

Frances Baard District Municipality

This is the smallest district in the Northern Cape (only 3,4% of the total land surface of the province), but it has the largest proportion of the population and population density (26.3 persons per square km). (Frances Baard District 2005/06 IDP).

Total population	324 798 people
% of total population of province	40,2%

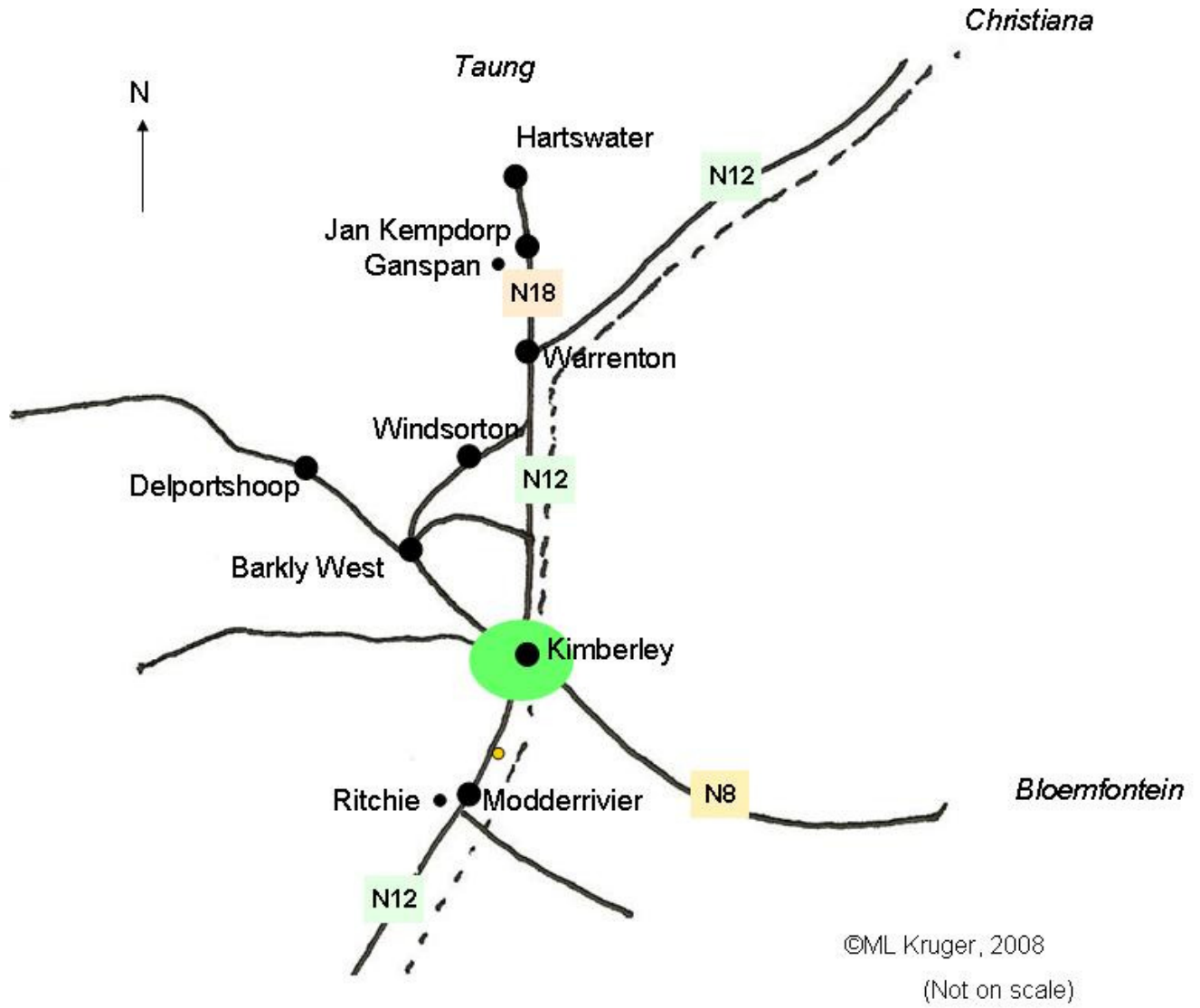
There are four local municipalities included within this district:

- **Sol Plaatje;** *Kimberley, Beaconsfield, Kenilworth, Modderivier, Ritchie, Riverton, Ronald's Vlei, Spytfontein*
- **Dikgatlong;** *BarklyWest, Delportshoop, Longlands, Mount Rupert, Sidney-on-Vaal, Ulco and Windsorton*
- **Magareng;** *Content, Espagsdrif, Warrenton, Windsorton Road*
- **Phokwane;** *Ganspan, Hartswater, Jan Kempdorp, Pampierstad, Valspan*

The Sol Plaatje District Municipality is the largest of the four with about 62% of the population of Frances Baard District Municipality living here. Unlike other districts in the Northern Cape Province, the population is dominated by Africans (BaTswana, BaSotho, amaXhosa, etc. – 60,5%) rather than coloured, as it is the case in other districts (2005/06 IDP). The Vaal-, Harts- and Orange Rivers run through the District (Gaffney's Local Government in SA 2004-2006).

In this component, we will focus on Kimberley, which falls within the Sol Plaatje local municipality and is the seat of the District Municipality and the Northern Cape legislature.

The other three local municipalities will be discussed in Component 2 of this Module.



Kimberley	Population 62526 (census 2001)	Altitude:1222m/4009ft	Frances Baard District Municipality (Diamond Field)
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On route N8, approximately 110km northwest from Bloemfontein. **On route N18/N12**, approximately 202 south from Vryburg and 118km northeast from Hopetown.

The Airport is 10km south of the town centre and there are daily flights to Cape Town and Johannesburg. Greyhound, Intercape and Translux busses also serve the city.

Origin

- In 1869, diamonds were found in the mud plaster of a homestead at **Bullfontein**. The small homestead was taken apart brick by brick until only a huge cavity was left where the house used to be.
- The following year, the children of Adriaan van Wyk stumbled across diamonds near **Du Toitspan** located on their farm Dorsfontein ('thirst fountain').

However, it was the discovery on the farm Vooruitzicht ('prospect') on 16 July 1871 that changed the entire course of South African history. Two brothers, Diederik and Nicolaas de Beer had bought the Farm Vooruitzicht for £50 from the government of the Orange Free State Republic in 1860. It is told that on a freezing winter night, while relaxing in his tent after a day's digging at Du Toitspan, Fleetwood Rawstone (from Colesberg) was called by a servant. Damon held three diamonds he had found on a hill (which became known as Colesberg Kopje) close by. This set off the greatest of all the world's diamond rushes with about 50 000 diggers descending on the area within a matter of months. They flattened the hill that eventually became the Kimberley's Big Hole. The diamonds were found in a pipe of kimberlite.

- Many diggers had a difficult time, living in shacks, lacking basic sanitation.
- Gambling was another way to get rich overnight (or loose everything for that matter).
- Those who got lucky lit cigars with banknotes and rode all day on the wooden horses of visiting merry-go-rounds while their women bathed in champagne.
- As it became evident that the kimberlite pipe was to last, permanent buildings were erected and the town gained municipal status in 1877.
- In 1912, the town was amalgamated with Beaconsfield that grew around the Bullfontein and Du Toitspan diggings and became a city in the same year.

The 'blue ground' (kimberlite) was used as ground-fill for building sites and roads before companies realised the value thereof. Today, diggers jump at the opportunity to pan the soil around old building that is demolished.

- Kimberley was connected by rail to Cape Town in 1885, Johannesburg in 1906 and Bloemfontein in 1908.
- Currently, Kimberley serves as a commercial, administrative, manufacturing and educational centre for a large district.

Provincial Legislature Building

- Kimberley was the selected capital of the Northern Cape after the 1994 election.
- The new Provincial Legislative Building cost is estimated at R122 million and various traditional and indigenous elements have been used in the design.
- It was opened with a four-day celebration in February 2003.

Name

- The initial name *Vooruitzicht* for the farm and mining camp was later replaced by *De Beers New Rush*.
- In 1872, it became known as Kimberley in honour of the Earl of Kimberley, British colonial secretary, who had annexed the diamond fields on behalf of Britain.
- Beaconsfield located around the Du Toitspan and Bullfontein diggings was named after *Benjamin Disraeli, the Earl of Beaconsfield.
- Kimberley is also known as the "Diamond Capital of the World"

*Benjamin Disraeli

Twice the British Prime Minister; the first and thus far the only one of Jewish heritage.

Claims to fame

<p>The Siege of Kimberley (103 days)</p>	<p>With the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War, the Boers started isolating Kimberley (on the western front) by blocking railway lines south and north of the town. After three weeks, Commandant CJ Wessels demanded that Colonel RG Kekewich (commander of a garrison of 4000 men) surrender the town. Kekewich refused. Only a few men could lay the siege on a terrain that was flat, not leaving them much options apart from occasional bombardment with their Long Tom Cannon.</p> <p>A cannon was manufactured by the besieged in the De Beers Consolidated Mines and nicknamed "Long Cecil". It was designed by an American engineer, George Labram. It took them 24 days to manufacture the cannon from a 3-m steel shafting (12 tons) and it could hurl 13-kg shells over a distance of 7km.</p> <p>The Boers tried hard to take Cecil Rhodes out by firing at De Beers offices or the Halfway Hotel (where Rhodes enjoyed a beer in his saddle). However, they succeeded killing Labram as he was getting ready to visit Rhodes and a shell hit the Grand Hotel.</p> <p>During the last days of the siege, about 3000 women and children took refuge in underground mine workings.</p> <p>Finally, a detachment led by General John French managed to bypass the Boers and relieved the town on 15 February 1900.</p>
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Battlefield Route (Second Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902)	Most of the minor and major battles in the Northern Cape took place in the vicinity of Kimberley (within an approximate 120km radius). These will be discussed in more detail in Component 2 of this Module.
The largest manmade hole	The Kimberley hole is regarded to be the largest manmade hole in the world made entirely with pick and shovel.
Kimberley Club - Most millionaires	It is said that that in the 1890s more millionaires (including Cecil Rhodes, Barney Barnato and the Oppenheims) were gathered under one roof than anywhere else in the world. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Kimberley Club is situated on Du Toitspan Road (close to the Africana Library). - It was built in Victorian-style in 1882/1891?
The first flying school	Kimberley is regarded as the cradle of aviation in South Africa. The first flying school on the continent of Africa was established at Kimberley in 1912 to train pilots of the South African Aviation Corps (later the Air Force). Only one machine was used, a Compton-Paterson biplane that was brought out from England and rebuilt twice after crashes at Kimberley. The hangar has been rebuilt and houses a replica of that first flying machine, a weird kite-like contraption. Today, it is the Pioneers of Aviation Museum located in Gen. van der Spuy drive.
The first Electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1882, the town became the first urban community in the southern hemisphere to enjoy electric street lighting. • An electric tram service was introduced five years later. • The town also boasts the first hotel with electric lights.
First World Exhibition	In 1892, the city hosted the first World Exhibition to be staged outside London.
First school of mines	South Africa's first School of Mines was established here in 1896. The building is located in Hull Street, however the school itself was moved to Johannesburg in the early 1900s where it became the foundation of the University of the Witwatersrand.
The first 'locations'	Kimberley was the first town in South Africa to establish 'locations' for housing non-white labourers on its outskirts. The township was initially known as 'Township number Two' but was later renamed Galeshewe, after a local Kgosi (Chief). Galeshewe played an important role during apartheid and is second only to Soweto. The leader of the Pan African Congress (PAC), Robert Sobukwe who was imprisoned on Robben Island, spent his last days in house arrest here (more information in Module2, Component1 – historical overview)
Other 'firsts'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first automatic telephone exchange • The first drive-in bar (see 'Halfway House') in South Africa. • The first stock exchange
The first golfing museum in Africa	The Freddie Tait Golf Museum is hosted in the Kimberley Golf Club . Tait was British amateur golf champion in 1896 and 1898. During the Anglo-Boer War he was killed at Koedoesberg.

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The mother church of the Seventh Day Adventist	A small corrugated-iron church built in Kimberley and is regarded as the mother church of all Seventh Day Adventists in South Africa and Australia. It was built by an Afrikaner, Pieter Wessels whose religious beliefs conflicted with his own church (the Dutch Reformed Church). He used the money that he received from the sale of his farm Benaauwheidsfontein and established his own denomination (1885). The Wesselton diamond mine was later developed on the farm.
Most irregular street layout	Kimberley probably has the most irregular and haphazard street grid in the country. Buildings were put up along the footpaths between tents, which, in due course, which became streets. Some of the buildings and streets were literally built on diamonds.
Grand Hotel	The first three-storey building north of the Orange River.
Alexandersfontein - One of the top three hotels in South Africa	Once it was regarded as one of South Africa's top three hotels. It had humble beginnings, only a simple structure on the old main road to the Cape and was occupied by the Boers during the siege. In 1902, at Rhodes' instigation, it was replaced by a luxury hotel and weekend resort for the wealthier inhabitants. Today, it is the Jack Hindon Officer's club used by the SA National Defense Force. No visits allowed.
Largest population of Lesser flamingos at Kamfersdam	Kamfersdam is situated 2km north from Kimberley, just off the N12. It hosts the largest permanent population (60%) of lesser flamingoes in southern Africa. Up to 36 000 Lesser Flamingos have been recorded. The first man-made island in South Africa was at Kamfersdam for the breeding of the endangered lesser flamingo. More than 200 bird species have been seen in the region. Sadly, the waters are under continual agricultural pollution.
Sol Plaatje's house	Located in 32 Angel Street (Galeshewe). The building was originally Isaiah Bud M'belle's house (Plaatje's brother-in-law) and bought for Plaatje in 1929 by the Kimberley residents in 1929. It hosts a library of African literature and has displays on Plaatje's, one of South Africa's most famous black persons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Founding member of the African National Congress - First black South African to write a novel in English
Robert Sobukwe	Situated in 6 Naleal Street, Galeshewe (township) and the office where he practiced law in Royal Street. He was the founder and first president of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC).
Frances "MaBaard" Baard	Born in Beaconsfield. Organizer of the ANC Women's League. The district municipality was named after her.
Cecil John Rhodes	Accumulated his wealth on the Kimberley diamond mines and founded the De Beers Mining Company in April 1880. He later became the Prime Minister of the Cape Colony.

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Ernest Oppenheimer	He made a fortune on the Kimberley diamond fields and later focused on the gold mines of the Witwatersrand where he started a company (1917) that laid the foundation for Anglo American PLC.
Barney Barnato	Another diamond magnate who later became one of the "Randlords" (gold mine magnates on the Witwatersrand) and established the JCI (Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Co. Ltd.) in 1889. During the 1930s it was the largest gold producer in South Africa, if not the world.
Dr. Star Jameson	He also acquired considerable wealth on the diamond fields and is probably most well-known for the failed Jameson Raid in 1895.
Henrietta Stockdale	Sister Henrietta was the first matron of the new Kimberley hospital and devised the world's first state registration system for nurses. She is considered to be the founder of professional nursing in South Africa. A statue in her honour is located on the grounds of the St Cyprian's Cathedral (Du Toitspan Road).
Marie Bocciarelli	She was the first South African woman to be trained as a pilot and received her wings at the Kimberley Flying School in 1913. She also acted as a model for the female figures on top of the Alexander McGregor Memorial Museum building in Chapel Street.
Top rated artists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Timlin (architect and artist) • Rochester 'Rocky' Mafafo • Walter Westbrook • Ann Pretorius • Wilfred Delport • Flai Shipipa • Petrus Tsasibane • Judith Horner

Agriculture

Mixed farming - cattle, dairying, sheep, potatoes, lucerne and cotton

Mining and industries

Diamond mining

The diamond mines around Kimberley were originally divided into claims that were worked by individual diggers. As the mines got deeper mine headgear was erected and from then on all the excavation work was done through shafts and adits ("an almost horizontal entrance to a mine"). The first shaft was sunk in 1889. By this time, most of the individual diggers' claims were bought by corporations and conglomerates. The stakeholders in these companies made their fortunes here and this funded their ventures on the Witwatersrand when gold was discovered in 1886, where they became known as the 'Randlords'. These men included Cecil Rhodes, Barney Barnato (a cigar salesman in Kimberley), Alfred Alfred Beit and J.B. Robinson. In 1888 Rhodes, owner of the De Beers mine on Vooruitzicht bought out Barney Barnato's Kimberley Central Mining Company in order to establish De Beers Consolidated Mines. The cheque of £5,338,650 is currently on display in the De Beers boardroom in Kimberley.

In 1932, the mines were temporarily closed during the Great Depression. The Kimberley mine was closed in 1914.

- Currently, there are still three mines in operation in the area:
 - Dutoitspan
 - Bultfontein
 - Wesselton
- Manganese, calcium and salt are also mined in the district.

Historical sites and monuments

KIMBERLEY MINE: BIG HOLE AND MUSEUM

The museum and the street are dominated by the headgear that was built in 1892. There are two viewing platforms to marvel at the magnitude of the Big Hole.

Statistics according to the Information Board at the Hole (2005)

Discovered 16 th July 1871 by Fleetwood Rawstone	
Work started	1889 when De Beers sunk the first shaft
Mine closed	August 1914
Surface area	17 ha
Perimeter	1.6 km
Depth of the hole	215 m
Depth from surface to water	174 m
Depth of water	41 m
Original depth of open cast working	240 m
Original depth of underground working	1097 m
Ground excavated ("blue ground" brought to the surface) during the lifetime of the mine	22 500 000 tonnes

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The above yielded	About 14.5 million carats of diamonds that is equivalent to approximately 2722kg gemstones).
Diggers	Up to 30 000 men dug here before the consolidation of the claims.

An entire early-Kimberley cobblestone street has been reconstructed. Original and model buildings dating from the late 19th century line the streets. Examples include the following:

Halfway Hotel (today's Halfway House Inn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It owes its drive-in liquor license to Rhodes, who preferred to be served his pint in the saddle.
Star of the West Pub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the oldest active pub in Kimberley and was built in the 1870s.
Digger's Rest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the 128 pubs in the heydays of the town, complete with a honky-tonk piano.
Martin Lutheran church (1875)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original fittings and pews are still intact
A diamond buyer's office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A desk that belonged to Sir Alfred Beit is on display.
Barney Barnato's boxing academy	
Sir Davis Harris' ballroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was constructed completely out of corrugated iron in 1901. It displays a collection of evening gowns dating from the diamond era.
A replica of the original homestead of Nicolaas de Beer	The main diamond discovery was made on his farm, Vooruitzicht.
The De Beer's Director's Private Railway Coach	The carrier has a dining table, silverware and glass decanters, as well as luxurious leather chairs.
Several fully furnished shops, such as a blacksmith, pawnbroker and tobacconist, where hand-made cigarettes were produced.	

The Mining Hall

Items such as the washing and sorting tables used to recover diamonds and the winches and hoists used to lower women and children to safety during the siege are one display

De Beers Hall

Replicas of the 616 diamond (616 carats) – the largest octahedron uncut stone in the

world) and the Eureka (the first diamond found in South Africa) are among the exhibits.



MONUMENTS, MEMORIALS AND BUILDINGS RELATED TO THE 'MINING MAGNATES'

Statue of Cecil John Rhodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on Du Toitspan Road • He is mounted on his horse with a map of Africa on his lap.
Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposite the Civic Centre • It is memorial to the late Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, diamond magnate and first elected mayor of the City of Kimberley (1912). • His bust is placed facing the Diggers fountain and rose garden.
Diggers Fountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located within the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Gardens. • Five life-sized diggers, holding a sieve on high was designed by Herman Wald. • It was created in honour of the thousands of diggers who made the Big Hole and other excavations.
Oppenheimer Residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located at 7 Lodge Road. • The house was built for Ernest Oppenheimer in 1907. • His son, Harry was born here and the family lived here until 1915 when they moved to Johannesburg.
Harry Oppenheimer House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on Hentrich Street. • The building is used to sort diamonds from all over South Africa. • The windows are slanted on the one side to prevent direct sunlight from entering the building as the sorting is done in natural light.
De Beers Head Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 Stockdale Street. • This used to be the original headquarters of Barney Barnato's Kimberley Central Diamond Mining Company. • Today, it is the International headquarters of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. which was established by Rhodes in 1888. • It is a national monument – no visits allowed.
Rudd House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situated at 5-7 Loch Road • Also known as 'The Bungalow', it was the residence of one of the earlier mining magnates, CD Rudd. • He was a business partner and friend of Rhodes.
Dunluce Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built for a diamond buyer in 1897. • Still contains many of its original furnishings, including a coalscuttle damaged when a Boer shell penetrated the breakfast room during the siege.

WAR MEMORIALS

The Market Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to the City Hall. • This was the trading hub of dry diggings. • A memorial of balancing rocks (collected from the Matopos in Rhodesia - present day Zimbabwe) brings into remembrance the Pioneer Column that departed from Kimberley in 1890 and opened a way to white settlement in Rhodesia).
Square Hill memorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In honour of the members of the Kimberley Cape Coloured Corps who died in the Battle of Square Hill (during World War I)
Memorial to the Honoured Dead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on Memorial Hill (Dalham & Oliver roads). It is the highest point in Kimberley and the place where five roads meet. • It was designed by Sir Herbert Baker, the architect of the Union Buildings in Pretoria • It commemorates the people of Kimberley who died during the 103 day siege of the town by the Boers (First Anglo-Boer War). • It is said that Cecil Rhodes sent the young Baker to Greece to study classic monuments and select a fitting model where his choice fell on the Nereid monument, built in the 4th century at Xanthos in Asia Minor. • The 16m-high monument is made from sandstone quarried in the Matopo Hills in Zimbabwe. • It bears an inscription by Rudyard Kipling, who sometimes stayed at Rhodes' estate in Cape Town was responsible of the inscription. • A gun, known as 'Long Cecil' (after Cecil John Rhodes) as built during the siege in the De Beer's workshop and placed at the base of the monument. The gun was used to convey the coffin of Cecil Rhodes to Cape Town Station after his death in 1902. From there it was sent by rail to Zimbabwe for burial. • The memorial was unveiled on 28 November 1904. • It is a national monument and regarded as one of the finest in South Africa.
MOTH Garden of Remembrance	<p>Hosts a number of items such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Stuart light tank of Second World War vintage. • A German field gun captured from the Turks in the battle of Square Hill near Jerusalem in September 1918. <p>It includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A memorial to the cities fallen in the two world wars. • A column in honour of Major-General Sir Henry Lukin, who commanded the First South African Infantry Brigade in the battle for Delville Wood in France in July 1916. • A memorial to the Kimberley members of the Cape Corps.

MUSEUMS

McGregor Memorial Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in Edgerton Road (entrance from Atlas Street). • Named after Alexander McGregor, a former mayor of the city. • Cecil Rhodes had this late Victorian building built by in 1897 and it served as a hotel and health spa (sanatorium) (the dry climate of Kimberley was conducive to regain health). • During the siege of the town, Cecil John Rhodes occupied two rooms on the ground floor. • It later became the Belgrave Hotel and in 1933, the building was converted into a convent and school by the Sisters of the Holy Family. • In 1971, the building was fully restored and converted into The McGregor Museum. Displays include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The meeting between Cecil Rhodes and General French that took place after the relief of the town is reconstructed with life-like figures in Cecil Rhode's drawing room. – A Victoria Cross won in the battle of Delville Wood, in France in July 1916, by Private WE Faulds of Kimberley Company. – An overview of the prehistory and history of the northwestern Cape.
Duggin Cronin Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in Edgerton Road. • It is a collection of 8000 ethnographic photographs during 1919 and 1939 by Alfred Martin Duggan-Cronin. • He was a De Beer's night watchman with an interest in photography. • He recorded the diverse customs and traditions including dress and hairstyles, of the many southern African peoples that provided the workers for the mines.
Dunluces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Lodge Road • Built in an elegant Edwardian style in 1897, the house belonged to John Orr (owner of famous department store). • Today, it is linked to the McGregor Museum.
Africana Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situated on Du Toitspan Road • Contains historical significant material offering information about the Northern Cape, diamond mining, travel and missionary work. • Early printed works include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dr Moffat's own copy of his translation of the Old Testament in SeTswana (the first bible to be printed in Africa) – The first edition of Schedel's Nuremburg Chronicle written in Latin that appeared in 1493. It is one of the best documented early printed books (not handwritten).
William Humphreys Art Gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is one of the most important galleries in the country and houses an impressive collection of South African art, as well as works of old Dutch, Flemish and British masters (dating from the 16th and 17th century). • There are also a rock engravings collection (dating back to 12000BC).

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Transport Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situated at the Kimberley Station <p>The exhibits include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kimberley's first car. • A luxury Pullman railway carriage, complete with bathroom that was specially imported for the De Beers directors. • The home-made tricycle with pedals and sails that were used by John Derbyshire to travel from Plettenberg Bay to the diamond fields in about 1880. • A 1906 electric car that could run 13 km before the batteries had to be recharged. • A 1926 Chevrolet used as a hearse by the Jewish community.
Steam locomotives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few of the old steam locomotives can be seen at the Beaconsfield Marshalling Yards. • These are reminders of Rhodes' vision for a Cape-to-Cairo railway via Kimberley.

CHURCHES

St Cyprian's Anglican cathedral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consecrated in 1908. • It is said to have the longest <i>**nave</i> in the country. <i>**The long central part of a church (www. thefreedictionary.com)</i>
The Dutch Reformed church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was the second church to be built in the city in 1871/1872? • The Concentration camp memorial to Boer women and children who died in the Newton Concentration Camp, is located on the church grounds.

OTHER HISTORICAL SITES

City Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed by Fergus Carstairs-Rogers in Roman-Corinthian style. • It was completed in 1899. • It served as a distribution point for rations during the Siege of Kimberley.
Tram	An electric tram (built in 1910) serves as a tourist shuttle from the City Hall to the 'Big Hole'.
Pioneers Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used from 1871 to 1905. • The entrance gate of the cemetery was donated by Countess Labia, the wife of Count Natale Labia, first Italian minister representative to South Africa and daughter of mining magnate J.B. Robinson. • The dates and inscriptions tell a horrifying tale of serial deaths, mainly from diseases. • Up to seven members of the same family were buried together. • There are some young mothers who died during childbirth because of a lack of qualified nursing care in the early days. • Some of them are buried together with their stillborn babies.

Halfway House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in Dutoitspan Road. • It also started off as a hotel that was situated on the main road between the then two different settlements of Kimberley and Beaconsfield, hence the name. • It was moved to its current location in 1897 because Rhodes wanted to build a sanatorium on the original site. • It is world-famous for being the original park and drink bar. • Reputedly, the custom was started by Rhodes. It is said that rather than getting down from his horse, he was accustomed to taking his drink astride his mount. • The Halfway House was officially licensed to serve the passing trade in and on their vehicles in 1880. (All you have to do today to be served a drink in your car is to hoot your horn for a friendly toot!)
Phoenix Hotel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situated in Beaconsfield • It has maintained its character since 1885.

Attractions and activities

Flamingo Casino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N12 Transvaal Road • The design of the Flamingo Casino is based on the contemporary architecture of the gracious buildings in modern Kimberley that survived the heady days of the diamond rush.
Diamond mine Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the Bultfontein Mine (Molyneux) surface and underground tours can be arranged. A lift takes visitor 820 m down – not for the claustrophobic!
The Diggers Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting in Kimberley, the route includes towns such as BarklyWest, Windsorton, Warrenton and Christiana. It stretches as far north as Lichtenburg (North West Province) where the largest diamond rush in South African history took place.
Belgravia historical walk (2km)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located east of the city center is the residential suburb of Belgravia. • Along the route grand Victorian houses that was built by the wealthy, can be viewed from the outside. Rudd House and Dunluce are open to the public. The Duggan-Cronin Gallery is also located in the suburb.
Township tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit Galeshewe (dating from the early 1870s) by taxi departing from the City Hall in Kimberley • The following are highlights along the way: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sol Plaatje's house and grave – Helen Joseph self Help Scheme – Robert Sobukwe House – Home of the Premier of the Northern Cape
Ghost Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a spot where a former librarian committed suicide and it is said that she regularly rearranges the books in the library.
Wildebessie Kuil Rock Art Centre and !Xun & Khwe San Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located just outside Kimberley on the R31 to BarklyWest. • San Art on display and for sale • An adjacent rock engraving site offers an audio tour, rock art movie and displays.

Festivals and events

- The annual WHAGFILM African Film Festival has recently been established and hosted in the William Humphreys Art Gallery.
- The annual Gariep festival
- Northern Cape All-Africa Arts Festival
- Indian and other cultural performances are held regularly in Kimberley.
- Oppenheimer Garden Flea market held every last Saturday of the month.



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- www.fin24.com (Sherilee Bridge. *DiamondCorp in \$45m mine bid*. Aug 15 2007)
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Maps and brochures

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