



Simon's Town Literary Festival

22nd to 24th March 2024



Getting to the Festival

Parking in Simon's Town can be a challenge. We recommend car-sharing where possible, a taxi service, or even the trains, although they are infrequent. (Check the train times for park and ride options at Muizenberg, Kalk Bay, Fish Hoek, and Glencairn). On-the-Go is a local taxi service which is reasonably priced, phone 068 403 0278, or 079 486 4228.

Look out for the two Hakuna Matukutuk vehicles with **Books on the Bay** flags. They will carry festival goers free of charge from the parking areas (excluding Harbour Bay) to the centre of town or the museum, as well as between venues.

Parking is available at the following locations in Simon's Town:

- **Long Beach**, Driegebroeders Road (enter next to Simon's Town Station) - 500m from the Simon's Town Museum (approximately a 7 minute walk or arrange for a shuttle).
- **The Yacht Club** car park, King George Way - 1km from the Simon's Town Museum (approximately a 12 minute walk or arrange for a shuttle).
- **Cole Point**, St George's Street (turn down just before the Magistrates Office) - 1.2km from the Simon's Town Museum (approximately a 16 minute walk or arrange for a shuttle).
- **Seaforth Beach** parking lot, Seaforth Road - 2.2km from the Simon's Town Museum (approximately a 25 minute walk or arrange for a shuttle).
- **Harbour Bay Mall**, Dido Valley Road - 2.3km from the Simon's Town Museum (approximately a 28 minute walk or arrange for a shuttle).
- Any available bay on Queens Road.
- Anywhere on Runciman Drive (for the fit and able, there are stairs) - be mindful not to block driveways.



Venues

St Francis Anglican Church & Garden

Address: Court Rd
 Website: <https://stfrancissimonstown.weebly.com>
 About: The Anglican Church of St Francis of Assisi was built between 1831 and 1837 and opened for its first service on 24th April 1837. The original church building of 1814 - the first Anglican church in the whole of Southern Africa - was severely damaged by a storm in 1821, and collapsed. With the Group Areas Act of 1967, St Francis church lost over 70% of its congregation who were forced to leave Simon's Town.



Simon's Town Museum Lecture Room

Address: Court Rd
 Website: <http://www.simonstownmuseum.org.za/>
 About: The Simon's Town Museum is housed in "The Residency" which was built in 1777 as the winter residence for the Dutch East India Company Governor at the Cape. Simon's Town Museum was established in 1977 by the Simon's Town Historical Society. The Museum was originally housed in the old Simon's Town Municipality complex, but moved to "The Residency" in 1982. The building has a long history, having been used as a hospital, post office, school, customs house, police station, gaol and magistrate's court. The Simon's Town Museum collects and exhibits the cultural history of the people of Simon's Town and their connections with the Dutch East India Company and the Royal Navy.



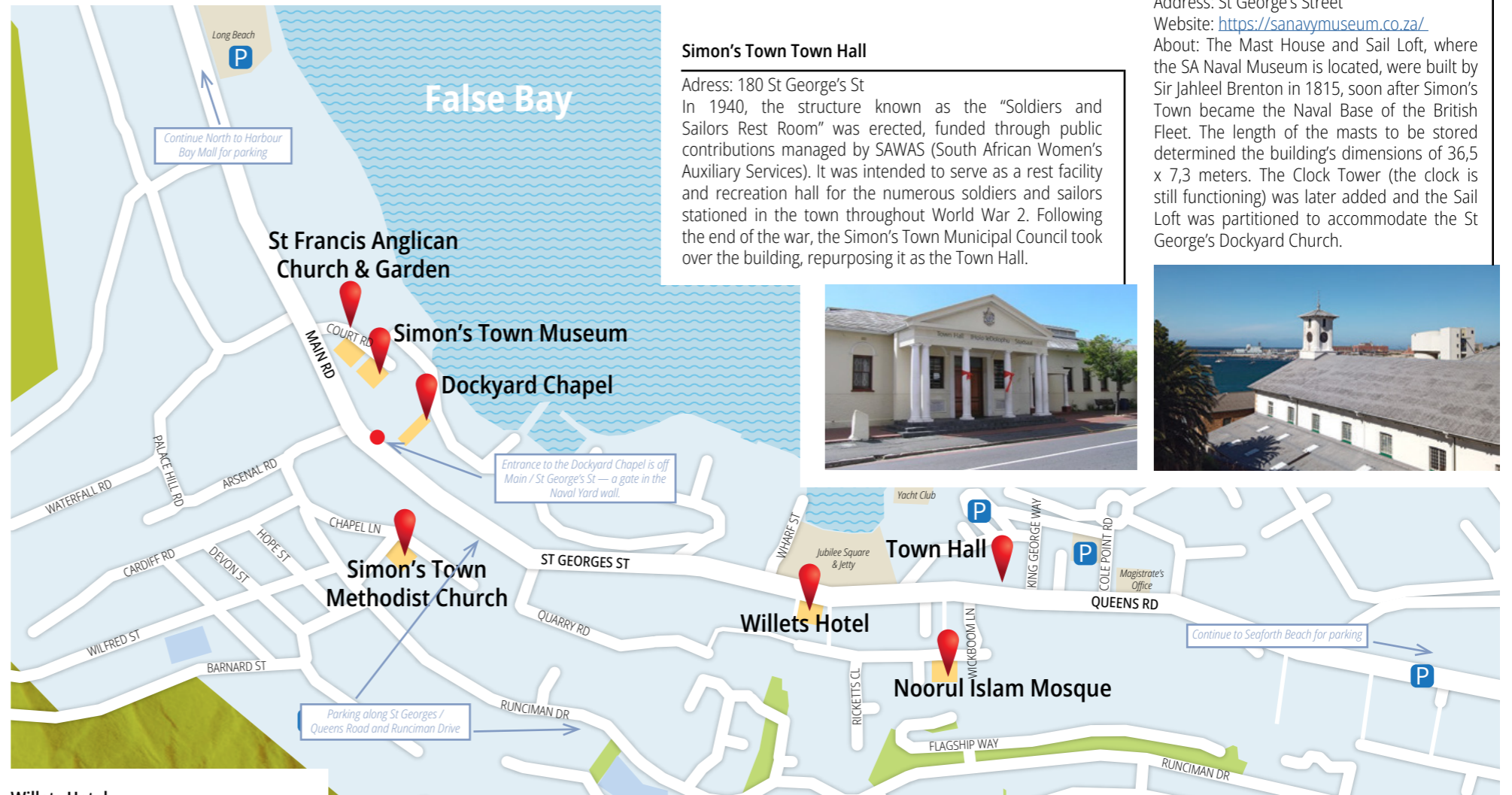
Simon's Town Town Hall

Address: 180 St George's St
 In 1940, the structure known as the "Soldiers and Sailors Rest Room" was erected, funded through public contributions managed by SAWAS (South African Women's Auxiliary Services). It was intended to serve as a rest facility and recreation hall for the numerous soldiers and sailors stationed in the town throughout World War 2. Following the end of the war, the Simon's Town Municipal Council took over the building, repurposing it as the Town Hall.



Dockyard Chapel

Address: St George's Street
 Website: <https://sanavymuseum.co.za/>
 About: The Mast House and Sail Loft, where the SA Naval Museum is located, were built by Sir Jahleel Brenton in 1815, soon after Simon's Town became the Naval Base of the British Fleet. The length of the masts to be stored determined the building's dimensions of 36,5 x 7,3 meters. The Clock Tower (the clock is still functioning) was later added and the Sail Loft was partitioned to accommodate the St George's Dockyard Church.



Willetts Hotel

Address: 106a St George's Street
 Website: <https://willetts.co.za/>
 About: This Historic Victorian Style Boutique Hotel, which was originally built in 1828 with the addition of the front facade in 1898, has recently been lovingly restored and refurbished.



Simon's Town Methodist Church

Address: 2 Chapel Lane
 Website: <http://ebeam.org.za/>
 About: Sgt. John Kendrick, a soldier in the Yorkshire Dragoons, started Methodist services in the Dutch East India Company's stables (now Shell garage) in 1807. It is the oldest Methodist Church in continuous service in Southern Africa. The Chapel was formally opened in 1828. The original organ (1893) was replaced by a pipe organ, and was played by Claude Randall for 60 years. Like the St. Francis Anglican Church, much of the congregation was forcibly removed following the Group Areas Act.



Noorul Islam Mosque

Address: 9 Thomas Street
 About: The earliest reference to a mosque was in the welcome address to the Prince of Wales, written by a delegation of Muslim leaders of Simon's Town in 1860. However, the mosque referred to by the 1860 delegation could not have been a formal one because no known mosque existed in Simon's Town at the time. On the history of the Simon's Town mosque, Whisson says: "A room was set aside for worship throughout most of the nineteenth century, and in 1876 a mosque was built. In 1925 the mosque was rebuilt on the same site and extensions for a school were incorporated into the building." Reference: "The Imam and his Diary (1904-1928)" by M. Adil Abu Aa-isha.



Day 1: Friday 22nd March

Time & Venue	Event
09h00 – 09h45 Navy Dockyard Chapel	Darrel Bristow-Bovey , <i>Finding Endurance: Shackleton, My Father and a World Without End</i> Interviewed by Elleke Boehmer
10h15 – 11h00 Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 1</u> Mphuthumi Ntabeni , <i>The Broken River Tent</i> Interviewed by David Attwell
Navy Dockyard Chapel	<u>Session 2</u> Ashwin Desai , <i>Of Fathers, Sons and Timeless Tests: Wicket Tales from Kingsmead</i> Interviewed by Darryl David
11h30 – 12h15 Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 1</u> Megan Choritz , <i>Lost Property</i> Interviewed by Karin Cronje
Navy Dockyard Chapel	<u>Session 2</u> Beverley Roos-Muller , <i>Bullet in the Heart: Four brothers ride to war, 1899-1902</i> Chaired by David Attwell
13h15 – 14h00 Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 1</u> Imraan Coovadia , <i>The Poisoners: On South Africa's Toxic History</i> Interviewed by Bongani Kona
Navy Dockyard Chapel	<u>Session 2</u> Chris Nicholson , <i>Who Really Killed Chris Hani?</i> Chaired by Gavin Evans
14h30 – 15h15 Navy Dockyard Chapel	<u>Session 1</u> Annemarié van Niekerk , <i>Onder 'n bloedrooi hemel: liefde en geweld in Suid-Afrika</i> Interviewed by Ena Jansen
Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 2</u> Vernon Head , <i>On That Wave of Gulls</i> Interviewed by Darryl David
15h45 – 16h30 St. Francis Church	Join Books on the Bay and Jonathan Ball Publishers for the launch of Margie Orford , <i>Love and Fury: A Memoir</i> Interviewed by Nancy Richards
17h00 – 18h00 St. Francis Church	Join Books on the Bay and Pan Macmillan SA for the launch of Ivan Vladislavić , <i>The Near North</i> Interviewed by Mark Gevisser
18h00 – 20h00 St. Francis Church Function Room & Garden	Book launch reception Jazz band & wine by Mooiplaas

Day 2: Saturday 23rd March

Time & Venue	Event
09h00 – 09h45 Methodist Church	Justin Fox , <i>Place</i> Interviewed by Darryl David
10h15 – 11h00 Methodist Church	<u>Session 1</u> Finuala Dowling and Beatrice Willoughby A conversation in poems between mother and daughter
Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 2</u> Saleem Badat , <i>Tennis, Apartheid and Social Justice</i> Interviewed by Ashwin Desai
11h30 – 12h30 Noorjul Islam Masjid (Thomas Street Mosque)	<u>Session 1</u> Hein Willemse , Muhammed Haron and Shamiega Chaudhari discuss a new edition of <i>The Arabic-Afrikaans Writing Tradition</i> , by Achmat Davids There is no charge for this event. It will end at 12h30.
11h30 – 12h15 Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 2</u> Sven Axelrad , <i>Buried Treasure</i> Interviewed by Helen Moffett
13h15 – 14h00 Methodist Church	<u>Session 1</u> Craig Higginson , <i>The Ghost of Sam Webster</i> Interviewed by Nancy Richards
Museum Lecture Room	<u>Session 2</u> Antony Osler , <i>Karoo Zen</i> Interviewed by Darryl David
14h30 – 15h15 Methodist Church	<u>Session 1</u> Darryl David , <i>Boekbedonnerd! The Road to Elsewhere: A Memoir</i> Interviewed by Nancy Richards
14h30 – 15h30 Willets Hotel	<u>Session 2</u> Salon Hecate Poetry with Helen Moffett and friends Complimentary bubbly, juice and eats. Please be seated early. This event will end at 15h30.
15h45 – 16h45 Town Hall	Rock, Sea, Freedom: The literary landscape of False Bay A reading-performance by John Maytham Complimentary wine by Mooiplaas after the show
17h15 – 18h15 Town Hall	Baboon in Revue A performance by Nicholas Ellenbogen , Debi Thomas Hawkins and friends, with music by Chris Haw Complimentary wine by Mooiplaas before the show

Day 3: Sunday 24th March

Time & Venue	Event
09h00 – 09h45 Town Hall	C.A. Davids (<i>How to be a Revolutionary</i>) and Mark Gevisser (<i>The Revolution will Not be Litigated</i>) in conversation
10h00 – 11h00 Town Hall	Crime writers Mia Arderne , Angela Makholwa , Mike Nicol and Margie Orford Chaired by Andrew Brown Is crime fiction a fantasy?
11h30 – 12h30 Town Hall	Max du Preez , Gavin Evans and Anton Harber : Veteran founders of the <i>Weekly Mail</i> and <i>Vrye Weekblad</i> discuss the fourth estate and elections 2024
12h30 – 13h30 Town Hall Foyer	Closing Function

Tickets

To buy tickets go to: www.booksonthebay.co.za (80% of tickets are sold online, 20% are allocated to door sales on the day).

Tickets can also be bought during office hours from the STADCO management office on Jubilee Square.

