



# *The Oyster Box*

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best luxury hotel (2011) and best luxury hotel spa (2012)

*World Luxury Hotel Awards*



UMHLANGA ROCKS • KWAZULU-NATAL • SOUTH AFRICA

The Oyster Box is one of the world's best-loved and most distinguished, luxury seaside hotels. Standing majestically on Umhlanga's prestigious beachfront, overlooking the iconic lighthouse, it provides direct beach access and staggering views of the Indian Ocean.

Opened in 1947, it still retains the gracious elegance, glamour, and passionate service that has made this one of South Africa's most cherished hotels. From the impeccable uniforms to the genuinely warm smiles, thoughtful details and luxurious amenities and facilities; from delicious cuisine and lush tropical gardens to the splendid luxury of each individually designed room, suite and villa. Guests are treated to an experience as unique, as it is magical.

The city centre of Durban is a 15 minute drive away, Umhlanga Village with its numerous shopping facilities is a 2 minute walk, and King Shaka International Airport can be reached in 15 minutes. The hotel is located within easy access to KwaZulu-Natal's finest attractions, the Midlands and Drakensberg Mountains, world-renowned game parks and historic battlefields.



## accommodation



86 Rooms, Suites and Villas, sea and garden-facing, are individually-styled with caring attention to detail, elegant amenities and thoughtful touches.

- **8 CLASSIC GARDEN-FACING ROOMS** - Overlook the hotel's lush tropical gardens.  
Average size: 32 sq meters / 344 sq foot
- **19 CLASSIC SEA-FACING ROOMS** - All have their own private balcony with views of Umhlanga's iconic lighthouse and the breathtaking coastline.  
Average size: 27 sq meters / 291 sq foot
- **25 LUXURY SEA-FACING ROOMS** - Spacious and light with double vanities, a separate spacious shower, private balconies and exceptional ocean views.  
Average size: 31 sq meters / 334 sq foot
- **8 SEA-FACING CABANAS** - On the ground floor, just a step away from the water's edge, with colonial king-size four poster beds and individual terraces.  
Average size: 36 sq meters / 388 sq foot
- **5 SEA-FACING FAMILY ROOMS** - Each has a master bedroom and a separate single room or loft for the children, who will be delighted with the thoughtful touches that are extended to children while staying with us. (2 Adults and 2 Children under 16 years)  
Average size: 36 sq meters / 388 sq foot
- **5 SEA-FACING LUXURY SUITES** - Luxury Sea-Facing Suites have a spacious master bedroom, exquisite separate lounge and endless sea views.  
Average size: 55 sq meters / 592 sq foot
- **2 SEA-FACING DELUXE SUITES** - Within easy reach of the beach and pools, these elegant, ground level suites have their own private heated plunge pool, terrace, bedroom and separate lounge.  
Average size: 78 sq meters / 840 sq foot
- **8 SUPERIOR GARDEN VILLAS** - Set back from the main buildings, nestled in the hotel's tropical gardens and close to the Spa, each Villa has its own private heated plunge pool with terrace, lounge, bar and 2 separate bathrooms. Four of the eight Villas can be converted into a 2-bedroom Villa, with connecting Garden Villa Lofts.  
Average size: 105 sq meters / 1 130 sq foot
- **4 GARDEN VILLA LOFTS** - Creatively designed, the Garden Villa Lofts can be converted into a 2-bedroom Villa by connecting with one of the Superior Garden Villas.  
Average size: 64 sq meters / 689 sq foot
- **THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE** - The exclusive Presidential Suite is split over two levels with a private lift. The ground floor has a spectacular living room, dining room for up to eight guests, a fully-equipped kitchen and bar and a separate study. The private, heated infinity swimming pool has extraordinary ocean views. The Grand Master Bedroom is on the first floor along with 'his' and 'hers' walk in closets and marble bathrooms. A 24-hour butler service is included. (2 to 4 Guests)  
Average size: 246 sq meters / 2 648 sq foot
- **1 PRESIDENTIAL CLASSIC ROOM** - If required, this Classic Room can connect to the Presidential Suite and has its own private entrance. (2 Guests)  
Average size: 43 sq meters / 463 sq foot



## restaurants

The Oyster Box is legendary for its wide array of wining and dining experiences and passionate, friendly service. From High Tea, fresh Oysters and seafood favourites, to the best curries in KwaZulu-Natal and pizzas from a wood-fire oven. Special occasions have been celebrated at The Oyster Box for over 50 years.

- **THE GRILL ROOM**

The culinary gem of the hotel, adjoining the smaller more intimate Colony Room, serves world-renowned signature dishes such as Crayfish and Prawn Cocktail and Black Forest Duck or freshly caught seafood, with wines selected by our resident Sommelier. The famous Saturday Dinner and Dance, is a winning combination of exceptional cuisine and dancing to the sounds of a live band.

- **THE OCEAN TERRACE**

Friendly and informal with a terrace overlooking the infinity pool and rolling Indian Ocean, this is a family favourite for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Ocean Terrace is renowned for delicious mouth-watering Curry Buffet, old favourites such as Crayfish and Prawn Cocktail, fish and chips and gourmet pizza straight from the wood-fire oven.

- **THE PALM COURT**

Inspired by the original colonial architecture of the former courtyard, spectacular chandeliers from the Savoy Hotel in London, lush palms, black and white terrazzo floor tiles and comfortable seating complimented by the sounds of the resident pianist; The Palm Court is the perfect setting for a decadent traditional High Tea buffet of home-baked cream scones, dainty cakes and biscuits, finger sandwiches, pastries and savouries and freshly prepared homemade ice-creams.





## bars

- **THE LIGHTHOUSE BAR**

Richly inviting with its dark wooden panels and details in leather, crimson and gold, the Lighthouse Bar has a large terrace for spectacular views of the iconic lighthouse and the Indian Ocean. With live music, delicious light snack meals and exotic cocktails, this is the hottest bar in KwaZulu-Natal.

- **THE OYSTER BAR**

Overlooking the infinity pool and Indian Ocean, the stylish Oyster Bar specialises in Champagne and Oysters, freshly harvested from our own Oyster beds and also offers a light menu, delicious cocktails and live music.

- **THE CHUKKA BAR**

This authentic old world bar is full of charm and character. It has remained a firm favourite with the locals for over 40 years, serving delicious hearty snacks and the finest selection of whiskeys, beers and cigars.

- **THE WINE CELLAR**

With a glass ceiling, this intimate room is sunken just below the Oyster Bar and is unique for dinner parties, tastings or special events and offers a Chef's Table for up to 10 guests. The Resident Sommelier will host the event and present tastings from the Diners Club Diamond award-winning wine list, which boasts the finest selection of South African and international vintages.





## facilities & activities

- Two heated pools - one ocean-facing infinity pool and a private, secluded pool in the lush gardens
- 24-Seater cinema showing classic, contemporary and new release films with complimentary treats including popcorn, toffees and hot chocolate
- Fun-filled Holiday Club for children 4-12 years with qualified child-minders. Open 10am-7pm, 7 days a week
- Business centre and secretarial services
- Complimentary WIFI
- Concierge service - transfers, sightseeing, restaurant bookings and all other guest services
- 24-hour room and laundry services
- Complimentary shuttle service to and from the Gateway Shopping Centre
- Complimentary valet parking
- Complimentary secure, covered parking
- Deep-sea fishing and diving excursions can be arranged
- Jogging and walking along The Promenade
- Direct access to swimming and body-boarding beach
- Excursions to 'Big Five' game reserves and the historic Battlefields can be arranged
- Wine and whiskey tastings



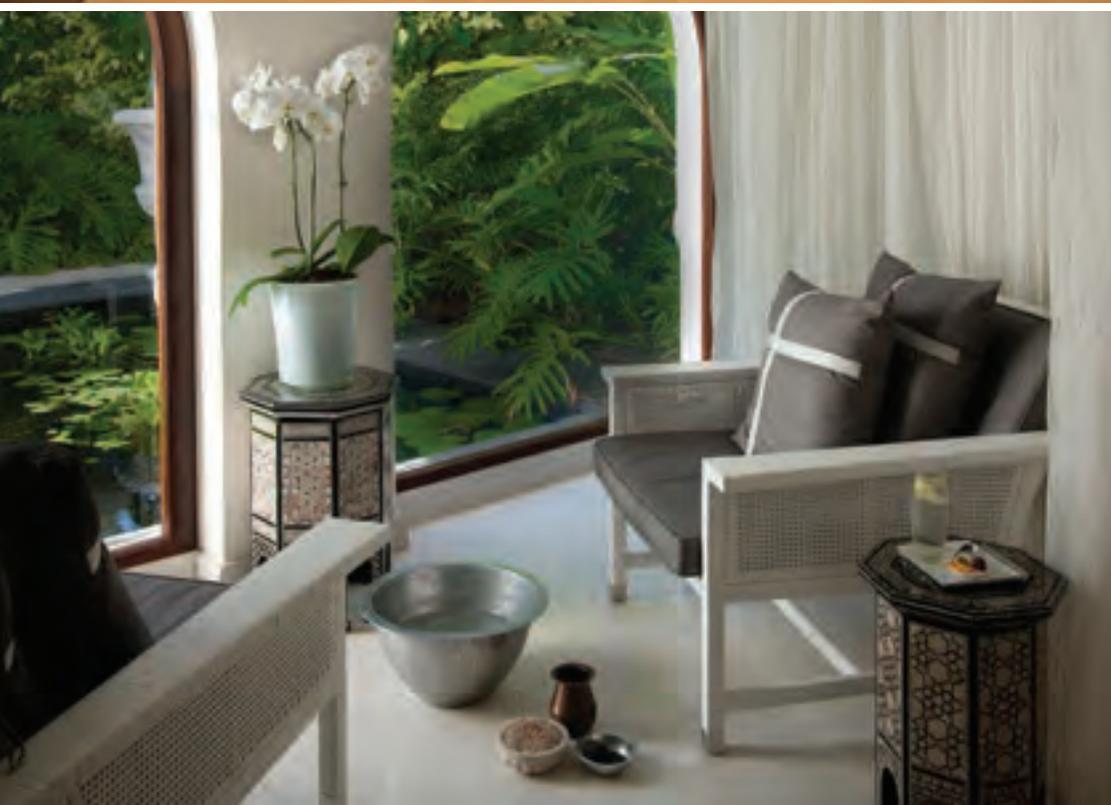
# the spa



## *Les Nouvelles Esthetiques Spa Award: Winner Hotel Spa 2010*

The Oyster Box, one of the best and most cherished hotels in the world, is right on the shores of Umhlanga's beachfront and the Spa is secluded in luscious tropical gardens filled with the song of exotic birds and perfumed flowers.

- 6 Modern Treatment Rooms - For dual and single treatments with hydrotherapy bath and rain showers. We have incorporated a room designed for the aged or physically challenged with full wheelchair access, shower facilities and adjustable treatment bed.
- Hammam and Sensation Shower – This traditional Oriental heat experience has been carefully designed with heating and cooling therapies to cleanse the body and aid relaxation.
- Perfect Finish Tourmaline Salon – Turn a manicure or pedicure into a special treat.
- Tranquillity Lounge – Relax in between and after all spa treatments with lounge chairs, music, books or to meditate.
- Health Bar – Homemade healthy snacks, fresh fruit juices and herbal teas.
- Spa Menu – Wholesome, delicious meals conducive to a healthy lifestyle.
- Plunge Pool – Incorporating water jets at the optimal temperature for re-balancing your body's metabolism, use of the plunge pool is available to all spa guests inclusive of your treatment.
- Internationally Acclaimed Products - Include Elemis, Dermalogica and Mama Mio while our signature spa product range B | Africa, created for Red Carnation Hotels, is inspired by the indigenous, healing properties unique to this environment.





## big occasions

Whether celebrating an engagement, wedding, honeymoon, anniversary, milestone birthday, baby shower or a christening, our passionate team will help you create a magically memorable occasion.

Our dedicated Wedding Co-ordinator provides meticulous attention to every single detail from menu choice, table design and floral decoration, to the wedding cake, photography and music; traditional and cultural requirements are also taken into consideration.

- **WEDDING VENUE**

The Victorian Garden Gazebo

Magical and romantic, nestled in the gardens and lit by lanterns, candles and sweet scented flowers.

- **RECEPTION VENUES**

Pearl Room

The elegant, all-white venue is resplendent with mirrored walls and exquisite hand-blown crystal Venetian chandeliers with views of the iconic lighthouse and Indian Ocean. Up to 120 guests for a seated banquet.

Shell Room

In hues of blue reflecting the ocean outside, this room can be configured to suit a variety of small to medium-sized celebrations or used in conjunction with the Pearl Room, to create a larger function area.



# meetings and events

For cocktail parties, strategy meetings, conferences or launches, team-building, banquets and brainstorming sessions – we offer outstanding service and a selection of individually-themed venues, each with state-of-the-art technology and some with breathtaking ocean views.

- PEARL ROOM**  
 The elegant, all-white venue is resplendent with mirrored walls and exquisite, hand-blown crystal Venetian chandeliers with views of the iconic lighthouse and Indian Ocean. This luxurious venue is popular for dinners, large events and conferences. One of The Oyster Box's most sought after venues for up to 120 guests.
- SHELL ROOM**  
 In hues of blue reflecting the ocean outside, this room can be configured to suit a variety of small to medium-sized events or used in conjunction with the Pearl Room to create a larger function area.
- DURBAN JULY ROOM**  
 Colonial, warm and intimate, the walls are covered with paintings and photographs that reveal a fascinating pictorial journey through the 50 year history of the renowned Durban July horseracing event. It is ideal for meetings, workshops, cocktail functions and presentations. A patio provides the perfect breakaway area.
- UNION CASTLE ROOM**  
 Filled with memorabilia from the beloved cruise-liner Union Castle. Ideal for boardroom style meetings, launches and presentations and can also be used as a dining facility for up to 20 guests.
- COLONY ROOM**  
 Adjacent to the Grill Room on the ground floor, this venue can be closed off for private conferencing or dining options for more intimate gatherings. The elegant décor in this venue is conducive to dining at its finest for up to 30 guests.
- WINE CELLAR**  
 With a glass ceiling, this intimate room is sunken just below the Oyster Bar and is unique for exclusive business dinners or a Chef's Table for up to 10 guests. The Resident Sommelier is on hand to present tastings from the award-winning Diners Club Diamond wine list, which has the finest selection of South African and international vintages.

	Colony Room	Durban July	Union Castle	Pearl	Shell
Banquet Style	20	50	20	120	30
School Room	15	30	12	50	24
Cinema Style	20	70	20	150	40
Cocktail Style	30	100	25	200	50
Boardroom	15	25/30	12	40	20





## our art collection

The Hotel proudly displays a large private collection of original artwork and showcases the extraordinary talent of some of KwaZulu-Natal's most respected artists.

## making a difference

We respect the environment and have introduced best practice green initiatives throughout the hotel, including the recycling of waste, water, food and other items used on a daily basis.

- Heat recovered from the hotel's air-conditioning system warms the water for the hotel's 14 swimming pools.
- Solar panels heat all of the water used in the Spa.
- Solar glazing in windows and doors assist in maintaining constant interior temperatures.
- Energy-efficient lights and lamps, as well as movement activating sensors have been installed. The sensors automatically switch off air-conditioning in the bedrooms when sliding doors to balconies are opened.
- Collection of rain-water to a large storage tank for use in the gardens.
- Treatment of grey water.
- Bamboo was used for the restoration of floors, doors, windows and joinery, a resource that replenishes itself naturally.
- The hotel's precious indigenous plants were taken to a nursery for safe-keeping during the renovation period and age-old aloes were protected. Suitable new indigenous plants have been planted extensively.
- Waste is strictly separated and all suitable waste is sent for recycling.

# awards

- World Luxury Spa Awards: Best Luxury Hotel Spa in Africa (2013)
- World Luxury Spa Awards: Best Luxury Destination Spa in South Africa (2013)
- TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards: Top 25 Hotels in Africa (19), Top 25 Hotels in South Africa (4), Top 25 Luxury Hotels in South Africa (20) (2013)
- Top 100 SA Wine List Awards Challenge: Winner (2013)
- SpaFinder Wellness Readers' Choice Crystal Awards: Voted Favourite Spa in Africa (2012)
- Conde Nast Traveller (UK) Readers Awards: Top 20 Leisure Hotels in Africa, Middle East and Indian Ocean (2012)
- South African Wine List Awards: Best Long Wine List, Best Wine by the Glass and graded Three Flutes (2012)
- TripAdvisor: Certificate of Excellence (2012)
- World Luxury Hotel Awards: Best Luxury Hotel Spa in South Africa (2012)
- World Luxury Spa Awards: Best Luxury Wellness Spa in South Africa (2012)
- PMR Africa Diamond Arrow Award: Grill Room placed 1st - Executive Restaurants (2012)
- PMR Africa Golden Arrow Award: Executive Hotels (2012)
- Diners Club Winelist Awards: Diamond Certification (2010, 2011, 2012)

# our differences

- Part of the international, family run, collection of Red Carnations Hotels. Sister property to The Twelve Apostles Hotel and Spa in Cape Town, Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve & Wellness Retreat in the Cederberg, and Bouchard Finlayson, acclaimed worldwide for producing the best Pinot Noir in SA, as well as exceptional Chardonnays and Sauvignon Blanc.
- Located on Umhlanga's prestigious beachfront on KwaZulu-Natal's eastern seaboard, with stunning sea views and direct access to sandy beaches and protected areas for swimming and diving in the warm Indian Ocean.
- Easy access to the King Shaka International Airport, Midlands and Drakensberg Mountains, world-renowned game parks and historic Battlefields.
- Guests experience the truly genuine warmth and charm of our staff who are dedicated and passionate in sharing what makes South Africa so special.
- The luxurious, split-level Presidential Suite with unparalleled sea-views, a private entrance and lift, infinity pool and open-plan living area, is the epitome of luxury.
- Generous hospitality with complimentary extras throughout the hotel including hearty snacks, fresh fruit, sweets and bottled water.
- The ambient Ocean Terrace with a traditional wood-fired pizza oven, two Tandoori ovens, extensive Curry Buffet, fine selection of freshly caught seafood and original signature favourites served a la carte or al fresco.
- The Grill Room, serving enduring signature dishes such as the Crayfish and Prawn Cocktail, Black Forest Duck and seafood cooked to perfection, as well as new dishes garnered from around the world.
- Saturday evening 'Dinner and Dance' in the chic and stylish Grill Room, is a winning combination of exceptional cuisine and dancing to the sounds of a live band.
- Inspired by the hotel's original colonial architecture and with magnificent chandeliers purchased from the Savoy Hotel in London, The Palm Court serves an extravagant, traditional High Tea with live piano accompaniment each afternoon. The spread includes freshly prepared home-baked scones with cream and strawberries, cakes, finger sandwiches, pastries and savouries.
- The innovative sunken, wine cellar is ideal for exclusive, private dining occasions.
- The perfect family destination with excellent facilities for children including a gift bag on arrival, free in-room movies, children's bathrobes, prams and cots, screening of children's films in the cinema, hotel pools, special healthy menus as well as a children's Holiday Club with a range of games and activities to keep them entertained.

## PLACES OF INTEREST

- New King Shaka International Airport 17.8km / 11mi
- Durban International Convention Centre 14.8km / 9.2mi
- Moses Mabhida Stadium 14.1km / 8.7mi
- Gateway Shopping Centre 1.9km / 1.1mi
- Ushaka Marine World 18.4km / 11.4mi
- Midlands Meander 127km / 78.9mi
- Phinda Game Lodge 350km / 217.5mi
- Fugitives' Drift and Battlefields 300km / 186.4mi
- Close proximity to 5 excellent golf courses



GPS Co-ordinates: 29°43'39.1" S, 31°05'26.5" E



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Read our blog: <http://blog.redcarnationhotels.com>

"No request too large, no detail too small"

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[www.oysterboxhotel.com](http://www.oysterboxhotel.com)

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