

# Thompsons

Holidays

## SOUTH AFRICA

SPECIALIST COLLECTION



### EXPERIENCE

From mountain walks to shark cage-diving

### EXPLORE

A combination of nature, wildlife & cultures

### DISCOVER

Holiday memories



[www.thompsons.co.za](http://www.thompsons.co.za)

# Why travel locally with **Thompsons** – the people's choice!

Thompsons Holidays, your South African travel expert has taken the guesswork out of planning your next local holiday. Each section in this brochure showcases a handful of carefully chosen self-drive holidays, luxury rail journeys, enticing day tours and activities plus a great selection of hotels in each province. There is no better way to experience sunny South Africa than with Thompsons, who can create innovative tailor-made holidays for your specific budget and need requirements. **#letsbepersonal** and say, 'Pack your bags & go as you will explore so much more with Thompsons!'

## **WE ARE WITH YOU 24/7**

Personally with you all the way – our care line is your friend in an emergency.

## **TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE WITH A GLOBAL COMPANY**

With 40 years of trusted travel experience you will receive expert advice. No request too large, no detail too small. Thompsons Holidays, a division of Cullinan Holdings Group and a member of THE TRAVEL CORPORATION, a fourth generation family owned group. Our financial stability is the key to a relaxed holiday.

## **UNRIVALLED VALUE FOR MONEY ON TRIED AND TESTED HOLIDAYS**

As the largest South African tour operator our greater buying power means you get the best deal on your holiday, unrivalled value for money and unexpected bonus offers & discounts.

*#LoveLocal*



# LET'S GO... *The A-Z of great local holidays!*

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Travel South Africa with WorldO®, the Thompsons fun mascot. Follow him throughout this brochure as he recommends his favourite destinations.

That's not all – you can join his social media platforms to keep track of 'Where's WorldO?'



WorldO

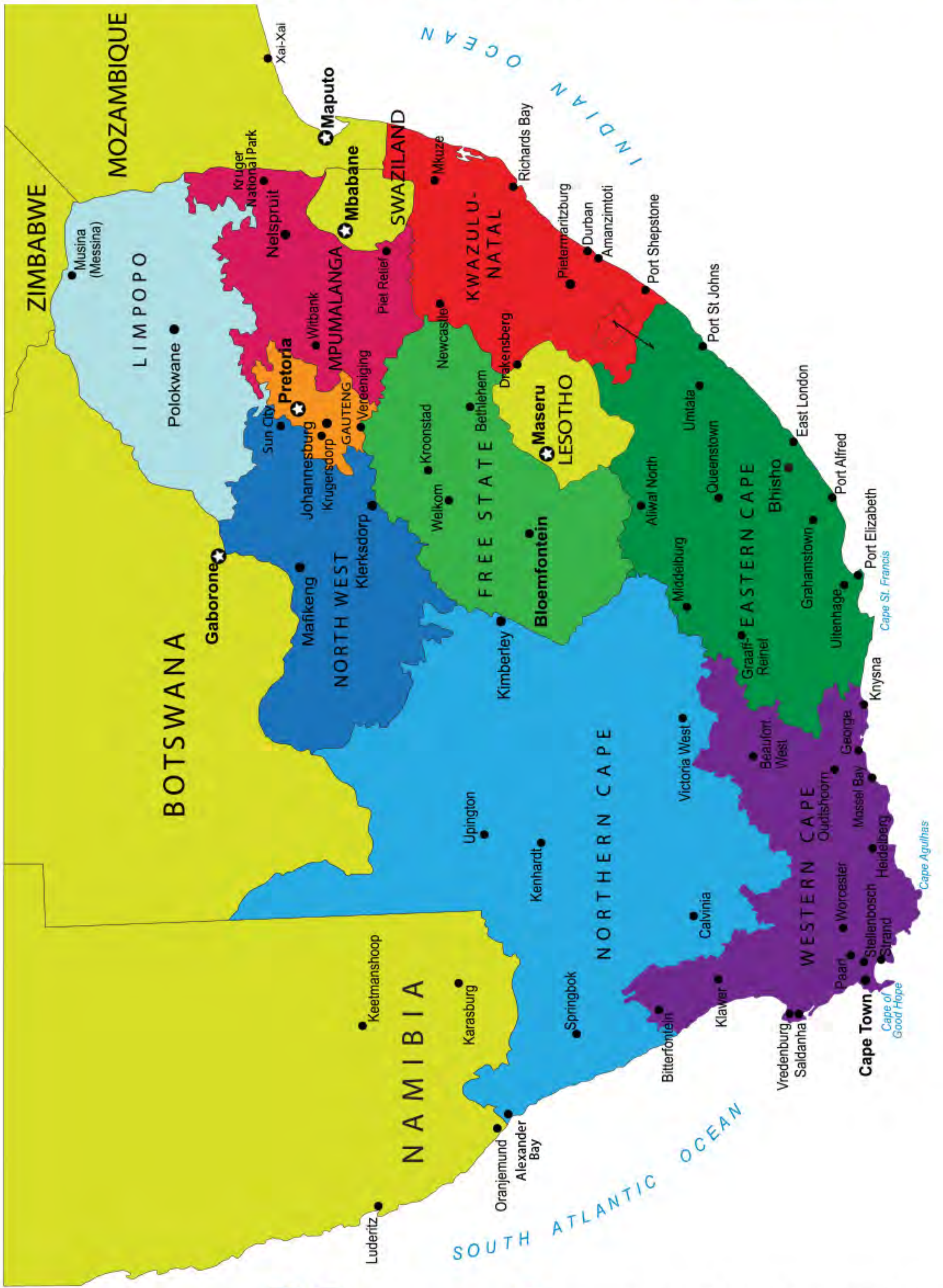


@ExplorerWorldo



Explorer Worldo





# In a nutshell - welcome to South Africa...

Take time out and discover this vast and diverse country with its warm-spirited people, fascinating cultures and traditions, natural wonders, breathtaking landscapes, scenery and coastline, vast national parks teeming with wildlife including the Big Five, cosmopolitan cities and exciting nightlife, world-class museums, gastronomic food and superb wine.

Imagine going up iconic Table Mountain for magnificent views over Cape Town, reflecting on your holiday over seafood on the Garden Route, witnessing the carpets of spring wild flowers in the

Northern Cape, enjoying a barbeque (braai) on the coast with its long stretches of beautiful beaches, experiencing spectacular game viewing in one of the many world-renowned game parks, exploring your adventurous side in the great outdoors and unforgettable wine tastings in the world-famous Cape Winelands.

The only problem that you will face asking yourself is 'which province to discover next?'

The choices are endless – ask Thompsons to organise it all!

*#Welcome to South Africa*



# Unforgettable *luxury rail* experiences

A luxurious and comfortable travelling option providing you with the opportunity to view ever-changing vistas of the countryside and the myriad colours of places you travel through. On board, you will experience ample space, fine dining, elegant lounges and a bar. Retire in your spacious Suite with its own bathroom. All this coupled with exceptional five star butler service.

*#UltimateLuxury*

★★★★★

## THE BLUE TRAIN

A window to the soul of Africa  
Pretoria to Cape Town or vice versa



You will be enchanted from the moment your personal butler ushers you aboard to your Deluxe or Luxury Suite. Suite facilities include twin / double beds, bathroom with bath tub / shower or shower only, individually-controlled air-conditioning system, mini safe, a private digital interactive entertainment system, with an inviting selection of music CDs and big-screen movies on Blue-Ray DVD including free Wi-Fi.

When you leave your luxurious cocoon of comfort, The Blue Train offers two convivial spaces in which to build friendships - the beautifully designed Lounge Car for afternoon High Tea and The Club Car where you can enjoy a Cuban cigar or game of backgammon, chess or cards after dinner to round off a perfect evening. Enjoy signature dishes over a five course dinner in the Dining Car while listening to tasteful background music. You can also opt to dine in the privacy of your own suite.

For a fitting memento, there is an exclusive boutique on board. The Blue Train can be chartered for any occasion, or for a business-oriented / conference journey, there is a fully-equipped Conference Car.

The route between Pretoria and Cape Town is a 27-hour journey of 1,600 kilometres.

Enquire for full itinerary details & alternative routes.



★★★★★

## ROVOS RAIL

The most luxurious train in the World  
Various journeys.



Step aboard the woodpanelled coaches – classics remodelled and refurbished to mint condition. With discreet and friendly service, five-star cuisine and a selection of South Africa's finest wines, Rovos Rail harks back to a simpler, more elegant era encompassing the timeless grace and high romance of African exploration.

The epitome of luxury, the 36 superbly appointed, air-conditioned suites are equipped with twin / double beds, a writing surface, a safe, a bar fridge filled with beverages of the passengers' choice, 24 hour room service and bathrooms with shower. The Royal Suites also feature a Victorian bath.

The Observation Car with its spacious open-air balcony is positioned at the rear of the train while at the centre of the train there is, when numbers dictate, a non-smoking Lounge Car. A smoking Club Lounge is placed next to the Observation Car. There is a small, discreet gift shop on board and, maintaining the spirit of travel of a bygone era, there are no radios or television sets on board.

The beautifully rebuilt trains carry a maximum of 72 passengers and are also available for charter, while the Events Train caters for up to 250 guests and is suitable for daytime journeys.

Enquire for the various journey details.





## WorldO® recommends...

Visit the Micro-Brewery and many craft shops or take a drive through the beautiful Golden Gate Highlands National Park.

## road trippin'

# self-drive holidays

South Africa is perfect for a road trip. Whether it's meandering through the scenic beauty and rural tranquility of the Free State; exploring the majestic Drakensberg region; discovering one of the world's most remarkable coastal stretches, the Garden Route; tripping through the vast, open spaces and beautiful spring flower spectacle of the Northern Cape or just stopping off wherever your heart desires, you can travel at your own pace with no time restrictions. Thompsons' carefully planned tailor-made self-drive holidays will ensure that you get the most from your holiday. Choose your dream route and Thompsons will make it happen.



## scenic Free State

### Round trip from Johannesburg

#### DAY 1: JOHANNESBURG / CLARENS (300km)

Depart Johannesburg and follow the 'Eagle Route' with some of the most picturesque landscapes in the country. En-route stop in Bethlehem.

#### Must do

\* Visit Lions Rock, a wildlife rehabilitation & breeding centre in Bethlehem.

**Overnight** - Clarens.

#### DAY 2: CLARENS

Explore the 'Jewel of the Free State', famous as an artist's and crafters' paradise and for outdoor enthusiasts.

#### Must do

\* Visit an art gallery.

\* Browse through the many arts & crafts shops.

\* Say 'Cheers' at the famous Clarens Brewery.

\* Drive through the beautiful Golden Gate Highlands National Park.

\* Get wet on a white water rafting trip.

**Overnight** - Clarens.

#### DAY 3: CLARENS / FICKSBURG / CLARENS (170km)

Head off to the cherry capital of the world, Ficksburg and explore this fascinating town.

#### Must do

\* Taste the famous Ionia Cherry Liqueur at the Ionia Cherry Farm.

\* See 'The Gumtree', the tallest sandstone structure in the world.

**Overnight** - Clarens.

#### DAY 4: CLARENS / PHUTHADITJHABA / CLARENS (170km)

Keep on exploring the outskirts of Clarens and take a drive to Phuthaditjhaba for the day.

#### Must do

\* Walk to the top of the 850m high Tugela Falls on the Sentinel Hiking trail.

\* Visit the Basotho Cultural Village for more insight into Sotho life.

\* Enjoy a lunch at the legendary Vulture Restaurant at Witsiehoek Mountain Resort.

**Overnight** - Clarens.

#### DAY 5: CLARENS / JOHANNESBURG (300km)

Depart Clarens for Johannesburg.



## beautiful Mpumalanga & Kruger

### Round trip from Johannesburg

#### DAY 1: JOHANNESBURG / DULLSTROOM (285km)

Depart Johannesburg for the peaceful village of Dullstroom, one of South Africa's premier fly-fishing destinations.

**Must do** - Trout fishing \* Hiking \* Tee off on an Ernie Els designed championship golf course \* Enjoy a gastronomic feast at one of the excellent restaurants \* Visit the world-renowned whisky bar.

**Overnight** - Dullstroom

#### DAY 2: DULLSTROOM / HAZYVIEW (160km)

Spend the morning exploring this beautiful village before making your way to Hazyview.

**Must do** - Set off on an exciting safari into the Kruger National Park on a game drive \* Enjoy a boma bush dinner on the banks of the Phabeni River.

**Overnight** - Hazyview

#### DAY 3: HAZYVIEW / PANORAMA ROUTE / HAZYVIEW (300km)

After a hearty breakfast, it's time to explore the extraordinary Panorama route.

**Must do** - Visit the Blyde River Canyon, Bourke's Luck Potholes, Lisbon waterfalls and God's Window.

**Overnight** - Hazyview

#### DAY 4: HAZYVIEW / KRUGER NATIONAL PARK (20km)

Set off to the magnificent Kruger National Park where you will be spending the next few days.

**Overnight** - One of the many beautiful lodges.

#### DAY 5 - DAY 7: KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy the peace and tranquillity that this beautiful park has to offer.

**Must do** - Morning and afternoon game drives to search for the Big 5

\* Chilling next to a lodge swimming pool listening to the sounds of the bush.

**Overnight** - One of the many beautiful lodges.

#### DAY 7: KRUGER NATIONAL PARK / JOHANNESBURG (450km)

Leave the peace and quietness of the bush behind as you conclude your adventure and return to Johannesburg.





## WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...

Explore the magnificent Cango Caves in Oudtshoorn and try ostrich racing at Safari Ostrich Farm.



## exquisite *Garden Route*

### Cape Town to Port Elizabeth

#### DAY 1: CAPE TOWN / MOSSEL BAY (385km)

Drive the scenic coastal road through Hermanus en-route to beautiful Mossel Bay.

**Must do** - Harold Porter National Botanical Garden (Betty's Bay)  
\* 'Hemel-en-Aarde' wine region (outside Hermanus).

**Overnight** - A famous game lodge (Mossel Bay).

#### DAY 2: MOSSEL BAY / OUDTSHOORN (110km)

Depart Mossel Bay on a spectacular drive, including 'Route 62' to the 'feather capital of the world'.

**Must do** - Lunch at one of the pretty villages en-route.

**Overnight** - Oudtshoorn.

#### DAY 3: OUDTSHOORN / KNYSNA (180km)

After visiting some of the local attractions in Oudtshoorn, head to the quaint town of Knysna via the panoramic Outeniqua Pass.

**Must do** - Cango Caves \* Cango Wildlife Ranch \* Ostrich farm.

**Overnight** - Knysna.

#### DAY 4: KNYSNA

A full day to explore Knysna at leisure.

**Must do** - A cruise on the magnificent Knysna Lagoon \* Oyster tasting at the Cruise Café.

**Overnight** - Knysna.

#### DAY 5: KNYSNA / TSITSIKAMMA (100km)

Plettenberg Bay is a sports paradise, waiting to be discovered. In the afternoon, depart for Tsitsikamma.

**Must do** - Monkeyland Primate Sanctuary and Birds of Eden

\* Bungee jump off Bloukrans Bridge.

**Overnight** - Tsitsikamma.

#### DAY 6: TSITSIKAMMA / PORT ELIZABETH (185km)

Enjoy all the adventure and nature that Tsitsikamma has to offer before heading to Port Elizabeth in the afternoon.

**Must do** - Tsitsikamma National Park \* Blackwater tubing on the Storms River \* Tsitsikamma Canopy tour.



## adventurous

# KwaZulu-Natal

### Round trip from Durban

#### DAY 1: DURBAN / DRAKENSBERG (255km)

Depart Durban for the scenic Drakensberg. En-route, stop off at the Midlands Meander and Howick.

#### Must do

- \* Howick Falls.
- \* Arts & crafts shops.
- \* Karkloof Canopy Tour.

#### Overnight

Cathedral Peak Hotel.

#### DAY 2: CATHEDRAL PEAK HOTEL

Enjoy all the various sporting activities and facilities that this hotel offers.

#### Must do

- \* Relax next to the swimming pool.
- \* Enjoy a game of tennis.
- \* Explore the surrounding beauty on horseback.
- \* Trout fishing.

#### Overnight

Cathedral Peak Hotel.

#### DAY 3: DRAKENSBERG / DURBAN (255km)

Your last day in pure tranquillity before heading back to Durban.

En-route, why not make the best of your day by stopping off at the various tourist attractions on the Midlands Meander.







## WorldO® recommends...

A Magaliesberg Canopy Tour - a fun outdoor activity for thrill seekers of all ages. Purchase tasty local cheeses and preserves from Van Gaalens Cheese Farm.



## popular Hartbeespoort Dam

### Round trip from Johannesburg

#### DAY 1: JOHANNESBURG / HARTBEEPOORT DAM (66km)

Head for Hartbeespoort Dam, a small, picturesque town located in the eastern corner of the North-West Province.

**Overnight** - Seasons Golf, Leisure and Spa.

#### DAY 2: HARTBEEPOORT DAM

A full day to explore the scenic surroundings and the hotel facilities.

##### Must do

- \* Pamper yourself with a range of treatments at the hotel's award-winning spa.
- \* Take a trip up the mountain with Harties Cableway for panoramic views.
- \* Visit the monkey and elephant sanctuaries.
- \* Experience a Magaliesberg Canopy Tour, a fun outdoor activity for thrill seekers.
- \* Browse through Chameleon Village for various arts & crafts.

**Overnight** - Seasons Golf, Leisure and Spa.

#### DAY 3: HARTBEEPOORT DAM / JOHANNESBURG (66km)

Start the day bright and early with a sunrise hot air balloon safari over the Magalies River Valley before heading back to Johannesburg.



## wild Eastern Cape

### Round trip from Port Elizabeth

#### DAY 1: PORT ELIZABETH

Arrive and afternoon at leisure.

**Must do** - The Boardwalk Casino and Entertainment World.

**Overnight** - Port Elizabeth.

#### DAY 2: PORT ELIZABETH / ADDO ELEPHANT NATIONAL PARK (150km)

Depart Port Elizabeth for Addo Elephant National Park, the third largest national park in South Africa.

**Must do** - Game drives \* Cheetah & nature walks \* Bird watching.

**Overnight** - Kuzuko Lodge.

#### DAY 3: KUZUKO LODGE

Spend the day exploring all that this diverse national park & lodge with Big 5 has to offer.

**Must do** - Khoisan cave exploration \* Spa treatments.

**Overnight** - Kuzuko Lodge.

#### DAY 4: ADDO ELEPHANT NATIONAL PARK / SHAMWARI (85km)

After a hearty breakfast, depart Kuzuko Lodge for Shamwari Game Reserve, one of the best private game reserves with the Big 5 in the Eastern Cape.

**Must do** - Game drives \* Pro photo safari.

**Overnight** - Shamwari Game Reserve.

#### DAY 5: SHAMWARI GAME RESERVE

After the morning game drive, unwind and escape the heat in a relaxed ambience around the sparkling pool.

**Must do** - Tour the Shamwari Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre \* Visit the Born Free Big Cat Rescue and Education Centres \* Bird watching.

**Overnight** - Shamwari Game Reserve.

#### DAY 6: SHAMWARI GAME RESERVE / PORT ALFRED (130km)

After a delicious breakfast, depart Shamwari for the heart of the Sunshine Coast, Port Alfred.

**Must do** - Visit Royal Alfred Marina - one of the few in the world \* Boat cruise through the Marina canals.

**Overnight** - Oceana Beach and Wildlife Reserve.

#### DAY 7: OCEANA BEACH AND WILDLIFE RESERVE

Explore all that this beautiful lodge has to offer.

**Must do** - Game drive \* Soak up the sun on the 7km of private white sand Beachfront \* Sundowner trip in the reserve.

**Overnight** - Oceana Beach and Wildlife Reserve.

#### DAY 8: PORT ALFRED / PORT ELIZABETH (165km)

After a morning game drive, depart Port Alfred for Port Elizabeth.

**Must do** - Stop for lunch at one of the small beach resort type towns.



## all bronzed up *Western Cape*

Explore the scenic splendour of the diverse Western Cape with its unmatched natural beauty, cultural diversity, the Cape Winelands, delicious cuisine and a beautiful stretch of coastline. Perched between the ocean and the mountain and with a national park at its heart, vibrant Cape Town offers a variety of attractions such as mountain climbing, surfing, diving, a pulsating nightlife, wine tasting and endless shopping.



### *Do this...*

#### **CITY SIGHTSEEING CAPE TOWN (HOP-ON HOP-OFF BUS)**

A ticket on the City Sightseeing bus gives you access to all the main tours and takes you directly to Cape Town's top attractions – including the Table Mountain Cableway, V&A Waterfront and Camps Bay. Don't miss the free walking tours around the city. Various ticket pass options available.

#### **TABLE MOUNTAIN CABLEWAY**

Board the state of the art cable car transportation system for a five-minute scenic ride to the top of Table Mountain, one of the world's New7Wonders of Nature. Relax and enjoy refreshments on top of Table Mountain at one of the food and beverage outlets.

#### **TWO OCEANS AQUARIUM (V&A WATERFRONT)**

Experience the incredible diversity of marine life found in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans at this top tourist attraction. Immerse yourself in the wonders of the ocean at the awe-inspiring exhibits, grab a bite to eat at Café V, get up close and personal with adorable rockhopper penguins or dive in the Aquarium to get close to shoals of large predators.

#### **THE SPRINGBOK EXPERIENCE RUGBY MUSEUM (V&A WATERFRONT)**

Enjoy a day out with the family at this world-class, modern interactive museum featuring more than 60 audio visual displays where you can watch the history of South African rugby unfold. Participate in one of the games where you can test your kicking, passing, fitness and reaction skills in the interactive 'Springbok Trials' games zone.

#### **RICHARD'S SUPPER STAGE**

The one and only Cape show, 'Kaapse Stories from the Mother City', is played at this vibrant Cape themed dinner theatre venue, transporting the audience into the colourful and exciting world of the Cape, paired with a great spectrum of the wonderful culinary delights that Cape Town has to offer. Richard Loring, the acclaimed producer of South Africa's most famous musical, 'African Footprint', produces the show.





**SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE TOURS (HERMANUS)**

Board an exhilarating boat-based whale watching tour for an up-close and personal encounter with the 'gentle giants' of the ocean in their natural environment. Whale watching season usually starts in June and ends in December.

**CANOPY TOURS® CAPE TOWN (1 HOUR FROM CAPE TOWN - HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND NATURE RESERVE)**

Get ready for adventure as you launch off the first platform and glide on a steel cable across a pristine part of an amazing World Heritage Site to the next viewpoint. Stop for a while and enjoy the breathtaking view while your guide points out interesting features or facts about the surrounding ecology.

**GREAT WHITE SHARK CAGE DIVING (GANSBAAI)**

Come face to face with the endangered Great White Shark while at the same time getting a crash-course in marine biology, the trends, traits, ecosystem and challenges of these precious and amazing marine species.

**AFROGEM (CAPE TOWN)**

Experience the rich mineral heritage of the African continent with this tour commencing with viewing a private collection of semi-precious stones. Visit the state of the art CAD room where three-dimensional blueprints and wax moulds are used to create bespoke pieces with the tour concluding in the showroom where you can view a range of jewellery, loose gems and curios.

**WEST COAST FLOWER TOUR (FROM CAPE TOWN)**

Visit the West Coast National Park for a view of the annual display of wild flowers that burst into sight as spring approaches. In your search for these beautiful flowers, you will cover Mamre, Darling, West Coast National Park and Langebaan to view the variety of flowers on display. Time dependant, you can include an optional Ostrich Tour visit.



Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – CAPE TOWN HOTELS V&A WATERFRONT



### ★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT CAPE TOWN WATERFRONT BREAKWATER LODGE Cape Town - V&A Waterfront

**THE LOWDOWN:** Experience a rich piece of history with modern-day comfort at this hotel, located adjacent to the fabulous V&A Waterfront overlooking Table Bay and the city's iconic landmark, Table Mountain.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Full service 'Relax Spa' \* Fitness Centre \* The signature Stonebreakers Restaurant, with striking views of the V&A Waterfront, feature à la carte and buffet menu options \* In-room dining \* First-class conference and meeting venues \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 191 Modern rooms, suites and family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel has easy access to the waterfront's many attractions and is situated near the main routes to beaches, mountain walks and city hotspots.



### ★★★★ THE COMMODORE HOTEL Cape Town - V&A Waterfront

**THE LOWDOWN:** Overlooking the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, with views of Table Mountain, Robben Island, the Harbour and the Atlantic Ocean, this luxury hotel epitomises stylish living and quality service in tranquil surroundings.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Cocktail bar and lounge \* Clipper Restaurant, an all-day dining venue \* 'Casuarina Spa', a Premier Wellness Centre \* 24/7 gym \* 24 Hour room service \* Meeting / conference facilities and a Business Centre \* Swimming pool \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 236 Elegantly furnished standard rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Within 5 minutes walking distance from the V&A Waterfront which offers each visitor an abundance of unforgettable shopping and culinary experiences.



### ★★★★★ RADISSON BLU WATERFRONT Cape Town - V&A Waterfront

**THE LOWDOWN:** This seaside hotel is close to the city centre, cultural offerings and the entertainment hubs of Clifton, Sea Point and the V&A Waterfront. The striking ocean views set the stage for a memorable stay in Cape Town. Wake to the sound of gentle waves breaking in the background.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Tabo's Restaurant, serving fresh, local ingredients in international dishes \* Grab & Run breakfast \* Lounge \* Poolside bar \* Pool with sea views \* Spa with vitality pool and salt room \* Free WiFi \* Complimentary shuttle to V&A Waterfront.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The 177 rooms have a nautical theme \* Standard, Superior and Business Class Rooms \* 2 Bedroom suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel offers you the best of the mother city, the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and the Atlantic seaboard.



### ★★★★★ TABLE BAY HOTEL Cape Town - V&A Waterfront

**THE LOWDOWN:** The Table Bay offers the ultimate in 5-star luxury hotel accommodation in Cape Town, sitting in a prime location at the V&A Waterfront overlooking the working harbour. The Table Bay continues to set its own standards in international service, cuisine and luxury.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Lounge \* Bar \* Pool bar \* Health club with trainers \* Spa \* Pool \* Complimentary shuttle bus within the waterfront and beyond.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Luxury Twin and King Rooms – mountain and sea facing \* Superior Luxury Rooms \* Superior Luxury Family Rooms \* Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** We love the harbour views and the direct access into the waterfront for restaurants and entertainment.



# Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – CAPE TOWN HOTELS TAMBOERSKLOOF / SEA POINT / BANTRY BAY / GREEN POINT



★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL FIRE & ICE! BY MARRIOTT CAPE TOWN**  
Cape Town - Tamboerskloof

**THE LOWDOWN:** Ultra-chic hotel, ideally situated in an unrivalled location in Tamboerskloof and a mere 5 minutes drive from the V&A Waterfront. Set within walking distance of tourist attractions such as the hip night life of Long Street and a 15 minutes drive from the famous beaches of Camps Bay and Clifton.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* The Hilton Spa \* Restaurant \* 24-Hour room service \* Swimming pool \* Versatile, well-appointed conference and function venues \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 189 Snug, yet sexy and trendy standard, superior, luxury rooms and 12 junior suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The crisp glass bar is a must - a coffee brewery by day and party ticket by night featuring signature milkshakes and cocktails.



★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT CAPE TOWN SEA POINT**  
Cape Town – Sea Point

**THE LOWDOWN:** Providing bold mountain views and refreshing ocean vistas, this hotel is located in a prime location in Sea Point, near the Cape Town Stadium and many gorgeous beaches.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* La Café Restaurant and Spur Steak Ranch \* Outdoor plunge pool \* Fitness Centre \* Stylish and well-appointed conference venues \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 118 Spacious and contemporary standard, superior, family, deluxe, luxury rooms and 6 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The pool deck is a haven overlooking Sea Point and the ocean.



★★★★ **THE PRESIDENT HOTEL**  
Cape Town - Bantry Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** The President Hotel has an enviable location set in the exclusive and wind-free Bantry Bay, just minutes from the Cape Town CBD. Experience affordable and luxury living in a spectacular setting, where guests enjoy breathtaking views of the endless ocean horizons set against the backdrop of Table Mountain. Enjoy sundowners with sea views and sea aromas.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant and terrace café \* Bar \* Infinity pool \* Spa \* Hair salon & Nail Bar \* Curio shop \* 24 Hour room service.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Standard Room \* One and Two Bedroom Apartment with semi self-catering kitchenette.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Within walking distance of the famous Clifton beaches and close to the entertainment hub of Green Point.



★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT CAPE TOWN CAPE CASTLE**  
Cape Town – Green Point

**THE LOWDOWN:** Nestled adjacent to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, the hotel's location is an easy stroll to the CBD, Cape Town Stadium, sidewalk bistros, pubs and popular shopping.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* In-house restaurant for on-site dining \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Room service until 22H30 \* 24-Hour security \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 65 Full service apartments with a separate lounge, dining area, kitchen and fully-equipped self-catering facilities.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** A fully-equipped self-catering hotel.

Stay here...

WESTERN CAPE – CAPE TOWN HOTELS  
CITY CENTRE / MILNERTON / CENTURY CITY



★★★★ SOUTHERN SUN WATERFRONT CAPE TOWN  
Cape Town – City Centre

**THE LOWDOWN:** A stylish & inviting award-winning hotel located in the heart of the city's most tourist friendly precinct and a short walk from the V&A Waterfront and the Cape Town International Conference Centre.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Yizani Restaurant for South African inspired dishes \* Waterfront Bar for cocktails \* Beauty salon and spa \* Fitness Centre \* Swimming pool \* Meetings rooms and a Business Centre \* Free Wi-Fi (500mb per day).

**ACCOMMODATION:** 537 Beautifully-appointed and contemporary designed standard rooms, executive rooms and spacious suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle to the V&A Waterfront.



★★★★★ PEPPERCLUB HOTEL & SPA  
Cape Town – City Centre

**THE LOWDOWN:** Superbly located in the city centre with a serene palm tree-lined courtyard directly connected to vibrant Long Street.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Gym \* 24-Hour concierge service \* Piano Lounge, Paparazzi Bar and Sinatra's Restaurant \* An intimate private cinema \* Swimming pool with views \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 210 Luxuriously appointed deluxe studios, 1 – 3 bedroom deluxe rooms, a presidential suite and a penthouse suite.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Complimentary chauffeured shuttles and access to the exclusive Beach Club on the famous Camps Bay promenade, which offers use of private lockers, shower and restroom facilities.



★★★★ LAGOON BEACH HOTEL  
Cape Town – Milnerton

**THE LOWDOWN:** Cape Town's only beach-side hotel with panoramic Table Mountain and ocean views and direct access to Lagoon Beach.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Camelot Spa \* The Brasserie Restaurant with season changing menus \* La Mizu Beach Bar \* Wang Thai Royal Thai cuisine \* Swimming pool \* 24-Hour gym \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Over 200 sophisticated en-suite bedrooms, suites and numerous holiday apartments.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Superb beach location and sundowners with glorious views of Table Mountain.



★★★★★ CAPE TOWN MARRIOTT HOTEL CRYSTAL TOWERS  
Cape Town – Century City

**THE LOWDOWN:** Offering stunning views of the Cape Town skyline, this hotel is in an ideal location in bustling Century City and near many of the area's top landmarks.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Cutting-edge and award-winning spa \* Fitness centre \* First-class signature restaurant \* 24-Hour deli \* Stylish hotel bar \* Sparkling outdoor swimming pool \* Versatile and contemporary venue spaces \* Full business centre \* Private lounge areas \* Free valet and on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 176 Sophisticated guest rooms and 4 suites brimming with luxury perks.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel is in the heart of the action in Century City, near the renowned Canal Walk, ideal for shopping!



### ★★★★★ THE TWELVE APOSTLES HOTEL & SPA

Cape Town – Near Camps Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated on Cape Town's most scenic route and 5 minutes from the glorious beaches of Camps Bay.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning holistic spa with Rasul Chamber \* Private cinema \* World-renowned dining in Azure Restaurant \* 24-Hour relaxed dining at The Café Grill \* 24-Hour room service \* Scheduled shuttle service to Camps Bay and the V&A Waterfront \* Cocktails on the Leopard Bar Terrace \* Tea by the Sea, a delicious afternoon tea with all the trimmings \* Various mountain trails \* 'Sports Buddy' programme \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 55 Deluxe guest rooms, 15 luxurious suites including the Presidential Suite.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The Royal Affair package includes a 3 course dinner, a spa voucher, a room upgrade, "Tea by the Sea" for two and a cocktail in the Leopard Bar.



### ★★★ THE WINDSOR HOTEL

90 min. from Cape Town – Hermanus

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in a prime whale-watching location near the vibrant old harbour of Hermanus and a short walk from top restaurants, galleries and shops.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Bar \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 60 Comfortable sea-facing, non sea-facing, annexure (basic) rooms and self-catering apartments.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Best hotel for whale-watching (June to December) with its sweeping views of Walker Bay.



### ★★★★★ ARABELLA HOTEL & SPA

60 min. from Cape Town – near Hermanus

**THE LOWDOWN:** Surrounded by the magnificent Kogelberg mountain range and Bot River Lagoon, this luxury hotel is close to Hermanus, a world-famous whale watching destination.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning spa, home to the world-first African Rainforest Experience \* Jamani Buffet and Jamani A La Carte Restaurants \* Bar \* 24-Hour room service \* Fitness Centre \* Multiple swimming pools \* Arabella's Kids Club at Balou's Adventure Centre \* Miniature golf \* Tennis \* World-class conference centre \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 115 Deluxe and Grand Deluxe Rooms, 26 Deluxe and Grand Deluxe Suites, 2 Deluxe Accessible Rooms and 2 Presidential Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Home to one of the Cape's top golf courses, ranked top 10 in South Africa.

### ★★★★ KAGGA KAMMA NATURE RESERVE

3½ hours from Cape Town – near Ceres

**THE LOWDOWN:** Nestles in the scenic Cederberg Mountains in a vast open space where rock formations frame the horizon, this is a place where lovers of nature can experience a truly unique environment.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Outdoor boma \* Bar with Wi-Fi \* Rock art tours \* Bouldering and rock climbing \* Guided nature drives \* 4x4 trails \* Mountain biking \* Quad bike safaris \* Hiking trails \* Reptile educational talk \* Stargazing at the mini Observatory \* Swimming pool \* Personalised conference packages \* Private runway.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 10 "Caves" Suites, the Star Suite and Outcrop Open Air Room and 5 spacious Hut Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Spend a night under the starlit skies in one of the Open Air Rooms located in remote rocky outcrops, away from the Main Lodge.



### ★★★★★ BUSHMANS KLOOF WILDERNESS RESERVE AND WELLNESS RETREAT

3 hours from Cape Town – Clanwilliam

**THE LOWDOWN:** Multi-award winning lodge and ecological oasis, nestled in the foothills of the Cederberg.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Predator and malaria free reserve \* Award-winning spa \* A variety of extraordinary dining experiences within the reserve including Kadoro, Walled Garden, Reserve Picnic and River Boma \* A South African Natural Heritage site \* Home to over 150 species of birds, 750 plant species and over 35 species of mammals \* Afternoon tea \* Swimming pool \* Hiking \* Biking \* Canoeing \* Fly-fishing \* Archery & croquet \* Fitness Centre \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 16 Luxurious guest rooms and suites, as well as Koro Lodge, a private, fully-catered villa.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** A sanctuary to 130 ancient Bushman rock art sites. Koro Lodge, a fully inclusive private lodge with infinity pool and your own chef and guide - perfect for friends and families.





# Cape Winelands

**heartstoppingly beautiful...**

The Cape Winelands are a premier Western Cape visitor attraction. Wine tasting, winemaking tours, excellent cuisine and magnificent scenery create an irresistible attraction for travellers. Characterised by classic Cape Dutch-style architecture, rolling vineyards and picturesque mountains as a backdrop, it is an absolute must on your itinerary.

Some of the most popular wine regions include - Spier Wine Estate which has one of the Cape's oldest wine cellars; the Stellenbosch Wine Route, South Africa's oldest; the town of Robertson, home to the acclaimed Robertson Winery; the Wellington region, famous for its brandy; Paarl, home to the internationally renowned Nederburg Wine Estate and numerous other premier brands; Constantia, the closest wine region to Cape Town and the Franschhoek Wine Valley, famous for its food and aptly named the 'gourmet capital of South Africa'.



## Do this...

### STELLENBOSCH

#### ADVENTURE SHOP VINE HOPPER PASS

The Vine Hopper bus is a hop on hop off wine tour to some of the best wine estates in Stellenbosch. You decide when you would like to start and how long you would like to spend on the estates, to enjoy wine tastings and then jump on the bus to the next farm.

#### SEGWAY TOURS AT SPIER

Glide through the vineyards on two-wheeled, self-balancing, battery powered personal transporters exploring the vast grounds of Stellenbosch's Spier wine farm and see natural farming practices in action against the backdrop of the soaring Helderberg. Some tours include wine tasting.

### FRANSCHHOEK

#### THE FRANSCHHOEK WINE TRAM HOP-ON HOP-OFF TOUR

Discover the true essence of the breathtaking Franschhoek Valley as you journey through rolling vineyards in an open-sided tram and open-air tram-bus stopping at some of South Africa's oldest and most distinguished wine estates.

*#lovecapetown*





★★★★ **THE SPIER HOTEL**  
Cape Winelands – Stellenbosch

**THE LOWDOWN:** Built village-style along the Eerste River, surrounded by vineyards, quiet gardens and historic farm buildings, this hotel is situated on the historic Spier wine farm in the heart of the Stellenbosch winelands and just 20 minutes from Cape Town International Airport.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Eight Restaurant, Eight to Go Deli, Hotel Restaurant, Hoghouse BBQ & Bakery \* Create your own picnic at the Picnic shop \* Segway Tours \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Kids' Clubhouse \* Craft market \* Wine tasting room \* Walking tours \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 153 Signature garden terrace, riverside terrace, riverside rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** An historical working farm with more than three centuries of Cape Winelands history.



★★★★ **OUDE WERF**  
Cape Winelands – Stellenbosch

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located in the historic heart of Stellenbosch, on the site of South Africa's first church.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Poolside bar/coffee lounge \* Swimming pool \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Valet parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 58 Contemporary comfort and period-inspired superior, deluxe and luxury rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The oldest hotel in South Africa providing a Kids of the Cape Fund assisting a variety of upliftment projects that provide child/youth refuge and care.



★★★★★ **LANZERAC HOTEL & SPA**  
Cape Winelands – Stellenbosch

**THE LOWDOWN:** One of the region's most distinguished examples of Cape Dutch architecture with a romantic heritage, situated at the foot of the majestic Jonkershoek Valley of Stellenbosch on the Lanzerac Wine Estate, steeped in a history dating back to 1692.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Newly refurbished Spa & Wellness Centre \* Free use of the spa's hydro facilities \* An acclaimed restaurant \* Casual delicatessen \* Picnic area \* 24-Hour room service \* Free wine tasting & cellar tour \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 48 Exquisitely styled rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The Lanzerac Wine Estate tasting room is the perfect place to sip, sample and savour superb wines with innovative wine and chocolate pairings.



★★★★★ **GRANDE ROCHE**  
Paarl

**THE LOWDOWN:** Nestled at the foot of the magnificent Paarl Rock is a small, luxury hotel like no other with a historic Cape homestead at the heart of this wine estate. Overlooking vineyards and mountains, it is the ideal base from which to explore the Cape, relax at the pools, and enjoy some golf on the nearby courses.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Fine dining in the award winning Bosman's Restaurant \* Swimming Pool.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Studio Suites \* Duplex Suites \* Terrace Suites \* Garden Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Luxury and fine dining right in a vineyard and easy access to visit nearby historic wine farms.

Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – CAPE WINELANDS HOTELS FRANSCHHOEK



### ★★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT FRANSCHHOEK Cape Winelands – Franschhoek

**THE LOWDOWN:** The hotel has a rich history, with one section dating back to the 1880's. It is a superb base from which to explore Franschhoek's culinary establishments, art galleries, cheese factories and some 25 world-famous wine estates.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Café du Passé Restaurant \* Relaxing lounge \* Swimming pool \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi in rooms.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 8 Standard Rooms, 20 Spacious Deluxe Rooms and 2 Junior Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The tastefully decorated rooms with majestic mountains & famous vineyards views mirror the charisma of the historical village of Franschhoek.



### ★★★★★ MONT ROCHELLE Cape Winelands – Franschhoek

### ★★★★ L'ERMITAGE FRANSCHHOEK CHATEAU AND VILLAS Cape Winelands – Franschhoek

**THE LOWDOWN:** Part of the exclusive Virgin Limited Edition collection and located in a picturesque location at the foot of the Klein Dassenberg Mountain Range in Franschhoek.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Miko Restaurant and the Country Kitchen \* Cosy bar \* Gym \* Heated swimming pool \* Personalised wine tasting and cellar visits \* 37 Hectare vineyards to explore \* Small function facilities \* Free use of mountain bikes \* Hiking trails \* Tennis \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi in rooms.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 26 Beautifully decorated rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Picnicking on the estate amongst the vineyards with a chilled bottle of wine (or two).

**THE LOWDOWN:** A sanctuary for your soul situated in the heart of the Franschhoek winelands on the Fransche Hoek Wine and Olive Estate.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Roaming spa therapist with in-room treatments \* Restaurant \* Swimming pool \* Conference facilities and chapel \* DVD library \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 34 Luxuriously furnished and fitted suites and villas including 6 luxury suites arranged in the Chateau.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Experience a unique and unforgettable taste of the Franschhoek Country lifestyle at this hotel with its breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains, quaint cobbled streets and indigenous fynbos.



# The Garden Route **take a hike...**

Discover one of South Africa's best kept secrets, the Garden Route, a popular and scenic stretch on the south-eastern coast, stretching from Mossel Bay in the Western Cape to the Storms River in the east. Glorious natural beauty, challenging golf courses, ancient forests, excellent beaches, picturesque lagoons, lakes and the mountain ranges of the Outeniqua and Tsitsikamma which divide the Garden Route from the arid Little Karoo. Whatever your holiday desire, you'll find what you're looking for on the Garden Route.



#gardenroute



## Do this...

### **TSITSIKAMMA BLACKWATER TUBING**

The ultimate tubing adventure experience takes place in the Plaatbos Nature reserve and Tsitsikamma National Park. Start the half or full day adventure by climbing into a specialised one person inflatable river tube and then paddle through remote and picturesque areas. It's a bucket load of fun.

### **TSITSIKAMMA CANOPY TOURS**

A unique eco-wilderness adventure that takes place in the magnificent Tsitsikamma indigenous rainforest. From the start on the launch platform a new world unfolds as one gently glides on a steel cable to the first of ten tree platforms, built high up in the giant Outeniqua Yellowwoods. This is a journey of a lifetime.

### **JOHN BENN CRUISE (KNYSNA LAGOON)**

The John Benn is a paddle cruiser style floating restaurant in Knysna offering daily lunch and sunset lagoon cruises to the Knysna Heads. An optional a la carte and tapas menu is available on board with fresh Knysna oysters, local beer & sparkling wine. This is definitely a memorable and scenic activity.





**WorldO® recommends...**

Cruise to the Knysna Heads on a John Benn cruise on the Knysna Lagoon.

**CRUISE CAFÉ EXPERIENCE (KNYSNA)**

Feast on delicious oysters at the Cruise Café, known for its fresh seafood, classy cocktails and modern cuisine in a relaxed atmosphere with exceptional views of the Knysna Lagoon.

**GARDEN ROUTE NATIONAL PARK (TSITSIKAMMA, KNYSNA AND WILDERNESS SECTIONS)**

Enjoy the variety of fun and adventurous activities in this breathtaking park, ranging from hiking, nature walks, forest excursions, birding, mountain biking, water activities and the Otter Trail. Various accommodation options available.

**SAFARI OSTRICH SHOW FARM (OUDTSHOORN)**

For an unforgettable experience, enjoy a guided tour to learn more about ostriches and their fascinating nature as the guide explains every aspect of ostrich farming, from breeding to rearing. You will also have the opportunity to see the second biggest bird in the world after the ostrich, namely the Emu from Australia and the rare White Ostriches.

**CANGO WILDLIFE RANCH (OUDTSHOORN)**

Experience incredible animal encounters as you meander on the catwalk over large natural enclosures to view some of the world's greatest big cats; see the rare Madagascar Ring-tailed Lemurs in the exotic setting of Lemur Island; feed the wallabies or for a thrilling adventure, get very close to crocodiles on a croc cage dive.



# Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – THE GARDEN ROUTE HOTELS MOSSSEL BAY SURROUNDS



★★★★ **BOTLIERSKOP PRIVATE GAME RESERVE**  
Garden Route – near Mossel Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated between the magnificent Outeniqua Mountains and unspoiled beaches of the Indian Ocean, in the heart of the Garden Route, between Mossel Bay and George.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Fireplace Restaurant \* Malaria free reserve \* Home to an abundance of animals including 4 of the Big 5 \* Guided game drives \* Horseback safaris and outrides \* Guided bush trails \* Fishing \* Swimming pool \* Tennis \* Canoeing \* Junior Ranger Program and kids activities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 21 Luxury tented suites, Manor House with 7 rooms and 4 Luxury self-catering bush villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** View game including 4 of the big 5 on game drives, horseback safari or guided bush trails in this malaria free reserve.



★★★★ **EIGHT BELLS MOUNTAIN INN**  
Garden Route – near Mossel Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located on a 400-acre estate in the Ruitersbos Valley Region of the Garden Route, at the foot of the Robinson Pass between Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* The Oak Room Restaurant \* Bosun's Whistle Pub \* Elegantly furnished lounge \* Billiard room \* Children's lounge \* Enclosed sunroom and exterior patio area \* Swimming pool with small kiddies pool \* All weather tennis courts \* Squash court \* Bowling green \* Walking trails \* Horse riding and trails \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi in rooms.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 25 Tastefully decorated rooms, family units, air-conditioned log cabins and thatched rondavels.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Charming ambience in this historic hotel which dates back to 1816 with magnificent mountain scenery and absolute peace and tranquillity.



★★★★ **GONDWANA GAME RESERVE**  
Garden Route – near Mossel Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** An authentic African Safari Experience with awe-inspiring views of the Langeberg and Outeniqua Mountains, situated close to Mossel Bay.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Malaria free reserve \* Africology spa treatments \* Cuisine is served in a variety of locations indoors and out to best enjoy the spectacular setting \* Free-roaming Big 5 and herds of wildlife \* Swimming pool \* Game drives \* Mountain biking \* Hiking \* Kids Junior Ranger program \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 14 Luxury suites in Kwena Lodge, 12 spacious and luxurious bush villas and Ulubisi House with 3 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Take an active role in Wildlife Conservation and enroll in the new 3 and 5 night conservation experience, staying at the Tented Eco Camp.



★★★ **GARDEN ROUTE GAME LODGE**  
Garden Route – near Mossel Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** Set against the backdrop of the majestic Langeberg mountain Range, this family friendly lodge guards the entrance to the Garden Route Coast.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Family friendly & malaria free private game reserve \* Spa \* Serengeti Restaurant \* African Boma \* Poolside terrace \* Swimming pool \* Home to an abundance of animal and bird life including the Big 5 \* Guided game drives \* Guided reptile encounters tour \* Kids on safari activity program \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 5 Sunset ridge luxury suites, 16 lodge rooms and 18 private chalets.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The first reserve in the Western Cape to reintroduce cheetah and increase the population of this threatened species in co-operation with the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

# Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – THE GARDEN ROUTE HOTELS OUDTSHOORN / GEORGE



★★★★ SWARTBERG COUNTRY MANOR  
Garden Route – Oudtshoorn

**THE LOWDOWN:** Nestled on the farm "Voorbedacht", situated at the foothills of the Swartberg Mountains, a World Heritage Site, it's a short drive to the top of the Swartberg Pass, offering breathtaking views of the Cango Valley.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Patat Restaurant \* Waterfall look-out \* Comfortable lounge area \* Photographic opportunities \* Swimming pool \* Stargazing \* Self-guided walks on the farm \* Waterfall swimming hole \* Mountain bike rides \* Wedding function venue with a chapel.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 25 Impressive and stylish rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Use this historic country house, dating back to 1864, to experience the breathtaking Swartberg Pass.



★★★★★ OUBAAI HOTEL GOLF & SPA  
Garden Route – George

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated adjacent to Herolds Bay on the Garden Route, a mere 8 minutes from George Airport, this hidden gem is ideally located with 180 degree views of the Indian Ocean.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Cucina Restaurant, Waterside Grill and The Clubhouse \* Bar \* Lounge area \* Views of Oubaaai Golf Course and Herold's Bay \* Lifestyle Centre and gym \* Swimming pool \* Hiking trails \* Tennis \* Squash court \* Oubaaai Kids Club \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Wedding chapel \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 100 Comfortable and stylish standard and club rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The 6th hole is a par 3, with the green framed by the Outeniqua Mountains in the distance. A 120-metre drive is required to cross the gorge and reach the fairway.



★★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT KING GEORGE  
Garden Route – George

**THE LOWDOWN:** Country-style hotel nestled at the foot of the Outeniqua mountains overlooking the George Golf Course.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Fairway Terrace Restaurant \* Rex Tavern \* Swimming pool \* Close to pristine beaches \* Pool table \* Table tennis \* Kids jungle gym \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 109 Stylish standard, deluxe rooms and luxury suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Excellent location to explore the Garden Route and close to two of the country's top golf courses offering the perfect destination for golf enthusiasts to show off their skills.



★★★★★ FANCOURT  
Garden Route – George

**THE LOWDOWN:** South Africa's premier leisure resort is situated 7km from George Airport and is superbly landscaped on 613 hectares of lush countryside with the majestic Outeniqua Mountains as the perfect backdrop.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* La Cantina, Monet's at Fancourt, Club Lounge & Bar and Henry White's Restaurants \* Golf academy \* Kids Club \* Teens lounge \* Gym \* Swimming pools \* Running, walking and cycling trails \* Eco-riding (Segways) \* Tennis \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 115 Luxury rooms at Fancourt Hotel and 18 suites in the Manor House.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** World renowned for its golf experience with three 18-hole golf courses. Experience the Pamper and Play getaway ... choose between a round of golf or a spa voucher.

Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – THE GARDEN ROUTE HOTELS WILDERNESS / TSITSIKAMMA



★★★★★ **VIEWS BOUTIQUE HOTEL & SPA**  
Garden Route – Wilderness

**THE LOWDOWN:** A spectacular, lavishly appointed boutique hotel perched high above Wilderness Beach, offering spectacular panoramic views of the Indian Ocean and Outeniqua Mountains.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa and Hydro lounge \* Restaurant \* Cocktail deck \* Reading lounge \* Rooftop swimming pool \* Gym \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi \* Boutique.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 26 Luxuriously furnished suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Sipping sundowners, spotting dolphins & whales and watching spectacular sunsets whilst lazing in the lounge.



★★★★ **THE WILDERNESS HOTEL RESORT & SPA**  
Garden Route – Wilderness

**THE LOWDOWN:** One of the Garden Route's oldest and best-loved hotels, situated on the beautiful Southern Cape coastline and about a 45 minutes drive to both Mossel Bay and Knysna.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Wellness Centre & Spa \* The Loerie Restaurant \* 2 Swimming pools \* Bowling green \* Tennis \* Yoga and pilates \* Squash \* Gym \* Mountain biking \* Putt putt \* Kids play area \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 150 Standard, deluxe, classic and family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Steeped in a grand tradition with old-style charm featuring modern facilities, the hotel is within walking distance of the long white sandy beach and lagoons.



★★★ **NATURE'S VALLEY REST CAMP (SANPARKS)**  
Garden Route – Tsitsikamma

**THE LOWDOWN:** A holiday resort and small village located in De Vasselot on the banks of the Groot River, about 30km from the town of Plettenberg Bay and about 40km from Storms River Rest Camp (Tsitsikamma Section).

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Pub \* Nature's Valley beach \* Bird watching \* Hiking \* Swimming, sailing, dinghy and board sailing on the Groot River estuary \* Canoeing \* Shop for basic commodities \* Coin-operated washing machines and tumble driers \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Forest huts with electricity and electric geysers.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** There are numerous day hiking trails to choose from such as the Salt River Mouth Trail, The Kalandar Trail, and the Groot River Trail.



★★★ **TSITSIKAMMA VILLAGE INN**  
Garden Route – Tsitsikamma

**THE LOWDOWN:** An historic hotel providing a true village life experience, situated in the Storms River Village tucked away in the lush Tsitsikamma forest, close to Storms River Mouth, in the Tsitsikamma National Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* De Oude Martha Restaurant, the Hunters Pub, Cafe Bacchus and Marilyn's 60's Diner \* Micro beer brewery \* Swimming pool \* Within easy access to many fun-filled adventure activities \* Kids play area \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 49 Beautiful and individually decorated rooms, each unique in design.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The ideal spot from where to experience the world's highest bungy jump from the legendary Bloukrans Bridge.



# Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – THE GARDEN ROUTE HOTELS KNYSNA



★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT KNYSNA QUAYS**  
Garden Route – Knysna

**THE LOWDOWN:** The hotel is set on the Knysna Quays Waterfront facing the warm Indian Ocean through the Knysna Heads overlooking the magical Knysna lagoon, historical train station and Knysna town.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Wellness therapist for massages \* Restaurant \* Heated outdoor swimming pool \* Stylish conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 122 Garden facing, standard, pool king, lagoon facing rooms and 1 executive 3 bedroom suite.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Best location to experience Knysna Quays, the quaint town and the lagoon.



★★★★ **BELVIDERE MANOR HOTEL**  
Garden Route – Knysna

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in the Garden Route's treasure trove of pristine beaches, lush indigenous forests and tranquil estuaries on the western shore of Knysna's Lagoon.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Knysna's smallest pub \* Swimming pool \* Bird watching \* Preferred green fee rates to hotel guests at Pezula and Simola Golf Clubs \* Close to an array of outdoor adventure activities such as horse riding, hiking, yachting, fishing, canoeing, abseiling, paragliding, scuba diving and water skiing \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 27 Garden Classic, Garden Deluxe, Lagoon Classic, Lagoon Deluxe Cape-style cottage rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Providing an old world romantic feel, this is a once in a lifetime experience in a beautiful location with breathtaking views, excellent meals and world class hospitality.



★★★★★ **CONRAD PEZULA**  
Garden Route – Knysna

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located on the eastern head of Knysna amid ancient indigenous forests, mountains, lakes and beaches.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Café Z and Zachary's restaurants \* Noah's Champagne and Cocktail Bar \* Fitness Centre \* Indoor and outdoor swimming pools \* 18-hole Championship Golf Course \* Nature trails \* Beaches \* Canoeing \* Hiking \* Horseback riding \* Kids Club \* Library and games room \* The Field of Dreams sports field \* Tennis courts \* Versatile conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 86 Luxurious, spacious suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** A short scenic drive on the hotel's free shuttle takes you to the secluded Noetzie Beach, named one of the Top 3 beaches in South Africa, the perfect place to picnic and fish. This is a golfers paradise.

Stay here...

## WESTERN CAPE – THE GARDEN ROUTE HOTELS PLETTENBERG BAY



★★★ **THE DUNES HOTEL & RESORT**  
Garden Route – Plettenberg Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** The Dunes Resort is located in the heart of the Garden Route right on the Keurbooms Beach and close to all the local attractions, entertainment and restaurants.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Two swimming pools \* Children's playground \* Fully equipped games room \* Conference facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Standard Rooms, Duplex Units with 2 bedrooms and fully equipped kitchen, 3 and 4 bedroom Villas with fully equipped kitchens.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The Keurbooms beach and lagoon offer endless activities in the sun for all ages.



★★★ **WHALESONG HOTEL & HYDRO**  
Garden Route – Plettenberg Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in landscaped gardens, just minutes from the pristine beaches and golf courses of the Garden Route.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa and hair salon \* @Whales Restaurant \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Viewing deck \* Small boardroom \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 24 Spacious and comfortable rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Each room features its own private wooden viewing deck with breathtaking views of the Keurbooms coastline and the Tsitsikamma Mountain Range.



★★★★★ **THE ROBERG BEACH LODGE**  
Garden Route – Plettenberg Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** This understated, private retreat is ideally situated at Robberg's beautiful Blue Flag Beach, just 5 minutes from Plett's bustling restaurants, galleries, coffee shops and bars.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Rooftop viewing deck \* Honesty bars \* Lounges \* Swimming pools \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 29 Rooms in four luxurious adjacent villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** A tranquil and romantic haven located right on the beach with magnificent views over Robberg Beach.



★★★★★ **THE PLETTENBERG HOTEL**  
Garden Route – Plettenberg Bay

**THE LOWDOWN:** The ultimate escape situated on a rocky headland with breathtaking views of the ocean, mountains and endless stretches of golden beach.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Fresh Wellness Spa \* SeaFood at The Plettenberg Restaurant \* Cocktail bar \* Swimming pools \* Free on-site parking \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 35 Individually decorated and spacious rooms & two villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Regular dolphin and whale sightings in a unique and beautiful setting with views of the Keurbooms River Lagoon.



# Our ancestors.

Cradle of Humankind, Sterkfontein



# Our camping.

Kruger Park



# Our night lights.

Karoo Desert



# Our workout.

Cape Town



# Our supermarket.

The Old Biscuit Mill, Cape Town



# Our transport.

Bidvest Car Rental invites you to go out and explore the beauty of Southern Africa, whenever you can. With our premium service across South Africa, Botswana and Namibia, we've got you covered, wherever the road may take you.



*Because every minute counts.*

# The Eastern Cape

outdoor comfort...

Stretching from the Tsitsikamma National Park in the south to Port Edward in the north, this stunning 800km coastline features expanses of untouched beaches, great natural beauty and enticing attractions with its greatest natural asset, the magnificent Wild Coast. The province is also known for great surfing in Jeffreys Bay. Further inland the Addo Elephant National Park provides for a great bush escape.



## Do this...

### ADDO ELEPHANT NATIONAL PARK (72KM FROM PORT ELIZABETH)

Explore a world of diversity in one park, home to the 'Big 7' and the famous Addo elephants. Enjoy a wide range of game viewing and outdoor activities such as horse riding, guided walks, hiking, 4x4 trails and a picnic area for day visitors. For the ultimate, take part in a Marine Eco-tour to catch a glimpse of a great white shark and/or southern right whale.



### ★★★★ ZUURBERG MOUNTAIN VILLAGE Addo National Park – 75km from Port Elizabeth

**THE LOWDOWN:** A tranquil and unique mountain top retreat set in 160 hectares of indigenous vegetation with breathtaking views overlooking the Addo Elephant National Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Cycad restaurant \* English pub \* Private guided game drives, walking and horse trails into the Addo Elephant National Park \* Addo Elephant Interaction \* Swimming pool \* Tennis \* Kids playground \* Games area \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** The Edwardian Village Cottages and 9 spacious rooms in Zuurberg Manor.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The 145 000 hectare greater Addo National Park surrounds the hotel offering a variety of wildlife activities.

## Stay here...

### THE EASTERN CAPE HOTELS PORT ELIZABETH / ADDO NATIONAL PARK



### ★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT PORT ELIZABETH MARINE Port Elizabeth - Summerstrand

**THE LOWDOWN:** One of the finest beachfront hotels in Port Elizabeth, enjoy views of the beach from the room and the deck bar.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Le Mer Restaurant \* Deck bar \* Splash pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Electronic laptop safe \* Satellite TV \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi (500MB per day).

**ACCOMMODATION:** 24 Hour reception and 114 rooms which includes 30 Standard non sea facing rooms, 45 Sea facing rooms, 2 Universal rooms, 3 Presidential suites, 4 Club suites, 8 Executive Rooms, 6 Queen family rooms, 3 Family suites, 8 Loft suites and 5 Loft apartments.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel overlooks the sun-drenched sands of Pollock Beach, with sweeping views of Algoa Bay.



### ★★★★★ KUZUKO LODGE Addo National Park – 75km from Port Elizabeth

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in a private section of the malaria-free Addo Elephant National Park, this lodge is gloriously situated high upon a hill overlooking the vast expanse of the big five reserve below.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Wilderness wellness centre \* Restaurant \* Bush braai boma \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Game drives \* Guided walking cheetah safari \* Guided nature walk \* Stargazing \* Kids special activities program \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 24 Luxury chalets with kids friendly patio's.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The cave exploration takes visitors back in time with the magic of 400 year old Khoisan cave paintings.



# Stay here...

## THE EASTERN CAPE HOTELS AMAKHALA GAME RESERVE / SHAMWARI GAME RESERVE / PORT ALFRED / PORT EDWARD



### ★★★ WOODBURY TENTED CAMP Amakhala Game Reserve - 75km from Port Elizabeth

**THE LOWDOWN:** A hidden jewel located in the heart of the Big 5 Amakhala Game Reserve.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Game drives \* Swimming pool \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 10 King/twin and family canvas safari en-suite tents.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Steeped in history, this lodge offers a view over a valley that is home to the first dinosaur fossil discovered in South Africa.



### ★★★★★ SHAMWARI GAME RESERVE 75km from Port Elizabeth

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located 75 km outside Port Elizabeth, this malaria-free crown jewel of private game reserves has been voted the World's Leading Safari and Game Reserve and Conservation Company for many consecutive years.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Game drives \* Pro photo safaris \* The Ian Player Rhino Awareness Centre \* The Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre \* The Born Free Big Cat Sanctuaries \* Kids on Safari programme \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 6 Luxury lodges, each with its own unique energy and essence are designed in harmony with their surroundings.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Luxury bush experience with big 5 game viewing in a malaria free reserve - one of the most successful private conservation initiatives in Southern Africa.



### ★★★★★ OCEANA BEACH AND WILDLIFE RESERVE Port Alfred

**THE LOWDOWN:** A luxury game lodge with spectacular views, situated in the only wildlife reserve on the beach in South Africa.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Boma area \* Lounge and bar \* Game drives \* Africa-shaped knife-edge swimming pool \* Free transfers to the beach \* Sundowners or picnics on the beach deck \* Fitness Centre \* Library \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 8 Spectacular individual private lodge, ocean suites and Ocean House with 3 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Oceana Beach & Wildlife Reserve is perfectly set within a pristine 740 Hectare wildlife sanctuary, with easy access to a 7km stretch of private beach.



### WILD COAST SUN Port Edward

**THE LOWDOWN:** A family friendly resort situated less than a two hour scenic drive along the South Coast from Durban's King Shaka International Airport.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Variety of restaurants and bars \* 24-Hour casino \* 18-Hole golf course \* Beach access \* Swimming pools \* Segway gliding tours \* Horse riding \* An extensive range of sport and recreational activities \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Sea or garden facing rooms and suites including family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy free entry to the Wild Waves Water Park which features some of the world's best aquatic rides and water slides.



# Northern Cape **starry starry nights...**

South Africa's largest province, offering almost endless potential for escapism from luxuriously appointed tented camps in the heart of the Kalahari Desert to camping along the mighty Orange River. This incredible stargazing destination allows you to get away from the hustle and bustle of modern living making it a truly remarkable holiday destination.



*#NorthernCape*



## WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...

View the splendour of the Namaqualand spring flowers between July and September.

## Top reasons to go...

- \* An incredible stargazing destination.
- \* A rich cultural experience with the first human inhabitants of the region, the Khomani San.
- \* Witness the world's richest floral offering in Namaqualand in spring.
- \* A family-friendly destination with many recreational activities.
- \* The warm hospitality of the people.
- \* A variety of outdoor adventure activities and experiences.
- \* Great weather, delicious food, wine and luxury accommodation.
- \* The perfect backdrop for weddings and honeymoons.
- \* Home to 6 national parks, 6 provincial nature reserves and numerous private game reserves, which allows you to experience all the natural splendour, bird life and game.
- \* Visit the Au-grabies National Park and its spectacular granite gorge and marvel at the amazing Au-grabies Falls.



Stay here...

**NORTHERN CAPE HOTELS**  
**AUGRABIES FALLS / K GALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK /**  
**KIMBERLEY / UPINGTON**



★★★ **AUGRABIES FALLS NATIONAL PARK REST CAMP (SANPARKS)**  
Augrabies Falls – 120km from Upington

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located in the Augrabies Falls National Park which is located around the Augrabies Falls.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Shop \* Shibula Restaurant \* Gariep Ladies' Bar \* Swimming pools \* Within walking distance to Augrabies Falls \* Hiking \* Conference facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** En-suite family cottages and bungalows with air-conditioning.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Be in awe of the amazing Augrabies Falls from various viewpoints and decks.



★★★ **KALAHARITENTED CAMP (SANPARKS)**  
Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park – 365km from Upington

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated high up on a red sand dune, overlooking a waterhole in the dry bed of the ancient Auob River, this Camp is on the western border of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, one of the largest National Parks in the world.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Fuel and a small shop close-by (3km) at Mata-Mata \* Swimming pool \* Guided morning and sunset drives \* Sightings of plenty of giraffe usually in the vicinity \* 4 x 4 Routes \* Picnic sites throughout the park.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 15 En-suite desert tents with fully equipped kitchen and each elegantly decorated with rustic finishes.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The camp is designed in such a way that you feel that you only have yourself and the desert for company.



★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT UPINGTON**  
Upington

**THE LOWDOWN:** Positioned in the heart of the Upington CBD and within walking distance of a selection of restaurants and shops.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Swimming pool \* Fitness Centre \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 89 Sophisticated standard and superior rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** It is the perfect base for exploring the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and Augrabies Falls National Park.



★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT KIMBERLEY**  
Kimberley

**THE LOWDOWN:** The ideal base from which to explore and enjoy all that historical Kimberley has to offer.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 117 Modern standard, deluxe rooms and 3 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Situated right on the edge of the famous Big Hole and an ideal stopover en-route to the Cape.



# KwaZulu-Natal

a playground for adventure...

KwaZulu-Natal promises an inexhaustible quota of things to do and places to go.

A wealth of scenic and cultural attractions include glimmering golden beaches, bushveld reserves, historic battlefields, the dramatic Drakensberg, the awe-inspiring world heritage sites such as the coastal iSimangaliso (Greater St Lucia) Wetland Park and the mountainous 'Barrier of Spears' in Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg Park. Witness the unforgettable sardine run or enjoy the biggest music, sport and arts festivals. This province is an adventure playground. Get there!



#gottaluvkzn



## Do this...

### USHAKA MARINE WORLD

Africa's no. 1 theme park providing unlimited fun with water rides, oceanarium, dolphin, seal & penguin shows, shopping, beach activities and lots more. Purchase the best value combo ticket (Sea World & Wet 'n Wild) for sunshine, marine life and splashing around. This is the perfect day out.

### SEGWAY GLIDING TOURS

Set off on your journey with a qualified Segway tour guide who will share his wealth of knowledge of the Moses Mabhida Stadium. Select from the Moses Mabhida All Access Tour or the promenade and beyond tour and enjoy a smooth ride.

### DRAKENSBERG CANOPY TOURS

Experience nature like never before as you slide through the forest canopy and enjoy a unique birds-eye view of the world around you. The magnificent setting and natural beauty of the Drakensberg will blow you away.

### TIGER FISHING IN LAKE JOZINI

An exciting fishing activity as these ferocious fighting game fish are rare in South African waters. Set up your fly rod and patiently wait for your big catch.

### SHAYAMANZI HOUSEBOATS

Zululand – Jozini dam







## WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...

Spend a weekend in the spectacular Drakensberg with its numerous leisure time activities.

### ST LUCIA BOAT CRUISE

Board the comfortable Santa Lucia, a spacious double-decker boat on St Lucia Estuary, with ample room for the best view possible. Embark on a 2 hour relaxed, informative cruise and get up close to the sight and sounds of hippos, crocodiles and other game species.

### KARKLOOF CANOPY TOURS (MIDLANDS)

Experience a zip-line adventure through the second largest indigenous forest in Southern Africa. From the start on the launch platform a new world unfolds as one gently glides on a steel cable to the first of twelve platforms, the longest of which is over 200m!

### FULL DAY SHAKALAND TOUR (FROM DURBAN)

Live a day in the life of a traditional Zulu community experiencing their culture and customs at the largest Zulu kraal in all of Zululand. Visit a Sangoma or traditional healer; sample some traditional Zulu beer; watch craftsmen making spears, shields, beadwork, pots, and their huts and enjoy a thrilling Zulu dance performance while having a lunchtime feast.

### FULL DAY HLUHLUWE-IMFOLOZI PARK TOUR (FROM DURBAN)

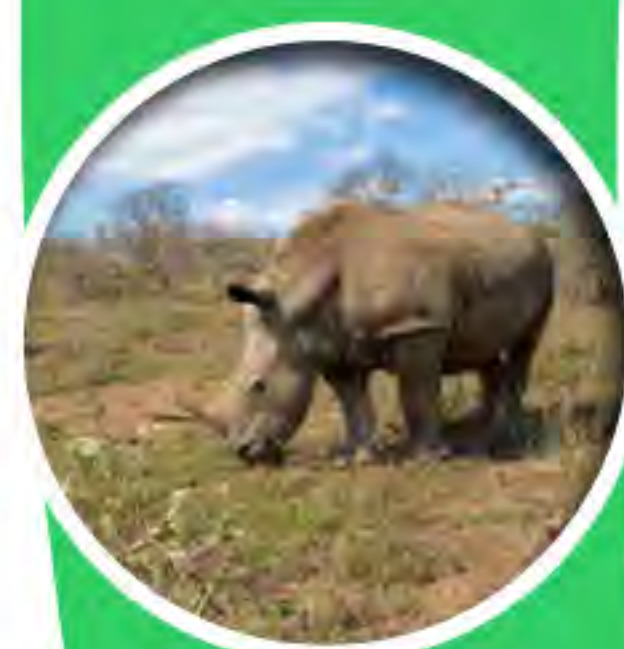
Tour the oldest game reserve in Africa, home of the Big Five and 84 species of game. Learn about the successful white rhino conservation programme and enjoy a delicious lunch.

**THE LOWDOWN:** Soak up the stunning scenery of the Lebombo Mountains and superb wildlife of the Pongola Game Reserve on the shores of Lake Jozini from the deck of the houseboat. Relax on your floating luxury boat will taking in the beauty of this unspoilt wildlife reserve.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant and bar with panoramic views of the lake \* Jacuzzi \* Tiger fishing \* Game viewing \* Mountain bike experience

**ACCOMMODATION:** Six luxury suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy the calm serenity of the open Lake Jozini waters, the thrill of Tiger Fishing or the adventure of mountain biking in the heart of the Zululand bushveld!



Stay here...

## KWAZULU-NATAL HOTELS DURBAN BEACHFRONT



### ★★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT DURBAN EDWARD Durban Beachfront

**THE LOWDOWN:** Well placed on the Durban Golden Mile on the beachfront.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* The Brasserie Restaurant \* In-room dining \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free valet parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 120 Well-appointed rooms, family rooms and 11 suites

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Well placed on the Durban Golden Mile, located right on the beachfront promenade and within easy access to Durban's uShaka Marine World.



### ★★★ GARDEN COURT MARINE PARADE Durban Beachfront

### ★★★★ SOUTHERN SUN ELANGENI & MAHARANI Durban Beachfront

**THE LOWDOWN:** Family friendly and newly refurbished hotel ideally positioned on Durban's beautiful Golden Mile.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Access to the Suncoast Spa located at Suncoast Towers \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 352 Spacious and comfortably appointed sea-facing rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel's sparkling heated rooftop pool with panoramic views.

**THE LOWDOWN:** Landmark hotel located on Durban's Golden Mile.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Grill Jichana, Daruma, Panorama Bar & Pool Deck, Vigour & Verve, Lingela Restaurant and 2 breakfast venues \* In-room dining \* Heated swimming pools \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 734 Luxurious presidential suites, penthouses with private patios, executive rooms and family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel offers a variety of family rooms, with kids under 18 staying and eating breakfast for free when sharing with 2 adults.

# Stay here...

## KWAZULU-NATAL HOTELS SOUTH COAST – SOUTHBROOM / SCOTTBURGH NORTH COAST – SALT ROCK / BALLITO



### ★★★★ SAN LAMEER RESORT HOTEL & SPA South Coast – Southbroom

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated on the iconic San Lameer Estate, on the banks of the tidal Umhlangamkulu Lagoon and with direct access to two pristine Blue Flag Indian Ocean beaches.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* The Lagoon Restaurant \* Bar \* 18-Hole championship golf course \* Swimming pools \* Tennis \* Action cricket \* Squash \* Volleyball \* Mashie golf course \* Paddle boats and canoes \* Bowling greens \* Kiddies play park \* Bicycle rental \* Catch & release fishing dam \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 40 Classic rooms, Deluxe rooms, Executive rooms and Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The centrepiece of the Estate's magnificent domain is the 18-hole Championship Golf Course designed by Peter Matkovich and Dale Hayes.



### ★★★ BLUE MARLIN HOTEL South Coast – Scottburgh

**THE LOWDOWN:** Perched atop a green hill in the town of Scottburgh, with breathtaking views of the Indian Ocean.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Lighthouse Restaurant \* Bar and pool bar \* PADI Dive Centre \* Seasonal entertainment \* Secure and private walkway to the beach \* Kids play room \* Games room \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 122 Modern double superior, family superior rooms and penthouse.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Family orientated beachfront hotel with all inclusive package option.



### ★★★★ CANELANDS BEACH CLUB & SPA North Coast – Salt Rock

**THE LOWDOWN:** With 180 degree views over the ocean, this hotel is set directly on the secluded Salt Rock beach and just five minutes from Ballito.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Two Shrimps Restaurant \* Bar \* Lounge area \* Swimming pool \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 10 Modern and chic standard garden, superior rooms and deluxe suite.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Superb beach front position with the pool overlooking the beach.



### ★★★★★ FAIRMONT ZIMBALI RESORT North Coast – Ballito

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated inside the exclusive Zimbali Coastal Estate, this tranquil beachfront retreat with scintillating views of the Indian Ocean offers the utmost in stylish comfort and is 5 minutes from the bustling holiday town of Ballito.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Willow Stream Spa \* A range of appetizing dining options \* Bars \* Golf \* Fitness Centre \* Swimming pools \* Kids Club \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free valet parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 154 Guest rooms and suites, including a Penthouse and Presidential suite, as well as 18 Fairmont Heritage Place villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Pamper & play option with either 1 round of golf or 1 spa treatment p.p per stay.



# Stay here...

## KWAZULU-NATAL HOTELS NORTH COAST – UMHLANGA



### ★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT DURBAN UMHLANGA

North Coast – Umhlanga

**THE LOWDOWN:** Centrally located in the heart of Umhlanga Rocks with stunning views overlooking the KwaZulu-Natal coast and minutes from a protected beach.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* The Lighthouse Breakfast Restaurant & Bar \* Rooftop sun deck and plunge pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 250 Elegantly and stylishly furnished rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel has 120 semi self-catering rooms with a microwave, fridge, cutlery, crockery and tea/coffee-making facilities.



### ★★★★★ SIBAYA CASINO AND ENTERTAINMENT KINGDOM

North Coast – Umhlanga

**THE LOWDOWN:** The resort is set in the rolling green hills of KwaZulu-Natal overlooking the Indian Ocean and is just a few minutes' drive away from King Shaka International Airport. This is a one stop holiday destination with fun activities for couples and the whole family.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Four restaurants \* Two bars \* Coffee shop \* Casino \* Spa \* Sibaya iZulu Theatre \* Kiddies crèche \* The Magic Company – arcade and computer games \* Swimming pools \* Free WiFi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Standard Double or Twin Rooms with tea and coffee service.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** There is so much to do onsite and the beach and Gateway Theatre of Shopping are just minutes away.

### ★★★★★ THE OYSTER BOX

North Coast – Umhlanga

**THE LOWDOWN:** Standing majestically on Umhlanga's Beachfront overlooking the Indian Ocean and the iconic lighthouse, this award-winning 5-star luxury boutique hotel is a member of the Leading Hotels of the World and the Red Carnation Hotel Collection.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning spa featuring Turkish Hammam \* Fine dining in The Grill Room \* The Lighthouse Bar and The Chukka Bar \* An extraordinary dining experience at The Chef's Table \* Dolphin watching from the Ocean Terrace and Oyster Bar \* Swimming pools \* Direct beach access and beach chairs, umbrella \* 24-Seater cinema with complimentary treats \* Fitness Centre \* Pet friendly \* Kids Holiday Club \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 86 Luxurious rooms, suites including the Presidential Suite and villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy legendary High Tea with live piano music each afternoon in The Palm Court.



# Stay here...

## KWAZULU-NATAL HOTELS DRAKENSBERG / MIDLANDS / ZULULAND – JOZINI DAM



### ★★★★ CATHEDRAL PEAK HOTEL Drakensberg – 3 Hours from DUR / 4 Hours from JNB

**THE LOWDOWN:** A premier resort hotel nestled in the unspoiled surroundings of the Drakensberg mountain range (a World Heritage Site).

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Wellness Spa Centre, a Sports Bar & Cocktail Bar with panoramic views \* Gym \* Restaurant \* Separate children's dining room \* Hot & cold swimming pools \* Free daily guided hikes \* Archery \* Horse and pony rides \* Mountain bike trails \* Tennis \* Squash \* Bowls \* Beach volleyball \* Mini-adventure golf \* Fly fishing \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 104 Standard rooms, superior rooms, executive honeymoon suite and a presidential suite. Standard inter-leading rooms, ideal for friends and family.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The immaculate 9-hole golf course, with a clubhouse and panoramic Drakensberg mountain views, offers alternate tees for an 18-hole game.



### ★★★★★ FORDOUN HOTEL & SPA Midlands – Nottingham Road

**THE LOWDOWN:** Picturesque and luxury hotel located at the foothills of the majestic Drakensberg in Nottingham Road in the scenic KwaZulu-Natal Midlands.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning spa \* Gym \* Skye Bistro \* The family orientated Farm Village with activities for children \* Walks \* Fly fishing \* Birding \* Mountain biking \* Yoga \* isiZulu cultural experiences \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 22 Luxurious, individually appointed suites and 8 self-catering chalets.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Rejuvenate at the award-winning spa featuring internationally acclaimed treatments such as the rasul (a Turkish steam and clay treatment room), a saline Floatation pool and a couples' treatment suite with hydrotherapy bath.



### ★★★★ AHA ALPINE HEATH RESORT Drakensberg – 3 Hours from DUR / 3 ½ Hours from JNB

**THE LOWDOWN:** A stylish award-winning self-catering mountain village, surrounded by the Drakensberg Mountains.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Le Gruyères Restaurant, Pizza Inferno Pizzeria and The Village Market \* 2 Bars \* Swimming pools \* Weekly property newspaper \* WOW Kids Zone \* Kids entertainment programme \* Fishing \* Volleyball \* 18-Hole putt-putt \* Table tennis \* Tennis \* Squash \* Hiking \* Mountain biking \* Horse riding \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 100 Superb and fully equipped self-catering 3-bedroomed, 6-sleeper chalets.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Regarded as the entertainment capital of the Drakensberg with a wonderful variety of sports and leisure activities and the ideal getaway for families and nature-lovers alike.



### ★★★★ JOZINI TIGER LODGE & SPA Zululand – Jozini dam

**THE LOWDOWN:** Positioned along the banks of the picturesque Lake Jozini, and backed by the splendour of the Lebombo Mountain range.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Mangwanani spa \* Boma \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Rim-flow swimming pool and kids pool \* Kids playroom \* Gym \* Tiger fishing \* Sunset boat cruises \* Kayaks \* Hiking and birding trails \* Abseiling \* Game viewing \* Conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 44 Classic rooms, 21 Family lofts, 3 Deluxe rooms and 2 Executive suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Mangwanani Spa special - buy one treatment and receive a 2nd treatment at a 50% discount.



# Stay here...

## KWAZULU-NATAL HOTELS ZULULAND – NEAR PONGOLA, HLUHLUWE / NEAR ST LUCIA



### ★★★★★ AMAKHOSI SAFARI LODGE Zululand – near Pongola

**THE LOWDOWN:** A royal hideaway set amidst the African landscapes and breathtaking Big Five wildlife of the Amakhosi Private Game Reserve overlooking the Mkuze River, just 24km from the town of Pongola.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Low risk malaria area  
\* Amakhosi river spa \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Inside and outside lounge  
\* Game drives \* Walking safaris \* Frogging Safaris \* Swimming pool  
\* Small conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 6 Luxury river suites and 2 honeymoon suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** From November to March night safaris with qualified guides take you deep into the bush to marvel the spectrum of colours and the loud calling of mating frogs.



### ★★★★★ LEOPARD MOUNTAIN SAFARI LODGE Zululand – near Hluhluwe

**THE LOWDOWN:** Set within an Endangered Species Protected Big 5 area in the magnificent Manyoni Private Game Reserve, with the most spectacular views from the river meandering below to the distant Lebombo Mountains.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Boma  
\* Multi-award winning wine cellar \* Game drives \* Guided walking safaris \* Elephant education and interaction \* Midday waterhole lookout activity.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 9 Well appointed, stone chalets with private plunge pool.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Prior to your game drive, enjoy an afternoon tea while overlooking the spectacular views from the deck.



### ★★★★★ THANDA SAFARI PRIVATE GAME RESERVE Zululand – near Hluhluwe

**THE LOWDOWN:** One of South Africa's top big 5 game reserves, a proud member of The Leading Hotels of the World and multiple winner of the World's Leading Luxury Lodge Category, situated 23km north of Hluhluwe.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Indoor and outdoor dining \* Bush breakfasts \* Bush-based private picnic dining  
\* Boma \* Game drives \* Busk walks \* Wildlife photography sessions  
\* Showcasing Zulu traditions at a traditional homestead and village  
\* Kids Club and Junior Rangers Course.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 9 Bush suites, Villa iZulu (An exclusive bush residence), 14 grand tents and 1 grande deluxe tent.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Work with the conservation team for a day – tracking the Big Five if possible and even assist the ranger team.



### ★★★★★ &BEYOND PHINDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE Zululand – near the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** Set within easy reach of the Indian Ocean coastline and the famous iSimangaliso / Greater St Lucia Wetland Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* A choice of &BEYOND Phinda Lodges, each with their own unique features \* Abundant wildlife, including the Big Five \* A birder's paradise, with 436 bird species  
\* Near to the popular breeding grounds of the highly endangered sea turtles \* Spectacular coral reef diving nearby \* &Beyond's WILDchild programme \* Small conference and meeting facilities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** &BEYOND Phinda Forest Lodge, &BEYOND Phinda Homestead, &BEYOND Phinda Mountain Lodge, &BEYOND Phinda Rock Lodge, &BEYOND Phinda Vlei Lodge and &BEYOND Phinda Zuka Lodge.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The reserve provides a sanctuary for threatened wildlife, such as cheetah and black rhino.



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Inspiring new ways

## fashionably in the... *Free State*

Discover and explore this province with its scenic beauty, rural tranquillity and festivals. Select one of the Free State's Big 5 holiday routes (Cheetah, Eagle, Lion, Flamingo and Springbok), each offering their own history, culture, adventure and natural attractions. What are you waiting for? Go!



*#ILoveFreeState*



### WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...

Get out into the fresh air and visit Clarens with its beautiful natural surroundings and many activities.

## *Top reasons to go...*

- \* Stay in Clarens known as "The Jewel of the Free State".
- \* Attend the Mangaung African Cultural Festival (Macufe), one of the biggest cultural festivals in Bloemfontein.
- \* Pop in at the Basotho Cultural Village for an interactive tour of traditional Sotho life in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park.
- \* Take a guided tour through the passages inside the wall of South Africa's largest dam, the Gariep Dam.
- \* Visit Naval Hill, one of its kind in Bloemfontein, containing a 6.5m-high statue of Nelson Mandela and the famous White Horse sculpture.
- \* Live it up at the cherry festival in Ficksburg taking place each November.
- \* Enjoy berry picking, beer, 'mampoer' and art in Parys.
- \* See the oldest and largest crater on earth at the Vredefort Dome.

## *Do this...*

### **RIVER RAFTING ON THE VAAL RIVER (PARYS)**

Enjoy a white river raft adventure trip on the cloudy waters of the Vaal River near Parys, taking you on a trip back in time through a vast span of planetary evolution. Select from a variety of trip options – the 3 or 8km river raft trip and the sundowner or full moon paddles.

### **FLY FISHING OR TROUT FISHING (CLARENS)**

Try your hand at fly fishing in well-stocked dams in Clarens, one of the top trout fishing spots in South Africa. If you want to land a trophy fish then the Ash River is a must do for the keen angler.

### **THE BASOTHO CULTURAL VILLAGE (GOLDEN GATE HIGHLANDS NATIONAL PARK)**

Experience a unique South African cultural village with authentic hospitality where you will learn about traditional arts, crafts and lifestyle of the Basotho people. The village consists of a rest camp resembling an 18th century Basotho village combined with replica homesteads dating from the 16th century to the present day.



# Stay here...

## FREE STATE HOTELS BLOEMFONTEIN / CLARENS / GOLDEN GATE HIGHLANDS NATIONAL PARK / GARIEP DAM



### ★★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT BLOEMFONTEIN WILLOW LAKE Bloemfontein

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located in the Bloemfontein Zoo.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* 101 Restaurant and Bar  
\* Exclusive patio area with views of the Bloemfontein zoo \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking

**ACCOMMODATION:** 94 Modern standard rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Experience nature in the heart of Bloemfontein at the only hotel in South Africa based inside a Zoo.



### ★★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT CLARENS Clarens

**THE LOWDOWN:** A stylish retreat nestled in the foothills of the Maluti Mountains in Clarens.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Adamo Restaurant \* Bar  
\* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 58 Standard, 4 Superior, 6 Deluxe and 2 Executive rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Within close proximity to the Golden Gate National Park.



### ★★★★ MONT D'OR HOTEL & SPA Clarens

**THE LOWDOWN:** Surrounded by the natural beauty of the Maluti Mountains in Clarens.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* La Vue Parfaite Restaurant \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities  
\* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi in public areas.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 24 Classically furnished executive, classic and family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The world class spa is where you can relax, unwind and spend a day in tranquil serenity.



### ★★★★ GOLDEN GATE HOTEL Golden Gate Highlands National Park - near Clarens

**THE LOWDOWN:** Nestled in the rolling foothills of the Maluti Mountains in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Sports bar  
\* Nature trails \* Bowls \* Tennis \* Table tennis \* Snooker \* Horse riding  
\* Holiday programmes (April / December) \* Swimming pool  
\* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 54 Comfortable rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Having a meal in the restaurant with the most memorable views imaginable of the Maluti Mountains.

### ★★★ FOREVER RESORT GARIEP DAM Gariep Dam – 200km from Bloemfontein



**THE LOWDOWN:** A sparkling family paradise situated on the banks of Gariep Dam.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Bar  
\* Walking trails \* Swimming pool \* Kids splash pool \* Boat trips  
\* Bowls \* Putt-putt \* Picnic areas \* Tennis \* Volley ball \* School holidays entertainment programme \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 44 Two or three bedroom chalets and 12 luxury one or two bedroom chalets.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The dam is a water sport enthusiast's paradise.

# Mpumalanga

## beauty & the bush...

Steeped in history, this province is considered to be one of the most geographically diverse and beautiful places in South Africa, with breathtaking attractions. Magnificent scenery, mountains, panoramic passes, awe-inspiring valleys, majestic lakes, rivers, tons of waterfalls and forests characterise the landscape. View attractions such as the Blyde River Canyon, the largest green canyon in the world; God's Window with its panoramic views; Bourke's Luck Potholes, a natural wonder; Sudwala Caves, regarded as the oldest caves in the world; fly-fishing in Dullstroom and gold panning at Pilgrims Rest. This is also Big Game Country, the setting for dozens of sanctuaries teeming with wildlife and birds including the legendary Kruger National Park, which is one of the largest national parks in Africa and home to the Big Five. Mpumalanga is a must-see destination and offers something for everyone.



*#explorempumalanga*



## Do this...

### KRUGER NATIONAL PARK GAME DRIVE (FROM HAZYVIEW)

Get the best game viewing in specially modified, open safari vehicles led by knowledgeable guides who will take you deep into the bush, tracking and sighting animals to capture your very own spectacular wildlife photographs.

### WHITE WATER RAFTING ON THE SABIE RIVER (NEAR HAZYVIEW)

Step into a two man inflatable raft and paddle your way, under the watchful eye of a qualified guide, through the rapids of the Sabie River with its abundance of bird life and lush indigenous forest scenes. You will even get the chance to "bum slide" half way at the picnic stop.

### QUAD BIKE TRAILS - THE SABIE RIVER VALLEY (NEAR HAZYVIEW)

Meet your experienced guide and follow quad tracks through indigenous forests and blue gum plantations through to spectacular waterfall viewpoints.

### ABSEILING - THE SABIE RIVER VALLEY (NEAR HAZYVIEW)

Experience the thrill of a jump as you abseil down a massive granite rock with views of the Kruger National Park and the Sabie River Valley towards God's Window.





**WorldO® recommends...**

Experience a memorable game viewing sunset safari with sundowners in the Kruger National Park.

**ZIPLINING (NEAR HAZYVIEW)**

Dress up with a full body harness and 3,2,1...off you go on a 450m long zip slide reaching a speed of about 100 km/h at a height of 77m - don't forget to take in the spectacular scenery!

**THE PANORAMA ROUTE (FROM HAZYVIEW)**

Visit the legendary Blyde River Canyon and enjoy the never-ending Lowveld landscape from the ledge of God's Window. Tuck into lunch at the famous Harrie's Pancakes in the quaint mining town of Pilgrim's Rest and explore the extraordinary rock formations of Bourke's Luck Potholes, one of nature's most intriguing creations.

**SUNSET SAFARI AND AFRICAN BOMA DINNER (FROM HAZYVIEW)**

Climb onto an open safari vehicle and enjoy a sunset safari in the Kruger Park searching for the Big 5. Arrive at a boma set on the banks of the Phabeni River, where animals come to drink, and enjoy a dinner in the bush cooked African style over hot coals.



# Stay here...

## MPUMALANGA HOTELS DULLSTROOM / WHITE RIVER



### ★★★★ DUNKELD COUNTRY & EQUESTRIAN ESTATE Dullstroom

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in Dullstroom, this is a haven in spectacular scenery and tranquil surrounds where you can unwind from the daily grind.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurants \* Bar \* Horse riding \* Mountain biking \* Hiking \* Abseiling \* Rock climbing \* Fly-fishing \* Ziplining \* Tennis \* Putt-putt \* Swimming pools \* Chapel for weddings \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Country lodge suites, Country self-catering chalets, Equestrian luxury lodge rooms, Equestrian luxury lodge units and Equestrian self-catering units.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Take part in the trout hatchery tour and learn more about this exciting operation that keeps dams stocked and supplies the northern hemisphere with 60 million live trout eggs.



### ★★★★ COUNTRY BOUTIQUE HOTEL White River – 20km from Nelspruit

**THE LOWDOWN:** A beautiful intimate little gem that offers you a unique Lowveld experience characterised by style, situated approximately 10 minutes' drive from Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport, within close proximity to the Kruger National Park and Panorama Route.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Gym, sauna, Jacuzzi and steam bath \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 14 Elegantly appointed deluxe rooms, 6 luxury rooms and 2 superior rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Once the homestead of a local avocado farming family, this charming small hotel has been entirely redesigned to offer a boutique style. A perfect base from which to explore the Kruger and Panorama Route.



### ★★★★ LIKWETI LODGE White River – 20km from Nelspruit

**THE LOWDOWN:** A tranquil bushveld, malaria-free retreat located in an eco-sensitive wildlife estate, within easy reach of top-notch amenities and the Kruger National Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Pezula Reception Room Restaurant \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 8 Luxurious Executive Rooms, 2 Luxury Suites and two self-catering camps.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Giraffe, nyala and warthog families wander freely on the property.

# Stay here...

## MPUMALANGA HOTELS HAZYVIEW



### ★★★★ HIPPO HOLLOW COUNTRY ESTATE Near Hazyview

**THE LOWDOWN:** An oasis of tranquillity located on the banks of the Sabie River and only a 10 minutes' drive from the Kruger National Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Hippo Hollow Restaurant and Kuka Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge \* Bar \* Swimming pools \* Helicopter flips \* Shangaan River Club for an 'Out of Africa' traditional song and dance experience \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi in lounge.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Unique thatched 18 River chalets, 19 Garden chalets, 28 Courtyard hotel rooms and 26 Courtyard standard rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The restaurant, lounge and bar overlooks the Sabie River with resident hippos and exceptional wildlife.



### ★★★★ TIMAMOON LODGE Near Hazyview

**THE LOWDOWN:** A gorgeous sexy and romantic hideaway set high up in the hills, surrounded by forests and close to the Kruger National Park & Blyde River Canyon.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Full body massages in the privacy of your room \* Restaurant \* Cigar lounge \* Nature walks \* Picnics on the banks of the river \* Yoga \* Horse riding \* Hot air ballooning \* River rafting \* Abseiling \* Quad bike trails \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Exclusive and luxury, romantic rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy endless views of the distant mountains and the valley from your rooms private plunge pool.



### ★★★★ SABI RIVER SUN RESORT Hazyview

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located in close proximity to the Kruger National Park, this resort is the perfect destination for visitors seeking a unique wildlife experience in the warm heart of Mpumalanga province.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* 18-Hole golf course \* Swimming pool \* Children's entertainment program \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 60 Stylish, modern standard and family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** 18-hole golf course. Hippo watching dam with 24 hippos. Great for families – family rooms can accommodate 2 adults and 2 children under 18 years.



### ★★★★ KRUGER PARK LODGE Hazyview

**THE LOWDOWN:** A tranquil and peaceful haven situated on a 9-hole Gary Player designed golf course on the banks of the picturesque Sabie River near the Kruger National Park.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* 9-Hole Gary Player designed golf course \* Golf driving range \* Swimming pools \* Tennis \* Kids playground \* Nature trails \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 230 Fully equipped luxury 2, 3 and 4 bedrooled self-catering chalets.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Watch the local hippo from the safety of a hide built on the edges of one of the many dams on the property.



# Stay here...

## MPUMALANGA HOTELS NEAR KRUGER NATIONAL PARK / KRUGER NATIONAL PARK



### ★★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT KRUGER GATE 100 metres from the Paul Kruger Gate

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated just 100 metres from the Paul Kruger Gate of the Kruger National Park, this rustic and elegant lodge is located along the Sabie River, offering access to the area's legendary natural beauty.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Lapa and Kudyela Restaurants \* Swimming pool \* Fitness Centre \* Miniature golf \* Table tennis \* Volleyball \* Elevated walkways nestled among native bird habitats \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 103 Comfortable superior and family rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The incredible wildlife of Kruger National Park is at your doorstep.



### ★★★★ LUKIMBI SAFARI LODGE Kruger National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** The lodge, in the easily accessed southern Kruger National Park, is set between lush vegetation overlooking a tranquil river. View the Big Five and a wide variety of other animals and birds which roam freely in their natural habitat.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Open sided dining room for optimum outdoor experience \* Game drives \* Spa \* Gym \* Children's programme \* Golf nearby.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Premier Suites outside shower \* Classic Suites with his/hers bathrooms, outside shower and private pool.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy the expanse of the Kruger National Park with the luxury of a private safari lodge.



### ★★★★ SHISHANGENI PRIVATE LODGE Kruger National Park – 22km from Crocodile Bridge gate

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated on a 15,000 hectare private concession of the Kruger National Park, this legendary wildlife reserve showcases some of the finest big 5 game-viewing on the continent.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Boma dinner experience \* Game drives \* Photo safari \* Bird watching \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 3 Camps: Shishangeni Private Lodge, Camp Shonga and Camp Shawu, each providing their own different experience and facilities.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Share your game viewing stories while you dine on traditional cuisine around a roaring boma fire under the stars of the African sky in a Kruger Park concession.



### ★★★★ HAMILTONS TENTED CAMP Kruger National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** Resplendent with early 19th century nostalgia, from its old steamer trunks and pith helmets to its antique bathroom basins and hurricane lanterns, Hamiltons is reminiscent of an Out of Africa experience. a tribute to the generation whose vision has resulted in the conservation of one of Africa's prime wilderness areas, without compromising on modern-day comforts and luxuries.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Dine under the stars, around the camp fire and bush dinners to the music of the night calls \* Swimming pool \* Game drives \* Game walks \* Bird watching.

**ACCOMMODATION:** High wooden platforms set amidst age-old Jackalberry and Sausage trees, linking six elevated tents built entirely of canvas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** A nostalgic bush experience in a tented camp with East African style butlers – shared by just 12 guests.

# Stay here...

## MPUMALANGA HOTELS KRUGER NATIONAL PARK / THORNYBUSH NATURE RESERVE / SABI SAND RESERVE



### ★★★★★ JOCK SAFARI LODGE Kruger National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** This secluded bush paradise overlooking a serene river bed is right in the heart of the Kruger National Park. The private suites and reception areas enjoy frequent game sightings from the raised wooden decks with your own private splash pool.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Open sided dining room \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Game drives \* Pilgrims Rest Retreat and Spa \* Bird watching \* Wilderness walks \* Safari Kids Experience \* Golf at Leopard Creek.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Twelve thatch suites with mini bar and private plunge pool.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Great game viewing and by day and fireside dining in the boma accompanied by the calls of nocturnal animals.



### ★★★★★ THORNYBUSH LUXURY GAME LODGE COLLECTION Thornybush Nature Reserve – adjacent to Kruger National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** Thornybush has earned its reputation as one of South Africa's finest bush experiences. Situated within 14,000 hectares of pristine wilderness, adjacent to the northern Kruger National Park, it is a refreshing escape from the madness of city life.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Amani African Spa's \* Game drives \* Remarkable fauna and flora \* Kids welcome at selected lodges \* Kids activities and program at selected lodges \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 12 Lodges, 11 of which are located in the Thornybush Private Nature Reserve and one in the northern Sabi Sand Reserve, each providing a variety of different experiences.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The Thornybush Collection of Lodges offers luxury accommodation and top game viewing.

### ★★★★★ SABI SABI PRIVATE GAME RESERVE Sabi Sand Reserve

**THE LOWDOWN:** Award-winning private game reserve offering world-class standards in luxury accommodation, exceptional close wildlife encounters, personal service and delicious cuisine

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa at Bush Lodge and Earth Lodge \* Boma \* Game drives \* Photographic safaris \* Kids Centre (EleFun) at Bush Lodge \* Small meeting facilities at Bush Lodge \* Swimming pool at all lodges \* Gym at Earth Lodge \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 4 Uniquely individual safari lodges – Selati Camp, Bush Lodge, Little Bush Camp and Earth Lodge, each with their own unique style.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Sabi Sabi's prime location, well away from city lights, means boundless stargazing opportunities, regardless of the season.



# Limpopo

nature is calling...

South Africa's Cinderella province with malaria-free game parks, brilliant birding, fascinating mountain ranges, untamed bush landscapes, a rich cultural heritage and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Mapungubwe, a big drawcard for visitors. With a range of adventurous activities to choose from such as hiking, horseback trails in the Waterberg, Big 5 game viewing, fishing, rock climbing and much more, this province is a great place to unwind and immerse oneself in a serene wilderness experience.



@golimpopo



**WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...**  
Hop on a helicopter to the top of Hanglip Mountain and tee off to the world famous Extreme 19th, the world's longest and highest Par 3.

## Do this...

### ADVENTURES WITH ELEPHANTS (NEAR BELA BELA)

Adventures with Elephants is a sanctuary for rogue elephant which were destined for culling, where you experience up close and personal encounters with elephants, learning more about these gentle giants, their intelligence, their bodies and their behaviour, leaving you humbled and moved.

### GOLF AT THE LEGEND GOLF & SAFARI RESORT (WATERBERG - ENTABENI SAFARI CONSERVANCY)

Tee off on one of the longest 18-hole golf courses, not only in South Africa, but also in the world. It provides all golfers, irrespective of handicap with one of Africa's most spectacular game and golf experiences. Don't miss the world famous, 'Extreme 19th', the world's highest Par 3 on the top of Hanglip Mountain, accessible only by helicopter.

### MAGOEBAKLOOF CANOPY TOUR (NEAR TZANEEN)

Experience the thrill of sliding through the forest on a 2 ½ hour Tarzan and Jane style adventure! Glide between platforms built within the upper level of indigenous forests and ancient mountain cliffs, high above a sparkling river, waterfalls and forest floor.

### BILL HARROP'S ORIGINAL GAME VIEWING BALLOON SAFARIS

View magnificent panoramas of an ancient land and enjoy a rare and very special privilege of observing the flora and fauna of Africa from the slowly drifting vantage point of a hot air balloon. Entabeni Safari Conservancy and Mabula Private Game Reserve are particularly recommended for the ultimate getaway and prelude to a most memorable game viewing balloon safari.



# Stay here...

## LIMPOPO LODGES NEAR HOEDSPRUIT



### ★★★★ KHAYA NDLOVU MANOR HOUSE Hoedspruit

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in the pristine Blue Canyon Conservancy of Hoedspruit boasting magnificent colonial style gardens and unsurpassed views of the Drakensberg Mountains and surrounding bushveld.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Lounge area \* Game drives \* Rim-flow swimming pool \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Leadwood Honeymoon Suite, Acacia Family Suites, Jackalberry Suite, Marula Suite and Garden Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** All inclusive packages available including all meals, drinks and daily game drives.

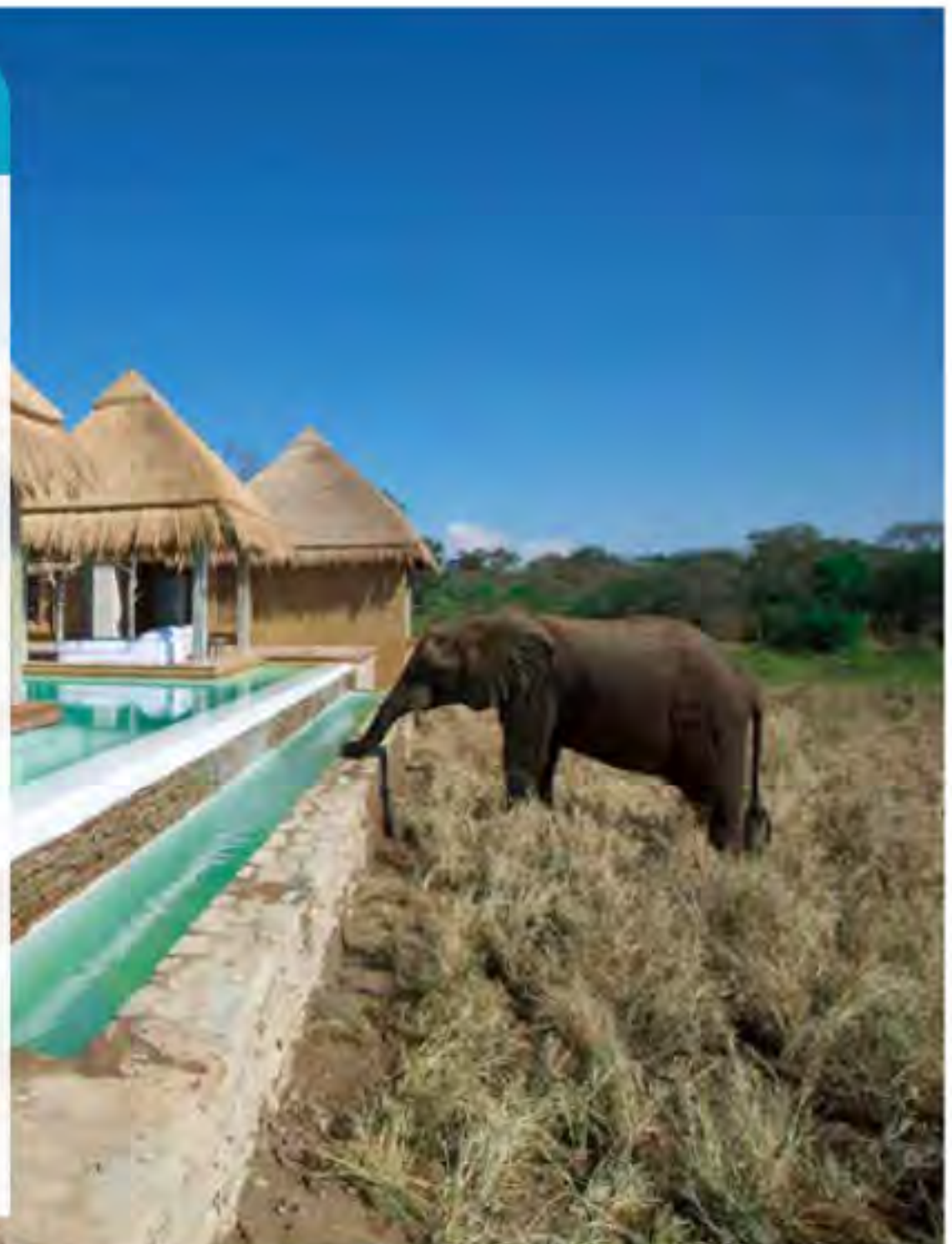
### ★★★★★ KAPAMA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE Hoedspruit

**THE LOWDOWN:** Sweeping across 13 000 hectares of savannah and riverine forest, Kapama represents a piece of Africa as it used to be with the mighty Drakensberg mountains in the distance and the iconic Kruger National Park to the east.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Game drives \* Photographic safaris \* Bush walks \* Guided personal elephant interactions \* Swimming pool \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 4 Diverse luxurious safari lodges - River Lodge, Kapama Karula, Africa Buffalo Camp and Southern Camp.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy a million-star romantic overnight experience sleeping in the open air on the reserve on a raised platform with en-suite facilities.



# Stay here...

## LIMPOPO HOTELS / LODGES WATERBERG / NEAR BELA BELA



### ★★★★ CLIFFTOP EXCLUSIVE SAFARI HIDEAWAY Waterberg - Welgevonden National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** A serene sanctuary with outstanding views, perched on the tip of a magnificent gorge overlooking the Sterkstroom River in the ruggedly scenic and malaria-free Welgevonden Game Reserve, home to the Big 5.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* In-suite massages \* Restaurant \* Wine cellar for private dining \* Game drives \* Swimming pool \* Viewing deck \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 8 Romantic suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Sip a soothing G&T as you relax in your very own plunge pool overlooking the gorge.



### ★★★★ ENTABENI SAFARI CONSERVANCY Waterberg

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in the World Heritage Waterberg Biosphere, this 22,000 hectare malaria-free reserve boasts five eco-systems.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant and boma at each lodge \* Game drives \* Bush walks \* Swimming pools \* Helicopter flights \* Birding safaris \* Boat cruises \* 18-Hole Signature Golf Course with 'Extreme 19th' \* Pedi Cultural Village \* Endangered Wildlife Centre \* Horseback safaris \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 5 Lodges (from 4 to 5 star) – Hanglip Mountain Lodge, Kingfisher Lodge, Lakeside Lodge, Ravineside Lodge and Wildside Safari Camp, each with their own unique facilities.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Combine an exhilarating helicopter flight with a romantic meal on a secluded mountaintop and enjoy the beauty of the Waterberg.



### ★★★★ LEGEND GOLF & SAFARI RESORT Waterberg - Entabeni Safari Conservancy

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated in the Entabeni Safari Conservancy in the picturesque Waterberg region, this resort is renowned for its unique golf course and phenomenal wildlife that roams across 22 000 hectares of bushveld landscape.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Legend Health & Wellness Centre \* Restaurants \* Game drives \* Bush walks \* Tennis \* Putt-putt \* Mountain bike trails \* Swimming pools \* Wildlife & Cultural Centre \* Little Legend kids program \* Pedi Cultural Village \* 18-Hole Signature Golf Course with 'Extreme 19th' \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 220 Resort, luxury rooms, executive suites and mountain view boutique lodge.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy a white lion and wild dogs tour at the Wildlife & Cultural Centre.



### ★★★ PLUS MABULA GAME LODGE Near Bela Bela

**THE LOWDOWN:** An extraordinary Big 5 encounter with South Africa's bushveld awaits you at this lodge, located in the malaria-free Waterberg region.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Ko Bojelong Restaurant \* Boma \* Bush dinners \* Whisky Bar \* Tennis \* Game drives \* Nature safari walks \* Swimming pool \* Cubz Club kids program in school holidays \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Mabula Lodge Rooms and Mabula Villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy a once-weekly special Southern Ground Hornbill Drive to learn more about this fascinating bird species and the Mabula Ground Hornbill Project.

Stay here...

LIMPOPO HOTELS / LODGES  
NEAR BELA BELA / NEAR POLOKWANE

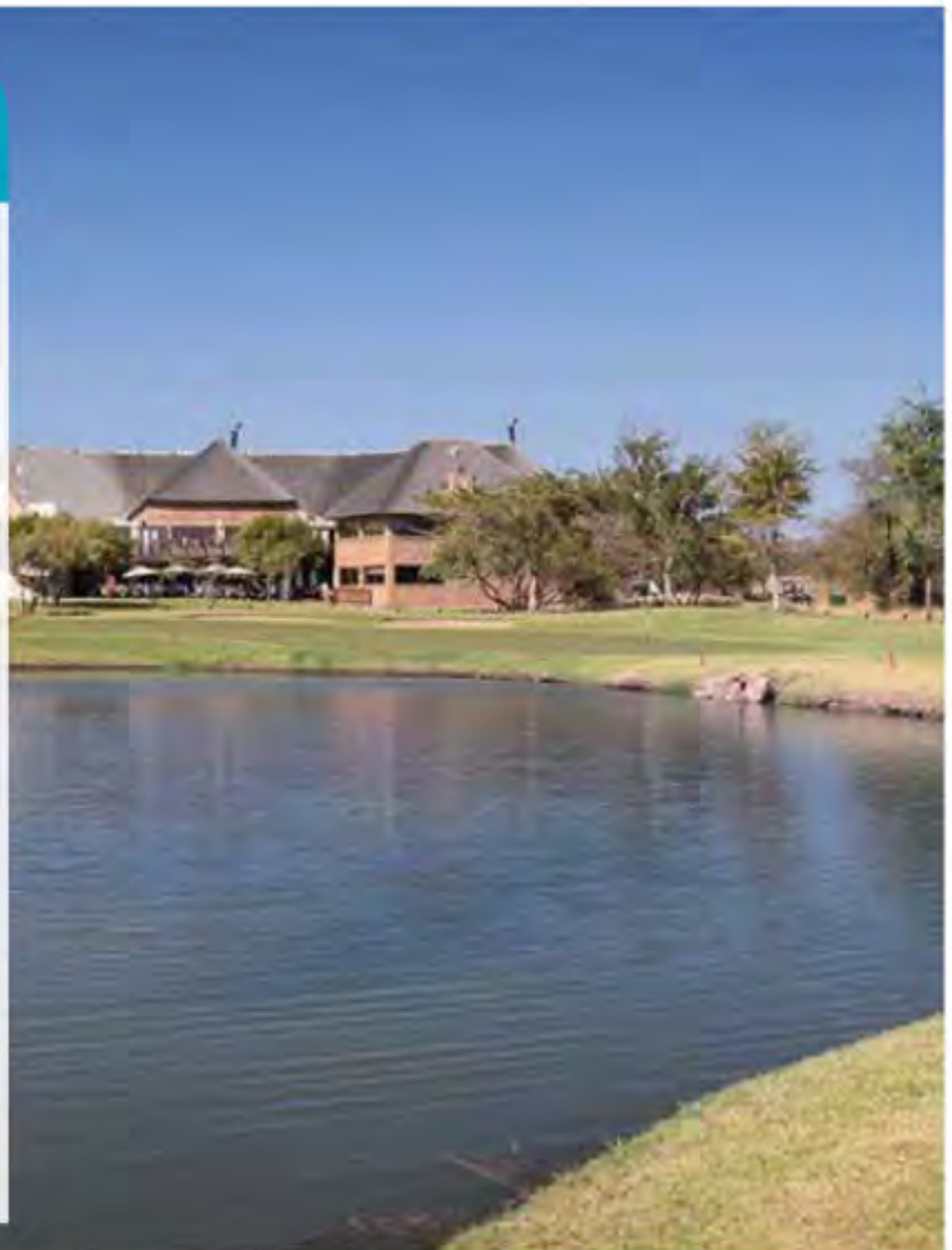
★★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT ZEBULA LODGE**  
Near Bela Bela

**THE LOWDOWN:** A premier bush, golf and spa destination situated in a malaria-free location on 1,600 hectares of pristine bushveld in the shadow of the Waterberg mountains.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning spa \* Syringa Restaurant, Terrace Restaurant, The Waterberg Restaurant and Golfers Express Restaurant \* Bar \* 18-Holes golf course with Clubhouse \* Fitness Centre \* Swimming pool \* Bike rentals \* Horseback riding \* Mountain biking trail \* Squash \* Tennis \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 20 Exquisite Bush Lodge rooms and 16 Waterberg Lodge rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Take in stunning views of the bushveld or golf course from the comfort of your room.



# Gauteng

causing a stir...

Gauteng is South Africa's fast-paced economic powerhouse taking in the cities of Johannesburg and Pretoria. Large shopping malls, bars, hotels, casinos, plenty of adventurous activities and a vibrant cultural and entertainment scene makes this province an urban playground.



#visitgauteng

## Do this...

### CITY SIGHTSEEING JOHANNESBURG (HOP-ON HOP-OFF TOUR)

Discover Johannesburg in an informative, safe, convenient and fun way on the City Sightseeing Red Bus. See the city and its suburbs like you've never seen them before, taking you to Jozi's most picturesque spots. Choose from a variety of scenic routes and stops.

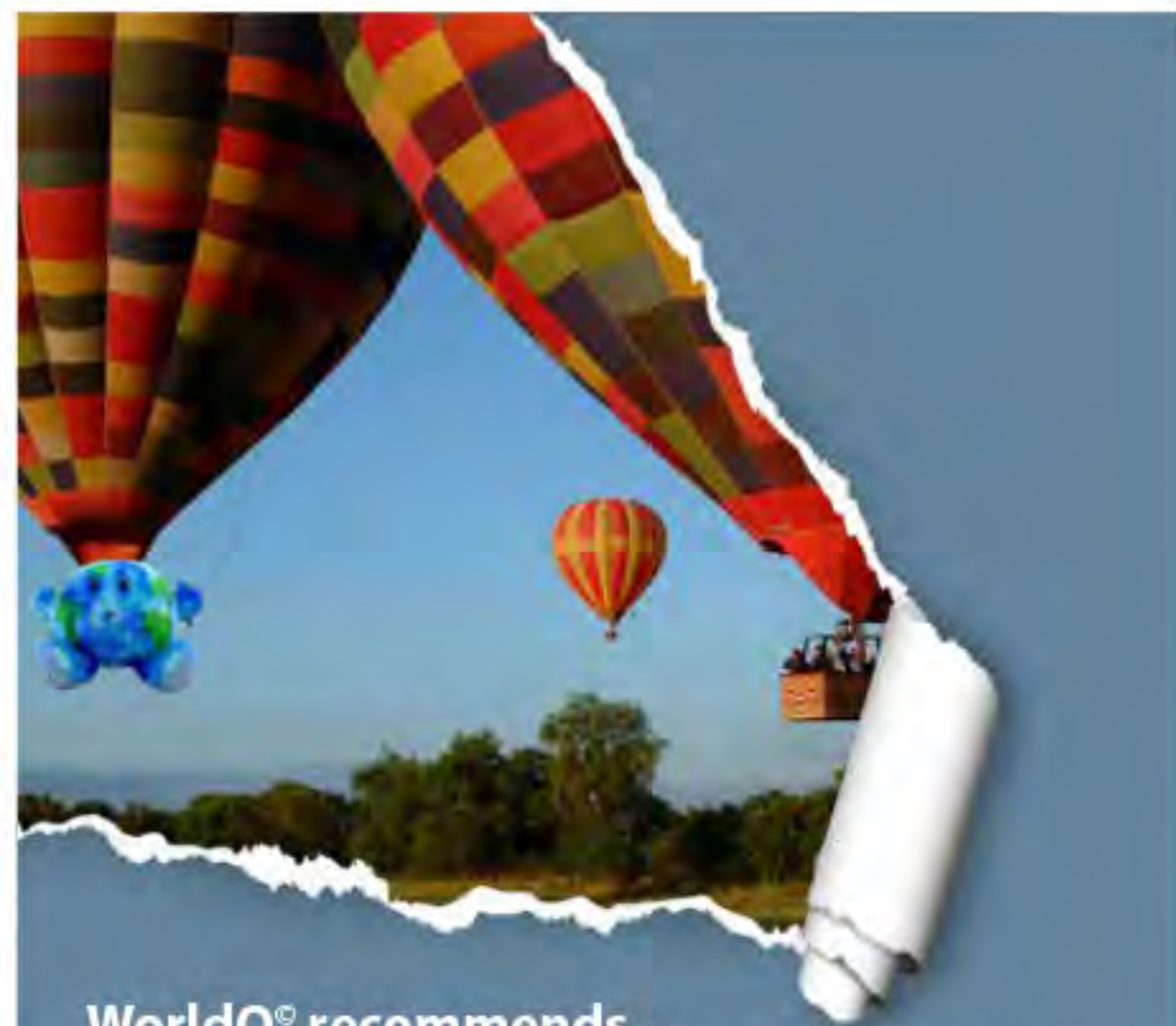
### HARD ROCK CAFÉ (NELSON MANDELA SQUARE, SANDTON)

Savour delicious American burgers, cuisine and cocktails at this rock 'n' roll-themed chain with a high-energy vibe, located where Sandton City and Nelson Mandela Square meet.

### GOLD REEF CITY

Spend a day at one of South Africa's biggest theme parks boasting an array of Africa's tallest, biggest and fastest thrill rides, tamer family rides, the only 4D theatre in South Africa and a fascinating mine museum with an underground mine tour.





## WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...

For an indescribable thrill, venture onto a Bill Harrop's "Original" Balloon Safari and drift majestically above the beautiful Magalies River Valley.

### MAROPENG AND THE STERKFRONTEIN CAVES

Take a tour of the Sterkfontein Caves, starting above ground and moving deep into the caves on modern walkways and a boardwalk past the excavation site where world-acclaimed fossils have been discovered. Don't miss the Maropeng Visitor Centre, an exciting, world-class exhibition, focusing on the development of humans and our ancestors over the past few million years.

### CANOPY TOUR MAGALIESBERG

A fun outdoor, eco-adventure activity for the thrill seeker taking you on a journey through the ecology and geology of the second oldest mountain range in the world. Glide from one of the 11 platforms to the next as you take in the scenic beauty of this natural wonderland.

### HOT AIR BALLOONING OVER THE MAGALIESBERG MOUNTAINS

Board a balloon safari, sipping fine champagne while hovering gently above the tree tops of the beautiful Magalies River Valley, or drifting high above the Magaliesberg range in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage site. After landing, savour a delectable and generous champagne breakfast.



Stay here...

**GAUTENG HOTELS**  
SANDTON / MELROSE ARCH / FOURWAYS



★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT**  
**JOHANNESBURG BALALAIKA SANDTON**  
Sandton

**THE LOWDOWN:** A tranquil oasis in the heart of the bustling business and entertainment hub of Sandton.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* The Bull Run Restaurant \* Cigar bar \* Fitness Centre \* Swimming pools \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site and valet parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 299 Stylish rooms and 31 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy the perfect steak at The Bull Run Restaurant, a premier establishment famed for its prime cuts of exquisite South African beef and their extensive selection of wine.



★★★★ **PROTEA HOTEL FIRE & ICE! BY MARRIOTT**  
**JOHANNESBURG MELROSE ARCH**  
Melrose Arch

**THE LOWDOWN:** Surround yourself with Old Hollywood glamour located in the bustling precinct of Melrose Arch.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Fitness Centre \* Swimming pool \* Within easy access to local golf courses \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 194 Stylish rooms and 3 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy a fantastic burger and world famous milkshakes at the social and edgy Fire & Ice! restaurant.



★★★★ **INDABA HOTEL, SPA & CONFERENCE CENTRE**  
Fourways

**THE LOWDOWN:** A country style hotel in exceptional surroundings, conveniently located just north of Sandton and for travellers who crave a bit of tranquillity during a visit to bustling Johannesburg.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Mowana Spa \* Chiefs Boma and Epsom Terrace & Courtyard Restaurant \* Bar \* Gym \* Tennis \* Swimming pools \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 260 Rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Revive your senses, rejuvenate your body and soothe your soul at the Mowana Spa, a wellness sanctuary in the bushveld gardens.



★★★★ **SOUTHERN SUN MONTECASINO**  
SUPERIOR  
Fourways

**THE LOWDOWN:** Inspired by the design of the 15th century Palazzo Corsini villa in Italy's picturesque mountain region of Gianicolo, this hotel is adjacent to the Montecasino Gaming and Entertainment Complex in Fourways.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* 18-Hour room service \* Fitness Centre \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 194 Classic Italian style rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Access to an endless array of shops, restaurants, theatres, casino and specialty stores at the Montecasino Gaming and Entertainment Complex.



# Stay here...

## GAUTENG HOTELS MULDERSDRIFT / MAGALIESBURG



### ★★★ RIVERSTONE LODGE Muldersdrift

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated on the banks of the Crocodile River, within easy access of Pretoria, Johannesburg and Lanseria Airport.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free Wi-Fi in public areas.

**ACCOMMODATION:** A spacious and beautifully appointed superior suite, 12 executive suites, 36 twin rooms and 1 Junior Suite.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Explore the heart of the Cradle of Humankind and enjoy the cuisine with a Portuguese infusion.



### ★★★★ MISTY HILLS COUNTRY HOTEL, CONFERENCE CENTRE & SPA Muldersdrift

**THE LOWDOWN:** Charming stone-built hotel, nestled in the foothills of the Swartkop Mountains on the threshold of the beautiful Kromdraai Valley in Muldersdrift and close to The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa in the Country \* Coffee Shop, Summer House, Boma, Lapa and Carnivore Restaurant \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Gym \* Tranquil lush indigenous gardens with water features \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 195 Stone-built thatched rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** The hotel boasts the world-famous Carnivore Restaurant, where you can feast on up to 10 different types of game meats.



### ★★★★ ASKARI GAME LODGE Magaliesburg

**THE LOWDOWN:** Askari Game Lodge & Spa is situated on the Plumari Africa Game Reserve in the Magaliesberg, just over an hour from Johannesburg or Pretoria and offers guests a memorable Big 5 wildlife experience within a malaria free environment.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Dining Room with outdoor terrace overlooking water hole \* Spa \* Swimming pool \* Museum \* Nature walks \* Elephant experience \* Game drives.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Standard, Double, Executive or Deluxe Chalets \* Honeymoon Suite \* Garden Cottages and Suites \* Family Units.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Game and spa experience close to central Gauteng for relaxing weekends.



### ★★★★★ AFRICAN PRIDE BY MARRIOTT MOUNT GRACE COUNTRY HOUSE & SPA Magaliesburg

**THE LOWDOWN:** A 5 star retreat set in the ruggedly beautiful Magaliesburg Mountains, merely an hour's drive from Johannesburg or Pretoria.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning spa \* Twist Restaurant, Mount Grace Spa Café and the acclaimed Rambling Vine Restaurant \* Swimming pools \* Fly-fishing \* Hiking \* Jogging / fitness trail \* Tennis \* Mountain bike activity centre \* Kids Club \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 109 Tranquil garden, superior, luxury rooms and 12 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Excellent spa and unusual restaurant where the kitchen moves into the restaurant with an unusual buffet style offering.



# Stay here...

## GAUTENG HOTELS VAAL MEANDER



### ★★★ RIVERSIDE SUN Vaal River - Vanderbijlpark

**THE LOWDOWN:** A riverside oasis located on the banks of the Vaal River, just 45 minutes from central Johannesburg.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Restaurant \* Bar \* The Liquid Lounge Party Boat \* Swimming pool \* Beach style volleyball \* Darts \* Large chess board \* Kids entertainment program (seasonal) \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 169 Well-appointed standard, standard premium, deluxe rooms and river facing suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** 2 Kids under 18 stay and eat breakfast free when sharing with 2 adults.



### ★★★ BON HOTEL RIVIERA ON VAAL Vaal River - Vereeniging

**THE LOWDOWN:** The charming converted farmhouse from the 1800s is situated on a bend of the scenic Vaal River and a 45 minute drive from Johannesburg.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Zorgvliet Spa \* Matthews and Matthews Terrace Restaurants \* Petit Verdot Riverboat floating restaurant \* Bar \* 18-Hole golf at the Country Club, adjacent to the hotel \* Kids Club \* Boat cruises \* Gym \* Picnic spots \* Wake-boarding \* Water skiing \* Jet-boarding \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 91 Standard, family rooms, executive and garden suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Pamper & play packages available at the Zorgvliet Spa. Play a round of golf at the Country Club or cruise along the Vaal River on one of the boat cruises.



### ★★★★ VAALNEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL Vaal Marina - Vereeniging/Midvaal area

**THE LOWDOWN:** A small, intimate and romantic hotel located in a picturesque setting at the Vaal Dam.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* No children under 12 allowed \* Swimming pool \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Luxury standard rooms and a Presidential Suite.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Located close to loads of outdoor activities such as Vaal Dam cruises, hiking trails, mountain bike trails, quad biking and river rafting.







# Bill Harrop's "Original" Balloon Safaris

*Do it in style*

Quaff champagne as you enjoy what some describe as the closest thing to heaven known to man – the magical “experience” of lazily drifting with the wind in a hot air balloon on a fascinating aerial sightseeing flight over the majestic Magaliesbergs, in the World Heritage Cradle of Humankind, on South Africa’s largest and most experienced balloon air service.



## A UNIQUE SPA *Experience* UNDER AFRICAN SKIES

**Responsible Tourism**  
**Authentic African**  
**Entertainment Experience**

**Wellness & Relaxation Destination**

### **African Full Day Spa Experience - R1599** per person

Arrive to a Traditional African Ambiance.  
Change into Luxury Gowns and Slippers before your light breakfast.  
Your day consists of Six Traditional African Healing therapies and Jacuzzi/ Mineral Pool & Relaxation time.  
Lunch, followed by a selection of indulgent desserts will be served between treatments.  
Guests enjoy a Complimentary Bar Service.  
Finally, depart after enjoying our Signature Amarula and Chocolates.

### **Magical Night Spa Experience - R1250** per person

Arrive to a Traditional African Ambiance.  
Enjoy cocktails and snacks on arrival before changing into Luxury Gowns and Slippers.  
Your Journey of Relaxation has Three Traditional Healing Therapies.  
Scrumptious Dinner, followed by a selection of indulgent desserts will be served between treatments.  
Guests enjoy a Complimentary Bar Service.  
Finally, depart after enjoying our signature Amarula and Chocolates.

Both packages include  
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Coast Kids Spa · Pivot · The Cullinan · Montecasino · High Tea Room Sibaya ·  
High Tea Room Winelands

*Mangwanani*  
African Spa

# North West Province

## work or play...

The Heritage destination of South Africa features superb malaria-free game parks, among them the Pilanesberg Game Reserve and the Madikwe Game Reserve. Don't forget the world-famous Sun City gaming and entertainment resort and the tourism hotspot of Hartbeespoort Dam with its hive of outdoor activities.



#iloveNW

## Do this...

### HARTIES CABLEWAY (HARTBESPOORT DAM)

Take in the panoramic views of the beautiful Magaliesberg, Hartbeespoort Dam and surrounding areas. There's lots to do at the base station and the summit with walkways, the KidZone, restaurants, bomas and a bar. This is an ideal family day trip you would want to repeat.





## WorldO<sup>®</sup> recommends...

For a romantic stay with your partner, a wild weekend with friends or a holiday with the whole family, Sun City Resort has it all!

### FULL DAY - SUN CITY & THE PILANESBERG NATIONAL PARK

Start the day on a closed vehicle game drive with a professional guide into Big Five country, the Pilanesberg National Park, and afterwards visit Sun City, one of South Africa's most popular theme resorts with its casino and the magnificent Valley of the Waves.

### HOT AIR BALLOON SAFARI OVER THE PILANESBERG NATIONAL PARK

View the Pilanesberg National Park from a hot air balloon and appreciate the magnificence of the Pilanesberg Alkaline Ring Complex. See herds of antelope, buffalo and elephant from a different perspective and with a bit of luck, you will spot the Big 5. End the safari with a breakfast and sparkling wine.

### SEGWAY TOURS (SUN CITY)

Explore the length and breadth of the playground of Sun City on a fun-filled Segway tour. See the Gary Player Country Club golf course, experience local wildlife or enjoy the magnificent Pilanesberg Mountains from a unique vantage point as you ride one of these futuristic machines.

### VALLEY OF THE WAVES (SUN CITY)

Sun City's legendary water park hub appeals to all ages. Enjoy a full day of exciting activities as you have fun in the Roaring Lagoon or the Lazy River and for a pure heart stopping, adrenalin pumping ride, go down the Temple of Courage, the Tarantula, the Scorpion and the two tube rides – the Viper and the Mamba.



# Stay here...

## NORTH WEST PROVINCE HOTELS HARTBESPOORT DAM / RUSTENBURG



### ★★★★ SEASONS GOLF, LEISURE AND SPA Hartbeespoort Dam

**THE LOWDOWN:** A leisure resort on the northern slopes of the Magaliesberg Mountains and a 45 minutes drive from Sandton and Pretoria.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Award-winning spa \* Tanglewood Terrace Restaurant / Coffee shop \* Boma area \* Bushveld 18-hole golf course \* Swimming pools \* Hiking, jogging and mountain biking trails \* Bird watching hide \* Putt-putt \* Supersize chess game board \* Kids playground \* Convenience store \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Luxury lodge rooms, luxury lodge self-catering units and superior, premium self-catering villas.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Enjoy a spa treatment with a friend or your loved one in one of the 3 private double treatment pods suspended over the eco dam.



### ★★★ PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT RUSTENBURG HUNTERS REST Rustenburg

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located between the Magaliesberg Mountains, 8.5km from the Rustenburg CBD with the Pilanesberg National Park and Sun City less than an hour away.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Bike rentals and trails \* Hiking \* Miniature golf \* Tennis \* Fitness Centre \* Volleyball \* Kids playground & tractor rides \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 73 Stylish standard, luxury, family rooms and 25 suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Experience a nature drive in the adjacent Kgaswane Nature Reserve to a viewing deck for spectacular views of the mountain range and the Olifantsnek dam that were once home to roaming elephant herds.



### ★★★★ KEDAR HERITAGE LODGE, CONFERENCE CENTRE & SPA Rustenburg

**THE LOWDOWN:** Nestled on the historic President Paul Kruger Farm in a tranquil country setting at the foothills of the historic Rustenburg Kloof and just 21km from Sun City.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Armoury Restaurant \* Bar \* Renowned Paul Kruger Country House Museum \* Game drives \* A wide variety of game \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 66 African-themed stone, thatched rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Go on a game drive to the unique hippo enclosure which houses 'Matilda', a specimen of the endangered Pygmy Hippo species.

# Stay here...

## NORTH WEST PROVINCE HOTELS SUN CITY



### CABANAS Sun City

**THE LOWDOWN:** This newly refurbished hotel is situated at the Sun City Waterworld Lake.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Unlimited free access to Valley of Waves \* Palm Terrace Restaurant for breakfasts \* Cabanas Pool Deck in a vibrant island setting \* Swimming pool and kiddies pool \* Lakeside beach at Waterworld to jetski, water ski, parasail or to do a sunset cruise \* The Sun City Casino is a 5-minute walk away at the neighbouring Soho Hotel \* Free resort shuttle to all Sun City facilities and Sun Central entertainment centre \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 24 Standard lake-facing rooms, 120 standard twin rooms, 32 family lake-facing rooms, 201 family standard rooms and 3 accessible rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Take a stroll down to Lakeside beach at Waterworld to jetski, water ski, parasail or to do a sunset cruise.



### CASCADES Sun City

**THE LOWDOWN:** An oasis of tranquillity with waterfalls and calming pools in the midst of the Sun City Resort and in close proximity to all the activities Sun City has to offer.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Unlimited free access to Valley of Waves \* Peninsula Restaurant \* Bar \* Heated swimming pool \* 24-Hours room service \* Tennis \* Business Centre \* Conference and meeting facilities within Sun City Resort \* Free resort shuttle to all Sun City facilities and Sun Central entertainment centre \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 97 Standard rooms, 39 Superior luxury rooms, 15 Luxury balconied rooms, 78 Family rooms, 6 Luxury suites, 1 Presidential suite, 2 Superior suites, 1 Garden suite and 2 Paraplegic rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Explore the pathways that crisscross the scenic gardens, and enjoy the cheerful sounds from the bird aviary.



### SOHO HOTEL & CASINO Sun City

**THE LOWDOWN:** Often referred to as the Main Hotel, Soho Hotel & Casino is located right at the heart of Sun City.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Unlimited free access to Valley of Waves \* A la carte breakfast \* Cocktail and pool bars \* Casino \* Located on the edge of the world-famous Gary Player Golf Course \* Swimming pool \* Conference and meeting facilities within Sun City Resort \* Free resort shuttle to all Sun City facilities and Sun Central entertainment centre \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 6 Luxury suites, 2 Presidential suites, 14 Ground floor luxury rooms, 20 Superior luxury rooms, 36 Ground floor superior luxury family rooms, 53 Superior luxury family rooms, 85 Luxury family rooms, 120 Luxury twin rooms and 4 Paraplegic suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Experience nightlife at its best at the hottest hangouts in Sun City – 'Vibes' and 'Encore'.



### THE PALACE OF THE LOST CITY Sun City

**THE LOWDOWN:** A crown jewel of Sun International's Sunlux Collection, The Palace of the Lost City stands sentinel over the wild landscapes of the Piliang Nature Reserve at Sun City.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Unlimited free access to Valley of Waves \* Royal Salon for in-room hairstyling, manicures, facials and massages \* Crystal Court, Plume, The Grill Room Restaurants \* The Palace Gazebo for romantic dinners \* The Palace Pool Deck and Tusk Bar & Lounge \* Olympic-size swimming pool (heated in winter) \* Gym \* 24-Hours room service \* 18-Hole desert-style Lost City Golf Course \* Conference and meeting facilities within Sun City Resort \* Free resort shuttle to all Sun City facilities and Sun Central entertainment centre \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 335 Exquisitely decorated rooms and suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Marvel at the spectacle of a mythical African palace in a forest with exceptional sport and entertainment opportunities.



Stay here...

## NORTH WEST PROVINCE LODGES PILANESBERG NATIONAL PARK



★★★★ **BAKUBUNG BUSH LODGE**  
Pilanesberg National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** Concealed within the rich expanses of the malaria-free, Big 5 Pilanesberg National Park, offering you everything you need to get in touch with the bush and a 5 minutes drive to Sun City.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Kids playground \* Volleyball \* Internet lounge \* Tennis \* Game drives \* Guided bush walks \* Wildlife Information Centre \* Table tennis & darts \* Board games \* Action cricket \* Swimming pool \* Kids Junior Rangers program \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 100 Spacious studio and standard rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** On Wednesday and Saturday nights you have an option to book a bush braai at the Boma in the park, an incredibly warm and rustic atmosphere in the heart of the park.



★★★★ **KWA MARITANE BUSH LODGE**  
Pilanesberg National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** Located within the malaria-free, Big 5 Pilanesberg National Park along the slope of an ancient volcano, offering breathtaking views and a mere 10 minutes drive to Sun City.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* In-room dining \* Boma \* Bar \* Game drives \* Guided bush walks \* Wildlife Information Centre \* Live webcam feed of the watering hole \* Swimming pools with baby pool & slide \* Putt-putt \* Tennis \* Table tennis \* Pool table \* Outdoor play area \* Trampolines \* Gym \* Rock climbing \* Kids Junior Rangers program \* Conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 90 Studio Twin and Studio Family Rooms.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Relax in the game viewing hide, connected to the lodge by a 150m tunnel, and enjoy a front row seat as the animals drink at the waterhole.



★★★★★ **IVORY TREE GAME LODGE**  
Pilanesberg National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** The crater of a long extinct volcano is the setting of this lodge in the malaria-free, Big 5 Pilanesberg Game Reserve.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Spa \* Restaurant \* Segways \* Archery \* Airgun \* Interactive drumming sessions \* Game drives \* Swimming pool \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Standard rooms, Luxury and Executive suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Learn the ancient art of drumming, where you will feel the vibrations from top to toe.



★★★★★ **SHEPHERD'S TREE GAME LODGE**  
Pilanesberg National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** This lodge, with exquisite views of the distant bushveld, lies in an exclusive use zone in the south-western portion of the malaria-free, Big 5 Pilanesberg Game Reserve.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Health & beauty spa \* Restaurant \* Game drives \* Live music around the campfire \* Quad biking \* Archery \* Swimming pool \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Standard rooms, Executive suites and a Private Villa.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Walking safaris with the experienced game rangers offer a unique wilderness experience and intimate encounters with Africa's animals.

# Stay here...

## NORTH WEST PROVINCE LODGES PILANESBERG / MADIKWE GAME RESERVE



### ★★★★★ TSHUKUDU BUSH LODGE Pilanesberg National Park

**THE LOWDOWN:** This well-known, romantic lodge is nestled against the side of a hill surrounded by the mountains of the malaria-free, Big 5 Pilanesberg Game Reserve, overlooking a waterhole and savannah plain.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* In-room private spa treatments \* Restaurant \* Bar \* Game drives \* No children under 12 allowed \* Not suitable for the physically impaired due to 132 steps up to the lodge \* Small library \* Plunge pool \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Check-in and transfers from Bakubung Bush Lodge \* Free on-site parking at Bakubung Bush Lodge.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 6 Luxury Chalets and 4 Luxury Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Unwind with a glass of champagne in the romantic sunken bath in your suite, overlooking the plains.



### ★★★ MADIKWE RIVER LODGE Madikwe Game Reserve

**THE LOWDOWN:** Situated on the banks of the Groot Marico River in the heart of the Big 5, malaria-free, Madikwe Game Reserve.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* Dining room \* Boma \* Bar \* Swimming pool \* Game drives \* Game and bush walks \* Bird safaris \* Star gazing \* Kids game drives \* Small conference and meeting facilities \* Free on-site parking.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 16 Comfortable and secluded split-level thatched chalets.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Each chalet has a private wooden deck overlooking the river and forest.



### ★★★★★ TUNINGI SAFARI LODGE Madikwe Game Reserve

**THE LOWDOWN:** A private and exclusive lodge situated in the world renowned Big 5, malaria-free, Madikwe Game Reserve.

**AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES:** \* In-room massage treatments \* Dining room \* Indoor and outdoor lounges \* Boma and viewing deck next to the water hole \* Bar \* Rim flow swimming pool overlooking the water hole \* Game drives \* Bush walks \* Photographic safaris \* Library \* Satellite TV (Sport channels only) \* Kids activities \* Free on-site parking \* Free Wi-Fi in Main Lodge area.


**ACCOMMODATION:** 4 Luxurious Suites and 2 Exclusive Family Suites.

**WHY THOMPSONS LOVES THIS HOTEL:** Little Tuningi, a private camp, with its own private game vehicle and ranger, is set away from the Main Lodge and offers an exclusive, luxurious experience, ideal for families or small groups.



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