

Southern Suburbs

MOWBRAY | RONDEBOSCH | NEWLANDS | BISHOPSCOURT | WYNBERG | CONSTANTIA

Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Immerse yourself in the diverse splendour of the Cape Floral Kingdom at **Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens** (p118), and be sure to attend one of their outdoor summer concerts.

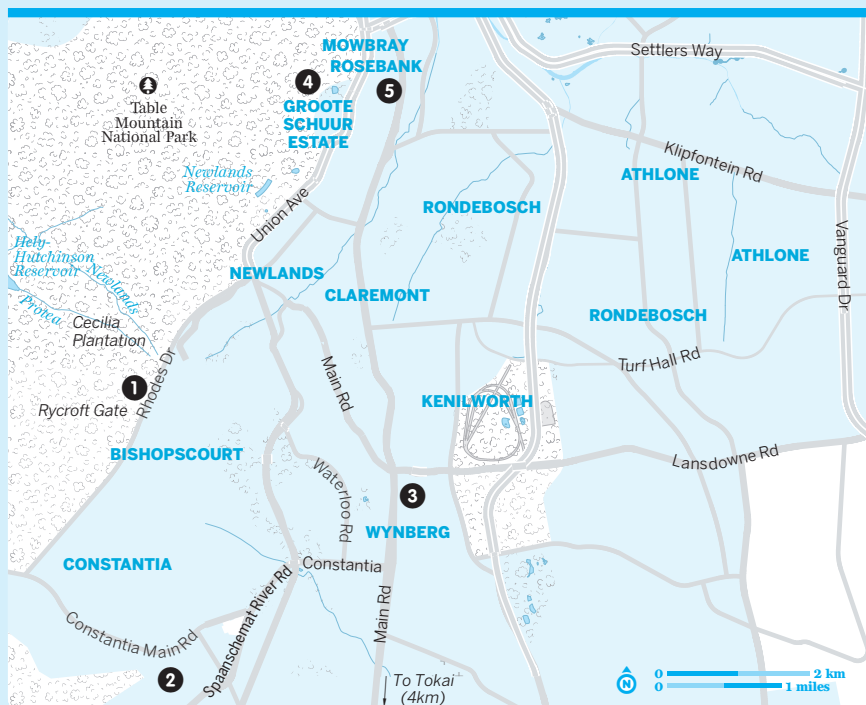
2 Taste wines along the **Constantia Valley Wine Route** (p119) visiting his-

toric estates such as Groot Constantia.

3 Take a stroll around the lovely urban conservation area of **Wynberg Village** (p121).

4 Admire the view from the grand **Rhodes Memorial** (p121)

5 Step into the world of one of South Africa's top 20th-century painters at the **Irma Stern Museum** (p123).



For more detail of this area, see Map p282 ➔

Explore Southern Suburbs

If you want to see how the other half in Cape Town lives – the rich half – take a trip into the Southern Suburbs, the residential areas clinging to the eastern slopes of Table Mountain. Heading south out of the City Bowl and around Devil's Peak you'll first hit Mowbray and Rondebosch; this is the territory of the University of Cape Town (UCT). It's also where you'll find one of Cape Town's premier arts spaces, the Baxter Theatre Centre.

Leafy Newlands and Bishopscourt are clearly affluent and where you'll find several of the area's highlights, including the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and the city's major cricketing and rugby venues. The area around Claremont station is a fascinating study in contrasts, with black and coloured traders crowding the streets around the ritzy Cavendish Square mall. It's a similar story in Wynberg, another place where the haves rub shoulders with the have-nots. The thatched-roof Cape Georgian homes of Wynberg Village are worth a look.

Immediately to the west is Constantia, home to South Africa's oldest wineries, where the super-wealthy live in huge mansions behind high walls. It's a verdant area that culminates in Tokai, with its shady forest reserve.

Local Life

- ➔ **Sports** Join the fans cheering on South African cricket and rugby teams at Sahara Park Newlands (p128) and Newlands Rugby Stadium (p128).
- ➔ **Beer** Sample microbrews at Banana Jam (p125), tour South Africa's oldest commercial brewery (p123) or drop by the ever-popular boozier the Forrester's Arms (p126)
- ➔ **Markets** The commons in front of Kirstenbosch get used for various markets, including a monthly craft market (p127); also head to the Porter Estate (p127) on Saturday for its farm-fresh produce and craft market.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Car** From the city follow the M3, which runs parallel to the east side of Table Mountain with turn-offs for UCT, the Rhodes Memorial, Newlands and Kirstenbosch. Stay on the M3 for Constantia and Tokai.
- ➔ **Bus** The City Sightseeing Cape Town Blue Route bus stops at Kirstenbosch; you can add a free extension bus tour to the Groot Constantia and Eagle's Nest wineries.
- ➔ **Shared taxi** Minibus taxis shuttle along Main Rd from Mowbray to Wynberg.
- ➔ **Train** Cape Metro Rail has stops at Rondebosch, Newlands, Claremont, Kenilworth, Wynberg, Rosebank and Mowbray.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Arderne Gardens (www.ardernegardens.org.za; 222 Main Rd, Claremont; ☎9am-6pm) were planted by botanist Ralph Arderne in 1845 and represent the oldest collection of trees in the southern hemisphere, including bamboo, fir, gum and enormous Moreton Bay fig trees. It's a lovely place for a quiet wander and is especially colourful on weekends when many Capetonian wedding parties come to have their photos taken.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ La Colombe (p124)
- ➔ Bistro Sixteen82 (p124)
- ➔ River Café (p124)
- ➔ Gardener's Cottage (p124)
- ➔ A Tavola (p124)

For reviews, see p124 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Banana Jam (p125)
- ➔ Martini Bar (p126)
- ➔ Caveau at the Mill (p126)
- ➔ Forrester's Arms (p126)
- ➔ O'ways Teacafe (p125)

For reviews, see p125 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Montebello (p127)
- ➔ Art in the Forest (p127)
- ➔ Porter Estate Produce Market (p127)
- ➔ Cavendish Square (p127)

For reviews, see p127 ➔