

29th London Group Meeting 2023: Travel Information

DATE: 11 – 14 September 2023

Pretoria, South Africa



VENUE

The 29th meeting of the London Group on Environmental Accounting will be held in Pretoria, South Africa. Pretoria is one of the main cities in South Africa and serves as the administrative capital of the country. Located in the north of the Gauteng province, in the north-east of South Africa, Pretoria is a central part of the City of Tshwane Metropolitan area. The City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality 2022 population is estimated at 3,9 million people¹. The main languages spoken in Pretoria are Tswana, Ndebele, Afrikaans, and English.



The meeting venue will be at The Maslow Time Square, which is located in the heart of the Menlyn Maine Precinct in the east of Pretoria. The meeting venue gives you easy access to entertainment,

top retail outlets and the finest culinary experiences on offer, and all within walking distance from the meeting venue.

If you want to know more about the meeting venue, please visit the webpage:

<https://www.suninternational.com/time-square/conferencing/>



COVID-19

On 22 June 2022, the Government of South Africa announced that all remaining COVID-19 regulations have been repealed.

¹ Statistical Release P0303 (2022). Mid-year population estimates. Statistics South Africa, Pretoria.

TRANSPORT

Airport

[Oliver Reginald \(OR\) Tambo International Airport](#) is based in Kempton Park, east of Johannesburg, and is approximately 46 km from the meeting venue. OR Tambo International Airport Terminals are spread over 2 main terminals and 4 levels that are listed below along with the terminal maps showing the terminals and all 4 levels to assist in finding your way around the terminal buildings.

- International and domestic arrivals is on level 0 (refer to Figure 1);
- International and domestic departures as well as international check-in counters and premium lounges are on level 1 (refer to Figure 2);
- Domestic check-in and premium lounges are on level 2 (refer to Figure 3); and
- Premium lounge is on level 3 (refer to Figure 4).

Figure 1: OR Tambo International Airport Terminal Maps Level 0

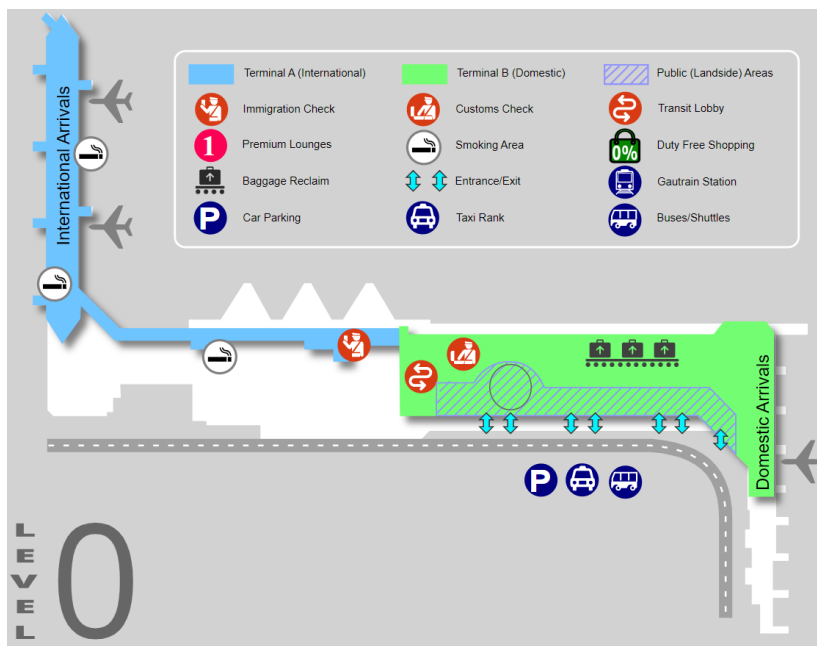


Figure 2: OR Tambo International Airport Terminal Maps Level 1

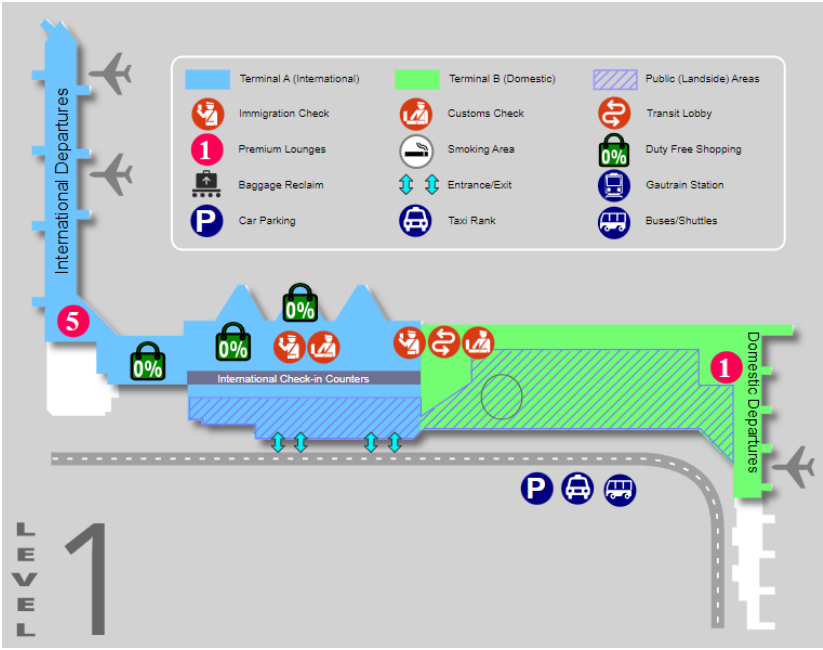
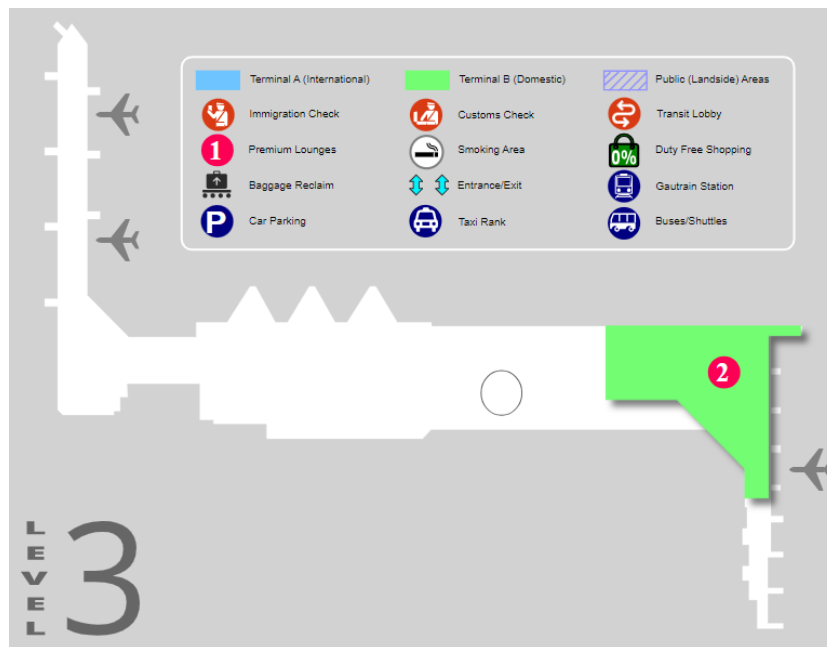


Figure 3: OR Tambo International Airport Terminal Maps Level 2



Figure 4: OR Tambo International Airport Terminal Maps Level 3



Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) will be providing registered participants for the 29th London Group Meeting two transfers at no cost to yourself as follows:

- Transport from OR Tambo International Airport to your accommodation in the Menlyn Maine Precinct in Pretoria on the day of your arrival and from your accommodation in the Menlyn Maine Precinct in Pretoria to OR Tambo International Airport on the day of your departure.

All other transport during the hosting of the 29th London Group meeting from 11 to 14 September 2023 shall be borne by yourself or the sending authority. To allow for transport arrangements from the airport to the hotel and return to the airport, you are requested to send your flight itinerary and hotel details in advance to Mr. William Tshabalala at WilliamT@statssa.gov.za and copy Mr. Michael Van Huysteen at MichaelVH@statssa.gov.za and Mr. Robert Parry at RobertP@statssa.gov.za.

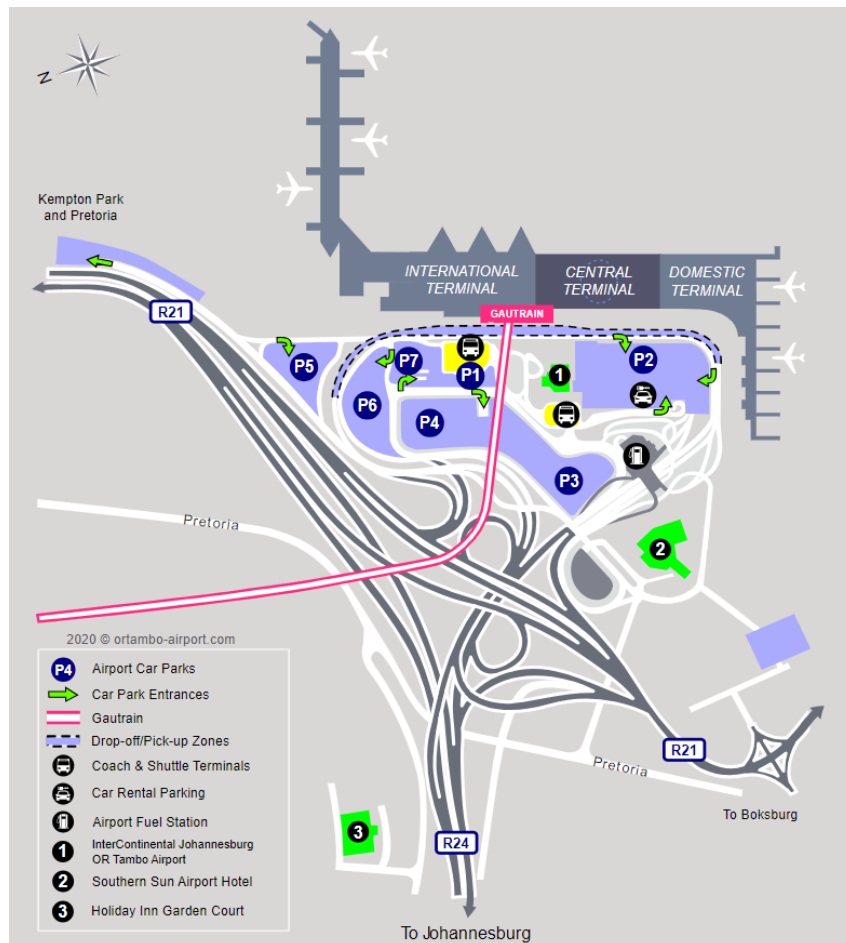
Gautrain

From OR Tambo International Airport to Gautrain Hatfield station

The Gautrain Station at OR Tambo International Airport is in an elevated position on the International Departures level which is Level 1 (refer to Figure 5), accessible by lifts and escalators

to the Arrivals level which is one level below departures on level 0 (refer to Figure 1). There is clear signage; directing people to the Gautrain Station.

Figure 5: Gautrain Station at OR Tambo International Airport



For updated train schedules and [bus routes](#) please refer to the Gautrain web page [here](#).

Uber

Uber is available in Johannesburg and Pretoria. Please ensure that you have downloaded and set up the Uber app on your phone.

Bolt

Bolt is available in Johannesburg and Pretoria. Please ensure that you have downloaded and set up the Bolt app on your phone.

HOTELS

Please note that participants' accommodation shall be arranged by yourself or the sending authority, and the cost shall be borne by yourself or the sending authority. There are three hotels (including the The Maslow Time Square Hotel) within close walking distance of the meeting venue (The Maslow Time Square). For your convenience, please find below a list of suggested hotels (refer to Table 1). Please find a map as well for the visual representation of hotels, shopping malls and restaurants in the area (refer to Figure 6).

Figure 6: Location of hotels, shopping, entertainment and dining

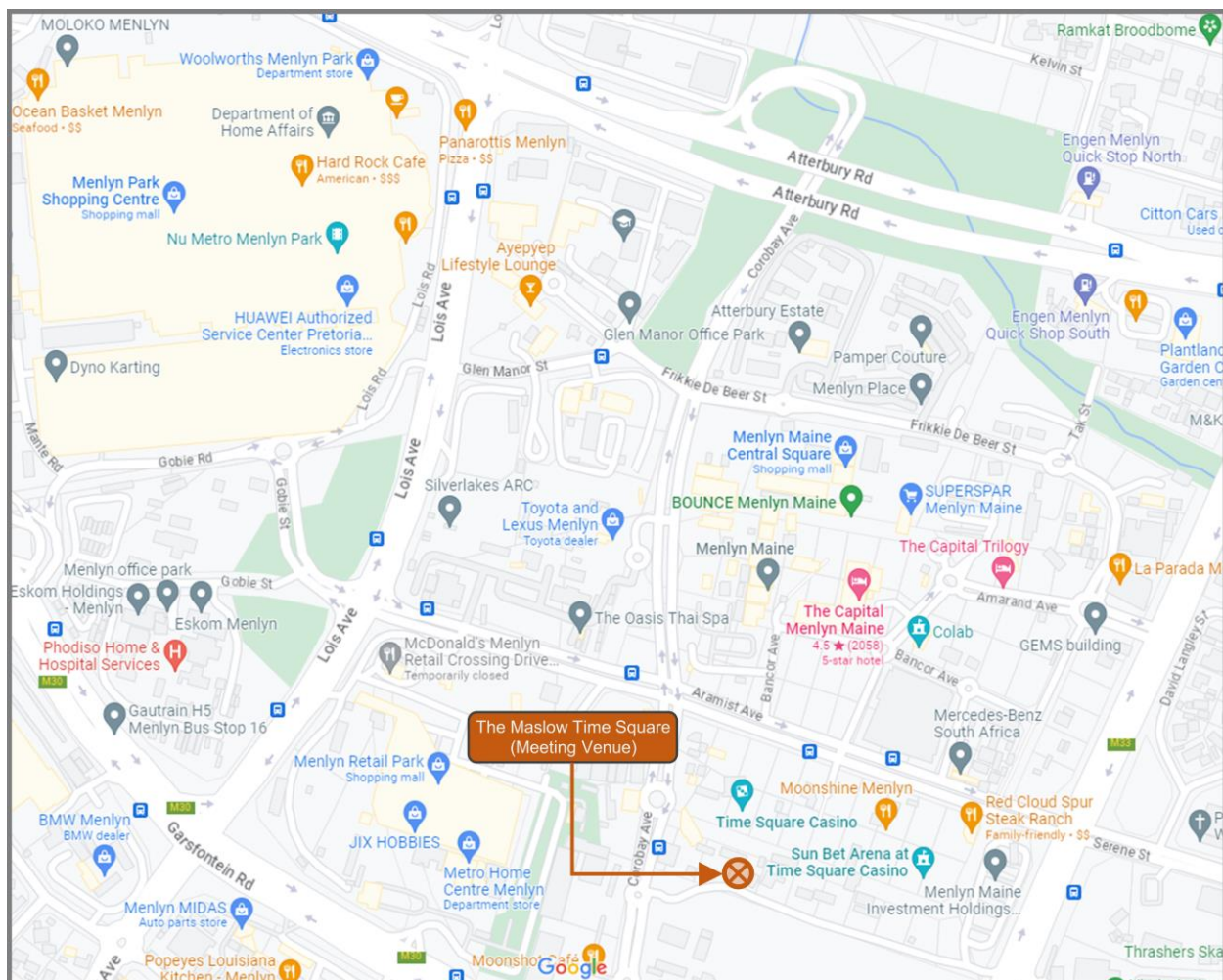









Table 1: List of Hotels

	<p>The Maslow Time Square Hotel</p> <p>209 Aramist Ave, Menlyn, Pretoria, 0181</p> <p>Tel no: 0860 846 377</p> <p>Email: timesquare.reservations@suninternational.com</p> <p>Webpage: https://www.suninternational.com/time-square</p>	<p>The hotel is in the same building as the meeting venue and is located in the heart of the Menlyn Maine Precinct. The hotel gives you access to unrivalled entertainment, top retail outlets and the finest culinary experiences on offer. For booking, please contact the hotel directly.</p>
	<p>The Capital Menlyn Maine</p> <p>194 Bancor Ave, Menlyn, Pretoria, 0180</p> <p>Tel no: +27 012 942 5000</p> <p>Email: reservations@thecapital.co.za</p> <p>Webpage: https://thecapital.co.za/menlyn</p>	<p>The hotel is located in the center of Menlyn Maine, just 300 m from the meeting venue. The hotel gives you access to unrivalled entertainment, top retail outlets and the finest culinary experiences on offer. For booking, please contact the hotel directly.</p>
	<p>The Capital Trilogy</p> <p>Amarand Ave, Menlyn Maine, Pretoria, 0181</p> <p>Tel no: +27 011 290 9700</p> <p>Email: reservations@thecapital.co.za</p> <p>Webpage: https://thecapital.co.za/trilogy</p>	<p>The hotel is located in the center of Menlyn Maine, just 350 m from the meeting venue. The hotel gives you access to unrivalled entertainment, top retail outlets and the finest culinary experiences on offer. For booking, please contact the hotel directly.</p>

The Menlyn Maine precinct offers a wide variety of shopping, entertainment and dining. Please refer to Table 2 for a list of shops, entertainment and dining venues.

Table 2: Shopping, entertainment and dining

	<p>Menlyn Park Shopping Centre is the largest shopping center in Pretoria. This is a multi-level center with over 500 tenants, including a large base of international brands, flagship anchor stores, restaurants, banking and currency exchange facilities. Menlyn Park Shopping Centre 750 m from the meeting venue.</p>
	<p>The Menlyn Maine Central Square is a mixed-use complex in the heart of the Menlyn Main precinct. The building has over 70 retail outlets featuring restaurants, spa and boutique shops as well as banking facilities. The Menlyn Maine Central Square is just 300 m from the meeting venue.</p>
	<p>The Time Square Casino offers guests a premium gaming experience with world-class casino facilities that span two exciting gaming floors. With slot machines, casino tables and ATM's as well as variety of premium restaurants all under one roof. The Time Square Casino is adjacent to the meeting venue.</p>
	<p>The SunBet Arena is a state-of-the-art, multipurpose venue that is equipped to host large-scale events, concerts, exhibitions and conferences. For more information on events at the SunBet Arena, please refer to the webpage here. The SunBet Arena is adjacent to the meeting venue.</p>

Participants can also ask their hotel for recommendations or guidance on where to dine while visiting the city.

INFORMATION FOR NON-RESIDENT DELEGATES:

Visa Requirement

Participants must apply for a visa at the South African diplomatic missions in their respective countries. Participants are advised that South Africa does not provide visas upon arrival at OR Tambo International or any other airport. For more details on visa requirements please refer to South Africa's Department of Home Affairs webpage [here](#).

If a personalised invitation letter/personalised visa application letter is required please contact both Riaan Grobler (RiaanG@statssa.gov.za) and Mahlomola Lefupana (MahlomolaL@statssa.gov.za) from Stats SA Directorate: International Support. Your personalised invitation letter/personalised visa application letter will be mailed to you directly by Mahlomola Lefupana.

Language

The 29th meeting of the London Group on Environmental Accounting will take place in English.

Weather in Pretoria

Participants will be visiting South Africa during spring. The weather in Pretoria will be warm at this time of the year with average temperatures dropping to lows of 10-14°C and midday highs of 23–28°C. You can look forward to at least 12 hours of sunshine a day, with not much rain in September; at an average monthly rainfall of just 3 mm. Participants are accordingly encouraged to pack summer clothing.

Currency

South Africa uses the Rand (R/ZAR) as its official currency. South Africa offers various methods of payment, including cash and electronic, and has a strong financial system for local and international banks. One of the most convenient ways is using your debit card or credit card. Major credit cards such as MasterCard and Visa, are widely accepted here. Debit

cards and cheque cards can be used over-the-counter and at ATMs, wherever there is a MasterCard or Visa sign.

Security

South Africa is a diverse and beautiful country with a lot to offer tourists, including stunning landscapes, wildlife, and cultural experiences. However, it is important to note that like any destination, South Africa has certain safety considerations that travellers should be aware of.

It is also advisable to consult with your country's embassy or consulate for the latest safety information and travel advisories before planning your trip.

Important telephone numbers

In case of emergency, participants can make use of any of the numbers in Table 3 to report an incident depending on the nature of the emergency. Participants are also encouraged to know the contact details of their country's mission in South Africa. Please also notify the coordinator of any incidents requiring assistance.

Table 3: List of emergency numbers

Emergency	Number	Notes
Emergency Response (National)	10111	Use this number if you require assistance from the flying squad or the South African police service.
Cell phone emergency (National)	112	Use this number if you are calling from a cell phone.
Ambulance (National)	10177	Use this number for any medical emergency.
Pretoria emergency call centre	(+27) 12 368 2111	This number can be used as an alternative to 10111 only if you are in Pretoria.
Pretoria Fire / Ambulance	(+27) 12 310 6300	This number can be used as an alternative to 10177 only if you are in Pretoria.
Metro police	(+27) 12 358 7095	Use this number for assistance from the Metro police
Host	 (+27) 72 373 9533 (+27) 84 515 2908 (+27) 72 077 9475	Use these numbers for assistance related to Stats SA activities. Mr. Mahlomola Martin Lefupana Mr Riaan Grobler Mr Robert Parry

Water

Water in Pretoria has been treated to be free from harmful microorganisms and chemical contaminants making it safe to drink straight from the tap.

Smoking

Be aware that smoking is banned in public spaces including airport terminals; in all restaurants, pubs and offices with no designated smoking areas; on all public transport; in cinemas and shopping malls; and even in some hotel rooms (check on booking).

Electricity in South Africa

In South Africa, the power sockets are of type C, M and N. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. For more information, please refer to the following link: <https://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plug-voltage-by-country/south-africa/> .

Information on tips

Tips are common in South Africa, especially in the service sector, but are not obligatory.

Restaurants, waiters

In restaurants, when paying in cash, it is customary to round up the invoice amount to an even sum of about 10 % above the invoice amount. When paying by card, waiters are also happy to take the corresponding tip in cash. Some restaurants may already include a 10% tip in the final bill.

Hotel, Baggage porters

Depending on the hotel service, who you tip and how much, is ultimately at your discretion, and should be based on the levels of service you receive.

If a porter assists with your bags, it is normal to tip the porter R20 per movement, assuming about two normal-size bags per person.

Uber and Bolt

With taxi drivers, it is customary to round up the invoice amount by 5 - 10 % to an even sum if the service is good.

Time

South Africa uses the South Africa Standard Time zone, which is UTC/GMT +2 hours. For the time difference between South Africa and your country, please visit <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/>.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA

Should you require further information about South Africa, please visit <https://www.southafrica.net/gl/en/corporate>.

We hope the information will assist you in preparing for the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you in Pretoria, South Africa.

SNAPSHOT: PRETORIA



CONTACT INFORMATION

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