

Hotels & Hostels

Want more sleeping recommendations than we could ever pack into this little ol' book? Craving more detail – including extended reviews and photographs? Want to read reviews by other travellers and be able to post your own? Just make your way over to [lonelyplanet.com/hotels](https://www.lonelyplanet.com/hotels) and check out our thorough list of independent reviews, then reserve your room simply and securely.

SLEEPING

top picks

- Backpack (p184)
- Villa Zest (p185)
- Vineyard Hotel & Spa (p187)
- Alta Bay (p182)
- Grand Daddy Hotel (p179)
- Hout Bay Manor (p186)
- Scalabrini Guest House (p180)
- Makazi's Guesthouse (p190)
- Cape Heritage Hotel (p179)
- Head South Lodge (p185)

SLEEPING

You're spoiled for choice in Cape Town for budget backpackers, charming guesthouses and five-star pamper palaces. A construction boom in the lead-up to the 2010 World Cup will bring even more tourist beds on line with global chains such as the **Taj** (www.tajhotels.com) and **One and Only** (www.oneandonlyresorts.com) soon to open.

What follows is a selection of the best places we've come across from a very competitive 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 enquire about parking 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.

LONGER-TERM RENTALS

For longer-term stays or self-catering options a serviced apartment or villa can work out as a good deal. Reliable agencies:

Cape Stay (www.capestay.co.za)

Cape Town Budget Accommodation (☎ 021-4474398; www.capetownbudgetaccommodation.co.za)

De Waterkant Cottages (Map p78; ☎ 021-421 2300; www.dewaterkantcottages.com; 40 Napier St, De Waterkant) Self-catering cottages in De Waterkant area from R1800 a night.

FZP Property Investment (Map p78; ☎ 021-426 1634; www.fzp.co.za; 102 The Studios, 112 Buitengracht, City Bowl) Entrance on Rose St.

Nox Rentals (Map pp86-7; ☎ 021-424 3353; www.noxrentals.co.za; Rhee de St Mall, Gardens) Excellent apartment and villa rentals at Camps Bay.

Platinum Places (☎ 021-425 5922; www.platinumplaces.co.za)

Village & Life (Map p78; ☎ 021-430 4444; www.villageandlife.com; 1 Loader St, De Waterkant) Has many accommodation options around De Waterkant, Camps Bay and Mouille Point.

RESERVATIONS

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

Cape Town Tourism (p239) runs an accommodation booking service and it sometimes has special deals. However, like any agency, it only recommends its members.

ROOM RATES

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 most expensive to cheapest double

room. Prices are up to 50% lower from May to October, during Cape Town's winter season.

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.

Bargaining is not a South African habit, but you will often find that you can get a discount on the initially quoted price of accommodation when business is slow.

CITY BOWL & FORESHORE

Cape Town's CBD is the location of many of the city's sights, so it's an ideal base if you want to explore on foot. There's plenty of transport out to other regions, but on Sunday the area is dead as almost all businesses close.

MUTUAL HEIGHTS

Map pp70-1

Self-Catering \$\$\$

☎ 083-287 6346; simonhudson@mweb.co.za; cnr Parliament & Darling Sts, City Bowl; 4-person apt from R4000; 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

PRICE GUIDE

\$\$\$	over R2500 a room
\$\$	R500-2500 a room
\$	under R500 a room or dorm bed