



CELEBRATING SOUTH AFRICA!





We're going on an **ADVENTURE!**

Our soccer team is going on a tour
through South Africa!

Join us in exploring some of the
many natural wonders and
tourist attractions across our
beautiful country!



DESTINATIONS:



Click on the destination you would like to visit or continue to next slide:



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6. [Tugela Falls](#)

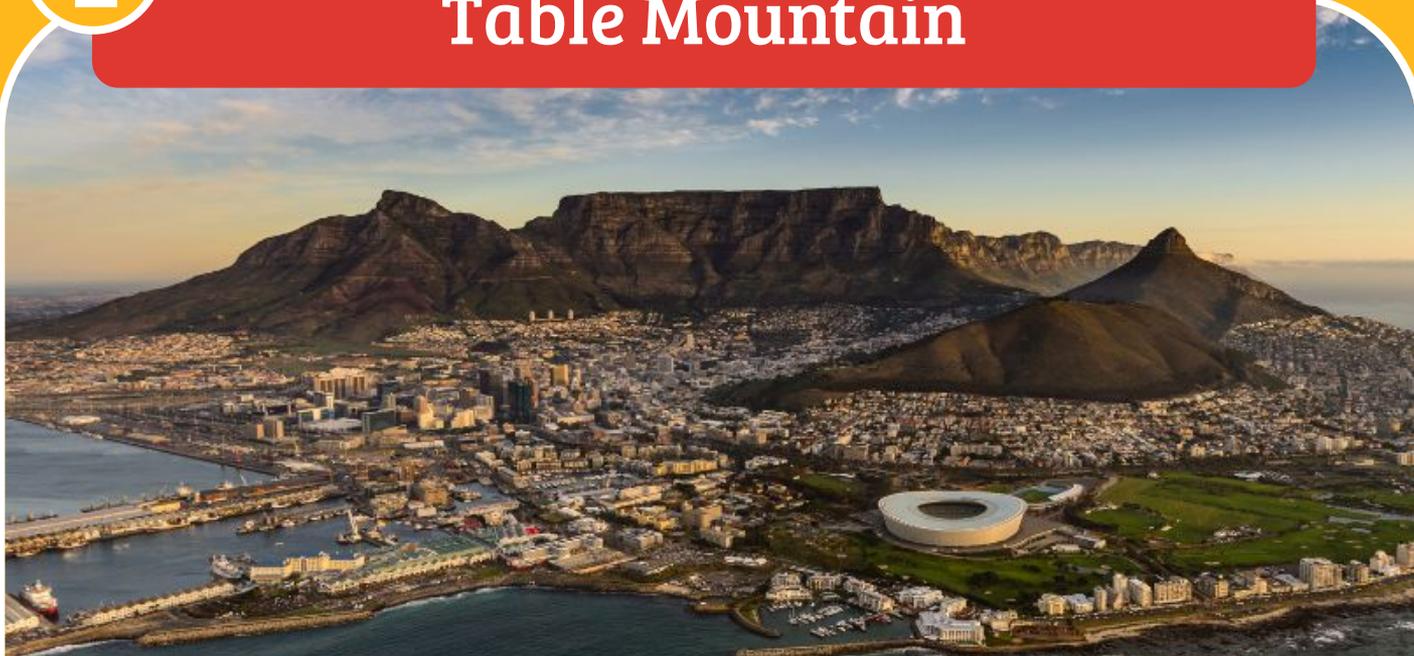


7. [Kruger National Park](#)
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1

Table Mountain



MOST FAMOUS!



WHY IS TABLE MOUNTAIN SO FAMOUS?

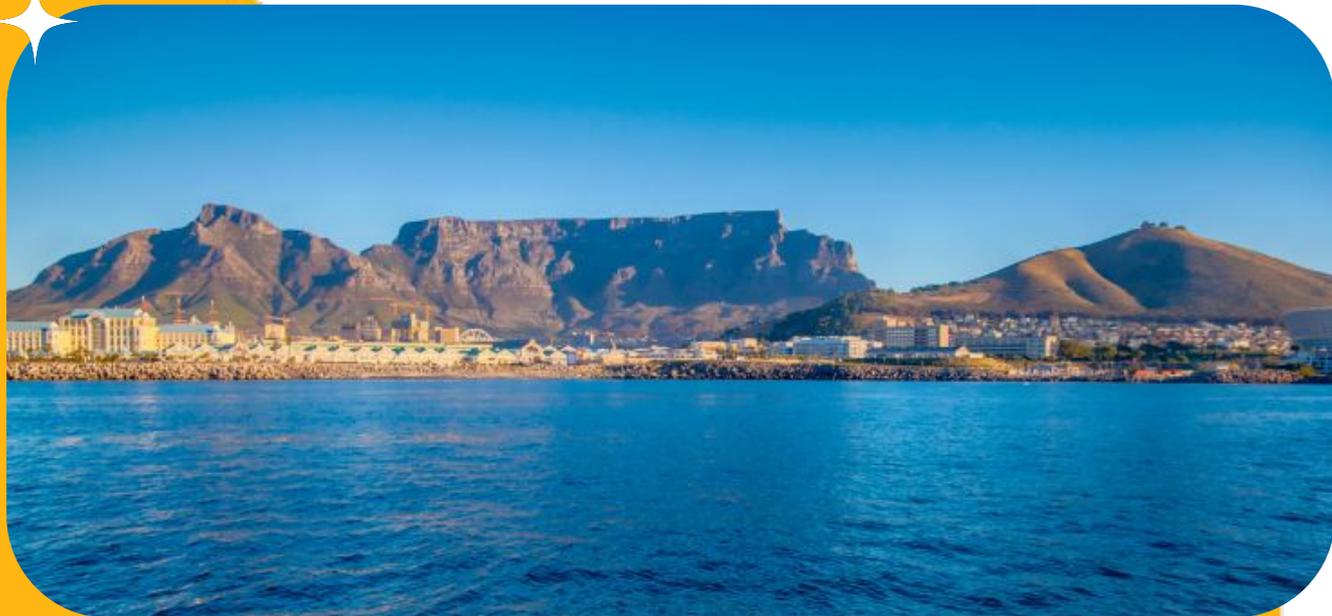
★ The mountain is easily recognised world-wide by its **flat top**, which looks like a table!

★ Sometimes cloud formations cover the top and locals like to refer to this as the “tablecloth”.



A LONG, LONG TIME AGO...

Long before the mountain was referred to as “Table Mountain”, the indigenous Khoi people knew it as “Hoerikwaggo” (mountain of the sea).



They saw the mountain as a sacred place and believed that their ancestors used the clouds to journey to the afterlife. The mountain was also an important source of food, water, medicine and other resources.

TABLE MOUNTAIN IS REALLY OLD!



Wow!
That's old!

Scientists believe that Table Mountain is roughly 360 million years old - making it one of the oldest mountains in the world!

That's aeons older than the more famous Himalayan mountains in Asia - which are a "young" 50 million years old.

Some of the rocks that make up Table Mountain are even older - at around 600 million years old!

GLOSSARY



Aeons

An aeon (pronounced "ee-on") is a very long period of time - too long to count!

Imagine trying to count to 1 million, it would take you a very long time. An aeon is even longer than that - in fact, it's so long that it's hard to even imagine it! It's like trying to imagine how big the whole universe is and all of its stars. It's just too big to think about.



TABLE MOUNTAIN IS HUGE!

You can see the mountain from really far away, even from ships that are 150 kilometres away!

The top of the mountain spans about 2 km from side to side and the highest point of the mountain is 1086 meters above sea level.

But a long time ago, it is estimated that the mountain was 3 to 4 times taller than it is now! The wind and the rain made the mountain smaller over millions of years by eroding the softer stone, but the harder, stronger sandstone remained.

A young girl with dark skin is looking through blue binoculars. She is wearing a white tank top. The image is framed with a white, torn-edge border. Behind her is a large yellow speech bubble with a black outline, containing the text "That's huge!". The background features a large yellow circle and a green circle, with a white starburst graphic in the upper right corner.

That's huge!

GLOSSARY



Erosion

Erosion is when wind, rain and even ice make the mountain smaller and smaller over a very long time.

It's like when you take the eraser and rub it on your pencil drawing and it gets smaller and smaller.

Just like that, the wind and rain did the same thing to Table Mountain - they made it smaller and smaller until the top became flat, like a table! Can you imagine how long it must have taken for the wind and rain to do that? Over millions of years!



HIKE OR TAKE THE CABLE CAR!

✦ If you want to hike up the mountain, it would take you about 1.5 to 2 hours - and there are about 250 trails to get you to the top.

✦ Alternatively, there's a cable car that you can take right to the summit of the mountain, which only takes 5 minutes.



THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

The mountain offers a wide range of outdoor activities!



From hiking, cave exploration, walking trails, cycling trails, and even abseiling. There is something for all ages!

RICH BIODIVERSITY OF PLANTS + ANIMALS

Did you know that Table Mountain National Park has over **8200** different types of plants?

That's 5 times more plant species than the entire United Kingdom, a country that is 3.5 times larger than the park!



Such unique biodiversity!



MOST OF THE PLANTS ARE ENDEMIC!



**That means that they don't occur
anywhere else on Earth!**

All the more reason that we need to help protect them! This includes the red disa (also known as the pride of Table Mountain) - a rare type of orchid!

Most of the plants are a type of fynbos, which is part of the Cape Floral Kingdom.



GLOSSARY

Cape Floral Kingdom

The Cape Floral Kingdom is the smallest but richest of only six floral kingdoms in the world!

Most of the vegetation in the Cape Floral Kingdom is known as *fynbos*, which includes our national flower, the king protea, and the Rooibos from which we make our beloved herbal tea.



THE MOUNTAIN HAS A UNIQUE ECOSYSTEM!

Some of which are also only found on this mountain and nowhere else!



I am only found here!

The mountain is home to porcupines, mongooses, snakes, lizards, tortoises, and a rare endemic species of amphibian that is only found on Table Mountain, the Table Mountain Ghost Frog.

1

Table Mountain



MOST FAMOUS LANDMARK
FOR ITS FLAT TOP!



ONE OF THE OLDEST
MOUNTAINS IN THE WORLD!



CAN BE SEEN FROM 150 KM
AWAY!



1.5 - 2 HOURS TO SUMMIT
OR 5 MIN BY CABLE CAR!



HOME TO OVER 8 200
PLANT SPECIES!



LET'S REVIEW:

- Have you visited Table Mountain?
(Or would you like to visit in future?)
- What was your favourite fact about the mountain?
- Why is the mountain so famous?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

CONTINUE ONTO THE
NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



Option 2:

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2

Cape Agulhas



MOST SOUTH!

THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF AFRICA!

Cape Agulhas is located at the southernmost tip of the African continent - that's the closest point on the continent to cold Antarctica!

The small fishing town is also the meeting point of two oceans. Do you know which two oceans meet here?



MEETING POINT OF TWO OCEANS!

Cape Agulhas is the official meeting place of the Indian & Atlantic Oceans!

While ocean currents are constantly moving and mingling, the official meeting place of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans is at Cape Agulhas. This title is cast in stone! And you can visit this stone when you visit the Cape Agulhas National Park.



Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean is on the east side of Africa and it's WARM because it gets a special current (named the Mozambique or Agulhas current) of warm water from the tropics. It's known for its colourful reefs and fish!



Atlantic Ocean

The Atlantic Ocean is on the west side of Africa and it's COLD because it gets a current (named the Benguela Current) of cold water from Antarctica. That's why you may find swimming in Cape Town's sea much cooler than swimming in Durban's sea!



DID YOU KNOW?

The African Penguin is also known as the “Jackass” penguin!

That’s because it makes a distinctive braying call, similar to that of a donkey or a mule!

The African penguin is found in the cold Atlantic waters, with a colony at Boulders Beach in Cape Town and Stony Beach in Betty’s Bay.



I sound like a donkey!

LONG, LONG TIME AGO...

At the end of the 15th century, early Portuguese explorers named the area “Cape Agulhas”, which means “Cape of Needles”.



The explorers were sailing around the tip of Africa on their ships when they realised that the needles of their compasses (tools used to help navigate) didn't work correctly here!

Others think that the "Needles" in the name refer to the big rocks and dangerous reefs that lie just off the coast of the area.



DID YOU KNOW?

Whales have their own special highly sophisticated system of navigation (like their own “GPS”) to help them find their way!

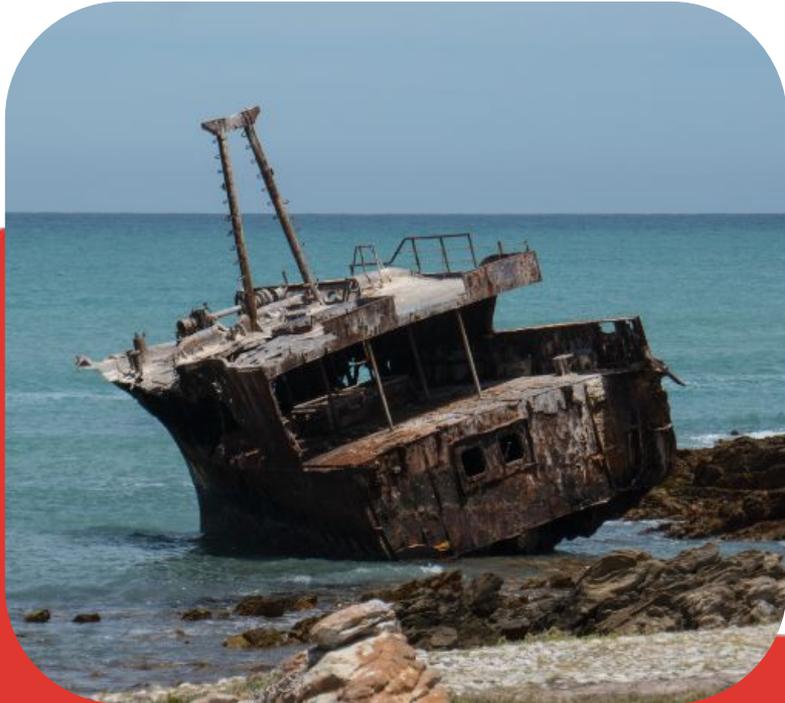
Whales sometimes come past Cape Agulhas when migrating to warmer waters. But they don't need compasses or lighthouses to help them safely navigate! They use a variety of senses to travel thousands of kilometres across open oceans to reach their breeding and feeding grounds.

Watch out
for the rocks!



KNOWN AS "THE SHIP'S GRAVEYARD"!

It is believed that over 150 ships have sunk in these waters!



Because the two ocean currents often come together here, the sea off Cape Agulhas can be very rough! It's known for its strong currents and powerful waves, with some waves reaching as high as 30 m - strong enough to sink even large ships!

To help ships safely navigate the coast, a special building was added here. Do you know which building this is?



CAPE AGULHAS LIGHTHOUSE

This is the 2nd oldest working lighthouse in South Africa!

It was built over 170 years ago in 1848 and has been helping ships safely navigate the area ever since.

The lighthouse makes a very bright light that can be seen from far away, even as far as 50 km out to sea!

Inside the lighthouse is a little museum, where you can even climb to the very top of the lighthouse tower (just 71 steps to the top!).



2

Cape Agulhas



SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF AFRICA!



MEETING POINT OF INDIAN & ATLANTIC OCEANS!



TRANSLATES TO "CAPE OF NEEDLES" IN PORTUGUESE!



COAST NICKNAMED "THE SHIP'S GRAVEYARD"!



HOME TO THE 2ND OLDEST WORKING LIGHTHOUSE IN SA!

LET'S REVIEW:



- Why is Cape Agulhas a must-visit destination?
- Which 2 oceans meet at Cape Agulhas? How do these oceans differ from each other?
- Which building is used to help ships safely navigate the rocky coast here?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

CONTINUE ONTO THE
NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



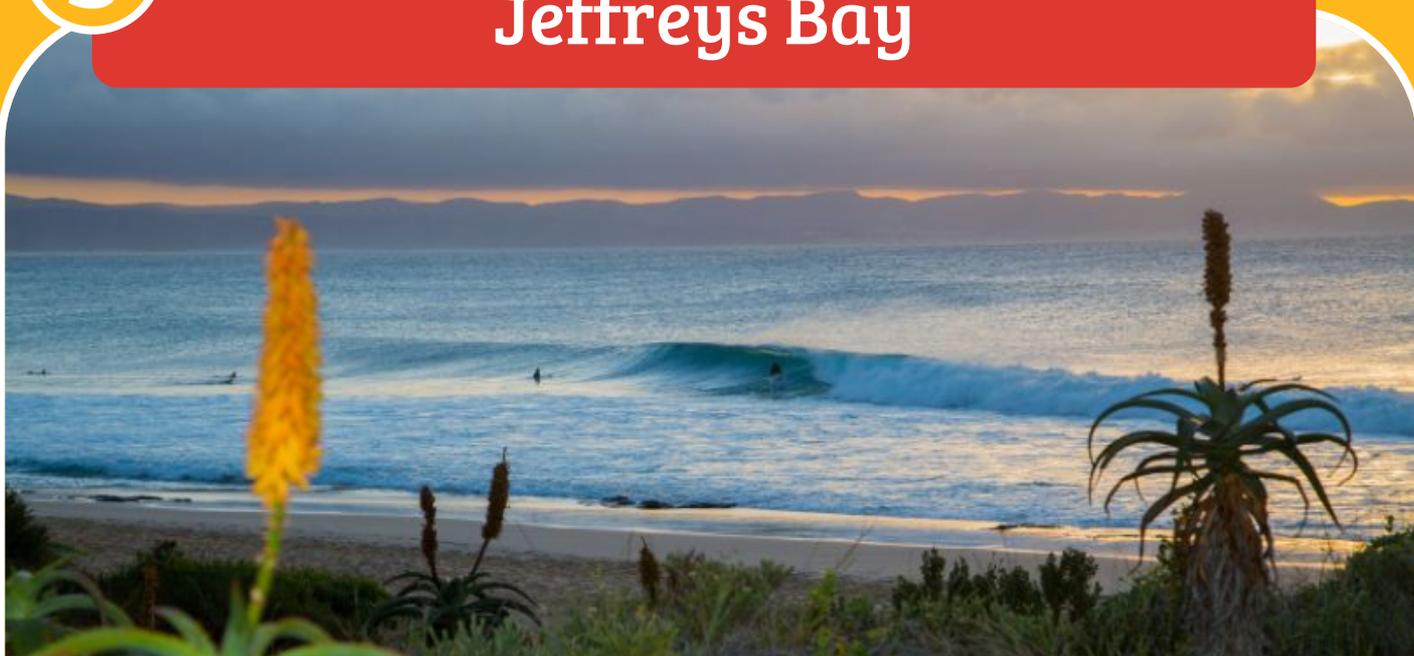
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Jeffreys Bay



BEST WAVES!

WORLD-FAMOUS SURFING DESTINATION!

It is known to have consistently long waves - sometimes reaching 1 km in length!

Affectionately known as “J-Bay” by locals, the town is built on surf culture and even has a Surf Museum!

But J-Bay isn't only for professional surfers and has many surf schools in the area offering lessons to even the utmost beginner and also offers surf equipment for hire.



HOSTS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS!

J-Bay is usually the location for the annual World Surf League (WSL) event every July!



With a supportive local community, beautiful scenery and great waves - it's no wonder J-Bay was chosen to host this event!

At this time of the year, the waves are often 1-3 metres high - perfect for the competition.

SHARK ATTACKS ARE NOT COMMON!



The sea's
ecosystem
needs me

In 2015, Mick Fanning (from Australia) had an encounter with a Great White Shark 2 minutes into the J-Bay Open finals - but he luckily managed to get away physically unharmed with the aid of the safety patrolling the waves!

While shark attacks are NOT common, they can happen! To try to prevent attacks, local authorities have added shark spotters and shark nets.

We know that sharks can seem very scary, but don't forget that they play a vital role in marine ecosystems! And the majority of attacks are caused by mistaken identity or curiosity.

OLDEST SHELL SHOP IN SOUTH AFRICA!

Appropriately named The Original Shell Shop, it was established over 50 years ago in 1969 by a shell lover who discovered the huge variety of shells on the beaches in the area!



J-Bay also has a Shell Museum that has over 400 shell specimens - the **LARGEST COLLECTION** of shells in the whole country!



HOW DID THE NAME COME ABOUT?

After a legend about a sailing captain - named Captain Jeffreys!

According to the story, Captain Jeffreys would sail his cargo ship around the East Coast of South Africa in the 1940s during trading expeditions. During one of these expeditions, many of the people on the ship became very ill with scurvy!

The captain was forced to bring his vessel onto shore, but quickly realised the potential of the place where he landed and decided to build a simple port there. That place is now known as the main beach of Jeffreys Bay.



GLOSSARY



Scurvy

If we don't get enough of the vitamin called Vitamin C, we can get a sickness called *scurvy*, which is what happened to the people on Captain Jeffrey's ship.

We need Vitamin C to help our bodies do many things, like keeping our skin healthy, helping us heal when we get hurt, and making sure we have enough energy to play and run around.

Vitamin C is found in many different types of fruits and vegetables, like oranges, lemons, limes, strawberries, broccoli, peppers, and tomatoes.



PART OF THE WHALE MIGRATORY ROUTE!

Southern Right Whales & Humpback whales visit between July and Dec every year!



The Eastern Cape coastline is visited by these whales coming from the cold Antarctic waters to these warmer waters to raise their young.

Sometimes the whales will come quite close to the coastline for onlookers to see and appreciate from the beach - although there are also charters that take you onto boats to see the whales up close!

PERFECT FOR SPOTTING DOLPHINS!

Bottlenose dolphins are frequently
found here all year round!

You might
spot us
surfing, too!



3

Jeffreys Bay



WORLD-FAMOUS SURFING
DESTINATION!



VENUE FOR THE WORLD
SURF LEAGUE (WSL) EVENT!



HOME TO THE OLDEST SHELL
SHOP IN SOUTH AFRICA!



TOWN NAMED AFTER AN
URBAN LEGEND



PERFECT FOR WHALE AND
DOLPHIN SPOTTING

LET'S REVIEW:

- Would you like to try surfing?
- Did you know that the world championships take place in J-Bay every year?
- Who is the town named after?
- Which animals migrate to the Eastern Cape's warmer waters every year?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

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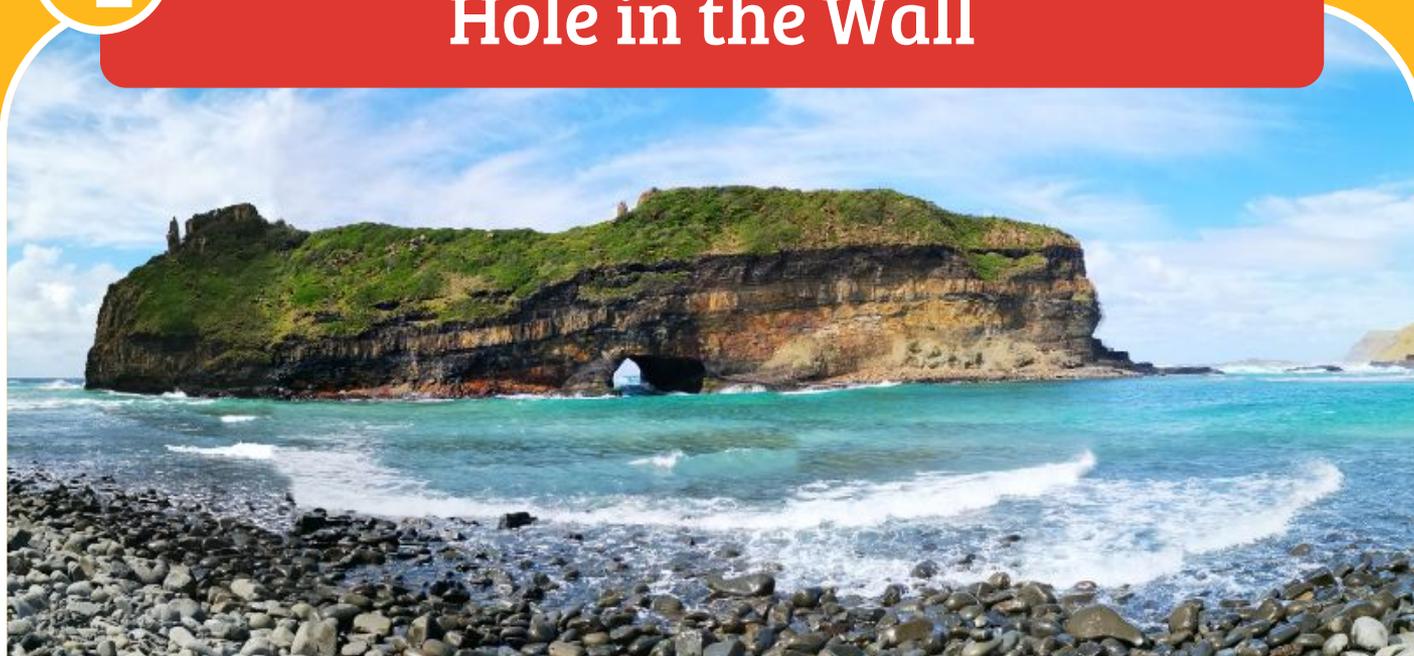
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Hole in the Wall



ANCIENT ARCHWAY!

ANCIENT ENTRANCE TO THE SEA

The “Hole in the Wall” is a natural arch-like opening in a tall, flat-topped rock formation off the Wild Coast.



It is a famous example of how the land can be shaped by the power of the sea over time!

But how does this happen?



THE POWER OF THE SEA

Geologists (scientists that study the Earth) believe that the small island was actually connected to the mainland a long, long time ago!

But over many years, the continuous activity of the waves hitting against the cliffs slowly wore them away until that piece of land was no longer connected and became its own separate island. They also think that this is how the hole was formed!



THE PLACE OF THUNDER OR NOISE

The local Xhosa people call the Hole in the Wall "esiKhaleni", or "place of thunder" or "place of noise".



Some say it's because, under certain conditions, the waves slap the rocks with a resounding cracking sound, mimicking the sound of thunder!



OR WAS IT A LOVE STORY?

Others say it is named "esiKhaleni" as part of a Xhosa legend. The legend tells the story of a beautiful girl who lived in the village along the banks of the Mpako River when it was still a landlocked lagoon protected from the sea by the cliff.

One day, one of the sea-people saw the girl and instantly fell in love with her, but her father forbade her from seeing him.



THE LEGEND OF THE GIANT FISH

What a
great story!



In desperation to be with her, the sea-people gathered at the base of the cliff and with the help of a giant fish, they rammed a hole into the base of the rock and swam into the lagoon.

They sang, shouted and screamed, frightening the villagers, while the girl slipped back into the sea to be with them. It's said that at high tide on a full moon, the song of the sea-people can still be heard echoing through the hole!



THE WALL IS REALLY OLD!

Whichever way the Hole in the Wall came to be, it must have happened a very long time ago!

While the exact age is unknown, the rocks making up the island and cliffs date back 260 million years!

That's ancient!



THE SIZE OF THE HOLE IN THE WALL



So how big is the hole actually?

Well, the hole is estimated to be about 15m high and 30m wide - but only about 3-5 m sticks out of the water!

That's about large enough for a small boat or kayak to pass underneath (just watch out for the rough waves!).

THE ANNUAL SARDINE RUN

You might be able to see the annual Sardine Run from the cliffs nearby!

The annual Sardine Run occurs between May and July when millions of small silver fish called sardines travel in enormous shoals from the cold waters of the West Coast of South Africa to the warmer coastlines up to southern KwaZulu-Natal.



THE PLACE OF THUNDER OR NOISE

The local Xhosa people call the Hole in the Wall "Izi Khaleni", or "place of thunder" or "place of noise".



Some say it's because, under certain conditions, the waves slap the rocks with a resounding cracking sound, mimicking the sound of thunder!



THE SHOALS CAN BE HUGE!

Often more than 7 km long, 1.5 km wide and up to 30 m deep - these shoals are so huge they can be seen by satellite from space!



Birds, sharks, whales, dolphins and seals all follow in the hopes of grabbing a tasty sardine snack. If you are lucky and catch them at the right time, you can view the run coming past the Wild Coast.



4

Hole in the Wall



ANCIENT NATURAL ROCK ARCH STEEPED IN LEGEND!



KNOWN AS "ESIKHALENI" - PLACE OF NOISE!



ESTIMATED TO BE 260 MILLION YEARS OLD!



LARGE ENOUGH TO SAIL UNDER IN A SMALL BOAT!



ANNUAL SARDINE RUN PASSES THROUGH!

LET'S REVIEW:

- How did the sea form the Hole in the Wall?
- Why is it called "Esikhaleni"?
- Which migration can be seen from space?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

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NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



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uShaka Marine World



HIGHEST SLIDE!

AFRICA'S LARGEST MARINE THEMED PARK!

The park has enough water to fill
4.6 MILLION milk bottles!

There are 8 different parts of the park, and they have something fun for everyone to enjoy.

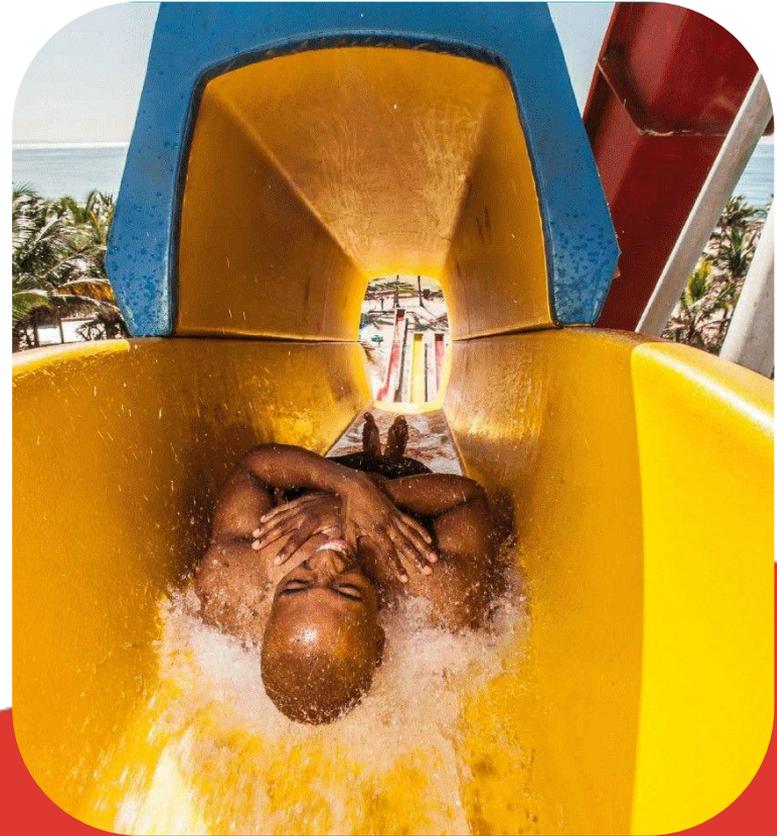
You can see all kinds of fish in the big aquarium, ride large water slides and splash around in the water park, look at dangerous creatures in the creature exhibit, watch dolphins do tricks at dolphin shows, and even climb ropes at the rope adventure park!



AFRICA'S TALLEST SLIDE!

Standing at 18 m high, the slide is appropriately called "The Drop Zone"!

But if you're not ready to take that plunge, the water park has many other water rides and adventures to choose from.



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!



But if you're not keen to take the plunge on Africa's tallest slide - don't worry!

The water park has many other water rides and adventures to choose from!

AFRICA'S LARGEST AQUARIUM!



It has over 300 different kinds of sea life and 10,000 sea creatures, giving you a sneak peek into the world under the sea.

You can see fish, sharks, rays, seals and penguins, and there are even places where you can touch and play with some of the sea animals and do fun activities like diving and snorkelling



IMPORTANT PART OF MARINE CARE!

The park also helps take care of the sea and the animals that live there!



They have special people there who study the ocean and the animals in it to make sure they stay healthy.

And it is also the only facility along the KwaZulu-Natal coast with the specialised facilities and experience to care for and rehabilitate stranded marine animals.



MARINE REHABILITATION + RELEASE



That means that they take care of any lost or hurt sea animals until they can go back to the sea. If they can't go back, the animals will stay at the park or somewhere else safe where they can live.

DANGEROUS CREATURES EXHIBIT



Come visit
me, too!

The marine park is not only home to sea creatures! 🐸 There are Nile crocodiles, bullfrogs, scorpions, tarantulas, Gila monster lizards, and many more!

You can also come face to face with some of the world's fastest, longest, heaviest, most venomous, and longest-fanged snakes at the Dangerous Creatures exhibit!



5

uShaka Marine World



AFRICA'S LARGEST MARINE THEMED PARK!



AFRICA'S HIGHEST SLIDE!



HAS THE 5TH LARGEST AQUARIUM IN THE WORLD!



KEY TO MARINE CONSERVATION!



ALSO HOME TO EXOTIC REPTILES & CREEPY-CRAWLIES!

LET'S REVIEW:



- What's the name of the tallest slide at the park?
- What role does the park play in marine conservation?
- What other kind of animals can you find here?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

CONTINUE ONTO THE
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NEXT DESTINATION!



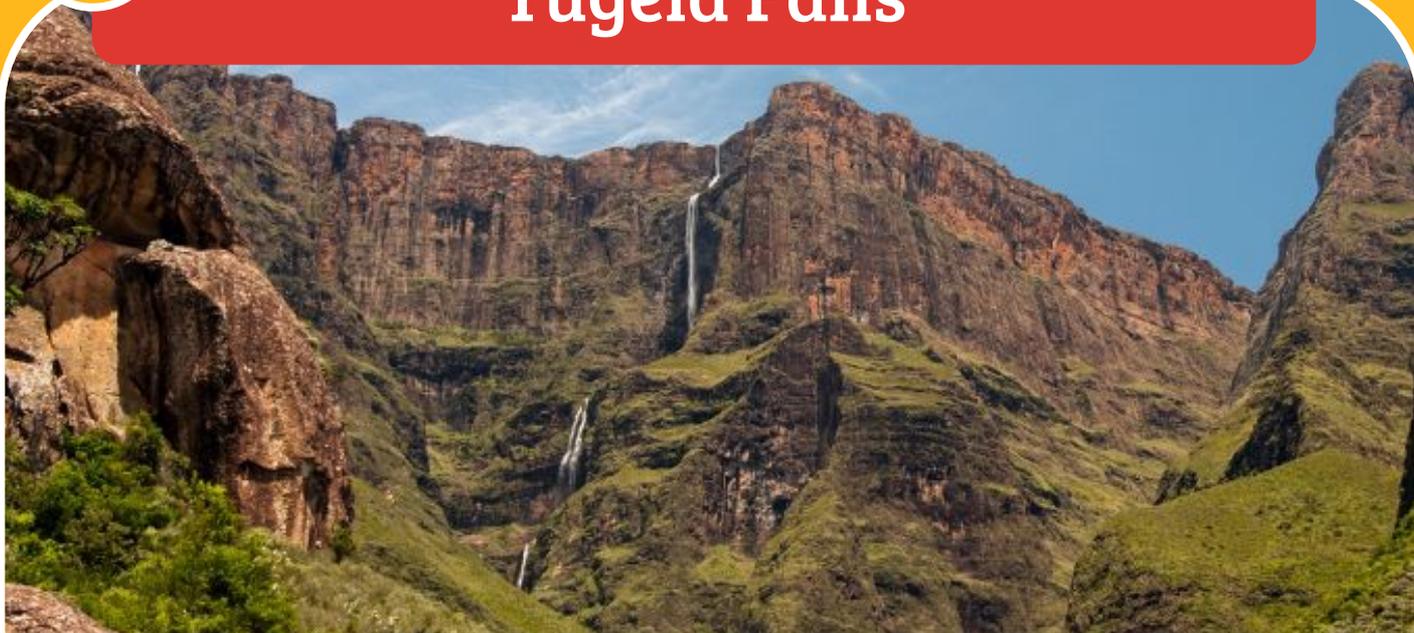
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Tugela Falls

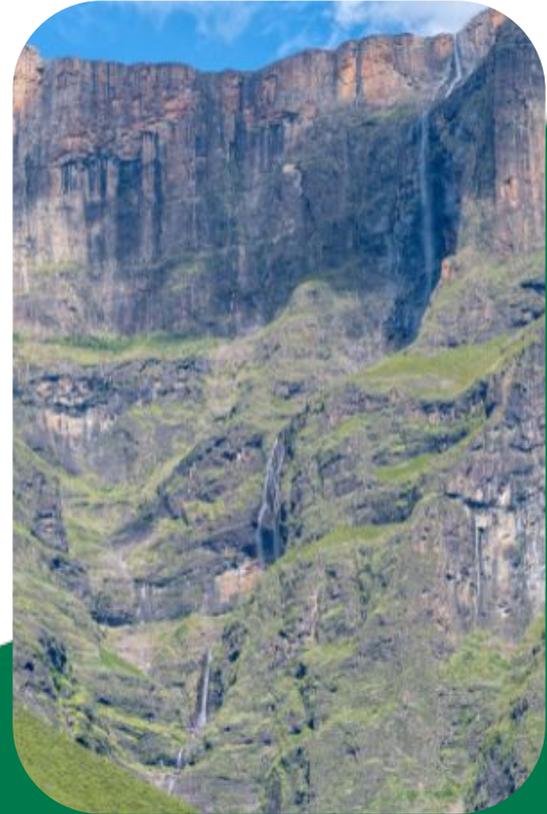


TALLEST WATERFALL!

AFRICA'S TALLEST WATERFALL!

At 948 metres, Tugela Falls is very tall!
It's the second-tallest waterfall in the
whole world and the tallest one in Africa!

However, there is a group of people that think it
might be even taller than the tallest waterfall in
the world, Angel Falls in South America! And it
has been logged as the tallest waterfall by the
World Waterfall Database.



"SOMETHING THAT STARTLES"

"Tugela" comes from the isiZulu word "Thukela", which means "something that startles"

When the gentle stream from the Tugela River moves off the top of the mountain, it likely does make quite a startling noise!



PART OF UKHAHLAMBA-DRAKENSBERG!

This is the tallest mountain range in southern Africa! It reaches 3 482 m above sea level - 3 times higher than Table Mountain!



The mountain range is really long, stretching over 200 km! It forms part of South Africa's escarpment - it's like a big wall of steep cliffs between the lowlands along the coast and the high, flat land in the middle of the country.



NAME HAS AFRIKAANS + ISIZULU ORIGINS

The name “uKhahlamba- Drakensberg” is made up of the isiZulu and Afrikaans names for the mountain range.

★ The isiZulu word “uKhahlamba” means “barrier of spears”;

★ And the Afrikaans name “Drakensberg” means “dragon mountains” (where early Dutch settlers thought the mountain resembled a dragon’s back).



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE STATUS

UNESCO World Heritage Sites are places that have been designated as having special cultural or physical significance and need to be protected and preserved for future generations.



The mountain range has unique fauna and flora - with more than 2 000 plant species (types) in the park! Nearly 100 of these species only grow here and nowhere else.



HAS AROUND 300 BIRD SPECIES!

The park is home to almost 40% of all non-marine bird species in Southern Africa

This includes birds that are endemic to the region, like the Mountain Pipit and endangered species like the Cape vulture and the bearded vulture.

Look at my glorious beard!



A DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM OF ANIMALS!

Three unique frog species live on the high slopes of the Drakensberg and nowhere else! They are the Phofung River Frog, Drakensberg River Frog, and the Maluti River Frog.

Other animals that live here include several species of buck (like the Eland), dassies, baboons, and - very rarely, leopards!



A haven for
animals like
me!



LARGEST COLLECTION OF SAN ARTWORK!

The park is also special for its history! A very long time ago, as early as 8000 years ago, the ancestors of the San people lived in the mountain range.



They were then followed by the San people, hunter-gatherers who lived in the caves of the mountains for thousands more years.

The San left behind many paintings and drawings on the walls of the cave - where the mountains have the **largest collection of San artwork in the world!**

SAN ARTWORK CHARACTERISTICS

Over 600 sites of paintings and artwork with between 35 000 - 40 000 individual images painted over 4000 years!

The San used different colours like red, orange, yellow, black and white to make the pictures.

They drew people, things, and animals. The most common animal you can see in these pictures is called Eland, but you can also see elephants, snakes, birds, baboons, horses, and cows.



6

Tugela Falls



HIGHEST WATERFALL IN AFRICA!
(AND MAYBE IN THE WORLD)



NAME ORIGINATES FROM
"THUKELA"



HOME IN THE UKHAHLAMBA-
DRAKENSBERG MOUNTAINS



WORLD HERITAGE SITE



HUMANS LIVED HERE AS
EARLY AS 8000 YEARS AGO!

LET'S REVIEW:

- Why is Tugela Falls famous?
- Where does the name "Tugela" originate from?
- What is the name of the mountain range Tugela Falls is located in?
- Why is this mountain range deemed a world heritage site?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

CONTINUE ONTO THE
NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



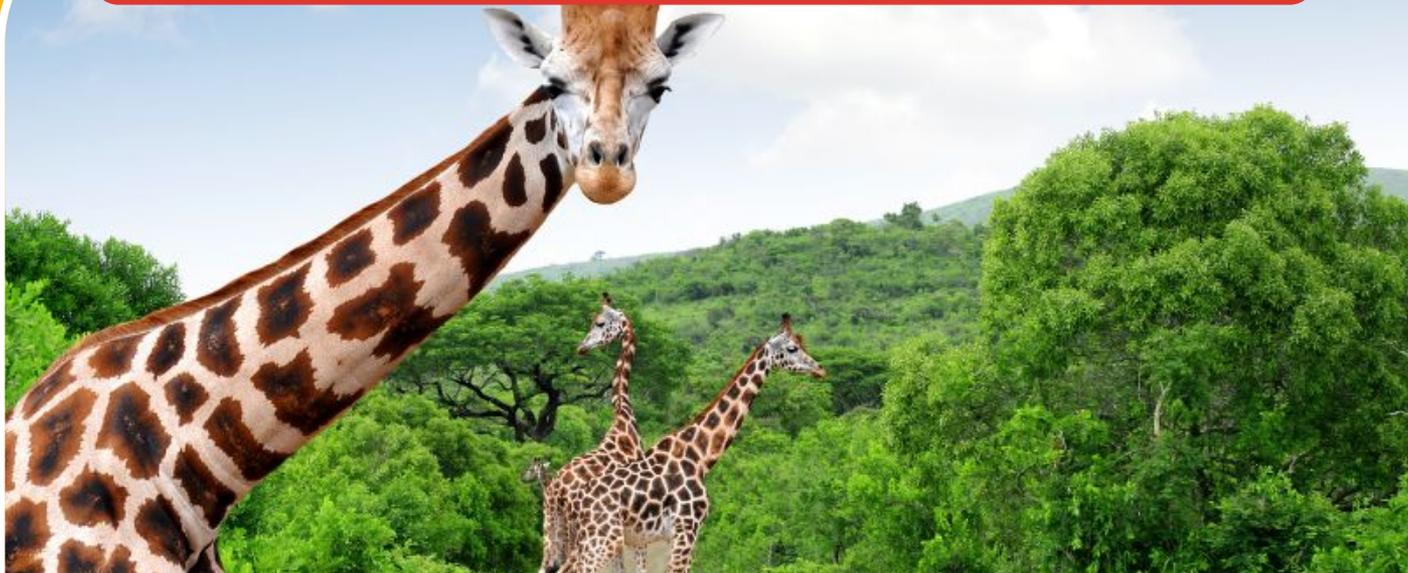
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Kruger National Park



**LARGEST WILDLIFE
PARK!**

LARGEST GAME RESERVE IN SOUTH AFRICA!

In fact, the game reserve is even larger than some countries!



It's so large - it would cover the space of around 2 million soccer fields (2 million hectares)!

And is larger than the whole country of Israel.

PART OF A PEACE PARK!

A long time ago, humans created political borders and fences to separate the land of South Africa from its neighbouring countries. However, by doing so, it has stopped animals from being able to move around freely as they once would.

To help address this, the Kruger joined with 4 other parks from our neighbouring countries of Mozambique and Zimbabwe to form a Peace Park!



GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER PARK

Established in 2002, the Peace Park allows for the removal of the fences that separate the parks and protected areas.

Yay! More freedom to find water and food!



The animals can then move freely along old migratory routes and this ensures that they'll have sufficient food and water for all of the animals across all of the parks!

This also helps to promote conservation, peace and socio-economic development for all the countries involved.



A "NO HUNTING" ZONE SINCE 1898.



Anti-poaching
units keep us
safe!

Declared a national park in
1926, it recently celebrating
its 100th birthday, it's the
oldest national park in
South Africa!

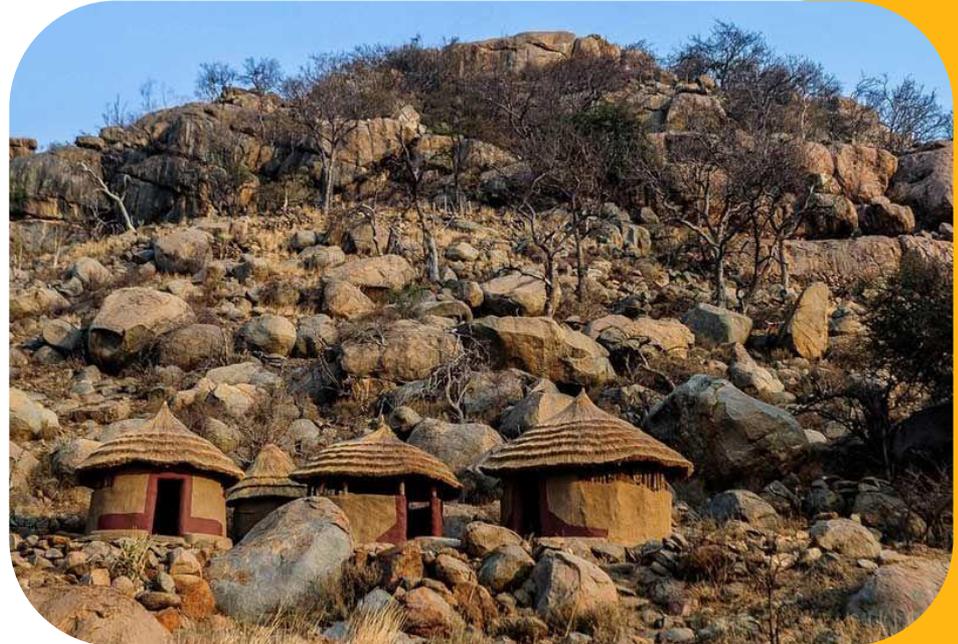
From just 3 tourist cars in 1927 - the
number of visitors to the park has
steadily increased over time to over
950 000 annual visitors today!

INHABITED FOR AT LEAST 1 MILLION YEARS!

Some of our earliest ancestors lived on the land now known as the Kruger National Park!

There are many archaeological sites showing how our utensils and tools changed over time as we learned and evolved over these many years.

Rock art and engravings can also be found throughout the park, along with artefacts like glass beads and porcelain acquired from early trading routes with India, China and Arabic countries.



HOME TO "THE BIG 5"!

The Kruger National Park is home to 75% of all terrestrial bird species and 72% of all mammal species found in South Africa!



This includes "the Big 5" - elephants, lions, Cape buffalo, rhinos and leopards!

They are called the Big 5 because they were the most dangerous animals for early hunters to hunt on foot.

However, all 5 of these species are now endangered to some extent from the illegal hunting and capturing (called poaching) of these animals.



AND DON'T FORGET "THE BIG 6"!

The lesser-known Big 6 are 6 large bird species that are rarely found outside of the Kruger National Park!

They include the lappet-faced vulture, martial eagle, saddle-billed stork, kori bustard, ground hornbill and the reclusive Pel's fishing owl.

The Big 6 is just as cool as the Big 5!



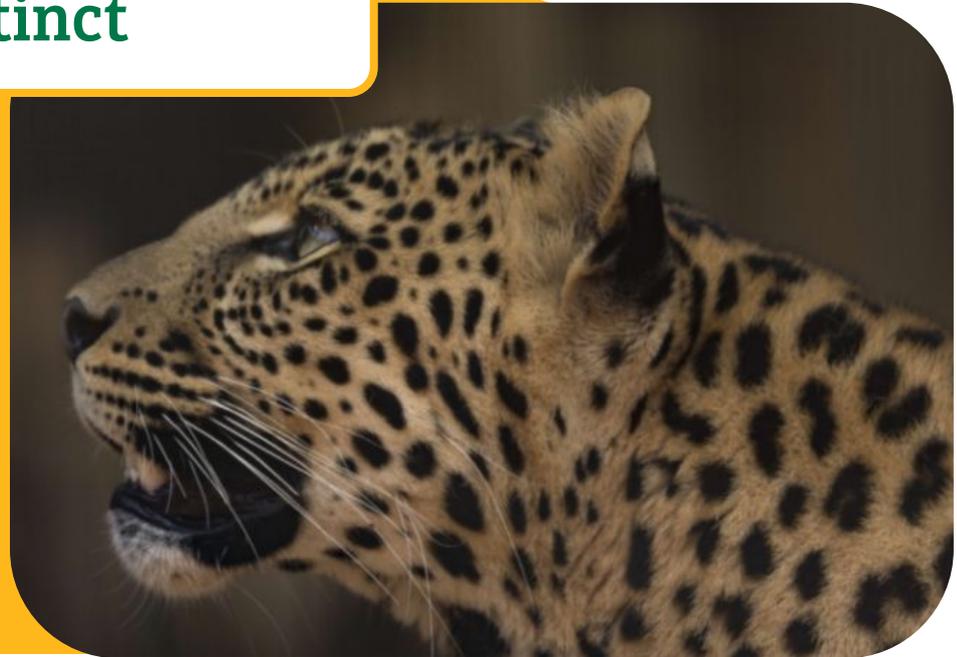
GLOSSARY



Endangered & Extinct

If an animal or plant is **endangered** it means that there are very few of them left in the world and they might disappear forever if we cannot protect them! This can happen for different reasons, like when people destroy their habitat or when there are not enough of them left to keep their population healthy.

Extinct means that there are no more of this animal or plant left and they have disappeared completely.



MANY OF THE ANIMALS ARE ENDANGERED!

One such species is the African wild dog (affectionately known as the “painted wild dog”) which is far more endangered than the rhino!



There are only a few of us left!

The Kruger Park is home to the only pack of wild dogs in South Africa that is large enough and healthy enough to continue breeding and surviving. But without protection, their future is at risk. There are about 400 wild dogs left in the whole of South Africa!

7

Kruger National Park



LARGEST GAME RESERVE IN SOUTH AFRICA!



PART OF A PEACE PARK WITH 3 OTHER COUNTRIES!



OLDEST NATIONAL PARK IN SOUTH AFRICA!



254 KNOWN HERITAGE SITES ACROSS THE PARK!



HOME TO OVER 70% OF SOUTH AFRICA'S BIRDS & MAMMALS!

LET'S REVIEW:



- Which game reserve is the largest in South Africa?
- What does a “Peace Park” mean? And how are they beneficial?
- Who were some of the early human inhabitants in the park?
- Who are the Big 6?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

CONTINUE ONTO THE
NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



Option 2:

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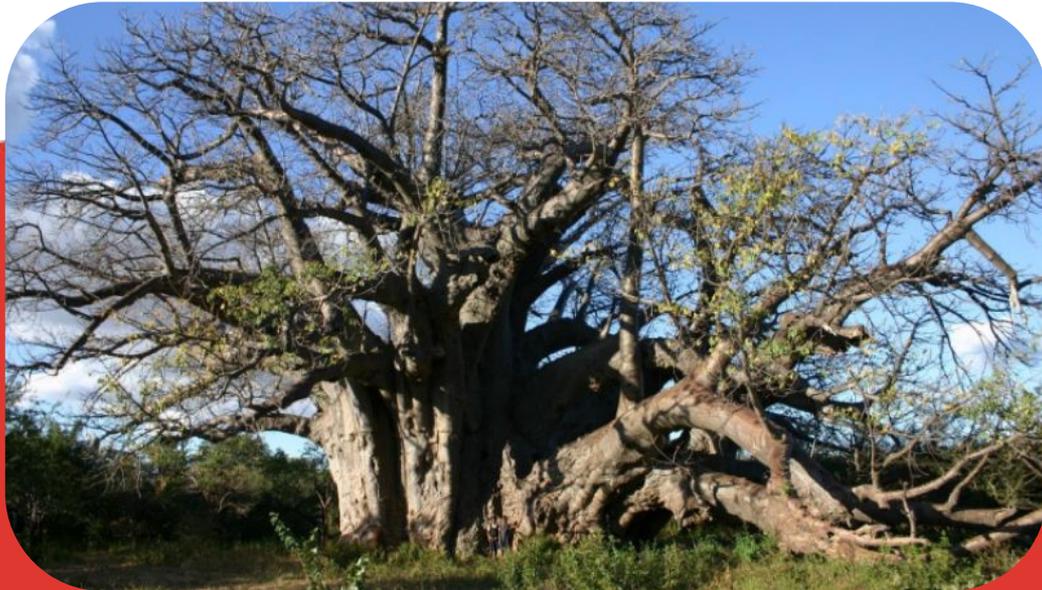
Sagole Baobab



WIDEST TREE!

LARGEST BAOBAB TREE IN THE WORLD!

If you and 49 others held hands standing in a circle - you might just be able to reach around this enormous tree!



The tree stands 22m high and has a 33m circumference (the distance around its trunk) - making it the largest living Baobab tree in the world (it's even in the Guinness Book of World Records!).

LARGEST + LONGEST-LIVING FLOWERING PLANTS IN THE WORLD!

They can weigh over several hundred tons, which is equivalent to at least 14 African elephants!

And because baobabs continue to grow for their whole lives, they mature into very tall trees.

That's a
big tree!



WORLD'S LARGEST TYPE OF SUCCULENT!

Baobabs are native to the African savannah, where it is very hot and dry!



As the world's largest type of succulent (a plant that can store water), it's adapted to live in these harsh environments and is a great symbol of resilience and longevity!

The trees can even produce nutrient-rich fruit through the dry seasons when there is very little rain!

BAOBAB FLOWERS BLOOM AT NIGHT!

The flowers look like big white tubes and have a very strong smell.

✦ Their smell attracts pollinators like bats, moths, insects and bush babies, who enjoy drinking the flower's nectar.

✦ While drinking the nectar, these animals get covered in pollen, and as they fly from flower to flower, the pollen rubs off onto the flowers. This is very important as the tree can only produce fruit from these pollinated flowers!



FRUIT CAN GROW TO SIZE OF A RUGBY BALL!

And it's very nutritious! The soft, juicy inside of the fruit (also known as the fruit pulp) has **6 times more Vitamin C** than oranges!



But this isn't the only part of the baobab that is useful. Practically every part of the tree can be used - from its roots, leaves, bark, fruit, and seeds!



BAOBAB TREES HAVE OVER 300 USES!

Leaves are rich in iron and can be boiled and eaten like spinach;

Seeds can be roasted to make a coffee-like drink or used to make oil for cooking and beauty products;

Bark is fire-resistant and can be used to make ropes, baskets, cloth and mats;

Roots are used to make a red dye;

Baobab trees also have special **medicinal** properties and their hollow trunks can hold water or act as shelter.



Baobab fruit
are super
nutritious!

KNOWN AS THE TREE OF LIFE!

An old baobab can create its own ecosystem, supporting many animals who eat from it (elephants, baboons and bats) and reside within it (bush babies, birds, insects and even leopards!)



Over the centuries, the trees have provided life-sustaining food, water, shelter, and medicine to both wildlife and humans - earning it the nickname “The Tree of Life”.



THE UPSIDE-DOWN TREE!

When it doesn't have leaves, its branches look like roots pointing up to the sky, like it was planted upside down!

There are many different legends about how the tree came to be planted upside down. The San bushmen tell the story of how during the creation of the Earth, God gave trees to the first people and animals to plant.

The hyena, who was always late, received the baobab tree - the last tree that nobody else wanted. In her anger and disgust at the funny-looking tree, the hyena planted it upside down!

A close-up photograph of a hyena's face, looking directly at the camera. The hyena has light brown fur and a dark brown face. It is positioned in front of a large yellow circle, which is set against a green background. A white speech bubble with a black outline is overlaid on the bottom left of the hyena's face, containing the text "Ha! What a funny looking tree!".

Ha! What a funny looking tree!

SAGOLE BAOBAB IS OVER 1000 YEARS OLD!



The Sagole Baobab is so old that foreigners on their way to the oldest known kingdom in Southern Africa (the Kingdom of Mapungubwe) may have rested in its shade!

Baobab trees have been on Earth for a long, long time - more than 200 million years! That was long before humans existed and before the splitting of the continents.

Like the Sagole Baobab, the trees are known to grow very old - with some even reaching 3 000 years old!

OUR MAGICAL BAOBABABS ARE DYING...

9 of the 13 oldest African Baobab trees have mysteriously died or fallen down in recent years.



We need
Baobabs!

Despite being around on Earth for a very long time and being known to grow old - these trees are dying! And as famously resilient trees that can even survive fires, this is a very strange and sad thing to happen!

Scientists think that **climate change** is to blame.

GLOSSARY



Kingdom of Mapungubwe

The Kingdom of Mapungubwe is the oldest known kingdom in Southern Africa. It existed around 800 to 1300 years ago. It was famous for its advanced trade networks and wealth - where the people of Mapungubwe built grand stone structures and traded gold, ivory and other valuable goods for porcelain and glass beads from civilisations in Egypt, China and India.

Like the death of many of our baobab trees, the fall of the Kingdom of Mapungubwe is believed to have been brought about by climate change.



GLOSSARY



Climate Change

Many of the activities that we do in our daily lives, such as charging devices, driving cars, and cooling our homes, require energy from natural gas, oil, and coal. These energy sources produce a gas called carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is released into the atmosphere. When CO₂ and other greenhouse gases trap heat that would otherwise escape Earth's atmosphere, the temperature of the planet rises. This phenomenon is known as global warming, and it leads to climate change.

But does this rise in temperature matter? According to scientists, it matters a lot! The melting of glaciers and polar ice sheets due to global warming can cause sea levels to rise, which could put coastal areas at risk. It can also lead to harsher droughts, stronger hurricanes, and changes in wind and ocean patterns. All of these changes together are known as climate change.



8

SAGOLE BAOBAB



LARGEST BAOBAB TREE IN THE WORLD!



OVER 1 000 YEARS OLD!



THERE ARE OVER 300 USES FOR BAOBAB TREES!



BAOBABS ARE ALSO KNOWN AS "UPSIDE DOWN TREES"!



CLIMATE CHANGE MAY BE KILLING OUR BAOBABS!

LET'S REVIEW:



- Why is the Sagole Baobab so famous?
- What other names do Baobab trees go by? And why?
- How old do Scientists estimate that the Sagole Baobab tree is?
- Why do scientists believe our Baobab trees are dying?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

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NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



Option 2:

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9

Sun City



MOST POPULAR!

HUGE ENTERTAINMENT RESORT FOR EVERYONE!

The idea behind Sun City was to create a make-believe “lost city”. The resort is full of imitation ruins of ancient temples and life-sized statues of animals such as elephants and cheetahs!



There is even a human-made tropical beach! The resort is surrounded by waterfalls and a jungle - almost like something out of Indiana Jones or Jungle Cruise!

It has hotels, swimming pools, a golf course, and lots of fun activities for visitors of all ages to enjoy! And it's located right next to the Pilanesberg National Park.

HOME TO THE LARGEST PERMANENT MAZE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA!

The Maze of the Lost City is made of artificial stone and wood to look just like an ancient Mayan maze.

A maze is like a big puzzle made up of walls and paths. The goal is to find your way from the start to the finish by making the right turns and not getting lost!



EVEN ENTERING THE MAZE IS AN ADVENTURE!

To reach the maze, you need to cross a 90 m-long suspension bridge!



This will give you magnificent views of the different areas in Sun City. When night falls, flaming torches will light the paths to help you get to the finish!

GOLF COURSES DESIGNED BY A CHAMPION!

Sun City is also home to two 18-hole golf courses designed by South African golf star, Gary Player!



Gary Player is considered to be one of the world's greatest golfers of all time!

He is also a world-renowned golf course architect, having more than 400 design projects on 5 continents around the world - including these 2 courses at Sun City!

SUN CITY IS WATERSPORT PARADISE!

There are a number of swimming pools in addition to a manmade lake named “Waterworld”, where you can do almost any water sport you can think of!

Some activities include:

- ◆ parasailing,
- ◆ water skiing,
- ◆ canoeing,
- ◆ windsurfing,
- ◆ jet skiing,
- ◆ paddle skiing,
- ◆ or just relaxing on a boat cruise.



MAN-MADE WAVES!

The “Valley of the Waves” waterpark has adrenaline-pumping tube rides and slides - with one pool even generating waves!



INTERNATIONAL FILM LOCATION!

Other activities on offer include tennis, squash, horse riding, quad biking, escape rooms, jump parks, arcades, bowling, zip lining, and balloon safaris to name a few!



Sun City is also the location of the international film, Blended. The 2014 romantic comedy starred Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore and gives viewers a glimpse of what the resort offers along with the richness of South Africa's wildlife!

9

SUN CITY



POPULAR RESORT DESIGNED AS A "LOST CITY"!



LARGEST PERMANENT MAZE IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE!



GOLF COURSES DESIGNED BY LEGEND, GARY PLAYER!



FAMOUS FOR ITS WATER SPORTS!



LOCATION OF THE HOLLYWOOD FILM, BLENDED!

LET'S REVIEW:



- What theme is Sun City built around?
- Which permanent structure does Sun City have the largest of?
- Which golf star designed the golf courses at Sun City?
- Is Sun City known for its water activities?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

CONTINUE ONTO THE
NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



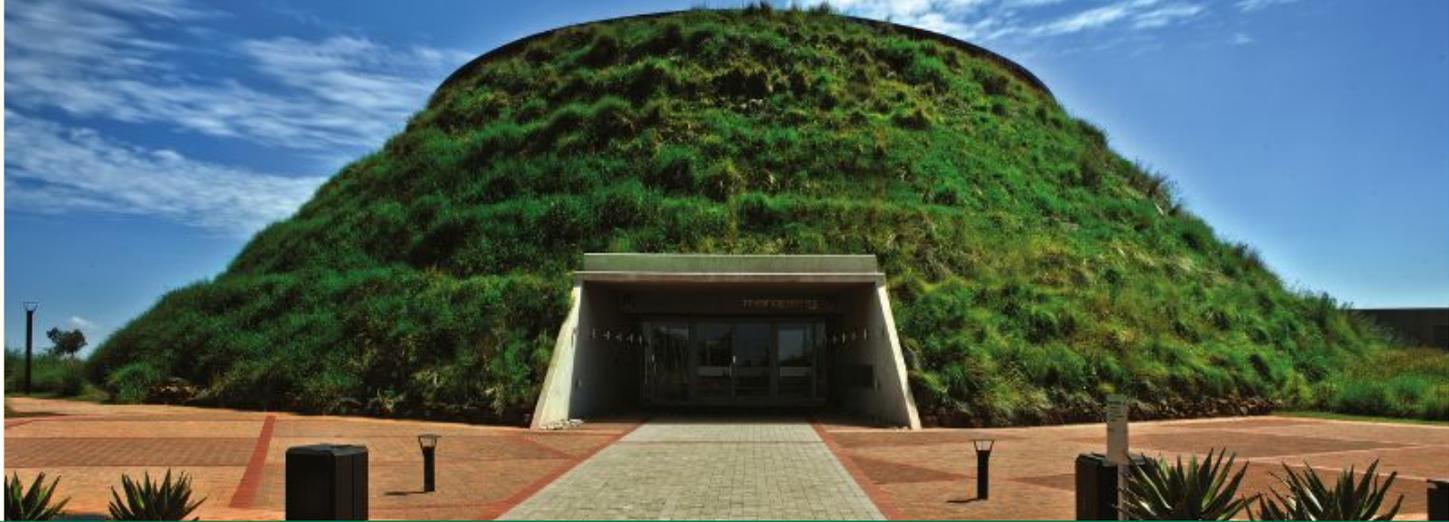
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10

Cradle of Humankind



THE FIRST!

AROUND 40% OF THE WORLD'S HUMAN ANCESTOR FOSSILS WERE FOUND HERE!

The Cradle of Humankind is a large area of caves with the largest concentration of human fossils and tools in the world!

Some of these human fossils are also the **oldest** ones ever found - with some over 3.5 million years old!



BIRTHPLACE OF HUMANITY!

This was a very important discovery as for a long time people thought that humans began in Europe or Asia.

But the finding of these fossils, along with others in East Africa, showed proof that the **birthplace of humans** was actually here in Africa!



Africa is the birthplace of humankind. This is where our collective umbilical cord lies buried.



GLOSSARY



Fossils

Fossils are the remains or imprints of plants, animals and other organisms that lived in the past. These remains can be bones, teeth, shells, or even footprints!

When an animal or plant dies, its body is usually broken down by scavengers or decayed by natural processes, leaving no trace behind.

However, under certain conditions, the remains can be preserved and turned into fossils.



FOSSILISATION AT THE CRADLE

Fossilisation is usually very rare - maybe only 1 in a million animals will turn into fossils!



When living things die, they typically don't leave anything behind. But at the Cradle of Humankind the chances are much greater because the area has the right mix of conditions that promote fossilisation.

Fossils give scientists clues about the past and help them to study the plants and animals that lived long long ago.

NOT ONLY HUMAN FOSSILS FOUND HERE!

Scientists have also found the fossilised remains of ancient forms of animals and plants that lived here nearly 5 million years ago!

Including the bones of an ancient big cat called a sabre-toothed cat! In fact, this is the **first place in Africa** where the bones of big cats have been found.

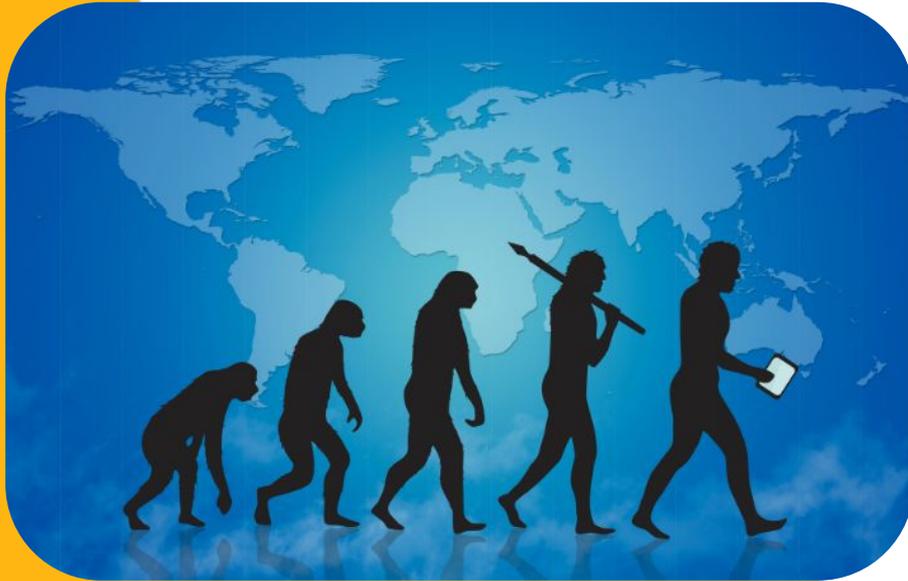
Evidence of the **first human-made fire** (from about 1.3 million years ago) was also found here.

All of these fossils help us to understand how people and animals evolved and changed over time - just like piecing together a puzzle to better understand our history and where we come from.



WHAT IS EVOLUTION?

Have you ever had to create a family tree that lists all your relatives? Modern humans like you and me have a family tree that contains millions of years' worth of relatives!



Our very early ancestors were similar to us, but not quite the same because we changed a lot over time.

This change is called evolution.

These changes could be very small, but they allowed us to be better suited to our environment so we have a better chance of survival.

We adapted from primates called "hominids", which lived millions of years ago. They walked on all fours, but over time learned to walk upright on two legs. This gave them the ability to use their hands for tools and other tasks. Just picture how much we use our hands for today!

PIECING TOGETHER OUR EVOLUTION

★ Mrs Ples is the most complete skull ever found of a special type of human ancestor called *Australopithecus Africanus*, which means "Southern Ape of Africa". But they weren't apes, they were actually an early human species that walked on two legs, like us!

They were smaller than us and had human-like teeth and hands, but also had some features like apes.

★ Little Foot is the most complete skeleton of this same species of human ancestors - dating back 3 million years ago!



NEW FOSSILS ARE BEING DISCOVERED!

More recently (in 2013), a group of scientists announced the discovery of a human ancestor species called “Homo naledi” - a species that was completely unknown up to this point!



The Homo naledi lived in South Africa around 300 000 years ago - likely at the same time as the first modern humans (“Homo sapiens”).

Isn't it cool that even after all these years we're STILL learning cool things about our history to this day?



LEARN MORE AT THE MAROPENG VISITOR CENTRE!

Maropeng means “going back to where we started”.

Quite a fitting name for a place that teaches you about our ancestors!

The building is even shaped like an ancient burial mound (called a Tumulus building).

The back of the building looks more futuristic! The idea is that you go in and see how it all began, but that we haven’t “finished” our story yet and there’s more to come from humans!



MAROPENG EXHIBITS

A visit to the Maropeng Visitor Centre begins with a fun boat ride through history!



A visit starts with a fun boat ride through history. Then you'll see a lot of interactive and educational displays that will teach you about the fossils.

Five minutes drive away you can take a guided tour of the Sterkfontein Caves where the remains of Little Foot, Mrs Ples and other famous fossils were found!

10

CRADLE OF HUMANKIND



GREATEST CONCENTRATION
OF PRE-HUMAN FOSSILS!



CONSIDERED TO BE THE
BIRTHPLACE OF HUMANITY!



FOSSILS OF SABRE-
TOOTHED CAT FOUND HERE!



NEW FOSSILS ARE STILL
BEING DISCOVERED!



VISIT THE MAROPENG
VISITOR CENTRE!

LET'S REVIEW:



- Why is the Cradle of Humankind famous?
- What do the fossils help us learn about our history?
- Is the Cradle of Humankind still open to discoveries to this day?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

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NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



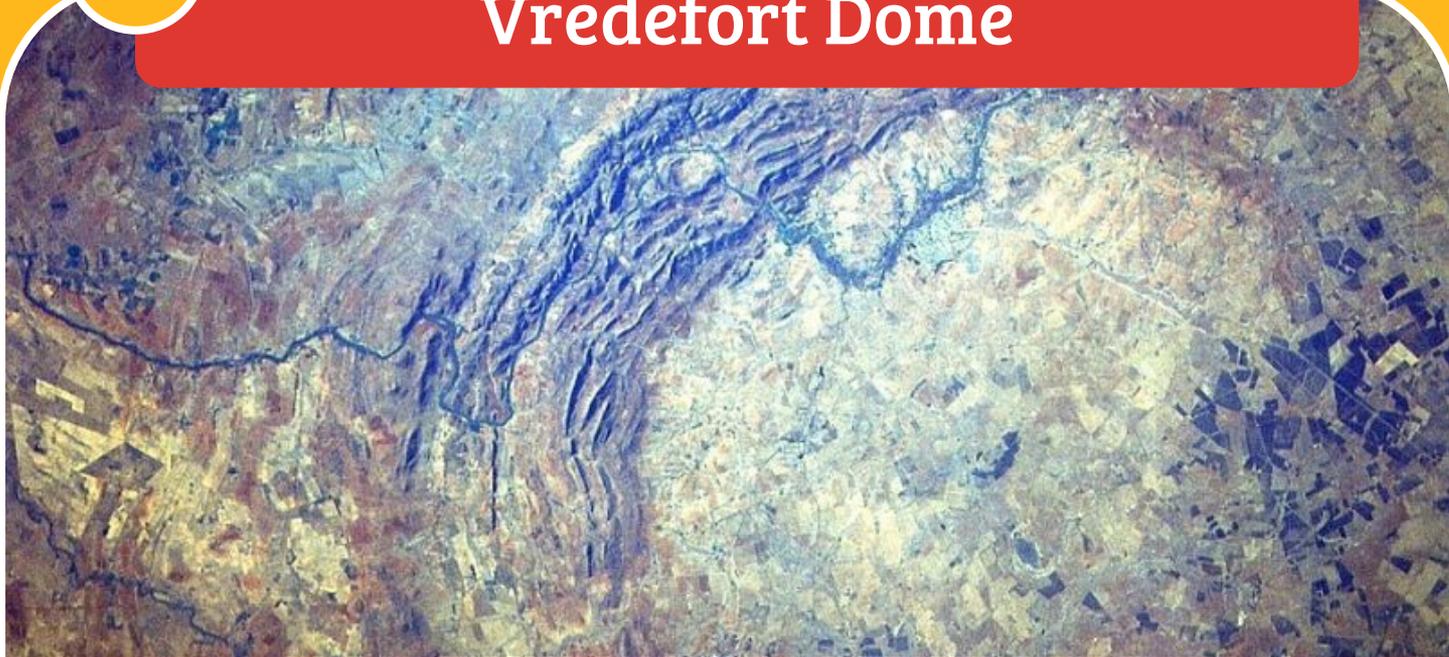
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11

Vredefort Dome



LARGEST IMPACT!

OLDEST METEORITE IMPACT SITE!

A long, long time ago, a big meteorite (space rock or metal) fell from the sky and hit the Earth, making a large raised area in the ground called the Vredefort Dome.



This happened about 2,023 million years ago, which is a very, very long time ago! In comparison, the meteorite impact that killed off the dinosaurs (called the Chicxulub rock in Mexico) happened much, much later - "only" 66 million years ago.

At the time of the impact, there were no people or even animals or plants as we see on Earth today - except for a type of algae.

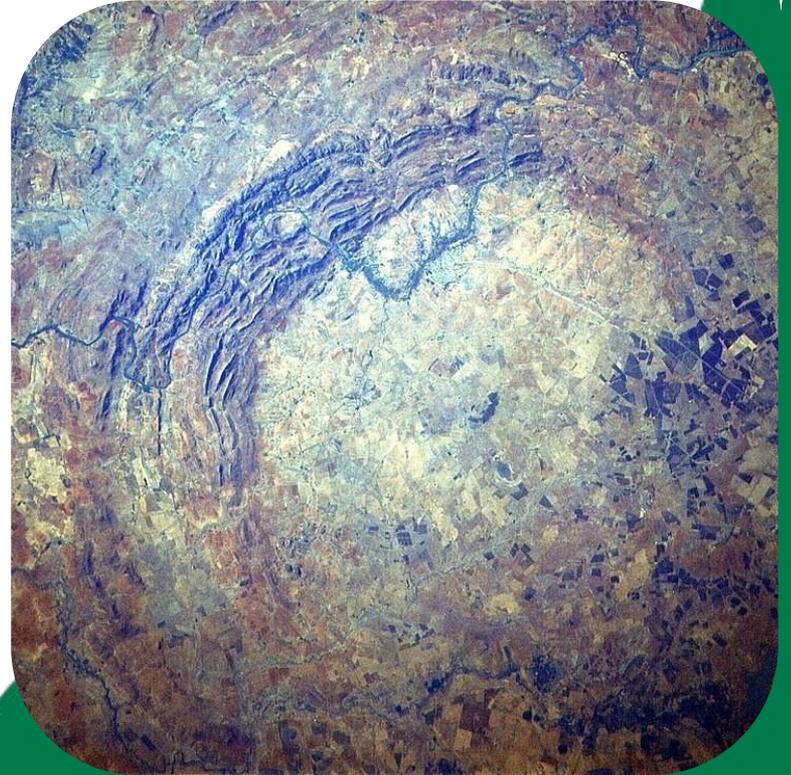


LARGEST IMPACT SITE IN THE WORLD!

It currently measures around 159 km in diameter - so large that **you can see it from space!**

But it is actually much smaller than its original size when it was created 2 billion years ago. Over the years, the area around the crater slowly eroded and became smaller.

It is thought that the crater was originally about 250-280 km wide - at least 1 and a half times larger than its current size!



WHERE IS THE METEORITE NOW?

Nothing of the meteorite is remaining after all of these years, so scientists have to estimate the size of the meteorite that created the crater.

Based on their expert calculations, they're estimating it was around 20-25 km wide!

That's a big space rock that's 7 times larger than Table Mountain! And at least twice the size of the Chicxulub meteorite that killed off the dinosaurs!



That's like 7
of me!

THE METEORITE MUST HAVE BEEN TRAVELLING VERY FAST!

Scientists estimate it was travelling at about 10 kilometres per second! That's like travelling the distance of a soccer field in the blink of an eye!



The dome was formed after the meteorite blasted away many layers of soil and rock. The underlying rock (part of the Earth's crust) at the centre of the crater then shifted upwards. So the impact literally turned a bit of the Earth inside out! This rock is what formed the dome.



THE IMPACT ON LIFE ON EARTH MUST HAVE BEEN REALLY SEVERE!

To put it into perspective, when the dinosaur-killing meteor hit Earth, around 75% of life on Earth was killed!

It caused huge destruction to the planet. There was huge forest fires and acid rain; tall waves (tsunamis) that reached halfway across the planet; and sent lots of ash and dust into the atmosphere, which changed the climate.

But the Vredefort meteorite was even larger and travelling much faster!



BIGGEST ENERGY-RELEASE EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE EARTH!



**Equal to the force of
thousands of nuclear
bombs!**

And it is believed to have played an important role in the evolution of life on Earth. But it happened so long ago that there is not much evidence of it left.



ONE OF THE ONLY MULTIPLE-RINGED IMPACT STRUCTURES ON EARTH!

That is - the crater has more than one circle of impact around it.

Multiple-ringed impact structures are not very commonly found on Earth.

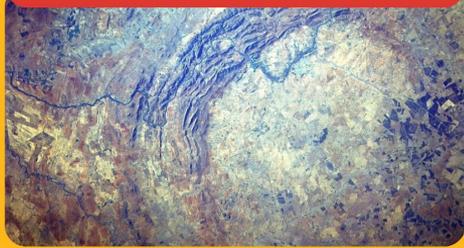
Geological processes, like erosion and the movement of the Earth's surface, have destroyed most of our multi-ring craters.

But they are more common on other planets and moons in our solar system. For example, there is a famous one called the Valhalla Crater on Jupiter's moon Callisto. Earth's Moon has some as well.



11

VREDEFORT DOME



OLDEST METEORITE IMPACT SITE IN THE WORLD!



ALSO THE LARGEST METEORITE IMPACT SITE IN THE WORLD!



DOMES CREATED BY EARTH'S CRUST BEING TURNED ON END!



WOULD HAVE DRAMATICALLY CHANGED ALL LIFE ON EARTH!



ONE OF THE FEW MULTIPLE-RINGED IMPACT STRUCTURES ON EARTH!

LET'S REVIEW:



- How long ago do scientists estimate that the Vredefort meteorite hit the Earth?
- How large was the meteorite?
- What was the impact to the Earth?



WHERE TO NEXT?



Option 1:

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NEXT SLIDE TO VISIT THE
NEXT DESTINATION!



Option 2:

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12

Square Kilometre Array



MOST POWERFUL!

WORLD'S LARGEST RADIO TELESCOPE!

The Square Kilometre Array project is an international effort to build the world's largest radio telescope! It should be completed in 2027.

A telescope is an instrument that allows people to see distant objects. They are important tools in astronomy, or the study of planets, stars, and other objects in outer space.

The SKA telescope will be able to listen to things far, far away in space. By doing so, scientists will be able to collect a lot of special information and solve lots of mysteries about the universe!



RADIO TELESCOPE MADE UP OF A BIG SPIDER WEB OF 3000 ANTENNAE!



Individual antennas look like giant bowls and will be as big as a house!

The antennae will be spread out over a square kilometre of land (one million square metres or 140 soccer fields), mostly in South Africa (in the Karoo region) and in Australia.

These antennae will be grouped (as an array) into big spiral shapes that will allow them to work together as a telescope. The entire array will be able to point to any part of the sky!

50 TO 100 TIMES MORE SENSITIVE THAN ANY RADIO TELESCOPE BUILT TO DATE!

It'll be able to see things that no other telescopes have been able to see before!

Regular telescopes see the light from stars, but the SKA will be able to see the gas that was there before the stars were even made!

It'll be so powerful, it can even pick up a signal from radar on a planet far, far away (tens of light years away)!

Astronomers will use it to learn more about the earliest stars, how galaxies change over time, things we can't see (like dark matter), and black holes.



CONNECTED VIA LONG OPTICAL CABLES!

The SKA will use enough optical fiber to wrap twice around the Earth!



The SKA will be made of two main parts: the antenna and the radio receiver. The antenna catches the radio waves and the receiver turns them into a picture.

The SKA will use a lot of antennas all connected by long cords that will carry the signals to a big computer that will then combine these signals to create one picture. The SKA will use so much optical fibre cord, you could wrap it around the Earth twice!

Can you just imagine what kind of computer will be needed to process all of those images?

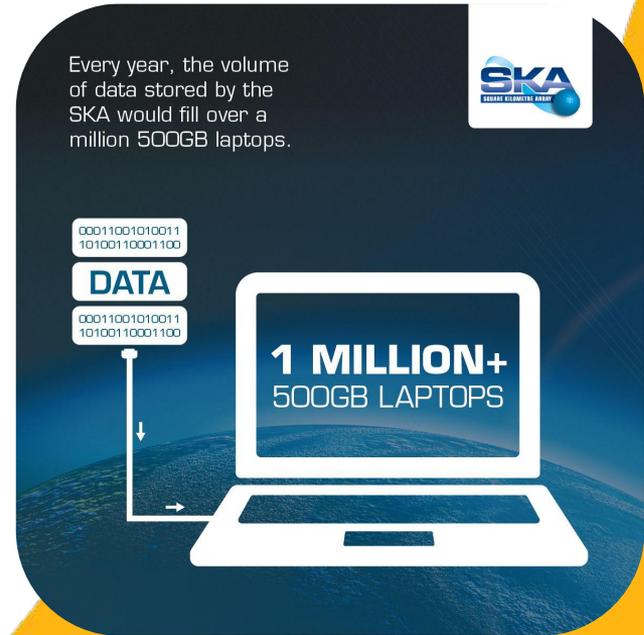
SUPERCOMPUTER NEEDED!

To collect all of the signals from the thousands of antennas and combine them into a single picture, the central computer needs to be very powerful!

The information will also be sent very quickly - 100 000 times faster than most people's Internet in 2022!

And it will save enough data per year that it could fit on 1.5 million laptops every year! That's 710 petabytes of data to be exact.

To give you an idea of just how much data that is, consider this: One petabyte of data could store over 20 million four-drawer filing cabinets filled with text documents or over 13 years of HD video content. It's a mind-bogglingly large amount of data that is difficult to fully comprehend!



MEERKAT TELESCOPE

MeerKAT telescope is currently the largest and most sensitive radio telescope in the Southern Hemisphere until SKA is completed!

MeerKAT was built in 2018 in the Karoo and consists of 64 antennas. MeerKAT will eventually become part of the SKA!



The MeerKAT
is named after
us!

MeerKAT has already made many important discoveries in space! MeerKAT found many new galaxies that were hidden before. These galaxies are so far away that they are billions of years old. MeerKAT was also used to make a map of the universe that showed how stars and galaxies are arranged. This helps us understand our place in the universe!

12

SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY



WILL BE THE LARGEST RADIO TELESCOPE IN THE WORLD!



CONSISTS OF 3000 ANTENNAS!



WILL BE 50 - 100 TIMES MORE SENSITIVE!



WILL USE ENOUGH OPTICAL CABLE TO WRAP AROUND THE EARTH TWICE!



MEERKAT TELESCOPE ALREADY MAKING NEW DISCOVERIES!

LET'S REVIEW:



- What is the Square Kilometre Array?
- Where will it be built?
- How much better is it to others of its kind?
- Is there a telescope already built that's part of the project?

