

# WELCOME TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



*Pictured: Union Building: office of the President*

South Africa is a country filled with the spirit of “Ubuntu” meaning humanity. South Africa is a diversified country with eleven official languages and all ethnic groups have different cultures. City of Tswana “Pretoria” is the capital city of South Africa and is dominated by Tswana, English and Afrikaans languages. The Republic of South Africa is a

democratic country led by the African National Congress under the leadership of His Excellency President Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma. South Africa first gained its democracy in 1994 and the country had its first Black President Mr Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. The African National Congress is the oldest liberation movement in the African continent with 100 years of existence. We welcome you to our country which is alive with possibilities.

**General Advice:** When in Pretoria, try and do as we do. Do not accept help from strangers as you might end up in trouble.

**Welcome:** Hand shake is used when greeting people. Ashee a Tswana greeting meaning “Hello” is dominantly used in Pretoria amongst black South Africans and most black foreigners who are based in the city. Try and used the greeting in order to attract a warm welcome from the community.

**Feelings in public:** Avoid wearing miniskirts in public places such as taxi ranks as such will attract unwanted attention. Otherwise modest dress will avoid a lot of unwanted attention

**Criminal Offences:** Avoid drinking and drive and drinking alcohol on the road sides as these constitute criminal offences



# VISITORS GUIDE

## IWMI SOUTHERN AFRICA



IWMI offices are situated in the outskirts of Silverton in Pretoria, at 141 Cresswell Road, Weavind Park, ARC building. Our office hours are from 8h00 am to 16h30pm Monday to Friday.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Time:** the time in Pretoria is 2 hours ahead of the Greenwich Mean Time UTC/GMT +2 hours. No daylight saving time in 2012.02.06

**Language:** Tswana, English and Afrikaans are the most dominant languages in Pretoria.

**Climate:** Pretoria normally receives about 573mm of rain per year, with most rainfall occurring during summer. It receives the lowest rainfall (0mm) in June and the highest (110mm) in January. Daily maximum temperatures show that the average midday temperatures for Pretoria range from 18.3°C in June to 27.5°C in January. The region is the coldest during July when the mercury drops to 1.7°C on average during the night. Pretoria is colder between May and August.

**Food and Hygiene:** We have a variety of food to choose from and our food is healthy. Pretoria has no issues of contaminated water; you can drink either tap or bottled water.

**Currency, ATMs and Credit Cards:** The currency in South Africa is Rand. Exchanging money and cashing travellers cheques should be done at the airport and the bank. ATMs are available at all banks subject to transaction fees. Visa Cards, Master Cards and American Express are accepted in most retailers, restaurants and hotels.

### Accommodation and Vehicle Rental:

**Vehicle Rental:** In South Africa we have a variety of car rental services providers that you can choose from, to access more info please go to this website: [www.rentalcars.com/SouthAfrica](http://www.rentalcars.com/SouthAfrica) or you can contact them at +27 800 981 448

### List of Hotels:

1. Protea Hotel Hatfield  
+27 12 364 0300

[www.proteahotels.com/protea-hotel-hatfield.html](http://www.proteahotels.com/protea-hotel-hatfield.html)

2. Marloot Guesthouse  
+27 82 371 6447 or +27 82 371 7206

[www.marloot.co.za](http://www.marloot.co.za)

3. The Villas Luxury Suite Hotel  
+27 12 342 9130

[www.villavia.co.za](http://www.villavia.co.za)

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