



International-Student-Organisation

Education in South Africa

Info Guide for your South Africa experience



This Info Guide is here to help you in answering questions in advance about your stay in Cape Town. It will give you an idea of what to expect and how to make the most of your time in South Africa.



About Magister:

We are the one-stop-shop for tailor made experiences in South Africa no matter if you are looking for an internship, volunteer work, work & travel or courses of any kind. We cater for your every need to make your stay in South Africa a successful and everlasting memory.

As one of the most established and well known organisations for work experiences in South Africa our main objective is geared towards matching and placing qualified international students and Volunteers with dynamic Cape Town based companies and organisations. A work experience organized by Magister does not only mean placement and guidance with formalities, but also assistance and help in Cape Town. We do everything to make you feel 100% comfortable and with offices in Stellenbosch and Cape Town Central, we serve as your permanent contact partner during your stay in South Africa.

In case you already organized a work experience yourself or you are just going to stay in South Africa for a while without working we can still arrange all other important details of your stay. Just let us know what you need.

What does Magister offer you:

- We organize tailor-made internships, volunteer programs, work & travel and courses. All of our offered programs meet the highest standards and completely match your individual needs.
- We take care of all the necessary paperwork with your host company, organisation or institution
- We assist you with the visa formalities, insurance and flight bookings.
- We organize an accommodation for you that suits your needs and budget.
- We welcome you at the airport, take you to your accommodation and show you around.
- On arrival you'll get an information folder about Cape Town including important phone numbers, tips and details plus a discount card for several backpackers, bars, restaurants and car hire.
- You will receive a local SIM-card for your cell phone from us.
- We accompany you on your first day of work and give you a friendly introduction to your new colleagues.
- We assist you with renting or purchasing a car.
- You will receive our weekly Newsletter.
- We organise weekly meetings and affordable and exciting monthly weekend trips for all 'Magisters' and friends of Magister
- If you are interested in travelling we can get you large discounts with well known local tour operators.
- We are always available for you before, during, and after your stay.



Application Procedure for work experiences in Cape Town:

If you are not interested in a work experience with us, but you would like to make use of some of our other services, please just send us an detailed email with all relevant information about your intended stay.

If you are interested in work experience of any kind organized by Magister the following procedure applies:

- You send us your application documents - CV with picture, application letter & proof of study or your highest degree.
- We receive your documents and provide you with some information about South Africa and Cape Town plus a detailed overview about our services and requirements.
- After carefully going through all your documents we will send you profiles of companies or organisations with work descriptions that are suitable to your abilities and requirements.
- You go through the proposals and give us your personal ranking.
- You tell us the exact duration of your work period and send us the dates. Your work period should start on a Monday and end on a Friday.
- We contact the companies or organisations in question to place you according to your ranking and your given work period.
- After you are accepted for a work experience we set up the contract and letter of invitation from the company/organisation and send it to you first via email.
- You confirm the acceptance of the offered work experience with your signature and send the scanned contract back to us.
- After we have received your scanned confirmation we send you the invoice for our services of € 450.
- After we have received your payment and a proof of payment we will send you the original contract via post to your home address.
- You book your flight ticket and send us your arrival and departure dates plus you tell us how long you are going to stay and for which period of time you would need your accommodation in Cape Town.
- We book a nice and suitable accommodation for you.

Please keep in mind...

When you are thinking about coming to South Africa for a work experience please bear in mind that internships as well as volunteer work is without any **remuneration**. That means that you are responsible for organising the financing of your stay by yourself in due time. Please calculate carefully if you can finance your stay in South Africa. Below you find a list of general costs you should consider while planning your stay:

Magister fee:	€ 450
Flight:	€ 750
Visa:	€ 50
Accommodation per month:	€ 300
Other monthly costs (e.g. food etc.) :	€ 350
Car rental per month:	€ 320
Buying a second hand car:	€ 2000



About South Africa:

South Africa is without a doubt one of the most beautiful and diverse countries in the world and definitely worth a visit. If you are thinking about coming here for an extended period of time - here are some useful facts:

Population

The total population of South Africa is:

- 45 million
- 75% Black
- 14% White
- 9% Coloured
- 3% Indian/ Asian

Languages

South Africa has eleven official languages. In the Cape Town area three of them are prominent: Afrikaans, English and Xhosa.

Religion

80% of South Africans profess Christianity. There are also large Jewish and Muslim communities living in the Western Cape. Five million people practice traditional African or tribal religions.

Geography

South Africa is located at the extreme South of Africa, with a long coastline that stretches more than 2,500 kilometres and across two oceans (Atlantic and Indian). South Africa has a surface area of 1 2270 376 km square, making it bigger than Holland, Belgium, Italy, France and Germany combined.

South Africa has a great variety of climate zones, from the extreme desert of the Kalahari near Namibia to a lush subtropical climate along the border of Mozambique.

Economics

South Africa is a middle-income country with an abundant supply of resources, well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, and transport sectors, a stock exchange, that ranks among the 10th largest in the world, and a modern infrastructure supporting an efficient distribution of goods to major urban centres throughout the region.

South Africa is the world's largest producer of gold (45%), diamonds and platinum. The world's largest and the world's deepest gold mines are to be found in Gauteng.

Wildlife

In the Western Cape region where Cape Town is situated the wild life you will find here the most are ostriches, baboons and different kinds of antelopes. In other parts of the country you will find all kinds of game and of course the Big Five (elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard and rhino). But South Africa also has a very interesting marine wild life. Here you'll find whales, dolphins, seals and all kinds of sharks including the Great White and Whale Sharks.



Cape Town

Beautiful beaches, sunny skies all-year round, playground of the sporty and beautiful – there are a lot of reasons why Cape Town is called one of the most beautiful cities in the world. There is a wide range of activities for you to do and with our weekly and monthly activities we show you some of the best and give you an idea of what to do with the rest of your time. Capetonians know how to celebrate life– lazy days and sundowners at the beach, braais (BBQ) in the evening, chats with new friends and partying the nights away.

Working Conditions

We do everything to provide you with challenging and interesting work. All our companies, organisations and institutions are established and registered, they have prepared work areas and look forward to welcoming you, providing you with interesting and varied work. As we always check out the working atmosphere in our companies, and the staff that work there, we can guarantee that you will learn a lot. Our partner companies and organisations are experienced with interns and volunteers so they are flexible regarding your special needs and interests.

Money

You should try to budget on around 600 Euro per month. This includes comfortable accommodation, good food in Cape Town and some dinners at a restaurant etc. Dining out in Cape Town is in comparison to Europe very cheap. You don't pay much for a really good meal. But in general there are so many amazing things to do and to see that it gets expensive quite quickly. Especially tourist activities are usually quite expensive.

Accommodation

Usually we book our participants in a single room in nice communal houses together. The houses always have a communal kitchen, a lounge and at least one communal bathroom. It's a great way to get to know nice people who can support you especially in your first couple of days. Besides from that it's a lot of fun. Depending on the location of the house and the size of your room the monthly rent will be more or less 300 Euro.

It is of course also possible to stay in a different type of accommodation such as a guest family, an apartment or a guesthouse. Just let us know which type of accommodation you prefer and we will organise a roof over your head.

Transport

It is not always necessary to have your own car. It depends on a variety of factors e.g. where you stay, the distance to your work and first of all the length of your stay. If this is less than 3 months we recommend a rental car. We are happy to assist you with the arrangements. Car rental is up to be around 500 Euro per month (excluding petrol). Of course you can also buy your own car and sell it before you leave, we also help you with this and will advertise your car in our newsletter. The price of a car varies between 1500 and 2000 Euro depending on the age and model. Most of the cars our students drive are old but they still drive very well.

Safety

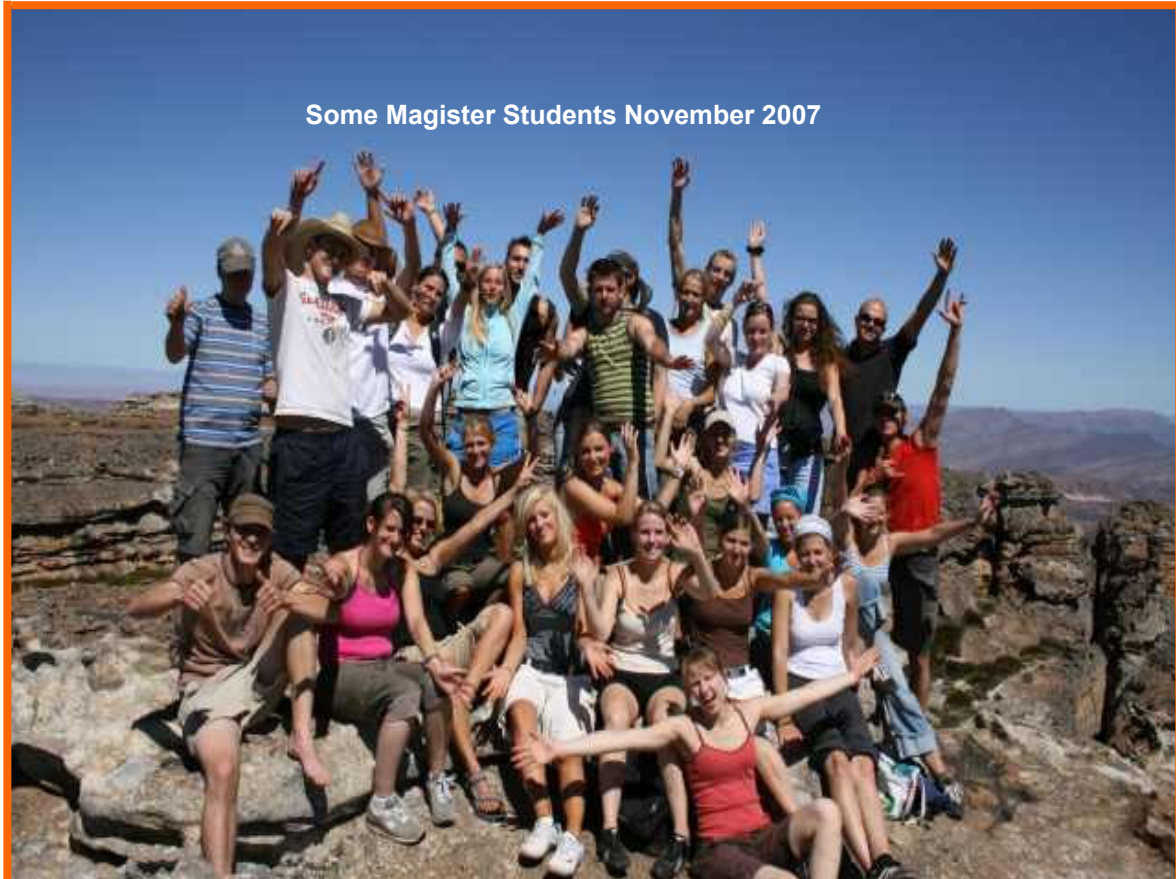
Cape Town has a reputation of being a dangerous place. Cape Town is a metropolis with all its advantages and disadvantages with crime and propensity to violence. If you adhere to a few simple rules Cape Town is as dangerous as any other big city in the world. For example you should not walk alone at night, try to avoid walking in lonely places, don't let anyone under any circumstance help you while you draw money at the ATM and don't get involved in discussions or fights on the street. Do not fiddle around with your money and valuables in public and if possible try not to look like a tourist. If you keep your ears and eyes you should be as fine as anywhere else.



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Hopefully we've helped you with our Info Guide to decide whether or not to join our community in South Africa.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN CAPE TOWN - ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CITIES OF THE WORLD.

Your Magister Team