EXPERIENCE
The Unforgettable

MEETINGS & INCENTIVE PLANNER

Discover Freedom!
Nelson Mandela Bay is the main gateway to the Eastern Cape and is the country’s fifth largest city. It is always buzzing with business visitors, investors and conference attendees, exploring the new entrepreneurial opportunities created within the Bay. The Bay is equidistant to all major South African cities and offers endless stretches of white sandy beaches. The visitors are provided with a safe and welcoming environment with the warm hospitality that Nelson Mandela Bay is renowned for.

Venues offer a variety of facilities which can be arranged to suit any conference, meeting or event. Seating arrangements are flexible, breakaway rooms can be provided and a variety of catering services can be arranged. The average venue caters for 70-300 delegates however bigger and smaller venues are also available. Venues are situated around the Bay area but if you are looking for exclusivity and comfort, a private game reserve, seaside resort and luxury hotels also offer world-class conference venues. A vast amount of establishments offer unique private function venues that are ideal for hosting cocktail parties, awards dinners, company and year end functions.
REASONS TO MEET

in Nelson Mandela Bay

STRESS FREE CONFERENCING

Nelson Mandela Bay is a magical slice of Africa which offers a wealth of leisure opportunities, including “Big Seven” game, viewed up close in a malaria-free environment, but more than this, it is an area devoted to “stress-free conferencing”.

LANGUAGES

Predominant languages are English, isiXhosa and Afrikaans. Business is conducted mainly in English.

ACCOMMODATION

Nelson Mandela Bay boasts more than 15 000 beds within a 20-minute radius of the Port Elizabeth International Airport. Discerning travelers can choose from One- and Two-star Hotels offering good value-for-money or superior traditional 3- to 5-star hotels or up-market 6 star retreats. Guest houses range from basic Bed & Breakfast or Self-Catering to luxurious establishments. Township Lodges are an exciting alternative.

Self-catering establishments including holiday resorts, caravan parks and camping sites, are situated along the main beachfront or other more rural locations. Budget and group accommodation, including backpackers, is also available. Establishments assessed and accredited by the National Tourism Grading Council of SA, display appropriate internationally-recognized star ratings.

WINING AND DINING

Nelson Mandela Bay is home to a wide variety of restaurants and catering establishments that serve an array of international and local dishes. From fine dining at a fine restaurant to something more casual at a tavern or a quick bite and cup of coffee from a bistro, Nelson Mandela Bay has the perfect restaurant for you. With the highest capita ratio of restaurants per population in South Africa, you will certainly be spoilt for choice while dining in Nelson Mandela Bay. You can get anything from a juicy steak and a bottle of our finest wine to a bush braai while taking in the magnificent African sunset.

ACCOMMODATION ENQUIRIES

Tel: +27 (0)41 585 2575
E-Mail: info@nmbt.co.za
Website: www.nmbt.co.za

GOOD WEATHER ALL YEAR ROUND

The city boasts a wonderful moderate climate all year round, with sea temperatures ranging from 16 degrees C in winter to 23 degrees C in summer. An extensive summer period is experienced from October until May which is comparatively dry and warm with relatively low humidity. Winters, which are from June until September, are mostly mild with chiller evenings. The average temperature for summer and winter are 25 degrees and 17 degrees respectively. A temperate all year round coastal climate.

EASE OF ACCESS

Known as the “Friendly City”, it is located on the south-eastern coast of Africa, 763 km east of Cape Town. This busy seaport and popular tourist destination is situated along the shores of Algoa Bay.

Nelson Mandela Bay is the 15 minute city due to the smooth traffic flow and easily accessible motor freeways. Getting around is an easy and scenic experience. Metered taxis, luxury air-conditioned coaches and shuttle busses run regularly between the airport, hotels and attractions and cover the majority of the city area.

The centrally situated Port Elizabeth International Airport is very accessible and within easy reach from all parts of the city. The Airport is serviced regularly by various airlines, (SAA, as well as certain local and national airlines, including SA Express, British Airways (BA), Kulula.com and 1-time operate from Port Elizabeth). Various affordable car hire company options are available, which provide visitors with an alternative mode of transport while exploring Nelson Mandela Bay and surrounding areas. Qualified accredited tour guides operating in the city offer tailored tours to meet individual requirements.

E-mail: info@nmbt.co.za

ASSISTANCE

The Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism - Convention Bureau has been re-established to assist you with your conference requirements within the Nelson Mandela Bay region.

ACCOMMODATION

Nelson Mandela Bay is an official host city, Nelson Mandela Bay (Port Elizabeth) was afforded an awesome opportunity to showcase itself and its capabilities of hosting large events.

2010 FIFA WORLD CUP™ HOST CITY

Here every four years, the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ was the first ever soccer World Cup held on African soil. As an official host city, Nelson Mandela Bay (Port Elizabeth) was afforded an awesome opportunity to showcase itself and its capabilities of hosting large events.

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The Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism

CONVENTION BUREAU

Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism is the official destination marketing organization of Nelson Mandela Bay. The Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism Conference Bureau (NMBT) was established to assist and ensure that every conference and event is a memorable success by cutting the red tape, ensuring access to tourist sites, supplying accommodation and in general, taking care of the clients every need. The NMBT Convention Bureau provides destination expertise on Nelson Mandela Bay and supports associations, corporates, professional conference organizers, destination management companies and event organizers, which are interested in hosting events in the city or surrounding area.

NELSON MANDELA BAY TOURISM – CONVENTION BUREAU
Tourism Centre – 40 Mitchell Street, South End, Port Elizabeth, 6001
P O Box 357, Port Elizabeth, 6000
Tel: +27 (0)41 582 2575
Fax: +27 (0)41 582 2573 | 086 634 3706
E-Mail: conference@nmbt.co.za | Website: www.nmbt.co.za

THE NMBT CONVENTION BUREAU IS MEMBERS OF:
- SAACI: South African Association of the Conference Industry
- ICCA: International Congress and Convention Association
- SITE: Society of Incentive Travel Executives
- SATSA: South African Travel Association of South Africa

THE NMBT CONVENTION BUREAU’S SERVICES INCLUDE:
- Pre & post bid assistance
  - NMBT assists in lobbying for possible funding for large conferences and events to the city
  - We assist with Bid presentations, bid site inspections and promotional material

- Convention planning support
  - NMBT assists with site inspections
  - Marketing of the convention / event through different mediums
  - Media & public relations assistance
  - Assistance with sourcing of suppliers / local professional conference organizers

- On site assistance & support
  - Airport welcome receptions can be arranged
  - Visitor information booths can be arranged at the conference or event
  - Welcome bags and other promotional material can be supplied
  - Visitors guides and maps can be supplied

- Incentive Trip assistance & support
  - Comprehensive destination expertise
  - Itinerary planning
  - Facilitation of stakeholder engagements

- Other services include:
  - Car Rental – special conference rates can be arranged
  - Accommodation – special conference rates can be arranged
  - Pre and Post Tours – special conference packages and rates can be arranged
  - If no conference organizer is involved or delegates are responsible for own arrangements, NMBT can assist with a one-stop call centre for all their accommodation, car rental, tours, and day trip requirements in the Nelson Mandela Bay.
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<th>U-Shape</th>
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**CONFERENCE VENUES**

**Establishment**

**Seating**

**Room Name**

**U-Shape**

**Cinema**

**Banquet**

**School**

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**Call Centre:** +27 (0) 41 582 2575

**www.nmbt.co.za • conference@nmbt.co.za**
NELSON MANDELA BAY
MORE THAN JUST A REWARD
A lifetime experience!

Nelson Mandela Bay is known for its very rich culture and history, its unforgettable wildlife experiences, its pristine and safe beaches, and so much more that will thrill and excite those you wish to reward. Nelson Mandela Bay is the gateway to the Adventure Province of the Eastern Cape and the scenic Garden Route on the south coast of South Africa. Nelson Mandela Bay is surrounded by the untouched wilderness wonderland of the Eastern Cape. The Eastern Cape’s natural diversity ranges from the evergreen Tsitsikamma Forest, with its renowned Otter Trail, to the rugged Baviaanskloof Wilderness Area, the southern slopes of the Drakensberg and the imposing Great Karoo. The Eastern Cape offers visitors every type of outdoor experience. Reward those that deserve the best.

Nelson Mandela Bay’s pristine beaches are legendary with a number of beaches boasting the coveted International Full Stage Blue Flag status. The Blue Flag is an international award for beaches that meet the highest standards of safety, amenities, cleanliness and environmental protection. Nelson Mandela Bay, famous for its weather, with warm summers and mild and pleasant winters, is said to have the fourth best coastal weather in the world. Summer water temperatures range from 18 to 21°C, and from 14°C to 19°C during winter. Sea conditions are generally calm in the bay, except when the South Easterly wind blows. Prevailing westerly winds create ideal conditions during summer. An eco-sensitive boardwalk system hugs the dunes; this is ideal for beach strollers. The bay provides safe swimming, body surfing, snorkeling, angling, sunbathing and walking opportunities. Attractive playgrounds and splash pools for the kids make this an ideal family holiday destination.

A SPORTING CITY

A Mecca for all beach and water sports enthusiasts. Algoa Bay offers unrivalled weather conditions, in addition to an abundance of action-packed activities throughout the year. In fact, the Bay has been tagged as the Water Sport Capital of Africa, and has hosted countless national and international sporting and water sport events in recent years, including the prestigious Ironman South Africa Triathlon. Water sport activities include swimming, snorkeling, body surfing, water skiing, windsurfing, surfing, jet skiing, kite-surfing, power-boating and fishing. In summer, professional fully-trained Lifeguards patrol most beaches. The city also has many active sports clubs catering for bowls, golf, tennis, badminton, squash, volleyball, pool, dart, athletics and cycling, as well as seasonal sports such as water polo, rugby, hockey, roller hockey, cricket, motor racing and many more.

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WILDLIFE & NATURE

Nelson Mandela Bay is situated in a nature-lovers’ paradise contributing to an unbeatable combination of seaside and African bush holiday. The Bay is within half an hour’s drive of several internationally-acclaimed game reserves, offering visitors an unforgettable encounter with African wildlife.

The Eastern Cape is arguably one of South Africa’s principal malaria-free game viewing destinations. Most reserves boast the Big Five safari experience while THE BIG 7 (comprising elephant, Cape buffalo, leopard, black rhino, lions, the great white shark and seasonal southern right whale in the marine section) can be viewed at Addo Elephant National Park.

Nelson Mandela Bay and environs have a rich diversity of vegetation, fauna and landscape. One of the unique selling features is that the region is an important meeting ground of all seven major converging Biomes, namely: The Thicket Biome which includes the valley bushveld flora; The Savannah Biome; The Fynbos Biome characteristic of a winter rainfall; The Grassland Biome which includes Flora of higher altitudes; The Nama-Karoo Biome; Forest Biome which includes Montane and Coastal Indigenous Forest.

ENTERTAINMENT & SHOPPING

Being a value-for-money family holiday destination, Nelson Mandela Bay offers a delightful variety of indoor and outdoor fun activities, attractions and entertainment options to cater for the needs of the young and the young at heart.

Those visitors seeking retail therapy will find their every requirement filled by Nelson Mandela Bay’s array of attractive lifestyle centres, shopping malls, up-market boutiques and tourist friendly craft markets. A superb range of Spa venues and Wellness Centres located in and around Nelson Mandela Bay offer a variety of pamper treatments.

After dark, Nelson Mandela Bay is transformed into a sea of lights and bustles with a diverse mix of nightlife leisure activities. Enjoyable evening entertainment options include sundowner cruises, nightclubs, cocktail bars, late night music, sports, fine art theatre performances, movies, a great selection of restaurants and cultural performances.
HISTORY

Nelson Mandela Bay’s rich cultural heritage guarantees a unique insight into the Eastern Cape’s diverse and remarkable past. This area bears a rich legacy which saw the first meeting of indigenous Khoisan people, British, Dutch, German and Xhosa people. This landing place of the 1820 British Settlers boasts some of the finest historical architectural attractions ranging from Victorian and Edwardian to Gothic and Cape Dutch style. These can be explored at leisure in the heart of the city centre along the famed self-guided Donkin Heritage Trail.

Located on the Little Swartkops River, Bethelsdorp was the first organized settlement in the Algoa Bay area, but the military command post at Fort Frederick.

The Red Location Museum of Struggle, which was opened in November 2006, commemorates South Africa’s turbulent apartheid history and long struggle for freedom. Red Location, the city’s first black township, is where the first urban Black families settled in the 1900s. South End Museum in the heart of the city depicts the history of forced removal under apartheid.

ARTS & CULTURE

Nelson Mandela Bay offers a true ethnic mosaic of arts and crafts typical of the inhabitants of the region. Due to the diverse mix of cultures, traditions and people, a wide variety of tastes and expressions in art are captured in a unique and creative way that makes this area an essential stopover for all art lovers.

Numerous craft centres display a vibrant variety of locally produced pieces of art. Encounter the skill of local beading and ceramic artists at work. Nelson Mandela Bay also boasts a number of impressive art galleries, museums and heritage sites. “Townships” are steeped in history, tradition and culture. These have flourished into hubs of activity and social life. The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, founded in 1892, is home to the country’s oldest art school. Mohair is one of the world’s most exclusive natural fibers, with two centuries of refinement by the South African mohair industry behind it. This region also forms part of the Mohair Capital of the World.

WELLNESS

Relax and pamper yourself in Nelson Mandela Bay and surrounds with a superb range of Day Spa packages which are on offer. What better way to unwind, detoxify and rejuvenate your body, mind and spirit than to experience spa extravaganza treatments that have been designed to invigorate you in the wonderful soothing comfort of peaceful surroundings.

Spa venues range from exclusive Leisure Centres on private Game Reserves with Hydro-Therapy facilities and fully equipped gymnasiums to intimate Beauty and Skin Care Clinics and Salons. A wide selection of body and beauty treatments which cater for both men and women are available. Alternatively, highly skilled therapists can tailor your treatments. Indulge in a luxurious treatment such as a mud wrap, an aromatherapy massage or reflexology to energize, refresh and revitalize your body, mind and soul in Nelson Mandela Bay.

18 19
• The Boardwalk Casino and Entertainment World is set around a series of man-made lakes and beautiful gardens. The complex has also incorporated a selection of international restaurants, specialist shops, cinema and a craft workshop. In addition, an indoors modern video and games arcade offers a variety of machines from kiddie rides to simulators and 3-D games.

• Only a short drive from Port Elizabeth, the Addo Elephant National Park (home to the big 7) is a popular choice for anyone wishing to see these majestic giants of the African bushveld. The park is situated in the Sundays River region of the Eastern Cape, which is a malaria-free area.

• The rural villages of Colchester and Cannonville are nestled on the banks of the beautiful Sundays River, a few kilometres from the river mouth where it flows into the Indian Ocean through the majestic and world-renowned Coastal Dune Fields. Only 40 km from Port Elizabeth, this small community boasts the closest point of entry (five km’s) into the Greater Addo Elephant National Park Southern Gate. An excursion on one of the Sundays River ferries is highly recommended.

• Appreciate nature from an elephant’s perspective by experiencing Addo Elephant Back Safaris. This experience includes a safari on the back of an elephant followed by walking besides these gentle giants, which will allow you to interact with and observe elephants in their natural environment.

• Other highly recommended attractions worth exploring include: Jeffreys Bay / J’Bay, one of the five most famous surfing destinations and home to the best right hand point break in the world; the Baviaanskloof Wilderness Area (one of South Africa’s latest World Heritage Sites) which comprises of 192 000 ha. of pristine rugged mountainous terrain offering a unique wilderness experience; the historic town of Grahamstown; the Valley of Desolation near Graaff-Reinet and The Owl House in nearby Nieu Bethesda; Cradock and the Mountain Zebra National Park; the picturesque holiday village of St Francis Bay; the coastal towns of Kenton-on-Sea and Port Alfred; the Hole in the wall in the Wild Coast and so much more.

• Ibhayi Sunshine Saunter is a picturesque circular self-drive which highlights the coastal riches of the area along the Western Seaboard of Port Elizabeth. The scenic route covers the beautiful rugged coast along Marine Drive, picnic spots, coves, rock pools along the rocky section of the shores as well as charming seaside resorts, lush countryside and tea gardens. Pods of dolphins and whales are frequently sighted along the coastline.

• Heavenly Stables provides scenic two to two and a half hour beach rides through the Sardinia Bay Nature Reserve onto Sardinia Bay beach and back again. A one hour trail ride for those who prefer a shorter distance is also available.

• Seaview Game and Lion Park as well as Kragga Kamma Game Park, both situated 15 minutes from the City Centre offers travelers interaction with lions, cheetahs as well as many other wildlife species.

• Home to one of the world’s most challenging links courses. Humewood Golf Club is consistently ranked as one of South Africa’s Top 10 golf courses. Successful hosts of the 2007 SA OPEN, the golf course is complemented by an elegant clubhouse with a spectacular view. The course is 6 390 metres in length with 18 holes and a par of 72.

• The international award winning Red Location Museum is named after a series of corrugated iron barracks and cottages that the majority of Port Elizabeth “Blacks, Coloureds, Indians and Chinese” were forcefully moved to in 1903. These barracks and cottages, rusted a deep red colour, were home to many political and cultural leaders and the birthplace to momentous social movements during the Apartheid era. This museum, situated in the heart of a traditional township, is a unique experience not to be missed.
ANNUAL EVENTS

JANUARY

The Herald Cycle Tour – this annual cycling event starts off the new year with lots of excitement.

FEBRUARY

Chilli Festival – held at the end of February, this annual festival features all things chilli-related.

River Mile – a family open water swimming event just a few minutes’ drive from Port Elizabeth.

MARCH

Medieval Fayre – Medieval activities - archery, dancing, sword fighting, jousting, plays, war machines, craft stalls & working exhibitions, falconry, mock trials - great family fun.

APRIL

Ironman South Africa – mid-April, Nelson Mandela Bay is the spectacular venue for this triathlon. This event draws many international competitors.

Splash Festival – a four-day festival each Easter Weekend, highly suitable for the whole family. This event includes sporting activities, especially water sport, children’s competitions, music concerts and a great carnival atmosphere.

MAY

Addo Trail Run – this marathon offers something a little different for the runners who take part. The venue is Addo Elephant National Park, located near Port Elizabeth, with the route following trails through the African bush.

Last night of the Proms – in aid of St Francis Hospice – held at the Feather Market Centre.

Noordhoek Dive Festival – one of the biggest scuba diving festivals in South Africa.

JUNE

Kirkwood Wildlife Festival – an event held just north of Port Elizabeth. Visitors can enjoy a mix of conservation, wildlife and entertainment, with wine tasting, as well as hundreds of stalls, music performances and a game auction.

National Arts Festival – held in Grahamstown.

JULY

Billabong Professional Surfing Contest – a short distance from Port Elizabeth, the popular resort of Jeffrey’s Bay plays host to this famous sporting event where all the competitors hope to ride the perfect ‘supertube’.

AUGUST

Women’s Day celebrations are held annually around the city.

Radio Controlled Model Airshow – a family event hosted by the Port Elizabeth Radio Flyers on an airfield near St Albans. The day features everything from helicopters to jets.

SEPTEMBER

Northern Arts Festival – held at the end of September, the Northern Arts Festival brings together a wealth of local music talent from the Eastern Cape.

Tourism month & Heritage month offer a wide range of activities and celebrations.

OCTOBER

Sherwood Garden Centre Spring Festival – a gardening exhibition which showcases the region’s floral expertise to tourists and locals.

Ocean Racing Series – an action-packed event which is part of South Africa’s top water sport series. Swimming, running and paddling races are included.

Oktoberfest – German festival – Ein prosit der Gemütlichkeit! Get into the party lane and experience a traditional Oktoberfest! Bring your lederhosen and dancing shoes and enjoy traditional music all the way from Germany in the form of Viva Bavaria.

NOVEMBER

Triathlon Series – the Port Elizabeth event in this series is open to teams and individuals. Starts from Pollock’s Beach each November.

Kids Connection Expo – the ANNUAL exhibition will focus on expectant parents and families with children aged 0-12 years old.

Willows Challenge – this event is a 10 & 5km trail run, Potjiekos Competition and Amazing Race.

DECEMBER

Miss Tropika – an annual pageant held at various locations around the city.

Port Elizabeth City Marathon – an event that is open to runners and walkers.

Nelson Mandela Bay Summer Season – packed with a host of exciting events as well as fireworks displays.

For more information and event support contact events@nmbt.co.za or call 041 582 2575.

List your Nelson Mandela Bay event on www.nmbt.co.za
THE NELSON MANDELA BAY PASS
YOUR PASSPORT TO DISCOVERING THE LOCAL’S BEST KEPT SECRETS

The Nelson Mandela Bay Pass, a smartcard access card, provides you with free admission to a variety of attractions and activities in Nelson Mandela Bay. This includes amongst others museums, game reserves, scuba diving, art galleries, sightseeing tours by train, bus, boat, and many more. It also entitles you to some great discounts in selected stores for shopping, activities, entertainment and more. This Tourism Pass offers flexibility, convenience, variety and savings.

The Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism Pass is available in 1 day, 2 days, 3 days, and 7 days. The smart card records when and where you first use your Nelson Mandela Bay Pass, as well as how long the pass will remain valid for. This means that regardless of what start date you give when you buy the pass, your Nelson Mandela Bay Pass is activated the moment that you first use it at an attraction or activity provider. It is important to note that a ‘day’ is based on a calendar day, so should you first use your pass at 5 pm on Wednesday, Wednesday is counted as day one of your pass usage.

The Nelson Mandela Bay Pass is valid for use on consecutive days only. At the end of your validity period or when you have visited all the attractions, the pass will expire and will no longer allow access to attractions. Your pass will cease working at the end of the last day dependant on the number of days purchased, regardless of how often you have used it in between. Each offer is limited to one entry or use per attraction per pass.

Why not include the pass as part of the conference pack, or to boost your delegate numbers. It is also a very nice tool for pre and post tours. Sales on the pass is also commissionable should you want to sell it to your delegates.

For a full list of offers available refer to www.nmbt.co.za or e-mail pass@nmbt.co.za
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