

For a Pretoria bar with a European flavour. try the trendy Bara'cas Wine & Beer Bar in Groenkloof. An extensive craft beer, wine and cocktail menu is complemented by a menu of "European gastro pub food infused with an African influence". Tel: 012 460 5291, Visit: http://baracas.co.za In Brooklyn, award-winning restaurant Kream (tel: 011 780 5000, Visit: www.tsogosunhotels.com/deluxe/sandton-sun/ dining) offers fine dining amidst breathtaking contemporary decor, while celebrated Indian restaurant Geet takes diners on a lavish spice journey. Tel: 012 460 3199/3164. Visit: www. geetindianrestaurant.com With a kitchen run by Chantel Dartnall, 2014 San Pellegrino Chef of the Year, opulent, fine-dining restaurant Mosaic at the Orient in Elandsfontein provides a feast for the senses. Tel: 012 371 2902/3/4/5. Visit: www.restaurantmosaic.com

WE RECOMMEND:

For a special occasion, try Licorish Bistro at Nicolway in Bryanston, famous for its intricately prepared tasting plates offering three small portions of mains and desserts, complemented by a unique wine selection. Tel: 011 706 0991. Visit: www.licorishbistro.co.za For a true African dining experience, try Tribes at Emperors Palace in Kempton Park. Tel: 011 397 6512. Visit: www.tribesafrica.co.za



WHERE TO SHOP

If there's one thing that sets Gauteng apart, it's its celebrated shopping malls. Arquably the crown prince is Sandton City, home to hundreds of the best local and international brands. Movies, dining experiences and the interleading Nelson Mandela Square, with its famed statue of Madiba within its European-styled piazza, complete your shopping experience. A few kilometres away lies Melrose Arch, boasting a distinctive Afro-European ambience and offering an ever-growing array of retail stores and cosmopolitan sidewalk restaurants. The shopping complex also features a mid-monthly Sunday Banting Market featuring delicious low-carb. high-fat, gluten- and sugar-free foods and health products.



Hyde Park Corner, "Africa's centre of luxury", is a prestigious mall known for its global brands, with cutting-edge fashion from the likes of Emporio Armani, Burberry and Luminance. A few kilometres away is The Mall of Rosebank. Recently refurbished, it offers art nouveau movies and a wide range of fashion and homeware stores. The adjacent Zone is young and vibrant, leading into the upmarket complex of The Firs. In the East Rand, try Greenstone Mall, now home to SA's first Hamleys toy store. Or head to Randburg and explore Gauteng shopping institution Cresta, with its refreshing mix of retail and entertainment.



Seeking artistic inspiration? Head to the Design Quarter in Fourways or explore the courtyards and stores at 44 Stanley in Milpark, which offers a selection of specialty stores including antiques, decor, books, furniture and delicious restaurants. Or opt for the artistic and edgy 27Boxes in the bohemian suburb of Melville, built entirely of shipping containers – a South African first.

In Pretoria, the centrally located Brooklyn Mall offers over 250 retail stores and a wide range of restaurants, as well as in- and outdoor mini-golf, while

FUN FACT:
60% of tourists from the rest of the continent cite shopping as their main reason for visiting Gauteng.