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Golf Estates in South Africa – DON'T JUST PLAY IT! LIVE IT!

By Bronwen Roberts

CAPETOWN AFRIQUE as Cape Town's coastline is affectionately known, is still the popular

location for a sound property investment. Suzy Ormond, Standard Bank's financial advisor has commented on this property boom, "Buy now! You might think prices are high, but in 5-10 years time it's going to go through the roof." While investors are busy gobbling up property along the Atlantic Seaboard, others are heading for the phenomenon of the Golf Estate.

The Garden Route is traditionally the No. 1 choice for property purchase for retirement and holiday purposes. In the new South Africa, it has increasingly become the destination of choice for permanent residence by local and foreign buyers, due to its scenic beauty, tranquillity, and low crime rate.

Mossel Bay on the Garden Route, half way between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, is a town, known as the historical "capital" of the Garden Route and this picture-perfect destination is in demand across the property spectrum with investors, holidaymakers and conferences, vying for space.

BRAND NEW GOLF

The new kid on the block, in terms of real estate safe-havens is the beautifully landscaped and designed, Mossel Bay Golf Estate, which has positioned itself as an investors dream, and most of the architect-designed houses on the estate have been snapped up. It stands on one of the most dramatic settings on the Southern Cape Coast.

The lifestyle of this golf estate is luxurious and insular, perfect for holidays or the permanent home you'll never want to leave. The living is gracious with a wonderful blend of lush green fairways and indigenous fynbos, spectacular views of the Indian Ocean and a climate referred to by the Guinness Book of Records, as the second most moderate climate in the world (after Hawaii). This golf estate is only minutes away from the amenities of Mossel Bay with its rich history, museums, picturesque shops

and restaurants, and long stretches of sandy beaches.

The Mossel Bay Golf Estate is 108HA, fenced, 24-hour security service. There is an 18-hole Champion Links Course, ranked 47th in South Africa, Par 72 (course ranking 71/5.570m).

Peaceful, protected and self-sufficient, golf estate living has become the perfectly safe option for 21st century living. It's the peaceful exclusivity of the lifestyle that is compelling. You don't have to play it! Just live it.

CAPE TOWN ESTATES

Other golf estates on offer around Cape Town include the Erinvale Golf Estate situated at the foot of the Helderberg and Hottentot Holland mountains in Somerset West. Designed by Gary Player, Erinvale's beautifully manicured par 72-championship course boasts some of the country's most challenging and spectacular holes.

The Atlantic Beach Estate with its 18-hole, links-style course is in complete harmony with its environment. Every manufactured structure on the estate has been designed to preserve the unspoilt heritage of the Table Bay coastline. The estate's unique architectural design takes its inspiration from the natural world around it; creating a style that blends unobtrusively with the diverse plant life, so that homes are at one with the surrounding nature. Cape Town is just 25 minutes away.

The Steenberg Estate is a golf estate, winery, hotel and a great holiday location all rolled into one. One of South Africa's leading golf course architects, Peter Matkovich, built the golf course. This 18-hole championship course meanders leisurely through the vineyards of this tranquil Constantia Valley, and is set against the slopes of the Steenberg Mountain.

See the Sea from every Tee: from Mossel Bay's brand new development; the Mossel Bay Golf Estate, which is just minutes from Mossel Bay's long sandy beaches, adventure boat rides, whale watching and unique shopping opportunities. Visit

for all your tourism information

and details of Mossel Bay's many attractions.

How to Make Friends When It Seems That People Don't Like You

By Royane Real

Do you feel like no matter how hard you try, other people still don't like you? Learn what you can do to make friends when it seems as if people don't like you.

Have you been trying hard to make friends with no good results to show for all of your efforts?

If it seems that you have been trying hard to make friends, but that other people still don't want to be your friend, you may have come to the conclusion that there's something wrong with you. That maybe you are basically unlikeable.

Many of us go through such torment of self doubt, especially during our teenage years, when teens are often the victims of vicious bullying from their peers for no reason at all.

If you feel as if the people you are trying to befriend don't like you, the first thing you must do is to ask yourself: Do you have any real evidence that others don't like you?

Or are you just imagining the worst because you are always very harsh with yourself?

People who have low self-esteem, or who are suffering from depression, are often convinced that others don't like them, even when there is no evidence for their negative belief. People who have a poor self image can be surrounded by others who like them, care about them, and enjoy their company; yet because these people don't believe they are worthy of being liked, they are convinced that no one else likes them either.

So, if you are feeling as if nobody likes you, try to find out if there is some real evidence that others don't like you, or whether you are just being very negative in your opinion of yourself.

On the other hand, there are times when it's not just your imagination that others don't like you. It might be really true that most of the people you meet are consistently rejecting you, even when you make social overtures and try to be as friendly to them as possible.

There are many reasons this can happen.

You may have moved to a society where the people are very tight knit with each other, and they don't open up to newcomers easily.

You might be surrounded by people who automatically dislike people of your particular religion, ethnic background, skin color, or bodily appearance.

You may be surrounded by people who reject you because the clothes you wear are not the latest and most expensive fashion.

In high school years in particular, many teens are strongly conformist, and can be very cruel to those who seem to be different from the norm. Sadly, some people never grow out of the stage of judging others for trivial and superficial reasons.

If you are really being rejected by others, it is important that you don't make the situation worse by attacking yourself.

This will only make you feel worse, and will make you lose confidence in approaching new people in the future.

Saying negative things to yourself could start you on a downward spiral of self-doubt and self-hatred. Or you might turn your anger outwards in a spirit of bitterness and revenge towards other people. This is not a solution that will win you friends or peace of mind.

It's also important to take a good, hard look at yourself and the way that you interact with other people. There may be specific behaviors that are causing others to dislike you, and these are behaviors which you can change.

Ask yourself the questions on this checklist. If it looks as if any of these behaviors are a problem for you, it's very likely that if you change this behavior, that other people will like you better.

Are you always very negative and complaining all the time? Most people find this habit very annoying.

Do you actively participate in conversations with others? Or do you hold back and let other people do all the work in making conversation. If so, learn to improve your conversational skills so that talking with you is an experience that others look forward to.

Do you endlessly talk about yourself and show little interest in the people you are talking with? Other people will become bored with you very quickly if you seem only interested in yourself.

Do you try too hard to please others, always agreeing with everything that they say, and never having any opinions of your own? People won't respect you if you don't respect yourself.

Do you often say things that hurt the feelings of others and then say it was just a joke? Do you say mean things behind other people's backs? No one will trust you if they think that you are basically an unkind person.

If you want to make other people your friends, it's very important that you don't give up on trying. Keep approaching people, keep trying to make conversation. Get rid of your bad social habits if they are getting in the way of friendship.

If you are being given the cold shoulder by many of the people you encounter, particularly in your school or workplace, keep looking elsewhere for people you can confide in and befriend. You can try in your church, in your community, and in your own family.

Work on developing the talents and good qualities within yourself so that you can appeal in a new way to other people with whom you will have more in common. Continue to actively search out other people who will like you and accept you.

Don't give up trying. Keep working at learning how to make friendly conversation and you will eventually make friends with people who truly like you.

This article was written by friendship expert Royane Real. Do you want to learn how to use everyday conversation to turn more people into friends? Get her special report "Your Guide to Making Friendly Conversation" today at

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