

## Cape Town

By Marion Whitehead

### 1 hour away Cape Vue, Franschhoek

**The low-down:** You get 360-degree mountain views at this purpose-built guesthouse, formerly known as Cape Vineyard, which is nestled among the vines a short walk from the Huguenot Monument. All four airy en suite bedrooms have their own entrances and come with safes, irons and



- After a hard day's sightseeing, a spell next to the sparkling pool at Cape Vue will restore you.

ironing boards, hairdryers and good-quality cotton bed linen. The two larger rooms have an extra single bed, as well as a king-size one. There's a television and Internet facility in the large lounge and guests are welcome to use the fridge in the hall.

**Food:** A delicious cooked breakfast, starting with fresh fruit salad, is served on the patio under a vine pergola in fine weather.

**Children:** By arrangement.

**Need to know:** Relax at the swimming pool in the pretty garden in the late afternoon and you'll see a flock of guinea fowls waiting to be fed. The village is close enough to stroll to for lunch and to browse the many shops and galleries. Ask hosts Michael and Grace Buchanan-Clarke which local wines use the fruits of their vines.

**\$\$ to \$\$\$:** B&B R275 to R325 a person a night sharing. Ask about winter specials.

**Contact:** Tel 021-876-2312, e-mail cvguesthouse@mweb.co.za, web www.cvguesthouse.com.

### 1 hour away Cook's Cottage, Franschhoek

**The low-down:** In the heart of the village, tucked away behind a tall hedge, this clever garage conversion with extra loft space comes as a surprise. The open-plan living area is tastefully furnished with comfy couches and has a large fireplace, DSTv and DVD player. The downstairs bedroom has a queen-size bed and is across the passage from a shower bathroom. The upstairs en suite bedroom can be configured as two singles or a king-size bed. There's a separate toilet.

**Food:** Self-catering in a well-equipped kitchen adjacent to a large dining table, so the cook's efforts are part of the entertainment and the conversation can flow. There's a separate scullery with a microwave and fridge – you needn't have the dirty dishes stare at you while you put your feet up in front of the fire.

**Children:** Over 12s welcome.

**Need to know:** There's an ADSL broadband connection in the study area upstairs and a plunge pool in the tiny front garden. A shady side patio is equipped with a kettle braai. You can leave your car parked in the driveway and stroll to restaurants, galleries and local attractions.

**\$\$\$:** R1 300 to R2 000 a night (sleeps four), depending on season.

**Contact:** Tel 021-876-4229, e-mail bandoola@mweb.co.za, web www.cookscottage.co.za.



- Cook's Cottage is a clever garage conversion
- tucked away in a quiet side street in Franschhoek.

### 1 hour away Waves' Break, Betty's Bay

**The low-down:** It doesn't look like much from the road, but this comfortable beach house has a seaside spot with views across the bay to Hangklip Mountain and easy access to Silver Sands beach where you can swim and go crazy on the famously high, steep dune on a sandboard. The two main bedrooms have en suite bathrooms and sliding doors onto patios. The third bedroom has access to bathrooms only via the main bedrooms, but there is an extra loo off the lounge. Large is a word that applies to the living area, its sink-in sofas, fireplace and 10-seater dining table.



- Settle into a comfy sofa in front of the fireplace in the large living room at Waves' Break for a little R&R.

**Food:** Self-catering in an open-plan kitchen that includes a microwave stove and dishwasher. Or drive into the village to sample the restaurants' fare.

**Children:** Plenty of place to play on a large lawn bordering the seashore.

**Need to know:** The bathrooms are rather old-fashioned. Remember to bring your own DSTv sim card as well as bed linen and towels (these can also be hired for a fee).

**\$\$ to \$\$\$:** From R755 a night for two in low season to R1 555 a night for six in high season holiday periods.

**Contact:** Tel 028-271-5775, e-mail info@holidayscape.co.za, web www.holidayscape.co.za.