



HITANG TOUR & TRAVELS

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When is the best time to visit South Africa?

The best month to visit South Africa would be the month of May. The region enjoys a warm and dry weather, with a little chilly evenings. This is when the peak summer crowds subside and there are lesser crowds everywhere in the region, you can thus explore the place in peace. September and October also provides decent climate to make your visit to South Africa. These months are also the best months to experience the safari. However, the country is best avoided during the months of June and July when it is cold all throughout the day and night.

How to reach South Africa?

There are 10 international airports in South Africa, so the options are plenty on how to get there. The most frequently flown in and popular airports are the Cape Town International in Cape Town and Tambo International in Johannesburg. The most common route from India would be to take a plan via one of the middle-east countries, preferably Dubai followed by Kuala Lumpur or Singapore.

Do I need a visa for South Africa? How does one get a South Africa visa?

Yes, you do require a visa to visit South Africa and the visa needs to be processed prior to your visit. The visa consulates for South Africa are in Delhi and Mumbai, you will have to complete your processes over there. In order to obtain your visa, you are required to have certain documents in hand such as: passport validation, tickets confirmation, stay confirmation, passport size photo etc. It is advisable to apply for the visa as early as possible as the time taken to process the visa depends. Moreover, the consulate/embassy decides on the sole discretion of your visa. There will also be a fee applicable that needs to be paid in cash.

What is the currency of South Africa and where can I get my money exchanged?



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The currency used in South Africa is the South African Rand and the code is ZAR. The exchange rate of the Rand is 1 USD = 14.46 ZAR = 68.95 INR. It is advisable to exchange your currency to Rand once you get to South Africa as the rates are much better over there than elsewhere. You could either exchange your notes at the banks there or use the ATMs to withdraw money. ATM's charges are much lower than the rest and is thus advisable to use them, however, ensure you do not withdraw multiple times as charges being levied each time will lead to losing out on the best rates eventually.

Which are the major tourist attractions in South Africa?

South Africa is as natural and picturesque as one can imagine. Some of the major tourist attractions in South Africa are:

Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces

Cape town, Western cape

Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, Northern Cape

Stellenbosch, Western Cape

The Drakensberg, KwaZulu-Natal

The Garden Route

iSimangaliso Wetland Park, KwaZulu Natal

Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve, Mpumalanga

Cage dive with Great White Sharks

Robben Island, Western Cape

Durban's Golden Mile, KwaZulu Natal

Johannesburg and Pretoria, Gauteng



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What are the crazy things to do in South Africa?

South Africa is a perfect destination for adventure junkies and nature lovers. Here is a list of crazy things you could try during your visit to South Africa:

Ride an Ostrich – at Highgate Ostrich Show Farm, Cango Ostrich Show Farm, Safari Ostrich show Farm.

Swim with penguins at Boulders Beach near Cape Town

Dive with Great White Sharks – at shark alley in Gansbaai

Big Rush Rope swing at a soccer stadium in Durban

Kayaking through crocodiles and wildlife

Jump off the crystal pools cliff

What is the local food of South Africa? Which are the best places to taste this food?

The South African cuisine mainly involves food around meat. Some of the traditional specialities of this cuisine are Bobotie, biltong and droewors. These authentic dishes are not easily found elsewhere and the best places to try these foods are:

Boesmanland Plaats Kombuis – Langebaan

Karibu – Cape town

GOLD restaurant – Cape town

Lucky bean – Johannesburg

Savoy Cabbage – Cape Town

Marco's African Place – Cape Town

What is the best public transport to commute around South Africa?



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The modes of public transport that you can use to commute around South Africa are:

Buses – cheapest mode of travel

Shared taxi – take security/safety measures if you opt for this.

Private taxi – most expensive mode but convenient.

Minibus

Do I need to have any vaccinations before the trip to South Africa?

Yes, there are certain vaccinations recommended before you make your trip to South Africa. For travellers going for a short period, the recommended vaccines for South Africa are Tetanus and Diphtheria, Hepatitis A and Typhoid. For those going for longer periods, Rabies and Hepatitis B may need to be considered.

What is the local language in South Africa and which are the most commonly used greetings?

Unlike most other countries, South Africa is not limited to just one official language and has about 11 local languages spoken in the region. They are Afrikaans, Zulu, Xhosa, Southern Sotho, Tswana, Northern Sotho, Venda, Tsonga, Swati, Ndebele and South African English. Zulu is the most common among the languages spoken there with 23% of people communicating in this language. Here are some phrases in Zulu that you could use during your trip to South Africa:

Hello - Sawubona

Thank you - Ngiyabonga

What is the price of this? – Iyini intengo yalokhu?

How far is the place? – likude kangakanani le ndawo?

How are you? – Unjani?

Can you help me? – Ungangisiza?



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See you soon – sizobonana maduze

Could I order...? – Ngingayala yini lokhu?

Which are the best shopping places in South Africa and what are they famous for?

South Africa has one of the most developed lifestyle shopping centres offering luxurious and top end retail brands. Here are a few places you should shop at during your visit to South Africa:

V&A Waterfront – boutique stores

Sandton City – international brands and Nelson Mandela square

Gateway theatre of shopping – lots of entertainment along with your general shopping outlets.

Canal walk – leading brands available here.

Cape Quarter – South African inspired art and furniture.

Here are the best tips Hitang Tour and Travels has to offer for your trip to South Africa

With so much to explore and experience in this country of adventure and surprise, here are some tips to keep in mind when you travel to South Africa:

Take the recommended vaccinations before your trip

Do not walk around at night, use a private taxi if you need to get around after the dark sets in.

Do not flash expensive stuff and keep your belongings protected at all times

Buy a SIM as soon as you get to the airport for easy access for the internet, you will need it.

Learn a few phrases from the local language, preferably Zulu, although they speak English in the country.



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Do not plan on venturing out on your own anywhere as you may get cornered by groups of people expecting to take away any valuables.

Which are some famous national parks in South Africa?

South Africa hosts some of the most famous and natural national parks in the world. The most famous national parks there are:

Addo Elephant National Park

Agulhas National Park

Au-grabies Falls National Park

Bontebok National Park

Camdeboo National Park

Garden Route National Park

Golden Gate Highlands

Karoo National park

Kgaladia Transfrontier Park

Kruger National park

Mapungubwe National park

Marakale National Park

Mokala National park

Mountain Zebra

Namaqua National park

Tale Mountain National park

Tankwa Karoo

West coast National Park



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Richtersveld Transfrontier Park

What is special about Kruger National Park?

The Kruger National Park is one of the best national parks worldwide given its diversity and the vast amount of animals it hosts. It is undoubtedly one of the largest reserves of the country. Although it hosts a huge diversity of animals, it is famously known to be the home to the big 5 that is African Elephants, Rhinos, African Lions, Cape Buffalos and African Leopards. They are called the big 5 as the big hunters found them to be the most difficult animals to hunt in the region. The standard ticket fee for foreign visitors is R304 per adult/ per day.

Where can I find some of the best beaches in South Africa? What can I do there?

What is a holiday without beaches? Here are the best beaches in South Africa that you must consider visiting during your trip there:

Clifton, Western Cape.

Umhlanga Rocks, KwaZulu-Natal.

Llandudno, Western Cape.

Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal.

Camps Bay, Western Cape.

Durban North Beach, KwaZulu-Natal.

Cape Vidal, KwaZulu-Natal.

Margate, KwaZulu-Natal.

Which are the best places for shark cage diving in South Africa?

There are various places where you can go shark cage diving in South Africa. You could book your shark cage diving with one of the many tour operators. However, it is important to choose the best of the lot and those are:



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Simons town

Gansbaai

Kleinbaai

Why is Cape Town so famous in South Africa?

Cape town is so popular for being one of the most beautiful cities in the world given the diversity of scenic beauty that it hosts. Cliffs, valleys, beaches, oceans, winelands, forests and many more naturally beautiful and preserved scenery awaits you. The city has managed to strike a great blend with development as well preservation. It has top end hotels to accommodate travellers from all around the world. It also has a world heritage site; Robben Island that is popular attraction among locals as well as tourists. It is also fondly known as the “Mother City” by the locals being the first town built in Africa.

Which are some famous vineyards in South Africa?

A trip to South Africa is incomplete without visiting the beautiful and sweet smelling vineyards of the country. Some of the famous vineyards of South Africa are:

La Motte – Franschhoek

Thelema Mountain Vineyards – Stellenbosch

Fairview Wine and Cheese – Suider Paarl

Hamilton Russell Vineyards – Hermanus

Grande Province Winery – Franschhoek

Bosman Family Vineyards – Wellington

Waterford Wine Estate - Stellenbosch

Which are the best islands to visit in South Africa?



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Complete your adventurous time in South Africa by ending it by relaxing and exploring on the beaches of the islands. Go Island Hopping among the best islands in South Africa with the help of this list:

Sao Tome

Sal

Moheli

Nosy Be

Djerba

Reunion

Lamu Island

Unguja

Zanzibar

Praslin



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