

“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!!

## **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?**



## **About SA Migration 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 Services was founded out of the need for a specialist organization to assist migrants to South Africa. SA Migration Services head office is located in Cape Town, South Africa, adjacent to the Department of Home Affairs.

The highly trained team at SA Migration 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 Services provide a full range of South African professional migration services, including applications for the following:

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

**Other services** include advice on:

- The purchase and sale of immovable and moveable assets; and
- Banking and other settlement matters.
- Formation of Companies, Close Corporations and Trusts;
- Foreign exchange regulations; and
- Advice to potential investors in South Africa
- Access to banking services.

## Online services offered on our website for your convenience:

Please visit our website at <http://www.sami.co.za>

### 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.sami.co.za](http://www.sami.co.za)

# No.1 SA Immigration Experts

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Your No.1 Migration Specialists

