

Durban South Africa Temple



ADDRESS:

2 Izinga Drive, Izinga Ridge, 4021
Umhlanga, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

DATES:

Plans Announced: October 1, 2011

Groundbreaking: April 9, 2016

Final Completion: November 14, 2019

Dedication: February 16, 2020

PROJECT TEAM:

Project Managers: Alan Rudolph and
Anton Fourie

Architects: Brian Everett NWL and Sagnelli;
Paton Taylor JV

Contractor: Stefcon Projects

Civil Engineer: Arup (Pty) Ltd.

Landscape Architect: Uys & White Landscape
Architects

PROPERTY:

Site: 14.49 Acres

Landscape Area: 13.59 Acres

Hardscape Area: 1.5 Acres

Total Temple m²: 1845 m²

Building Height: 29.7 m (including Moroni)

The Durban South Africa Temple is located about 19 kilometers north of the Umhlanga city center in the new and developing Izinga neighborhood. The temple is situated atop a beautiful grassy knoll with unobstructed views to the sugar cane fields for which the area is known. In the other direction, the temple is surrounded by a residential neighborhood along the rolling coastal hills. The homes are characterized by earthy colors, red clay tile roofs, and wood and stone accents. The temple complements the design characteristics of the neighborhood.

The temple design has been inspired by the buildings of downtown Durban. The corners of the building and tower employ simple and elegant detailing, while fluted stone panels accent the window openings. In the center of the fluting, simple geometric carvings highlight the African roots of the region. Similar to the houses in the surrounding neighborhood, the temple has a pitched red clay tile roof.

The indigenous landscaping brings color and life to the temple grounds. The entire site is 14.49 acres. There are more than 800 trees on the grounds, including symbolic king palms and flowering trees, such as the coral tree with its vibrant red flowers. Among the 2800 square meters of lawn are thousands of shrubs, vines, and flowers, including South African aloes that flower in winter and the striking strelitzia juncea, well known in the region. In addition, decorative motifs of the King Protea, the national flower of South Africa, have been used around the temple in the entry gates, stone benches, and art glass. Consistent with the exterior of the building, the interior walls have recessive steps that offer shadow lines and detailing. Sapele mahogany has been used for the millwork, casework, and doors, with diamond shaped patterns that highlight the grain of the wood. Other carved motifs have been included throughout the temple to highlight altars, pew seating, and the entry desk.

Rugs have been custom-made and imported to South Africa. The rugs have a South African basket weaving design and are in gold, white, and cream colors. The Italian marble flooring contains tribal geometric patterns to celebrate the African theme throughout the temple.

There are more than 50 exquisite art pieces in the temple, including many scenes from the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and several pieces depicting African landscapes. The temple walls are adorned with scenes of sunsets, rivers, waterfalls, African wildlife, and indigenous flora and fauna.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS