

CAPE TOWN

Town (Afrikaans: Kaapstad; Xhosa: iKapa) is the second most populous city in **South Africa**, forming part of the metropolitan municipality of the City of Cape Town. Cape Town is the provincial capital of the **Western Cape**, as well as the legislative capital of South Africa, where the National Parliament and many government offices are located. Cape Town is famous for its harbour as well as its natural setting in the Cape floral kingdom, including such well-known landmarks as Table Mountain and Cape Point. Cape Town is Africa's most popular destination for tourism.

Located on the shore of **Table Bay**, Cape Town was originally developed by the Dutch East India Company as a victualling (supply) station for Dutch ships sailing to Eastern Africa, India, and the Far East. Jan van Riebeeck's arrival on 6 April 1652 established the first permanent European settlement in South Africa. Cape Town quickly outgrew its original purpose as the first European outpost at the Castle of Good Hope, becoming the economic and cultural hub of the Cape Colony. Until the Witwatersrand Gold Rush and the development of Johannesburg, Cape Town was the largest city in South Africa.

As of 2007, the Cape Town had a population of 3.5 million. Cape Town's land area of 2,455 square kilometres (948 sq mi) is larger than other South African cities, resulting in a comparatively lower population density of 1,425 inhabitants per square kilometre (3,690 /sq mi).

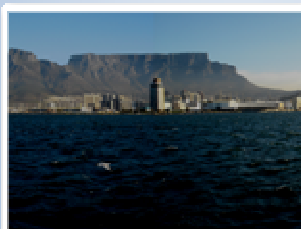
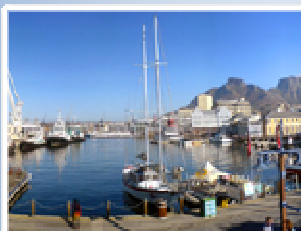


Table Mountain is a flat-topped mountain forming a prominent landmark overlooking the city of Cape Town in South Africa, and is featured in the flag of Cape Town and other local government insignia. The Table Mountain is a significant tourist attraction, with many visitors using the cableway or hiking to the top. The mountain forms part of the **Table Mountain National Park**.

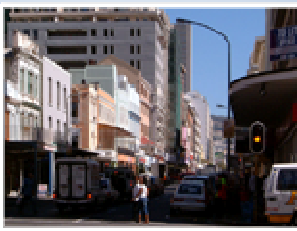


The Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, built on top of part of the docks of the Port of Cape Town, is one of the city's most popular shopping venues, with several hundred shops and the Two Oceans Aquarium. Part of the charm of the V&A, as it is locally known, is that the Port continues to operate and visitors can watch ships enter and leave. The V&A also hosts the Nelson Mandela Gateway, through which ferries depart for Robben Island. It is possible to take a **ferry** from the V&A to Hout Bay, Simon's Town and the

Cape Fur Seal colonies on Seal and Duiker Islands. Several companies offer tours of the Cape Flats, a mostly Coloured township, and Khayelitsha, a mostly black township. An option is to sleep overnight in Cape Town's townships. There are several B&Bs where you can spend a safe and real African night.

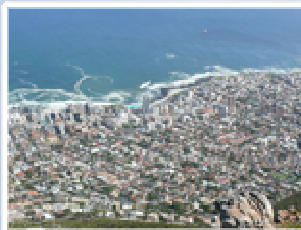
Artscape Theatre Centre is the main performing arts centre in Cape Town. The theatre was opened in 1971 and is located on reclaimed land in the Foreshore area. The complex includes: Opera House, Theatre, but more or less depending upon whether the pit is used and Arena Theatre.

The Artscape Theatre Centre was formerly known as the **Nico Malan theatre complex**, after the former National Party administrator of the Cape Province who initiated the project. The centre was renamed in 1999, when the Artscape company replaced the former Cape Performing Arts Board (CAPAB). The Artscape Theatre Centre is also the home of Fine Music Radio.



the street during the 1970s and 1980s, although most have now closed in favour of restaurants or stores.

Long Street is a major street located in the City Bowl section of Cape Town, South Africa. Long Street is famous as a bohemian hang out, as the street is lined by many bookstores, various ethnic restaurants and bars. Restaurants include African restaurants like Zula, and Indian restaurants like Masala Dosa. Long Street shows off a diversified culture and tourists from all over the world. It also has various backpackers hostels for youth from all over the world. Several theatres that showed anti-apartheid plays were located on



Sea Point is Cape Town's most densely populated suburb, situated between Signal Hill and the Atlantic Ocean a few kilometres to the west of Cape Town's Central Business District (CBD). Moving from Sea Point to the CBD, one passes through first the small Three Anchor Bay suburb, then Green Point. Seaward from Green Point is the area known as Mouille Point, where the local lighthouse is situated.

INFORMATION

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