



Cape Winelands, South Africa



Waterfords Vineyard

More than a century later when Captain Phillip called in on his way to settle his convicts in Sydney, the wine industry was well established. The beautiful Cape Dutch architectural style can be seen in the towns and villages in the wine-growing areas of Stellenbosch, Paarl and Franschhoek, named for the French Huguenots who'd fled persecution and founded the South African wine-growing industry.

There are several 'must do's' when in Cape Town. The historic Waterfront, which harks back to the days when the British were in charge, has been developed in the past 15 years into the country's top tourist attraction. There are dozens of shops and restaurants and wonderful views back across the city to Table Mountain.

It's here where you take an Australian-built catamaran out to Robben Island where former South African President Nelson Mandela was incarcerated for 19 of his 27 year prison sentence. It's well worth the effort and you may well find your guide around the prison was himself detained in this place that was South Africa's 'Alcatraz' on and off for three centuries.

The National Botanic Gardens (Kirstenbosch) in Newlands, Cape Town, is in a stunning location on the southern flank of Table Mountain. If you're energetic you can climb up Skeleton Gorge from here to the top of the mountain and then take the cable car back down to the city.

Hire a car and head out along the east coast. There are RCI properties all along the way and two

CHECKLIST OF COMMON SOUTH AFRICAN EXPRESSIONS

Howzit – South African for G'day.

Braai – a barbecue, an activity in which South African males believe they are world leaders.

Just now – in a little while.

Graze – to eat.

Robot – traffic lights.

Shame – a catch-all term that covers everything from

stubbing your toe to news of your mother-in-law's demise. The way it's pronounced that determines the severity of the situation.

Lekker – Afrikaans expression to cover anything that is really good.

Yebo – African greeting.

Kwaito – Southern African hip hop music.



Stunning South African vista



Cape Town waterfront

hours from Cape Town you'll find the coastal town of Hermanus with its sweeping beaches and flanked by a magnificent mountain range. It's been the holiday town of Capetonians for generations.

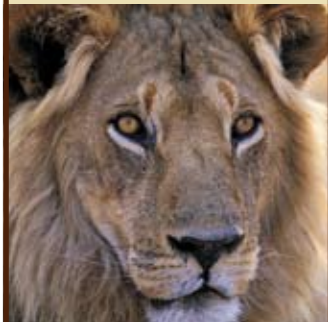
The Garden Route, especially between Mossel Bay and Port Elizabeth is also worth spending some time exploring. Knysna has mighty forests and a picturesque lagoon. Plettenberg Bay has the famous Beacon Island Hotel, which was one of the first significant timeshare properties in the country. It's location on a former whaling station is sensational and Plett, as it is locally known, is the South African equivalent of Noosa – and then some!

Do your homework well when deciding on a your safari expedition as there are some exceptionally expensive options around. You certainly won't go wrong with an RCI property close to the Kruger National Park where your chances of seeing all the wildlife you've yearned to experience is richly fulfilled.



Chief's Camp lounge

GETTING THERE



The flight time to South Africa from Sydney with a non-stop Qantas service is around 13.5 hours. South African Airways has a 9-hour flight to Perth.

RESORTS IN REGION:
RCI has over 195 resorts in the region

BEST EXCHANGE AVAILABILITY:
February – November

EXTRA VACATIONS FROM:
AU\$1039 – for 7 nights
NZ\$1119

FLIGHTS FROM:
AU\$1219* per person
NZ\$2399* per person

TRAVEL
AU 1300 301 044
NZ 0800 301 044
email travel@rciap.com

RCI MEMBER SERVICES
AU 1300 368 800
NZ 0800 368 800

* Travel restrictions and conditions apply, taxes not included. Please call for full details.

10 MUST SEE

1. Big Five – lion, elephant, rhino, leopard, Cape Buffalo.
2. The Apartheid Museum, Johannesburg.
3. Shakaland Zulu Culture Centre in Eshowe, KwaZulu Natal.
4. The Drakensberg Mountains, Kwazulu Natal.
5. Table Mountain in Cape Town on a clear day.
6. Drinks at Camps Bay as the sun sets over the Atlantic, Cape Town.
7. The Chapmans Peak mountain drive near Cape Town.
8. Cango Caves near Oudtshoorn in Western Cape Province.
9. Pretoria in November when the jacarandas blossom.
10. Cape Minstrel and African jazz.