St James Guesthouses

The Most Elegant Retreats on the False Bay Coast
ST JAMES HIGHLIGHTS

A small coastal Mediterranean-style stretch.

DINING
The harbour itself has charming restaurants offering home-style cuisine and fine-dining experiences.
- Delis.
- Sidewalk cafés.
- Fresh fish can be bought from local fishermen a five-minute walk away.

SHOPPING
- Boutiques.
- Crafts and curios.
- Novel antique shops.
- Art galleries.

CULTURE & HISTORY

Colourful Victorian bathing boxes and grand old houses reflect the splendour of the early gold- and diamond-mining era.
- Simon’s Town.
- Local markets.
- Museums.

BEACHES

Over the road are the famous tidal pools and surfing beaches where an early morning swim is a favourite pastime.
- Boulders Beach.
- Watersports.

NATURE

Land-based whale watching: in season they appear metres from the shoreline.
- Interesting walks along the historic promenade and up the imposing mountains, which provide an impressive backdrop to all the houses.
- Cape Point.
- Silvermine.

ATTRACTIONS

Kirstenbosch Gardens.
- Table Mountain Cableway.
- Robben Island.
- Winelands.
- Chapman’s Peak Drive.
- Golf.
- Adventure sports, sailing and flying.
The Homestead’s elegant Cape Dutch façade and conservatory is both striking in its contemporary feel yet in total harmony with the well-to-do little suburb of St James. Featuring a tiered back garden with a pool and viewing deck, Homestead’s six sea-facing suites are the epitome of beautiful accommodation showcasing a fusion of old-fashioned seaside charm and vibrant décor equipped with every modern convenience. Built in 1870, the Homestead was a simple thatch-roof dwelling originally owned by Heinrich Hablutzel. Ownership passed through several hands but the house remained relatively unchanged until the 1940s when the Garlick family undertook extensive renovations leaving us with the Cape Dutch style we see today.

Sixty years on, under the ownership of Rovos Rail, the house has undergone a complete rebuild.

1 LEY ROAD - ST JAMES - CAPE TOWN

HOMESTEAD SUITES x 6
• SUPERIOR ±60m²: WEST JONES, HABLUTZEL, AURET and DUGNAM
• DELUXE ±40m²: SCHREINER and PILKINGTON

Garden Suites
Sea view; separate shower, bath and toilet; separate lounge area; fans; underfloor heating; heated towel rail; hairdryer and shaving points; robes and slippers; bespoke amenities; port/sherry decanter; select satellite TV; DVD player; room safe; WiFi. Complimentary: In-room tea tray and snacks and laundry.

HOMESTEAD FEATURES
• Fully-equipped kitchen
• Breakfast room
• Conservatory lounge
• Lounge upstairs with a fireplace
• Computer station
• Bar facilities and wine rack
• Outdoor BBQ/braai deck and garden
• Pool (40m²)
• Gym (available at Seaforth)
• Secure parking
• 24-hour security
• Railway line close by for enthusiasts

INCLUDES
Breakfast, all alcoholic and other beverages, in-room tea tray and snacks, laundry, WiFi, parking and concierge services.

EXCLUDES
Lunch, dinner, special chef services, transfers, tour services, telephones and staff gratuities.
ST JAMES GUESTHOUSES

MANOR FEATURES

- Breakfast room
- Dining room
- Sun room
- Large lounge with fireplace
- Library with computer station
- Downstairs bathroom facilities
- Residents bar with fireplace
- Swimming pool (60m²)
- Gym (available at Seaforth)
- Secure parking
- 24-hour security
- Wheelchair access (Boyes suite)
- Railway line is close by for enthusiasts

INCLUDES Breakfast, all alcoholic and other beverages, in-room tea tray and snacks, laundry, WiFi, parking and concierge services.

EXCLUDES Lunch, dinner, special chef services, transfers, tour services, telephones and staff gratuities.

MANOR

Built over 100 years ago, the Manor has an aura of grandeur and old-world charm with a magnificent wood-panelled staircase leading up to the five large suites and a standard twin, each of which bears the name of historic, local characters of St James. The individually decorated rooms reflect the opulent times of a bygone era with gorgeous floral fabrics and calm colours, Persian carpets and early English and South African antiques. Carved into the mountain is a private and wind-protected swimming pool where those reluctant to leave the exclusive environment of the house will no doubt happily while away the warm summer days.

MANOR SUITES x 6

- SUPERIOR ±70m²: VANCOUVER and FINDLAY
- DELUXE ±60m²: GENTRY and BOYES
- STANDARD ±30-40m²: WATERSON and RUDD

Sea view*, separate shower, bath and toilet, separate lounge area*, air con*, underfloor heating*, heated towel rail, hairdryer and shaving points, robes and slippers; bespoke amenities; port/sherry decanter*, select satellite TV, DVD player, safe, WiFi. Complimentary: in-room tea tray and snacks and laundry.

*Except Rudd
**Except Rudd and Waterson

108 MAIN ROAD - ST JAMES - CAPE TOWN
SEAFORTH

Set above the coastal road that wends its way through St James en route to Cape Point, Seaforth was originally built in 1877 by a Mr William Mortimer Farmer as a four-bedroom thatch-roof residence. Destroyed by a fire in 1939 and rebuilt as a double storey in 1940, the house was refurbished in 2010 to create a contemporary guesthouse with a casual but elegant atmosphere in keeping with its seaside village location. Strewn with Arabic rugs, fashionable fabrics, antiques and handmade South African furniture, the three individually designed bedrooms are furnished in soft cerise, greens and blues with original paintings by local artists such as Peter Jander and Eugene Marais. The downstairs facilities are as engaging and stylish and flow onto the verandah and pool. Seaforth is perfect to hire as a unit for a family or group of friends.

SEAFORTH FEATURES
• Fully-equipped kitchen (self-catering)
• Breakfast room
• Lounge with fireplace
• Family TV room
• Library with computer station
• Downstairs bathroom facilities
• Bar facilities
• Swimming pool (40m²) and gym
• Secure parking
• 24-hour security
• Railway line close by for enthusiasts

INCLUDES
Breakfast, all alcoholic and other beverages, in-room tea tray and snacks, laundry, WiFi, parking and concierge services.

EXCLUDES
Lunch, dinner, special chef services, transfers, tours, telephones and staff gratuities.
ST JAMES GUESTHOUSES

ST JAMES HISTORY


St James was named after the Roman Catholic Church built here in 1852. Before the railway arrived at Kalk Bay on 5 May 1883, the main road from Muizenberg to Kalk Bay was sparsely populated. The condition of the road was poor with many potholes, large boulders and no pavements or footways. In those early days St James laid claim to approximately 14 houses, which had thatched roofs and were built of stone, plaster and limewash.

The railway reached St James in March 1883 and two months later the train service opened as far as Kalk Bay. Known as ‘The St James Church Halt’, trains stopped here ‘on request’ until it was upgraded in 1886 and appeared on the Cape Government Railways timetables as St James. It was now a compulsory stopping place and enjoyed the luxury of a raised platform and shed. By December 1889, as St James grew in popularity, it became imperative that a stationmaster be appointed. This resulted in finding suitable accommodation. After a great deal of arguing within Cape Government Railways circles as to whether a stationmaster’s quarters should be rented or built, it was finally resolved to build as it was argued that no suitable stationmaster could be attracted without decent facilities. The St James Station served the community for many years until the requirements of a growing population made it necessary to enlarge the premises. Construction of the new station, which still operates today, was completed in 1918.

Many of the homes in St James have an interesting history not only from an architectural point of view, but also because of the length of time some of the families have lived in them, in fact some still do so to this day. St James is a great place to stay and, with the proclamation of no fewer than 10 national monuments, the homes have received rightful recognition.

ST JAMES GUESTHOUSES

SEAORTH ‘WALL OF HATE’

A NOTORIOUS TALE OF NEIGHBOURLY DISPUTE

Upon taking ownership of the Homestead in 1867, Heinrich Hablutzel made additions to the existing building, one of which – the ‘Wall of Hate’ – was to gain him notoriety. This occurred after the owner of next door Seaforth House, William Farmer, built a home closer to the main road (despite agreeing not to) and blocked out the view from Homestead across the bay to Simon’s Town. In response, Hablutzel built a high wall between them that cut out part of Seaforth’s view of False Bay and the Hottentots Holland Mountains. A court case ensued where Farmer tried to compel Hablutzel to demolish the wall, but he lost the case. Hablutzel then raised the wall by another two metres. He owned Homestead for 35 years and sold it in 1902 to William West Jones, the first Archbishop of Cape Town.