

# The leading lady on everyone's bucket list: South Africa has something for every kind of traveller



Want to discover what bucket lists are made of? South Africa will give you a masterclass.

Whether your heart beats for beaches, wildlife, foodie exploits, or fascinating histories, our Rainbow Nation will serve you the perfect adventure.

South Africa stretches between two oceans and encompasses deserts, tropical forests, and mountain ranges. We offer a smorgasbord of hip cities and charming towns. Need a guide? Keep reading for destinations to match your heart's desires.

## 1. The beach babe

Trendy, tropical, and even penguin-populated, our beaches are the cream of the crop – in fact, 54 have blue-flag status. On the west coast, you have Cape Town's **Camps Bay**, where celebs like to hang out, **Boulders Beach**, which boasts African penguins, and spots like **Kleinzee Beach**, brimming with wildflowers.

The **Dolphin Coast** on the Indian Ocean boasts laid-back vibes, warm waters, and (you guessed it) dolphins. Sunbathe and surf on **Durban's Golden Mile**, laze around in flip flops

in small beachy towns like **Umhlanga**, or go on an epic road trip, cruising down to the **Elephant Coast**, where you can add a safari into the mix.

## 2. The daredevil

Fancy a one-on-one meeting with gravity? South Africa's got you covered with extreme sports that prove there's more than one way to fly, plunge, or surf. The longest ocean zipline in the world, [Mossel Bay Zipline](#) is waiting to whizz you over the Indian Ocean in the Western Cape, and further along the Garden Route, bungee jumping from [Bloukrans Bridge](#) in Nature's Valley will plunge you into a vertiginous river canyon.

Outside Cape Town, you can swap ocean waves for [sandboarding down the Atlantis Dunes](#). And if you want a gentler adrenalin buzz, the [Graskop Gorge Lift Co.](#) in the Drakensberg will float you down 51 meters into an indigenous forest in a glass elevator.

## 3. The foodie

Foodies, pack a big appetite. Dig into farm-to-fork fare at vineyard eateries like [Babel Restaurant](#) in the Western Cape's Winelands, or learn how to make spicy Cape Malay cuisine with a [cooking class](#) in Cape Town's colourful Bo-Kaap. Satisfy the chocoholics with [Honest Chocolate's](#) artisanal bean-to-bar creations; join them for a decadent chocolate workshop in Woodstock or a treat at their new Kalk Bay café.

Heading to Gauteng, you can discover Joburg's melting pot of flavours with a [Secret Food Tour](#). Fine dining more your style? [Restaurant Klein Jan](#) in the Kalahari desert, run by Michelin-star chef Jan Hendrik, offers a food exploration like no other, starting in a 1920s desert farmhouse and ending in a secret subterranean dining room.

## 4. The history buff

With [LocalPlaces' tours](#), you can visit famous landmarks that tell the story of South Africa's layered past, from gold rushes to Nelson Mandela's legacy. Explore the City of Gold with the [Johannesburg Heritage Foundation](#) as they reveal secret mansions and ghost stories, or see where the world's largest rough diamond was found at the Cullinan Diamond Mine. Going further back in time, you can learn about human origins at the [Cradle of Humankind](#), the site of the world's largest concentration of human fossils and stone tools.

## 5. The stargazer

If star bathing is your new favourite thing (it's definitely one of ours), the **Karoo** desert is your bathing spot. One of the best places in the world for stargazing, its remote location and low light pollution mean you can see constellations in all their twinkly glory. **The Sutherland region** is a particular favourite and the location of the [South African Astronomical Observatory](#).

## 6. The wildlife-lover

Truly a Rainbow Nation of wildlife and breathtaking natural beauty, South Africa is a safari enthusiast's dream. **The Kruger National Park** is famous for its diversity of species, including 147 species of mammals and an astounding 508 species of birds. **Addo Elephant National Park** in the Eastern Cape provides unforgettable elephant viewing and the chance to view the Big Seven (the Big Five plus southern right whales and great white sharks). If you're in the mood for lagoons, the **iSimangaliso Wetland Park** in KwaZulu-Natal is another safari hotspot, boasting bushveld, coral reefs, hippos, and flamingoes.

Let's be honest, we all have more than one kind of traveller within us. That's why South Africa is the ultimate destination – it satisfies them all.