

LocalPlaces

Johannesburg & Cape Town

Anchorco (Pty) Ltd trading as LocalPlaces

www.localplaces.co.za <> gerald@localplaces.co.za <> 082 894 5216

Our Quick Guide to Cape Town and surrounds

- *By Gerald Garner.*

A summary of our top recommendations. Of course, some of these can be incorporated into our tours and storytelling experiences. But feel free to often frequent these special spaces and places at your leisure.

To enjoy your visit to Cape Town and the surrounding winelands to the fullest, we recommend at least seven days. If you still want to explore the verdant Garden Route, the spectacular west coast or the small towns of the Klein and Groot Karoo, then you need at least another week. But rest assured, once you have been to the Cape once, you will return. No need to cram it all in to one visit.

The most important advice I can give you, is that Cape Town is surrounded by the sea in almost all sides and this means that the weather can change several times every day. Sea breezes and wind can turn a hot morning into a chili afternoon. One side of the mountain can experience rain while the other side is sunny and dry. Always dress in layers and take something warm along even if it is the perfect morning. And allow flexibility in your schedule. Experiences such as the cable way to the top of Table Mountain or the Robben Island ferry could be cancelled and postponed due to weather. Plan these for early in your trip, so that you can move these to other days if required.

If I only had seven days in Cape Town and if I have not visited it before, here is what I would do:

Day 1

Enjoy an Understanding Cape Town walking tour with LocalPlaces in the morning. Followed by a late lunch at Kloof Street House or Ongetem and a cable car ride to the top of Table Mountain for sunset.

Day 2

Go on a Bristling Bo-Kaap walking tour with LocalPlaces. Followed by a scrumptious lunch at Seven Colours Eatery, and exploring the architectural marvel that is the Zeitz Mocaa art museum. Then amble around the waterfront for shopping and exploration.

Day 3

Visit Robben Island in the morning, then pack a picnic and enjoy the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, walk along the Boomslang – a boardwalk among the tree tops. Marvel at the incredible vegetation and stunning views.

Day 4

Explore the District Six Museum and the Desmond & Leah Tutu Foundation in the morning. Move to Sea Point for lunch at Zest, followed by a long and casual walk along the Sea Point Promenade. Complete the day with sundowners in Moulie Point and late-night drinks at Art of Duplicity in District Six.

Day 5:

Do a Cape Peninsula Overview tour with LocalPlaces or explore greater Cape Town by yourself.

Recommended places to possibly visit:

- Hout Hay Harbour
- Champan's Peak Drive
- Cape Point Vinyards
- Cape Point National Park (Cape of Good Hope and the Cape Point Lighthouse)
- Boulders Beach (penguins) in Simon's Town
- Kalk Bay Harbour (sit down lunch at Live Bait or informal fish & chips at Kalkies).
- Muizenberg
- Groot Constantia (South Africa's first and oldest wine farm, a must see!)

- There is so much to do and see that this could easily be split over two days, especially if you want to combine it with scrumptious breakfasts, lunches and dinners. You could also choose to stay over in Simon's Town, Kalk Bay, Misty Cliffs or Noordhoek.

Day 6:

Enjoy a Scenic Winelands tour with LocalPlaces or explore the Stellenbosch and Franschhoek region by yourself.

Recommended places to possibly visit:

- Stellenbosch
- Themela Wine Estate
- Tokara Wine Estate
- Boschendal (Werf restaurant is great for lunch)
- La Motte Wine Estate
- Haute Cabriere
- Babylonstoren

Day 7:

Enjoy another Winelands Exploration with LocalPlaces, this time focusing more on Somerset West, or discover the area by yourself

Recommended places to possibly visit:

Vergenoegd Low Wine Estate (be there at 9am or 12noon for the farm's famous duck parade)

Dylan Lewis Sculpture Garden

Waterkloof

Vergelegen

Lourensford

Drive out via Gordon's Bay along Clarence drive to appreciate the mountains and views over False Bay before returning to the city.

- *The winelands can keep you busy for many days as the area is simply so picturesque with more to experience than you could imagine. Plenty of amazing places to stay over as well.*
- *Choose the tours you want to book with LocalPlaces.*
- *If you need help with us planning a customized itinerary for you, we can do so for a small fee. We are happy to help you plan for self-drive experiences and recommend things to do and place to visit based on your interests.*
- *This could include arranging accommodation or transfers if required.*

Contact Gerald on WhatsApp +27 82 894 5216 or email gerald@localplaces.co.za to start a conversation on planning your Cape Town experience.

Our recommendations:

These are Gerald's personal recommendations of places to go, it is a work in progress. Expect constant updates.

Top exquisite restaurants

La Calombe (Constantia)
Salsify (Roundhouse, Camps Bay)
Fyn (City)
Harbour House (Kalk Bay)
Pot Luck Club
Zest (Sea Point)

Top high-end, but more casual restaurants

Sea Breeze Fish & Shell (City)
Ongetem (Long Kloof, Gardens)
Gigi Rooftop (Gorgeous George Hotel, City)
Couzins (City)
Live Bait (Kalk Bay)
Kloof Street House (Gardens)
Mantra (Camps Bay)
Codfather (Camps Bay)
Hussar Grill (Camps Bay)

Top coffee shops, breakfast, brunch & lunch spots

Four & Twenty (Chelsea Village, Wynberg)
Paulines Garden (Long Kloof, Gardens)
Ginja Restaurant (Victoria & Alfred Hotel, Waterfront)
Strangers (Green Point)
Egg Head (Gardens)

Top casual bars/eateries to hang out

The Yard (Gardens)
Mixa's (Gardens) (my favourite is the lamb and avo burger)
Kimberley Hotel (for its historic ambience)
The Shed (pizza) both Bree Street and in Observatory

Top high-end/cocktail bars

Art of Duplicity (District Six)
Gigi Rooftop (Gorgeous George Hotel, City)

Top places to eat traditional South African and Pan-African food

Seven Colours Eatery (Battery Park, Waterfront) – South African Xhosa inspired
Addis in Cape (City) – Ethiopian
Faeenza's Kitchen & Tea Garden (Bo-Kaap) – Cape Malay
Eastern Food Bazaar (Asian-inspired South African cuisine)

High-end places to stay

Dorp Hotel (Bo-Kaap)
Cellars Hohenort (Constantia)

Mid-level/affordable places to stay

Curiosity Africa Green Point (Green Point)

Curiosity Africa Kloof Street (Gardens)

Top Art Galleries & Museums

Zeits Mocaa – Museum of Contemporary African Art (Waterfront)

Desmond & Leah Tutu Foundation – exhibition of the Tutu's life work (District Six)

District Six Museum – the story of the Apartheid destruction of this neighbourhood (District Six)

Iziko South African National Gallery (Gardens)

Iziko Slave Lodge (City)

Camissa Museum at the Cape Castle (City)

Most astonishing places to visit in Cape Town and surrounds

Table Mountain Aerial Cable Way

Chapman's Peak Drive

Groot Constantia Wine Farm

Cape Point / Cape of Good Hope

Boulders Beach (penguins)

Kalk Bay village and harbour

Zeitz Moccaa

Battery Park and Canals, V&A Waterfront

Vergenoedg Low Wine Estate

Boschendal Wine Estate

Clifton 4th Beach

Boschendal

Dylan Lewis Sculpture Garden

Top rooftop bars/restaurants

Raddison Red Hotel, Waterfront (Waterfront)

Sun Square Hotel Foreshore (CHECK) (City)

Mountain Club at Cloud 9 Boutique Hotel (Gardens)

Deux Kloof Street (Gardens)

Gigi Rooftop (Gorgeous George Hotel, City)

Getting around

Getting around in Cape Town is not the simplest or easiest thing as the city still suffers from apartheid spatial planning and insufficient/ineffective public transport.

If you do not have a car, you can get around with Uber, MyCiti Bus and the CitySightseeing Red Buses. In the case I recommend that you stay in the City Bowl, with the Waterfront, Gardens (around Kloof Street) and Green Point my recommended areas.

If you do have a car, then you may want to stay further out along the Atlantic Seaboard (Bantry Bay, Clifton or Camps Bay) where the sunset sea views are glorious.

If you do not have a car, I recommend tours of the Cape Peninsula and the Cape Winelands, but between MyCiti Bus, the City Sightseeing Red Buses and Uber you will be able to get to many of these places. There is also the Wine Tram option in Franschhoek with which you can get to several wine estates.

Be in touch with LocalPlaces and let us help you:

- choose where to stay based on your interests and transport requirements
- choose which tours to do
- choose what other activities and places to include in your itinerary.

Contact Gerald on WhatsApp +27 82 894 5216 or email gerald@localplaces.co.za