SOUTH AFRICA AT A GLANCE

Land surface area
1 219 602 km²

Key economic sectors
Mining services and transport, energy, manufacturing, tourism and agriculture.

Population
Total       51 770 560
Male        25 188 791 (48,7%)
Female      26 581 769 (51,3%)

Official languages
English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, isiNdebele, Afrikaans, siSwati, Sesotho sa Leboa, Sesotho, Setswana, Tshivenda and Xitsonga.

Currency
Rand (ZAR) – 100 cents equal one rand.

Time
GMT +2 hours
Government
South Africa has a constitutional multiparty democracy with three spheres, namely local, provincial and national.

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

Provinces
Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West, 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 Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Telecommunications
World-class infrastructure. Internet access is widely available. There are four mobile (cellular) networks.

Health
Top-quality healthcare 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.

Sources: Mid-year Population Estimates, 2011 (Stats SA) and Census 2011.
For more information, visit www.southafrica.info and www.gov.za