Johannesburg Travel Guide

Johannesburg: The City of Gold

South Africa · Generated October 1, 2026 · mycitytravelguide.com/south-africa/johannesburg/

Things to do in Johannesburg

Landmarks & Monuments

Iconic structures that tell the story of Johannesburg's rich history and cultural heritage



Must See Book Ahead

Apartheid Museum

3-4 hours Book Ahead

Map

A powerful and immersive exhibition documenting South Africa's **apartheid era** through photographs, videos, and personal testimonies. The museum chronologically traces the rise, implementation, and fall of apartheid, offering profound insights into this dark period. Visitors experience the emotional and educational impact of segregation's legacy, making it one of the most visited attractions in Johannesburg.



Must See

Constitution Hill

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A historic site housing South Africa's **Constitutional Court** built on the grounds of a former prison complex. The site symbolizes the transition from apartheid to democracy. Visitors can explore the prison buildings, exhibitions about South African justice, and the courtroom where landmark constitutional decisions are made. The views over Johannesburg are spectacular.



Top Pick

Market Theatre Complex

1-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Located in the vibrant Newtown Cultural Precinct, the **Market Theatre** is a renowned performing arts venue The Market Theatre was founded in 1976 in a repurposed Newtown fruit and vegetable market. The historic 1913 market building now houses Museum Africa. It hosts world-class theatrical productions, concerts, and cultural events. The complex also features museums, galleries, and restaurants, making it a hub for Johannesburg's creative community.

Tips for Landmarks & Monuments

- Book tickets online for major museums to skip queues
- Allow extra time for security checks at popular sites
- Visit Constitution Hill early in the day for fewer crowds
- Photography may be restricted in some museum sections

Museums & Galleries

World-class institutions showcasing art, natural history, and cultural heritage



Must See Book Ahead

Maropeng Visitor Centre

2-3 hours Book Ahead

Map

An architectural marvel built into the hillside near Sterkfontein Caves, **Maropeng** (meaning 'the arrival' in Sesotho) offers an interactive journey through human evolution and South Africa's paleontological significance. The world-class exhibitions explore the origins of humankind with cutting-edge displays and multimedia experiences.



Must See Book Ahead

Soweto Museum & Mandela House

1.5 hours Book Ahead

Map

Located in Soweto township, this museum preserves the former residence of **Nelson Mandela** where he lived for 30 years. The modest house provides intimate insights into his family life and the context of anti-apartheid struggle. The museum offers guided tours explaining the township's pivotal role in the freedom struggle.



Top Pick

Johannesburg Art Gallery

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A prestigious art institution featuring an extensive collection of **South African and international artwork** spanning from the 17th century to contemporary pieces. The gallery showcases paintings, sculptures, photographs, and installations. The gallery is in Joubert Park in the inner city. In 2026, its collection is being temporarily relocated to Newtown during upgrades.

Tips for Museums & Galleries

- Many galleries have free or pay-what-you-wish hours
- Book Soweto tours through reputable operators for safety
- Combine museum visits with nearby attractions to maximize time
- Ask about guided tours for deeper contextual understanding

Parks & Gardens

Green spaces offering respite, natural beauty, and outdoor recreation



Top Pick

Johannesburg Botanical Gardens

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

The City describes the combined area of Emmarentia Dam and the gardens as over 81 hectares (about 200 acres), these stunning gardens feature **diverse plant collections** including indigenous trees, flowering plants, and cultivated gardens. The garden is divided into themed areas: Rose Garden, Japanese Garden, Herb Garden, and Waterfall Ravine. It's perfect for peaceful walks, photography, and picnics.

Top Pick

Johannesburg Zoo

3-4 hours No Booking Needed

Map

One of Africa's premier zoos featuring **over 2,200 animals** from 320 species. The zoo combines entertainment with conservation education, showcasing African wildlife including lions, elephants, giraffes, and penguins. Interactive feeding experiences and guided tours enhance visitor engagement with the animals.



Notable

Melville Koppies

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A hidden nature reserve with scenic hiking trails through natural grassland and rocky outcrops. The **koppies** (hills) offer panoramic views of Johannesburg and surrounding areas. Indigenous plant species and archaeological sites, including stone ruins, can be explored along well-marked trails suitable for all fitness levels.

Tips for Parks & Gardens

- Bring sun protection and water for outdoor activities
- Visit gardens early morning for cooler temperatures
- Check zoo feeding times to enhance your visit
- Melville Koppies hikes are best done in daylight hours

Religious Sites

Places of worship reflecting South Africa's diverse spiritual heritage



Notable

St. Mary the Virgin Cathedral

30 minutes No Booking Needed

Map

An impressive **Gothic Revival cathedral** in downtown Johannesburg featuring stunning stained glass windows and intricate architectural details. Built in 1905, it remains an active Anglican place of worship and a notable historical landmark. Visitors can admire the beautiful interior and peaceful atmosphere.



Notable

Johannesburg Central Mosque

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed

Map

A significant **Islamic place of worship** featuring beautiful Islamic architecture with a prominent dome and minaret. The mosque welcomes visitors to learn about Islamic faith and culture. Visits outside prayer times are usually possible with respectful dress and prior notice.

Tips for Religious Sites

- Respect prayer times when visiting religious sites
- Dress modestly (covered shoulders and knees)
- Remove shoes when entering mosques
- Ask permission before taking photographs

Neighborhoods & Districts

Diverse areas with distinct character, culture, and attractions



Must See Book Ahead

Soweto Township

4-6 hours Book Ahead

Map

Soweto (South Western Townships) is historically significant as the epicenter of anti-apartheid resistance. Today, it's a vibrant community with authentic restaurants, craft markets, and cultural experiences. Visitor attractions include Mandela House, Hector Pieterson Memorial, and street art. Guided township tours provide educational and cultural immersion.



Top Pick

Maboneng Precinct

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A revitalized urban neighborhood in downtown Johannesburg featuring **art galleries, street art, boutique shops, and trendy restaurants**. The precinct exemplifies urban regeneration with colorful murals, creative spaces, and a vibrant cultural scene. Walking tours showcase local artists and architectural transformations.



Top Pick

Melville

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

An eclectic bohemian neighborhood known for its **vibrant nightlife, independent bookstores, art galleries, and diverse dining scene**. The main street is lined with vintage shops, craft breweries, and artistic venues. It's popular with locals for its creative atmosphere and cultural events.

Tips for Neighborhoods & Districts

- Book guided Soweto tours with established operators
- Visit Maboneng during daylight hours and stay aware
- Melville is best explored on foot with a local guide
- Respect local communities and ask before photographing people

Tours & Activities

Guided experiences and interactive activities for deeper exploration



Must See Book Ahead

Soweto Township Tours

4-6 hours Book Ahead

Comprehensive guided tours of Soweto led by **knowledgeable local guides** who share personal stories of the struggle against apartheid. Tours typically include Mandela House, Hector Pieterson Memorial, Vilakazi Street, and local restaurants. Options range from cultural immersion to historical education focused experiences.



Must See Book Ahead

Cradle of Humankind Tours

8 hours Book Ahead

Full-day excursions to the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** featuring Sterkfontein Caves and Maropeng Visitor Centre. These guided tours explore significant paleontological sites where major human ancestor fossils have been discovered. Expert guides explain the evolutionary significance and natural formations.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Johannesburg Street Art Tours

2-3 hours Book Ahead

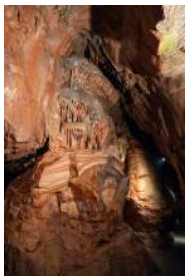
Walking tours exploring Johannesburg's vibrant **street art and graffiti culture** in neighborhoods like Maboneng, Braamfontein, and Arts on Main. Local artists and guides explain the creative movements, symbolism, and urban regeneration stories behind the murals and installations.

Tips for Tours & Activities

- Book tours through reputable operators with good reviews
- Hire private guides for deeper cultural insights
- Ask questions freely during tours to enhance learning
- Support local guides financially if exceptional service is provided

Day Trips & Excursions

Nearby destinations easily accessible from Johannesburg



Must See Book Ahead

Sterkfontein Caves

4-5 hours Book Ahead

Map

The caves are approximately 40 km northwest of Johannesburg. The caves feature stunning stalactites, stalagmites, and an underground lake. Guided cave tours are thrilling, and the on-site Maropeng Visitor Centre provides comprehensive visitor experiences about human evolution.



Top Pick

Pretoria (Union Buildings)

Full day No Booking Needed

Map

South Africa's administrative capital, just 60km north, showcases the **magnificent Union Buildings** with sweeping gardens offering city views. The Pretoria National Museum, historic squares, and monuments celebrate South African heritage. Day trips often combine Pretoria with nearby attractions.



Top Pick

Wonder Cave

3-4 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Located in Kromdraai, this **large stalactite cave** is easily visited as a day trip (40km from Johannesburg). The cave descends dramatically with wooden stairs and walkways. The scenic surroundings and cave depth create unforgettable experiences, particularly for photography enthusiasts.

Tips for Day Trips & Excursions

- Book day tour packages that include transportation
- Start early to maximize daylight hours
- Bring comfortable walking shoes for cave exploration
- Pack sunscreen and water for outdoor activities

Fountains & Public Art

Artistic installations and public sculptures throughout the city



Top Pick

Arts on Main

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Arts on Main is in the Maboneng Precinct, east of the CBD. The building showcases contemporary South African art with rotating exhibitions and permanent installations. The rooftop provides city views and hosts events, markets, and performances.



Top Pick

Newtown Mural Route

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

An extensive collection of **colorful murals and street art** throughout the Newtown precinct. The murals depict South African history, culture, and contemporary themes. Self-guided walking tours or organized street art tours help visitors navigate the artistic treasures of this cultural hub.



Top Pick

Orlando Towers

1-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Two iconic **48-meter tall cooling towers from a former power station** transformed into a vibrant cultural and tourist destination. The towers feature murals, a museum exhibit about their history, and an adrenaline-pumping slide between the towers. The structure symbolizes Johannesburg's urban regeneration.

Tips for Fountains & Public Art

- Photography at street art locations is encouraged
- Respect private property and ask before photographing
- Visit arts venues during official hours for full experiences
- Support local artists by purchasing artwork when possible

Food & Dining

Real, highly-rated Restaurants in Johannesburg, sourced from Google Places (rating above 4★).

The Grillhouse Rosebank★★★★★ 4.6 (4,084)

1-2 hours

Map

The Grillhouse Rosebank is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.6★ from 4084 reviews. Located at 1, The Firs, Hyatt Centre, Oxford Road & Biermann Avenue, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 9:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 9:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 9:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 8:00 PM

Signature Restaurant★★★★★ 4.6 (1,912)

1-2 hours

Map

Signature Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.6★ from 1912 reviews. Located at Shop U13, Rivonia Rd, Sandton, johannesburg, 2057, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM

Trumps Grillhouse and Butchery★★★★★ 4.6 (4,440)

1-2 hours

Map

Trumps Grillhouse and Butchery is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.6★ from 4440 reviews. Located at Nelson Mandela Square, 5th St &, Rivonia Rd, Sandown, Sandton, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM

Marble Restaurant★★★★★ 4.5 (5,405)

1-2 hours

Map

Marble Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.5★ from 5405 reviews. Located at Trumpet on Keyes Corner 19 Keyes and, Jellicoe Ave, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM

Bellagio★★★★★ 4.5 (896)

1-2 hours

Map

Bellagio is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.5★ from 896 reviews. Located at 257 Oxford Rd, Illovo, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 4:00 PM

Qunu Restaurant★★★★★ 4.5 (153)

1-2 hours

Map

Qunu Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.5★ from 153 reviews. Located at 36 Saxon Rd, Sandhurst, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM

Olives and Plates Wits Club and Conference★★★★★ 4.5 (2,708)

1-2 hours

Map

Olives and Plates Wits Club and Conference is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.5★ from 2708 reviews. Located at 7 Yale Rd, Parktown, Johannesburg, 2193, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Tuesday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Wednesday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Thursday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Friday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Saturday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- Sunday: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Mr.G. Melrose Arch★★★★★ 4.5 (3,901)

1-2 hours

Map

Mr.G. Melrose Arch is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.5★ from 3901 reviews. Located at 3 The High St, Melrose, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 11:00 AM – 9:30 PM
- Tuesday: 11:00 AM – 9:30 PM
- Wednesday: 11:00 AM – 9:30 PM
- Thursday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 11:00 AM – 9:30 PM

PROUD MARY★★★★☆ 4.4 (2,037)

1-2 hours

Map

PROUD MARY is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.4★ from 2037 reviews. Located at The Bank, 26 Cradock Ave, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM

Mikes Heritage House★★★★☆ 4.4 (6,065)

1-2 hours

Map

Mikes Heritage House is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.4★ from 6065 reviews. Located at 15 St Andrews Rd, Parktown, Johannesburg, 2193, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

The Pot Luck Club Johannesburg★★★★☆ 4.4 (169)

1-2 hours

Map

The Pot Luck Club Johannesburg is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.4★ from 169 reviews. Located at 61 North St, Melrose, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Level Four Restaurant★★★★☆ 4.4 (425)

1-2 hours

Map

Level Four Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.4★ from 425 reviews. Located at 54 Bath Ave, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: 6:30 – 10:30 AM, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:00 – 10:00 PM

Jojo Rooftop Lounge★★★★☆ 4.4 (1,147)

1-2 hours

Map

Jojo Rooftop Lounge is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.4★ from 1147 reviews. Located at Floor 6, 289 Fox St, Maboneng, Johannesburg, 2094, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: Closed
- Thursday: Closed
- Friday: 11:00 AM – 2:00 AM
- Saturday: 11:00 AM – 2:00 AM
- Sunday: 11:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Yeoville Dinner Club★★★★☆ 4.4 (173)

1-2 hours

Map

Yeoville Dinner Club is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.4★ from 173 reviews. Located at 24 Rockey St, Bellevue, Johannesburg, 2198, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Wednesday: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Thursday: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Friday: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Saturday: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Sunday: Closed

Flames★★★★☆ 4.3 (1,414)

1-2 hours

Map

Flames is a highly-rated restaurant in Johannesburg, rated 4.3★ from 1414 reviews. Located at 67 Jan Smuts Ave, Westcliff, Johannesburg, 2132, South Africa.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Tuesday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Wednesday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Thursday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Friday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Saturday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Sunday: 6:30 – 11:00 AM, 12:00 – 9:30 PM

Practical Information

Best Time to Visit

Spring (September-November): Pleasant temperatures (18-24°C), blooming flowers, ideal for outdoor activities and sightseeing without extreme heat.

Autumn (March-May): Mild weather (15-22°C), clear skies, comfortable conditions for walking tours and exploration. This is the most popular season.

Winter (June-August): Cool days (10-18°C) with minimal rainfall, perfect for museums and indoor attractions. Occasional cold nights require layers.

Summer (December-February): Hot and humid (22-28°C) with occasional thunderstorms. Less ideal but fewer tourists. Stay hydrated and seek air-conditioned venues.

Rainfall: October-April experiences occasional rain, particularly in summer. November is the wettest month.

Getting Around

Taxis: Minibus taxis are the primary public transport but intimidating for tourists. Use Uber or Bolt instead.

Uber/Bolt: Reliable, affordable ride-sharing apps work throughout Johannesburg. Recommended for safe, convenient travel.

Busses: Rea Vaya bus rapid transit (BRT) serves major routes with modern buses and reasonable fares.

Car Rental: International driving permits required. Major rental companies at airports offer competitive rates. Navigation apps (Google Maps, Waze) are essential.

Shuttle Services: Hotels offer airport transfers. Tour operators provide transportation for day trips.

Walking: Avoid walking alone at night. Daytime walking in Maboneng, Melville, and Rosebank is generally safe; Soweto requires guided tours.

Airport Transport: O.R. Tambo International Airport is 20km east. Allow 30-60 minutes depending on traffic and destination.

✈ Airport Transfer

OR Tambo International Airport (JNB) to city center:

- **Gautrain:** High-speed rail to Sandton in about 15 minutes, The Gautrain fare from O.R. Tambo to Sandton is listed as R216; check the fare calculator before travel.
- **Airport Shuttle Bus:** Shared shuttle service to Sandton or Rosebank in 30 to 45 minutes depending on traffic, at a price per person to confirm
- **Metered Taxi or Uber:** Door to door ride to central Johannesburg or Sandton in about 30 minutes, at the price shown in the app
- **Private Transfer:** Pre-booked chauffeur car direct to your hotel in 30 to 40 minutes, at a price to confirm when booking

Shopping & Markets

Shopping Centers: Sandton City, Melrose Arch, Westcliff offer upscale shopping with international brands. The Mall of the South provides affordable options.

Street Markets: Braamfontein Organic Market (Saturdays) features local produce, crafts, and food. Arts on Main hosts monthly street markets with art, fashion, and vintage items.

Craft Markets: Rosebank Art & Craft Market (Sundays) showcases South African crafts, jewelry, and artwork. Ideal for souvenirs and supporting local artisans.

Antique Districts: Fourways and Parktown offer antique shops with African artifacts, furniture, and collectibles.

Traditional Crafts: Look for Zulu beadwork, Ndebele textiles, carved wooden items, and traditional pottery. Bargain politely in township markets.

Local Brands: Support South African designers in boutiques around Maboneng and Melville.

Currency Exchange: Use ATMs for best rates. Currency exchange bureaus in malls charge higher fees.

Festivals & Events

The named Standard Bank Joy of Jazz festival took place in Johannesburg on 25–26 September 2026. A separate March event, Jazz in the Lights, was held at Johannesburg Zoo on 21 March: International jazz performances, workshops, and cultural celebrations at venues throughout the city.

Design Indaba’s annual conference is held in Cape Town; it should not be listed as a Johannesburg event.

Asakhe Afro-Latino Festival (February): Celebrates African and Latin American cultures through music, food, and dance.

Jozi Book Fest (April): Literature festival with author readings, discussions, and book launches.

Soweto Cycle Tour (June): Major cycling event traversing Soweto's neighborhoods with cultural stops.

Carols by Candlelight (December): Popular festive season event with choral performances in public spaces.

New Year's Day Fireworks: Displays at various locations including Sandton and the Johannesburg skyline.

Sample Day Itineraries

Day 1 - Historical & Cultural: Start with Apartheid Museum (book in advance), lunch in Newtown, visit Market Theatre Complex, explore Constitution Hill, dinner in Maboneng with street art.

Day 2 - Soweto Immersion: Book guided Soweto tour including Mandela House, Hector Pieterson Memorial, lunch at local restaurant, explore Vilakazi Street, visit Soweto Museum, experience township culture.

Day 3 - Cradle of Humankind: Full-day tour to Sterkfontein Caves and Maropeng Visitor Centre, underground lake exploration, paleontological exhibitions, scenic drives through UNESCO site.

Day 4 - Art & Nature: Johannesburg Botanical Gardens (morning), Art Gallery (lunch area nearby), afternoon at Arts on Main or Johannesburg Zoo, evening in Melville with gallery hopping.

Day 5 - Local Discovery: Braamfontein walking tour with street art, Organic Market (if Saturday), Arts on Main galleries, Rosebank exploration, sunset at Melville Koppies, final evening in upscale neighborhoods.

Photography & Instagram Locations

Melville Koppies Sunset: Golden hour views of Johannesburg skyline from hilltop viewpoints. Best light: 30 minutes before sunset.

Maboneng Street Art: Colorful murals throughout the precinct, especially along Main and Fox Streets. Mid-morning for best natural light on walls.

Orlando Towers: Iconic twin towers with geometric framing opportunities. Best from ground level or museum level (41 meters).

Johannesburg Botanical Gardens: Japanese Garden and Rose Garden sections with seasonal flowers. Early morning light is magical.

Arts on Main Rooftop: City skyline views from rooftop level. Golden hour is ideal (sunrise or sunset).

Soweto Towers Helicopter: Aerial tours provide dramatic cityscape photography. Book with reputable operators.

Newtown Murals: Dynamic street art perfect for vibrant, colorful images. Avoid harsh midday sun; aim for morning or late afternoon.

Johannesburg Zoo Wildlife: Lion enclosures and big cat exhibits offer powerful wildlife photography opportunities. Early morning when animals are active is best.

Electricity & Power

Voltage: South Africa uses 230 volts AC, 50 hertz frequency.

Plug Types: Three different plug types are used: Type M (3 large round pins), Type D (3 large round pins, different configuration), and Type N (3 round pins). Type M is most common in outlets.

Adapters: Bring international travel adapters compatible with Type M plugs. Dual-voltage adapters are recommended for electronics.

Load-Shedding: South Africa experiences scheduled power cuts (loadshedding). Check schedules from Eskom (South Africa's power utility) for your neighborhood. Hotels and tourist facilities typically have backup power.

Electronics: Most USB charging ports are widely available in hotels and cafes. Power banks are recommended for day trips.

Dual-Voltage Devices: Confirm laptop chargers and phone adapters are dual-voltage (100-240V) before using.

Food & Dining

Must-Try Dishes: Bunny Chow: Hollowed bread loaf filled with curry (South African favorite). **Boerewors:** Spiced sausage served with pap. **Sago & Milk:** Traditional dessert. **Sosaties:** Meat skewers with apricot glaze.

Restaurants: Maboneng and Melville offer diverse cuisines: Ethiopian, Thai, Italian, Fusion. Rosebank features upscale dining. Sandton has fine dining establishments.

Township Food: Soweto restaurants serve authentic South African cuisine. Book township food tours for guided culinary experiences with cultural context.

Markets: Braamfontein Organic Market offers fresh produce, local cheese, and street food. Weekend markets provide diverse international cuisines.

Beverages: South African wines (Stellenbosch region) are world-class. Local craft beers are popular. Rooibos tea is traditional and caffeine-free.

Safety: Eat at established restaurants in well-traveled areas. Avoid street food from uncertain sources. Tap water is safe in Johannesburg.

Tipping: 10-15% tip is standard in restaurants and for services.