

## Durban, completely

A what-to-do-where guide with UrbanPLACES head Cara Reilly

**On my radar right now** are street artist Shaun Oakley (below, with model Anisha; facebook.com/DamnVandal/) – his installations do more than ‘pretty up spaces’; they create landmarks and talking points and give our city texture. And Jacqui Meyer’s Bukamina woman’s clothing brand. It makes a 40-something working mum feel a little closer to fashion than she really is. [facebook.com/bukamina/](http://facebook.com/bukamina/)

**I know it’s a cliché, but** nothing says ‘Durban’ better than a bunny chow and a beer on the Durban beachfront.

**The best night out is** spent bar hopping in uMhlanga Village ([umhlangauiip.co.za](http://umhlangauiip.co.za)) or on Florida Road ([floridaroaduiip.co.za](http://floridaroaduiip.co.za)), or visiting The Chairman on Mahatma Gandhi Street (old Point Road) for the real mix of people in a space that always surprises. And the good food and music. [thechairmanlive.com](http://thechairmanlive.com)

**The eNanda Rasta Caves** are a hidden



### HOURS IN DURBAN

For the city vibe, you should:

- 1 Visit Markets of Warwick for the street shopping and multi sellers [marketsofwarwick.co.za](http://marketsofwarwick.co.za)
- 2 Have a gin tasting at Distillery 031 [distillery031.com](http://distillery031.com)
- 3 Walk along the uMhlanga Promenade with a takeaway coffee from Rox Coffee Company at the uMhlanga Rocks Surf Lifesavers’ Club. [facebook.com/ROXlifefavingclub/](http://facebook.com/ROXlifefavingclub/)

treasure; you can tour them and Umzinyathi Falls with a Durban Green Corridor local tour guide. [durbangreencorridor.co.za](http://durbangreencorridor.co.za)

**My top Durban tip is** the beachfront and sports precinct. It’s got everything – book a hair-raising walk up the 106m arch over Moses Mabhida Stadium ([mmstadium.com](http://mmstadium.com)) – The Bike and Bean ([bikebeandurban.com](http://bikebeandurban.com)) for coffee and bikes to rent on the north of the promenade, and down south go shark cave diving at uShaka Marine World ([ushakamarineworld.co.za](http://ushakamarineworld.co.za)). Of course, no trip to Durban is complete without a cocktail at The Oyster Box. Order an Umhlanga Schling, a Durbanised version of the Singapore Sling. [oysterboxhotel.com](http://oysterboxhotel.com)

**An unexpected favourite** is Station Drive’s local array of shops and manufacturers or dinner at Roma Revolving Restaurant – still turning after 30 years with the best view of Durban (never mind the good old dessert trolley). [roma.co.za](http://roma.co.za)

**After the rush,** the vistas around Kloof and Hillcrest, to the Valley of a Thousand Hills give you some breathing space. And a walk in the uMhlanga Lagoon Nature Reserve brings you back to nature. The entrance gates are beyond the Breakers Hotel on Lagoon Drive. [ukuhlola.co.za/umhlanga-lagoon-nature-reserve](http://ukuhlola.co.za/umhlanga-lagoon-nature-reserve)



## Cara’s Quick Quick

<b>Tastiest curry?</b> De’Ma in Gateway for hands-down the most consistent spice excellence. <a href="http://dema.co.za">dema.co.za</a>	<b>Weekend haunt?</b> The kid-free Dropkick Murphy’s for its proper pub grub, authenticity and non-stop vibe. There’s Guinness on tap too. <a href="http://dropkickmurphys.co.za">dropkickmurphys.co.za</a>	<b>Artsy lunch?</b> Parc. cafe ( <a href="http://parc-cafe.co.za">parc-cafe.co.za</a> ) in Glenwood or Antique Cafe in Morningside – both affordable, tasty and unique, with vibey crowds. <a href="http://antiquecafe.co.za">antiquecafe.co.za</a>	<b>Gallery hopping?</b> The Phansi Museum on Esther Roberts Road in Glenwood for its expansive collection of beadwork and historical dress. <a href="http://phansi.com">phansi.com</a>	<b>A culture shock?</b> First Thursdays in Station Drive – art and culture on the street remind us what it’s like to occupy public open space. <a href="http://facebook.com/firstthursdaysdbn">facebook.com/firstthursdaysdbn</a>	<b>What colour is Durban?</b> Shweshwe – a little bit of something for everyone.
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AFRICA’S TRAVEL INDABA TAKES PLACE AT THE DURBAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE, 8-10 MAY; [INDABA-SOUTHAFRICA.CO.ZA](http://INDABA-SOUTHAFRICA.CO.ZA)