

**Ability Guidebooks
presents
Explore Stellenbosch, South Africa!**



I Am Going To The Stellenbosch Village Museum!

A Step-by-Step Guide On How To Visit this Amazing Museum.

**By
Brett Bigham**

**The Stellenbosch Village Museum is a great place to visit.
The Village Museum is housed in several of the oldest
houses and buildings in Stellenbosch.**



**There is the sign for the museum. Be careful of traffic when
you get here. There are many buses at the museum.**

This woman is going in the museum. She knows that museums are serious places and that there are rules to follow once you go inside.



This is the main lobby to the museum. This is where you buy your ticket.



**This way
to building 1.**

Once you have your ticket you can look at the displays and then follow the signs to the next building.

Most of the buildings are houses of people who founded the village of Stellenbosch many years ago.



Building number 1 is the Schreuderhuis. Let's go inside.

Each building has a guide who will tell you about everything in the house.



The guides are very nice and they wear clothes just like people used to wear in olden days.

The furniture and displays are very old. It is important that you do not touch them.



**That is one of the most important rules in this museum.
Don't touch the displays!**

The museum is made up of four buildings. There are walkways and courtyards in between buildings.



**See that sign? The arrow shows you where to go next.
Take some time to enjoy the gardens!**

There are some chickens in the garden! You can say hello to them but please do not kiss the chickens.



I'm just kidding. (You can't kiss the chickens because they don't have lips!)

**Sometimes you have to walk through several courtyards.
Don't worry! Just look for the signs.**



**The gardens are very peaceful. If you need a chance to rest
you can relax outside in a courtyard.**

Building 2 is called the Blettermanhuis. It is OK to sit on the benches in front of the buildings. This is a great place to sit and rest!



When we get inside we have to use a quiet inside voice.

The main hall looks just like it might have during the early days of Stellenbosh Village.



**These people are doing a great job visiting the museum.
They are looking at the exhibits but they aren't
touching anything.**

Off of the main hall are other rooms. This room you are allowed to go in.



This room has a fence to keep people from entering. Do not go into the rooms that are blocked off like this.



**There are paintings here of some of the people who lived in
Stellensbosch Village during colonial times.**



**Here is another rule at the museum. Don't sit in the chairs!
Some of these chairs are antiques and only people who
work at the museum are allowed to sit on them.**

When you leave this building, you will see this gate. This is the way to building 3.



This is a good time to mention that you should stay with your group and always go on to the next building together!

Building 3 is the Grosvenor House. It is across the street.



Be very careful crossing the street!

This is the entrance to the Grosvenor House. Take the time to stop and read the signs. You will learn a lot about the museum.



Just like in the other houses you have already visited, you can walk around and see what life was like during colonial times.



Building 4 is called the OM Berghhuis. It is back across the street.



**Be careful crossing the street. Always use the crosswalks.
There can be many tourists and busses in this area.**

The OM Berghhuis has a lot of things to look at. If patterns bother your eyes, you might want to skip this building.



This is the entry hall. Even though the animal trophies are close by, please don't touch them.

You can see the dining room with all the dishes people used several hundred years ago.



There is even more upstairs.



These stairs are very old so go up and down very slowly and carefully!

This is the parlor of the OM Berghhuis. There are paintings of the people who used to live here.



I hope you enjoy your visit to the four houses that make up the Stellenbosch Village Museum. I know you will do a great job visiting these amazing antique houses!

Don't throw your litter on the ground! Put it in the garbage can!



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Ability Guidebooks are step-by-step instructions on how to access community destinations. For many people with autism and neuro-diversity, new situations can cause stress and discomfort. This is why I emphasize the places to sit and areas to relax.

Ability Guidebooks help prepare people for new experiences. They have proven to work incredibly well in my classroom and I know they will work in yours!

This book will also help general ed teachers prepare their students to visit the Stellenbosch Village Museum.



Can You Translate?

**If you can translate this book into any other language
I would love to hear from you!**

Brett Bigham is the 2014 Oregon State Teacher of the Year and an NEAF National Award for Teaching Excellence winner. He was named the 2019 MUGU International Foundation's Global Innovator award. He is the only Oregon Special Education teacher to win these awards.

**I would like to thank the National Education Association Foundation for their incredible support for students. In 2015 I was named an NEAF Global Fellow and travelled to Peru through that program. This allowed me to make the first international Ability Guidebook for the Museo de Inka in Cusco. Other books for Peru followed and left behind a new core of supports for people with autism in Peru. In 2018 I was again chosen for the fellowship and travelled to South Africa where I took photos for fourteen new Ability Guidebooks. Thank you NEAF for making the happen!
Thank you to the many photographers who share their photos on Flickr & Wikimedia Commons!**

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