

## General Information for Commercials

### Crew

South African crew are on a par with the best in the world. Working in an industry driven by expectations of high levels of service, their skills have been honed to meet the different production and cultural requirements of the numerous international productions that take place annually in South Africa.

South African crew are predominantly English speaking.

The South African crew and cast are not unionized, however the majority of filmmakers are represented by agents.

A couple of **useful points for crew work times, rules & regulations:**

#### Overtime:

- Overtime is calculated at time and a half for the first four hours. Thereafter at double time on a standard day, which is based on a 10 hour day, which includes a 45 minute lunch break.
- Should the last day of shoot wrap after 24h00, a penalty of triple time will be incurred for every additional hour (or part thereof) regardless of whether or not an extended day has been called.
- Production will limit the hours worked by Production Assistants to a maximum of 14 hours on any one day. Pro-rata overtime will be paid for hours in excess of this to the PA.

#### Premium Day

- Premium Day will mean any Sunday, Public Holiday or first night of a night shoot (shoot ending after midnight).
- Premium days will be paid at 1.5 x the standard daily rate.
- A night shoot on a premium day will only be paid at time and a half.
- Overtime is calculated at premium day rates when applicable.

#### Travel Day

- A day called as such by the producer and in which the travel time is not greater than standard day hours (i.e. 10 hours).
- For a travel day, half of the standard day rate shall apply to all crew. If more than 10 hours are travelled, payment for those hours travelled over 10 hours will be on a pro-rata basis calculated at standard day rates, regardless of what day the travel occurs.
- A standard day rate is paid even if travel occurs on a premium day.

#### Holidays

- Crew will work on most public holidays but at a premium day rate which is time and a half their normal rate.
- Easter, Christmas Day & New Year's Day are all charged at 3 times the normal rate.
- Below is the applicable list of public holidays in South Africa:
  - **1 January** – New Year's Day
  - **21 March** – Human Rights Day
  - **3 April\*** – Good Friday (dates vary year to year; always Friday before Easter Sunday)
  - **6 April\*** – Family Day (dates vary year to year; always Monday after Easter Sunday)
  - **27 April** – Freedom Day
  - **1 May** – Workers' Day
  - **16 June** – Youth Day
  - **9 August** – National Women's Day
  - **24 September** – Heritage Day
  - **16 December** – Day of Reconciliation

- **25 December** – Christmas Day
- **26 December** – Day of Goodwill

## **Cost**

Despite the current appreciation of the Rand, South Africa remains superior value for money when compared to other popular international filming destinations.

Enigma Pictures has intelligent solutions to complicated scheduling & storyboard requirements. Send through a storyboard, give us a figure and we will work with you to achieve the budget figure you are aiming for, while maintaining excellent production value.

## **Locations**

No other popular international filming destination can offer the enormous variety of locations available in South Africa. They include sand dunes, beaches, mountain ranges, forests, plains, agricultural land, vineyards, city streets, villages, bush, desert and waterfalls, most of which are in close proximity to a major city centre.

A number of locations easily replicate other countries in the world, giving projects a truly global feel at a fraction of the cost normally associated with this.

South Africa is situated in the same time zone as most of Europe, making communication easier than other Southern Hemisphere destinations.

## **Casting**

Enigma Pictures has built up an excellent relationship with the best casting studios/character agencies, to ensure that we find the right cast for the shoot.

English is widely spoken in South Africa and obtaining a successful European or American accent is not a problem. During season many international models supplement our local talent pool.

## **Equipment**

A comprehensive range of specialized motion picture equipment is readily available in South Africa. Equipment suppliers such as Panavision, Panalux, Media Film Services and Take 2 all have bases in Cape Town and Johannesburg. Between these suppliers there is hardly a piece of equipment that is not available or cannot be sourced through the local company's international affiliations. All the rental houses have experience in supplying equipment throughout Africa and Media Film Services is also represented in Mauritius.

## **Studios**

Due to the limited availability of studios in both Johannesburg and Cape Town, warehouses are more commonly used for feature films and TV productions. The Cape Town Film Studios are the largest soundproof, air-conditioned studios available in Cape Town at present and is comparable to most international studio-based filming locations. There are already smaller pack shot studios, such as the Cape Island Studios which are not soundproof, but can be made to work for most productions.

While there are more studios available in Johannesburg, most are permanently occupied by daily soap operas.

## **Post-Production**

Numerous post facilities are available which specialise in High Definition workflow through to online. Previously most of the international post-production work has been completed outside the country, however in the recent past there has been an increase of productions staying in the country to complete parts if not all of their post-production work.

Looping can also be arranged as there are ISDN Voice recording facilities and Protools audio suites readily available in the country.

## Hotels

South African hotels, particularly those in major centres, are of world class quality at competitive prices, particularly when taking into account the negotiated rates obtained by Enigma Pictures.

Here is a list of the more popular production friendly hotels in Cape Town:

- The Bay Hotel  
[www.thebayhotel.com](http://www.thebayhotel.com)
- Mount Nelson Hotel  
[www.mountnelson.co.za](http://www.mountnelson.co.za)
- Table Bay Hotel  
[www.suninternational.com](http://www.suninternational.com)
- The Radisson SAS Hotel Waterfront  
<http://www.radissonblu.com>
- The Vic Junction  
<http://www.proteahotels.com/protea-hotel-victoria-junction.html>