PILnet

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EMPIRE PARTNER FOUNDATION
BUILDING AFRICA THROUGH TECH

PILnet Global Forum Cape Town



WELCOME GUIDE

November 10-12, 2026

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VENUE

The 2026 Global Forum will be held at:



Century City Conference Centre
No. 4 Energy Lane
Bridgeways Precinct
Century City, 7441
South Africa

Should you need to contact the venue, you may call at **+27 21 204 8000** or send email to **events@ccconferencecentre.co.za**



MAIN HOTEL: CENTURY CITY HOTEL

A limited number of rooms at the venue are available at **10% off the Standard Flexible** rate by clicking **here**. Alternatively, you may also book the room via **this link** or contact the reservations team on the below email:

Email address: **reservations@cchotels.co.za**

Booking code: **PILNET2026**

Kindly note that the availability of rooms **cannot be guaranteed.**

Alternatively, you may also make your own bookings at any other hotels in Cape Town. We recommend the following hotels close to the Forum venue:

ADDITIONAL HOTELS

BUDGET & MID-RANGE

Colosseum



Island Club Hotel & Apartments



The Residences



Sanctuary Guest House



Stay Easy



Century City Hotel Bridgewater



LUXURY

The Marriott



TRANSPORTATION

Upon the arrival in Cape Town, participants are expected to make travel arrangements to and from the respective airports. The following guide will provide the different travel options to Century City Conference Centre.

Cape Town International Airport (CPT)

Address: Cape Town International Airport, Cape Town

Phone: +27 021 937 1200

Website: https://capetown-airport.co.za/

Service available in the Airport :

- Flight information
- Parking/car rental
- Transport
- Bag wrapping
- Baggage storage
- Pharmacy
- Forex

A Visitor Information Centre is available on the ground floor.

How to get to the City from the airport ?

- The only way to reach the city center is by taxi/Uber or by hiring a personal chauffeur.
- Approximately 20 km (12 miles) from the airport to the Central Business District and Century City Conference Centre.
- Drive takes 20–30 min normally, 45–60 min during peak hours.
- **We recommend that you order an Uber or a Bolt from the airport. Follow the instructions in the app for the location of the Uber/Bolt pick-up area.**
- UberX to city centre: R150–R300, generally 20–40% cheaper than metered taxis.

AGENDA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

GLOBAL CONVENING OF LAW FIRM PRO BONO PROFESSIONALS

Bowmans offices
22 Bree St,
Cape Town, 8000

TBC

This in-person-only gathering is a joint initiative of the Association of Pro Bono Counsel (APBCo), the Australian Community of Pro Bono Lawyers (ACPL), the European Pro Bono Initiative (EPBI) and the UK Collaborative Plan for Pro Bono (UKCP).

The day will provide a unique opportunity for pro bono practitioners within law firms around the world to meaningfully connect with each other, exchange best practice, share innovative ideas and strategies, and delve into critical conversation on some of the most complex challenges confronting our sector.

GLOBAL MEETING OF PRO BONO CLEARINGHOUSE PROFESSIONALS

Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (CDH)
11 Buitengracht St,
Cape Town, 8001

9 AM - 4 PM

This event offers a unique platform for clearinghouses to exchange ideas, discuss challenges, and share success stories. Join us as we explore how pro bono legal support can transcend traditional charity models to become a powerful tool for empowerment, co-creation, and systemic change. Discover effective methods and strategies to reframe pro bono work as a collaborative, community-centered practice.

GLOBAL MEETING OF IN-HOUSE LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

TBC

TBC

Join other in-house legal professionals from South Africa and around the world, where we will discuss common challenges facing in-house pro bono, showcase successful pro bono partnerships, learn from other jurisdictions, and network with in-house colleagues.

AGENDA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

WELCOME NETWORKING RECEPTION

Life Grand Cafe
2 Pierhead Road, V&A Waterfront,
Cape Town, 2001

6 PM - 10 PM



AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

PILNET GLOBAL FORUM DAY 1 SESSIONS

Century City Conference Centre
No. 4 Energy Lane,
Bridgeways Precinct
Century City, 7441

9 AM - 5 PM
(registration open from 8 AM)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

PILNET GLOBAL AWARDS DINNER

MOYO Kirstenbosch
Kirstenbosch National
Botanical Gardens,
Rhodes Drive,
Cape Town, 7700

7 PM - 10 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

PILNET GLOBAL FORUM DAY 2 SESSIONS

Century City Conference Centre
No. 4 Energy Lane,
Bridgeways Precinct
Century City, 7441

9 AM - 5 PM
(registration open from 8 AM)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

GRF PLEDGE WORKSHOP

Deneys, 9th floor, 117 Strand Street, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

9:30 AM-12:30 PM

NOVEMBER 13-16

NITA TRAINING

Participants selected by application

USING WHOVA

2026 PILnet Global Forum

Join us on our official event app!

We're using Whova as our official event app. Join our event app to access:

- Event announcements
- Personalized agenda, session details
- Speaker & attendee profiles
- Networking, meet-ups, messages
- Event documents
- Faster check-in

How to join:

1. Scan the QR code and download Whova from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Sign in or create an account with the email you registered with.

Having trouble joining? Search for our event and enter the invitation code: 1s5pm3c684



RELEVANT INFORMATION

Health Requirement

There are **no mandatory vaccinations** for most travelers; however, if you travel from or through **a yellow fever risk area,** you must present a valid yellow fever vaccination certificate.

Meals

Lunch, tea, and coffee breaks will be provided during the training. If you have **dietary** restrictions, kindly inform us **when completing the registration form.**

Visa Information

Please ensure you meet visa r**equirements** for South Africa prior to travel and begin the process as soon as possible. If you require a **visa support letter,** please contact PILnet. For more information on whether you need a visa, **please visit the South Africa government portal.**
Furthermore, travelers are required to fill out a customs online traveler declaration.

Time Zone

South Africa is GMT+2. The city experiences nearly 14 hours of daylight making it perfect for beach activities and outdoor exploration.

Weather

In Cape Town (in November): Generally warm during the day with cooler evenings. Light layers are recommended.

Food & Water

Tap water in Cape Town is safe to drink. Bottled water is also widely available.

Currency

The local currency is the South African Rand. ATMs and card payments are widely available. It is advisable to carry some cash for smaller purchases.

Power

South Africa uses Type M plugs (230V). A universal adaptor is recommended.

Wi-Fi & Connectivity

Wi-Fi is available at the airport and most hotels. **You can purchase a local SIM card at the airport** upon arrival (passport required), or arrange an e-SIM before travelling.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES	112
SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE	10111
MEDICAL AND FIRE	021 535 1100
AMBULANCE	10177
CITY EMERGENCY	021 480 7700

SECURITY TIPS

Cape Town is considered generally safe for tourists and business travelers. The Century City district where the Forum takes place is patrolled by private security, as are V&A Waterfront, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, and the centralb Camps Bay promenade. All of these areas are considered very safe. However, it is important to be mindful of the following:

- Car hailing services like Uber or Bolt are recommended. Always keep your car doors locked and windows closed. Always cross-check the driver's license plate number with the info on the app and ask them who they are picking up.
- Avoid walking after dark: Do not walk around unpopulated areas or deserted beaches at night.
- Stick to busy, well-lit tourist hubs and always take an car hailing service like Uber or Bolt between locations.
- Do not display expensive jewelry, watches, cameras, or large sums of cash. Keep your smartphone secured out of sight when not in use.
- Watch your bags: Never leave phones, wallets, or passports unattended on restaurant tables. Keep your handbag on your lap or securely between your feet, not hanging over a chair.
- ATMs: Only use ATMs located inside well-lit shopping malls or secure bank branches. Never let strangers assist you or distract you during a transaction.
- Never hike alone: Always hike in a group (at least 3-4 people) on official, demarcated trails. Tell someone exactly where you are going and when you expect to return.

HEALTH-RELATED INFORMATION



Pharmacy & Medical Services

Pharmacies are widely available in Cape Town and stock most common medicines. If you require prescription medication, **please bring enough for the duration of your stay.** Private hospitals and clinics **are available should you require medical attention**



Closest Emergency Centers

Mediclinic Milnerton (Nearest) to the hotel
Location: Corner of Racecourse & Koeberg Roads, Milnerton, Cape Town
Distance/Time: ~3 km / 5-10 minute drive
Emergency Desk: +27 21 529 9309

Netcare N1 City Hospital (Alternative)
Location: Louwtjie Rothman Street, Goodwood, Cape Town
Distance/Time: ~5 km / 10 minute drive
Trauma Unit: +27 21 590 4111

DATA-RELATED INFORMATION



Wi-Fi & Connectivity

Wi-Fi is available at the airport and most hotels. **You can purchase a local SIM card at the airport** upon arrival (passport required), or arrange an e-SIM before travelling.



Sim Card

- **At the Airport:** Most convenient option right after landing. However, expect to pay a premium for "tourist bundles".
- **In the City (Supermarkets & Carrier Stores):** Buying at a dedicated Vodacom Store, MTN Store, or major supermarkets like Pick n Pay yields much cheaper local rates, but the registration process may take a bit longer.
- **Online (Physical SIM or eSIM):** You can purchase travel SIMs or eSIMs (like via SimCorner) beforehand, ensuring you are connected the moment you land, avoiding the lines. **You will need your passport to register your sim card.**

CULTURE AND ETIQUETTE

WEATHER

November in Cape Town is a summer month, with temperatures ranging approximately from 10°C to 24°C. The weather is warm and pleasant but may rain occasionally. With the huge difference in daytime and nighttime temperature, it is suggested to wear light layers. In daytime, light summer clothes and a sunhat will be useful, but you may need a jumper or jacket for the evenings.

POINTING

Pointing with your index finger is widely considered offensive. To indicate a person or an object, it is more culturally accepted to lift your chin in that direction.

GREETINGS

The most important etiquette point in South Africa is to always greet someone before asking for help or starting a conversation. Skipping small talk and going straight to the point is considered rude.

TALKING TO LOCALS

Topics like apartheid, race, or politics may naturally come up in conversation during your time in South Africa. These subjects are deeply personal and can be emotional, so it's always best to approach them with sensitivity and an open mind.

South Africa has 12 official languages:

- English
- Afrikaans
- isiZulu
- isiXhosa
- Sesotho
- Sepedi
- Setswana
- isiNdebele
- siSwati
- shivenda
- Xitsonga
- South African Sign Language

While English dominates business and government discourse, isiZulu and isiXhosa are the most widely spoken first languages.

TIPPING

Tipping is customary in South Africa. The general standard starts at 10% of the bill.

RESTAURANTS
&
SOUTH AFRICAN SPECIALITIES

Cape Town is known for its seafood dishes and Braai
(Traditional South African grilled meat)

CITY CENTER



BELLY OF THE BEAST (BRAAI)
Click Here



UPPER UNION
Recommended to try the lamb
Click here



HEMELHUIJS (CAFE/BREAKFAST)
Click here



BOUCHON BISTRO (WINE BAR AND BISTRO)
Click here



GALJOEN (SEAFOOD)
Click here





COY (V & A WATERFRONT) (SEAFOOD)
Click here



NELSON'S EYE RESTAURANT (STEAKHOUSE)
Click here

RESTAURANTS
&
SOUTH AFRICAN SPECIALITIES

Rooftop / Nice View



UTOPIA CAPE TOWN (ROOFTOP)
Click here



CLUB KLOOF (NICE PATIO)
Click here



ON THE ROCKS (OCEAN VIEW)
Click here

Vegan options



THE CONSCIOUS KITCHEN
Click here



WILD EATERY
Click here

THE SUNSHINE FOOD SPROUTING CO AFRICAN VEGAN CAFÉ
Click here



You can book a surprise meal at Seebamboes Restaurant

EXPLORING
CAPE TOWN



MUIZENBERG BEACH

Just 30 minutes drive outside of Cape Town, you can explore Muizenberg Beach, recognizable by its colorful Victorian beach huts. It’s also the best spot for beginner surf lessons.

V&A WATERFRONT

A bustling hub of shopping, dining, and entertainment. It's home to the Two Oceans Aquarium and the Zeitz MOCAA (the world’s largest museum of contemporary African art). Note that we will hold our networking reception in one of the restaurants there.





THE OLD BISCUIT MILL

Located in Woodstock, this Saturday market is a foodie's paradise. It’s packed with local designers, artisans, and incredible street food.

KIRSTENBOSCH BOTANICAL GARDENS

Nestled on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain, don’t miss the "Boomslang" Treetop Walkway for a bird's-eye view of the flora. Note that we will also hold our awards dinner there.



EXPLORING
CAPE TOWN

ROBBEN ISLAND

A somber but essential historical site. You'll take a ferry from the V&A Waterfront and tour the prison where Nelson Mandela was held, often guided by former political prisoners.



EXPLORING
CAPE TOWN



TABLE MOUNTAIN

Take the Aerial Cableway (revolving floors!). For the best views of the mountain itself, hike Lion's Head at sunrise or sunset (suggest to go in larger groups if you do).

BO-KAAP

Famous for its bright, multicolored houses and cobblestone streets. It's the historic center of Cape Malay culture; consider a cooking class to learn the secrets of a traditional Cape Malay curry.





EXPLORING
CAPE TOWN



WHALE WATCHING

From June to November, drive out to Hermanus (about 90 minutes away from city center), known as the best land-based whale-watching spot in the world.

CAPE POINT & CAPE OF GOOD HOPE



Located within a stunning nature reserve at the tip of the peninsula. Look out for ostriches, baboons, and dramatic cliffside views. You can combine this with seeing the penguins on Boulders Beach.

EXPLORING
CAPE TOWN



GROOT CONSTANTIA

The oldest wine estate in South Africa, perfect for a history lesson paired with a glass of Pinotage.

WINE TRAM

If you want a social, scenic, and flexible day, this is the gold standard. Franschhoek is about an hour from Cape Town. You board a vintage-style tram or open-air tram-bus that loops through the valley. It's a hop-on, hop-off system. Need to arrange transport to and from the tram station.





STELLENBOSCH

About 45 minutes from the city, Stellenbosch is a historic university town surrounded by over 150 wine farms. Best to arrange as a day tour with driver.

WITH GRATITUDE...

This year's Forum was made possible by a network of local partners across Africa, whose generosity, expertise, and hospitality carried the public interest law community to Cape Town.

I. LOCAL PARTNERS

In recognition of the organizations that supported ProBono.Org's bid to bring the Forum to South Africa.

- Lawyers for Human Rights
- Empire Partner Foundation
- Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa *(CoRMSA)*
- Norton Rose Fulbright *(now Deneys)*
- Bowmans Attorneys
- Centre for Reproductive Rights *(East Africa)*
- Justice Research Institute *(West Africa)*
- Scalabrini Centre of Cape Town
- Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr
- SADC Lawyers Association

II. CONFERENCE PACK CONTRIBUTORS

With thanks for donations toward delegate conference packs.

- Spiritual Chords
- Webber Wentzel Attorneys
- Justice Research Institute *(West Africa)*
- Rosebank College International
- Emeris Community Law Clinic



FROM THE PILNET TEAM: WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN CAPE TOWN!

FORUM@PILNET.ORG