M20 Summit – guide for delegates

About the M20 Initiative

The M20 is an independent initiative designed to elevate media, journalism, and information integrity issues within the G20 policy agenda.

The highlight of the 2025 M20 programme is the M20 Summit, a two-day international conference which amplifies the voices of emerging G20 economies, African and other media stakeholders in exploring actionable proposals that align with the priorities of the G20 and unique challenges faced by developing nations.

The Summit topics cover the issues raised in the M20 policy briefs, and other matters related to the role of media and information integrity in the G20.

The Summit brings together journalists, academics, policymakers, civil society actors, and media practitioners to engage in collaborative dialogue and shape global media governance policy.

Summit venue and registration

The M20 Summit will take place at The Venue at 17 The High Street, Melrose Arch, Johannesburg, starting with a welcome dinner on 31 August and the Summit on 1 and 2 September.

Located in the vibrant and secure Melrose Arch precinct, The Venue is a modern event space with state-of-the-art facilities. It is pedestrian-friendly and surrounded by high-end shops, restaurants, and hotels, with secure 24/7 parking.

Refreshments during coffee breaks and lunch will be catered for at the summit as well as the Sunday evening dinner and the dinner on the 1st of September.

Registration will be open from 8am on day 1 and 8.30 on day 2 and both days' proceedings will start at 08:45 and end at 17:30.

Transportation & shuttle services

Arriving at the airport you can either book a shuttle in advance or use the airport train service or an e-hailing service.
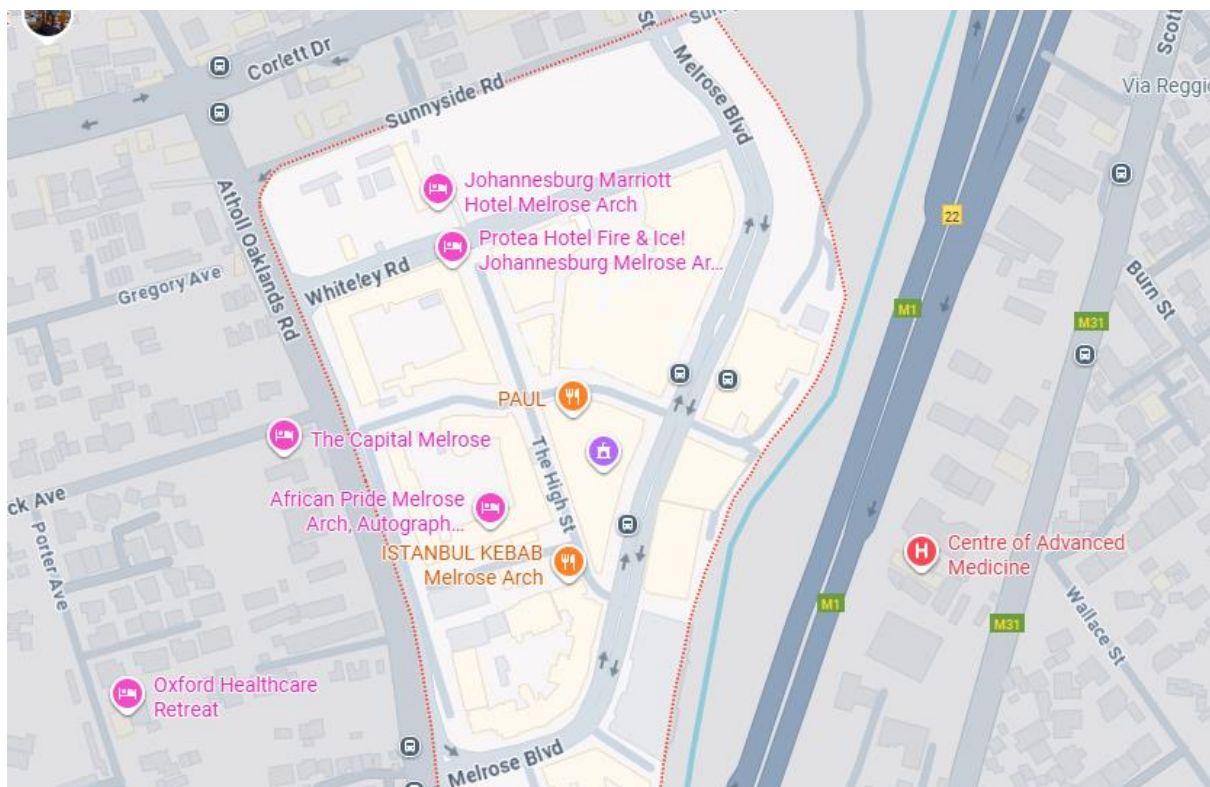
- E-hailing services like Uber are widely available and usually safe to use throughout Johannesburg. The airport information desk can help guide you to the e-hailing service pick-up points.
- Another option is to take the Gautrain at the airport to Sandton or Rosebank stations and then Uber to Melrose Arch.
- Or use EZ Shuttle: mail them in advance on info@ezshuttle.co.za to book trips for airport transfers and hotel-to-venue shuttles – but please book in advance to secure preferred time slots.

Accommodation recommendations

All hotels listed below are within walking distance or a short drive from the summit venue:

Hotel Name	Approx. Distance
Protea Hotel Fire & Ice Melrose Arch	~300 m
The Capital Melrose	~500 m
Melrose Place Boutique Hotel / Guest Lodge	~1.2 km
Johannesburg Marriott Hotel Melrose Arch	~1.2 km

Weather forecast & packing guidance

Spring weather in Johannesburg (early September):

- **Daytime temperatures:** 20°C – 25°C (68°F – 77°F)

- **Evening temperatures:** Around 10°C (50°F)

Recommended packing:

- Light layers for daytime comfort

- A warm jacket or sweater for cooler evenings

- Comfortable walking shoes

Emergency and local services

- **Emergency Number:** 10111 (Police, Ambulance, Fire)

- **Nearest Hospital:** Netcare Rosebank Hospital (~10 minutes by car)

- **Amenities:** ATMs, pharmacies, grocery stores, restaurants, and cafés all within the Melrose Arch precinct

- **Safety:** Melrose Arch is a secure, patrolled precinct, but general safety awareness is still encouraged.

Key contacts & support

Summit coordination Team

- Sophie Smit: sophie.smit@powerlaw.africa

- Dzudzie Netshisaulu: dzudzien@sanef.org.za

Venue contact

- Phone: +27 11 214 4300

- Email: info@thevenue.co.za

International participant notes

- **Currency:** South African Rand (ZAR)

- **Visa Requirements:** Please check with the South African consulate or embassy in your country

- **Time Zone:** South Africa Standard Time (UTC+2)

- **Languages:** English is widely spoken and used in professional settings

- **Wi-Fi** is widely available within Melrose Arch.

- **Power supply**, please make sure that you bring along your own adapters for South African power sockets

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Programme outline

Sunday 31 August 2025
18:00 Welcome dinner
Monday 1 September 2025
08:00 Arrivals and registration
08:45 Start of proceedings
09:00 Opening remarks
09:30 Keynote address
10:00 Respondents: reflecting on the past and future of the M20 agenda
10:30 Break
11:00 Scene setter: global developments
11.30 Information integrity
13.00 Lunch
14.00 Media viability
15:30 Break
16:00 AI and news media
17:30 Wrapping up, announcements
18:00 Networking dinner
Tuesday 2 September 2025
08.30 Arrivals and registration
08:45 Start of proceedings
09:00 Journalists and truth under attack
10:30 Break
11:00 Key issues for the information ecosystem
12.00 Media and digital platforms
13.00 Lunch
14:00 Ambassadors' roundtable
15:30 Break
16:00 Summit declaration and next steps
17.00 Closing