



**November 2014**

**South Africa has eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites, areas that have been given special international status for their unique qualities. If you are interested in culture and nature or history, then you may well want to plan a visit to at least one of these unique sites: Robben Island, Vredefort Dome, Drakensberg Mountains and the Cradle of Humankind are our suggestions for this edition.**

#### **Cradle of Humankind, Johannesburg**

Located 40 minutes away from Johannesburg, the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site is one of Gauteng province's attractions. The Maropeng Visitor Centre & Sterkfontien Caves are the two prime sites to learn about the appearing of mankind and its evolution, a journey that began 4 billion years ago when the planet started shaping. Only at the Sterkfontein Caves alone, the remains of more than 500 hominids have been uncovered, lending credence to the theory that the first humanoids lived in Africa.

More information:

[www.southafrica.net/za/en/articles/overview/world-heritage-sites](http://www.southafrica.net/za/en/articles/overview/world-heritage-sites)





### **Robben Island, Western Cape**

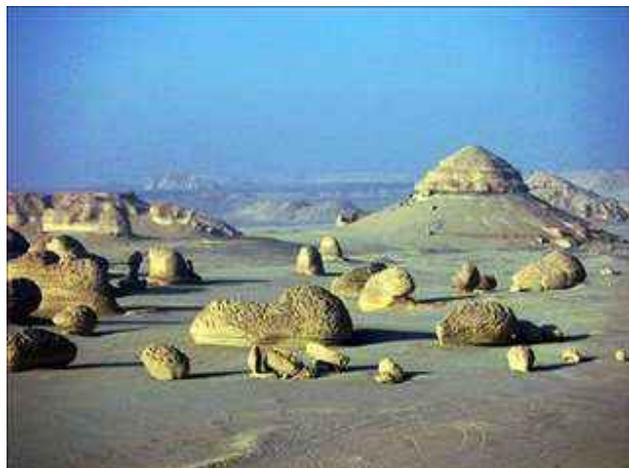
A former leper colony, mental hospital and a base for military training, Robben Island World Heritage Site is nowadays famous for having been the prison for anti-apartheid activists, among them former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. The “struggle university”, as it was known, held captive some of the greatest leaders that conducted South Africa to democracy. It is South Africa’s Statue of Liberty. The visitors may witness the suffering undergone by all those that were forced to be there and see the cell where the world’s most famous prisoner spent 18 of his 27 years in prison.

More information: <http://www.robben-island.org.za>

### **uKhahlamba-Drakensberg, KwaZulu-Natal**

South Africa features many mountain ranges, none more impressive than KwaZulu-Natal's 200km-long escarpment. With peaks that exceed 3 000m, the Berg – as it's more commonly known – forms the backbone of the Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation and Development Area between the Kingdom of Lesotho and South Africa. It is a biodiverse wonderland of river valleys, mountain streams, rugged cliffs, hiking trails and stunning scenery that attracts thousands of tourists, mainly during the hotter summer months: December to February.

More information: <http://www.drakensberg.org.za/>



### **Vredefort Dome, Free State**

Imagine an asteroid the size of Table Mountain heading for earth at a speed of 20km per second. Packing more punch than multiple nuclear bombs, it penetrates 17km deep into the Earth and leaves an impact crater so large it's been declared a World Heritage Site. Thankfully the meteorite collision that formed the Vredefort Dome happened more than two-million years back. The original crater was estimated to have a diameter of roughly 300 km. The remaining structure, the "Vredefort Dome", has 70 km.

More information: [www.vredefortdome.org/](http://www.vredefortdome.org/)

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA – November 2014



### Red Bull LionHeart

**When:** 15 November 2014

**Where:** Cape Town

**More information:** [redbulllionheart.com](http://redbulllionheart.com)

The Red Bull LionHeart Challenge affords both elite and intermediate fitness freaks a riveting route to determine who has the heart of a lion. To qualify for the challenge, trail enthusiasts must complete a time trial route (it circles the base of the Lion's Head).



### CHERRY FESTIVAL

**When:** 20 – 22 November 2014

**Where:** Ficksburg

**More information:** [www.cherryfestival.co.za](http://www.cherryfestival.co.za)

Every year, festival activities include cherry tours, a golf classic, a half marathon, cherry product competitions, veteran vehicle displays, equestrian events and a food and wine fiesta.



### SOWETO FASHION WEEK: SPRING/SUMMER 2014

**When:** 26 - 29 November 2014

**Where:** Cape Town

**More information:** <http://www.sowetothatre.com/>

Soweto Fashion Week will bring visitors some of Soweto's hidden talent; designers with creations that are of international standards and edge. Fashion representatives come to scout for new creations. The show will feature only 12 carefully selected designers throughout the three days and end on a high as a couple designers will walk away with garments in international showrooms.



### MORE EVENTS

- Barnyard Theatre's Rocking Hollywood (up to 31 Dec) [www.barnyardtheatre.co.za](http://www.barnyardtheatre.co.za)
- The Galileo Open Air Cinema at Hillcrest Quarry (Nov 14) [www.thegalileo.co.za](http://www.thegalileo.co.za)
- Durban Motor Show (7-9 Nov) [www.durbanmotorshow.co.za](http://www.durbanmotorshow.co.za)
- City Desired Exhibition (30Oct – 10 Dec 2014) [www.citydesired.com](http://www.citydesired.com)
- South African Man Expo (22-23 Nov) [www.southafricanmanexpo.co.za](http://www.southafricanmanexpo.co.za)
- Sansui Summer Cup 2014 (29 Nov) [Sansuisummercup.co.za](http://Sansuisummercup.co.za)

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