

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Africa opens Visa Application Centres in New Zealand

The South African High Commission in New Zealand is pleased to announce the launch of two (2) South African Visa Application Centres in New Zealand which will be run by VFS Global. These centres are in Auckland and Wellington and will go live on Tuesday 14 February 2017. Applicants who wish to apply for visas to visit South Africa no longer need to travel to the High Commission in Wellington as these two (2) centres will be responsible for receiving all applications from 14 February 2017.

The new VFS Global Visa Application Centres (VAC) will offer an easier, more accessible visa application process for applicants with the help of an appointment-based system, easy fee collection, along with a secure dispatch system. Walk-ins will also be accommodated. The South African High Commission remains the sole authority for processing and issuing visas.

New Zealand passport holders in Australia do not have to travel to New Zealand and can apply for visas at the South African High Commission in Canberra, they need only present a bill from their municipality or telephone account indicating their residence in Australia. Those in other countries can also submit their applications at the nearest South African Embassy, High Commission or local VFS VAC.

Acting Country Manager for South African Tourism Australasia, Yana Shvarts said “The New Zealand market remains an important and growing market into South Africa. We wish to continue to welcome New Zealanders into our beautiful country and therefore welcome these positive developments to make the visa application process as seamless as possible”

The Auckland VAC can be found at:

South Africa Visa Application Centre

Address: Regus Business Centre, Plaza Level, 41 Shortland Street, Auckland 1010

Helpline: 09 363 9616, 09 363 9617 **Email:** info.sanz@vfshelpline.com

Website: <http://www.vfsglobal.com/southafrica/newzealand/>

Business hours: 0830 hrs to 1500 hrs (Monday - Friday)

**VFS Global will be responsible only for accepting applications for client missions. All applications submitted will continue to be assessed and processed by the respective client missions. Timelines for turnaround of visas are as per the discretion of the authorities.*

The Wellington VAC can be found at:

South Africa Visa Application Centre

Address: Regus Wellington, Plimmer Towers, Level 31 Plimmer Towers, 2-6 Gilmer Terrace, Wellington, 6011

Helpline: 09 363 9616, 09 363 9617 **Email:** info.sanz@vfshelpline.com

Website: <http://www.vfsglobal.com/southafrica/newzealand/>

Business hours: 0830 hrs to 1500 hrs (Monday - Friday)

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The fees for this service are made up of the visa processing fee of NZ\$95.00 together with the service fee of NZ\$86.00 which will cost a total of NZ\$181.00. Payments can be made by EFTPOS/Credit Card/Debit Card.

The key features of the centre include:

- Conveniently located and easily accessible visa application centre
- Staff equipped to handle visa queries
- Dedicated website for easy access to information including visa categories, requirements, checklist and applicable fees
- 100% secure handling of passports, documents and personal information

- SMS tracking service

Issued by the South African High Commission, Wellington. For enquiries, please contact Mr David Jordaan on 04 815 8484 / 0211 910 442.