



British
High Commission
Pretoria

Office of the High Commissioner
Nigel Casey CMG MVO

255 Hill Street
Pretoria 0002

www.gov.uk/world/southafrica

27 March 2020

To fellow British nationals in South Africa,

I'm sorry that your visit to South Africa has coincided with the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus, and the unprecedented restrictions Governments all around the world have introduced to try to save lives. I know it's been an extremely uncertain couple of weeks, and that you'll be anxious to get home as soon as you can.

The South African Government announced late on 25 March the prohibition of all international flights from midnight on 26 March for the duration of the lockdown period. No scheduled commercial flights will therefore depart from South Africa until at least 17 April. We're talking urgently to the South African authorities and airlines about what this means for you. **If you are one of those affected, we would like to know who you are and where you are, so we can help you in whatever way we can. Please email the details listed below to our dedicated mailbox SouthAfricaBritishNationalReturns@fco.gov.uk**

- Your full name as shown on your passport
- Passport number
- Date of birth
- Place of residence in UK
- Where exactly you are currently staying in South Africa
- Email address and telephone number (please ensure that you are able to receive phone calls from unidentified numbers, including internationally, in case we need to reach you)
- Any specific medical needs/vulnerabilities

We don't have capacity to speak to every single one of you. But we're regularly updating our travel advice and you can sign up to receive an email alert any time we make a change.

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/south-africa>

You can also follow @NigelCaseyHC or @UKinSouthAfrica on [Twitter](#) for updates. Our guidance for British people travelling and living overseas during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is at www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus. If you do need to contact us in an emergency, please call +27 12 421 7500 and follow the prompts for consular emergencies. We are facing unprecedented global demand for our services over the phone, bsp please keep trying. We'll help you as soon as we can.

With best wishes and thanks for your understanding,

Nigel Casey

**Nigel Casey CMG MVO
British High Commissioner to South Africa**