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Johannesburg Things to Do by Lek Boonlert

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Along with the amazing variety of restaurants, shopping venues and hotels in Johannesburg, there are also plenty of activities to choose from. Historical towns and parks offer some amazing opportunities for fun and cultural enrichment.

Kruger National Park, founded in 1898, has the highest concentration of different animal species in the world. With 20,000 square kilometres, Kruger is the largest game reserve in South Africa. Cheetahs, leopards, rhinos, wildebeest, buffalo, elephants, giraffes, antelope, and impala are not the only attractions for visitors to the park. The reserve also prides itself on the preservation of human artefacts. Thulmela Hill contains the remains of an Iron Age settlement, while the Village of Masorini holds evidence of an ancient Stone Age hunter gatherer civilization that existed before the arrival of white settlers.

To visit Soweto is to see a piece of history. Nelson Mandela lived in Soweto before an apartheid government sentenced him to life in prison for treason. Despite the fact that it is now a bustling new housing district, tiny council houses, mine worker hostels, and opulent mansions remind visitors of its grim past. Travel to Soweto by tour with a resident guide is recommended due to a lack of safe public transportation as well as a lack of street signs.

Another historical site not to miss is the Lesedi Cultural Village. A two and a half hour tour is packed full of entertainment and cultural enlightenment. Visitors are treated to dancing demonstrations and recreated Zulu, Ndebele, Sotho, Xhasa and Pedi villages. The tour also includes a meal at the Nyama Choma Restaurant.

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