



Shangri-La



# DECEMBER DREAMING

Zone out at one of these local holiday escapes



Webersburg Manor House

## BEST FOR: Couples

While big-name estates might lure you to the winelands, seek out a tucked-away sanctuary at which to stay. Webersburg Wine Estate near Stellenbosch describes its accommodation as “romantic, relaxed and refined” – and we couldn’t agree more. While there are beautifully decorated rooms in the Jonkershuis (historically the residence of the farmer’s eldest son) and charming cottages, it’s the original manor, built in 1786, that you should rest your head. This handsome Cape Dutch building boasts yellowwood floors and ceilings and has been decorated with antique furniture and plush fabrics. This expansive house

can be booked privately and peaceful lounges and an inviting swimming pool could easily make you feel as if you’re lodging at a private residence. And let’s not forget the sublime wine. We recommend you and your plus one toast in the New Year with a bottle of the estate’s Méthode Cap Classique Brut. Tel: 021 881 3636. Visit: [www.webersburg.co.za](http://www.webersburg.co.za)

## BEST FOR: Families

A dilemma for many parents in need of downtime is: “But what will we do with the kids?” Answer: a bush holiday with all the trimmings. Shangri-La Country Hotel & Spa in Modimolle, Limpopo (an hour from Jo’burg) is bang in the

middle of the bushveld and ideal for tired adults with energetic offspring. While you recover your Zen in the spa, the kids will be entertained with a supervised school holiday programme that includes cooking classes, action cricket, touch rugby, swimming pool games, painting and clay-modelling. Once you’ve had your me-time, join them for game-viewing: the hotel’s fenced breeding programme means you’ll see plenty of springbok, impala, nyala and rare antelope species. There’s also adrenaline-pumping fun close by in the form of zip-lining, 4x4 trails, hot-air ballooning, horse-riding and abseiling. Tel: 041 718 1600. Visit: [www.shangrila.co.za](http://www.shangrila.co.za)

## BEST FOR:

### A seaside holiday

Durban beachfront hotels and resorts have long been the haunt of SA’s holiday-makers and now there’s another property worth checking into too. Tsogo Sun’s refurbished Garden Court Marine Parade badly needed a makeover after 30 years of guests streaming in and out of its doors. Although freshened up and modernised, the core elements of its Seventies architecture have been retained to ensure the property doesn’t lose its vintage cool. It features 352 sea-facing rooms and a pool on the 30<sup>th</sup> floor – think expansive views of the beachfront, harbour and city.



Red Tin Roof