



Clockwise from left: A street performer in the Maboneng arts district; Circa Art Gallery; Mountain Sanctuary Park in the Magaliesberg mountain range.



Destinations //

Majka Burhardt in Johannesburg



Majka Burhardt's newest documentary film project in Africa, *The Lost Mountain*, combines ecology, conservation and adventure in Mozambique.

I'm a professional climber and filmmaker fixated on the intersection of culture and environment. Africa is my home away from home, and when I'm lucky enough to have Johannesburg on my travel docket, I make sure to carve out time to get grounded in South Africa's friendliest big city. Getting outside is always first on my list, and I usually head straight to **Magaliesberg**—a mountain range 40 miles northwest of the city. This World Heritage Site is a labyrinth of ancient mountains and twisted quartzite canyons with dozens of hiking trails, hundreds of rock climbs and countless bird species.

On my first visit to the Magaliesbergs, two different groups of locals invited me to a *braai* (barbecue) in the span of one hour. I went to one and always wish I'd taken on the challenge of the double-header. I've made new friends every day I've spent in South Africa, and sharing a meal of *boerewors* and butternut, aka sausage and squash, seals these friendships for eternity. (If you're not so lucky and are looking for a barbecue fix in the city proper, try the **Sharp braai corner stand** in the Maboneng Precinct.)

After hiking and climbing, I make a point of experiencing the city's wide array of cultural offerings. The **Apartheid Museum** focuses on South



Africa's complex history, giving visitors a sense of the horrid reality of apartheid and the hope and human spirit that ultimately prevailed. For a much more light-hearted experience, try the nearby **Gold Reef City** amusement park and its inverted roller coaster, or head to the **Circa Art Gallery** on Jellicoe in Rosebank. This contemporary art space has rotating exhibits showcasing up-and-coming artists who seem to embody the pride, honesty and verve of the city.

End your day in Jo'Burg with a sublime dinner at one of its showcase fusion eateries. Try **Leopard** for the green gazpacho with peppers, cucumber, avocado and sesame and **DW Eleven-13** for the springbok tatakai. My work never lets me stay long in Johannesburg, but each time I set off for another mountainous region of Africa, I put the city on my list for a return trip. //



Get there via O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB)

On Our Radar //

Mini Moso Bag

This odor-absorbing pouch filled with all-natural bamboo charcoal deodorizes luggage and prevents moisture buildup. \$9.95 for a two-pack; mosonatural.com



Sound Cylinder

Perfect for music and movie lovers on the go, this portable Bluetooth speaker doubles as a tablet stand. \$199; definitivetech.com



The Weekender Bag

Kate Spade's Saturday line is all about bright colors and bold prints. We love this cheery canvas overnight bag. \$180; saturday.com



PHOTOS: FREDRIK CLEMENT (BURHARDT), PER-ANDERS PETERSSON/CORBIS (STREET PERFORMER); GO/LAWRETTIE MCFARLANE (MAGALIESBERG)