

# Gardens & Surrounds

GARDENS | ORANJEZICHT | TAMBOERSKLOOF | VREDEHOEK | HIGGOVALE

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Ride the revolving cableway up **Table Mountain** (p94), then walk across the top to the summit at Ma-clear's Beacon or abseil off the edge.
- 2 View the nation's best visual art at the **South**

**African National Gallery** (p97).

3 Discover all about South Africa's Jewish immigrants at the **South African Jewish Museum** (p96).

4 Visit the **Oranjezicht City Farm** (p100) and drop

by its farmers market on Saturday.

5 Climb **Lion's Head** (p97) for a panoramic view of the city and coast, or drive out to the viewpoint on **Signal Hill** (p97).



For more detail of this area see Map p277 and p278 →

## Explore Gardens & Surrounds

Taking its name from the Company's Gardens, the City Bowl end of this mountainside region is where you'll find some of Cape Town's premier museums. Further up the slopes are desirable residential areas, home to some of the city's most appealing and individual accommodation options, not least of which is the leafy compound of the Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel.

It goes without saying that the area is dominated by the massive bulk of Table Mountain, as well as the adjacent rocky humps of Lion's Head, Signal Hill and Devil's Peak. You'll hardly be able to keep your eyes off the mountain, especially when the famous tablecloth of cloud is tumbling off its summit – usually in the late afternoon. Climbing it more than repays the effort but, if that's not on the cards, then there's always the cableway.

Kloof St, the Gardens' commercial spine, is perfect for leisurely strolls with its collection of individual boutiques, restaurants and lively bars. West and up Signal Hill you'll find the suburb of Tamboerskloof, while Oranjezicht lies to the east behind De Waal Park. Wind-blasted Vredehoek is further to the east towards Devil's Peak (it's marked by the trio of residential blocks officially called Disa Park, but more commonly known as the 'Tampon Towers'), while Higgovale, sheltered from the wind, is to the west.

## Local Life

- ➔ **Dog park** Join locals walking their dogs in leafy De Waal Park (p98); free concerts are occasionally held in the bandstand here on summer Sundays.
- ➔ **De-stress** Enjoy a clothed, oil-free massage at contemporary-styled Enmasse (p103).
- ➔ **Movies** Catch the latest flick and art-house gems at the Labia (p101), the neighbourhood's cinema.

## Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Bus** MyCiti bus routes go up Kloof Nek Rd to Table Mountain and around Orangezicht and Vredehoek.
- ➔ **Shared taxi** These shuttle up Kloof St to Kloof Nek Rd, then over to Camps Bay before returning to the City Bowl.
- ➔ **Walk** It's easy to walk between the main sights of lower Gardens, but be prepared for quite a workout if you plan on hiking up to the lower cableway.

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Bertram House (p98) and Rust en Vreugd (p97) are a couple of small museums in the Gardens area that you are likely to have all to yourself. The former is the city's last remaining example of a Georgian-style red-brick house, while the latter has a lovely formal garden and some beautiful watercolours and prints.

### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Chef's Table (p99)
- ➔ Ferdinando's (p98)
- ➔ Blue Cafe (p98)
- ➔ Hallelujah (p99)
- ➔ Aubergine (p100)

For reviews, see p98. ➔

### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Yours Truly (p100)
- ➔ Power & the Glory/Black Ram (p100)
- ➔ Blah Blah Bar (p101)
- ➔ Perseverance Tavern (p101)
- ➔ Chalk & Cork (p101)

For reviews, see p100. ➔

### Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Coffeebeans Routes (p101)
- ➔ KIN (p102)
- ➔ Stefania Morland (p102)
- ➔ Erf 81 Food Market (p102)
- ➔ Bluecollarwhitecollar (p102)

For reviews, see p101. ➔