



## Old Fort



The ramparts of the Old Fort were built by Paul Kruger from 1893 to protect the Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek (ZAR) from the threat of British invasion, and to keep watch over the miners flocking to find gold in the village below. Reverting to a jail after the South African Anglo Boer War, all male prisoners passed through the foreboding tunnel beneath the ramparts, but only whites were held in the Old Fort itself. One notable exception was Nelson Mandela, who was given a bed in the hospital section on his arrest in 1962. Today you can visit the Mandela Cell exhibition that documents Mandela's time at the Old Fort. Visitors can unearth the stories behind the musty cells and peeling courtyards of Johannesburg's most intriguing building.

## Women's Gaol



Built in 1909, the grace of this Victorian brick building obscures the pain and humiliation suffered by the many women detained within it. The jail held black and white women in separate sections. The infamous murderess, Daisy de Melker was held here, as were prominent activists Winnie Madikizela-Mandela and Albertina Sisulu. Ironically the vast majority of inmates were neither murderers nor activists. They were women arrested for pass offences or illegal occupations such as beer brewing. The hoarding, which protects the building, has been transformed into a temporary exhibition that honours the contribution of women to the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

## Constitutional Court



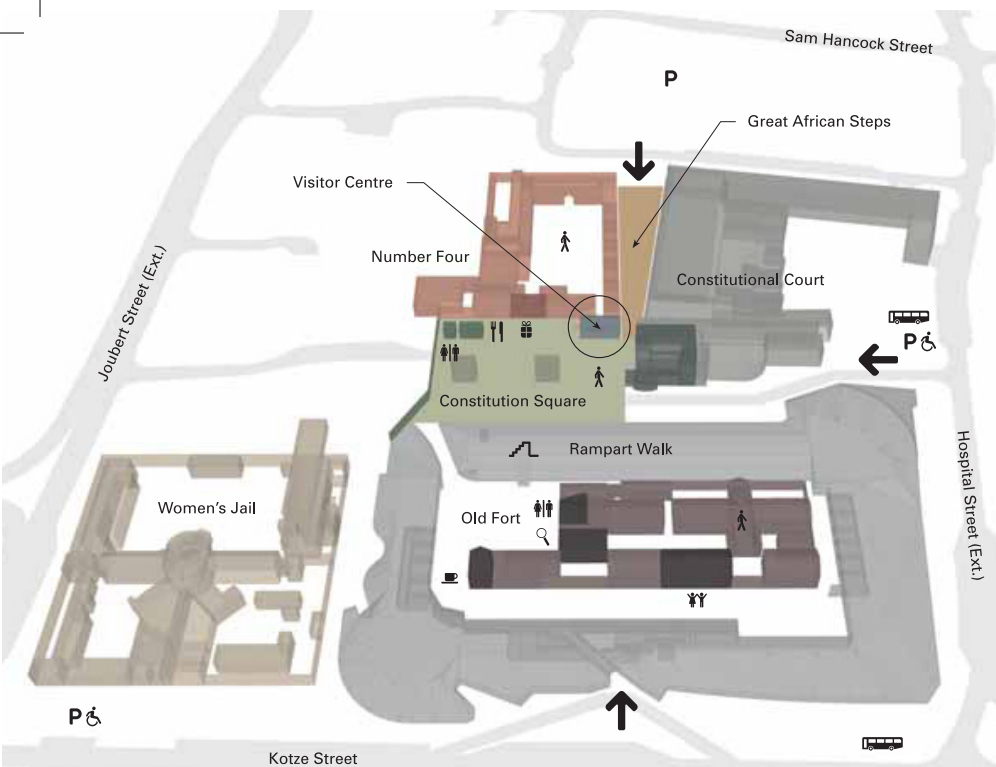
The Constitutional Court is the home of the Constitution, the highest law of the land. Like the Constitution itself, the Court was designed to be open, accessible and transparent. The Court is built around the remaining stairwells of the old Awaiting Trial Block. The foyer of the Court is a light-filled area populated by slanting columns, an architectural metaphor for trees under which African villagers traditionally congregated to discuss matters of social importance with elders. Any member of the public may attend court hearings, or may enter the building to view the many individually commissioned artworks on display.

## Number Four



Number Four is the place where thousands of black men were imprisoned and brutalised, but it is also the place where many learned to survive and defy their jailors. Many of the prisoners were guilty of non-political crimes, but many tell foul of race laws or were guilty of resisting these laws, such as Mahatma Gandhi and Robert Sobukwe. A visit to the Number Four exhibition raises the question of who is a criminal and evokes the experience of what it was like to be imprisoned in this place of darkness.





### Location Map

	Great African Steps		Parking
	Visitor Centre		Tourist Bus Stop
	Number Four		Coffee Shop
	Constitution Square		Book Shop
	Old Fort		Toilets
	Women's Jail		Exhibitions
	Constitutional Court		Rampart Walk

## What is Constitution Hill?

Nowhere can the story of South Africa's turbulent past and its extraordinary transition to democracy be told as it is at Constitution Hill. This National Heritage site has witnessed over a century of South Africa's history. From rebellious Boer soldiers who fought with the British soldiers at the turn of the century, the youth caught up in the Soweto Uprising, to the dawn of democracy and the building of South Africa's Constitutional Court, Constitution Hill has witnessed it all.

The Flame of Democracy and beam of light outside the Constitutional Court in the Awaiting Trial block were lit by Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe with a flame ignited by former President Nelson Mandela. The Flame signifies the commitment of the country to democracy, human rights and constitutionalism.

Visit Constitution Hill and learn about the injustices of South Africa's past while observing the process by which freedom was won and is now protected.

Exhibitions and guided tours have been designed as an interactive experience, offering visitors the opportunity to participate in the building of Constitution Hill.

### The Old Fort Coffee Shop

Opening times:  
Monday - Friday: 08h30 - 17h00  
Saturday: 10h00 - 15h00  
Situating at the Old Fort Parade Ground

### Book Shop

Opening times:  
Monday - Friday: 08h30 - 17h00  
Saturday: 10h00 - 15h00  
Situating next to the Visitor Centre



### Venue Hire

Constitution Hill hires out a number of unique venues suitable for performances, launches, meetings and other events. **Please call the Venue Hire Coordinator, at:  
Tel: (011) 381-3100 for more information.**

## Visitor Information

### Museum Hours

Open Monday - Friday: 09h00 - 17h00  
Saturday: 10h00 - 15h00  
Closed on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and New Years Day.

Please contact the visitors Centre,  
Tel: (011) 381-3100  
Monday - Friday: 09h00 - 17h00  
For more information.

### Group Sales

Advanced booking is recommended for groups of 10 or more people. For bookings and information call the Visitor Centre,

### Photographs and videos

Photographs and videos are not permitted in the exhibition spaces.

### Special needs

All new exhibition spaces and public facilities at Constitution Hill are wheelchair-friendly. However, because this site is made up of old heritage buildings constructed as prisons, wheelchair access is difficult in some areas.

**Please do not smoke, eat or drink in the exhibition spaces.**

**Please keep all cellphones on silent during tours.**

**Children under 14 must be supervised by an adult at all times.**

### For more information please contact us:

Tel: (011) 381-3100  
E-mail: [info@constitutionhill.org.za](mailto:info@constitutionhill.org.za)  
Website: [www.constitutionhill.org.za](http://www.constitutionhill.org.za)  
 : [facebook.com/Constitution.Hill](https://www.facebook.com/Constitution.Hill)

