

# The Port of Cape Town

A Strategic Investment Opportunity  
in Cape Town & the Western Cape  
**2025**



Western Cape  
Government  
FOR YOU



CITY OF CAPE TOWN  
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tourism, trade & investment



## Sector Overview

The Port of Cape Town (PoCT) is South Africa's second-largest commercial seaport and the Western Cape's key gateway for container and general cargo trade. It plays a vital role in the export of agricultural products - particularly via refrigerated containers - while importing a diverse mix including vehicle parts, clothing, textiles, and footwear.

Though primarily serving the Western Cape, the PoCT also supports freight flows to the rest of South Africa and the wider South African Development Community (SADC) region. It hosts 11 licensed terminal operators - nine of them privately run - and is serviced by many of the world's leading shipping lines.

The port offers a full suite of facilities, including container, multi-purpose, break bulk, liquid bulk, fresh produce, and cruise terminals.

It also supports ship repair, offshore oil and gas activity, local and foreign fishing fleets, and recreational boating. Adjacent to the port, the V&A Waterfront, though outside its official limits, adds value by accommodating smaller fishing and leisure vessels.

Key segments include:

- **Ben Schoeman Dock:** Houses the Western Cape's only dedicated container terminal, the Cape Town Container Terminal. The current installed capacity is 1 million TEUs, with plans underway to increase this capacity to 1.4 million TEUs.
- **Duncan Dock:** Houses the Multi-Purpose, Fresh Produce, Liquid Bulk and Cruise terminals, in addition to the Sturrock Dry Dock facility and Royal Cape Yacht Club. Break bulk cargo is also facilitated through its facilities.
- **Victoria & Alfred Basins:** Initially formed the port's historic core, but no longer falls within its limits. Today, it's largely a mixed use development dominated by retail, residential, commercial and other developments as part of the V&A Waterfront. It plays a substantial role in the leisure and tourism sector in addition to hosting a yacht marina and other smaller fishing vessels. Occasionally, smaller cruise ships also dock here.







# WHY CAPE TOWN & THE WESTERN CAPE

## 1. Strategically located port

Direct sea access via Cape Town to global markets, with road and rail links to SACU, SADC, and AfCFTA regions — ideal for high-frequency trade in agriculture, manufacturing, and green industries.

## 2. AfCFTA to boost demand

Access a US\$3.4 trillion African market via the Port of Cape Town, positioned for rising seaborne trade under AfCFTA.

## 3. Export-Driven Economy

Top exports include citrus, grapes, wine, and flowers, with growing demand for cold chain logistics and air freight.

## 4. Private sector participation opportunities

Economic reforms are opening new public-private partnerships in ports and logistics, including at the Port of Cape Town.

## 5. Global players are here

Major logistics firms, including Maersk, MSC, and DP World, are expanding in South Africa, boosting the regional logistics ecosystem.

## 6. Extensive Road & Rail Network

The Western Cape is linked by Africa's largest transport system — 750,000 km of roads and 30,400 km of rail — offering direct access via key routes like the N1 to Gauteng and N2 to Durban.

## 7. Back of port facilities

An Intermodal Logistics Precinct at Cullemborg is planned to boost cargo handling and efficiency at the Port of Cape Town.

## 8. Inland terminal investment

Belcon Inland Terminal is being upgraded into a multicarrier cold storage and container depot, enhancing Port of Cape Town logistics.

## 9. A world class cruise terminal

The Port of Cape Town hosts a world-class Cruise Terminal, managed by the V&A Waterfront, positioning the region as a global cruise destination.

## 10. Stable & Business-Friendly Government

The Western Cape offers investor confidence through clean audits, fiscal responsibility, and strong public-private collaboration.

For more information  
scan here:



# Container Shipping Companies Shaping Cape Town & the Western Cape



**MAERSK**



## Contact us for more information

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