

The Garden Route

High on the must-see list of most visitors is the Garden Route, named for the year-round greenery of its forests and lagoons along the coast. It stretches some 300km from Mossel Bay to just beyond Plettenberg Bay.

Mossel Bay p173

Beyond the world's largest gas-to-oil refinery you'll find beaches, gnarly surfing spots and activities including shark-cage diving and coastal hikes.

George p176

The largest town along the Garden Route boasts attractive old buildings, world-class golf courses and superb mountain drives.

Wilderness p178

Living up to its name, Wilderness is blessed with gorgeous beaches, bird-rich estuaries and sheltered lagoons backed by densely forested hills.

Knysna p179

Embracing an exquisitely beautiful lagoon and surrounded by ancient forests, Knysna is a place for hiking, sailing, mountain biking or sampling the home-grown oysters and local beer.

Plettenberg Bay p183

The verdant mountains, white sand and crystal-blue waters make 'Plett' one of the country's top tourist spots, loved by locals and foreign visitors alike.

Mossel Bay

Explore

Start your explorations at the excellent Dias Museum Complex to gain insight into Mossel Bay's role in South African history. From here it's a short hop to the harbour to take a dolphin-watching boat trip or enjoy a seafood braai at the water's edge. Head to Santos Beach to swim or relax, or peruse the restaurants and bars of Marsh Street, slowly ambling to The Point. Here you'll find a laid-back vibe and restaurants overlooking the ocean as well as the Cape St Blaize caves and lighthouse. Spend a second day shark-cage diving, surfing or sky-diving.

The Best...

- ➔ **Sight** Dias Museum Complex (p174)
- ➔ **Place to Eat** Kaai 4 (p174)
- ➔ **Place to Drink** Big Blu (p175)

Top Tip

Send a postcard home from South Africa's oldest 'postbox' – a tree inside the Dias Museum Complex where sailors left messages. All letters get a special postmark.

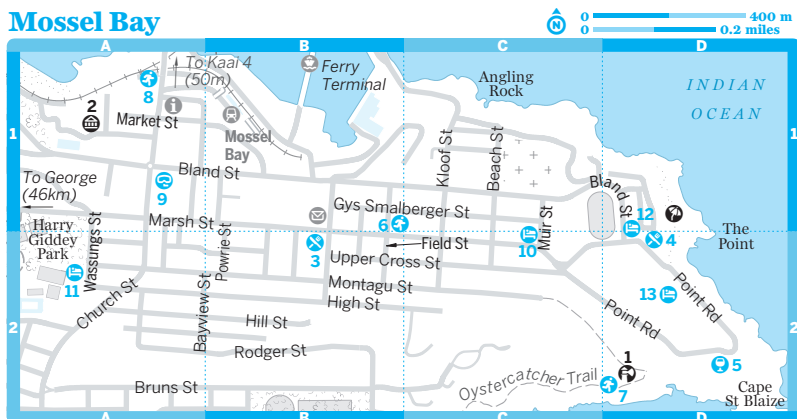
Getting There & Away

Bus Translux (☎0861 589 282; www.translux.co.za), **Greyhound** (☎011-611 8000; www.greyhound.co.za) and **Intercape** (☎0861 287 287; www.intercape.co.za) each operate regular services from Cape Town (R280, six hours, twice daily).

Need to Know

- ➔ **Area Code** ☎044
- ➔ **Location** Mossel Bay is 390km east of Cape Town along the N2.
- ➔ **Tourist Office** (☎691 2202; www.mosselbay.net; Market St; ☎8am-6pm Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm Sat, 9am-2pm Sun)

Mossel Bay



Mossel Bay

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|----------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| 📍 Sights | (p174) | 🏊 Sports & Activities | (p175) |
| 1 Cape St Blaize Lighthouse..... | D2 | 6 Electrodrive..... | B1 |
| 2 Dias Museum Complex..... | A1 | 7 Oystercatcher Trail..... | D2 |
| 🍴 Eating | (p174) | 8 Romonza..... | A1 |
| 3 Café Havana..... | B2 | 9 Seven Seas..... | (see 8) |
| 4 Kingfisher..... | D2 | 9 White Shark Africa..... | A1 |
| 🍷 Drinking | (p174) | 🛏 Sleeping | (p176) |
| 5 Big Blu..... | D2 | 10 Mossel Bay Backpackers..... | C2 |
| | | 11 Park House Lodge & Travel Centre..... | A2 |
| | | 12 Point Village Hotel..... | D1 |
| | | 13 Punt Caravan Park..... | D2 |