USA personally invites you to visit her beautiful country of birth.



Dear Friends,

On behalf of South African Tourism, it is my pleasure to invite you on a wondrous voyage of discovery, a life—changing experience that you will find only on your trip to South Africa. Ancient rhythms meld with sophisticated township jazz and kwaito (hip hop) cadences—the pulse of our country can be felt everywhere in our music and the warmth of our people. We call it Ubuntu—which means true South African hospitality.

South Africa offers delectable cuisine, sumptuous wines and a host of adventures—including spectacular game viewing and a wide variety of accommodations to suit any budget, even among the private game reserves.

For the city aficionado, our galleries and museums offer a fascinating insight into our complex history. Nightlife choices range from five-star restaurants to township shebeens; sophisticated nightclubs to unpretentious bars; contemporary theater, dance, jazz and even opera.

Our African-American visitors hold a special place in our hearts in South Africa, as we can never forget your unwavering support during our years of struggle. We invite you all to come and experience the vibrant new society that you helped us create, and experience the warmth and heartfelt hospitality of our people.

A warm South African Ubuntu welcome awaits you!

Dr. Felicia M. Suttle President



Find yourself here. Next Stop South Africa

The Welcome That Warms You Like the Sun

In South Africa you are not a tourist, you are a world-class traveler—taking your first steps into local villages, immersing yourself into the culture and exploring the rich heritage of the land.

The Wonder of Life All Around You

Go on a thrilling safari among The Big Five—lions, leopards, elephants, rhinos and the mighty buffalo—not in a zoo, but on the Veldt, where these glorious creatures have lived for centuries.

In St. Lucia, KwaZulu-Natal, observe the leatherback turtles as the newly hatched little ones mysteriously make their way to the ocean—the way they have done for thousands of years.

And, don't miss the thunder of Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

The Luxury of Indulging All Your Senses

Enjoy an open-air massage in Pretoria amidst a spectacular setting with gentle giraffes grazing in the mist.

Experience a sunset wine tasting at a jewel-like hotel in the middle of a worldclass vineyard. *Food & Wine* magazine called South Africa, with its more than 13 spectacular wine routes, "The world's most beautiful wine country."

Plus, dine at a five-star gala with fine china and linen on Salt Rock Beach—in bare feet and a ballroom gown.

Wherever you go, our unique gourmet and traditional delicacies will tease your palate: Cape Malay cuisine, fruity curries, spicy hot sauces and barbecuing—South African's favorite food pastime.

From our music that sets your heartbeat to a new rhythm, to our glittering coastline with dreamy, endless beaches, every step you take will renew a precious part of yourself.

We welcome you with our hearts.



ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY • Cape Town Carnival

FEBRUARY • Jazz Africa Heritage,
Gauteng and North West

MARCH • The Cape Town Jazz Festival

JUNE/JULY • Durban Beach Africa Festival

 Durban Beach Africa Festival
 National Arts Festival, Grahamstown

SEPTEMBER • Arts Alive, Johannesburg

 Awesome African Music Festival Durhan



Captivating Cape Town, South Africa

Edged by steep cliffs, a turquoise sea and lush vineyards, this is South Africa's most striking city. It's perfect for Black folks seeking a meaningful trip as well as a high-style vacation filled with romance

Enjoy scenic views from Cape Grace,

WHERE TO STAY

Head to Kensington Place, a Black-owned contemporary boutique hotel decorated with original South African artwork and accents. The eight luxurious suites feature bedrooms strewn with rose petals and marble bathrooms, along with a beautiful terrace view; starting rate \$378 per night, with breakfast. ESSENCE Exclusive: With your stay, enjoy a bottle of Villiera Brut (a local champagne) at check-in and a gift of aromatherapy massage oils at checkout; 27-21-424-4744, kensingtonplace.co.za/flash.php.

One of the finest hotels in the world, Cape Grace is set on its own private quay on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Get extra pampering with the Romantic Interludes Package, which includes a bottle of wine and chocolate on arrival; spa treatments; a nightly romantic gift; daily full breakfast in one waterfront restaurant or in the privacy of your own room; complimentary use of the hot spa with mineral bath, steam room and sauna; and a "build a basket" picnic at sun-

set at Camps Bay (\$42); starting rate \$637 per night for three-night package (January 1 to April 30 and September 1 to December 19, 2007); 27-21-410-7100, capegrace.com.

Take time to drive along the farm- and winery-lined Garden Route, stopping at Plettenberg Bay, the St. Tropez of South Africa. Don't miss the deep gorges and high mountains of stunning Tsitsikamma before going to CC Africa's Kwandwe Great Fish River Lodge, where you can kick back in a luxurious suite with its own plunge pool and take drives that put you face-to-face with elephants and buffalo from the wilds of Africa; starting rate \$400 per night, depending on the season, and includes all food and game drives; 27-11-809-4300, ccafrica.com.

WHERE TO EAT

Savor steaks and fresh seafood dishes while listening to top international jazz greats at the sophisticated **Green Dolphin**; greendolphin.co.za. And don't miss **Mzoli's Place** in Gugulethu, a hangout where you can sip

wine to soul-thumping *kwaito*, pop music, as you wait for your dangerously delish *braai*, fresh barbecued meat; mzolis.co.za.

At Mama Africa try crocodile kebabs as you dance in your chair to festive live bands that play every night (\$14); 27-21-424-8634.

WHAT TO DO

Soak up the beautiful view of the city of Cape Town on a boat ride to Robben Island, the former prison dwelling of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. The island now houses the Nelson Mandela Gateway embarkation center, filled with historic prison photos and even drawings Mandela made while imprisoned (\$21); 27-21-413-4200, robben-island.org.za.

The second you have a sunny, windless day, head straight to the top of Table Mountain for the picturesque view, or head to Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens (\$3, nbi.ac.za) along the eastern slope of the mountain to stroll trails lined with sculptures from Zimbabwe. In the summer take a picnic dinner and listen to concerts held an hour before sunset. Another must is a day trip to the Stellenbosch wine region, where you can sip phenomenal—and affordable—vintages on terraces overlooking the vineyards. Be sure to try acclaimed Tukulu wines from emerging Black-owned wineries such as Winds of Change and Papkuilsfontein in Darling.

The Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and city center are shopping meccas. Stop by Sun Goddess (sungoddess.co.za), owned by a husband-and-wife team, for elegant interpretations of traditional South African tribal designs. And visit Tribal Trends for upscale South African curios; 27-21-423-8008.

In the mood to party? Try a nightspot like Hemisphere, where you'll catch mountain views and cityscapes as you groove to

