City Centre 172 City Bowl & Bo-Kaap 172 Waterkant 175 Gardens & Surrounds 175 178 **Atlantic Coast** Green Point & Waterfront 178 Beaches & Suburbs 179 **Southern Suburbs** 181 False Bay & Southern Peninsula 182 Muizenberg & Kalk Bay 182 Simon's Town 182 Noordhoek & Kommetjie 183 **Cape Flats** 183

Sleeping ■

Sleeping

Whether you're in search of a lively hostel, a characterful guesthouse or desire serious pampering, the Mother City has the perfect spot for you. What follows is a selection of the better places we've come across from a very crowded market.

Remember location is everything here. If beaches are your thing, suburbs along the Atlantic or False Bay coasts make better sense than, say, Gardens or City Bowl. If you have transport, then anywhere is OK, but remember to inquire about the parking options when making a booking and check whether there's a charge (anything from R20 to R50 per day for city-centre hotels). If secure parking is available, we've noted how much it costs per day.

Price Ranges

We quote the rack rates here for rooms with private bathrooms, during high season and including VAT of 14%. Hotels are listed in order of the cheapest to most expensive double room. Hostels typically don't include breakfast in their rates, but unless otherwise mentioned, rates elsewhere do include breakfast. A 1% tourism promotion levy is usually added to the bill, but some places, particularly the budget ones, include this in the room rates. Special deals will often be available and rates for longer stays are definitely negotiable.

Reservations

If there's somewhere you particularly want to stay, it's essential to make a reservation as far in advance as you can, especially if you're visiting during school holidays from mid-December to the end of January and at Easter when many places are fully booked several months in advance.

Longer-Term Rentals

In addition to the rental businesses listed below, check the rental ads in the local newspapers (see p217) or inquire at Cape Town Tourism (p219) about what deals may be available on serviced apartments.

ACCOMMODATION SHOP

© 021-439 1234; www.accommodationshop.co.za Offers a vast range of accommodation, from studios to multibedroom apartments and houses all around the city.

CAPE CONCIERGE

© 021-447 5057; www.capeconcierge.co.za
This friendly outfit offers top-notch properties on both a short- and long-term basis.
The website has useful info and it sends out a regular newsletter on local events.

PRICE GUIDE

\$\$\$ over R2000 a room \$\$ R400-2000 a room

R400-2000 a room under R400 a room

VILLAGE & LIFE Map pp248-9

🗃 021-430 4444; www.villageandlife.com;

1 Loader St, Waterkant

This long-established property company has many accommodation options around the Waterkant, as well as out at Camps Bay and Mouille Point.

CITY CENTRE CITY BOWL & BO-KAAP

Increasingly the des res location, but at weekends (particularly Sunday), the City Bowl remains dead as practically all the businesses are shut. The concrete-bound Foreshore continues to sprout hotels and there are a couple of options in the colourful Bo-Kaap.

LONG ST BACKPACKERS

Map pp248-9 Hostel \$

© 021-423 0615; www.longstreetbackpackers.co.za; 209 Long St, City Bowl; dm/s/d R80/120/160 Backpackers dot the length of Long St, but the best remains this, the longest running.

BOOK ACCOMMODATION ONLINE

For more accommodation reviews and recommendations by Lonely Planet authors, check out the online booking service at www.lonelyplanet.com. You'll find the true, insider lowdown on the best places to stay. Reviews are thorough and independent. Best of all, you can book online.

In a block of 14 small flats, with four beds and a bathroom in each, accommodation is arranged around a leafy, quiet courtyard decorated with funky mosaics.

ST PAUL'S B&B GUEST HOUSE

Map pp248-9

B&B \$

INN LONG STREET Map pp248-9

where you can relax or take breakfast.

is so zar

B&B \$

② 021-424 1660; innlongstreet@ataris.co.za; 230 Long St, City Bowl; dm R75, d with/without bathroom R290/240; ▶ 💷

There's a calm vibe at this backpackers, despite it being in the thick of Long St. It's set in a nice old building, with wooden floors and a wrap-around balcony that all rooms access. A recent paint job and funky lights give it some style. Parking is R20 per day.

PARLIAMENT HOTEL Map pp248-9 Hotel \$

9 Barrack St, City Bowl; s/d from R250/400; P 🔀 🔲

Hardly flash, but this place continues to be one of the best-value City Bowl hotels. The clean, good-sized rooms have great views on the upper levels, staff are friendly and there's a café where you can get breakfast (R50 extra). Parking costs R40 per day.

ROSE LODGE Map pp248-9

☎ 021-424 3813; www.rosestreet28.com;

28 Rose St, Bo-Kaap; s/d R220/400

Inside a grey-painted corner house in the Bo-Kaap is this cute B&B. The Canadian owner likes to play the grand piano and has two adorable dogs. There are just three cosy rooms (with private bathrooms), all decorated in contemporary style.

CAPE DIAMOND HOTEL

Map pp248-9

Hotel \$\$

© 021-461 2519; www.capediamondhotel.co.za; cnr Longmarket & Parliament Sts, City Bowl; s/d

from R370/530; 🕑 💷

Great-value new hotel that has retained features of its Art Deco building, such as the wood-panelled floors. Boxed in by tower blocks, it's short on natural light, but in compensation there's a rooftop Jacuzzi with a view to Table Mountain. Breakfast is R45 extra and parking is R45 per day.

DADDY LONG LEGS

Map pp248-9

Boutique Hotel \$\$

© 021-422 3074; www.daddylonglegs.co.za;134 Long St, City Bowl; r R750; № □

This boutique hotel-cum-art installation is what you get when artists are given free rein to design the boudoirs of their dreams. The results range from a bohemian garret to a hospital ward! Our favourites include the karaoke room (with a mike in the shower), and the cartoon-decorated room designed by pop group Freshly Ground. There's nowhere to put your luggage – hey, these are artists not hoteliers! – but a stay here is anything but boring. It also offers superstylish apartments (same price) at 263 Long St, an ideal choice if you crave hotelsuite luxury and want to self-cater.

TOWNHOUSE Map pp248-9

© 021-465 7050; www.townhouse.co.za; 60 Corporation St, City Bowl; s/d from R572/1045;

P 🗶 ם 🗟

Sharing the good service and high standards of its big sister the Vineyard Hotel & Spa (p181), this is a popular inner-city choice. The cheaper old-style rooms are fine, but it's worth paying slightly more for the smartly renovated deluxe ones (and ask for

TOP FIVE SLEEPS

- backpackers the Backpack (p176)
- questhouse An African Villa (p176)
- luxury hotel Vineyard Hotel & Spa (p181)
- boutique hotel Alta Bay (p177)
- self-catering Daddy Long Legs (above)

one with a view of the mountain). The pool is tiny, as is the gym. Parking is R35 per day.

CAPE TOWN HOLLOW

Map pp248-9

Hotel \$\$

☎ 021-423 1260; www.capetownhollow.co.za; 88 Oueen Victoria St. City Bowl: s/d R745/1060:

PX D

Overlooking the Company's Gardens, this good-value midrange hotel has pleasant rooms and decent facilities, including a minuscule pool, small gym, business centre and restaurant with leafy aspect. Parking is R30 per day.

CAPE HERITAGE HOTEL

Map pp248-9

Boutique Hotel \$\$

☎ 021-424 4646; www.capeheritage.co.za; 90 Bree St, City Bowl; s/d from R825/1190, ste s/d R1325/1905: P 🔀 💷

Gracious service matches the Cape Dutch style of this elegant boutique hotel, which is part of the Heritage Sq redevelopment of 18th-century buildings. Each of the 15 rooms has its own character (some have four-poster beds) and plenty of modern conveniences (such as satellite TV and clothes presses). Parking is R25 per day.

METROPOLE HOTEL

Map pp248-9

Boutique Hotel \$\$

2 021-424 7247; www.metropolehotel.co.za; 38 Long St, City Bowl; s/d/ste from R600/1200/1650; PX D

This central boutique hotel, all minimalist lines and soothing colours, is unashamedly aimed at the gay and wallpaper*-reader market. Go for the larger superior rooms with their ostrich-leather-trimmed bedsteads. The stylish restaurant Veranda (p126) and bar M Bar (p137) remain deservedly popular. Parking is R50 per day.

URBAN CHIC Map pp248-9 Boutique Hotel \$\$ 2021-423 2086; www.urbanchic.co.za; cnr Long & Pepper Sts, City Bowl; r R1242; (P) 🔀 🛄 Ask for one of the corner rooms with the fabulous floor-to-ceiling views towards Table Mountain. All the rooms at this stylish boutique hotel are an extension of the art gallery below. The ground-floor Gallery Bar (p137) is currently a very hip watering hole. Parking is R40 per day.

LIGHTING UP?

Most midrange and top-end hotels in Cape Town have nonsmoking rooms, and some even have nonsmoking floors. Most B&Bs and backpackers are also nonsmoking, at least in the bedrooms, although some provide a smoking area.

PROTEA HOTEL NORTH WHARF

Map pp248-9

Self-Catering \$\$

a 021-443 4600; www.proteahotels.com; 1 Lower Bree St, Foreshore; apt s/d R1350/1500;

P X 💷 🖭

Huge, well-equipped and stylish selfcatering apartments are great value compared to what you'd pay for similar facilities elsewhere. The air-con in each room is individually adjustable, the kitchens are first-rate and there's a decent-sized rooftop pool and small gym. Rates don't include breakfast, although this is available in the hotel's restaurant.

ARABELLA SHERATON GRAND

HOTEL Map pp248-9

Hotel \$\$\$

☎ 021-412 9999; www.sheraton.com /capetown; Convention Sq, 1 Lower Long St, Foreshore: s/d/ste from R3210/3510/8415:

P X 💷 🗩

The glass box attached to the Cape Town International Convention Centre contains a sleek, contemporary, business-focused hotel. The corporate feel is softened by warmer colours in the rooms and sweeping views. Excellent facilities include the rooftop Altira Spa (p152). Parking is R25 per day.

MUTUAL HEIGHTS

Map pp248-9

come play!

Self-Catering \$\$\$

☐ 021-794 3140; simonhudson@mweb.co.za; cnr Parliament & Darling Sts, City Bowl;

apt for 4 people R5000; P 🔀 💷 Indulge your inner Batman in the astonishing penthouse of Mutual Heights, the Art Deco design inspired by Amsterdam's Tuschinski Theatre. With four double bedrooms, a 14m-high ceiling over the lounge, and a kitchen made for entertaining, this is the ultimate slumber-party venue: grab your Robin or Cat Woman and

WATERKANT

Lovely as many of the properties are in the Waterkant, the apex of gay Cape Town is not a location for those looking for assured peace and serenity. Also, security is an issue we've heard stories of break-ins at guesthouses here, so keep your windows locked.

DE WATERKANT PLACE

Map pp248-9

35 Dixon St. Waterkant: s/d from R500/600: 💷 This appealing questhouse with just five antique-decorated rooms offers fine value for what is generally a pricey area. Guests are free to use the kitchen and there's a lovely view from the roof.

DE WATERKANT HOUSE

Map pp248-9 Boutique Hotel/Serviced Apartments \$\$

cnr Napier & Waterkant Sts, Waterkant;

s/d R470/720; 🛄 麾

Run by Village & Life (see p172), this pleasant B&B, with its plunge pool and rooms with glossy-magazine-style furnishings, is in the heart of the gay village. Village & Life also has a wide range of apartments in the area. kicking off at R650 for a single and R950 for a double, as well as the popular budget-level 'crash pads' (single/double R280/400), which are not nearly as shabby as they sound.

RESPONSIBLE LUXURY

Following the success of his novels The Drowning People and Us, young South African author Richard Mason set up the Kay Mason Foundation (KMF: www.kaymasonfoundation.org), a charitable trust to fund the high-school education of poor but talented Capetonian kids. He also bought the **Pinnacle** (Map pp248–9; **a** 072 740 4884; www.thepinnacle .co.za; 1011 Manhattan Pl, 103 Bree St, City Bowl; apt US\$445; (P) 🔀 💷 🔊), a penthouse apartment overlooking the Bo-Kaap. It's a gorgeous four-level, industrial-style space with two bedrooms, beautifully decorated with an elegant selection of antiques and modern furnishings. A lovely housekeeper, Nelly, takes care of your needs. Ten percent of the profits goes towards the foundation. This 'responsible luxury', as Mason calls it, has so far helped some 60 children get the best education possible; several KMF graduates have since gone on to university.

VILLAGE LODGE Map pp248-9

☐ /fax 021-421 1106; www.thevillagelodge.com;

49 Napier St, Waterkant; s/d R750/1220;

The main location of this chic guesthouse is on Napier St. Rooms are smart if somewhat cramped. The rooftop pool is a prime spot for guests to check each other out, as is the good Thai restaurant, Soho. The interior-design accessories (many from Poland) are sold at the lodge's shop on Waterkant St, which doubles as a reception for the other cottages and apartments it rents out in the area.

VICTORIA JUNCTION

Map pp248-9 Hotel/Serviced Apartments \$\$ **☎** 021-418 1234; www.proteahotels.co.za; cnr Somerset St & Ebenezer Rd, Waterkant; s/d R1085/1550, apt s/d R1720/2110; (P) 🔀 🛄 🙊 Hard to believe that this arty hotel is part of the Protea chain. Style mavens will be happy with the industrial loft-style rooms and self-catering apartments with exposed brick walls. There's a reasonably sized lap pool and some neat artwork in the lobby, including 32 Reasons Why I Love Cape Town by Gordon Radowsky. Parking is R30 per day.

GARDENS & SURROUNDS

Gardens and the attendant mountainside suburbs are the domain of the boutique guesthouse, a type of accommodation in 3 which Cape Town has cornered the market. If you don't have wheels or don't fancy the slog up and down the hill each day, it's better to stay in Gardens with its easier access to the city.

CAPE TOWN BACKPACKERS

Map p254

Hostel \$

☐ /fax 021-426 0200; www.capetown

backpackers.com; 81 New Church St; dm/s/d with shared bathroom R90/180/220, questhouse

s/d R275/320; P 💷

The backpacker hostel grows up at this stylish place. It offers both pleasant dorms and a questhouse with en suite rooms on neighbouring Kohling St that puts many midrange hotels to shame. Mama Fefe, who looks after the equally stylish branch in Sea Point (see p179), cooks up a Xhosa dinner on Wednesday nights. Parking costs R10 per day.

Sleeping

ASHANTI LODGE Map p254

☎ 021-423 8721; www.ashanti.co.za;

11 Hof St, Gardens; dm/d with shared bathroom R90/250, questhouse d R370; (P) 🛄 🗩

Ashanti continues to be one of Cape Town's premier party hostels, with much of the action focused on its lively bar and deck, which overlooks Table Mountain. The big, brightly painted old house holds the dorms and a lawn on which you can camp (R50 per person). For something quieter, opt for the excellent rooms (with private bathrooms), which are situated in two separate heritage-listed houses around the corner.

BACKPACK Map p254

Hostel \$

Hostel \$

a 021-423 4530; www.backpackers.co.za; 74 New Church St, Tamboerskloof; dm/s/d with shared bathroom R90/250/300, s/d with private bathroom R300/360; (P) 🛄 😥

Setting the gold standard for Cape Town's backpackers is the Backpack. Three spacious houses are combined to create a relaxed hostel with something for everyone, be it a lively time at the Thursday-night African drumming sessions or just chilling out in the chic rooms. Never one to rest on its laurels, the Backpack recently received Fair Trade in Tourism accreditation. Parking is R20 per day.

BLENCATHRA Map p254

Hostel \$

☎ 021-424 9571, 073 389 0702; cnr De Hoop & Cambridge Aves, Tamboerskloof; dm/d with shared bathroom R120/250; (P) 💷 욡

You're well on the way up Lion's Head at this charming family home, which offers a range of attractive rooms. It's the ideal spot for those looking to escape the city and the more-commercialised backpacker options. Owner Charles specialises in outdoor adventure trips.

FRITZ HOTEL Map p254

a 021-480 9000; www.fritzhotel.co.za; 1 Faure St, Gardens: s/d from R550/600: P 💷

This centrally located guesthouse remains one of our favourites. It mixes Art Deco. 1950s and modern furnishings to good effect. You'll pay slightly more for the rooms with Juliet balconies at the rear of the house and those that open onto its shady garden.

TOP FIVE GAY & LESBIAN SLEEPS

- Amsterdam Guest House (below)
- Colette's (p181)
- Huijs Haerlem (p179)
- Twenty Nine (p180)
- Village Lodge (p175)

AMSTERDAM GUEST HOUSE

Map p254

R&R \$\$

a 021-461 8236; www.amsterdam.co.za; 19 Forest Rd, Oraniezicht: s/d from R596/695: P 🔀 💷 🗩 It's men only at this convivial gay guesthouse that's notable for its good range of comfortable rooms, decent-sized pool, Jacuzzi, sundeck and sauna. If that's not enough, it also has all 169 episodes of I Love Lucy on video, plus hundreds of other movies.

GUESTHOUSE ONE BELVEDERE

B&B \$\$

☎ 021-461 2442; www.onebelvedere.co.za; 1 Belvedere Ave, Oranjezicht; s/d R525/750;

P 🚨 🗟

Rob and Charl run this gay-friendly B&B, which offers six pleasant rooms with private bathrooms. The heritage-listed home features a handsome wrought-iron veranda. The small pool is solar heated and there's a Jacuzzi and steam room.

AN AFRICAN VILLA Map p254

B&B \$\$

a 021-423 2164; www.capetowncity.co.za/villa; 19 Carstens St, Tamboerskloof; s/d from R640/800;

There's a sophisticated and colourful 'African Zen' look at this highly appealing questhouse sheltering behind the facade of three 19th-century terrace houses. Relax in the evening in one of two comfy lounges while sipping the complimentary sherry.

DUNKLEY HOUSE Map p254

a 021-462 7650; www.dunkleyhouse.com; 3B Gordon St. Gardens: d/ste from R700/990: 💷 🔊 This ultrastylish guesthouse, close to the Company's Gardens, is tucked away on a quiet street. Neutral-toned rooms feature CD players and satellite TV, and there's a plunge pool in the courtvard. At the time of writing there were plans to add more rooms in the neighbouring property.

HIPPO BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Map p254

Boutique Hotel \$\$

☎ 021-423 2500; www.hippotique.co.za; 5-9 Park Lane, Gardens; s/d R800/1200; 🕑 🔀 🛄 麾 Even though it's situated beside Kloof St with its plethora of restaurants, this appealing boutique property offers spacious, stylish rooms with a small kitchen for selfcatering. Gadget-lovers will also be pleased with the DVD player and music system.

ABBEY MANOR Map p254

B&B \$\$

☎ 021-462 2935; www.abbey.co.za; 3 Montrose Ave, Oranjezicht; s/d from R995/1290;

P X 💷 🔊

This luxurious questhouse occupies a grand Arts and Crafts-style home, built in 1905 for a shipping magnate. Fine linens, antique furnishings, a roomy pool and courteous staff enhance the experience.

CAPE MILNER Map p254

Hotel \$\$

a 021-426 1101; www.threecities.co.za; 2A Milner Rd, Tamboerskloof; s/d/ste R995/1300/2140; P % 💷 🗟

Silks and velvets in metallic colours add a sophisticated touch to the contemporarystyle rooms here. Friendly service and sweeping views of Table Mountain from the luxurious suites and pool deck area are other pluses. Parking is R25 per day.

CAPE CADOGAN

Boutique Hotel/Serviced Apartments \$\$ Map p254 ☎ 021-480 8080; www.capecadogan.com; 5 Upper Union St, Gardens; d/apt from R1350/1875; P 💷 🖭

The Gone with the Wind-style heritagelisted villa on Upper Union St is the main questhouse of this very classy boutique operation, which also embraces several appealing self-catering apartments in the mews of nearby Nicol St.

FOUR ROSMEAD Map p254

B&B \$\$

a 021-480 3810; www.fourrosmead.com; 4 Rosmead Ave, Oranjezicht; d/ste from

R1430/2000; P 🔀 🛄 麾

A heritage-listed building dating from 1903 has been remodelled into this luxury B&B. Special touches include a saltwater swimming pool and a fragrant Mediterranean herb garden. The pool-house suite with lofty ceiling is great if you want extra privacy.

ALTA BAY Map p254

Boutique Hotel \$\$\$

☐ 021-487 8800; www.altabay.com; 12 Invermark Cres, Higgovale; d R2100; 🕑 🔀 🚨 🗟 Cascading down the hillside, Alta Bay is a haven of tranquillity, as well as a designer heaven. The six luxury rooms are adorable, mixing locally handcrafted furnishings (including huge king-size beds) with European artworks.

HEMINGWAY HOUSE & LODGE

Map p254

Book accommodation online at www.lonelyplanet.com

a 021-461 1857; www.hemingwayhouse.co.za; 1 Lodge Rd, Oranjezicht; d R2500; (P) 💷 🔊 Flip a coin to choose between the two glamorous options here. Hemmingway House, set in a former masonic lodge, offers four bohemian-glitz-styled rooms around a vine-shaded courtyard with a sunken pool. Across the road, the Lodge is fantastically modern - think Elle Décor does Africa.

KENSINGTON PLACE

Map p254

Boutique Hotel \$\$\$

☎ 021-424 4744; www.kensingtonplace.co.za; 38 Kensington Cres, Higgovale; d incl breakfast R2550: PZDD

This continues to be one of Cape Town's finest boutique properties. Nestled discreetly in wind-free Higgovale, it offers eight spacious and tastefully decorated rooms, all with balconies and beautifully tiled bathrooms. Added extras are free Internet access, fresh fruit and flowers, a small pool and faultless service.



Kensington Place (above)

176

MOUNT NELSON HOTEL

Map p254 Hotel \$\$\$
© 021-483 1000; www.mountnelsonhotel
.orient-express.com; 76 Orange St, Gardens;

s/d from R5395/5535, ste s/d from R8165/8305;

PXD

Painted sugar-pink and reassuringly expensive, the Nellie is a time capsule of the colonial era, down to the doormen in pith helmets. Surprisingly it's a great place to bring the family since it pushes the boat out for the little ones, with kid-size robes and free cookies and milk at bedtime, not to mention the big pool and 3 hectares of gardens for splashing in and running around. At the very least, drop by for afternoon tea (see p129).

ATLANTIC COAST GREEN POINT & WATERFRONT

The attractions of the Waterfront area need little further elaboration, however, if you want to escape the crowds but still be reasonably close to both the city and the beaches, Green Point makes a pretty good compromise.

BIG BLUE Map pp252-3

© 021-439 0807; www.bigbluebackpackers.hostel .com; 7 Vesperdene Rd, Green Point; dm/s/d with shared bathroom R85/220/270, d with private bathroom R320; □ ►

This brightly painted hostel remains a leading light of the Cape Town backpacking scene – come enjoy its grand hallway, spacious dorms, Zen garden and friendly atmosphere.

HOUSE ON THE HILL

Map pp252-3 Self-Catering \$

© 021-439 3902; www.houseonthehillct.co.za; 25 Leinster Rd, Green Point; d/tr with shared bathroom R260/315, d/tr with private bathroom R265/385

Handy for the restaurants and bars of Green Point, this self-catering house is a fine alternative to the bigger backpacker hostels. Book ahead for the five rooms, which are very pleasantly furnished in African style, with the bonus of a TV and CD player.

WILTON MANOR

Map pp252-3 Boutique Hotel \$\$

© 021-434 7869; www.wiltonmanor.co.za; 15 Croxteth Rd, Green Point; s/d from R550/600;

This charming two-storey house, dating from 1886 and featuring a wooden veranda, has been converted into a very stylish guesthouse. Each of the seven rooms is individually decorated and guests are free to use the kitchen. The owners also run the more-contemporary Wilton Place higher up Signal Hill, as well as Altona Lodge, a budget guesthouse that's also on Croxteth Rd – check the website for further details.

HEAD SOUTH LODGE

Map pp252-3 Boutique Hotel \$\$

② 021-434 8777; www.headsouth.co.za; 215 Main Rd, Green Point; s/d incl breakfast R650/750; P № □ ■

A fabulous homage to the 1950s with its retro furnishings and collection of Tretchikoff prints hung en masse in the bar. The 15 rooms are spacious and decorated with modern art by Phillip Briel, the location is good and there's a tiny plunge pool in the front garden.

CAPE STANDARD

VICTORIA & ALFRED HOTEL

Map pp252-3 Hotel \$\$\$

© 021-419 6677; www.vahotel.co.za; Pierhead, Waterfront; s/d from R1465/2085; P 🖫 🗐 One of the less-pricey top-end hotels at the Waterfront has recently added a new floor of industrial-chic loft rooms. You'll pay slightly more for views towards Table Mountain, which are impressive. There's free transport to the sister hotel, the Ambassador in Sea Point, where you can use the pool. Rates don't include breakfast.



Reception at Head South Lodge (opposite)

CAPE GRACE Map pp252-3

BEACHES & SUBURBS Sea Point & Hout Bay

ated spa (p152).

Sea Point and the adjacent suburbs of Fresnaye and Bantry Bay are good choices for a seaside base, usually with more-realistic prices than Camps Bay. Hout Bay is handy for both the Atlantic coast beaches and Constantia's vineyards.

LION'S HEAD LODGE

Map p255

© 021-434 4163; www.lions-head-lodge.co.za; 319 Main Rd, Sea Point; d R398; P & E The operators try hard to make this oldfashioned budget hotel more appealing by lowering the rates for stays longer than one night. It has a reasonably sized pool and a bar, and does three-course Sunday lunches for R60. Sharing the hotel's facilities is the even more run-down Aardvark Backpackers (© 021-434 4172; dm/d R100/398), which has its dorms in converted flats. HI members get a 10% discount.

CAPE TOWN BACKPACKERS

SEA POINT Map p255

Hostel

☐ /fax 021-426 0200; www.capetownbackpackers .com; 1 Rocklands Rd; dm/d R90/400; ☐ ☑ In a nicely converted bungalow, this is easily the best budget option in Sea Point, steps away from the sea front. There's a six-bed dorm and three double rooms with private bathrooms and giant rain showers, as well as a spacious communal kitchen, all presided over by the convivial Mama Fefe.

VICTORIA VIEWS

Map p258

Hotel \$\$\$

Hotel/Hostel \$

B&B/Self-Catering \$\$

© 021-790 0085; www.victoriaviews.co.za; 94 Victoria Ave, Hout Bay; d R600; P P Incredible value is on offer at this new guesthouse on the main road into Hout Bay. There are three stylishly decorated double rooms and one self-catering studio, all with bamboo roofs and sweeping mountain views from the communal balcony.

AMBLEWOOD GUESTHOUSE

Map p258

B&B \$\$

B&B \$\$

© 021-790 1570; www.amblewood.co.za; 43 Skaife St, Hout Bay; s/d from R500/790; P □ № Cool off in the small pool on the deck of this upmarket B&B and look out over the beautiful sweep of Hout Bay. There's a range of pleasant rooms, decorated with period furniture to match the style of the house.

HUIJS HAERLEM Map p255

© 021-434 6434; www.huijshaerlem.co.za; 25 Main Dr, Sea Point; s/d incl breakfast R680/980; P □ ©

Get a work-out walking up one of Sea Point's steeper slopes to reach this excellent gay-friendly (but not exclusively gay) guesthouse. It comprises two houses decorated with top-quality antiques and joined by delightful gardens in which you'll find a decent-sized pool.

HOUT BAY MANOR Map p258 Hotel \$\$

Baviaanskloof Rd, Hout Bay; s/d incl breakfast from R820/1220; P 🔀 💷 麾

If Laura Ashley is your thing, you'll love the spacious and comfortable rooms in this building, dating from 1871 (and apparently haunted by a ghost!). Some rooms even have four-poster beds. Service is excellent.

WINCHESTER MANSIONS HOTEL

Map p255

Hotel \$\$

☎ 021-434 2351; www.winchester.co.za; 221 Beach Rd. Sea Point: s/d incl breakfast from R1150/1500; P 🔀 💷 麾

There's a choice between classic and modern rooms - all very pleasant - at this Cape Dutch-style beauty with a prime position along the Sea Point promenade. The pool is good and the lovely courtyard restaurant (brunch R145; Y 11am-2pm), with its central fountain, is popular for its Sunday brunch with live jazz, for which you should book ahead.

O ON KLOOF Map p255

2021-439 2081; www.oonkloof.co.za; 92 Kloof Rd, Bantry Bay; d from R1500; (P) 🔀 🛄 💂 Cross the mini bridge over the ornamental pool leading to this gorgeous contemporarystyled questhouse. The cheapest of the six spacious rooms don't have full sea views but the good facilities, including a big indoor pool and gym, are ample compensation.

ELLERMAN HOUSE Map p255

☎ 021-430 3200; www.ellerman.co.za; 180 Kloof Rd, Bantry Bay; d/ste/villa from R3900/9100/25,000; P X 💷 🔊

Imagine you've been invited to stay with an immensely rich art-collecting Capetonian friend. This mansion overlooking the Atlantic, with nine rooms, two suites and a Frank Lloyd Wright-esque villa (complete with its own spa) would be the deal. Rates include breakfast, airport transfers, laundry, all drinks (except vintage wine and champagne) and secretarial services.

Camps Bay

This is one of Cape Town's trendiest beachside suburbs and, despite the associated high prices, it gets packed, particularly in high season. There's very little in the way of budget accommodation - your best bet is to check whether Village & Life (p172) has any of its 'crash pad' rooms available here; there're a couple at Camps Bay Retreat.

CAMPS BAY RETREAT

Map p256

Boutique Hotel \$\$

2 021-437 0485; www.campsbayretreat.com; 7 Chilworth Rd, the Glen, Camps Bay; s/d from R1200/1500; P 🔀 💷 Ձ

Based in the grand Earl's Dyke Manor (dating from 1929, although it looks older), this is a splendid option. There is a choice of 16 rooms in either the main house or the contemporary Deck House, reached by a rope bridge over a ravine. There're three pools, including one fed by a stream from Table Mountain, and a spa, as well as a couple of decent, self-catering budget rooms (R380 per person) next to the tennis court. Bicycles can be hired (R80 per day) to pedal down to the beach.

PRIMI ROYAL Map p256 Boutique Hotel \$\$

a 021-438 2741; www.primi-royal.com; 23 Camps Bay Dr, Camps Bay; d from R1500; P 🔀 💷 🗩 All 10 rooms are individually decorated at this comfortable, sleek hotel, which overlooks Camps Bay but is set away from the main drag. Rose petals scattered across the bed linen on welcome are a romantic touch. This place also runs the equally appealing Primi Seacastle (Map p256), at the opposite end of Camps Bay, overlooking the beach.

TWENTY NINE Map p256

☎ 021-438 3800; www.twentynine.net; 29 Atholl Rd, Camps Bay; d/ste R2000/2600; P 💷 욡 German guys AJ and Steven have created this utterly gorgeous gay-friendly retreat, high above Camps Bay. There are five rooms, all so tastefully decorated you'll hardly want to leave, especially as there some 600 CDs to listen to, as well as 400 DVDs to watch on the Bang & Olufsen systems.

BAY HOTEL Map p256

Hotel \$\$\$

a 021-438 4444; www.thebay.co.za; 69 Victoria Rd, Camps Bay; d from R2450; P 🔀 💷 Part of the Village & Life accommodation group, this hang-out for the well-heeled is a stone's toss from the beach. The spacious rooms in white and earth tones are soothing; those with sea views are pricier (R3660). There's also a good-sized pool.

SOUTHERN SUBURBS

Observatory, Pinelands and Woodstock, home to bohemian types and students from the nearby university, offer a more residential side of Cape Town but are still only a few minutes from the city by car or train. For something more upscale and leafy, try the hotels in Newlands or around the vinevards at Constantia.

LIGHTHOUSE FARM LODGE

Map p256

Hostel \$

☆ /fax 021-447 9177; msm@mweb.co.za; Violet Bldg, Oude Molen Eco Village,

Alexandra Rd, Pinelands: dm/d with shared bathroom R60/150; P

Offering Cape Town's cheapest dorm beds, this simple and relaxed place is the better of the two hostels located on the grounds of a former hospital that is now a farm and alternative community of artists (see p104). You can pay your way at Lighthouse by working on the organic farm. It's best if you have your own transport, but the lodge is also within walking distance of Pinelands Train Station and there's good security around the complex. Breakfast is R15 to R25 extra.

DECO LODGE Map pp246-7

Hostel \$

22 Roodebloem Rd, Woodstock: dm/d R80/220:

It's impossible to miss this huge purplepainted Art Deco house, which is a great alternative for the independent-minded traveller who doesn't mind being a suburb or two removed from Long St. The garden is lush, with a cooling pool, and rooms are colourfully decorated.

GREEN ELEPHANT Map p256

Hostel \$

☎ 021-448 6359; greenele@iafrica.com; 57 Milton Rd, Observatory; dm/s/d with shared bathroom R85/180/280, d with private bathroom R310

The famous tree-climbing dog is getting on, but this long-running backpackers, split between two houses, remains a popular alternative to the city-centre hostels. The owners, together with the folks from Day Trippers, have helped set up the associated guesthouse Shine the Way (Map pp246-7; 17 Wesley St, Observatory), an

empowerment project with former staff, which charges the same rates.

COLETTE'S Map pp244-5

B&B \$\$

Book accommodation online at www.lonelyplanet.com

☎ 021-531 4830, 082 782 6349; www.colettesbb .co.za; 16 the Bend, Pinelands; s/d R400/550;

The very charming Colette runs this women-only B&B in her spacious and pretty Pinelands home, which she shares with ducks Isabella and Ferdinand. Her two double rooms have private bathrooms and a separate entrance from the rest of the house.

VINEYARD HOTEL & SPA

Map pp246-7

Hotel \$\$

☎ 021-657 4500; www.vineyard.co.za; Colinton Rd. Newlands: s/d/ste from R990/1392/2880:

Although the core of this excellent hotel is the 1799 house built for Lady Anne Barnard, a recent upgrade has given it a contemporary look. Brand-new rooms attached to a fabulous spa (see p152) are all surrounded by lush gardens with views onto the mountain. Friendly staff, a great gym and pool complete the picture.

HUNTERS MOON LODGE

Map pp244-5

☎ 021-794 5001; www.huntersmoonlodge.co.za; Southern Cross Dr, Constantia Upper; d/ste from R1820/2200: P 🔀 💷 麾

Honeymoon suites hardly come more romantic than the ones at Hunters Moon Lodge, set in a faux Tuscan villa surrounded by gorgeous gardens with views across Constantia's vineyards. The Antoinette suite has a four-poster bed and a bathroom big enough for a ball.

CONSTANTIA UITSIG

Map pp244-5

☎ 021-794 6500; www.uitsig.co.za; Spaanschemat River Rd, Constantia; s/d from R1600/2400;

PRDE

Set within the vineyard of the same name (p44), this hotel offers appealing, chintzy Victorian-styled rooms, all florals and checks. There are beautiful gardens as well as three top-notch restaurants to choose from.

Book accommodation online at www.lonelyplanet.com

FALSE BAY & **SOUTHERN PENINSULA MUIZENBERG & KALK BAY**

For warmer water, good surf and fewer crowds, these communities facing False Bay are ideal. Rough-edged Muizenberg is a top surf spot, while the more-genteel fishing village of Kalk Bay is tops for antique and craft shoppers.

AMBERLEY TRAVELLERS LODGE

Map p257

☎ 021-788 7032, 082 686 1864; www.amberley lodge.com; cnr Amberley & School Rds, Muizenberg; s/d/tr from R100/180/210; 🛄

Facing onto a small park, this self-catering place, in a lovely old house, is a great option for backpackers and budget travellers looking for a quieter place to stay. The rooms are generally airy and spacious.

BLUE BABOON BACKPACKERS

LODGE Map p257

B&B \$

☎ 021-788 3645, 083 641 6808; 136 Main Rd, Kalk Bay: s/d with shared bathroom R120/220 Above the Olympia Café & Deli, this simply furnished budget lodge offers splendid views of the harbour from the running balcony, which can be accessed from all rooms. It's the cheapest place to crash in Kalk Bay, so be sure to book ahead. Breakfast is R20 extra.

BEACH LODGE Map p257

Hostel \$

☎ 021-788 1771; www.thebeachlodge.co.za; 13-19 York Rd, Muizenberg; s/d with shared bathroom R150/260; P 💷

Set in a heritage-listed building with splendid sea views, this spacious budget questhouse is a great option for those who don't want to be more than 30 seconds from the sand. There's a huge kitchen for self-catering, a small gym and satellite TV in the comfy lounge.

SANDHILLS Map p257

2 021-788 2795; www.sandhills.co.za; 18 Beach Rd, Muizenberg; s/d incl breakfast R400/500; P Sandhills was the first of the buildings that Sir Herbert Baker designed in Muizenberg. It's now part of an arts centre (p107) and

has been converted into a lovely B&B. decorated in 1920s style. There are just two rooms either side of a spacious lounge.

BELLA EV Map p257

R&R \$\$

a 021-788 1293; www.capestay.co.za; 8 Camp Rd, Muizenberg: s/d R480/580

This charming questhouse could be the setting for an Agatha Christie mystery, one in which the home's owner has a penchant for all things Turkish – hence the Ottoman slippers for quests' use and the Turkishstyle breakfast.

INN AT CASTLE HILL Map p257

B&B \$\$

☎ 021-788 2554: www.castlehill.co.za:

37 Gatesville Rd, Kalk Bay: s/d R350/640: P Colourful works by local artists decorate the walls at this delightful questhouse in a renovated Edwardian home. Some of the convivial rooms overlook the bay.

SIMON'S TOWN

Further down the False Bay coast, and a good half-hour's drive from the city centre, is the attractive naval base of Simon's Town and nearby Boulders, where you can bunk down beside the penguins. Also see p76 for details of a couple of cottages that can be rented in the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve.

SIMON'S TOWN BACKPACKERS

Map p258

Hostel \$

☎ 021-786 1964; www.capepax.co.za; 66 St George's St, Simon's Town; dm/d R70/200; The spacious rooms are brightly painted at this relaxed backpackers overlooking Simon's Town's harbour. There is bike hire for R80 per day and staff can help you arrange a host of activities in the area.

TOP SAIL HOUSE Map p258

B&B \$

☎ 021-786 5537; www.simonstown.com/accom /topsailhouse; 176 St George's St, Simon's Town; d with/without bathroom R275/250; P The former St Joseph's Dominican Convent School, dating from the mid-1800s, houses this budget questhouse with plain rooms and friendly owners. Its most notable feature is the 'honeymoon suite' set in the old chapel, which has the bathroom in the vestry and a tiny kitchen in the confessional.

SOUTHERN RIGHT HOTEL

Map pp244-5

Hotel \$\$

☎ 021-782 0314; www.southernright.info: 12-14 Glen Rd, Glencairn; s/d R375/590; P

A couple of kilometres before you reach Simon's Town is this historic inn, run by the Boulders Beach Lodge management. The rooms are simply but appealingly furnished, with lots of candles adding a romantic ambience. Stay on Tuesday and it only costs R295 for two. A restaurant, deli and wine shop are on the premises.

BOULDERS BEACH LODGE

Map p258

B&B/Serviced Apartments \$\$

☎ 021-786 1758; www.bouldersbeach.co.za; 4 Boulders Pl. Boulders Beach: s/d/apt

R450/790/1500: P 📮

If you'd like to share the beach with the penguins after the day-tripper crowds have gone home, this smart questhouse, with rooms decorated in wicker and wood, is ideal. There is also a range of self-catering units, as well as a pleasant café, Penguin Point Restaurant,

BRITISH HOTEL

which has an outdoor deck.

Map p258

Serviced Apartments \$\$

☎ /fax 021-786 2214; www.britishhotelapart ments.co.za; 90 St George's St, Simon's Town; apt from R1400

These quirkily decorated apartments are splendid value and ideal for groups of friends or a family. They all have amazingly spacious bathrooms, open-plan kitchens, balconies and are set around a lovely courtyard.

NOORDHOEK & KOMMETJIE

Noordhoek offers leafy surrounds, a splendid (though windswept) beach and serenity, while nearby Kommetiie is a chill-out zone for surfers happy to brave the bracing waters.

CHILL & SURF BACKPACKERS

Map pp244-5

Hostel \$

a 021-785 4678; www.chillandsurf.co.za; 29 Kommetjie Main Rd, Sunnydale; camping per person R70, dm R80, d with shared bathroom R250; P 💷 Local surfer Pierre has created a very chilled backpackers on his property, within easy reach of Kommetjie's surfing hot spots. The large dorm in the sandstone

house is cooler, temperature wise, than the ones in the wooden cabins at the back, where you'll also find the private doubles.

MONKEY VALLEY BEACH NATURE

RESORT Map pp244-5 B&B/Serviced Apartments \$\$ ☎ 021-789 1391; www.monkeyvalleyresort.com; Mountain Rd, Noordhoek; s/d from R1265/1340, apt

R2785: P 💷 麾

Choose between standard B&B rooms or spacious self-catering cottages with thatched roofs at this imaginatively designed, rustic resort shaded by a milkwood forest. It's a great place if you have kids, and the wide beach is moments away.

LONG BEACH Map pp244-5

B&B \$\$\$ ☎ 021-783 4183; www.thelongbeach.com; 1 Kirsten Ave. Kommetiie: s/d R1987/2650:

PRDE

Shut out the world while staying at this discrete designer villa, fronting onto stunning Long Beach. It offers five superspacious doubles with plenty of extras, including use of a local mobile phone. The management company, the Last Word (www .thelastword.co.za), has similarly luxurious bolt holes in Bishopscourt, Constantia and Franschhoek.

CAPE FLATS

To get a fuller picture of life in the townships, consider bedding down in Langa or Khayelitsha. You're no more than 20 minutes from the City Bowl by the N2 motorway, very close to the airport and already well on your way to Stellenbosch. It's safe to drive yourself to most of these places; if you intend on using public transport, check first with the hosts on how best to do this.

MALEBO'S Map pp244-5

B&B \$

☎ 021-361 2391, 083 475 1125; www.sonke .org/malebo.htm; 18 Mississippi Way, Graceland, Khayelitsha; s/d with shared bathroom R180/300 In the spacious, modern home of Lydia Masoleng there are two double rooms and one single quest room. Dinner is available for R80 extra. You can meet the budgie Toosy and have a drink around the corner at Lolly's Jazz Pub, a well-established shebeen.





B&B \$

Vicky's B&B (below)

MAJORO'S B&B Map pp244-5

Friendly Maria Maile is the owner of this B&B, located in a small brick bungalow in an upscale part of Khayelitsha. She can put up four people in her two homely rooms. Dinner is available for R80 and there's safe parking should you drive here.

RADEBE'S B&B Map pp244-5

© 021-695 0508, 082 393 3117; radebes@ananzi .co.za; 23 Mama Way, Settlers PI, Langa; s/d R200/360: ▶ □

The dynamic Minah Radebe brings her confident Sowetan style to the best of Langa's B&Bs. One of her three delightfully decorated guest rooms has a private bathroom and there's a nice sitting room with TV and DVD. Breakfast and other meals are served in the attached Coffee Shack restaurant.

MA NEO'S Map pp244-5

② 021-694 2504, 073 146 0370; www.tiscover.co .za/maneo; Zone 7 No 30, Langa; s/d R240/360; ☑ Thandiwe Peter is 'Ma Neo'. Together with her daughter, Neo, she runs this warm and friendly B&B in Langa. There's one spacious double room in the main house as well as

a couple more in the extension at the back. All are pleasantly furnished and have TVs.

VICKY'S B&B Map pp244-5

B&B \$

© 021-387 7104, 082 225 2986; www.vickysbandb.com; Site C-685A, Khayelitsha; s/d with shared bathroom R190/380; □

Vicky Ntozini's unique selling point is that she lives in a shack. Given her success she could well afford not to, but she and her extended family love it here and guests clearly enjoy the experience. There are two compact, comfy guest rooms and (rare for a shack) an inside bathroom with toilet and shower.

KOPANONG Map pp244-5

B&B \$\$

Thope Lekau, called 'Mama Africa' for obvious reasons, runs Khayelitsha's best B&B with her equally ebullient daughter, Mpho. Her substantial brick home offers two stylishly decorated guest rooms, each with their own bathrooms. As a guide and experienced development worker, Thope will give you an excellent insight into township life, as well as cook a delicious dinner (vegetarian/meat R70/90). She also runs a cookery course on request (see the boxed text, p151).

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B&B \$