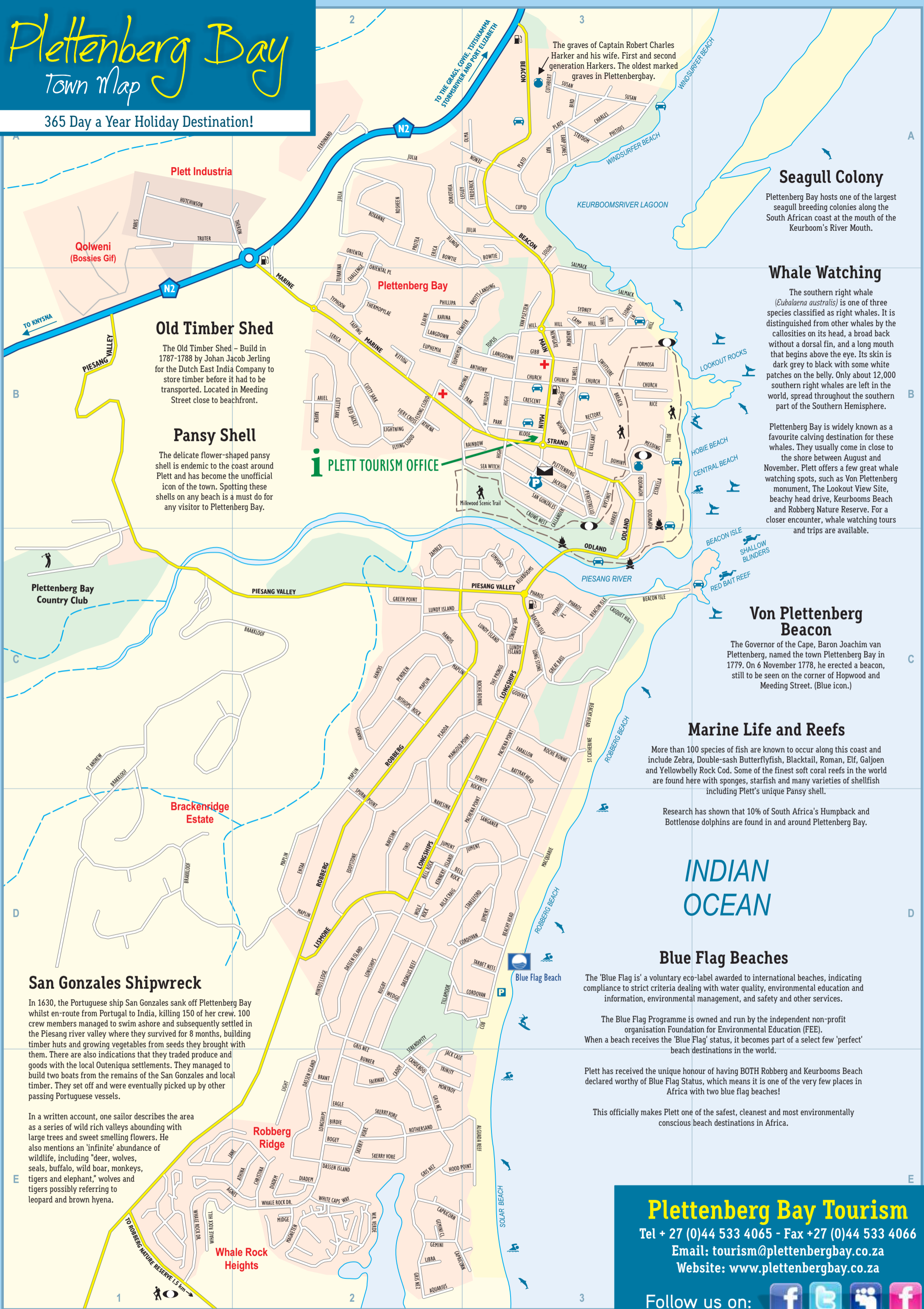


# Plettenberg Bay

## Town Map

365 Day a Year Holiday Destination!



### Seagull Colony

Plettenberg Bay hosts one of the largest seagull breeding colonies along the South African coast at the mouth of the Keurboom's River Mouth.

### Whale Watching

The southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*) is one of three species classified as right whales. It is distinguished from other whales by the callosities on its head, a broad back without a dorsal fin, and a long mouth that begins above the eye. Its skin is dark grey to black with some white patches on the belly. Only about 12,000 southern right whales are left in the world, spread throughout the southern part of the Southern Hemisphere.

Plettenberg Bay is widely known as a favourite calving destination for these whales. They usually come in close to the shore between August and November. Plett offers a few great whale watching spots, such as Von Plettenberg monument, The Lookout View Site, beachy head drive, Keurbooms Beach and Robberg Nature Reserve. For a closer encounter, whale watching tours and trips are available.

### Old Timber Shed

The Old Timber Shed – Built in 1787-1788 by Johan Jacob Jerling for the Dutch East India Company to store timber before it had to be transported. Located in Meeding Street close to beachfront.

### Pansy Shell

The delicate flower-shaped pansy shell is endemic to the coast around Plett and has become the unofficial icon of the town. Spotting these shells on any beach is a must do for any visitor to Plettenberg Bay.

### Von Plettenberg Beacon

The Governor of the Cape, Baron Joachim von Plettenberg, named the town Plettenberg Bay in 1779. On 6 November 1778, he erected a beacon, still to be seen on the corner of Hopwood and Meeding Street. (Blue icon.)

### Marine Life and Reefs

More than 100 species of fish are known to occur along this coast and include Zebra, Double-sash Butterflyfish, Blacktail, Roman, Elf, Gaijoen and Yellowbelly Rock Cod. Some of the finest soft coral reefs in the world are found here with sponges, starfish and many varieties of shellfish including Plett's unique Pansy shell.

Research has shown that 10% of South Africa's Humpback and Bottlenose dolphins are found in and around Plettenberg Bay.

## INDIAN OCEAN

### Blue Flag Beaches

The 'Blue Flag' is a voluntary eco-label awarded to international beaches, indicating compliance to strict criteria dealing with water quality, environmental education and information, environmental management, and safety and other services.

The Blue Flag Programme is owned and run by the independent non-profit organisation Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). When a beach receives the 'Blue Flag' status, it becomes part of a select few 'perfect' beach destinations in the world.

Plett has received the unique honour of having BOTH Robberg and Keurbooms Beach declared worthy of Blue Flag Status, which means it is one of the very few places in Africa with two blue flag beaches!

This officially makes Plett one of the safest, cleanest and most environmentally conscious beach destinations in Africa.

### San Gonzales Shipwreck

In 1630, the Portuguese ship San Gonzales sank off Plettenberg Bay whilst en-route from Portugal to India, killing 150 of her crew. 100 crew members managed to swim ashore and subsequently settled in the Piesang river valley where they survived for 8 months, building timber huts and growing vegetables from seeds they brought with them. There are also indications that they traded produce and goods with the local Outeniqua settlements. They managed to build two boats from the remains of the San Gonzales and local timber. They set off and were eventually picked up by other passing Portuguese vessels.







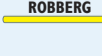
















In a written account, one sailor describes the area as a series of wild rich valleys abounding with large trees and sweet smelling flowers. He also mentions an 'infinite' abundance of wildlife, including "deer, wolves, seals, buffalo, wild boar, monkeys, tigers and elephant," wolves and tigers possibly referring to leopard and brown hyena.

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## Plettenberg Bay Tourism

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Follow us on:    

 National Roads	<b>Towns, Suburbs &amp; Settlements</b>	 Urban / Developed Areas	 Public Parking	 Post Offices	 Biking Trails	 Fishing
 Main Roads / Streets	<b>Establishments &amp; Facilities</b>	 Protected / Nature Areas	 Police	 Hospitals	 Historical Interest	 Surfing
 Secondary Roads / Streets	<b>RIVERS AND BEACHES</b>	 Beaches	 View Points	 Reefs / Diving Spots	 BBQ and Picnic	 Whales
 Rivers & Streams	<b>Protected Areas</b>		 Filling Stations	 Walks / Hikes	 Golf Courses	 Dolphins