

South African Embassy Tourism Newsletter - October 2019

One of the oldest towns in South Africa, Paarl is steeped in history, culture, natural splendour and a centuries-old tradition of winemaking. Paarl, in the Western Cape Province is just over an hour' drive from Cape Town. In 1657, Abraham Gabemma set out from the Cape in search of resources. On his journey he came across a giant granite rock gleaming in the distance. He called this Pearl Mountain, and the town that grew at its base eventually became known as Paarl.

GOLF

Golf lovers should explore the greens at the Pearl Valley Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course. As the name implies, it truly bears the signature of the world's preeminent golf course designer. Since 2006 Pearl Valley has been consistently ranked among the top ten courses in South Africa by Golf Digest magazine and it has also been awarded the Five Star Experience Award by Complete Golfer for six consecutive years.

More information: <u>http://pearlvalleyhotel.com/</u>





WINES

Discovering The Paarl Wine Route, the second oldest in the country, is what most visitors do here, and for good reason. Paarl is known for its full-bodied spicy reds and crisp whites. Be sure to check out Under Oaks. Nederburg Wines, KWV Wine Emporium, Black Pearl Wines, Boland Kelder, Ridgeback Wine Farm, Rhebokskloof Wine Estate Laborie and Fairview. More information: www.visitwinelands.co.za/pages/paarl

CHEETAHS

Ashia is another essential stop in the Paarl area. It is a sanctuary and retirement home for cheetahs, where you can watch the world's fastest land mammal go for its morning run. An African name meaning 'life and hope', it lies at the foot of the dramatic Drakenstein mountains, providing the perfect setting for the sanctuary's conservation and environmental education programmes More information: www.ashia.co.za





OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

There are plenty of tempting outdoor activities in Paarl, especially for mountain bike enthusiasts. There are numerous routes, of varying degrees of difficulty, in and around the Paarl Mountain Nature Reserve. There are also routes that take you around some of the picturesque wine farms.

More information: www.paarlonline.com/

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS: October 2019



DORINGDRAAD MTB&TRAIL RUN 2019 When: 5 October 2019 Where: Deben (in the Kalahari, Northern Cape More information: www.facebook.com/events/322657025097009/ The Doringdraad MTB & Trail Run is back for the third time this year. The event takes place on 5 October 2019 and promises to be a fun and adventurous day for young and old alike



MULLIGATAWNY OPEN GARDEN When: 12-13 October 2019 Where: Skeerpoort, Gauteng More information: <u>https://www.facebook.com/MulligatawnyFarm</u> The magnificent gardens of Mulligatawny Farm will be open to the public on the weekend of 12-13 October 2019 from 0900 until

1700. Situated on a private estate near to Skeerpoort in the Cradle of Humankind, the gardens were last open in 2017



MANGAUNG ROSE FESTIVAL 2019

When: 18-20 October 2019 Where: Bloemfontein, Free State More information: <u>https://mangaungrosefestival.co.za/</u> Translated, Bloemfontein means "fountain of flowers"; however because this capital city is host to the annual rose festival, it has been called the "City of Roses.



MORE EVENTS

- WEST RAND COOKOUT SUNDAY (6 October) <u>https://www.facebook.com/westrandcookoutsunday/?ref=br_tf</u>
- FNB DURBAN10K (13 October) <u>http://www.durban10k.com</u>
- SIBAYA CHALLENGE (23-25 October) <u>http://www.suninternational.com/golf/events/sun-internationalchallenge-series</u>

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