

South Africa TRIP TIPS

Rolf's Southern Africa Trip Tips

Here are my recommendations for you while in Southern Africa. Enjoy!

Most any trip to South Africa will start in Johannesburg, so I am including some quick tips.

Jo'Burg is the city where I was born!.

Getting Around:

From Airport: Getting to where you are staying taxi or rental car is best.

Taxis: Taxi Cabs are good and safe.

Bus: Do not take buses unless you are very experienced Africa traveller. Even then it is not recommended...

Air: Cheap flights are easy to buy online.

Train: Great way to get from Johannesburg or Pretoria to Cape Town or Kimberly. But otherwise not recommended as the local trains are not safe.

Rental Car: If you are covering a lot of Southern Africa a rental car is the way to go. They may ask you for an international license but normally your regular US or European one will do. Also note that they drive on the RIGHT hand side, so you need to be very aware!

Safety:

Southern Africa is known for its crime!! But beware of your belongings at all times... also when traveling by car. DO NOT pick up hitchhikers and beware that smash and grabs are always happening so never leave anything important or not important visible in your car EVEN WHILST DRIVING!

Lodging:

Southern Africa has some of the most fantastic hotels! Every hotel has a rating from 1 to 5 stars. My favorite are the ones listed in the Portfolio Collection which usually are in fantastic locations.

<https://www.portfoliocollection.com/>

Money:

ZA Rand is the currency. US \$ and Euro are easily exchanged at banks and exchange houses.

CC are accepted at hotels and some restaurants. Use banks for exchanging money. ATM's work very well...BUT BEWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS and don't anyone guide you when withdrawing as there used to be a major scam involving withdrawing and transferring cash.

Cell Phone Service:

Buy a local SIM Card from

Johannesburg

Johannesburg usually is the first stop on everyones South Africa trip, as most international flights arrive at the Oliver Tambo Int. Airport, and if you are going to Kruger National Park or other private Game Reserves.

Downtown Johannesburg is NOT a good place to stay as it is considered very unsafe. The best place to stay is in the Stanton which is one of the many upscale suburbs of Johannesburg.

Where to Stay:

My favorite hotels and B&B are the ones listed in the Portfolio Collection which usually are in fantastic locations.

<https://www.portfoliocollection.com/>

Good national chain hotels are:

Premier Hotels:

<https://www.premierhotels.co.za/>

Protea Hotels (Run by Marriott)

<https://protea.marriott.com>

Airport Area:



Safaris in Africa. The best is you can drive in your own car and/or can join guided jeep Safaris every morning and evening at the Skukuza or Olifants camps.

<https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/>

Places to Stay in Kruger:

Olifants Camp

https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/camps/olifants/tourism/availability.php?camp_id=37

Skukuza

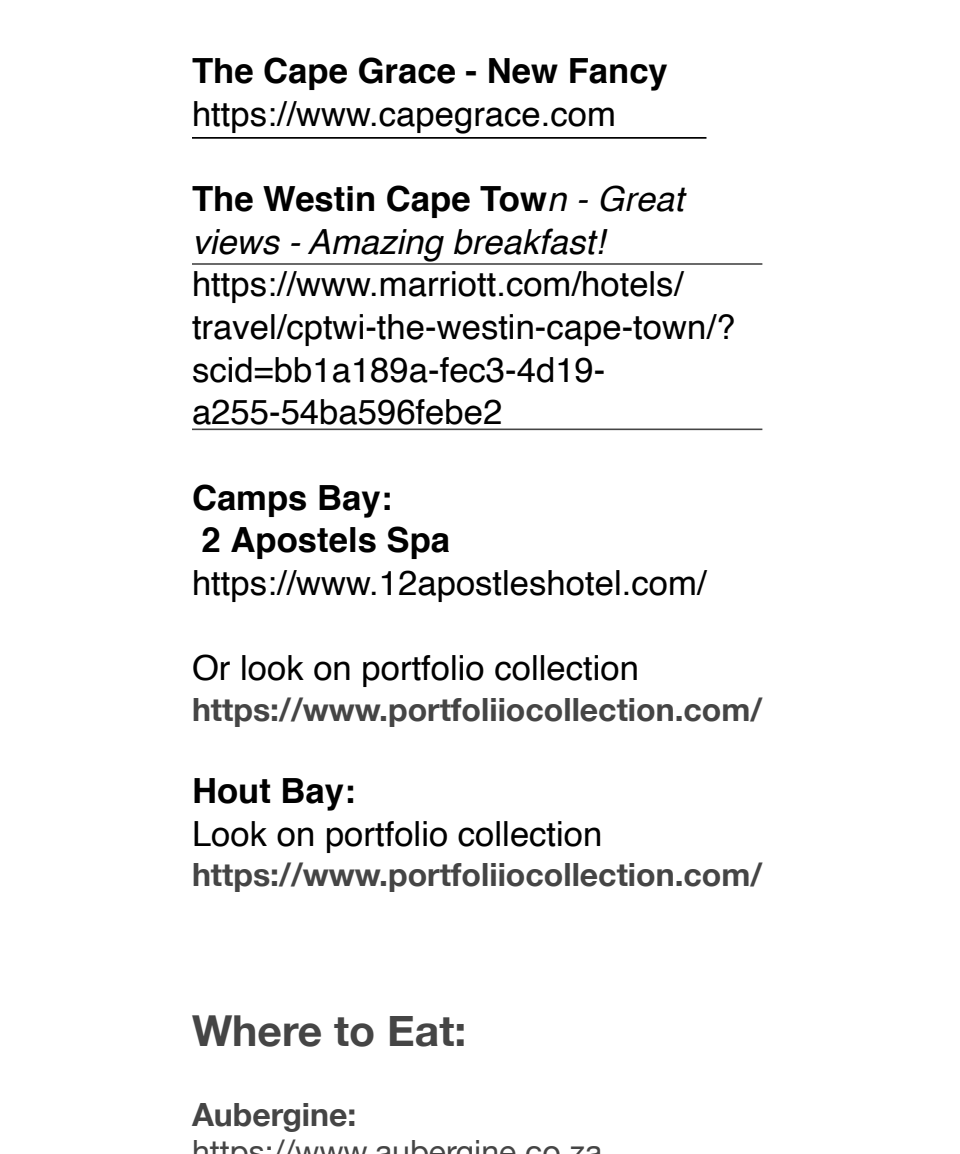
https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/camps/skukuza/tourism/availability.php?camp_id=45

White River - Close to Kruger Park:

The Winkler Hotel

I have been going to this hotel since I was a kid as the owner who built it was a family friend. It is awesome!! And only about 45 min from the entrance to Kruger National Park.

<https://www.premierhotels.co.za/hotels/mpumalanga/white-river/the-winkler/>



Cape Town is one of the most spectacular cities in the WORLD!

Downtown Cape Town good place is to stay as it is considered pretty safe for South Africa, but still use caution during the day, and DO NOT walk around at night. Take Taxis! There is plenty to do around the Cape Town and Cape Province, so I would spend most of my time in this area.

What to See:

Table Mountain

Amazing views!

https://www.tablemountain.net/content/page/food-beverage?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=GMB&utm_content=cafe

Kirstenbosh Botanical Garden

Great botanical garden with amazing plants and views

<https://www.sanbi.org/gardens/kirstenbosch/>

VA Waterfront:

Great shopping and dining

<https://www.waterfront.co.za>

Robben Island

Prison where Nelson Mandela spent many years

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

Groot Constantia:

Wine area close to Cape Town

<https://www.grootconstantia.co.za>

Maps; <https://goo.gl/maps/gciRWFCqm8B39T7k9>

Where to Stay:

My favorite hotels the Mount Nelson... it is a classic.

Town Center:

Mount Nelson Hotel - Old Style Fancy - Great Bar and Garden

https://www.belmond.com/hotels/africa/south-africa/cape-town/belmond-mount-nelson-hotel/?utm_source=local_search&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=google_business

Waterfront:

The Cape Grace - New Fancy

<https://www.capegrace.com>

The Westin Cape Town - Great views - Amazing breakfast!

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cptwi-the-westin-cape-town/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2>

Camps Bay:

2 Apostels Spa

<https://www.12apostleshotel.com/>

Or look on portfolio collection <https://www.portfoliocollection.com/>

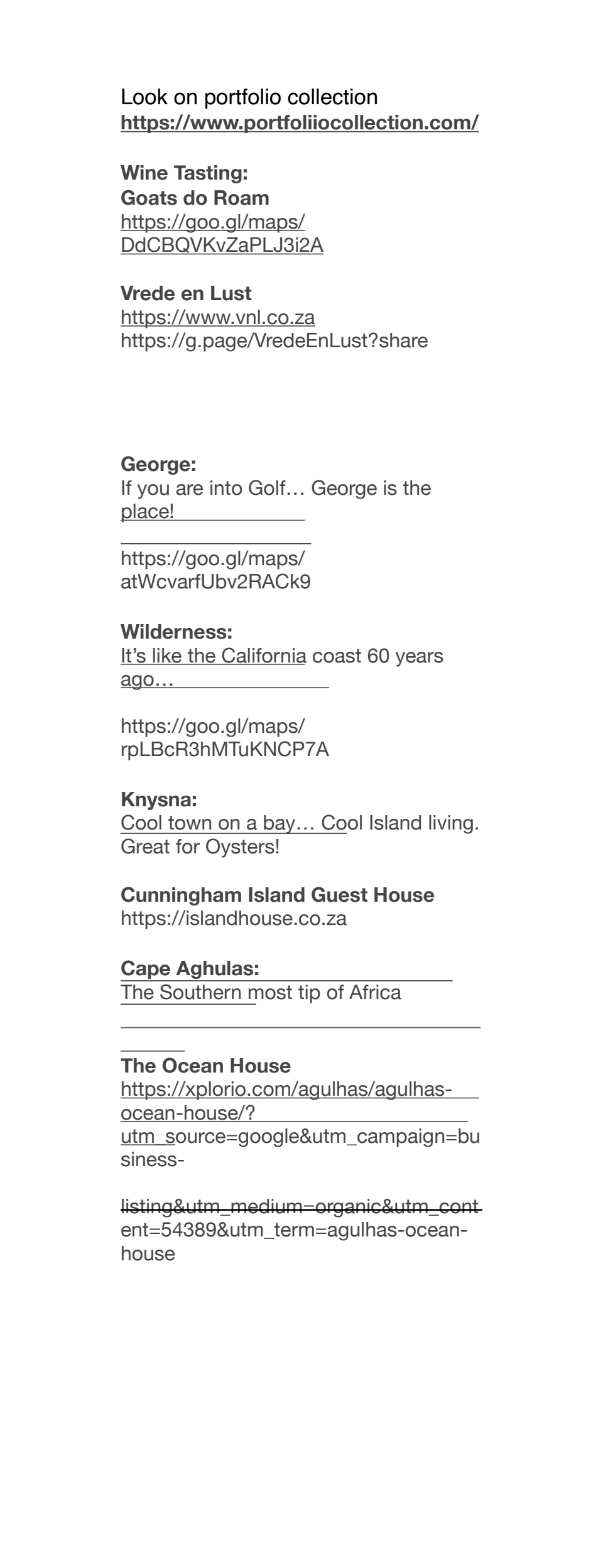
Hout Bay:

Look on portfolio collection <https://www.portfoliocollection.com/>

Where to Eat:

Aubergine:

<https://www.aubergine.co.za>



Look on portfolio collection <https://www.portfoliocollection.com/>

Wine Tasting:

Goats do Roam

<https://goo.gl/maps/DdCBQVKvZaPLJ3i2A>

Vrede en Lust

<https://www.vnl.co.za>
<https://g.page/VredeEnLust?share>

George:

If you are into Golf... George is the place!

<https://goo.gl/maps/atWcvarfUbv2RACK9>

Wilderness:

It's like the California coast 60 years ago...

<https://goo.gl/maps/rpLBcR3hMTuKNCP7A>

Knysna:

Cool town on a bay... Cool Island living. Great for Oysters!

Cunningham Island Guest House

<https://islandhouse.co.za>

Cape Aghulas:

The Southern most tip of Africa

The Ocean House

https://xplorio.com/agulhas/agulhas-ocean-house/?utm_source=google&utm_campaign=business-

listing&utm_medium=organic&utm_content=54389&utm_term=agulhas-ocean-house