

PLANS IN PLACE TO MANAGE TRAFFIC TO AFRICA'S PREMIER AIR SHOW

Thousands of aviation and defence enthusiasts will converge at the Air Force Base Waterkloof for AAD 2018 from 19 – 23 September 2018, and organisers have put in place comprehensive plans to manage access and ease the traffic flows.

Regular bus shuttles will operate from the park-and-ride facilities close to the venue during the open days on 22 and 23 September and plenty of free parking will be available at various places in the vicinity. Leon Dillman, the CEO of CAASA and lead partner for AAD 2018 has called on visitors to Africa's largest international air show to plan their journeys in advance and make use of the public transport arrangements that will be available.

"We encourage the public to visit the show in large numbers. This is one of the best family outings in Gauteng this year and we hope to attract more than 100 000 people over the five days of Africa Aerospace and Defence 2018.

"We are aware of the impact of such a mass event on communities – especially residents close to AFB Waterkloof and road users – and we are doing our utmost to keep disruptions to a minimum," says Dillman.

The show programme that includes aerial displays by the Silver Falcons, Gripen and Hawk fighter aircraft will start at 08h00 on the weekend, but gates will already open at 06h00. The main roads that will be affected are Solomon Mahlangu, which is the off-ramp on the R21/Airport Road, Trichardt Road leading to the main entrance and Veldpou Street next to the Air Force Base. Only park-and-ride buses will be allowed on Trichardt and Veldpou and there will be road closures at Dastek and on Solomon Mahlangu and Van Ryneveld Avenue.

Traffic and emergency officials will be on duty to manage traffic flows and all closures and detours will be clearly marked. Visitors are advised to access the Show from the Botha Avenue and Rigel Avenue off-ramps on the N1 or Nellmapius Drive on the R21.

Park-and-ride facilities will be located at the Armscor offices in Nossob Drive, Erasmusrand, at 68 Air School in Snake Valley Road, the Air Force Base Swartkop on the Old Johannesburg Road, Fountains Valley, Groen Kloof road and Centurion Rugby Club on West street. Shuttle buses will make regular journeys between the parking areas and the air force base.

Residents living close to the Waterkloof Base are advised to familiarise themselves with the traffic arrangements and road closures and to consider alternative local routes on Saturday and Sunday. The highway will be cleared at around 15h30 and all closures will end by 17h30 to facilitate the resumption of normal traffic.

The AAD app can be downloaded for free on Android and Apple to find the GPS coordinates of free available parking and maps are available on the AAD website, www.aadexpo.co.za.

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