

## Cape Town, The mother of all destinations

Written by {ga=micheller}  
Friday, 09 July 2010 15:13

---

Perched on the southernmost tip of Africa and wedged between two majestic oceans, Cape Town is a city of breathtaking contrasts. As the oldest city in South Africa, Cape Town is the Grand Dame of history, architecture, art and culture, wine, eco-sensibility and conservation. It is fast becoming one of the world's most popular holiday destinations. Famous for its scenic beauty, and presided over by Table Mountain, the Mother City offers visitors pristine beaches, outdoors adventure, the Big Five, whale watching, world-class shopping, diverse nightlife, excellent food and international award-winning wines...

A newly renovated international airport, busy seaport and excellent road and rail infrastructure make Cape Town an accessible and cosmopolitan African destination.

Table Mountain is one of South Africa's most famous landmarks. There are over 100 scenic ways to climb the mountain, but most people take the revolving cable car to the top. The views in all directions are nothing short of breathtaking, especially on a clear day. Of course the famous tablecloth of clouds can descend at any time and in only a few minutes!

For some fabulous retail therapy, hit the V&A Waterfront. With over 450 retail outlets selling everything from fashion, jewellery, leather goods, homeware, art, and audiovisual equipment, as well as boasting some fine eateries, the V&A Waterfront is SA's top shopping destination. Its attractions include the Two Oceans Aquarium, which houses seven different galleries and exhibits over eighty species. From the V&A Waterfront you can catch a ferry to Robben Island, the heritage site where Nelson Mandela spent many years of imprisonment during South Africa's freedom struggle.

Cape Town's beaches are considered some of the best in the world. Depending on what you're looking for, you'll find the beach that suits your needs. Go to trendy Clifton to see and be seen. Muizenburg and Fish Hoek are great for families. Sandy Bay accommodates the nudists, and Boulders Beach is home to thousands of Penguins. Watch whales at False Bay. Noordhoek's endless stretch of sand is great for long walks and horse riding, and surfers catch the perfect waves at Camps Bay.

## Cape Town, The mother of all destinations

Written by {ga=micheller}  
Friday, 09 July 2010 15:13

---

The Kirstenbosch botanical garden is set against the eastern slopes of Table Mountain in the heart of the Cape Floral Kingdom, and is known as The Most Beautiful Garden in Africa. Dedicated solely to only indigenous flora, Kirstenbosch is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. From November to April, Kirstenbosch hosts Sunday Summer concerts, showcasing a wide variety of South African musical talent, from Johnny Clegg to Freshlyground and many more. Pack a picnic basket and find a soft spot on the grassy slopes.

Be sure to visit Cape Point Nature Reserve. Though primarily a scenic and botanical reserve, some mammal species can be found, including the Cape mountain zebra. The treacherous Cape Point peninsula, a witness to many a shipwreck, enhances Cape Town's reputation for dramatic scenery. It's a trip well worth making, including a 10km drive over Chapman's Peak, which, with its hairpin bends atop sheer cliff drops, sets the stage for scenic awe and wonder.

Discover the joys of award-winning homegrown South African wine and cuisine along any of the beautiful Cape Wine routes, taking you through green valleys and historic towns. Wine festivals are a great way to spend a day and learn about the process of winemaking. Go grape stomping in Robertson or soak like royalty in an outdoors Pinotage wine bath in Stellenbosch.

Striking beauty and rugged landscapes make Cape Town the ideal destination for adventure, relaxation and entertainment. Don't miss celebrity spotting in Camps bay, partying down Long Street, the brightly coloured houses and narrow cobble lanes of Bo Kaap, malay cuisine, the Castle of Good Hope, fresh seafood, quirky eateries in Kalk Bay, Greenmarket Square and shark cage-diving.

With so much to offer, there is something for everyone in Cape Town... Truly the Mother of All Destinations!