

Pretoria geographic locations

Geographic coordinates of Pretoria, South Africa

Our editors will review what you've submitted and determine whether to revise the article.

About city : Pretoria is the executive and de facto capital of South Africa - a country which has three capital cities. It is located in the Gauteng province within the…

Pretoria is the executive and de facto capital of South Africa - a country which has three capital cities. It is located in the Gauteng province within the City of Tshwane municipality. The city covers an area of 687.54 sq km and had an approximate population of 741,651 in 2011.

The area now occupied by Pretoria was settled by the Southern Transvaal Ndebele in the 1600s. Marthinus Pretorius, a leader of the Voortrekkers, founded Pretoria in 1855, after his father Andries Pretorius. The latter was a famous war hero.

The city was besieged during the First Boer War and the treaty ending the war was also signed here. Several forts were built here during the Boer Wars. When the Union of South Africa was formed in 1910, Pretoria became its administrative capital and retained this status when the country became a Republic in 1961.

Pretoria lies in the north-eastern part of South Africa at an approximate distance of 55 kms from Johannesburg. It is located between the High Veldt to the north and the lower-lying Bush Veldt to the south. The city has an average elevation of 1,350 meters above sea level. It forms a sheltered valley surrounded by the Magaliesberg ranges.

The city enjoys a moderately dry subtropical climate with long, hot moist summers and short, cool, dry winters. In spite of its altitude, the city has a warm climate because of its sheltered position. Cold waves may occur during July and August and the evenings are quite cold. Frost is common, but snow is rare in this city. Besides, short but violent thunderstorms also occur during noon in the months of November to February.

You can travel to Pretoria in various ways. These are as follows :

You can fly to the Or Tambo International airport in Johannesburg and then travel by taxi or shuttle to Pretoria along the Albertina Sisulu Highway or R21.

Frequent buses connect Pretoria with all major cities of South Africa. N1, N3, N4, N12, and N14 national highways connect Pretoria with the rest of the country.

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The main railway station of Pretoria is located just southeast of the city center. Trains connect the city with other destinations of the country like Johannesburg, Polokwane, Musina, Nelspruit, Witbank, and the Mozambique border.

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