

Southern Suburbs

MOWBRAY | RONDEBOSCH | CLAREMONT | NEWLANDS | BISHOPSCOURT | WYNBERG | CONSTANTIA



Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Immerse yourself in the diverse splendour of the Cape floral kingdom at **Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens** (p126), and be sure to attend one of the outdoor summer concerts.

2 Taste wines along the **Constantia Valley Wine Route** (p127), visiting historic estates such as **Groot Constantia** (p127).

3 Take a stroll around the lovely urban conservation area of **Wynberg Village** (p129).

4 Admire the view from the grand **Rhodes Memorial** (p129).

5 Step into the world of one of South Africa's top 20th-century painters at the **Irma Stern Museum** (p129).

For more detail of this area see Map p286 and p288 ➔

Explore Southern Suburbs

If you want to see how the other half in Cape Town lives – the rich half, that is – visit 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) and the location of one of Cape Town's premier arts spaces, the Baxter Theatre Centre.

Leafy, affluent Newlands and Bishopscourt are where you'll find the area's highlight, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, as well as 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 and 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 (p135) and Newlands Rugby Stadium (p135).
- ➔ **Beer** Sample microbrews at Banana Jam (p133), tour South Africa's oldest commercial brewery (p131) or drop by the ever-popular Forrester's Arms (p134).
- ➔ **Markets** The Kirstenbosch commons hosts various markets, including a monthly craft market (p136); also head to the Tokai Forest Market (p135) on Saturday for farm-fresh produce and crafts.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Car** From the city follow the M3, which runs parallel to the east side of Table Mountain and has 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 Constantia 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

If you're in Cape Town on the second-last Saturdays of March or November and like pottery, head to **Rondebosch Common** for the Potters Market organised by **Ceramics South Africa** (www.ceramics-sa-cape.co.za). Get there around 7am to snag the best pieces and bargains. Every Saturday at 8am there's also a 5km **park run** (www.parkrun.co.za/rondeboschcommon) around the common – anyone can join.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Greenhouse (p133)
- ➔ La Colombe (p133)
- ➔ Starlings Cafe (p132)
- ➔ Bistro Sixteen82 (p132)
- ➔ Four&twenty Cafe & Pantry (p133)

For reviews, see p132. ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Banana Jam (p133)
- ➔ Martini Bar (p134)
- ➔ Forrester's Arms (p134)
- ➔ Localé (p134)

For reviews, see p133. ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Montebello (p135)
- ➔ Art in the Forest (p135)
- ➔ Balu Legacy Boutique (p135)

For reviews, see p135. ➔