



*Inspiring new ways*



SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY: LISBON  
EMBAIXADA DA AFRICA DO SUL: LISBOA



Pilanesberg Game Reserve

### **South African Embassy Tourism Newsletter – May 2019**

South Africa is home to major annual events in sport, arts and animal life. Our proposal for this edition consists of suggesting that you join a visit to the rainbow nation with the presence or participation in these events: an opportunity that is uniquely different allowing you to enjoy the country more intensely, its people, sights, gastronomy, history and culture. The choice falls on the following four events but many more could have been included in this list.

#### **SARDINE RUN** (May to June)

It is described as the largest *school of fish on Earth*. This natural marine phenomenon occurs every winter when millions of small silvery sardines leave the cold Cape waters towards the KwaZulu-Natal coast, forming huge schools of about 15 km in length, 4 km wide and 40 m deep, attracting a frenzy of dolphins, sharks and sea birds. This is a huge battle taking place every year in the warm waters of the South African coast

More information: [www.zulu.org.za](http://www.zulu.org.za)



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### **COMRADES MARATHON** (June 2019):

It is considered to be the biggest ultra-marathon in the world. It started by being only a tribute to the South African soldiers who lost their lives in the First World War but since then, this 90 km marathon became an icon within the long distance runs in South Africa. The route alternates each year between Durban and Pietermaritzburg. This is a grueling challenge for those who wish to test their physical and mental limits and a fantastic experience for the running and adventure lovers.

More information: <http://www.comrades.com/>

### **WHALE WATCHING** (May to November)

Every year, from the end of winter until the beginning of summer (in the southern Hemisphere), the southern right whales migrate to mate and have their calves in the sheltered waters of the Western Cape bays. Hermanus, one of the first stops in the famous Garden Route and approximately 1 1/2 hours by car from Cape Town, is one of the best sites for observing these magnificent cetaceans, thus being acknowledged as the whale watching world capital.

More information: <http://www.hermanus.co.za/whales/>



### **GRAHAMSTOWN NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL** (27 June-7 July 2019)

The **National Arts Festival** takes place every year in wonderful Grahamstown. The 10 day event is the biggest annual art celebration in Africa: dance, music, theater, films, jazz and visual arts. Enjoy this majestic event and don't miss the opportunity to get to know the beautiful city, known to impress its visitors with its handsome Victorian buildings and historical monuments.

More information: <https://www.nationalartsfestival.co.za/>

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS: May 2019

### FRANSCHHOEK literary festival

A CELEBRATION OF BOOKS & WRITERS

For programme, author & event details visit [www.flf.co.za](http://www.flf.co.za)

#### FRANSCHHOEK LITERARY FESTIVAL

**When:** 17-19 May 2019

**Where:** Franschhoek, Western Cape

**More information:** [www.flf.co.za](http://www.flf.co.za)

For three days Franschhoek becomes a bustling get-together of readers, writers, booksellers and publishers. The events take place in a variety of village venues within a few minutes' walk of each other, creating a vibrant ambience in streets buzzing with book-lovers.



#### RUSTENBURG SHOW

**When:** 24 May-1 June 2019

**Where:** Rustenburg Showgrounds, North West Cape

**More information:** <https://www.facebook.com/Rustenburgshow2019/>

The annual Rustenburg show is to be held at the Rustenburg showgrounds. Enjoy a day of fun with performances by popular local artists. Agricultural championships and auctions will be held during the Rustenburg Show for small livestock, cattle, poultry and more.



#### PINK LOERIE MARDI GRAS

**When:** 30 May to 3 June 2019

**Where:** Knysna, Western Cape

**More information:** <https://www.facebook.com/Rustenburgshow2019/>

This very popular and highly colorful celebration is always a highlight on the international Gay Calendar. The Pink Loerie Mardi Gras offers four days of non-stop entertainment for Gay people as well as for everybody that have a need for superb entertainment, major partying or just having loads of light-hearted fun and laughter.



#### MORE EVENTS

- ☒ Greyton Genadendal Classics for All (24-26 May 2019) [www.classicsforall.co.za/](http://www.classicsforall.co.za/)
- ☒ Die Oesfees (25-26 May 2019) <http://theharvestfestival.co.za/>
- ☒ Cars in the Park 2019 (26 May 2019) <https://www.facebook.com/carsintheparkpmb/>

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