



# Johannesburg & Gauteng

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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Service Station (p334)
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- ➔ Grillhouse (p339)
- ➔ Lucky Bean (p335)
- ➔ Boer'geoisie (p359)

## Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Residence (p330)
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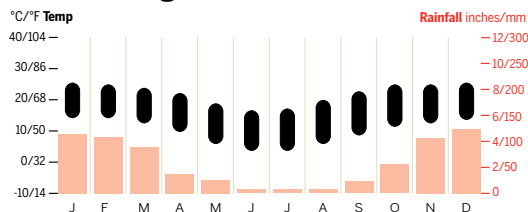
## Why Go?

If you're in search of urban vibes, Gauteng will enthrall you. This small province is the throbbing heart of the South African nation and the economic engine of Africa. Its epicentre is Johannesburg (Jo'burg), the country's largest city. And what a city! Its centre is undergoing an astonishing rebirth and its cultural life has never been so dynamic. Once considered a place to avoid, Jo'burg is now one of the most inspiring and happening metropolises in the world.

For a change of scene, head to Pretoria, a short drive north. The country's administrative capital is decidedly less urbane but is somewhat grander with its stately buildings, attractive museums and jacaranda-lined streets.

Gauteng also has a unique geological history that's evident at the World Heritage-listed Cradle of Humankind. This vast valley full of caves and fossils is one of the African continent's most important archaeological sites.

## When to Go Johannesburg



**Mar** School's back, so Jo'burg's Melville, Maboneng and Braamfontein hop. High fashion is out in Sandton.

**Aug** Festival season led by Joy of Jazz, the Dance Umbrella and a hectic calendar of theatre.

**Late Nov–Mar** Spectacular near-daily lightning strikes. Enjoy less traffic and a great NYE carnival.

# Johannesburg & Gauteng Highlights

1 Hooking up with Southern Africa's cultural hub in the revamped Johannesburg neighbourhoods of **Newtown** (p319), **Braamfontein** (p323) and **Maboneng** (p324).

2 Revisiting South Africa's chilling history at Jo'burg's **Apartheid Museum** (p325) and **Constitution Hill** (p324).

3 Leaping off the **Orlando Towers** (p348) in Soweto.

4 Cruising the cafes and bars in the leafy streets of Jo'burg's **Melville** (p341).

5 Going deep underground in the caves and fossil sites at the **Cradle of Humankind** (p349).

6 Paying respects to the fallen at **Freedom Park** (p354) in Pretoria.

7 Taking a tour of **Jo'burg's Inner City** (p331) and marvelling at its architectural gems.

