

## **South Africa**

The Dutch ships started a provisioning station at Cape Town in 1652. The present South African population is 48 million. South Africa is four times the area of New Zealand. Minerals count for 66% of exports, and include iron, coal, uranium, manganese, aluminium, emeralds and gold. South Africa controls the world's diamond markets. Agriculture produces maize, corn, sugar cane, wine, juices, cotton, tobacco, stock, angoras, fruit and vegetables. It has hydro, coal and nuclear power; and produces petrol from coal. Offshore gas is processed into LPG, diesel, petrol, tar, wax and chemicals.

It is a modern industrialised country. Every year over 500,000 cars and trucks are made by companies like Mercedes, BMW, Volkswagen, Toyota, Ford, Nissan, Fiat, Renault, MAN and Volvo. It is self sufficient in armaments, but buys ships and planes. Of its 10 universities, UNISA enrolls 150,000 students a year, and is the third largest in the world. Dr Chris Barnard did the first heart transplant. Hunting is commercialised.

The people love to BBQ their meat and make their own sausages. Traditional eats are twisters, custard tarts, maize porridge, rusks, beef jerky, savoury stews and rice dishes, pan cakes and heaps more. South Africa is also a rugby-playing nation. Come see our stall!!!

*Written by Piet Otto*