



1. AG Visser House

Tel: 016 349 1261, **GPS:** 26°29.858, 28°21.512

Built in 1890, Dr. AG Visser practiced medicine in this house from 1916 till his death in 1929. He was a well known poet, most of his poems were written while staying in Heidelberg. Because of his passion regarding culture he was made honourable member of the "Afrikaanse Kultuur en Taalvereniging" 1918. The Visser house was the cultural centre of the town where musicians performed and deep conversations regarding arts and culture was debated. The building has been declared as a national monument. Today it houses the Heidelberg Tourist Information Office and Dr. A.G. Visser's private belongings can be seen museum area. Arts and culture are still represented

through a number of different activities with an onsite gallery representing local artists. A small relaxing coffee area awaits the tourists after touring through Heidelberg. Open to public during office hours 09:00-17:00 (daily).

A head and shoulders sculpture of AG Visser stands in the garden.



2. Bakoond

Location: C/o HF Verwoerd & Fenter Streets, **GPS:** 26°30.117
During the Second War of Independence, the Boers came up with a very clever idea as to safe guard their water supply out of fear of the British troops poisoning it, they build a bakoond. Or at least it looks liked a bakoond from the outside.



3. Braeside

Location: C/o Merz & Van Der Westhuizen Streets

The owners of the farm Langlaagte sold a portion of the farm to Ueckermann, later known as stand 92. The oldest house in Heidelberg, Braeside, was a homestead on the farm Langlaagte from which Heidelberg grew. It is here where Ueckermann started a general dealer shop. Years later Ueckermann convinced the owners of the farm Langlaagte to sell another portion of the farm. This land was proclaimed as a town on 29 March 1866. The house where president Paul Kruger stayed in when he visited Heidelberg is opposite Breadside. Today both houses belongs to the same owner. Unfortunately its not open for public viewing inside.



4. The Club House

Location: 39 HF Verwoerd Street
Tel: 016 341 3910, **GPS:**26°29.901, 28°21.451

The club was founded in 1892 and built in 1897. It was only the second club house in the Transvaal (today known as Gauteng) to be granted a liquor licence. Today it functions as a restaurant to the public.



5. De Rust

Location: Heidelberg/Meyerton Road

About 3km outside Heidelberg lays the very impressive Victorian manor. Build in 1906 four years after the Anglo-Boer War, with 22 rooms for his 14 children. It cost him £6000 to build. The first owner Mr. F.J. Bezuidenhout was the proud owner of the very first flushing toilet in Heidelberg. It is said that Mr. Bezuidenhout wanted a small Buckingham Palace, everything was imported from England only the bricks was manufactured locally. Bezuidenhout Valley in Johannesburg was named after Mnr. Bezuidenhout. In some of the rooms original wall paper can still be seen. Although it is declared as a national monument but not open to the public.



6. Diamonds & Gold Farm house Shop

Location: Begemann Street
Tel: 016 341 5578, **GPS:** 26°29.863, 28°21.405

This old building has been saved from demolition, restored and hosts a number of items. From good quality wood furniture to jewellery. One side of the building is being used by Christo and Melinda van der Merwe, having a jewellery factory they make most of the jewellery themselves, and do diamond cutting as well. They pride themselves as the best jewellery shop in town. With a tea garden they are open to the public during normal shopping hours.



7. First Standard Bank

Location:60 Strydom Street
GPS: 26°30.074, 28°21.418

After doing business since 1877 in Heidelberg, Standard Bank opened its first office in 1879. One of only two offices in Transvaal (Gauteng). The first owner was the magistrate Mr. F.K. Maré. During the Anglo-Boer war (August 1876-October 1881) the Standard bank of British South Africa opened their offices in the same house. It's declared as a national monument. Was owned by the Methodist Church right opposite it, but is currently in private ownership and not open to view inside for the public.



8. Hoër Volksskool

Location: C/o Louw & Jacobs Street
GPS: 26°29.785, 28°21.729

First Matriculant from Volksskool in 1906. In 1915 the school officially opened. On 8 September 1919 the laying of the cornerstone took place and in 1922, after sharing premises for 7 years, the new premises were occupied. The three old church hostels: Transvalia (1912), Concordia (1913) and Excelsior (1923) were demolished after the TPA took over the administration from the church. The names were carried over to the new hostels which were erected in 1965 on the location of the previous Concordia and Excelsior hostels. The town council's library is built on the grounds occupied by the old Transvalia hostel.



9. Klipkerk

Location: C/o Voortrekker & HF Verwoerd Street
Tel: 016 341 2483, **GPS:** 26°29.949, 28°21.386

Design by the architect, Briston and Veale and build by J.B. Kirton. And was declared a National Monument. Stone which were quarried in the area were used to build the church. The foundation stone was laid on April 12, 1890 by Commandant-General P.J. Joubert. Today it's the home of the Dutch Reformed congregation (founded in 1865) and a popular wedding attraction. Services are still being held on Sundays. In 1954 the interior was renewed. 1903 the cellar of the church was used as a primary school and started of with 24 war orphans and some of the congregation's children. Unfortunately the cellar is not

open for public viewing. The tower collapsed in 1909 and a fire in 1967 caused serious damage to the inside. A new organ was erected. The outside of the building was renovated, keeping close to the original look.



10. Methodist Church

Location: C/o Strydom & Ueckermann Street
GPS: 26°30.066, 28°21.428

The Methodist congregation was established in 1875. The church building was erected in 1894/1895 and the parsonage in 1902. This has unfortunately been altered beyond recognition.

12. Parsonage for Klipkerk

Location: HF Verwoerd Street, **GPS:** 26°29.858, 28°21.512

Build in 1897 as the parsonage for the well known Klipkerk. Rev. A.J. Louw and his family lived there while he was the minister of the Dutch Reformed Church. President Paul Kruger used to visit the Louw family quite often. Opposite the Louw family lived Dr. A.G. Visser and his family. Dr. Visser was also known for his poetry and written a poem "Liefste tannie ons bring rosies" for Louw's daughter to thank her for visiting Visser's sick son. Many ministers lived there afterwards before it was used as an old age home for the elderly. Today this old Victorian house serves as a guest house. The 8 rooms are furnished with antique and colonial furniture.

13. Diepkloof Farm Museum

Location: The Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve can be reached by taking the Nigel/Kliprivier off-ramp (R550) from the N3 freeway just outside Heidelberg, in the Johannesburg direction.
Tel: 011 904 3930 or 011 904 3964

Located in the Northern section of the Suikerbos Nature Reserve, this farm house, built in 1850 by Gabriel Marias, is one of the oldest Farmyards in the Transvaal. As young man Marias participated in the Great Trek from Beaufort Wes in the Cape province to the Transvaal, where he settled in Diepkloof, married

Cornelia Jacoba Smit and they had 8 children. After his death his son Frans took the farm over. Apart from the well reserved buildings tourists can be educated how the Voortrekkers as the people of the Great Trek was known lived during the 1800's. Picnic spots and slide/film shows are available to the public. They also have a coffee shop and conference facilities.

14. Heidelberg Railway Station 1895

Location: Voortrekker Street, **GPS:** 26°30.420, 28°22.052

Heidelberg developed as a trading town started with Heinrich Ueckermann as the first store owner. With the Anglo-Boer War commandos and politicians passed through Heidelberg regularly, President Kruger was very aware of the march of progress through his country. Transport was the golden way to development and 0122ports were the gateways to independence. On 6 February, 1894 the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) commissioned the Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatschappij (NZASM) to build the Zuid - Oosterlijn, a railway line between the Natal terminus at Charlestown, past Heidelberg to Elsburg, where it would link up with the Zuiderlijn to the Cape. This new railway line would give the ZAR its third connection between Johannesburg and the sea, making trading easier. On 10 October 1895, two years later the railway line was completed. The corner-stone of the station building was laid by H. Westenbergh. The building reflects



11. St. Ninians Anglican Church Complex

Location: Voortrekker Street
Tel: 016 349 5250, **GPS:** 26°29.807, 28°21.283

Build in 1885, the parsonage was completed in 1896. The church hall was completed in 1903 and used as a lecture room for the Heidelberg Teachers College between 1912-1914. Thereafter the Teachers college were moved to the now known as the Army Gymnasium. The church was mainly used by the British troops while they were staying in Heidelberg during the Anglo-Boer war. Today it's still being used for services. Visits for inside viewing can be arranged on appointment.

Victorian design. A restaurant was added to the main building in 1897. Mahatma Gandhi and the Duke of Connaught were but a few of the famous people that travelled to Heidelberg. In 1961 Dr. Hendrik Verwoerd opened a new station complex, leading the first railway station of Heidelberg to fall into disuse. It was partially restored by the Simon van der Stel Foundation in 1969. Thereafter the Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation restored the main building for the purpose of creating a transport museum. In 1975 the Heidelberg transport museum opened its doors as a historical monument. It hosted various rare models of veteran cars, cycles and motor cycles and associated items reflecting the history of transport on land. Sadly the transport museum closed down. Once again it fell into disuse. The local and provincial municipality are working together to reopen the museum.

15. Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve

The reserve was named after the sugar bush (suikerbos), which can be found, all over the 13,337ha land. The reserve is one of the few places where the fast disappearing bankenveld grassland can be viewed. A large variety of plants, wildlife and bird species can be seen. An overnight trail or shorter day hiking trails makes it possible to view the game in their natural habitat.



Heidelberg was established when Heinrich Ueckermann bought part of the farm Langlaagte for £7 10s and started a general dealer in 1861. The shop was situated where the main road between the then Port Natal (Durban) and Potchefstroom crossed the main road between the Cape and Pretoria. In 1865 he appointed TW Fannin as a surveyor for a town development, which he named his alma mater in Germany.

During the First War of Independence, Heidelberg served as a Capital for the ZAR under the Triumvirate of Paul Kruger, PJ Joubert and MW Pretorius from 1880-1881.

In 1885 the Witwatersrand gold reef was discovered in the Heidelberg district and the office of the Mining Commissioner was established there.

Heidelberg developed as a typical rural Victorian town. Many buildings dating back to the period between 1890-1910 have been preserved.



Design and Layout

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