

# Pocket Guide to South Africa

2006/07

Size	1 219 090 km <sup>2</sup>
Key economic sectors	Mining services and transport, energy, manufacturing, tourism, agriculture
Population	47,4 million (mid-2006)
Official languages	English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, isiNdebele, Afrikaans, siSwati, Sesotho sa Leboa, Sesotho, Setswana, Tshivenda and Xitsonga
Government	Constitutional multiparty, three-tier (local, provincial, national) democracy
Major cities	Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein, East London, Kimberley. There are nine provinces
Currency	100 cents equals one rand
Time	GMT +2 hours
Distances	Cape Town to Johannesburg 1 400 km (880 miles) Johannesburg to Durban 600 km (380 miles) Port Elizabeth to Bloemfontein 700 km (440 miles)
Transportation	Excellent roads, rail and air facilities (both domestic and international)
Telecommunications	World-class infrastructure. Internet access is widely available. There are three mobile (cellular) networks
Value-added tax	Levied at 14%. Tourists may apply for tax refunds on purchases over R250 on departure
Health	Top quality care is available throughout the country, although basic in rural areas. Inoculations are only required for those travelling from yellow-fever areas. Malaria precautions are necessary in some areas
Total GDP (2005)	US\$239,4 billion*
GDP per capita (2005)	US\$5 056*
Real GDP growth (2005)	4,9%
Inflation (CPIX)	3,9%

\* Based on a mid-2005 exchange rate of R6,36 to the US\$

For further information on South Africa, visit [www.southafrica.info](http://www.southafrica.info) and [www.gov.za](http://www.gov.za)