

Nuggets of Knowledge

ROUTE 62



Cape Route 62 is the tourist route in the Western Cape and Eastern Cape, South Africa, which meanders between Cape Town and Oudtshoorn, the Langkloof and Port Elizabeth, offering a scenic alternative to the N2 highway.

It's an area of magnificent landscapes and towering cliffs, crystal clear streams and an abundance of trees and indigenous flora. Cape Route 62 will also take you along the longest wine route in the Western Cape and most likely the whole world. Innovation and pride, combined with a terrain and mild climate that are harmoniously balanced, results in the prominence of the outstanding wines on Cape Route 62. The easily accessible towns nestled along the valleys, all offer ample opportunity for discovery. From visits to wineries and game reserves, tribal art, cultural tours, museums and for the more adventurous: hiking trails and mountain climbing, 4x4 routes, canoeing, horse riding, even ostrich riding, fishing and caving.

What make Cape Route 62 really special is the calm and peacefulness that it offers travelers. The people on Cape Route 62 are another alluring attraction. They are friendly and eager to both assist and entertain passing travelers.

ACCESS

Main distances to the highlighted cities on the route 62 from Cape Town are indicated below;

	Cape Town	Paarl	Wellington	Tulbagh	Ceres	Worcester	Robertson	Montagu	Oudtshoorn	Port Elizabeth
Cape Town	-	67	73	128	165	127	172	201	438	829
Paarl	67	-	6	61	98	60	105	134	371	762
Wellington	73	6	-	55	92	148	193	222	459	850
Tulbagh	128	61	55	-	37	93	138	167	404	795
Ceres	165	98	92	37	-	56	101	130	367	758
Worcester	127	60	148	93	56	-	45	74	311	702
Robertson	172	105	193	138	101	45	-	29	266	657
Montagu	201	134	222	167	130	74	29	-	237	628
Oudtshoorn	438	371	459	404	367	311	266	237	-	391
Port Elizabeth	829	762	850	795	758	702	657	628	391	-

Please note that although the speed limit on South African roads is 120km/h, there are many places where the speed limit is reduced to 60km/h.



MAIN CITIES OF INTEREST PAARL

Simply a 40-minute drive outside Cape Town, at the foot of the second-largest granite outcrop in the world, you'll find an unexpected jewel: the scenic town of Paarl. Paarl is a year round destination. The balmy summers call for outside entertaining, while the rainy Cape winters offers the perfect setting around the fireplace with a glass of world-class red wine, produced in the Paarl Valley. Take a trip down memory lane with the 12-km long Main Road, the longest in the country. The buildings lining Main Road present a mosaic of the most superb examples of Cape Dutch, Victorian, Edwardian and Art Deco architecture.

Activities to do: For the adventurous at heart explore the Paarl Valley from a different angle, either on horseback along the foothills of the mountains or through vineyards, or a wide variety of hiking trails and bike routes to choose from.

WELLINGTON

Steeped in history and tradition, this town has a magical atmosphere that will captivate you once you discover the town, its people and myriad of attraction. The fact that the majority of South Africa vine-cutting nurseries are found in the Wellington area is due to the excellent soils and climate of the region.

Activities to do: The Wellington Wine Route is small and compact and cellars are within easy driving distance of another. The members of this route are all open to the public and will welcome wine lovers to come and taste their products in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

TULBAGH

Tulbagh lays an easy 80 minutes' drive north of Cape Town, at the northern edge of the beautiful fertile Breede River Valley. Some of South Africa's well known wine estates are also situated in the Tulbagh Valley Drostdyhof, Theuniskraal, Twee Jonge Gezellen and the Paddagang Wine Shop, cater for discerning wine lovers.

Activities to do: Hiking and mountain biking routes, as well as horse riding, fishing and a range of sporting facilities are also available for the adventurous at heart.

CERES

The north-western part of Route 62 forms a link with the West Coast and the Cedarberg, as well as providing an alternative route to Cape Town, 150km to the south-west. Ceres is the centre of a vast deciduous fruit producing region and lives up to its name in every way.

Activities to do: Visits in season to fruit farms to see the packing of fresh fruit and the drying of fruit; hikes and walks amongst magnificent rock formations and mountain fynbos; cherry picking in season; the viewing of San rock paintings; a variety of 4x4 routes; Bedford truck rides to the top of the highest mountain peak in the Western Cape; bird watching and visits to game farms.



WORCESTER

Worcester is the most central point of the Cape Winelands District, the focal and economic hub of the Breede Valley. Tucked away at the foot of the magnificent Brandwacht and Langeberge mountains, the town's beauty is complimented by vineyards and luscious green valleys. Worcester forms part of the Cape Route 62, the longest wine route in the world, which offers not only award winning wines, but also jaw-dropping scenery.

Activities to do: Visit the Karoo Desert National Botanical Garden situated against a spectacular backdrop of mountain peaks. Worcester is also an outdoor enthusiast's paradise: canoeing, biking, hiking and mountaineering trails, water sporting at the Brandvlei and Quaggaskloof Dams, 4x4 routes, trout fishing and horse riding. Another experience not to be missed is brandy tasting at the KWV Brandy House.

ROBERTSON

Robertson is the western gateway to The Heart of Route 62. With 150 years of history, Robertson has grown into one of the most attractive Cape Wineland towns, with Victorian buildings, jacaranda-lined streets and beautiful gardens. The region may be best known for its wine but the variety of attractions and activities combined with spectacular scenery and the relaxed hospitality of the people ensures visitors an unforgettable stay.

Activities to do: From a lazy river cruise or a vigorous mountain hike, elegant wining and dining to outdoor picnics and exploring our rich historical sites. The local farm stalls overflow with fresh produce, dried fruit and freshly made breads, homemade jams and preserves.

MONTAGU

Montagu is the gateway to the Little Karoo and also the scenic heart of Route 62. This peaceful town is steeped in history and is famous for its awe inspiring rock formations, orchards, vineyards, local herbs and healing hot mineral springs.

Activities to do: Visitors will discover the Wildflower Nature garden, Bird sanctuaries, Nature Reserve, museums, art galleries, Historic Homes, lovely hiking trails, 4X4 and Mountain Bike trails and ideal rock climbing opportunities.

OUTDSHOORN

Oudtshoorn is the ostrich capital of the world. Here ostriches are found in great numbers and the region produces the best feathers, leather products and ostrich meat world-wide. The Cango Caves are the oldest and one of the most popular attractions in our region. It is also one of the great natural wonders of the world. Visit local wineries for tasting and buying award winning wines ports and sherries. For the brave the locally distilled "witblits" is just what is needed.

Activities to do: A Meerkat adventure is definitely a must do when staying in Oudtshoorn.

