

2023/24

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO
SOUTH AFRICA



SOUTH AFRICA
AT A GLANCE

Land surface area

1 220 813 km²

Key economic sectors

Mining, transport, energy, manufacturing, tourism and agriculture.

Population

Total: 63,02 million

Male: 30 076 814 million (48,5%)

Female: 31 947 531 (51,0%)

Population group

Black African: 81,4%

Coloured: 8,2%

Indian/Asian: 2,7%

White: 7,3%

Official languages

English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, isiNdebele, Afrikaans, Siswati, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Tshivenda, Xitsonga and South African Sign Language.

Currency

Rand (ZAR) – 100 cents equal one rand.

Time

GMT +2 hours.

Government

Constitutional multiparty democracy, with three spheres – local, provincial and national government.

Capitals

Pretoria (administrative); Cape Town (legislative); Bloemfontein (judicial). The Constitutional Court is in Johannesburg.

Provinces

Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape.

Transportation

Excellent roads, rail and air facilities (both domestic and international). Public transport in major cities include the Gautrain between Johannesburg and Pretoria, and the Bus Rapid Transport System in major cities.

Telecommunications

World-class telecommunications infrastructure. Internet and Wi-Fi access is widely available. The four major mobile (cellular) networks are Vodacom, MTN, Cell C and Telkom Mobile. South Africa is widely recognised as having one of the most advanced digital ecosystems in the continent. Its key features include over 300 000 kilometres of fibre distributed across the country.

Health

Top-quality public and private healthcare is available throughout the country. Malaria precautions are necessary in some areas.

Source on population figures: Statistics South Africa's *Mid-year population estimates of 2024*.

For more information, visit www.southafrica.info and www.gov.za.