

TRAVEL



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CEMETERY GUIDE

If you're one of those people who likes to wander around old graveyards, check out "Stones and Bones of New England," a guide to notable cemeteries from Globe Pequot Press.

AP

BUCKINGHAM AMONG THE BEST

Midtown's Buckingham Hotel is the top-ranked New York hotel in terms of performance in Lodging Hospitality's annual survey of hotels.

METRO

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# Zippering out of town

## Zipcar offers classy cars to everyone at a reasonable price

WITH AIRLINE ticket prices getting slashed left and right, we sometimes forget that the best — and least expensive — vacations involve little more than a road map and a car. And now for those many Manhattanites who don't have their own car, Zipcar is coming to the rescue.

Zipcar only has snazzy cars, such as Minis and VW Beetles, and also allows members to take out cars either by the hour or by the day, usually at the rates of \$8.50 to \$65, respectively. Making the deal even more affordable, the rental fee includes gas and insurance. To obtain a membership, people must present a New York driver's license along with a credit card for a \$25

application fee and \$100 deposit, which is credited back when the membership is terminated.

Lifestyles

Members can choose from different plans that suit their lifestyles, which also come at different prices. For example, someone who doesn't drive that often, or only needs a car for quick trips to the country, can choose to pay as they go. Monthly dues are added to the car's cost and can be rolled over to the following month if unused.

According to Dan Martin, regional sales director for Zipcar, members have a common desire for flexibility in how they rent their car; from the type of car

they want to where they can drive it and for the length of time. "Our business is based on the idea that people want the freedom to be able to get up and go when they want to," Martin says. "We have a fleet of cars throughout the city ranging from Mini-Coupes to BMWs and are less than ten minutes walking distance away from each member."

Self-sufficient

To Martin's point, the process of obtaining a car is seamless and heavily reliant on the driver being self-sufficient, something that could be problematic for those that need a little instruction before getting into a car. For example, one

of Zipcar's models is the eco-friendly Toyota Prius. But one member could not figure out how to find the strangely situated on and off key for the car and was stuck for a half hour trying to figure it out — a situation that would have been avoided in most traditional rental outlets. Also, reservations tend to fill up quickly for holiday weekends, although a Zipcar is almost always available on regular days. If you are planning a trip, book ahead — get any instruction you need in operating the car before, which Zipcar is happy to provide. Go to [www.zipcar.com](http://www.zipcar.com) for more information.

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CONTRIBUTED

ZIPCAR is a car club for people who need a car quickly.

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## Destination South Africa

Diversity, beauty and its food are making this vast country a must-see.

**SOUTH AFRICA** celebrates the 10th anniversary of the official end of apartheid this year, and its reputation as a vacation destination is growing. Arrivals from the U.S. were up 14 percent in the first half of this year, according to the South African Tourism commission, and five of the top 10 hotels on Travel + Leisure magazine's 2004 "World's Best Hotels" list were in South Africa.

Now Bon Appetit's October issue reports that Cape Town's restaurants are also becoming increasingly well-regarded.

The magazine points out that the destruction of legal divisions based on ethnicity have also been echoed by South Africa's creative chefs mixing many of the country's different culinary traditions — English, Dutch, Huguenot, native African, Jewish, Malaysian and Portuguese. "We have 11 different languages in South Africa," Bruce Robertson, chef of the One. Waterfront restaurant, told the magazine. "Try putting that on a plate."



ISTOCK PHOTO

CAPE TOWN offers spectacular views of its city and harbour.

In addition to One. Waterfront, located in the Cape Grace hotel on West Quay Road, Bon Appetit says visitors to Cape Town will want to consider dining at The Africa Cafe on Short-market Street; Baia, on the Upper Level of Victoria

Wharf; the Cape Colony Restaurant in the Mount Nelson Hotel on Orange Street; Ginja, on Castle Street; The Restaurant on Somerset Road; Shoga, on Castle Street, and Tank, in the Cape Quarter on Waterkant Street.

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