



Visit South African National Parks

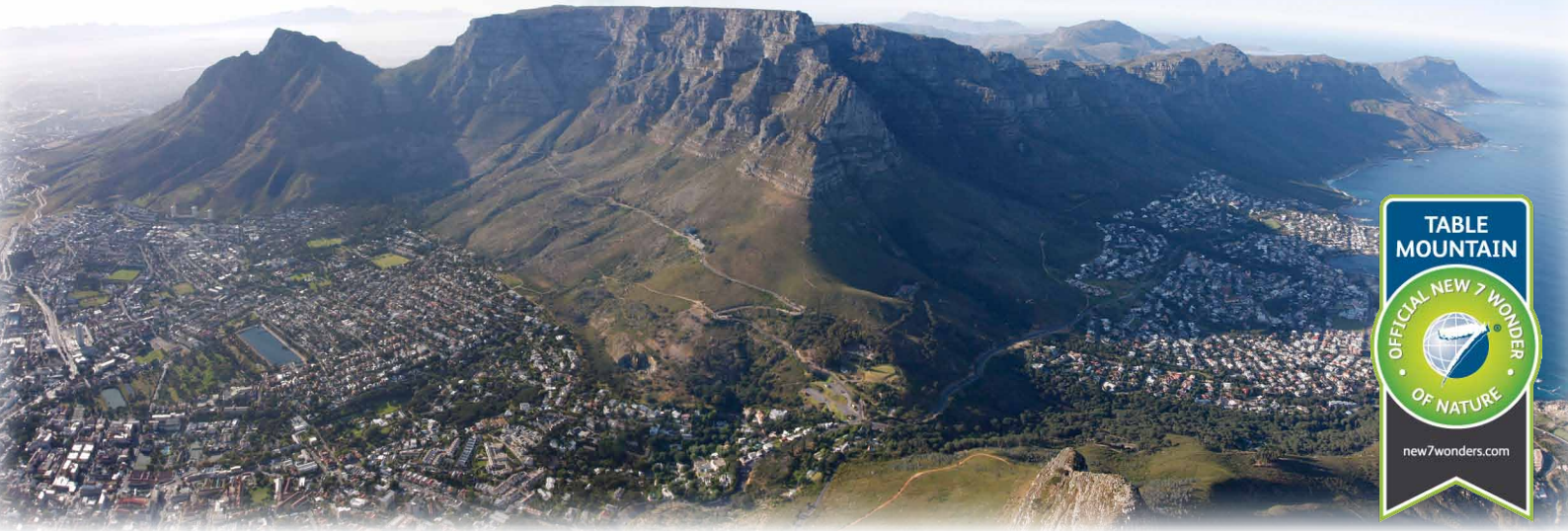
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Go to www.sanparks.org, then click on information for: People with Disabilities for comprehensive information and images on SANParks access



South African National Parks: Addo Elephant, Agulhas, Augrabies Falls, Bontebok, Camdeboo, Golden Gate Highlands, Kgalagadi Transfrontier, Garden Route (an amalgamation of Tsitsikamma, Knysna Lagoon and Indigenous Forests and the Wilderness Lake System), Karoo, Kruger, Mapungubwe, Marakele, Mokala, Mountain Zebra, Namaqua, |Ai-|Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier, Table Mountain, Tankwa Karoo, West Coast.

This edition's featured park is the Table Mountain National Park (Part 1):

- Cape Town's Table Mountain itself needs no introduction, being an iconic landscape feature of South Africa and on 3rd of May 2012 it was officially inducted as one of the new 7 natural wonders of the world.
- The Cape Floral Kingdom is recognized as a World Heritage Site with eight separate nodes of which TMNP and the adjoining Kirstenbosch National Botanic Gardens jointly comprise one. Close to 1500 plant species, including various proteas, ericas and irises are found on Table Mountain alone.
- Unlike most of the other national parks TMNP is surrounded entirely by a city and for this reason it is fragmented by urban development and privately owned land. This combined with the fact that it is primarily an open access park with only three managed pay points, has resulted in it being the most visited of all National Parks receiving an annual quota of 4.2 million visits annually.
- In this edition we will profile the northern (from Signal Hill to Constantia Neck – including Table Mountain) and central (from Constantia Neck to the Noordhoek wetlands) sections of the park.
- Wheelchair accessible attractions include summiting Table Mountain (accessed via a privately operated cable-car). Up top there is a network of cemented pathways (some sections are smooth, others cobblestoned) a shop, restaurant and many lookout points.
- Silvermine Reservoir has a lengthy accessible boardwalk of that is great for wheelchair users to experience a piece of the Cape Flora and enjoy a picnic.
- Other relatively accessible destinations include Signal Hill and Tokai.
- Wheelchair accessible ablutions are available at the cable station (top and bottom) and at Silvermine.
- The park accommodation is geared towards hikers and while the camps themselves are equipped with boardwalks that enable mobility, the ablutions are not adapted for wheelchair users, but there are many accessible accommodation options around the park in the city of Cape Town.

