

“The World in One Country”

South Africa



South Africa – Land of beauty and opportunity!



South Africa is often called a "World in One Country." It is one of the few countries in the world which can delight its visitors with everything from unspoilt sandy beaches, snow-blanketed mountain ranges, ancient deserts teeming with fascinating wildlife and incredible succulents, sub-tropical rainforests, castles and forts, and world-renowned conservation areas all linked with excellent highways and first-rate communications systems.

South Africa is an exhilarating, spectacular country. There's a wonderful professional energy, amazing opportunities for entrepreneurs, the labor market is dynamic, the atmosphere vibrant. The infrastructure is excellent, the climate is kind and there are few better places to see Africa's wildlife.

The country offers an investor-friendly environment, in which 100% foreign ownership is allowed. Repatriation of profits is liberal. The exchange rate is particularly favorable. And if you're doing businesses anywhere in Africa, this is the gateway to the continent.

As a leading industrial country, **South Africa** enjoys an enviable standard of living, an excellent infrastructure, a highly educated and skilled labor force as well as a well-deserved reputation as a successful trading nation. South Africa is also known worldwide for its respect of human rights and freedoms as well its stand against discrimination and injustice.



With a rich history of immigration, **South Africa** is a land of many cultures and many people. **South Africa** still needs the skills, talents and enthusiasm of newcomers to continue to grow. Today, South Africa is home to immigrants from more than 240 countries and it continues to attract new residents and citizens with the promise of a beautiful natural environment, stable economic growth and an excellent place to raise a family.

The influx of foreign visitors in recent years has brought about an explosion of tours and activities: everything from abseiling off Table Mountain to sipping cocktails while watching lions.

South Africa is a developing country with an abundant supply of resources, well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, and transport sectors, a stock exchange that ranks among the 10 largest in the world, and a modern infrastructure supporting an efficient distribution of goods to major urban centers throughout the region.

The new **South Africa** is an exciting place to visit. Cape Town, with its vibrant nightlife, stylish young people and beautiful surroundings, has become one of the most desirable destinations in the world. And **South Africa's** natural attractions are as appealing as ever: the green vineyards and rocky coast of the Cape; the arid landscape of the Karoo; the rich farmlands of Gauteng and Mpumalanga; the snowcapped peaks of the Drakensberg range; and the verdant hills and wide beaches of KwaZulu-Natal.

The country also has more than 300 game and nature reserves, along with some of the finest lodges on the continent.



The animals alone are reason to visit. One of the world's first wildlife conservation areas was South Africa's Kruger Park, more than a century old. An hour's drive from such cities as Pretoria and Johannesburg, you can see lions, elephants, buffalo and hundreds more species in their natural environments. South Africa is also a bird watchers' paradise.

The weather:

South Africa has a temperate and pleasant climate, with lovely warm sunny days most of the year which makes our unspoilt beaches irresistible. Being in the southern hemisphere, the seasons are opposite to those experienced in Europe and North America, so, yes we spend Christmas on the beach.

In **Johannesburg**, the country's commercial heart, the weather is mild all year round, but can get cool at night. Durban, the biggest port, is hot and sometimes humid, a surfing paradise. And in Cape Town, where the tourists flock to admire one of the world's most spectacular settings, the weather is usually warm. Bring sunglasses and suntan lotion!!

Fast Facts & Quick Stats About South Africa

Political

- According to the *Open Budget Index 2010*, South Africa has the **most transparent budget** in the world. (*International Budget Partnership*)
- South Africa is the **only African country** that is a member of the G20.
- South Africa ranks **5th** overall on the **2011 Ibrahim Index** which measures the quality of African governance, Mauritius, Cape Verde, Botswana and Seychelles took the first four places out of 53 (*Mo Ibrahim Foundation*)
- South Africa ranks **28th** out of 167 countries surveyed in the **2011 Democracy Index**, compiled by the *Economist Intelligence Unit*, ahead of France, Italy, Greece and all of the other BRICS countries. *WorldAudit.org* ranks South Africa as the 43rd most democratic country in 2011.
- In the *Economist Intelligence Unit's Survey of Democratic Freedom*, South Africa ranks 31st out of 184 countries.
- According to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2010/11*, South Africa has the **34th most efficient government** out of the 139 countries ranked.
- *WorldAudit.org* ranks **South Africa as the 47th least corrupt nation** out of 150 nations surveyed in 2011, ahead of Italy, Greece and all the other BRICS nations. *Transparency International* ranks South Africa 64th out of 150 countries in its corruption perception index 2011.
- South Africa ranks as the **61st strongest state out of 177 countries** in the *Fund for Peace's Failed State Index 2011*. The index measures state vulnerability based on 12 social, economic, political and military indicators.
- In terms of the *Global Competitiveness Report 2012*, South Africa's **biggest improvements** over the past year have been **Reliability of police services** (we moved from 104 to 95); **Brain drain** (we moved from 62 to 48); **Intensity of local competition** (we moved from 63 to 49), **Availability of latest technologies** (we moved from 51 to 39) and **Gross national savings as a % of GDP** (we moved from 98 to 72).
- "Personal satisfaction" with the country's democracy rose from 49% in 2008 to 60% in 2011, according to the continent wide Afrobarometer research group.

Economic

- In 2012, at 5.5%, South African **interest rates** were at a **30-year low**.
- **South African Tax Revenue** has increased from R100 billion in 1994 to **R742.7 billion in 2011-12**.
- South Africa's **debt to GDP ratio is 32%** (USA 100%, Japan 200%, UK 90%). The World Bank recommends a ratio of 60%.
- SA ranks **1st** among upper middle-income economies in the World Bank "*Connecting to Compete 2012: Trade Logistics in the Global Economy*" report. Overall, **SA ranks 23 out of 155 countries** included in the Logistics Performance Indicators (LPI). Its main competitor on the African continent, Nigeria, is ranked 121.
- South Africa sold **\$1.8 billion worth of cars to the US** in 2010, putting us ahead of Sweden and Italy as suppliers to the US market. Car sales are projected to grow 10% in 2011 to 460,000 units.
- South Africa **exported 36.9% more vehicles** in 2010 than 2009.
- The South African **stock market rose 16.09%** in 2010, ranking 8th out of the G20 nations and **ahead of all of the G7 countries** (*Bespoke Investment Group*).

- South Africa is ranked **1st** out of 142 countries in respect of **regulation of security exchanges** according to the *World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*
- South Africa is ranked **1st** in respect of **auditing and reporting**, according to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*.
- South Africa ranks **1st** out of 60 countries in the Economist's **House Price index** for the period 1997 – 2009.
- South Africa's **banks rank 2nd** in the world for soundness, according to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*.
- The South African Rand was the **second best performing currency against the US Dollar** between 2007 and 2011, according to *Bloomberg's Currency Scorecard*.
- SA ranked **1st** in **Platinum** output, **2nd** in **Palladium** output, **3rd** in **Gold** output, **6th** in **Coal** output and **9th** in **wool** output. (Economist)
- SA is ranked **2nd** out of 183 countries for **good practice in protecting both borrowers and lenders** when obtaining credit for business (*World Bank Doing Business Report 2011*)
- SA is ranked **3rd** in the world for **protection of minority shareholders interests**, according to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*.
- South Africa ranked **6th** in **house price improvement** indices as a % change in 2009, and **1st** as a % change 1999/2009. (Economist).
- SA is ranked **10th** out of 142 countries for Strength of Investor Protection, according to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*.
- SA is ranked **10th** out of 183 countries for **good practice in protecting investors in business**. (*World Bank Doing Business Report 2011*).
- South Africa ranks **7th** out of 45 countries in the "**Big Mac Index 2012**". The price of a Big Mac is 42% less in South Africa than in the USA. In Switzerland and Norway, it is 62% more.
- South Africa is ranked **12th out of a total of 134 economies** in the World Economic Forum's *Global Gender Gap Report 2010*, ahead of many developed nations, including, the UK (15th), United States (19), Canada (20), Australia (23) and France (46).
- South Africa ranked **15th** in terms of "**largest deficits**" but as a percentage of GDP is not in the top 40 countries. (Economist).
- The JSE ranks **16th** in terms of "**largest market capitalisation**" and **19th** in terms of **largest gains**. (Economist)
- SA is ranked **23rd out of 81 countries** in the Jones Lang LaSalle's "**World's most Transparent Real Estate Markets**" placing it well ahead of China, Brazil, India and Russia. "Robust governance, strong auditing and a developed legal system" were cited as the main reasons for leading the developing markets in this rating.
- South Africa ranks **24th** out of 192 countries in the *Economist's "Largest Gold Reserves"* Index and **30th** in terms of official **US\$ reserves**.
- In a survey of 192 countries, South Africa's **unemployment as a percentage of economically active population** ranked **27th**.
- SA ranks **28th** in terms of **number of cars produced** and **18th** in terms of **number of cars sold**. (Economist).
- South Africa is **ranked 34th** out of 183 countries **for ease of doing business** according to *Doing Business 2011*, a joint publication of the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation.
- South Africa ranks **41st** out of 192 countries in the *Economist's "Biggest Exporters"* Index.
- South Africa ranked **50th** out of 142 countries in the World Economic Forum's *Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*, up from 54th in 2010/11.
- South Africa ranks **54th** in a comparison of the overall tax burden of 150 countries worldwide.
- South Africa ranks in the top 20 countries for **agricultural output**.

- According to a survey of 62 countries by the World Bank and the IMF, South Africa has the **36th highest foreign debt**, ahead of the US, Japan and all the European countries surveyed. The economist ranks South Africa 29th out of 60.
- **MTN has been ranked Africa's most valuable brand** in the *BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands 2012 survey*. MTN becomes the first and only African brand to make the list, debuting at position 88 in the world.

Tourism

- The **number of tourists visiting South Africa** has grown from 3.9million in 1994 to **11.3 million in 2010**. South Africa is ranked among the **top 5 countries in the world** in respect of **tourism growth** (growing at 3 times the global average).
- SA ranks **24th** in terms of **tourist arrivals** at 11.3 million (France 79 million, UK 28 million, Switzerland 8.5 million, India 5.2 million). (Economist)
- Cape Town was named the **top tourist destination in the world** in the 2011 Traveler's Choice Destinations awards.
- OR Tambo airport is the **best airport in Africa**, according to the World Airport Awards 2010/11. It was also in the top 3 most improved airports in the world for the same period.
- 27 South African beaches were awarded Blue Flags, an international indicator of high environmental standards for recreational beaches in 2010.
- South Africa is ranked 66th out of 139 in the World Economic Forums *Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2010/11*.
- According to *CNNGo (CNN's Travel Website)*, Cape Town is the 9th most loved city in the world in 2012.

Sport

- South Africa was the **first African country to host the FIFA Soccer World Cup** in 2010. It is only the second country in the world to have hosted the Cricket, Rugby Union and Soccer World Cups.
- In 2009, the Springboks become the first international team to be **World Champions in both 15-a-side and Sevens rugby**.
- South Africa is home to the world's largest **individually timed cycle race** (the Cape Argus Cycle Race), the world's largest **open water swim** (the Midmar Mile) and the world's largest **ultra-marathon** (the Comrades Marathon).
- 5 South Africans hold the **world extreme swimming world record** for swimming 2.5kms around Cape Horn.
- Since the 1940's, South African golfers have **won more golf majors than any other nation**, apart from the United States.
- According to *The Cricketer magazine*, **Newlands** in Cape Town is **second-best Test Match venue** in the world in 2012. Lords was first.
- The United States Olympic Committee pays out medal bonuses of \$25,000 for gold medal winners, \$15,000 for silver medals and \$10,000 for bronze. SASOC will give **South African gold medal winners** almost twice as much with each medal earning **R400000** (\$47,700). South African silver and bronze medallists will earn R200,000 and R80,000 respectively.
- Oscar Pistorius is the first double amputee to participate in a track event at the Olympic Games. He bowed out of the 400m in the semi-finals having finished second in his heat at London 2012.
- Natalie Du Toit became the first amputee ever to qualify for the Olympics (Beijing 2008), where she placed 16th in the women's 10K race

Education

- SA has **30,000 schools** (7,000 secondary, 23,000 primary). In 1994 only 12,000 had electricity. Now **24,000 have access to electricity**.
- The University of South Africa (**UNISA**) is a **pioneer of tertiary distance education** and is the **largest correspondence university** in the world with approximately 300,000 students.
- South Africa's **learner to teacher ratio** has improved from 1:50 in 1994 to 1:31 in 2010.
- The University of Pretoria's Gordon Institute of Business Science (**GIBS**) is the **highest ranked African business school** and is ranked **47th overall in the world** (*Financial Times Executive Education rankings 2012*)
- According to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2011-2012, the **University of Cape Town** is ranked the **103rd best university in the world**. Stellenbosch is ranked 268 and Wits 274.
- According to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*, South Africa is ranked **13th** out of 142 countries for its **quality of management schools**.
- 61% of South African primary school children and 30% of high school children receive free food as part of the school feeding scheme.
- The **first MBA programme outside of the United States** was started by the University of Pretoria in 1949.
- Stellenbosch University was the **first African university** in the world to **design and launch a microsatellite**
- 297 new ECD (**Early Childhood Development**) centres have been set up and registered in the first quarter of 2011

Environmental

- In 1991, South Africa became the **first country** in the world to **provide full protection status for the Great White shark** within its jurisdictional waters. Countries including USA, Australia, Malta and Namibia followed suit later.
- Cape Town has the **fifth-best blue sky in the world** according to the UK's National Physical Laboratory.
- Johannesburg ranks 2nd among countries from Asia/Pacific, Middle East and Africa in **dealing with urbanisation and environmental challenges**, in the *MasterCard Insights Report* on Urbanisation and Environmental Challenges.
- South Africa is **the only country to house an entire floral kingdom** (Fynbos), one of only 6 on the planet.
- The Vredefort Dome (or Vredefort crater) in the Free State, is the **largest verified impact crater on Earth** at between 250 and 300km in diameter and is estimated to be over 2 billion years old.
- SA ranks **18th** in terms of **biggest emitters of CO₂**, 9th as a proportion of GDP and 27th in terms of CO₂ per person. (Economist).
- South Africa has the **highest level of international certification of its tree plantations in the world**. Over 80% of South African plantations are certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). *Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa*
- **All paper in South Africa is produced from plantation grown trees, recycled paper or bagasse** (sugar cane fibre). Fibre is not sourced from the wood of rainforests, indigenous or boreal trees. This is a myth, often wrongfully perpetuated by e-mail footnotes. *Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa*
- The proportion of the South African population using **improved drinking water sources was 91%** in 2010, up from 83% in 1990. (*WHO/UNICEF, March 2012*)

Social and Infrastructure

- SA's **population is the 27th largest in the world** (there are 230 countries, only 80 have a population in excess of 10 million).

- The current **police to population ratio is approximately 1:308** (SAPS – April 2011). This ranks South Africa as the **9th best**
- There are **195,000** in the employ of **SA Police**. There are **411,000** in the employ of private security companies. TOTAL **606,000**. Divide by **49,000,000**. Conclusion: for every **80 citizens** there is **someone looking** after some or other aspect of **safety and security**. Or put differently 1250 security 'officials' per 100,000 citizens! (Business Day)
- The percentage of the South African population with **access to clean drinking water** has increased from 62% in 1994, to **93% in 2011**. Access to **electricity** has increased from 34% in 1994, to **84% in 2011**.
- In 2010, **13.5 million** South Africans benefited from **access to social grants**, 8.5 million of which were children, 3.5 million pensioners and 1.5 million with disabilities. In 1994, only 2.5 million people had access to social grants, the majority of which were pensioners.
- Since 1994, **435 houses** have been built each day for the poor.
- According to Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini of the **914 poverty alleviation programmes** launched by government **232 have collapsed**
- **Two South African cities** were voted amongst the **world's top 100 Most Liveable Cities** in the 2010 study conducted by Mercer Human Resource Consulting. Cape Town was ranked in 86th place and Johannesburg 90th
- SA ranks **8th** out of 142 countries on the **Legal Rights index**, (*Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*).
- SA ranks **30th** out of 142 countries on **property rights** (*Global Competitiveness Report 2011/12*).
- **Johannesburg is ranked as the 87th largest city in the world. Tokyo is the largest with a population of 36 million (Economist)**.
- SA ranked **34** out of 192 countries in terms of **infrastructure** and 12th for our rail network.
- South African media ranks **38th out of 178** countries in the *Worldwide Press Freedom Index 2010*, higher than France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and all of the other BRICS countries.
- SA has the **18th largest prisoner to population ratio** (USA is number 1).
- In terms of **total crimes recorded** SA ranked 10th, USA 8th and the UK 6th.
- Out of 230 cities surveyed around the world, **Johannesburg ranks the 151st and Cape Town the 171st most expensive city for expatriates to live in** according to the 2010 Cost of Living Standards Survey from Mercer Human Resource Consulting, ahead of Tokyo (2), Moscow (4), Hong Kong (8), London (=17), Paris (=17), Tel Aviv (19), Sao Paulo (21), Sydney (24), Rome (26), New York (27), Dubai (55) and Auckland (149).
- South Africa is the **19th largest producer of energy** (economist)
- SA's has the **17th longest road network** in the world and ranks **29th** in terms of **most used**, but does not feature in terms of most crowded. (Economist).
- SA ranks **25th** in terms of "**most air travel**". (Economist)
- According to Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Gugile Nkwinti **90%** of the land **re-distributed to emerging farmers** (approx 930 farms) is lying fallow and unproductive
- SA's rail network is ranked **11th** in terms of **longest networks** and **9th** in terms of **millions of tons per km transported**. (Economist)
- SA ranks **24th** in terms of "**lowest divorce rate**" per 100,000 of population. (Economist).
- 49% of Zulu speakers think the statement 'Cultural customs and traditions define who I am' is very true. 27% of Afrikaans speakers feel the same way.
- South Africa is ranked **26th** in the world for gross indoor exhibition space at **180,000 square meters**, which is **approx 25% of all exhibition space available in Africa**, according to the 2011 World Map of Exhibition Venues published by the UFI.

Health

- **14.7 million South Africans have been tested for HIV**, 13 million in public health facilities and 1.7 million in private health care facilities, as part of the HIV counselling and testing (HCT) campaign
- South Africa has **1 doctor per 1000 population** and **3 beds per 1000 population** (Spain 3 doctors per 1000 population and 3.4 beds, UK 2 doctors per 1000 population and 4 beds, South Korea 1.4 doctors per 1000 population and 7.1 beds, USA 2.7 doctors per 1000 population and 3 beds). (Economist)
- South Africa ranked **4th** in terms of **HIV/Aids prevalence** amongst population behind Swaziland, Botswana and Lesotho. (Economist)
- SA ranks **20th** in terms of **death per 1000** of population (15) alongside Russia, Afghanistan is at No 1 (18.2), UK ranks 58th (10). South Africa does **not feature in the world's 44 highest infant mortality rates**. (Economist)

Miscellaneous

- South Africa has **11 official, state wide, languages**, more than any other country.
- The only street in the world **to house 2 Nobel Peace Prize** winners is in Soweto. Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu both have houses in Vilakazi Street, Orlando West. SA ranks **7th** in terms of **number of Nobel Peace prizes**. (Economist).
- Two of the world's most profoundly compassionate philosophies originated in South Africa – Ubuntu (the belief in a universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity) and Gandhi's notion of "Passive resistance" (Satyagraha), which he developed while living in South Africa.
- The Western Deep Level mines are the **world's deepest mines** at approaching 4km.
- South Africa houses one of the **three largest telescopes** in the world at Sutherland in the Karoo.
- South Africa is the **first, and to date only, country** to build nuclear weapons and then **voluntarily dismantle** its entire nuclear weapons programme.
- SA ranks 12th in terms of **beer consumption** (China 1; USA 2; Russia 3; Brazil 4 and Germany 5).
- SA has **45 million active cell phones** (population 49 million) – ranking in the **top 5 globally** in terms of **cell phone coverage**.
- SA has **66 colour TV's** per 100 households, **9 telephone lines** per 100 population and **90 mobile telephone** subscribers per 100 population. (Economist).
- 2 Cape Town restaurants are in the top 50 restaurants in the world according to the S.Pellegrino Worlds 50 Best Restaurants list 2010. **La Colombe** restaurant in Constantia, Cape Town, was voted the **12th best** and **Le Quartier Francais** in Franschoek came in at **31**
- South Africa has **8.5 computers per 100 population** (UK 80, Spain 40, South Korea 47 and USA 80). (Economist).
- SA ranks **31st** in terms of **internet users** per 1000 population. (Economist).
- SA ranks **16th** in terms of **cinema visits** per 1000 population. (Economist).
- South Africa **does not feature on the "brain drain" list of 20 countries**. (Economist).

A few of the Major Cities and Tourist attractions:

Cape Town – Tourist Mecca:



In this unequivocally beautiful city even transient visitors can't help but stand in awe of its grandeur: its striking Table Mountain backdrop, its glorious beaches and enchanting vineyards, its rugged wilderness coated in unique flora.

Outdoors, there are great walks and spectacular views from Tabletop Mountain as well as ocean swimming, boating activities, and plenty of ways to get out into the wilderness areas around Cape Town. Indoors, the city boasts a vibrant atmosphere and wealth of interesting museums.

Affectionately known as the Mother City, Cape Town is South Africa's oldest city. Founded in 1652 by Jan van Riebeeck and his band of Dutch settlers, Cape Town is rated one of the most beautiful cities in the world - the backdrop of flat-topped Table Mountain juxtaposed by the sweep of the Atlantic Ocean in the foreground.

Cape Town has a relaxed atmosphere and offers visitors a host of outdoor leisure activities, as well as all the amenities of a world-class city at the sea. Top attractions include catching the cable-car up Table Mountain to enjoy a panorama of the city and peninsula, taking a ferry to historic Robben Island, drinking tea at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens and visiting the Castle of Good Hope. For outdoor lovers, the Cape of Good Hope, adorned in delicate indigenous fynbos, affords spectacular views over two oceans in all directions and there are numerous hikes and trails all around Cape Town for energetic visitors. The Two Oceans Aquarium will give you a glimpse of marine life along the coastline.

Magnificent beaches line the Atlantic seaboard - Clifton, Camps Bay and Llandudno to name just a few, and warmer waters can be found at Muizenberg, Fish Hoek, St James and Strand. Shopping possibilities are abundant at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, Cavendish Square and Canal Walk, while quirky flea markets can be found at Greenmarket Square, Green Point and Hout Bay. If it's pulsating nightlife you're after, go directly to Long Street and enjoy trendy dining at its absolute best. Cape Town is everyone's city, offering the best life has to offer - all at the foot of the mountain.

Durban:



South Africa's favorite playground and the busiest port in Africa, Durban began life as a remote trading outpost. Today the sunny city is a popular year-round holiday destination, prized for its balmy climate and superb surfing and swimming beaches. Although shopping, restaurants and nightlife are geared for the holidaymaker, Durban is also now positioning itself as the conference capital of South Africa - with its International Conference Centre ranking amongst the top facilities in the world.

Still, this subtropical city is synonymous with the ocean. UShaka, the southern hemisphere's greatest marine theme park, was recently opened and is a major attraction for tourists to the city. But if you'd like to get really personal with marine life, The Natal Sharks Board runs weekday boat tours for visitors to watch shark nets being cleared, as well as dolphin- and whale-watching trips on weekends. The annual winter sardine run is another marine spectacle, attracting visitors from across the globe.

Marine Parade, fronting the beach, is Durban's focal point. Most places to stay and eat are on the parade or in the streets behind it, and much of the city's entertainment is here as well. At night, most people head to the restaurants in the northern suburbs, or the big hotels and clubs along the beachfront. Durban has an international airport, and is well serviced by buses and trains to all of **South Africa's** major cities.

Shopping is high on Durban's list of priorities and there's plenty to choose from. The Gateway Theatre of Shopping offers a grand combination of shopping and entertainment, and is the jewel of Durban's retail crown. The Pavilion also offers an exceptional shopping experience in a Victorian-look building, and The Workshop complex was created in the shell of Durban's original railway workshop. For a taste of real Durban, there's the Victoria Street Market, offering African and Indian wares. The Warwick Avenue Triangle is where herbalists and street vendors sell anything from traditional medicines and food to Zulu artwork and Grey Street is a fabric buyer's Mecca. The Indian area, to the west of the city centre, has a bustle and vibrancy that's missing from most commercial districts in South Africa. The Victoria Indian Street Market is the area's focus, but other must sees are the Jumah Mosque, the largest in the southern hemisphere, and the Alayam Hindu Temple, **South Africa's** oldest and biggest.

No visit to this sunshine city is complete without exploring the Golden Mile. This beachfront stretch is where you can catch a rickshaw ride, buy a curio or enjoy a seafood or typical Indian meal with a view of the sea. Durban is heaven for hedonists, where all year is holiday season.

Johannesburg – City of Gold:



A city of astonishing contrasts, a huge metropolis: Johannesburg is the intriguing, dynamic heart of the new South Africa.

Known as the gateway to Africa, Johannesburg is a city literally built on gold. Established in 1886 when gold was struck, the city has been rebuilt four times in the past century - it started as a tent town, worked up to a tin-shack settlement, a four-storey Edwardian settlement and finally graduated as a modern city of glass and concrete skyscrapers. It's one of the youngest major cities in the world and is a *mélange* of African cultures, and is quite possibly the most cosmopolitan city on the continent.

Situated high on the escarpment at just over 2 000m, Johannesburg is a vibrant, energetic and bustling metropolis offering something for everyone. As **South Africa's** largest city and economic hub it's home to 3,2 million people. It's the City of Gold and a city that never sleeps. The young and energetic can dance the night away at one of a myriad of nightclubs - from jazz to kwaito. Cigar lounges, sophisticated eateries and world-class theatre productions are also on offer, or a more authentic South African experience can be enjoyed in the shebeens of Soweto and Alexandra.

With massive inner-city renewal, the cultural precincts of Newtown and Constitution Hill - the birthplace of democratic South Africa - are high on visitor itineraries. Johannesburg offers over 150 heritage sites and the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site is a mere 30 minutes drive from Sandton. Those opting for shopping can explore the glittering malls of Sandton City, Hyde Park, Rose bank or North-, East-, South- or Westgate. There's also the popular weekend Rose bank Rooftop Market and Michael Mount Organic Market. Alternately, enjoy graceful Lippizaners at the only Lippizaner centre outside Austria, stargaze at the planetarium, visit the zoo or tour Soweto and see Nelson Mandela's home. In Johannesburg, the leisure and entertainment possibilities are truly endless.



Port Elizabeth – The “Friendly City”:



There's a sense of antiquity and history in Port Elizabeth. This is 1820 British Settler country and numerous monuments pay tribute to this English heritage. Restored Settler houses are now beautiful homes, and the Sir Rufane Donkin lighthouse still stands proud on a hilltop overlooking the city - named after his wife Lady Elizabeth.

Port Elizabeth's attractions are both numerous and diverse, with an emphasis on outdoor and nature activities. The city's trump card is its beautiful beaches and warm sea. With calm waters and fair breezes, this coast is perfect for swimming and water sports - and Port Elizabeth is fast becoming the water sport capital of Africa.

At Bay world on the beachfront, visitors can view performing dolphins and seals. A snake park and a museum, depicting cultural and natural history, is also in the complex. No 7 Castle Hill, one of the oldest surviving Settler cottages in Port Elizabeth, is nearby, as is the perfectly intact Fort Frederick, used as a defense stronghold.

Not far from the city limits is Addo Elephant National Park, considered to be the most biologically-diverse park in the world. Its home to the Big Seven, which includes the terrestrial Big Five of lion, leopard, rhino, elephant and buffalo as well as whales and great white sharks. Moving offshore, Port Elizabeth offers excellent fishing and scuba-diving possibilities and game-fishing from deep-sea boats includes catches of tuna, Dorado, yellowtail and leervis.

Shopping hotspots are Greenacres and The Bridge as well as Walmer Park, with the liveliest nightlife found at The Boardwalk Casino and Entertainment World, right on the beachfront. This extensive complex will delight the whole family and includes entertainment, shopping, dining and gaming. Set around a series of manmade lakes and beautiful gardens, at night the complex is illuminated by 40 000 Tivoli lights.

In Port Elizabeth life continues at a gentle pace, tempered by the warm Indian Ocean and surrounding natural beauty. Here there is no need for rush hour.



The Garden Route:



Heavily promoted and heavily scented, the Garden Route runs along a beautiful bit of coastline in southern Western Cape. The narrow coastal plain is well forested and is mostly bordered by extensive lagoons which run behind a barrier of sand dunes and superb white beaches.

The Garden Route has some of the most significant tracts of indigenous forest in the country - giant yellowwood trees and wildflowers - as well as commercial plantations of eucalypt and pine.

The area is a favorite for all water sports and the weather is kind year-round.

George is the major transport hub for the area. If you're traveling between Cape Town and the Garden Route, there's a spectacular alternative through the mountains of the Little Karoo or Klein Karoo. This area is renowned for ostriches, which thrive in the dry and sunny climate; for wildflowers; and for the *kloofs* (ravines) and passes that cut through the mountains.



Kruger National Park:



As well as being one of the most famous wildlife parks in the world, Kruger National Park is among the biggest and the oldest - it turned 100 in 1998. You can see the 'big five' here (lions, leopards, elephants, buffaloes and rhinos) as well as cheetahs, giraffes, hippos, all sorts of antelope species and smaller animals. Although most people will have seen African animals in zoos, it is impossible to exaggerate how extraordinary and completely different it is to see these animals in their natural environment. That said, Kruger is not quite a wilderness experience: it's highly developed, organized, accessible and popular.

The park runs for 350km along the Mozambique border and has an average width of 60km. There are about 2000km of roads in the park, so even on weekends and school holidays, it's possible to isolate yourself and just see what comes along (it could be a fleet of BMWs). The main entry points to the park are through the towns of Skukuza and Nelspruit, both about a day's drive from Johannesburg. Accommodation is usually in well-managed huts run by the National Parks Board. Facilities vary from communal and basic to private and swish.



South Africa truly is “the world in one country”!!!

**A visit to this exciting country will be an unforgettable
experience!!**

Or even better yet – why not make South Africa your Home?

Please Carry on Reading to find out how we can help you!

About SA Migration and Relocation Services:

SA Migration Services specializes in assisting people from all over the world to relocate to this wonderful country. We are proud to be a leader in the field of migration and relocation.

SA Migration And Relocation Services was founded out of the need for a specialist organization to assist migrants to South Africa. SA Migration and Relocation Services head office is located in Cape Town, South Africa, adjacent to the Department of Home Affairs. The highly trained team at SA Migration and Relocation Services oversees visa applications with the minimum of inconvenience to the applicants. Since inception in 2001; the company has assisted thousands of clients with an exceptional success rate.

Our Services

South Africa Migration and Relocation Services provide a full range of South African professional migration services, including applications for the following:

- **Work Permits**
- **Retirement Visas**
- **Study Permits**
- **Citizenship**
- **Extensions of Permits**
- **Permanent Residence**
- **Spouse Permits**
- **Medical Permits**
- **Relatives Permits**
- **Life Partner Residence Permits**
- **Business Migration and Investment**
- **Financially Independent Migration**
- **Temporary Residence Permits**

Other services include advice on:

- The purchase and sale of immovable and moveable assets; and
- Banking and other settlement matters.

In addition to our services listed:

- Formation of Companies, Close Corporations and Trusts;
- Foreign exchange regulations
- Advice to potential investors in South Africa
- Access to banking services.

Door-to-door relocation services:

Let our expert team take care of all or any of your arrangements.

By identifying you and your family's requirements we introduce you to selected companies foremost in their field of expertise to freight and ship your household effects. Transportation of pets , airport arrival, home-rental and purchase assistance .A settling in program partner employment and school selection is also included in the package.

Household Goods: Our carefully selected removals and clearing agents will ensure safe passage of your goods and pets to South Africa.

Sale of property: Should you wish to sell your property prior to relocating, our international network of real estate agents will be at your disposal.

Temporary Accommodation: We have a large selection of hotels and guesthouses to refer you to.

Car Rentals or Airport collection.

Permanent Accommodation: We will assist you with the rental/purchase of a new home within city limits or a rural area, anywhere in South Africa.

Banking / Finance: The whole spectrum of financial services is covered by our specialists. Home loan finance, bank accounts, foreign exchange, offshore investments, short term and long term insurance, vehicle finance etc.

Jobs, business etc: Specially selected personnel agencies assist new comers to enter the job market. Business brokers with various business available to purchase or start your own. We can assist with the chartered accountants, business and financial advisers.

Education: All major centers in South Africa have universities, schools, colleges, technicians (polytechnics). The larger centers have facilities for those who require special education facilities.

Online services offered on our website for your convenience:

Please visit our website at www.samigration.com

We offer the following online services for your convenience:

- **Visitors Visa Kit** – all the info and guidelines you need to obtain a South African Visitors visa which will allow you to visit this wonderful country.
- **Migration Eligibility Assessment** – fill out our online questionnaire and let our expert team assess which South African Visa you may be eligible for to qualify for immigration to South Africa.

www.samigration.com

Your Immigration Specialists

