

E-Reader South Africa Mission Trip

Below you will find links from a variety of sources that will help you prepare for your short term mission experience. Hit control+click to access all links.

Getting the Most out of Your Experience

- Read about ways you can prepare yourself for a new culture, how to be aware of the dynamics of oppressions and privilege. Read “Cultural Guidance for Sojourners” and “Pointer for the Travel Seminar” chosen from the following website:
<http://web.augsburg.edu/global/its/pretrip/eReader.html>

Country Profile

- State Department Country Information: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2898.htm>
- *BBC: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-14094760>
- CIA: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sf.html>

History and Culture:

- South Africa History and Culture: <http://www.geographia.com/south-africa/>
- History: http://www.southafrica.info/about/history/history.htm#.UHghUW_A_d
- Culture: <http://www.everyculture.com/Sa-Th/South-Africa.html#b>
- Music: <http://www.southafrica.info/about/arts/music.htm#.ULfAP6xX2II>
- Food: <http://www.foodbycountry.com/Kazakhstan-to-South-Africa/South-Africa.html#b>
- Population Demographics: <http://www.southafrica.info/about/people/population.htm#.ULfBaaxX2II>
- Race Relations: <http://www.southafrica.info/about/democracy/identity-300606.htm#.ULfCOKxX2II>

Catholic Church in South Africa and Ubuntu Spirituality

- Ubuntu Philosophy/Spirituality: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubuntu_\(philosophy\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubuntu_(philosophy))
- History of Catholic Church in South Africa: <http://www.sacbc.org.za/about-us/history-of-the-catholic-church-in-south-africa/>
- Order of Friars Minor (OFM) in South Africa: http://www.ofm.org.za/index_files/Page388.htm
- Regina Mundi Catholic Church, Soweto: http://www.gauteng.net/attractions/entry/regina_mundi_catholic_church/

Key Readings

- Apartheid: <http://overcomingapartheid.msu.edu/index.php>
- HIV & AIDS: <http://www.avert.org/aidssouthafrica.htm>
- HIV & AIDS: <http://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/southafrica/>
- Soweto: <http://www.sahistory.org.za/topic/history-soweto>

News and Analysis

- Recent articles and headlines about South Africa: <http://www.news24.com/> “News24 is Southern Africa and Africa's premier online news resource, with round-the-clock coverage to bring you local and international news as it happens, when it happens.”
- Google SA news
http://news.google.co.za/news/section?pz=1&cf=all&ned=en_za&topic=n&ar=1350073358

Pre-trip Preparation Page

- For details about health, safety, money, documents and what to pack. (See attachment)

Accommodations

- LaVerna Retreat Centre <http://www.laverna.co.za/>
- Koinonia Retreat Centre <http://www.koinoniakzn.org.za/>

Cultural Experiences

- Apartheid Museum, Johannesburg <http://www.apartheidmuseum.org/> For anyone wanting to understand and experience what apartheid South Africa was really like, a visit to the Apartheid Museum is fundamental. The museum is a beacon of hope showing the world how South Africa is coming to terms with its oppressive past and working towards a future that all South Africans can call their own.
- Hector Pieterse Museum, Soweto - http://www.soweto.co.za/html/p_hector.htm Hector Pieterse, age 13, was one of the first students to be killed during the 1976 Student Uprising in Soweto. He has since become a symbol of youth resistance to apartheid. Hector Pieterse's sister works as a tour guide.
- St. Anthony's Education Centre, Boksburg <http://www.stanthonyscentre.co.za/> St. Anthony's Education Centre began in 1966 when a Franciscan Friar from Ireland saw the desperate need for education in the colored township of Reiger Park. Today St. Anthony's Education Centre is a hive of activity, accommodating more than 1000 learners a day from all walks of life, especially the surrounding impoverished communities.
- Lesedi Cultural Village <http://www.lesedi.com/> Lesedi Cultural Village was established to provide an authentic showcase of the traditional cultures of some of the more well-known South African tribes. Representatives of these tribes facilitated the design of the cultural villages to ensure a historically representative portrayal of the cultures, highlighting aspects of the traditional way of life. Members of these historic communities live at Lesedi and continue to breathe life into their fascinating cultures.
- Pilanesberg National Park <http://www.pilanesberg-game-reserve.co.za/> The creation of the Pilanesberg National Game Park in 1979 has been considered one of the most ambitious programs of its kind to be undertaken anywhere in Africa. The park has in excess of 7,000 animals including 24 of the larger species.
- The Cradle of Humankind <http://www.cradleofhumankind.co.za/> The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site is a remarkable 47 000 hectare destination with a rich and fascinating history told to us through the ancient fossils that have been found here. It also has over 400 attractions, including restaurants, art and craft outlets, lodges, wildlife facilities, places of historical interest and spaces for young and old just to have fun.