

East London, Eastern Cape, South Africa

South Africa's only river port trades container ships for cruise passengers chasing the Big Five. Beyond the Buffalo River, world-class surf beaches and Xhosa cultural villages await.

 Pier (docked)  Typical call: 8-10 hrs  South African Rand (ZAR)  English & Xhosa

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships dock at the Port of East London on the Buffalo River — no tendering required

Best For: Safari day trips, Indian Ocean beaches, Xhosa culture

Walk to centre: ~3 km to Oxford Street; taxis and shuttles available at the terminal

Don't Miss: The coelacanth display at East London Museum — the world's best-preserved specimen

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  R80–R150 ·  **Rideshare**  Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Big Five Safari at Inkwenkwezi or Mpongo** — Private game reserves 30–45 minutes from the port offer open-vehicle drives to see lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, and... prehistoric fish rediscovered...
- **Khaya La Bantu Xhosa Cultural Village** — An open-air living museum exploring Xhosa heritage through traditional dance, song, beadwork demonstrations, and a...
- **East London Museum** — Home to the world's only known dodo egg and the finest preserved coelacanth specimen — a
- **Orient Beach & East London Aquarium** — Orient Beach offers calm Indian Ocean swimming, tidal pools, and a water slide.
- **Nahoon Beach & Reef Surfing** — Nahoon Reef is one of South Africa's legendary surf breaks, producing fast right-handers that have hosted international...

BEST WALKS

- **Oxford Street City Centre Stroll** 1.5 km | 20 min | Flat — Take a taxi to the city centre, then explore Oxford Street on foot.
- **Orient Beach Waterfront Walk** 2 km | 30 min | Flat beachfront — From Orient Beach, stroll south along the beachfront promenade past tidal pools to the East London Aquarium.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:30AM–5:45PM · Jun 7:09AM–5:08PM · Aug 6:46AM–5:39PM · Sep 6:07AM–6:00PM · Oct 5:27AM–6:20PM	
Apr	74°	62°	10d		
Jun	71°	56°	3d		
Aug	70°	55°	6d		
Sep	70°	57°	8d		
Oct	71°	59°	10d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book safaris before you sail. Inkwenkwezi and Mpongo are popular — shore excursion slots fill up. Independent bookings are possible but organising transfers on the day is...
- Carry rand, not dollars. ATMs are available in the city centre and Hemingways Mall. Most tourist venues accept cards, but small

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The map displays the East London area, highlighting the N2 highway and its surrounding suburbs. Key locations include Dawn, Horseshoe, Morningside, Cambridge, Vincent, Baysville, and East London. The N2 highway is shown as a prominent orange line, with other roads like M4, M12, M18, and R102 also marked. The map uses color-coding: green for parks and blue for water bodies. A scale bar is located in the bottom left corner.

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