



*Inspiring new ways*



SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY: LISBON  
EMBAIXADA DA AFRICA DO SUL: LISBOA



*Table Mountain, Western Cape*

## **South African Embassy Tourism Newsletter – January 2020**

South Africa has ten UNESCO World Heritage Sites, areas that have been given special international status for their unique qualities. If you are interested in culture and nature or history, then you may well want to plan a visit to at least one of these unique sites: Robben Island, Vredefort Dome, Drakensberg Mountains and the Cradle of Humankind are our suggestions for this edition.

### **ROBBEN ISLAND**

A former leper colony and mental hospital, Robben Island is nowadays famous for having been the prison for anti-apartheid activists, among them former President Mandela. The “struggle university”, as it was known, held captive some of the greatest leaders that conducted South Africa to democracy. The visitors can visit the cell where the world’s most famous prisoner spent 18 of his 27 years in prison.

More information:

[www.robben-island.org.za](http://www.robben-island.org.za)





## MAROPENG

Located 40 minutes away from Johannesburg, the Maropeng Visitor Centre & Sterkfontein Caves are the two prime sites to learn about the appearing of mankind and its evolution, a journey that began 4 billion years ago when the planet started shaping. At the Sterkfontein Caves alone, the remains of more than 500 hominids have been uncovered, lending credence to the theory that the first humanoids lived in Africa.

More information: [www.maropeng.co.za/](http://www.maropeng.co.za/)

## DRAKENSBERG

The KwaZulu-Natal's 200km-long escarpment, with peaks that exceed 3 000m, the Berg – as it's more commonly known – is a biodiverse wonderland of river valleys, mountain streams, rugged cliffs, hiking trails and stunning scenery that attracts thousands of tourists, mainly during the hotter summer months: December to February.

.More information: [www.drakensberg.org.za/](http://www.drakensberg.org.za/)



## VREDEFORT DOME

The meteorite collision that formed the Vredefort Dome happened more than two-million years back. At a speed of 20km per second, the asteroid penetrated 17km deep into the Earth and left an impact crater of roughly 300 km. The remaining structure, the "Vredefort Dome", has 70 km.

More information: [www.vredefortdome.org/](http://www.vredefortdome.org/)

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS: JANUARY 2020



### KIRSTENBOSCH SUMMER SUNSET CONCERTS

**When:** Until April 2020

**Where:** Cape Town

**More information:**

[www.facebook.com/KirstenboschSummerSunsetConcerts/](http://www.facebook.com/KirstenboschSummerSunsetConcerts/)

The Kirstenbosch Summer Sunset Concerts run annually from the end of November until the end of April. Every Sunday, families and groups of friends flock to the gardens in Newlands to watch their favourite bands play.



### JIMF 2019

**When:** 25 January- 02 February 2019

**Where:** Johannesburg

**More information:** [www.join-mozart-festival.org](http://www.join-mozart-festival.org)

A Beethoven anniversary year, JIMF will be presenting ten days of amazing concerts and cultural events all under the theme "Alle Menschen Werden Bruder".



### AQUELLE OCEAN RACE SERIES

**When:** up to March 2020

**Where:** Nelson Mandela Bay, Eastern Cape

**More information:** <https://www.zsports.co.za/ors>

Africa's largest family lifestyle beach event, includes 5 fun, family sports events on alternate Sunday mornings throughout Summer.



### MORE EVENTS

- ❖ Origin Electronic Music Festival (31 January- 2 February 2020)  
[www.originfestival.com](http://www.originfestival.com)
- ❖ Shark Cage Diving (January 2020 )  
<https://www.sharkcagedivingkzn.com/>

**South African Embassy Tourism Newsletter**

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**South African Tourism:** [www.southafrica.net](http://www.southafrica.net)



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