

EASTERN CAPE

A compelling film and television destination



EASTERN CAPE
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

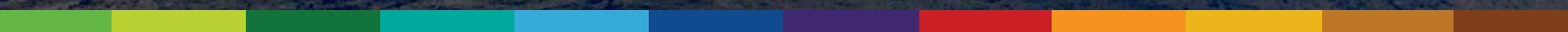


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About THE ECDC

The Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC) is an economic development agency established to stimulate economic growth and development in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa. The ECDC's mandate is to plan, finance, co-ordinate, market, promote and implement development of the province and its people in the fields of industry, commerce, agriculture, transport, the creative industries and finance. This mandate is aligned to the Eastern Cape's Provincial Economic Development Strategy.

What we do

In pursuit of its mandate, the ECDC has the following strategic thrusts to align to the Medium-Term Strategic Framework, the National Development Plan 2030 and the Provincial Development Plan, guided by these Strategic Themes:

- (1) Economic transformation, inclusive growth and competitiveness
- (2) Customer focused solutions
- (3) Operational efficiency and financial sustainability
- (4) Pioneering innovation in the key growth sectors,
- (5) Attracting and retaining the best talent in the sector.



Scene: 01

OneStop Shop FILM INVESTMENT LOCATION

The Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC) is on an exciting film sector commercialisation project aimed at elevating the province into a premier film locations destination. The support for the sector is driven by socio-economic returns associated with reputable high value and high impact film productions. This is being achieved through the promotion of ideal leisure destinations for tourism as well as skills transfer for small business development.

With international filmmakers taking a keen interest in South Africa's most attractive and distinct locations for their projects, the Eastern Cape intends to support the industry to leverage on its untapped potential to attract investment.

The province is full of untapped opportunities and is open to potential investors with a keen interest in establishing their productions in the Eastern Cape. The province is endowed with cinematic landscapes with 800 kilometres of unspoilt coastline and breath-taking locations that will suit any desired film setting. The ECDC provides a one-stop-shop location for your commercial film investment needs. The Corporation is here to assist you in positioning your film or television project in South Africa's ideal investment destination.

As a result, the ECDC has pioneered the establishment of the Eastern Cape Investment Film Fund (ECIFF) in 2019. The ECIFF is attracting direct and indirect investments and job creation while promoting the province as a film destination of choice. The film industry supports a dynamic and creative economy, employing people with a diverse skills set and trades which enhances SMME participation and opportunities for skills transfer for young people.

The fund has been instrumental in stimulating the film industry value chain with award-winning productions being produced and supported in the province. These productions have had positive spin-offs for local SMMEs who are active participants.

The province is already sowing the benefits of these interventions in the sector. The Eastern Cape is the proud home of the popular international reality show Survivor South Africa. Season 8 of the show was shot in the picturesque Wild Coast and Season 9 of Survivor South Africa was shot at the Great Fish River Resort in the Amathole District Municipality.

The ECDC invites you take advantage of the extensive support initiatives designed to promote the province as a preferred film production destination. There are several opportunities for investors in the film sector which ECDC is happy to share with you.

You will love working here! The Eastern Cape's positive lifestyle experience boosts general happiness and hospitality amongst its people.

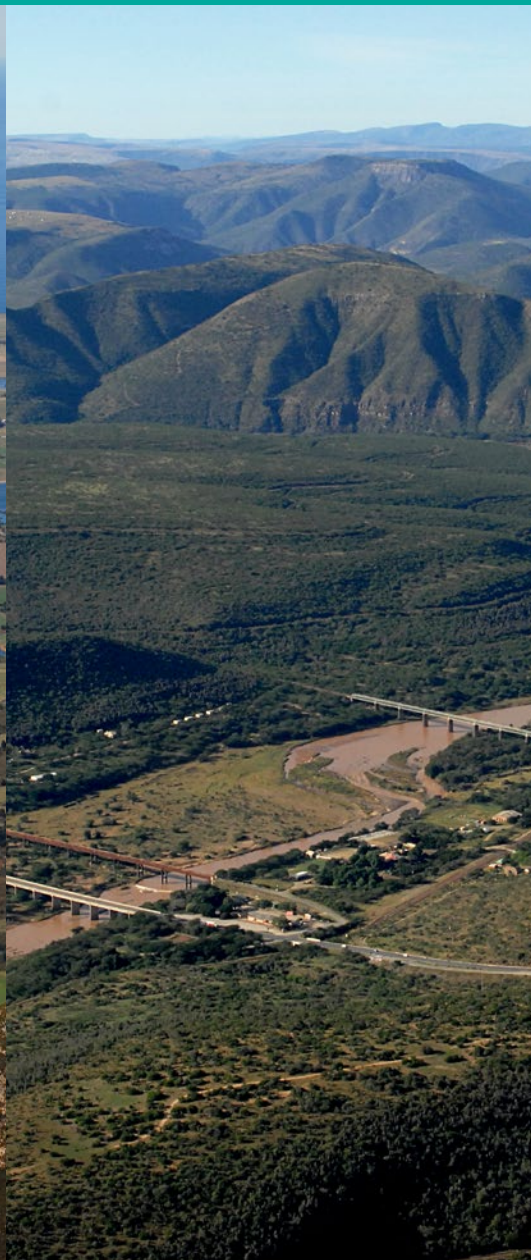
This, in turn, creates a productive work environment and many international companies enjoy the superior workforce and logistical advantages offered by the province.

Talk to us about our investment support instruments to facilitate the completion of your project.

Make the Eastern Cape your filmmaking destination where you will find plenty of support services and crew for your film, a temperate climate and beautiful, authentic locations!

We look forward to welcoming you to explore the Eastern Cape, where every location is a story waiting to be told. From its stunning beaches to its majestic mountains, the Eastern Cape's diverse landscapes provide the perfect backdrop for unforgettable films.





Eastern Cape FILM INVESTMENT FUND

The Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC) recognises the value of positioning the Eastern Cape as a preferred destination for hosting local, as well as international film and television productions. This positioning is affirmed by the Eastern Cape's breath-taking film and television locations. In 2019, the Eastern Cape Development Corporation established the Eastern Cape Film Investment Fund (ECFIF), aimed at promoting the Eastern Cape province as a premier film destination.

Objectives of the ECFIF

- To promote the province of the Eastern Cape with its breathtaking locations, untapped opportunities, and unique biodiversity as a preferred film destination.
- To provide investment funding to qualifying productions that choose the Eastern Cape province as their film destination of choice.
- To strengthen the growth of the film industry through investment promotion, job creation, and skills development within the province.

The Eastern Cape Film Investment Fund is available in two categories:

(a) Production Funding

- Feature Film
- Drama/TV Series
- Reality Shows
- Telenovela's
- Documentaries
- Animations

(b) Microfilm Funding

- Short Films
- Documentaries
- Short TV formats

Qualifying criteria

- Registered South African production company
- Secure at least 60% of the total budget
- Provide distribution or commission agreement
- Spend at least 60% of the production budget in the Eastern Cape
- At least 50% of the principal photography must be shot in the Eastern Cape
- Provide a detailed skills transfer or development programme
- Employ local filmmakers
- Co-production, international production company must work with a registered South African production company to qualify

For more information and to download application forms, please visit:
www.ecdc.co.za/ecinvestmentfilmfund



Scene: 02

What we have DONE

2023
2022

GQEBERHA: THE EMPIRE SEASON 1 & 2

Genre: Telenovela

Summary: Gqeberha: The Empire follows themes of dynasty, family, love, betrayal, polygamy and jealousy.

Location: Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality, Eastern Cape



2023

TEMPTING FORTUNE

Genre: Reality Show

Summary: 12 strangers will spend 19 days in paradise. They will arrive with basic survival gear. To win the prize, they will have to resist the temptation to spend any of it.

Stars: Paddy McGuinness
Location: Amathole District Municipality, Eastern Cape



2023

THE QUEENSTOWN KINGS

Genre: Drama, sport

Director: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka

Writer: Clyde Berning, Jahmil X.T. Qubeka

Summary: A prodigious young soccer player from rural Queenstown must face the return of his washed-up, pro-footballer father, and navigate the choice between his team's success and his own dreams.

Stars: William Adams, Athenkosi Cwele, Gcinuhlanga Dibi
Location: Chris Hani District Municipality, Eastern Cape

2022
2021

DAM SEASON 1 & 2

Director: Alex Yazbek

Writer: Alex Yazbek, Jake Riddell

Summary: Set in an Eastern Cape farming community, the story follows Yola who returns home from Chile for her father's funeral, only to be met by the ghosts of her past.

Stars: Lea Vivier, Pallance Dladla, Natasha Loring
Location: Amathole District Municipality, Eastern Cape



2022

WILD IS THE WIND

Genre: Crime, drama

Director: Fabian Medea

Writer: Fabian Medea

Summary: Racial tensions and corruption come to a head in a small, segregated town after the police find the body of a young Afrikaner girl in the bush.

Stars: Mothusi Magano, Frank Rautenbach, Chris Chameleon
Location: Sarah Baartman District Municipality, Eastern Cape

The ECDC supports various film projects which elevate the province at international and local film festivals. The high quality of these productions has led to an increased interest in the provinces potential in the sector. Moreover, these productions have delivered significant economic returns for the Eastern Cape and for investors. The province is delighted to being associated with these productions and we continue to scope and attract investor interest in exploiting the abundant potential inherent in the sector.



2022

BLOOD PSALMS

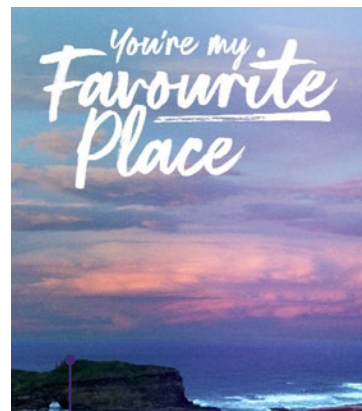
Genre: Action, drama, fantasy
Director: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka
Writer: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka
Summary: Set in ancient Africa, one thousand days after the fall of Atlantis, 'Blood Psalms' explores the story of the five surviving houses of Kemet as they find themselves beset with fears of a prophesied end days.
Stars: Mothusi Magano. Sello Maake Ka-Ncube. Faith Baloyi
Location: Amathole, Sarah Baartman and O.R district municipalities, Eastern Cape and other provinces



2022

SURVIVOR SOUTH AFRICA RETURN OF THE OUTCAST SEASON 9

Genre: Reality Show
Presenter: Nico Panagio
Winners: Dino Paulo
Location: Amathole District Municipality, Eastern Cape



2022

YOU'RE MY FAVOURITE PLACE

Genre: Drama
Director: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka
Writer: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka
Summary: On the last day of their high school career, four friends from Duncan Village go on a life-defining road trip, by stealing a taxi and heading to the remote landmark of 'Hole in the Wall', where Xhosa legend has it you can talk to the dead.
Stars: Awethu Hleli, Tumie Ngumla, Khayakazi Kula and Niza Jay
Location: Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, Eastern cape



2021

KAALGAT KAREL

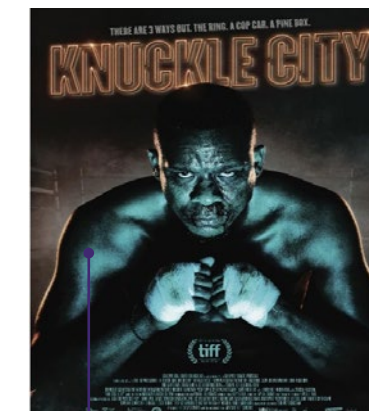
Genre: Comedy, drama and romance
Director: Meg Rickards
Writer: Paul Egan . Meg Rickards
Summary: A hapless stalker, seeking to win the heart of a strait-laced single mom, must find a way to bear his soul rather than his buttocks.
Stars: Christia Visser. Schalk Bezuidenhout. Tracey-Lee Oliver
Location: Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, Eastern cape



2020

SURVIVOR SOUTH AFRICA IMMUNITY ISLAND SEASON 8

Genre: Reality Show
Presenter: Nico Panagio
Winners: Nicole Wilmans
Locations: Alfred Nzo District Municipality, Eastern Cape



2019

KNUCKLE CITY

Genre: Crime
Director: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka
Writer: Jahmil X.T. Qubeka
Summary: An aging, womanising professional boxer and his career-criminal brother take one last shot at success and get more than they've bargained for.
Stars: Angela Sithole. Sivuyile Ngesi. Zolisa Xaluva
Location: Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, Eastern cape

Scene: 05

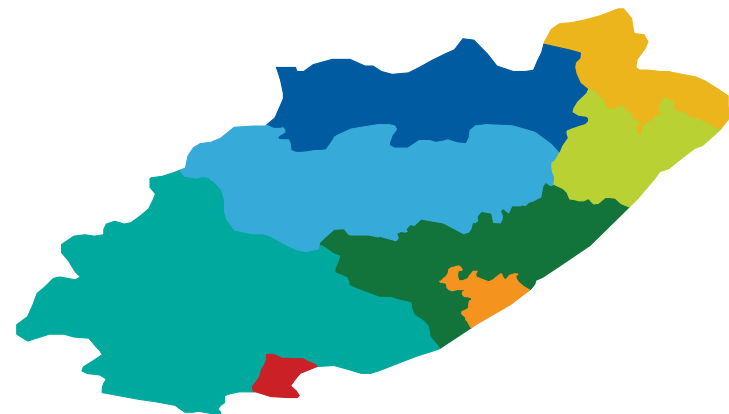
The EASTERN CAPE

Located in the south-eastern part of South Africa, the Eastern Cape is a destination of unmatched natural beauty—from the warm Indian Ocean to the vast plains of the Camdeboo, stretching from the foothills of the Sneeu Berg Mountains in the north to the rugged Baviaanskloof wilderness area in the south. The Baviaanskloof is renowned as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Site because of its extreme floristic diversity.

The province of the Eastern Cape is endowed with cinematic landscapes, boasting 800 kilometres of unspoilt coastline and breath-taking locations that will suit any desired film setting. The region's breath-taking locations with unique cultural traditions and historical landmarks provide rich storytelling opportunities and authenticity in filmmaking.

The Eastern Cape is the only place in the world that offers sightings of the Big 7 (lion, leopard, rhino, elephant, buffalo, Southern Right whales, and Great White sharks) in a malaria-free environment. The province has more 'sunshine' days than any other South African province—more than 300

out of 365 days are sunny. Most significantly, the Eastern Cape is the birthplace of several of South Africa's most celebrated legends, notably the late global icon and humanitarian, Nelson Mandela.



Nelson Mandela Bay



Buffalo City Metro



Amathole



OR Tambo



Chris Hani



Joe Gqabi

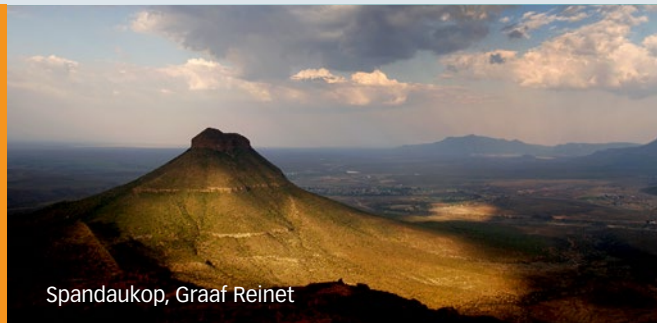


Alfred Nzo



Sarah Baartman





Spandaukop, Graaf Reinet



Makhanda

SARAH BAARTMAN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Sarah Baartman District encompasses The Garden Route, Karoo, Frontier Country and the Eastern Cape's largest metropolitan; Nelson Mandela Bay. On the Garden Route, you will discover some of the most dramatic and unspoiled lands in the country, most notable of which is the Tsitsikamma Reserves evergreen forests.

The seaside towns of Jeffrey's Bay and Cape St Francis are home to some of the world's best surf beaches and the nearby Baviaanskloof Nature Reserve is one of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots and listed as a Unesco World Heritage Site.

The Karoo is a huge semi-desert of vast rugged beauty and is dominated by flat plains, rocky mountains, and endless fields of grassland vegetation. Nestled amongst the Karoo scenery lies the frontier town of Graaff-Reinet. South Africa's fourth oldest town, is still populated with well-maintained buildings dating back to the 1700s.



Garden Route

NELSON MANDELA BAY METRO

Nelson Mandela Bay is home to one of South Africa's major cities in the Eastern Cape. It is a modern-day city and contains all the goods and services you would expect from any major centre in the world including the internationally recognised film school, AFDA.

Known as the "Friendly City", it offers a large and diverse selection of scene setters including historical heritage sites, a magnificent beachfront promenade and a bustling city centre complete with high rise buildings and well-maintained highways and bi-ways. The city's airport is known as the 10 minute airport as you are never more than ten minutes' drive from areas of importance in the city. Gqeberha's climate is rated as the 4th best of any coastal city in the world, therefore outdoor attractions and activities are plentiful. The bay has a thriving marine environment and has been named The Bottlenose Dolphin Capital of the World.



Bird Island



Dolphins at Woody Cape Coast



Gqeberha Beach Front

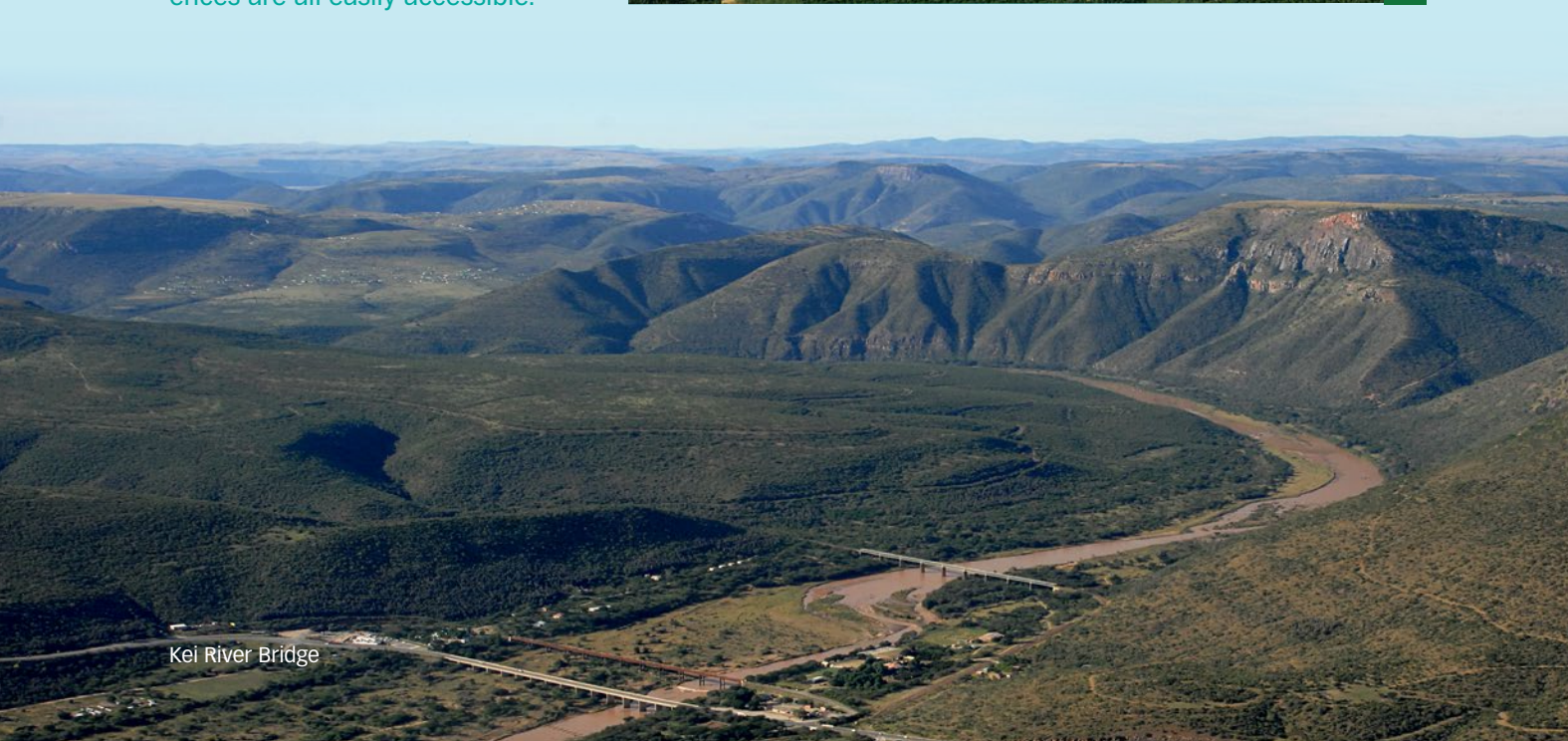
AMATHOLE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Amathole District stretches along the Sunshine Coast from the Fish River Mouth, along the Eastern Seaboard, up to the Wild Coast. It includes the metro of Buffalo City and various towns dot the landscape most popular being Hogsback which is where J.R.R. Tolkien found inspiration in the mountainous forests for his book series of The Lord of the Rings.

The district encompasses numerous and beautiful rivers and estuaries as well as charming sea-side hamlets such as Hamburg and Wavecrest, forest trails, dramatic cliffs and unique experiences are all easily accessible.



Citrus Farm, Fort Beaufort



Kei River Bridge

BUFFALO CITY METRO

Buffalo City is a laidback city on the sunshine coast and is also known as the gateway to the Wild Coast. Famous for its long white sand beaches and consistent surf, it is an ocean lover's paradise. Though Buffalo City has various productive industries it still holds a certain holiday town charm.

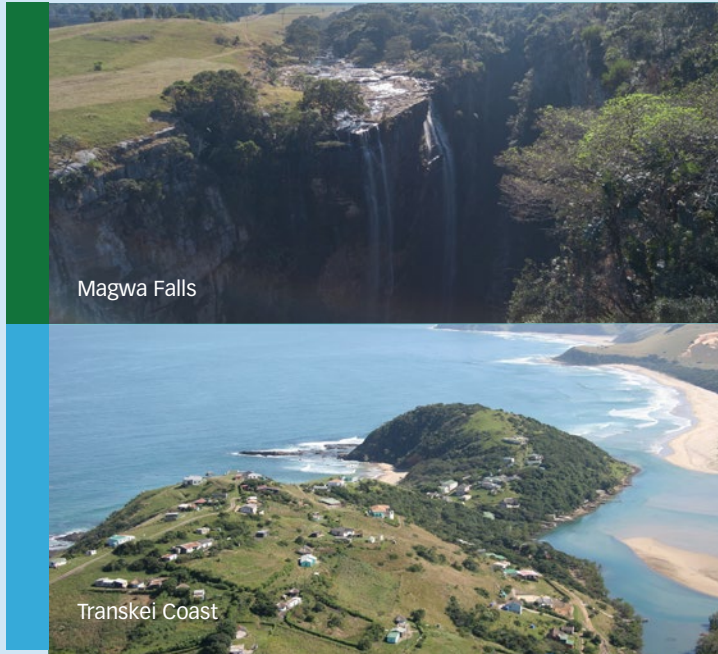
The city's history is also evident as several well-preserved examples of 19th-century architecture can still be seen in the city centre. Only 15km away is the urban township of Mdantsane, renowned for producing some of the world's best boxers, it is affectionately known as "The Home of Boxing."

Buffalo City's close proximity to game parks and nature reserves is something visitors find most amazing. Within minutes of leaving the city, spotting wild buck, giraffe and even elephant is not uncommon.

As an addition to filming here; The Eastern Cape Film Hub has made its home in Buffalo City and can offer access to necessary equipment, information and personnel. Buffalo City boasts South Africa's only river port and is well situated for servicing the industrial sector. With the airport only seven kilometres away, transport planning and logistics will be a breeze.



East London Port



Magwa Falls

Transkei Coast

OR TAMBO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The most famous coastline on the African continent lies within the OR Tambo District. The Wild Coast has 200km of pristine beaches, rolling green hills and valleys. A location scouts dream destination! The town of Port St Johns provides the perfect base from which to explore and the scenery that the Gates of St John Provide is simply magnificent.

The main centre of the OR Tambo District is Mthatha where the beautiful Nelson Mandela Museum resides. Mkambati Nature Reserve is nothing shy of an African coastal paradise and nearby Mbotyi offers additional ocean, forest and river views.

The impressive Magwa Falls lies within a large tea plantation, it's curtain of water, falls 140 meters into a narrow gorge, it truly is a natural wonder.

ALFRED NZO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Alfred Nzo District, known for spectacular mountain scenery of the Southern Drakensberg and the source of the Mzimvubu River. The area is steeped in African culture and contains many traditional Villages. The area is rugged, rural and beautiful.



Izinini Forest, Mbizana

Mzimvubu Basin



Mzimvubu River

JOE GQABI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Barkly East, Tiffindell and the Oviston Reserve, amongst others, make up the Joe Gqabi District. It is one of the few areas in South Africa where winter snowfall is heavy enough for winter sports to be pursued, and from the banks of the picturesque Langkloof River, the district boasts the finest trout fishing in the country.



CHRIS HANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Chris Hani District landscape ranges from grassland hills to the arid Karoo scrubland and is characterised by its rural settlements and agricultural activities. The centre of the district is Komani, which is subsequently also the centre of the Eastern Cape.

Komani's beautiful suburbs, large gardens and open places of flowers have earned it the nickname, "Rose Capital of South Africa".



Scene: 04

Eastern Cape FILM EXPO

Every year in June, the Eastern Cape Development Corporation hosts the Eastern Cape Film Expo. Hosted in collaboration with provincial, national and international stakeholders, the film expo provides filmmakers with an opportunity to network with industry experts. The expo also exposes filmmakers to new developments (strategies, policies and programmes) related to the film industry. It also affords industry professionals an opportunity to forge and strengthen business relationships.





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DEVELOPMENT
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