budget www.budget.co.za.

NOTE: In all the countries of Southern Africa we drive on the left hand side of the road.

Proposed Schedule for the Team Meeting

Pre-Team Meeting on Saturday, 1 Dec and Sunday, 2 December at one of the proposed hotels.

The general Team Meeting runs from Monday 3 December until Thursday 6 December at iThemba LABS. Registration will be in the Auditorium foyer early Monday morning, with the welcome reception and poster session also in the foyer, to conclude the day.

The tour of the LAB and the photo-session can be flexibly slotted to suit the talks-program, either on Tuesday or Thursday.

The team will be transported back to the hotel/s on mid-Wednesday afternoon, soon to be picked up again for an early transfer to a restaurant in Cape Town city for the team dinner.

Closing of TM'18 on Thursday.

Registration Fee

A registration fee of EUR 220 covers all lunches, teas, snacks, welcome reception, daily transport between the hotel/s and iThemba LABS, the team dinner and the transport to and from the team dinner venue. The venue, lunches and tea breaks for the pre-team meeting are also included.

Catering

iThemba LABS unfortunately does not have a cafeteria or kitchen and consequently all the teas, drinks, snacks, finger-lunches and the reception function will be outsourced to caterers (all included in the registration fee).

Accommodation

Cape Town and surrounding towns are favourite tourist attractions, which are reflected in the cost of accommodation, especially with the proposed time slot for TM'18 being within the high tourist season.

Accommodation is proposed to be either in Somerset West or Stellenbosch and prices are per person per night with breakfast and Wi-Fi included.

A. SOMERSET WEST (~45 km from Cape Town; 15 km from iThemba LABS):

Lord Charles Hotel,

R1300 (EUR 88) special quote for us.

Being a regular customer of the Lord Charles Hotel, iThemba LABS favour this option, both from an organizational point of view and knowing their service being good value for the money. They offer two restaurants, a pub/bar, spa, pool, tennis courts and more on site, plus complimentary scheduled shuttle services to a

nearby large shopping mall and to the beach (Strand). Like any proper hotel will they assist with info re private tours or transport to other towns or Cape Town city.

<https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-cape-town-the-lord-charles>



B. STELLENBOSCH (~50 km from Cape Town; 20 km from iThemba LABS):

Not all venues can accommodate the full contingent of the team and therefor implies transport pick-up at central points in town. Prices shown are as collected from websites. Consult websites for detail.

Protea Hotel by Marriot (at Techno Park on the outskirts of Stellenbosch).

R2200 (EUR 150).

Enough rooms for full team.

Require uber for optional travel to the Stellenbosch CBD.

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-photos/cptst-protea-hotel-stellenbosch>



Protea Hotel by Marriot (in Stellenbosch)

R1800 (EUR 122)

Easy walking distance to the centre of the town.

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cptdo-protea-hotel-stellenbosch-dorpshuis-and-spa>



Oude Werf

R2700 (EUR 183).

Upmarket, in the centre of the town.

<https://www.oudewerf.co.za>



The Stellenbosch Hotel

R1500 (EUR 102).

Good value in the centre of the town.

<http://www.stellenboschhotel.co.za>



Eendracht Hotel

R1800 (EUR 122).

In the centre of the town.

<https://www.eendracht-hotel.com>



There are also several guest house options available near the centre of Stellenbosch. Please verify website prices with the prospective guest house.

<http://www.stellenbosch.travel/>

Team Dinner

Cape Town is known to be one of the best cuisine destinations in the world. The team dinner is planned to be at a restaurant in Cape Town (the venue is still to be determined from numerous options). Budgeted for R700 per person (included in the registration fee).

Tour of iThemba LABS

iThemba LABS hosts several cyclotrons and other accelerators for a variety of applications in nuclear research, materials research and isotope production. <http://tlabs.ac.za/>

Excursions (Optional)

Stellenbosch and surrounding towns in themselves have much to offer to the visitor, especially with many restaurants, shops, the wine industry, old Cape Dutch architecture and art. However, the Cape Town metropole has a vast and seemingly endless list of things to do. The region also boasts with several world class golf courses and many other sporting venues.

Please search for and research what suits your preference best. Anything from shop-till-you-drop, sightseeing, mountaineering, cycling, pristine beaches, boat cruises, wind kite-surfing, helicopter flips, wine tasting, to big-five game viewing ... and many more.

<http://www.capetown.travel/>

A few examples are proposed here, though several excursions are available in packages consisting of different combinations

<http://www.capetownmagazine.com/bucket-list>

or use reputed agents to construct a tour for you.

Tusk Events and Tours: <https://www.tuskevents.co.za/tours.html>

Bettina Shuttle and Tours: <http://www.bettinashuttle.co.za/tours>



Cable car trip to the top of Table Mountain. Weather permitting and expect queues. ~R300.

<http://www.tablemountain.net>



Boat trip to Robben Island R350 (also weather permitting).

<http://www.robben-island.org.za/tours>



Several options with helicopter flips over the city e.g. to Robben Island and back costs approximately R1900 p.p. for a 20-minute trip. www.cityhelicopters.co.za

Hop on Hop off City tour in open top bus (R110 – R380) and many pristine beaches (free).

https://www.citysightseeing.co.za/cape-town/products/cape-town-open-top-bus-tours?gclid=EAlalQobChMIzft3NTz2AIVy5ztCh3T-QYIEAAYASAAEgLPHvD_BwE



“Bo-Kaap” (Colourful Cape Malay Quarter - free).



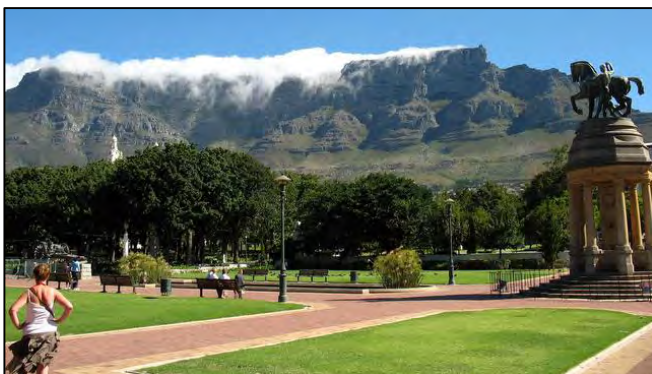
Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens (R65).

<http://www.sanbi.org/gardens/kirstenbosch>



The Castle of Good Hope (picture left) and Company Gardens (picture right – free entrance).

<http://www.castleofgoodhope.co.za/>



Winelands wine tasting tours.

<https://www.gobe.com/destinations/africa/south-africa/cape-town-tours/winelands-tour-full-day/>
<http://wineflies.co.za/scheduled-tours/>



Cape Point (picture left)
and penquins at Boulders
beach (picture right).

<http://capepoint.co.za/>



The Cape Town Waterfront <http://www.waterfront.co.za> offers among many others:

- A multitude of shops and restaurants in a unique setting.



- Silo district, Zeitz Mocaa Museum of contemporary art.

<https://zeitzmocaa.museum/>



- Two Oceans Aquarium

<https://www.aquarium.co.za/>

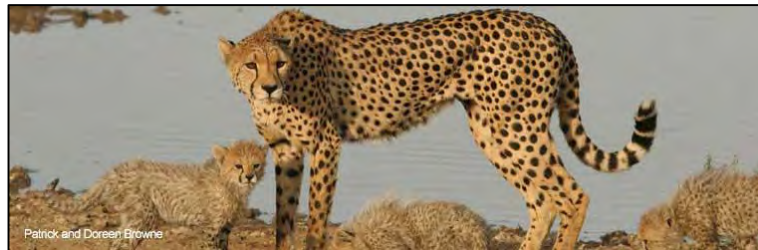


Walking up Table Mountain, Lions Head or Devil's Peak for spectacular views of the city are free of charge, but a significant level of fitness is required and preferably with a guide. Table Mountain has several routes to cater for from the ordinary hiker to the professional mountaineer. A serious word of caution: the weather conditions on the mountain can change in minutes from a perfectly clear day to near zero visibility and the same volatility applies to the temperatures on the mountain. A hat, warm clothing, water and some energy rations are the minimum essentials for the hiker.



Cheetah Outreach in Somerset West. Entrance R10.
Have your picture taken with a cheetah encounter at R150.
Strictly cash.

<http://www.cheetah.co.za/>



Aquila Game Reserve.

<http://www.big-5-safari.capetown/rates-availability>



Enough wind for the all types of surfers (beaches at Table View, Bloubergstrand, Muizenberg, Langebaan):

https://www.tripadvisor.co.za/Attractions-g1722390-Activities-c61-t197-Cape_Town_Western_Cape.html

Just outside Paarl:

Drakenstein Lion Park Sanctuary.

<http://lionrescue.org.za/>

Much more than a zoo of butterflies at Butterfly World Zoo.

<http://butterflyworld.co.za/>

For longer term vacation planning in other regions of South Africa, consult:

<https://www.southafrica.net/za/en/travel>