

RISE WITH OUR PLACE OF GOLD

GAUTENG INCENTIVE FACT BOOK



NATIONAL CONVENTION BUREAU





GAUTENG PROVINCE

The gateway to the rest of Africa, Gauteng province is a sought-after incentive destination and offers many exciting opportunities and experiences for fun-loving travellers. When it comes to urban experiences, Gauteng is very diverse and has a wealth of shopping, dining and nightlife options. Johannesburg and Tshwane (Pretoria) are Gauteng's main metropolitan centres, connected by the super-efficient Gautrain, and while they offer the best of city life, they are also very close to nature. There are beautiful eco-reserves, parks and botanical gardens and wildlife options on their doorstep. Organise a dinner overlooking the Cradle of Humankind and learn about man's origins, take attendees and delegates on a tour that touches on the lives of both Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi, or try out a quad-biking adventure along the backstreets of Soweto. Pay tribute to the struggle heroes in Tshwane's Freedom Park and hear the story of the continent told the African way. There are many wonderful opportunities available for the incentive market in Gauteng.



KEY ATTRACTIONS AND INSPIRING ACTIVITIES:

- A township shebeen experience: Treat attendees to an authentic township shebeen experience, complete with local cuisine and traditional favourites. Throw in some jazz from a neighbourhood band to add to the fun atmosphere.
- Apartheid Museum: Attendees will gain real insight into South Africa's history with a visit to the Apartheid Museum. This interactive world-class museum is one of the highlights of any visit to Gauteng.
- Game-viewing in Dinokeng: Nothing beats going on safari, and the Dinokeng Game Reserve is about an hour from both Johannesburg and Pretoria. Delegates can enjoy a game-viewing excursion and a sundowner stopover in the African bush.
- Open-roof bus tour of Jozi: Johannesburg has a chequered history that goes back to the mining days of old. The best way to get perspective of the city is to go on the big red bus that starts at Gold Reef City and stops off at all the main attractions.
- Adventures in Soweto: Explore the famous township of Soweto by bicycle. A local guide will take your group to see all the main attractions, finishing up at a neighbourhood restaurant, where you can sample the local home-made beer.
- Maboneng magic: The Maboneng Precinct in downtown Johannesburg is a great place to explore urban culture. There are a number of restaurants, galleries and bars worth visiting – and on Sundays there is the wonderful Market on Main food market.
- Voortrekker Monument and Freedom Park: When visiting Tshwane visit both the Voortrekker Monument and Freedom Park. The monolithic Voortrekker Monument sheds light on South Africa's pioneer history, while Freedom Park is largely dedicated to the heroes of the struggle and also has a fantastic museum - //hapo - which tells the continent's history from an African perspective.
- Tour the town of Cullinan: Visitors to Tshwane can enjoy a day trip to the old mining town of Cullinan (where the Cullinan Diamond was found in 1905). Take a tour of the old diamond mine, shop at the various antique shops and have a fun group event at the quirky Jan Harmsgat se Agterplaas.
- Visit the lions: Not too far from both Johannesburg and Pretoria is the Lion Park in Lanseria, which is well-equipped to deal with large groups. Viewing these large predators at the Lion Park is a major highlight for any visitor to the region.
- Montecasino: A multi-purpose venue in the north of Johannesburg, Montecasino is hub of entertainment. There are numerous restaurants, coffee shops and bars at Montecasino, as well as the beautifully kept Montecasino Bird Gardens.



GAUTENG: JOHANNESBURG

Rise with our City of Gold

Also known as 'Egoli' or 'City of Gold', Johannesburg is the business, economic and commercial capital of southern Africa and a great place for incentive travellers. This multi-ethnic city has so much diversity on offer in just one place – from incredible shopping malls, fantastic entertainment centres and world-class restaurants to heritage sites, art-and-design hubs, inner-city precincts, adventure hotspots and large green spaces and wildlife sanctuaries. The city has also hosted some enormous entertainment and sporting events and large international conventions and conferences. In Johannesburg, the action never stops, day or night and there is always something to do and somewhere to go. Incentive travellers and meetings attendees will thrill at the buzz of this happening metropolis.

Accessibility

Johannesburg is the gateway to South Africa via O.R. Tambo International Airport – the largest airport in Africa. Direct flights to Johannesburg include:

- Europe: Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Istanbul, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Munich, Paris, Zurich

- Middle East: Abu Dhabi, Dubai
- North America: New York, Atlanta, Washington DC
- South America: Buenos Aires, Sao Paolo
- Asia: Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Singapore
- Australia: Perth, Sydney
- Africa: all major cities

Where to stay

There are more than 10 500 graded establishments on offer in Johannesburg, from five-star business and leisure hotels like the Four Seasons Westcliff, the Hyatt Rosebank, Radisson Blu Gautrain, to four- and three-star boutique hotels - all meeting strict grading requirements.

And, if you are looking for unique accommodation in the city, there is an art hotel in the Maboneng Precinct, and there are also hotels and guest houses in Soweto. Further afield, opt for accommodation that pays homage to our ancient ancestors in the Cradle of Humankind.

Incentive travellers will love the many spa retreats on offer and there are safari lodges and country retreats in areas like the Magaliesberg, 45 minutes outside of Johannesburg.

Sandton Sun Deck



Venues with a difference

There are numerous conference and convention centres in Johannesburg, the best-known venue being the Sandton Convention Centre (SCC) and the fantastic exhibition spaces at Nasrec.

However, if you want something a bit different for your meeting or incentive group, you may wish to consider the following:

- An event at Randlords function venue, one of Johannesburg's rooftop hotspots with incredible views of the Nelson Mandela Bridge and the city lights below.
- Choose to walk in the footsteps of our heroes like Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela at places such as Constitution Hill, Liliesleaf Farm and Satyagraha House.
- Enjoy a bona fide township experience in Vilakazi Street Soweto – home to not one but two Nobel Peace Prize winners. Visit the nearby attractions and enjoy a traditional meal at one of the many township-style restaurants.
- Take a visit to Lesedi Cultural Village and learn about South Africa's different cultures. Here, your attendees will be encouraged to take part in drumming workshops and traditional dance displays and will enjoy African cuisine.
- Get inspired by the Cradle of Humankind, where mankind's journey began. Incentive travellers can enjoy spending time at Maropeng, the unique visitors' centre (which also

has a conference venue) and learning more about this unique part of the world. Organise a treasure hunt for your attendees.

Exceptional incentive activities

In Johannesburg and surrounding areas there are a number of activities and experiences on offer:

- A walking tour of the city is not only fun and enlightening, but healthy too. There are numerous walking tours on offer, including a fascinating Graffiti Tour, a Public Art Tour, Tour of Newtown and a Tour of Fordsburg, home to a large South African Indian community and the famous Oriental Plaza.
- A day trip to Soweto is an absolute must, and there are a number of eateries in this sprawling township that cater to all tastes and which will give travellers an insight into local culture and flavour. Take a cycle tour or opt to bungee or rap jump at Orlando Towers.
- Gold Reef City is an entertainment hub of note, celebrating Johannesburg's mining heritage. Visitors can go down a gold mine, dine at any one of the many restaurants and/or enjoy a night of jazz at a stylish cocktail bar.
- The Lion Park is a major attraction for those visiting Johannesburg. Just half an hour or so out of the city, it is at this wildlife sanctuary that visitors can see Africa's great predators. There are guided tours on offer day and night, as well as the new 'silent' electric vehicle tour.







GAUTENG: TSHWANE

Rise with our Jacaranda City

The administrative seat of the South African government and home to numerous international embassies and diplomatic residences, Pretoria is stately and serene. It is a city that celebrates South Africa's heritage and is home to the Union Buildings, the Voortrekker Monument, Freedom Park and some of the country's best museums. It's a city of learning, with two world-renowned universities, and it is also a sporting mecca of sorts (known for its rugby culture). Its State Theatre is a seat of opera, dance and symphony, and the city claims some noted houses of fine dining. It has exceptional natural attractions, like its botanical gardens and the city zoo and, from September, its purple mass of jacaranda trees. Within easy distance are recreational playgrounds like the Hartbeespoort Dam, the Magaliesberg mountains, the Dinokeng Game Reserve and a number of nature reserves.

Accessibility

With a 30-minute direct connection via the Gautrain (high-speed railway), Tshwane is served by O.R. Tambo International Airport – the largest airport in Africa.

Direct flights to OR Tambo include:

- Europe: Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Istanbul, London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Munich, Paris, Zurich
- Middle East: Abu Dhabi, Dubai

- North America: New York, Atlanta, Washington DC
- South America: Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo
- Asia: Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Singapore
- Australia: Perth, Sydney
- Africa: all major cities

Where to stay

There are more than 6 432 graded establishments on offer in Tshwane, from five-star business hotels like the well-known Sheraton Pretoria, to a range of four- and three-star hotels to fit every budget. There are also a number of boutique hotels on offer for smaller incentive groups.

When it comes to unique accommodation in and around Tshwane, the Maropeng Hotel in the Cradle of Humankind (about 30 minutes from Pretoria) is an excellent option, or groups can stay in the numerous guesthouses located in the friendly mining town of Cullinan (along the Dinokeng route). The Nan Hua Buddhist Centre also has a guest house and rooms that can be booked out, for something a little different.

For a country-type experience, the Irene Country Lodge and Kievits Kroon Country Estate are both great options (excellent spa facilities), while bush accommodation is available in the Magaliesberg and Muldersdrift areas.



Venues with a difference

Perhaps the most well-known convention centre in Tshwane is the CSIR International Convention Centre – a venue with an excellent track record for large and small events and a creative team that can pull off any major convention, exhibition or event with aplomb.

If your incentive group is looking for something a bit different, you may want to consider:

- Freedom Park in Pretoria pays tribute to the heroes of South Africa's struggle against apartheid and is a popular venue with a fascinating historic timeline. The Garden of Remembrance demonstrates many layers of South African history and the //hapo museum explores history from an African perspective.
- The National Zoological Gardens of South Africa in Pretoria (also sometimes referred to as the Pretoria Zoo) has a few venues on offer, including the Duku Duku venue (situated between two gibbon enclosures) and the smaller Elephant Indaba, which overlooks the elephant enclosure.
- Irene Dairy Farm is a delightful venue in Tshwane. It was built in 1895 and is still a working dairy farm. A farm-style conference venue for a smaller conference (100 pax) is on offer in gorgeous surroundings, where delegates can enjoy nature during breakaway sessions.
- Kwalata Lodge is about 30–45 minutes from Pretoria and offers a game-drive experience par excellence. The lodge has conference facilities and fantastic outdoor adventure options in a bushveld setting.
- Out of town, the Cradle of Humankind has a number of conference venues and options for

attendees wanting to combine the 'origins of man' theme with their functions. Places like the Maropeng Visitors' Centre, the Maropeng Hotel and Forum Homini are good options.

Exceptional incentive activities

- Travellers will love a hot-air ballooning safari over the Magaliesberg mountains. The early morning wake-up call is definitely worth it and the reward is a champagne-fuelled South African breakfast.
- Situated 40km to the northwest of Pretoria, the Tswaing Meteorite Crater is also known as the Pretoria Saltpan. One of the best-preserved meteorite craters in the world, artifacts of the late Stone Age have been found here – and it's also a great place for hiking and quad-biking for adventurous travellers.
- Take a guided tour of the Pretoria Zoo by night and learn about the nocturnal nature of Africa's incredible wildlife. This zoo is known as the finest of its kind in Africa.
- Don't miss the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site – one of Gauteng's key attractions. Book a 'Bone Detective' tour with a young South African scientist for a night of fine dining and discussions on paleoanthropology. Or take a day trip and visit the Maropeng Visitors' Centre and the Sterkfontein Caves.
- For a fantastic day trip, the Vaal Meander is a great place for water sport activities and relaxation along the banks of the Vaal River. A sundowner cruise is very popular, as is the wine route – unique to this part of the world and a celebration of home-grown wines.



Sandton

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and convention planning support,
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