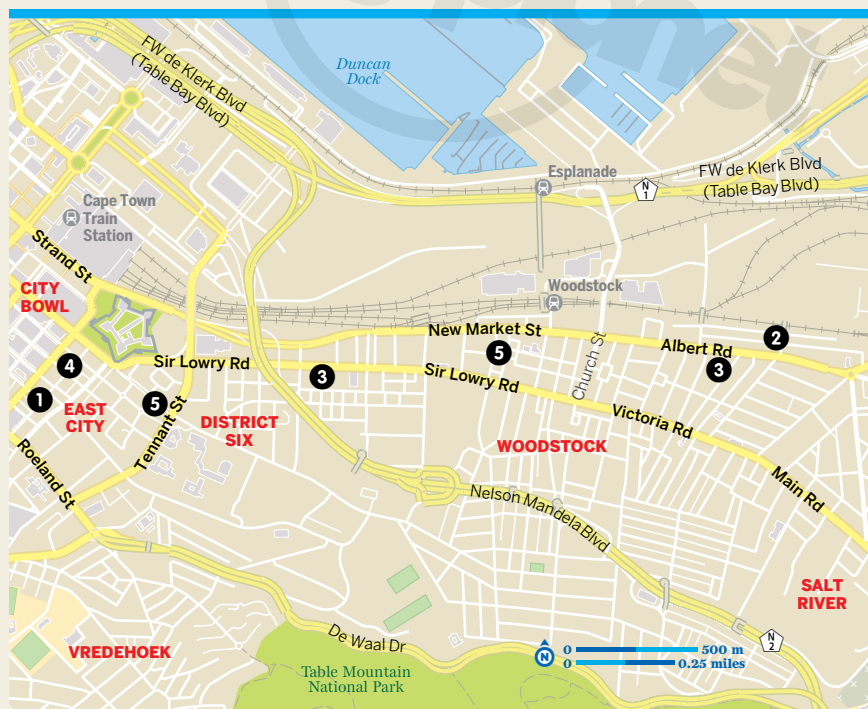


East City, District Six, Woodstock & Observatory

DISTRICT SIX | WOODSTOCK | SALT RIVER | OBSERVATORY

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Learn about Cape Town's troubled past at the **District Six Museum** (p82), which is as much for the people of the destroyed inner city as it is about them.
- 2 Browse the **Old Biscuit Mill** (p89) for retail therapy and gourmet eats.
- 3 Discover South African artists at **galleries** (p89) such as Stevenson and What If The World.
- 4 Enjoy top-class theatre and digital movie events at the **Fugard** (p88).
- 5 Admire the dazzling **street art** (p84) brightening up East City, District Six and Woodstock.



For more detail of this area see Map p274 and p276 ➔

Explore East City District Six, Woodstock & Observatory

East of the City Bowl are a string of working-class, industrial suburbs that are regenerating and partly gentrifying. The process is patchy and controversial and has long been so – this is where you'll find the largely empty lots of District Six, a multicultural area destroyed during apartheid.

Creative industries, cafes and bars are clustered at the the East City end of District Six. Moving further eastwards, Woodstock and Salt River continue their upwardly mobile trajectory, with the Woodstock Exchange, the Woodstock Foundry, Woodstock Co-op and Salt Circle Arcade being the prime redevelopments following in the wake of the phenomenal Old Biscuit Mill. The opening of several major and minor Cape Town galleries, joining pioneers such as Greatmore Studios, has put the region on the art-lovers' map. This area is also the canvas for the city's most striking street art, and a hub for the city's blooming craft-beer scene.

Further east is Observatory, named after the first Royal Observatory established nearby in 1820; the site remains the headquarters of the South African Astronomical Observatory. Commonly known as 'Obs', the suburb has long been a bohemian, racially mixed area, even during apartheid. It's popular with students attending the nearby University of Cape Town and the Medical School at Groote Schuur Hospital. Several fine backpacker hostels and lively, inexpensive restaurants make it a great base for budget travellers.

Local Life

- ➔ **Markets** Neighbourgoods (p89) every Saturday is the big one, but get there early to avoid jostling crowds.
- ➔ **Design** Pick up the *Woodstock Design District Map*, the key to discovering local craftspeople and artists, at Southern Guild (p89).
- ➔ **Books** Broaden your intellectual horizons and be entertained by one of many fascinating readings or book launches at the Book Lounge (p90).

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Walk** Fine from the City Bowl to East City, and during daylight around the main roads of Woodstock and Salt River. Proceed with caution at night.
- ➔ **Bus and shared taxi** City buses and shared minibus taxis plough the route between the city and Observatory along Sir Lowry and Victoria Rds.
- ➔ **Train** Cape Metro trains stop at Woodstock, Salt River and Observatory.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Gallery openings, late-night shopping, food trucks and street parties feature across the East City and Woodstock on **Thursday Late** (www.first-thursdays.co.za), the third Thursday of the month.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Pot Luck Club (p86)
- ➔ Kitchen (p85)
- ➔ Test Kitchen (p86)
- ➔ Pesce Azzurro (p86)
- ➔ Ocean Jewels (p85)

For reviews, see p85. ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Taproom (p87)
- ➔ Espressolab
- ➔ Microroasters (p87)
- ➔ aMadoda Braai (p87)
- ➔ Truth (p87)
- ➔ Lady Bonin's Tea (p87)

For reviews, see p87. ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Old Biscuit Mill (p89)
- ➔ Neighbourgoods Market (p89)
- ➔ Book Lounge (p90)
- ➔ Southern Guild (p89)
- ➔ Woodstock Exchange (p90)

For reviews, see p89. ➔