



# Mpumalanga

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## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Wild Fig Tree (p371)
- ➔ Summerfields Kitchen (p376)
- ➔ Kruger's Gold (p373)
- ➔ Saffron (p379)
- ➔ Food Fundi (p379)

## Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Woodsman (p370)
- ➔ Royal Hotel (p372)
- ➔ Graskop Hotel (p373)
- ➔ Trees Too (p381)
- ➔ River House Lodge (p380)

## Why Go?

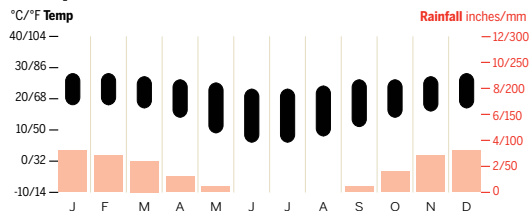
Mpumalanga is one of South Africa's smallest provinces and one of its most exciting. Visually it is a simply beautiful region with vistas of mountains, lush green valleys and a collection of cool-climate towns. Its natural assets make it a prime target for outdoor enthusiasts, who head here to abseil down waterfalls, throw themselves off cliffs, negotiate rivers by raft, inner tube or canoe, and hike or bike numerous wilderness trails.

Mpumalanga's major draw, though, is the massive Blyde River Canyon, which carves its way spectacularly through the Drakensberg Escarpment. It is one of South Africa's iconic sights and on a clear day one of the many vantage points can leave you breathless.

And, of course, the province provides access to the southern half of Kruger National Park (p384), with an excellent selection of lodges and wilderness activities right on the mighty park's doorstep.

## When to Go

### Nelspruit



**Jan–Mar** Head onto the escarpment to escape the steamy lowveld during summer.

**Jun–Aug** The capital goes off during InniBos with artists and theatre groups packing venues.

**Sep–Dec** Visit alpine Dullstroom in mid-December to catch its Arts & Cultural Festival.

**LEGEND**

BR	Biosphere Reserve
GR	Game Reserve
NP	National Park



## Mpumalanga Highlights

**1** Throwing a line in the water for trout around sophisticated **Dullstroom** (p366) and enjoying the cool alpine climate.

**2** Picking up fine African arts and crafts in **Graskop** (p372) before hurling yourself into a gorge on the Big Swing outside town.

**3** Gazing in awe from the Three Rondavels at **Blyde River Canyon** (p374), the world's third-largest canyon.

**4** Hitting the bike trails around **Sabie** (p369), or simply taking in the misty mountain views.

**5** Discovering the heritage of **Barberton** (p381) with a stroll around the province's most enjoyable town.