Cape Town Area Properties

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Cape Grace Hotel

Cape Town, South Africa

Personal Impression

Cape Grace is a wonderful property. It is a boutique hotel offering delightful rooms, with a water view from every room, a great location, personalized and warm service and the feeling of truly being a guest.





The quality and detail in the construction and décor of this hotel is evident everywhere. The foyer is open and gracious with two desks to assist you where you can sit when checking in or making inquiries. The tour desk is available to arrange rent cars or local tours. The library is comfortable with oversized stuffed chairs and a warm and cozy feeling. All guests are invited to the library in the evening for complimentary port and also at 6:00 pm the hotel offers a "Get Acquainted with Cape Town" talk complete with complimentary wine.

Location of the hotel

Perfectly situated between two bodies of water. The hotel is a short walking distance from the new waterfront area without being right in the midst of that noise and action of the waterfront. It is quiet and peaceful at night. Cape Grace is perfectly located.

Accommodations

A standard room at Cape Grace is a wonderful room. The rooms are a very good size. In the entry way there is a credenza with coffee and tea making facilities. The bathroom has double sinks, a full-sized bathtub a full-sized separate walk-in shower, and the toilet is in behind a door. Nice toiletries of every description are available. The entry way to the bathroom has a nice sized vanity table with a built-in strong hair dryer. On either side of the vanity are two closets. One is complete with ironing board and iron. There are hooks all over the place to hang your hat or coats.

The bedroom is decorated very tastefully in light colors and has a desk with an electrical strip that has built in adaptors to accommodate both American and British appliances. A TV is in the credenza. A nice picture window looks out from either side of the hotel onto a water scene. A wing back chair in the corner adds to the décor.

The 4th floor offers loft bedrooms of two types. The luxury loft room is the same room as the standard guest room but has a very small balcony with two chairs. The Terrace Luxury Loft

rooms offer a large balcony and a different room layout that is much larger. The complimentary port and morning coffee and rolls are offered for loft room guests in the foyer of the fourth floor.



Internet Access

The hotel has an internet and business center that offers free internet access. There are four computers available for guests use.

Dining and Wines

Waterfront One is the name of the restaurant at Cape Grace. This is a well-known restaurant in Cape Town offering an extensive menu that has something to please everyone's desires. A delightful dining room with a warm and comfortable feeling with a touch of contemporary décor. They also have a large selection of wines. A full breakfast buffet is served in the Waterfront One restaurant and is included in the room price and this is a wonderful buffet with bowls of raspberries and blueberries along with all the finest pastries, and egg dishes. The bar is outstanding. A long narrow room with many comfortable conversation areas with overstuffed chairs, 400 types of whiskey and a rich dark wood décor.



Spa

On the fourth floor is a wonderful spa offering many treatment options. There are four treatment rooms, Angelica, Saffron, Paprika and Calendula. These offer a variety of treatments and massages ranging from 350 rand to 975 rand (\$60 to \$170) They also have the Vanilla hair salon. The hot spa area compliments the therapy rooms with a mineral spa bath, sauna, steam room, rain and body showers and a deck with sweeping views from a panoramic balcony. The lounge in the spa is called the Cilantro lounge with comfy chairs to read, relax or chat.

Summary

This is a boutique small hotel, with outstanding gracious service, comfortable accommodations and a great location.

Website: Cape Grace

Ellerman House

Bantry Bay, Cape Town

Personal Impression

This is a wonderful 5-star boutique hotel with incredible views and great rooms in a gorgeous setting. I highly recommend this hotel each and every room is inviting, beautifully decorated and even the smallest room is delightful. Location of the hotel Ellerman House is an historical landmark situated on guite the most spectacular site on Kloof Road in the premier Cape Town suburb of Bantry Bay.





Bantry Bay is wind free and with panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean. Guests can experience breathtaking year-round sunsets. It is within walking distance of the famous Clifton Beach, ten minutes from the center of Cape Town and the bustling Waterfront and a mere 45 minutes from the heart of the wine lands. It is the perfect springboard from which to discover the Cape's many and varied attractions - sun-drenched beaches, word class restaurants, majestic Table Mountain, spectacular scenic drives, golf courses, the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, and some of the special places that only locals know.

Accommodations

Ellerman House has 11 rooms, each differently decorated all very luxurious. All the rooms have air conditioning, under floor heating, Satellite TV a complimentary bar and safes. Some rooms are sea facing with balcony some look over the natural rock garden. There are also two beautifully appointed suites that offer pure indulgence. Prices vary according to room type. Included in the room rates are the following: airport transfers, breakfast, ad hoc secretarial services, 24-hour security, laundry, drinks, beverages. (The wines are excluded). Picture of the complimentary mini bar is pictured below.



The Special Villa - 5 bedrooms

Recently completed is an incredible villa that has to be seen to be believed. This is complete luxury, total indulgence that offers the ultimate in privacy and comfort. Pictures below of this remarkable property. All aspects of this villa are first class from the state-of-the art kitchen to the wood paneled closets. The views are stunning and the furnishings are first class throughout. The art collection in the villa is amazing. Of course, a full house staff are available to meet your every need.



Internet access

The hotel has internet access for guests.

Dining and Wines

Very private and intimate dining offer delectable meals in a wonderful setting. A table overlooking the ocean adds to the experience of a wonderful breakfast and lunch.



Summary

This is an elegant hotel that has a fabulous setting and is perfect if you like small boutique hotels.

Website: Ellerman House

Mount Nelson Hotel

A large 5-star Luxury Belmond Hotel Property

Personal Impression

Mount Nelson is a large luxury hotel. A series of pink buildings with the backdrop of Table Mountain with lots of history and 9 acres of absolutely gorgeous grounds. It has a class and style all of its own. With rooms in the hotel to rooms in cottages and outlying buildings this is a very large property. Part of the Orient Express Hotels chain. A good choice if you like a large luxury hotel with character.



Location of the hotel

Perfectly situated in the main area of Cape Town close to the park and main attractions of downtown Cape Town.

Accommodations

A variety of accommodations from which to choose. There are six unique wings and the cottages that all offer their own history and character. There are first class amenities of a fully equipped gym, body care center, floodlit tennis courts, swimming pools and of course the grounds to enjoy. All the rooms are really plush and comfortable



and decorated in very light colors. Each room has a TV at the foot of the bed that goes up and down in the credenza with the push of a button. The rooms are a very good size. My personal preference were the cottages that offer a full living room and bedroom and are so quaint with their little front yards and white wicker fences.



Internet access

The hotel has an internet and business center that offers internet access as you would expect in a large hotel. There are charges for use of these services.

Dining and Wines

The public rooms and restaurants here are really spectacular. They have all the modern comforts but with old world charm. From eating in a first-class restaurant or on the terrace overlooking the grounds to eating from a large bountiful buffet around the pool in your swimsuit. The choice is yours. Extensive menus and wine lists to appeal to the most discerning of guests.

Spa

A full treatment spa and gym are available for guests. Exactly what you would expect in a large, first-class hotel.



Summary

This is a large luxury hotel, with all the amenities you would expect, comfortable accommodations and a great location.

Website: Mount Nelson

Radisson Blu Hotel

Personal Impression

I had heard that the Radisson Hotel was a nice place to stay while in Cape Town. We stayed at the hotel and was pleasantly surprised. Yes, it is a standard large hotel like so many others with hundreds of rooms that are much the same. However, it does have a great location, right near the water, offers a shuttle to the VA Waterfront and has an outstanding buffet breakfast. It is a good choice if you wish to give the budget a rest or splurge on the best Safari Camp instead.



Location

As I mentioned, it is right on the waterfront and within a five-minute walking distance to the VA Waterfront. Great location. Many of the business rooms have a huge balcony with an outstanding view of the ocean and Table Top Mountain. There is a complimentary shuttle every hour that takes guests to and from the waterfront.

Accommodations

I recommend the business rooms. Not that much more expensive and they include the full buffet breakfast, and a few extra goodies (like a bottle of wine) in the room. They are larger and have balconies. The room is very comfortable and not over inspired. Keep in mind that you are at a Radisson, not a boutique hotel. The bathroom is large, with a double granite sink, a huge bathtub and some of the best bath products I have ever encountered. The view from our balcony is shown in the pictures below. We enjoyed this room.





Dining and Public Areas

This is as you would expect in a large Radisson Hotel. Big fancy foyer, several different restaurants, a spa and a workout facility. All the conveniences that a large hotel usually offers. The area where they have the casual dining and offer the breakfast buffet in the morning is really quite delightful. If you sit outside, you are right on top of the water, and it is a lovely way to start the day. The staff was very helpful.

Website: Radisson Blu Hotel

Table Bay Hotel

Location, location, location...breakfast, breakfast, breakfast.

A large hotel right in the waterfront. Up an escalator from the hotel lobby and you are in the Waterfront Mall. Baia Restaurant is in the mall and is our favorite restaurant in Cape Town very close to where you enter the mall from the hotel. There are many food outlets in the mall and two other favorites are Willoughby's and Ocean Basket.



The Public Areas of the Hotel

The hotel has a very upscale elegant large lobby. Beautifully decorated with many fresh flowers it has a quality feel from the moment you arrive. This is a large hotel not a small boutique property and has all the amenities offered by this type of hotel. A concierge is around to assist with any need you may have and security is good with a room card required to access your floor.



Restaurants and Food

The lounge is located in the lobby where they serve an outstanding afternoon tea and a light menu with salads, pastas and small plates. Plush furniture and a sea view set the stage for a delightful dining experience.

The hotel also has an upscale restaurant called Brasserie with an extensive menu featuring standard fare along with a lot of South African specialties.

Union Bar is the dedicated bar area and a nice meeting place with a very nice décor and a good cocktail selection. **The Breakfast is unbelievable!**

Atlantic is the main restaurant where the most amazing breakfast buffet I have ever seen is served. It is a bit overwhelming at first. Cooked to order eggs are offered by the wait staff. They have delicious cooked to order crepes and waffles station and more juices than I knew existed. Extensive fruit and bread selection along with items for every nationality. An experience you will remember.

The Rooms

This is a large hotel with many different types of rooms. However, they are all very spacious, with ample closet and drawer space. A nice sized marble bathroom with a full-size bathtub and separate walk-in shower. We enjoyed our room. Our bed was large with a comfortable mattress, pillows and linens. It is a rich traditional feel that is very comforting after a long flight.

Website: Table Bay Hotel

The Silo

Cape Town, South Africa

Personal Impression

The Silo is incredibly unique. A city hotel with the feeling of a small boutique hotel! The structure has "pillow" windows and is spectacular from both the outside and inside. Located in the heart of the famous Cape Town V&A Waterfront it is a perfect location.

The arrival at the Silo it is not like a normal hotel. Just a simple outside drop off and a very small lobby with a large reception desk. That simplicity changes after you take the elevators to the main reception area.

Artwork is everywhere in the style that only Liz Biden, the owner of the Royal Portfolio properties, can envision. One primary public floor for the 28 rooms and 56 guests. The main level has a large



bar at one end and the restaurant at the other end with reception between the two areas. There is one more public area with a stunning group dining venue.

Accommodations

The rooms are large and feature every comfort. The room I have stayed in twice is the **Deluxe Superior Room** located on the corners of the hotel and features three of the pillow windows and a balcony. The living area has two pillow windows, the bed area has the balcony and the bathtub in nestled in the third pillow window. Absolutely stunning views of the Waterfront and the ocean and docks. An expensive room but with the pillow widows quite magical.

The **Standard Rooms** also are very outstanding. Bathrooms are large and the luxurious bathrooms feature fine toiletries and every item you could ever need in a bathroom.



Dining

Breakfast is quite an experience as well; complete with an array of delectable treats in addition to a complete breakfast menu.



Art

At the base of the hotel is an art museum. The Vault and the Zeitz Mocaa collection of African art. The hotel offers guests private tours of these art collections.

Summary

You will never forget the SILO if you have an opportunity to stay there.

Website: <u>The Silo</u>

Victoria and Alfred Waterfront Hotel



The Hotel

Location, location, location...

This is not a boutique property or anything like the safari lodges it is a regular very comfortable hotel with an incredible location right inside the V&A Waterfront area.,

You have access to everything the moment you step outside the hotel. This location really makes this hotel hard to bypass in favor of the other hotels that are also good and close but not quite as easy as the V&A hotel.

There is really no lobby at all in this hotel. A very tiny area with the reception desk and concierge with two sofas is the main lobby area. To gather you need to go down a few steps to the lower level where you have a small lounge seating area, bar and restaurant.



The Rooms

There are three different types of rooms. Mountain/Water view, Piazza view (less expensive as the view is not as nice) and fourth floor loft rooms. Within these categories there are different layouts with some rooms being larger than others. However, they are all quite comfortable with ample closet and drawer space, a nice sized bathroom with a full-size bathtub and separate walk-in shower.

The food and breakfast

The OYO restaurant is very good and eating here is a good option. The included breakfast is wonderful. Great continental buffet as well as a menu from which you can order a hot breakfast.



Website: Victoria & Alfred Hotel