

North West

The North West Province is probably best known for its precious metal mining and its two top tourist destinations: the over-the-top mega resort of Sun City and nearby Pilanesberg National Park - home to the Big 5 (lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino). But there is much more to check out in the North West Province beyond these two popular sights. There are a few lesser-known game and nature reserves with great hiking trails that will allow you to experience the pleasant landscape away from the crowds. A handful of interior cities have their own distinct flavor, such as Rustenburg and its exploding funeral business or the laid-back but prosperous capital city of Mafikeng that endured a seven-month siege during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

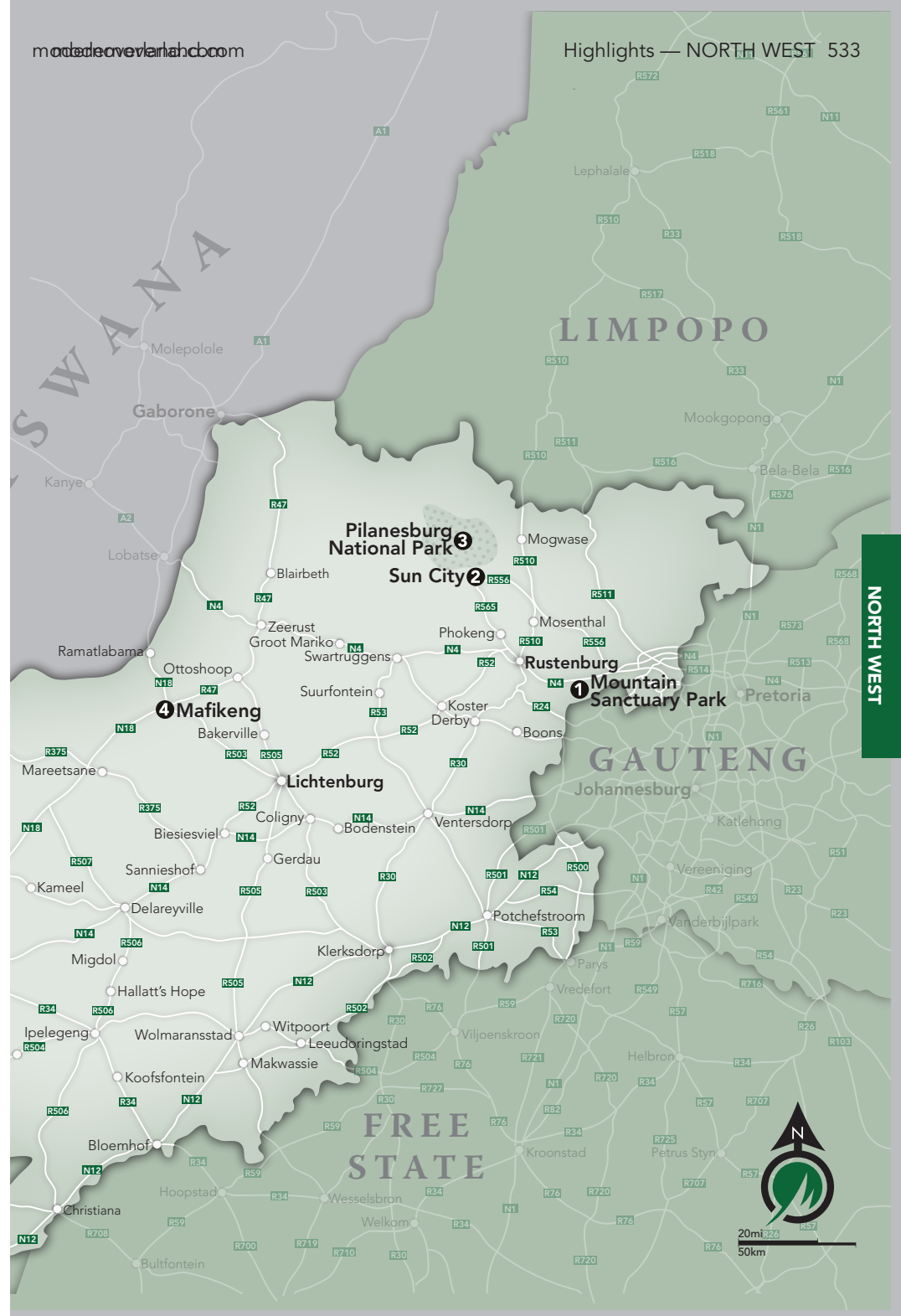
NORTH WEST

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CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS North West Province

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HISTORY

Original Khoisan paintings found in the region date back as far as 20,000 to 30,000 years ago, a testament to the long indigenous inhabitation of the western Transvaal, today known as the North West Province. Tswana descendents of Bantu migrants from the north later settled the area and paved the way for the rise of the ancient "lost city" of Kurreechane (or Kaditshwene) during the Iron Age. Today, the city's stone wall ruins represent the most notable remaining example of original Tswana culture. The advanced society of iron smelters and blacksmiths impressed early British explorers and Wesleyan missionaries who arrived in the region in 1820s. However, the Tswana inhabitants abandoned the city as turbulent warfare spread across the region and the Ndebele forces under Chief Mzilikazi invaded and established a stronghold just north of present day Mafikeng.

The North West Province was rife with frontier instability between 1830 and the South African War in 1899. Encroaching Voortrekkers, distancing themselves from the control of the British Cape Colony, invaded the region and pushed the Ndebele north as they established a dispersed network of farms. As violence subsided, previously displaced chiefdoms such as the Barolong repopulated the area around the Molopo River. Around the same time, in 1856, the Voortrekkers declared an independent republic centered on nearby Pretoria, but soon aimed to expand their territorial claims beyond the confines of this new republic. So they raided Barolong territory and demanded tribute or labor from the conquered tribe. In response, in order to recoup their lost land, the Barolong requested protection from the colonial British, who were happy to oblige when the discovery of diamonds near Lichtenburg sparked an increase of interest in the region. A British expedition, led by Sir Charles Warren, came to the Barolong's defense and declared the region part of the British Bechuanaland Protectorate in 1885; Mafikeng (at the time referred to Mafeking) was established as its capital. A decade later, in 1895, Cape Prime Minister and infamous diamond baron Cecil Rhodes annexed the southern part of the Bechuanaland Protectorate and incorporated it into the Cape Colony. That same year, Rhodes colluded with gold miners in the Transvaal to launch a coup

effort against the Boer republic from Mafikeng. This attempt, which later became known as the Jameson Raid, failed horribly and Rhodes was soon forced to resign as Prime Minister of the Cape Colony.

The outbreak of the South African War in 1899 turned the western Transvaal into a major battleground. Mafikeng gained international fame when roughly 8,000 Boers besieged 6,000 Barolong, 1,000 refugees, 1,000 Englishmen and 900 British troops in the city for over 217 days as they launched ongoing assaults and cut off supplies to the city, in an attempt to starve their opponents into submission. Future political activist Sol Plaatje was among the besieged, and it was during this time that he wrote his literary masterpiece, "Mafikeng Diary: A Black Man's View of a White Man's War." Over the next two years, the western Transvaal was devastated. The Boers launched guerilla warfare and British scorched earth tactics and internment of Boer women and children and black Africans in unsanitary concentration camps led to widespread disease and death. The British Imperial Army finally overcame the Boer commandos in 1902 and eight years later declared the Union of South Africa in 1910.

The apartheid government carved up the majority of the region as a separate African "homeland" called Bophuthatswana, a hodgepodge state that was given nominal independence in 1977. President Lucas Mangope ruled Bophuthatswana and its capital was established on the outskirts of Mafikeng at Mmabatho. A deal was struck between the homeland and the apartheid government to allow the white population residing in Bophuthatswana to retain their South African citizenship, and the Sun City (now an extensive resort and fun park) emerged as a haven for white gamblers to enjoy the separate jurisdiction and freedom to fornicate with black women trying to make a buck. The international community never acknowledged Bophuthatswana's independence, as it globally represented an element of the apartheid government's pursuit of separate and unequal race policies.

Violence overcame Bophuthatswana in the late 1980s and in 1988 a military coup ousted President Mangope with corruption charges. The South African Defense Force invaded and reinstated Mangope, but the effort was short lived as mass opposition mounted to Mangope's

refusal to join the democratic transition of South Africa in the early 1990s. Violent conflicts toppled the government in 1994. The former state of Bophuthatswana was reincorporated into South Africa as the newly elected democratic government restructured the country, and the western Transvaal was established as the North West Province. The Bophuthatswana capital of Mmabatho was merged with Mafikeng to form the new capital of the North West Province in 1996.

RUSTENBURG

GPS: S 25 40.089 E 027 14.305

pop. 125,000 | elevation 1,165 m/3,822 ft

Rustenburg is a bustling city and the commerce and transport hub of the region, although there isn't that much going on within the city itself. Unemployment and business turnover are high with places opening and closing with considerable frequency. One business that is thriving though is the funeral business, with tombstone shops on nearly every other block, a large new crematorium and rows of fresh gravesites dug in the cemetery on the outskirts of town. However the surrounding area offers a much more pleasant (and less morbid) experience with scenic farms, and guesthouses, Kswane Nature Reserve, Mountain Sanctuary Park and the nearby Sun City and Pilanesberg National Park.

Security is an issue in the city and most of the downtown area is empty and locked up by sundown.

TOURIST INFORMATION

North West Parks & Tourism Board Information Office (S 25 40.769 E 027 15.100, Nelson Mandela Dr, ☎014-597-0904, www.tourismnorthwest.co.za, 8am-4:30pm Mon-Fri, 8:30am-12pm Sat) has free maps of Rustenburg and many brochures for area accommodation and activities.

MONEY

Standard Bank (S 25 40.562, E 027 14.841, cnr Bosch St & Nelson Mandela Dr) has full banking services.

ABSA Bank (S 25 40.342 E 027 14.576, cnr

Beyers Naude St & Nelson Mandela Dr) is located downtown and has ATMs available.

INTERNET

@ Internet Café (S 25 40.598 E 027 14.417, Kock St, ☎014-592-1979, 8am-7pm Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm Sat, R50/30min) has nine updated computers and allows laptops to be plugged in.

PostNet (S 25 42.366 E 027 15.147, Waterfall Mall, ☎014-592-7878, 8:30am-5:30pm Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm Sat, R1/min) has four updated computers but doesn't allow laptops. It is located next to the entrance to the Pick 'n Pay.

Mug & Bean (S 25 42.366 E 027 15.147, Waterfall Mall, ☎014-537-3124, 7:30am-9pm Mon-Sat, 7:30am-5pm Sun, free wifi) is a café/restaurant with free wifi, but no computers for public use.

News Café (S 25 42.308 E 027 15.098, across the street from Waterfall Mall, ☎014-537-3711, 7am-late Mon-Fri, 7:30am-late Sat-Sun, free wifi) has meals, pastries, desserts and free wifi, but no computers available to the public.

SHOPPING

Waterfall Mall (S 25 42.366 E 027 15.147, on the R24 near the intersection with the N4) is a large modern mall complex with a Pick 'n Pay, Woolworths, clothing shops, department stores, a large food court with a handful of restaurants, ATMS, and a post office, currency exchange and movie theater.

Rustenburg Square Shopping Center (S 25 40.603 E 027 14.348, cnr Beyers Naude St & Von Wielligh St) is less crowded than the other shopping areas downtown with a SuperSpar, PostNet with Internet access and ABSA, Standard Bank and Nedbank ATMs.

Biblio Plaza (S 25 40.130 E 027 14.315, cnr Berg St & Nelson Mandela Dr) is centrally located and has a number of shops, a game store and FNB and Nedbank ATMs.

SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

Kswane Nature Reserve (S 25 43.056 E 027 14.255, Helen Joseph Dr, ☎014-533-2050, www.kswane.co.za)



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- *** **SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES**
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Minibus Taxi Rank 15 A1

rustenberg-reserve.co.za, Sept-Mar: 5:30am-6pm, Apr-Aug: 6am-6pm, R10/vehicle, R20/person), previously known as Rustenburg Nature Reserve, is best known for its nearly 1,000 antelope but also has a large number of bird species and a few smaller predators. While not one of the most beautiful of the area's reserves, the park makes for some nice hikes. There are four hiking trails within the reserve – two shorter day trails and two 20-25 km overnight trails. Accommodation is at campsites without electricity (R20/person) or self-catering hiking cottages (R120/person). The reserve is poorly signed from Rustenburg. To get there head south from downtown on Beyers Naude St. At the end of the road you must veer left or right. Take the left side onto Helen Joseph Dr toward Safarituine and continue 4.8 km where you will make a right turn onto a road also signed as Helen Joseph Dr and continue straight 0.7 km to the main gate.

In town there are a few historical buildings within two blocks on Burger St just off of Nelson Mandela Dr. **The Anglican Church** (S 25 40.246 E 027 14.771) built in 1871, the **Dutch Reformed Church** (S 25 40.297 E 027 14.718) from 1850, and the **Old Town Hall** (S 25 40.321 E 027 14.675) built in 1935.

Magaliesberg Canopy Tours (S 25 49.850 E 027 24.717, located in the Sparkling Waters Hotel & Spa, 014-535-0150, www.magaliescanopytour.co.za, R450) takes you for 2.5hr of zipping through the Ysterhout Gorge on cables over 30 m high. The Magaliesberg Canopy Tours office is located 32 km outside of Rustenburg in the Sparkling Waters Hotel & Spa. To get there follow the signs to the hotel from either R24 or the N4.

Show Grounds (S 25 40.587 E 027 15.149, cnr McGregor St & Oliver Thambo Rd, 014-592-1318) has stock car racing once a month, usually on the first or last weekend of the month. Call for the schedule.

SLEEPING

BUDGET

Hodge Podge Lodge Backpackers (S 25 46.584 E 027 14.594, dirt road off R24, 084-698-0417, camping R50, dm R150, chalets: s R200, d R400, swimming pool, secure parking) is a former B&B converted into a backpackers, so it has a more upmarket feel than the typical backpackers. The

lodge is an old farmhouse situated at the foot of the Magaliesberg Mountains that still has a number of cattle, sheep and dogs. Besides the large dorm lodge, there are six en suite wooden chalets dotting the lawn around the swimming pool. The farm has a large outdoor lounge and well stocked bar with a pool table and braai facilities. To get there head south from Rustenburg on the R24 and continue 10.6 km past the Waterfall Mall. Follow the signed turnoff from R24 (at S 25 47.025 E 027 14.973) on to a dirt road. Continue 1.1 km down the road to the lodge.

Rustenburg Kloof Holiday Resort (S 25 41.150 E 027 11.602, 014-594-1037 or 082-044-4143, www.rusteburgkloof.co.za, camping/caravan R120-180, chalet R450-720, swimming pool) is a large caravan site with a number of chalets on the outskirts of town. Animals roam around a playground, tennis courts, and swimming pool with a water slide. There is also a hiking trail to a nearby waterfall. The campsites have a water tap, electric outlets and a braai pit. To get there from Rustenburg head south on Bethlehem St (near the bus station) until the end of the road. Take a right onto Watsonian Rd and continue 2.5 km, then turn left onto Dr. Moroka Dr and continue 1.5 km to the end of the road and then take a left and continue 100 m to entrance gate.

Travellers Inn (S 25 39.843 E 027 14.565, 99 Leyds St, 014-592-7658, www.travellersinn.co.za, s/d R300-350, swimming pool, secure parking) is a high security establishment with video surveillance throughout the property, gated individual car parks and metal gates in front of all of the locked room doors. Inside each room there is a TV, mini fridge, a desk and chair and a large bathroom. While the restaurant and bar are rustically cozy, the intense security may make you feel like big brother is watching over you.

MID-RANGE

Afri-Chic (S 25 41.097 E 027 13.483, 35 Boven St, 014-592-2763 or 079-117-3232, www.afri-chic.co.za, s R553, d R1,000, breakfast included, secure parking, wifi) is a modern B&B with nine suites featuring TV, AC and a mini-fridge. Meals can be arranged with advanced notice.
Rainhill Farm B&B (S 25 40.303 E 027 10.813, 014-592-8911 or 082-336-1939, www.rainhill.co.za, cottages R280/person) has quaint individual cottages that have been on the farm for generations and are outfitted with furniture

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of a similar era. Today, the quiet family farm has horses, a few dogs and a small garden. Next door and owned by the same family is Hartley's Pub & Restaurant. To get there from Rustenburg head south on Bethlehem St (near the bus station) until the end of the road. Take a right onto Watsonian Rd and continue 2.5 km, then turn left onto Dr. Moroka Dr and continue 1.5 km to the end of the road, and then take a right and continue 1.7 km to a signed left run to Hartley's/Rainhill. Continue 0.5 km on the dirt road to the restaurant and B&B.

☑EATING

Hartley's Pub & Restaurant (S 25 40.303 E 027 10.813, ☎014-592-8911 or ☎082-336-1939, 9am-late Tue-Sat, 11am-3pm Sun, bar 10am-late Sun, mains R45-110) is a relaxing pub and restaurant, just outside of the city on a small family farm, that serves ribs, steak, fish, seafood and creamy garlic snails. Seating is both indoor and outside. Their water comes from a freshwater spring on the farm and they have a tap outside the restaurant where you can fill up water bottles. See Rainhill Farm B&B above for directions.

Cape Town Fish Market (S 25 42.366 E 027 15.147, Waterfall Mall, ☎083-400-2005, www.ctfm.com, 11am-11pm, mains R45-110) is a South African franchise but the most upmarket of the number of restaurants in the Waterfall Mall with two levels, a sushi conveyor belt and a mist-cooled outdoor seating area. The predominantly seafood restaurant has a Japanese bent to it with Teppanyaki, bento boxes and a large wine list that includes sake.

Dros (S 25 40.573, E 027 14.373, cnr Beyers Naude St & Von Wielligh St, ☎014-592-5439, 7am-11pm Mon-Sat, 8am-9pm Sun, bar open late, mains R45-100) is a dark wood pub restaurant serving salads, seafood, grills, burgers, pizza and sweet or savory pancakes with an outdoor seating area. The bar is generally a happening place in the evenings.

☑DRINKING & ENTERTAINMENT

Hartley's Pub & Restaurant (S 25 40.303 E 027 10.813, ☎014-592-8911 or ☎082-336-1939, 9am-late Tue-Sat, 11am-3pm Sun, 10am-late Sun) is good for an afternoon drink or an evening out. See Rainhill Farm B&B above for directions.

Dros (S 25 40.573, E 027 14.373, cnr Beyers Naude St & Von Wielligh St, ☎014-592-5439) is an option for something closer to downtown.

☑TRANSPORTATION

Minibus Taxi Rank (S 25 39.799 E 027 14.135, cnr Nelson Mandela Dr & Bethlehem St) is by the Caltex filling station and has transport to a number of places including Mafikeng (R75), Carltonville (R65), Makopane (R55), Haartbeesfontien (R15), and Joburg (R70). **Local Minibus Taxi Rank** (S 25 39.669 E 027 14.273, cnr Bethlehem St & Oliver Tambo Dr) is next to the main taxi rank.

Bus Station (S 25 39.726 E 027 14.159) is between the local and long distance taxi rank. Rustenburg has a number of taxi companies in town. **A&M Taxi** (☎079-730-7373), **Maxi Taxi** (☎072-100-7820) and **John's Taxi** (☎082-771-2146).

MTN SANCTUARY PARK

GPS: S 25 49.235 E 027 27.637
elevation 1,339 m/4,393 ft

Mountain Sanctuary Park (S 25 49.235 E 027 27.637, ☎014-534-0114 or ☎082-707-5538, owen@mountain-sactuary.co.za, Sept-Apr: 8am-6:30pm, May-Aug: 8am-5:30pm, R10/vehicle, R30/person) is a 10 square kilometer nature reserve in the Magaliesberg Mountains with scenic hiking trails, rock formations, and crystal clear mountain streams that you can drink from and natural pools that you can swim in. It is one of the most beautiful parks in the area and popular with weekend visitors from both Pretoria and Joburg, being just 100 km and 120 km from each, respectively. In addition to the baboons that roam through the main camp, the wildlife in the nature reserve includes klipspringer, roebuck, impala, zebra, hyena, warthog, jackal and leopards.

☑SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

Hiking on the trails throughout the park to view the wildlife or the below points of interest within the park is the main activity for many guests. The trails range from 30 minutes to 3 hours.

Swimming is possible in any of the numerous pools throughout the nature reserve. There is a

man-made swimming pool overlooking the valley near the main camp. But a 30-minute walk on the trails from the main camp to the West Pools is where you will find a host of private natural stream-fed pools surrounded by rock walls. If you are up for more of a swim you can head 30 minutes in the other direction from the main camp toward the big swimming pools, which are a bit larger but also offer private swimming in natural pools.

South of the main camp about 45 minutes walk are a couple unique rock formations that are worth checking out, including the Twins and Table Top Rock.

☑SLEEPING

The main camp is simple, but has camping and caravan sites, log cabins and stone chalets spread over a large area.

Camping and Caravan Sites (wkday: R40, wkend: R60) have water taps, electricity (R10/day), and braai pits (bring your own wood or buy it at the main camp office) with bathroom and shower facilities in a central building.

Log Cabins (wkday: s R300, d R600, R250/additional person, wkend: s R350, d R700, R300/additional person) sleep up to six people in two bedrooms and an upstairs loft. There is a full kitchen, indoor fireplace and braai pit outside.

Stone Chalets (wkday: s R250, d R500, R200/additional person, wkend: s R300, d R600, R250/additional person) sleep up to four people in two

bedrooms with a full kitchen, indoor fireplace and braai pit outside. Both the log cabins and the stone chalets require a minimum of two nights stay over the weekend with a minimum of two people. Bedding and towels are not included in the above prices (extra R50-100/unit) and if needed, should be arranged with the office when booking.

☑TRANSPORTATION

From the N4 take the Marikana exit (roughly 15 km east of Rustenburg). Head south toward Buffelspoort for 0.8 km until you hit a T-junction. Take a right and continue 1 km to the first stop sign, then take a left and continue 10.2 km to a signed turnoff (S 25 49.143 E 027 26.249) where you will turn left onto a gravel road. Continue 0.6 km to a small store and follow the signed turn to the left, where you will continue 1.8 km to the main gate (S 25 49.235 E 027 27.637). The central camp (S 25 50.159 E 027 28.542) is 3.5 km from the main gate.

PILANESBERG

NATIONAL PARK

GPS: S 25 15.283 E 027 12.658
elevation 1,101 m/3,612 ft

Pilanesberg National Park (S 25 15.283 E 027 12.658, ☎014-555-1600, www.pilanesberg-game-serve.co.za, R20/vehicle, R45/person) is located 50 km from Rustenburg and is only a 2hr drive from





PILANESBERG NAT'L PARK

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 Bakgatla Resort..... 3 C4
 Bakubung..... 4 C3
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 Kwa Maritane Lodge..... 6 D3
 Manyane Resort..... 7 B3
 Tshukudu..... 8 D2

TRANSPORTATION
 Pilanesberg Int'l Airport..... 9 E4
 Sun City Minibus Taxi Rank..... 10 E3

Johannesburg. As one of the top national parks in South Africa, it houses the Big 5 within its 550 square kilometers surrounded by unique rings of hills formed by volcanic activity some 1.2 billion years ago. The park was stocked with wildlife through a program called Operation Genesis in 1979 where native species that were originally driven from the area were captured and brought back. Pilanesberg gets quite busy on weekends and holidays with many of the urbanites from Johannesburg and Pretoria making the short drive to escape the city for the weekend.

The park has a number of unique hides, located near water sources from where you can view the wildlife over a picnic or a few cold drinks on a hot afternoon. To get to the hides, you park your car in a fenced in area and walk a short distance to where you can sit unnoticed as crocodiles and hippos poke their heads above the water while other animals come in for a drink. In the middle of the park is the Pilanesberg Center. Originally built as a magistrate's court in 1936, today it is a café and restaurant overlooking a small lake. The main gate and park headquarters are at Manyane.

elephant-back safaris (3hr, R1,440) in the morning and afternoon as well as more up-close interaction at the Elephant Wallow, where you can feed and pet the giant African elephants (12:30pm, R580, includes transportation, drinks and lunch).

SLEEPING

BUDGET

Absheni Bush Camp (S 25 19.992 E 027 10.099, Airport Rd, 014-552-3755 or 083-541-4605, camping R120, safari tent R200-270, huts R300-350) is located about 100 m from the infrequently used Pilanesberg airport and 2.1 km from the Kwa Maritane gate. This rather shabby establishment has five huts and four permanent safari tents, a swimming pool and a large bar that plays base-heavy '80s tunes into the early hours of the morning. To get there from the Kwa Maritane gate, turn left onto R565, continue for 1.7 km and take a right at the airport turnoff. Continue 0.5 km down the airport road to the signed turnoff on the left.

Manyane Resort (S 25 15.244 E 027 13.189, 014-555-1000, www.goldenleopardresorts.co.za, wkday: camping R170, safari tent R380, chalet s R1,040, d R1,140, 4-person R1,950, wkend: camping R220, safari tent R400, chalet s R1,210, d R1,310, 4-person R2,130, swimming pool) is the biggest resort in the Pilanesberg NP area with a large restaurant (mains R45-85), bar and swimming pool. The vast camping and caravan park is lighted and has water taps, electric outlets and braai pits and is often quite busy. The brick and thatched roof chalets have TV, AC, and a refrigerator. Outside the chalets is a shaded sitting and braai area.

Bakgatla Resort (S 25 11.360 E 027 08.804, 014-555-1000, www.goldenleopardresorts.co.za, wkday: camping R170, safari tent R380, chalet s R1,040, d R1,140, 4-person R1,950, wkend: camping R220, safari tent R400, chalet s R1,210, d R1,310, 4-person R2,130, swimming pool) is owned by the same company and has very similar accommodation to Manyane Resort but is smaller and less crowded and probably a better choice for those reasons alone. Some of the chalets are timeshares that can be rented and tend to be more updated and better equipped than the standard chalets. There is also a restaurant and small superstore for those using the camping and caravan sites.

SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

Mankwe Safaris (S 25 15.400 E 027 13.439, near Manyane Gate, 014-555-7056 or 082-415-2338, www.mankwesafaris.co.za) offers 2.5hr morning, afternoon and night game drives (R295) that depart from their office near Manyane gate or they can also arrange for a for departure from Sun City (R360).

Gametrackers Outdoor Adventures (014-552-5020, www.pilanesbergelephantback.co.za) offers

Location and Opening Times of Park Gates

Nov-Feb.....	5:30am-7pm
Mar-Apr.....	6am-6:30pm
May-Aug.....	6:30am-6pm
Sept-Oct.....	6am-6:30pm

Note: last entrance into park is 1hr before gates close.
Bakubung.....(S 25 20.367 E 027 03.802)
Kwa Maritane.....(S 25 20.654 E 027 09.053)
Manyane Gate.....(S 25 15.283 E 027 12.658)
Bakgatla Gate.....(S 25 11.360 E 027 08.804)

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Bakubung (S 25 20.745 E 027 03.351, ☎014-552-6200, www.legacyhotels.co.za, s R2,400, d R3,400, breakfast and dinner included, wkday: d R820, 6-person R1,450, wkend: d R1,000, 6-person R1,750, wifi, swimming pool) is a large venue with 75 hotel-style lodge rooms as well as self-catering chalets with full kitchens. Lodge activities include swimming, tennis, volleyball, game walks and game drives, bird trails and the Noko Kalahari Spa. The lodge is conveniently located close to Sun City and the R565 but also hosts large group tours with some frequency.

Kwa Maritane Lodge (S 25 20.048 E 027 08.728, ☎014-552-6200, www.legacyhotels.co.za, s R2,400, d R3,400 breakfast and dinner included, swimming pool) is another upmarket option with lodge-style rooms and cabanas located only a few meters from the park's fence (when making a reservation for one of the lodge rooms note that room numbers 73-290 have patios facing the park). All rooms have TV, AC, mini-bar and an outdoor patio. Kwa Maritane has a 130 m underground tunnel from the lodge to a hide in front of a watering hole within the park that is frequented by many animals. If you want to relax in your room until the animals come, just switch the TV on to channel 10 and get a live video feed from the watering hole. In addition to

the park related activities, the lodge has mini golf, tennis courts, two swimming pools, rock climbing and a game room.

TOP END

Ivory Tree Game Lodge (S 25 11.158 E 027 08.746, ☎011-781-1661, www.ivorytreegamelodge.com, s R2,925-3,525 d R3,900-4,700, swimming pool) is an all-inclusive service-oriented lodge located within the park with 56 stone and thatched roof chalets and four executive suites surrounding the central lodge, swimming pool and ivory trees. All chalets have a modern interior with AC, an outdoor lounge area, and large bathrooms with an outdoor shower. There is also a spa on the premises that offers massages and a variety of treatments in huts surrounded by the bush.

Tshukudu (S 25 17.991 E 027 01.707, ☎014-552-6255, www.legacyhotels.co.za, s R6,095, d R8,710, wifi) is an exclusive camp featuring six luxury cottages overlooking a watering hole in an area of the park inaccessible to non-guests. The slate floor and thatched roof cottages come fully equipped with everything from walking sticks to bubble bath soap, which can be used in the sunken bath where you can watch the animals at the watering hole while soaking. This is an all-inclusive experience that includes high tea in the afternoon between game drives and sundowners in the bush before a six-course dinner back at the camp. Tshukudu is accessed only by lodge vehicles, which pick up guests at Sun City or Bakubung Lodge.

TRANSPORTATION

Public transport to the park is via the **Sun City Minibus Taxi Rank** (S 25 21.711 E 027 05.987, R556) beside the Engen filling station which has transport to Rustenburg (R15) and a few small nearby towns. To get to Sun City from Rustenburg via minibus you'll have to go to Ledig (R18) and then from Ledig to Sun City (R5). If you are interested in staying at one of the campsites or going on a game drive, it is possible to get transport from the minibus rank to Manyane gate/resort.

Another option is **Mankwe Safaris** (☎014-555-7056 or ☎082-415-2338, www.mankwesafaris.co.za), which does pickups from both Sun City and Johannesburg for day safaris into the park.

**SUN CITY**

GPS: S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433
elevation 1,071 m/3,514 ft

Sun City (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-557-1000, www.suncity.co.za, entrance R70) is self-proclaimed to be "Africa's Kingdom of Pleasure" for all ages. It is a gaudy mega resort, reminiscent of Las Vegas, built in the southern tip of Pilanesberg National Park with a casino, water park, game reserve, shopping mall, a number of hotels and enough activities to keep you busy for a week. The resort is primarily populated with foreign tourists soaking up the sun by the pool or in the water park. The city resort prides itself in its environmental protection and sustainable tourism.

To get inside the city it costs R70/person, but you get R30 back in Sun City Cash that you can spend anywhere within the resort. The entire city is accessible by foot, but there are free shuttle buses that run every 15-20 minutes between the entertainment center and locations throughout the rest of the city.

SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

Game Trackers (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-552-5020, www.gametrac.co.za, 2.5hr, R310) gives you a chance to view the Big 5 in open vehicles, or if you're up for a more active adventure you can go on a hike into the game park accompanied by a guide (4hr, R455).

Waterworld (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-552-1553) has a host of water activities including parasailing, tubing, jet skis, speedboats and bumper boats.

Cultural Village (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433) has guided tours and daily tribal dance shows (10:30am, 11:30am, 2:30pm, 3:30pm & 4:30pm,

adult R105, child R55).

Adventure Slide Zipline (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-557-1544, 9am, 11am, 1pm and 3pm Tue-Sun, R340/person) is a 2 km long zip line that claims to be the longest, fastest and highest in the county. Once you are strapped into a harness, you can fly over the trees Superman-style.

Palace of the Lost City guided tour (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, departs from the welcome center every half hour from 11:30am-2:30pm and at 4pm, R85) takes you through the over-the-top, extravagant multimillion dollar domed hotel with mosaic marble floor and a series of large outdoor pools and fountains surrounded by palm trees imported from the U.S.

Segway Tours (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-557-4052, various tours from 15min-2hr cost between R40-R350) start with a quick lesson on how to ride your Segway, followed by any number of tours through the golf course, along the lake or down by the crocodile pit.

Kwena Gardens Crocodile Sanctuary (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, 10am-6pm) has over 7,000 crocodiles and claims to have the two biggest captive Nile crocodiles in the world. Daily croc feedings are at 4:30pm.

For those interested in elephants there are elephant-back safaris through the game park as well as the Elephant Wallow where you can pet and feed the giant creatures.

Horseback Riding (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-557-5140) tours depart from the stables at 9am, 10am, 11am, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm. They rides last about 1hr.

Movie Zone Cinema (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-552-1425, R34) has a selection of afternoon and evening movies.

Golfing (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433) is available on the award-winning Gary Player golf course or the Lost City golf course.

SLEEPING

BUDGET

Sun City doesn't have any budget accommodation. If you are traveling on a budget and interested in spending some time in Sun City take a look at some of the lodging options at nearby Pilanesberg National Park.

MID-RANGE

Kwena Gardens (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎014-552-1262, www.kwenachalets.co.za, wkday: R1,290, wkend: R1,690, breakfast and Sun City entrance included) is a crocodile sanctuary that is separate from but associated with Sun City, with 14 luxury, thatched-roof chalets with TV and AC.

Cabanas (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎011-780-7800, www.suncity.co.za, starting at R1,700, breakfast included) is the least expensive, Sun City owned lodging option with 380 rooms spread out over a number of buildings. Cabanas has three dining options and is popular with families because of its close proximity to family friendly

activities and Kamp Kwena - a special child entertainment center that will look after children while parents are out and about. All rooms have AC, a flat screen TV and mini-fridge.

TOP END

Sun City Hotel (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎011-780-7800, www.suncity.co.za, starting at R2,795, breakfast included) houses the casino, which is surrounded by foliage and waterfalls and is only slightly smaller than the Cabanas with 340 rooms - some with views overlooking the Gary Player golf course. The hotel has enough bars and restaurants (four) to keep you busy for a few days.

The Cascades (S 25 21.570 E 027

06.433, ☎011-780-7800, www.suncity.co.za, starting at R3,125,

breakfast included) has been

recently renovated and is the

smallest of the Sun City

owned hotels with only

243 rooms. The hotel is

situated beside a lake

featuring cascading waterfalls and a swimming pool complete with an imported sandy beach.

Palace of the Lost City (S 25 21.570 E 027 06.433, ☎011-780-7800, www.suncity.co.za, starting at R5,120, breakfast included) is a large domed hotel with mosaic marble floor, large outdoor pools and fountains surrounded by palm trees imported from the United States. The multi million dollar building built in 1990 may remind you of gaudy Las Vegas hotels with camera-toting tourists that are there either to spend the night or on one of the organized tours. The hotel has a number of restaurants, pools and bars. **The Villa del Palazzo** (mains R160-250) is the best restaurant in the city.

MAFIKENG

GPS: S 25 51.893 E 025 38.622

pop. 75,000 | elevation 1,283 m/4,209 ft

The capital city of Mafikeng is laid-back for its size. It has a healthy economy relative to some of the surrounding cities and a distinctly large middle class. The city is historically significant due to its role in the South African War, when the city was besieged and shelled for a number of months by Boer forces between October 1899 and May 1900.

Nearby Mmabatho is Mafikeng's sister city located on the northern outskirts of town. Today it is part of greater Mafikeng, but under the apartheid regime it was the capital of the nominally independent Bophuthatswana homeland led by the controversial Lucas Mangope, who fled his "independent country" after unsuccessfully trying to implement unpopular policies.

EATING

You shouldn't go hungry in Sun City - each hotel has between two and four restaurant options. The Entertainment Center building has a handful of restaurants and standard fast food options. For the finest dining check out the **Villa del Palazzo** (Palace of the Lost City, mains R160-250).

DRINKING & ENTERTAINMENT

All of the hotels and the casino have a number of bars. If you're still looking for more, you can enjoy a few drinks at the Village People Shebeen while relaxing and listening to African jazz. There is a Shebeen DJ on the weekends.

TRANSPORTATION

Minibus Taxi Rank (S 25 21.711 E 027 05.987) is beside the Engen filling station and has transport to Rustenburg (R15) and a few small nearby towns. To get to Sun City from Rustenburg via minibus you'll have to go to Ledig (R18) and then from Ledig to Sun City (R5).

Alternatively, **Mankwe Safaris** (☎014-557-1684 or ☎082-415-2338, makwetransfers@mwebiz.co.za) provides transport from Rustenburg to Sun City (Wed, Fri, & Sun, pickup 10am, return 8pm, R150/one-way, R250/return) with pickups at the Waterfall Mall (PostNet Entrance), the Engen Garage on Old Pretoria Rd and the BP Garage next to the Pick 'n Pay.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourist Information Office (S 25 51.817 E 025 38.537, cnr Martin St & Carrington St, ☎018-381-0067, 8am-4:30pm Mon-Fri, 10am-12pm Sat) is now inside the Mafikeng Museum. They sell large historical maps of the city and surrounding area for R2.

MONEY

Standard Bank (S 25 51.914 E 025 38.558, cnr Main St & Carrington St) is downtown, with ATMs.

INTERNET

Computers & Careers (S 25 51.754 E 025 38.683, 15 Martin St, ☎018-381-2200, 8:30am-5pm Mon-Fri, 8:30am-1pm Sat, R10/30min) is primarily a computer-training center with four computers, but allows public internet use when classes are not in session.

PostNet (S 25 50.179 E 025 38.156, Crossings Shopping Center, ☎018-381-4939, 8am-5:30pm Mon-Fri, 8am-2pm Sat, R20/hr) has two computers and allows laptops to be connected.

News Café (S 25 50.179 E 025 38.156, Crossings Shopping Center, ☎018-381-2350, 7:30am-10pm Mon-Thu, 8am-12am Fri-Sun) has free wifi if you have your own laptop.





SHOPPING

Crossings Shopping Center (S 25 50.179 E 025 38.156, Nelson Mandela Dr/R52) is on the north side of town and has a Pick 'n Pay, Woolworths, a few chain restaurants, an FNB Bank with ATM and a Nedbank ATM.

Game Shopping Center (S 25 51.610 E 025 38.626, cnr Hatchard St & Nelson Mandela Dr) has a Spar, a few chain restaurants, a Standard Bank ATM and ABSA ATM in addition to the Choppies and Game store.

Mega City Shopping Mall (S 25 50.295 E 025 36.774, Mmabatho) is a huge shopping center with the standard lineup of shops including a Pick 'n Pay, Shoprite, restaurants and fast food, and ABSA and Nedbank banks with ATMs. To get there from Mafikeng head west on 1st St for 0.5 km, turn left on Modiri Molema St. Continue for 2.3 km, turn left on Sekame Rd and continue 1.5 km.

SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

Mafikeng Museum (S 25 51.817 E 025 38.537, cnr Martin St & Carrington St, 018-381-6102, 8am-4:30pm Mon-Fri, 10am-12pm Sat, admission free) was established in 1985 in its present location, the former town hall, which was built in 1903 and still has its pressed steel ceiling. Inside are displays of the tribal origins of the Mafikeng area, old tools and crafts as well as herbal medicines used by ancestors. There is an entire room dedicated to the 1899-1900 siege of Mafikeng during the Anglo-Boer War, with numerous photographs of the destruction left by shelling during the siege and three of the original 7-pound guns used during the war. There is also a large display on Sol Plaatje – an activist and politician who was a Mafikeng resident during the siege and recorded his experiences in his "Mafikeng Diary: A Black Man's View of a White Man's War."

St John's Anglican Church (S 25 51.823 E 025 38.584, Martin St) is a Gothic-style church designed by Sir Herbert Baker to commemorate those who died during the 1899-1900 siege of Mafikeng. The interior has been restored since a 1984 fire significantly damaged the building.

Mafikeng Game Reserve (S 25 51.172 E

The Siege of Mafikeng

Soon after the start of the South African War in October 1899, 8,000 Boers besieged the city of Mafikeng. About 6,000 Barolong, 1,000 refugees, 1,000 Englishmen and 900 British troops under the command of Col. Baden-Powell secured the city limits. The initial battles between the two heavily armored sides were deadly, but soon the siege transformed into a day-to-day routine. Shelling continued on a daily basis, sniper assaults persisted, and the Boer besiegers blocked the entry of supplies into the city in hopes that they could starve their opponents into submission. However, within the city morale remained high. Sundays were declared a day of rest and every week the two sides yielded to a cease-fire in order to hold church services together. British Colonel Baden-Powell organized polo and cricket matches on these days to provide a distraction to warfare. When the Boer commander General J. P. Snyman invited the British to join them in a game, he was not amused when Col. Baden-Powell notified him that the British team could not commence with a new match against the Boers until the present one was finished. But he welcomed fresh Boer bowlers to join the game - the score was 200 days, no outs. Amicable affairs ended at sundown on Sundays when the Boer forces returned to their positions surrounding the city to proceed with the week's assault. The siege continued for seven months until additional British relief forces fought their way into the city and liberated their countrymen, igniting public celebrations in Britain and turning Col. Baden-Powell into a national hero.

025 41.703, Jacaranda Dr, 018-381-5611, www.tourismnorthwest.co.za/mafikeng_reserve, vehicle R5, R25/person) is a 46 square kilometer conservation and game breeding park with sizeable populations of white rhino, buffalo, gemsbok and giraffe. Day visitors can braai in the picnic area and overnight accommodation is available in a self-catering house (R400-550) and at campsites (R200). To get there head east out of town on Shippard St about 2 km. After crossing the bridge over the railroad tracks take a right onto Jacaranda St and continue straight 3.5 km to the park gate.

NORTH WEST

🛏 SLEEPING

BUDGET

Surrey Hotel (S 25 51.935 E 025 38.683, 32 Shippard St, ☎018-381-0420, s R160-185, d R190-220, breakfast included, secure parking) is the budget option in town with basic dated rooms that come with a TV and an enclosed balcony overlooking the street. There are three bars to choose from in the hotel, including one for men only.

MID-RANGE

Garden View Lodge (S 25 51.430 E 025 38.634, cnr North St & Havenga St, ☎018-381-3110, www.travellodge.co.za, s R320-420, d R560, t R660, secure parking) has both standard and self-catering open rooms inside a family's house with TV, AC and a mini-fridge. There is a central courtyard with tables and chairs and an area to braai. It has an attached restaurant (6:30pm-9pm Mon-Thu, mains R45-65) and Garden View Bar (5pm-9pm Mon-Thu). It is best suited for those looking for a guesthouse experience.

Buffalo Park Lodge (S 25 51.870 E 025 38.955, cnr Molopo Rd & Botha Rd, ☎018-381-2159 or ☎083-744-8744, www.buffalolodge.co.za, s R460, d R610, swimming pool) is a family run lodge with 24 standard but pleasant rooms, each with TV and AC. The lodge is within walking distance to the town center, but attached to the lodge is one of the better restaurants and bars in town.

TOP END

Cooke's Lake Chalets (S 25 52.033 E 025 39.271, off Nelson Mandela Dr, ☎018-381-6020, s R570, d R750, breakfast included) is a collection of 10 new, brick and tile floor chalets complete with AC, a TV, phone and matching leopard print bedspread and curtains. The thatched roof chalets overlook the lake, which is home to numerous bird species. To get to the Cooke's Lake Chalets from town, head south on Nelson Mandela Dr a few hundred meters out of town and take a left. Follow the signs to the North West Parks & Tourism Board, passing through the Heritage House entrance gate (S 25 52.103 E 025 39.043). Continue about 200 m past the Heritage House to the lodge reception.

Protea Hotel - Mafikeng (S 25 51.172 E 025 38.460, cnr Nelson Mandela Dr & First Ave, ☎018-381-0400 www.proteahotels.com, s R720, d R865,

wifi, secure parking, swimming pool) is a swanky upscale hotel located on one of the main roads. This luxury 4-star hotel has comfortable pillow-top beds, a sleek swimming pool, a library, restaurant and a bar.

🍴 EATING

Ivory Pot (S 25 51.906 E 025 38.716, 11 Shippard St, ☎082-577-8267, 8am-5pm Mon-Fri, 8am-3pm Sat, mains R26, drinks R6) serves up large plates of delicious food at an incredible value in a small stylish restaurant. There are five traditional African dishes with your choice of meat along with ting, pap, rice or samp. Ivory Pot has a second location near the main minibus taxi rank that is equally as good (S 25 51.660 E 025 38.367, 6 Victoria St, ☎071-293-7771).

Buffalo Park Lodge (S 25 51.870 E 025 38.955, cnr Molopo Rd & Botha Rd, ☎018-381-2159, 7am-9am & 11am-9:30pm Mon-Sat, 8am-9am & 11am-7pm Sun, bar open until 11pm, mains R40-90) is a popular casual restaurant and bar with a decent variety of meals, from ribs and steaks to vegetable stir-fry and chicken curry pasta. The bar opens up into the restaurant, a tall thatched roof lodge with a couple TVs playing sports and, befitting its name, a large buffalo head mounted on the wall.

🍷 DRINKING & ENTERTAINMENT

Ebony & Ivory Jazz Bar (S 25 51.868 E 025 38.449, Martin St – about 30m from Station Rd) is a relaxed jazz bar that draws in patrons looking to mellow out at all times of day and night. It isn't easy to spot as it is unsigned and you have to walk through a short hallway before you reach the bar.

Graceland Restaurant & Night Club (S 25 51.846 E 025 38.746, Main St, ☎018-381-1455, 10am-late Wed-Sun, 10am-6pm Mon-Tue) is a solid nightclub (but not much of a restaurant) with a few pool tables, a mirrored wall and a dance floor. Traffic is light during the day but this is a hot spot at night – though a little seedy so watch your pockets. Look for the Graceland sign on a gate halfway between Nelson Mandela Dr and Warren St. You have to walk about 30 m down the driveway to the club entrance.

🚗 TRANSPORTATION

Minibus Taxi Rank (S 25 51.692 E 025 38.484, cnr Hatchard St & Carrington St) is a surprisingly relaxed taxi rank with 20 or so mobile trailers serving as fast food restaurants. It is located beside the Game Shipping Center and has transport to Rustenburg (R75), Joburg (R110), Pretoria (R120) and Zeerust (R25).

To get a minibus taxi to Mega City Shopping Center in Mmabatho you can pick one up at the above taxi rank or at a smaller **Mega City Taxi Rank** (S 25 51.873 E 025 38.414, Station St) in front of the Boxer Superstore.

There aren't any taxi services in town but the **Local Taxi Rank** (S 25 52.075 E 025 38.539, Station St) is at the bottom of Station St.

Train Station (S 25 51.801 E 025 38.363, Station St) is located downtown.

LICHTENBURG

GPS: S 26 08.942 E 026 09.605

pop. 60,000 | elevation 1,484 m/4,869 ft

Lichtenburg (town of light) was established in 1873 and became an instant hit when a diamond was found on a family farm in 1926. Within months over 100,000 prospectors flooded the town to stake their claim and more prospectors were attracted by the stories of success. In 1927 the world's largest flawless red diamond (at 33 carats) was found and sold to De Beers. The town's diamond rush was short lived and soon returned to a tranquil, slow-paced, predominantly corn growing farm town.

🗺 TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourist Information Office (S 26 09.005 E 026 09.559, De la Rey Square, cnr Nelson Mandela St & Maritz St) is located inside the Ampie Bosman Cultural History Museum and has brochures of area accommodation and activities.

💰 MONEY

FNB Bank (S 26 08.946 E 026 09.599, cnr Nelson Mandela St & Krige Ave) has ATMs and an exchange bureau.

🌐 INTERNET

Lichtenburg Internet Café (S 26 09.117 E 026 09.327, 59 Buchanan St, ☎073-9590188, 8:30am-5pm Mon-Sat, 9:30am-4pm Sun) is one of the few places to get online in Lichtenburg but they do not always hold regular hours.

PostNet (S 26 09.850 E 026 10.442, cnr Beyers Naude & 7th Ave, ☎018-632-0837, 8am-5pm Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm Sat, R10/30min) has Internet access and is located in the Burgersdorp section of town. Take Church St south out of the city until it becomes 8th Ave. Continue three blocks and make a left on Beyers Naude (Potgieter St).

🛍 SHOPPING

DADA Shopping Center (S 26 08.867 E 026 09.577, Nelson Mandela St) has a Choppies Supermarket, Woolworths, Wimpy's and a few other shops as well as an ABSA and Nedbank ATMs.

Shoprite and **Spar** (S 26 08.976 E 026 09.708, cnr of Gerrit Maritz St & Kerk St) are located one block from De la Rey Square and have FNB & ABSA ATMs.

🗺 SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES

Ampie Bosman Cultural History Museum (S 26 09.005 E 026 09.559, De la Rey Square, cnr Nelson Mandela St & Maritz St) has displays on the founding of Lichtenburg in 1873, its rich diamond history, and General De la Rey's command during the siege of Lichtenburg in the 1899-1902 Anglo-Boer War.

Diggings Museum (S 26 09.005 E 026 09.559, South Melvill St, ☎018-632-5051, 10am-1pm & 2pm-4pm Mon-Fri) exhibits the history of the alluvial diamond rush that caused prospectors to storm the area between 1926-35. Many of the prospectors who staked their claim were successful and in 1927 the world's largest red diamond (a 33 carat diamond called the Pigeon Red Blood) was found. It is said that the diamond was sold to De Beers for £66.

On the corner of Gerrit Maritz St and Church St there are two historical churches, the **Christian N.G. Kerk** (S 26 08.962 E 026 09.803) with a tall clock tower, and the **Dutch Reformed Church** (S 26 08.971 E 026 09.748) next door.

Game Breeding Center (S 26 07.818 E 026

10.087, off Ferdi Hartzenberg, ☎018-632-2818, 8am-4:30pm Mon-Sat, 8:30am-5pm Sun, R15/person) offers fishing in its lakes and has a "vulture restaurant" where rangers take carcasses from area farms to feed the vultures. You can call ahead to ask when the feedings will happen. To get to the Game Breeding Center head North about 1 km on Thabo Mbeki Dr/R505 toward Zeerust then make a right turn at the signs for the **Game Breeding Center** (S 26 08.200 E 026 09.056) and continue 2.2 km to the park gates.

SLEEPING

BUDGET

Elgro Hotel (S 26 09.229 E 026 09.542, cnr Scholtz St & Republic St, ☎018-632-3051, s R275, d R330, swimming pool) has basic dated hotel rooms, a swimming pool and braai area in a central courtyard. It is a convenient place to stay due to the attached Boskoppie pub and nightclub and Dros restaurant next door but on weekends you can hear the thumping music well into the night.

Game Breeding Center (S 26 07.818 E 026 10.087, off Ferdi Hartzenberg, ☎018-632-2818, R105/person, secure parking) is by far your best budget option in Lichtenburg if you don't mind being outside of downtown. It has a handful of fully equipped self-catering chalets with outdoor braai areas next to the entrance gate. The chalets are frequently booked so it is worth making advanced bookings. See above for directions to the breeding center.

Lichtenburg Vakansie (S 26 07.177 E 026 09.982, off Ferdi Hartzenberg, ☎018-632-5826, www.lichtenburgvakansieoord.co.za, camping R60, swimming pool) is a large camping and caravan park with chalets about 1 km past the Game Breeding Center gates. At the time of research the chalets were fully booked for the next year with employees of a road construction company and only camping sites were available.

MID-RANGE

Lakeside Guest House (S 26 09.382 E 026 09.980, 1 Matthews St, ☎018-632-1835, www.lakesideguesthouse.co.za, s R350, d R700, secure parking) is a modern guesthouse located beside the lake with 16 well equipped rooms, each with TV, AC and a mini-fridge. There is a splash pool and braai

deck as well as open space to relax near the lake. To get there head three blocks East on Matthews St from Nelson Mandela St. The guesthouse is located at the end of the street by the lake.

TOP END

Scott's Manor (S 26 08.508 E 026 09.759, 21 Bree St, ☎018-632-1646 or ☎083-378-1460, www.scottsm Manor.com, s R500-800, d R600-900, secure parking, swimming pool) is a popular 14-room restored Georgian Manor house with large comfortable lounges. It is located two blocks east of Nelson Mandela St.

EATING

Chatters Bistro (S 26 08.717 E 026 09.570, 21 Nelson Mandela St, ☎018-632-0900, 9am-late Mon-Sat, 11am-3pm Sun, mains R50-105) is a restaurant and street café with open air and mist-cooled outdoor seating. There is a large menu serving everything from breakfast and light meals to burgers, grills, ribs and fish. There is also a bar with more of a relaxed sit-down scene.

Dros (S 26 09.264 E 026 09.552, Scholtz St, ☎082-324-1675, 9am-11pm, mains R45-100) is a dark wood pub, with an outdoor seating area, that serves salads, seafood, grills, burgers, pizza and sweet or savory pancakes.

DRINKING & ENTERTAINMENT

Boskoppie Pub and Night Club (S 26 09.229 E 026 09.542, cnr Scholtz St & Republic St) is a thumping dance club with loud music beside the Elgro Hotel. This is a very popular party spot for the younger Afrikaner crowd.

Chatters Bistro (S 26 08.717 E 026 09.570, 21 Nelson Mandela St, ☎018-632-0900, 9am-late Mon-Sat, 11am-3pm Sun) is a more relaxed and quiet place to catch a drink outside in the evening.

TRANSPORTATION

Minibus Taxi Rank (S 26 09.001 E 026 09.268, cnr Burger St & Gerrit Maritz St) is located two blocks West of De la Rey Square and has transport to area locations including Mafikeng (R20), Rustenburg (R60), Klerksdorp (R60), and Joburg (R110).

LICHTENBURG

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- MONEY**
FNB Bank 2 B3
- INTERNET**
Lichtenburg Internet Café 3 C3
- SHOPPING**
DADA Shopping Center 4 B3
Shoprite 5 C4
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- SIGHTS & ACTIVITIES**
Ampie Bosman Cultural History Museum 7 C3
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- SLEEPING**
Elgro Hotel 10 C3
Lakeside Guest House 11 D4
Scott's Manor 12 A4
- EATING**
Chatters Bistro 13 B3
Dros 14 D3
- DRINKING & ENT.**
Boskoppie Pub and Night Club 15 D3
Chatters Bistro (see 13)
- TRANSPORTATION**
Minibus Taxi Rank 16 C2

