



10 Days to Departure: DIRECT Cape Town

May 3, 2018

Cape Town is just around the corner! Please review this email for final reminders and important arrival information.

Your final newsletter will be sent on May 12th - 1 Day to Departure! Need to catch up on previous newsletters? [Review here!](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

- **I ordered a cell phone but the deposit transaction was declined. What should I do next?**
 - Vodacom will attempt to run declined transactions again next week. We will text students letting them know the exact day in order to notify the bank. Be sure to tell the bank to temporarily lift fraud protections in order to process the transaction.
- **I paid LeadAbroad for my flight. Where can I find my group flight confirmation?**
 - All group flight tickets were emailed on April 11th with the subject line "Your Flight Receipt - (NAME) 13MAY18." Be sure to review and print this email. If you did NOT receive your ticket, please contact us ASAP.
- **Will LeadAbroad staff be on my flight?**
 - Since our staff will already be in Cape Town preparing for your arrival, we will not have any staff at the departure airport or on flights to South Africa. However, a student will be taking attendance at the gate and helping students connect with each other before the flight. Look for [Madeline Day!](#) Should you have questions or problems with your flight, we strongly recommend you speak with an airline representative at the airport as they will be able to assist. Our on-call, U.S. based staff is available for any itinerary changes that will impact your arrival into Cape Town.
- **I am not on the group flight. Will someone meet me at the airport?**
 - Yes! LeadAbroad staff will greet all students regardless of your arrival time. We will reach out to students individually to confirm arrival plans.
- **Do I need to pack sheets, pillows or towels?**
 - No, these are provided. We do recommend bringing an extra travel towel.
- **Should I carry cash? Cards? Both?**
 - We do not recommend you bring a lot of U.S. cash to exchange. ATM's are widely available and are the most convenient way to get cash abroad. We recommend you bring a credit card as well.
- **How much spending money should I budget?**
 - Check out the link in this newsletter below for budgeting guidelines and a worksheet. It's extremely important to create a financial plan before you go.
- [Click here for more FAQ's!](#)

FINAL NOTICE: Order Your DIRECT Journal (Required for all participants)

- All students must order their program journal **before departure**. LeadAbroad has covered the cost of the journal. You will just pay for shipping.
- If you have not yet ordered your DIRECT Journal, **you must call Bel-Jean** directly at 706-548-3648. Ask for Haven and complete your order over the phone. Be sure to select the correct item (**LeadAbroad--DIRECT Cape Town and Greece (2 week program)**). Do not order a blue book.

FINAL NOTICE: Complete StrengthsQuest assessment (Required for all participants)

- One of the first workshops you will participate in is examining your "signature strengths." All students must complete this assessment **before departure**.

- [Click here to find your unique access code.](#)
- Once you have your code, [click here to begin.](#) Simply follow the prompts, **PRINT YOUR RESULTS** (as soon as you see them) and bring them abroad!

DIRECT Cape Town Orientation Reminder (Required for all participants)

- Your program-specific orientation video is now available:
 - [DIRECT Cape Town Pre-Departure Orientation](#)
- You are also required to watch the general orientation for all programs:
 - [LeadAbroad Pre-Departure Orientation: All Programs](#)
- If you have not already submitted your [Pre-Departure Form](#) in your portal, please watch the videos linked above and review the questions simultaneously.

Print Your Program Packet

- Please review and print the [2018 DIRECT Cape Town Program Packet](#)
- Be sure to bring this packet with you to Cape Town!

Review Packing List

- [Click here for the DIRECT Cape Town packing list.](#)
- Do not bring more bags than you can carry yourself.
- Check baggage policies for ALL airlines you are flying this summer.

Cell Phone Update

- If you rented a cell phone, [click here to find your local number.](#)
- [Click here for rental rates and information](#) on the DIRECT Cape Town accepted student page.

Flight Arrivals & Airport Transportation

- [Click here for all flight itineraries.](#) **Please review to make sure the information we have for your flight is accurate.**
- If you need to provide missing information or update LeadAbroad on your itineraries, please email Michael@LeadAbroad.com
- LeadAbroad will arrange one shuttle from the airport to the accommodations **on May 14 for the 9:20pm arrivals.** If you arrive outside of this time, we will contact you with specific instructions.
- If you are delayed or miss a flight, contact the domestic team (404.720.5657) as soon as you have updated arrival information. We will coordinate with the program director to make a plan for your arrival into Cape Town after your new itinerary is determined.

Tips for Flying

- Arrive at the airport three hours before your international flight
- Print all of your flight itineraries and have them with you in your carry-on
- Check your bags all the way through to Cape Town
- Write our Cape Town address on your checked bags (see below)
- Pack two days worth of clothes and your "must-haves" in your carry on (electronics, chargers, prescriptions, etc)
- Try to sleep on the flight. The first few days are BUSY!
- If you are not arriving with the group, you are responsible for the cost of your transportation to the accommodations. We will still greet you at the airport, but you will pay the driver directly. If this applies to you, we will contact you with specifics
- If you are flying through another city in South Africa before Cape Town, you will go through customs there instead of Cape Town. Be sure to pick up your bags and recheck them.
- Want more tips on flying? [Click here!](#)

Layover Policy

- LeadAbroad strongly encourages all students to remain at the airport during any layover en route to their final destination. If, however, a student chooses to leave the airport, they are responsible for themselves, their bags and returning to the airport three hours prior to departure. Though staff will always be available to help students in any way possible, LeadAbroad will not be responsible for any expenses incurred because of a missed flight.

Mark Your Luggage

- Write the following address on your luggage tags:

Lagoon Beach Hotel
[1 Lagoon Gate Drive](#)
[Milnerton, Cape Town, South Africa 7441](#)
Tel: +27 21-552-1016

Roommate Assignments & Groups

- [Click here to view the roommate assignments.](#)
- Please note that we may need to shift room assignments as we get closer to departure. If you are effected by any change, we will notify you as soon as possible.

Staying Safe - Important Steps Before You Depart (Required for all participants)

- [Join the DIRECT Cape Town Safety GroupMe.](#) This group is intended for **students only** and for risk management purposes.
- Share your location *indefinitely* to this email (snleopold@me.com) on the Find My Friends app. This is mandatory and will be used for safety purposes only.
- [Download the Smart Traveler app](#) from the U.S. State Department
- [Mark the items above as completed here](#) next to your name once they are done.

Other Pre-Departure Reminders

- [Order an outlet adapter.](#)
- Notify your bank of your travel plans online or over the phone. Be sure to include your layover locations.
- [Create a budget](#) with your parents.
- [Complete your self-care plan.](#)
- Bring two ways to access money (i.e. debit card and credit card).
- **Do not overpack.** Always check your airline for baggage restrictions and details.
- Change your voicemail.
- Leave a copy of your passport at home with your emergency contact.
- Visit your doctor and have all of your prescriptions filled.
- If you plan to use your cell phone, talk with your carrier about international plans and data usage rates.
- Print your return itinerary and have it with you when you go through customs. Remember, you're traveling as a tourist.
- **Hug your parents and say, "Thank you!"**

Connect with LeadAbroad and Your Fellow Travelers!

- Join the [DIRECT Cape Town 2018](#) Facebook group (for students only). Don't be shy with friend requests!
- Like us on [Facebook](#)
- Follow [@LeadAbroad](#) on Instagram and search the hashtag [#LeadAbroadLife](#) for hundreds of photos from our programs around the world

Your Next Newsletter: May 12, 2018 - 1 Day to Departure! What information will be coming?

- Final reminders and tips
- Who to contact in case of emergency

