



Club Med Announce Launch Date for First South African Resort

Bookings for Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari will open in October 2025, for stays from July 2026

Club Med continues its pioneering spirit with the first high-end all-inclusive holiday club in South Africa



Imagery [HERE](#)

08 July 2025 - LONDON, The hotly anticipated [Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari](#), is confirmed to open its doors in July 2026, marking the first time the globally loved, all-inclusive brand will bring its signature holiday experience to South African soil. This milestone announcement is set to reshape the hospitality landscape across the region and customers will be able to make official bookings from October 2025.

Pioneering the South African Experience

Nestled on the pristine Dolphin Coast just north of Durban, a half hour transfer from King Shaka International Airport, Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari will offer a one-of-a-kind holiday, encompassing oceanfront luxury with an unforgettable safari experience. This hotel is the first of its kind, as not only the first Club Med in South Africa, but also the first hotel in the country to offer a dual beach and Safari concept, setting a new benchmark for African hospitality.



Developed in partnership with [Collins Residential Consortium](#) and managed by [Club Med](#), the world-class Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari resort represents a long-term commitment to sustainable tourism, local job creation, and economic development.

The confirmed launch next summer comes after nearly two years of construction work, with over 1,200 construction workers already on site. Once operational, the resort is expected to create 800 direct jobs and over 1,500 indirect opportunities, significantly boosting the local economy.

A new wave of hospitality

The property will offer 345 Superior and Deluxe rooms set within sleek, contemporary buildings that blend seamlessly into the natural surroundings. Each room will be bright, modern, and thoughtfully styled with raw materials and colours inspired by the South African coastline, delivering an immersive experience.

For the most discerning of guests, Ilanga, the resort's Exclusive Collection Space, will offer a more intimate and refined escape with 66 suites. Guests enjoy enhanced comfort in thoughtfully designed suites whose soothing colours and calming interiors, are intended to promote a sense of peace and tranquillity. They will also have access to a private Ilanga pool for Exclusive Collection guests only.

Guests can combine their stay with an escape to Mpilo Safari Lodge, a new game lodge located in a private 18,000 hectare reserve in Zululand that is home to the Big Five. A short flight or drive from the beach resort, the lodge will feature 75 premium tents and the full Club Med experience, set against the wild African safari.

The countdown is on

The announcement of the July 2026 launch date signals not only the start of an exciting travel countdown but also a major leap forward in the global footprint of Club Med. With its official July 2026 opening now confirmed, future customers will be able to book their stay from October 2025.

Henri Giscard d'Estaing, President of Club Med commented: *"Ever since it was founded in 1950, Club Med has always been a pioneer in exploring and establishing resorts in extraordinary places. Our new project seeks to create value for the local communities and enhance the international appeal of the magnificent province of KwaZulu-Natal."*

Murray Collins CEO of Collins Residential also noted: *"Our vision is to celebrate South Africa's rich natural heritage in every experience and every trip here. Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari will be a shining example of this desire to combine authenticity, hospitality and regional development."*

An all encompassing all-inclusive

Guests will also be able to enjoy a variety of dining experiences, from global cuisine at Oceana to the elegant, locally inspired flavours of the Nguni Gourmet Club. Throughout the day, drinks and light bites can be enjoyed at several resort bars, including the vibrant Injabulo Bar with its own coffee shop, and the relaxed, surf-culture-inspired Dunes Beach Bar that boost ocean views. Later into the evening guests can enjoy entertainment and festivities that celebrate South Africa's rich cultural spirit.



True to its roots as a leading activities and experience provider, Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari will be home to a surf school – another world first for Club Med – with several lessons a day provided by professionals and open to children aged 6 and up. Other activities available on site will include watersports like snorkelling, sailing and diving, plus gravel biking, padel courts, and Club Med’s signature flying trapeze. For those looking to dial down the octane, there is a zen zone for adult relaxation, spa and yoga school.

Families will feel especially at home with a comprehensive offering of kids’ clubs tailored to all age groups, including infants from just four months old. A range of nature-based activities, access to the dedicated family pool, and the signature “Amazing Family” programme design for all members of the family to build meaningful memories.

An asset to the economy

At an estimated cost of over 2 billion rand (approximately €100 million), the development of Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari is being funded by a South African Investment Consortium and led by Collins Residential. Grounded in a sustainable and socially inclusive development model, the project is set to generate over 800 direct jobs with 1,500 indirect opportunities, while already employing 1,200 construction workers.

Additionally, 110 young people have enrolled in a dedicated training programme via the NukaKamma Hospitality School and are currently preparing for winter traineeships at Club Med resorts abroad, after which they will gradually integrate into the new resort’s staff. Better yet, the majority of these roles will be drawn from surrounding communities, in line with Club Med’s *Happy to Care* initiatives.

Sustainability at Its Core

Club Med South Africa is driven by sustainability, aiming for Green Globe certification and a 4-Star Green Star rating from the Green Building Council of South Africa. Key initiatives include eco-conscious design, solar energy, water conservation, zero single-use plastics, and food waste reduction targets.

Club Med is also embedding local farmers and producers into its supply chain to promote inclusive growth, through its partnership with the French NGO Agrisud.

Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari will be open for bookings from October 2025, for stays from July 2026. For more information, visit www.clubmed.co.uk/l/clubmed-south-africa-beach-and-safari

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About Club Med:

Club Med, founded in 1950 by Gérard Blitz and Gilbert Trigano, is the pioneer of the premium all-inclusive concept, offering nearly 70 premium resorts in stunning locations around the world including North and South America, Caribbean, Asia, Africa, Europe and the Mediterranean. Each Club Med resort features authentic local style and comfortably upscale accommodations, superior sports programming and activities, enriching children's programs,



gourmet dining, and warm and friendly service by its world-renown staff with legendary hospitality skills, an all-encompassing energy and diverse backgrounds.

Club Med operates in more than 30 countries and continues to maintain its authentic Club Med spirit with an international staff of more than 23,000 employees from more than 110 different nationalities. Led by its pioneering spirit, Club Med continues to grow and adapt to each market with more than 14 new resorts opening within the next three years.

For more information, visit www.clubmed.co.uk

For an inside look at Club Med, follow Club Med on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

About Collins Residential:

Collins Residential, with a heritage spanning four generations, is one of Southern Africa's largest and most respected property and eco-tourism enterprises. Their commitment to conservation and Africa's natural heritage has propelled them to contribute significantly to the tourism sector in the SADC region, positioning them as leaders in South African tourism and property development.