



1 DAY

FROM 1855 TO THE PRESENT

Discover one of South Africa's three capital cities. Your personal Golden Moon Adventures guide will collect you from your hotel and transport you to the sights of Pretoria. The tour lasts four to five hours and includes visits to the Voortrekker Monument, a drive past Kruger House and Church Square, the Union Buildings and the Transvaal Museum.



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VOORTREKKER MONUMENT

The Voortrekker Monument was built in testament to the Voortrekkers (pioneers) that endured the journey inland after leaving the then Cape Colony between 1835 and 1854. Designed by architect Gerard Moerdijk, who stated he design the building to 'stand for a thousand years in order to describe the history and meaning of the Great Trek to its descendants.'

The prominent and majestic structure is perched atop a hill in the northern part of Pretoria and can be seen from all directions as you approach Pretoria. It is one of the top ten cultural and historical visitor attractions in South Africa.

This component of your tour will take approximately two-and-a-half hours.

KRUGER HOUSE

This is the magnificent home in which President Paul Kruger lived between 1883 and 1901 before he left South Africa for exile in Europe.

Paul Kruger served as president of the South African Republic and was renowned internationally for his continuous struggle for freedom of the Afrikaners during the Second Boer War (1899–1902). The world-famous Kruger National Park as well as the solid gold Kruger Rand coin are named after him.

Interestingly the home was constructed of cement mixed with milk – not water – to compensate for what was perceived to be the poor quality of the cement of the time. The house was one of the first in the city to make use of electricity and telephones.

The home has been restored to reflect the era during which Oom (Uncle) Paul, as he was fondly known, and second wife Gezina lived there. Amongst the curiosities is a knife that Paul Kruger used to amputate his thumb following a shooting incident.

The lions facing outward on the verandah were given to Paul Kruger as a 1896 birthday gift from mining magnate Barney Barnato.

This stage of your Pretoria tour will take about one hour.





Your next stop, just a few blocks away, is Church Square, where Paul Kruger's statue can be seen.

CHURCH SQUARE

Church Square, in the historical centre of Pretoria, was originally named Market Square. The original mud-walled church was razed to the ground in 1882, and replaced by the present day, and far more majestic structure. During the early years open markets were frequently hosted on the square, and this also marks the location of the community's first bar: the Hole in the Wall.

The imposing statue of Oom Paul is surrounded by a lower tier with statues of four anonymous Boer soldiers.

A number of significant buildings bordering the square include the Palace of Justice, the Tudor Chambers, the Ou Raadsaal (council chambers), the Capitol Theatre and the General Post Office, designed by John Cleland.

UNION BUILDINGS



The proud sandstone Union Buildings were designed by Sir Herbert Baker, and construction started in 1910 with completion in 1913. The building is a majestic 285-metres long, and the two wings symbolise the unity of the English and Afrikaans cultures after the devastating Anglo Boer War.

As the Union Buildings host the presidential offices entrance to the building itself is prohibited. Instead you may make the most of the stunning terraced gardens, boasting a broad variety of indigenous plants. A number of monuments are present on the grounds, including that of the first South African president,



General Louis Botha. Also on the grounds of the Union Buildings is the Delville Wood Memorial, erected in memory of the South African soldiers who fell during the Great War.

The historically significant inauguration of President Nelson Mandela took place in front of the Union Buildings.

THE TRANSVAAL MUSEUM

Originating from 1892 and one of South Africa's leading natural history museums, the Transvaal Museum is always a fascinating outing for all ages. After moving to a number of locations the museum established its current base in 1925, and is decorated with the skeletons of dinosaurs and a whale.

The museum boasts a vast collection of taxidermy and fossils.

Part of the museum collection remained behind at a former location and is known as the National Cultural History Museum.

INCLUDED

- Experienced and knowledgeable Golden Moon Adventures guide
- Entry to the Voortrekker Monument
- Entry to the Transvaal Museum
- Transport
- Permits and tolls
- Level 2 first-aid personnel

EXCLUDED

- Lunch, beverages and gratuities
- Personal purchases