



Where in the world are: the New Republic,
Transvaal and
Orange Free State?
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These countries are located in what is now South Africa. All three of these countries were also Boer states.



Source: <http://www.luptravel.com/worldmaps/history-africa22.html>



The New Republic was a short-lived Republic that was established in 1884 by Boers from Transvaal who gained the land from the Zulu people. This Republic was landlocked in the southeastern part of what is now South Africa, with Zululand on the east, Natal on the south and Transvaal on the north and west. When the South African colony of Natal annexed Zululand in 1887 the days of this republic were numbered. Stamps were issued in 1886 and 1887. A total of 64 different stamps were issued between 1886 and 1887. These stamps were individually hand stamped on gummed and perforated sheets of paper; resulting in both a variety of mis-aligned and stamps with poor impressions. These stamps are labeled “Nieuwe Republiek Zuid Afrika”.

Transvaal was also a former Boer Republic (officially called the South African Republic), a British colony in southern Africa and a province in the Republic of South Africa. This area of Africa was bounded by Natal and Mozambique on the east, Orange Free State on the south and Bechuanaland on the west. Boers originally settled Transvaal in 1838. In the mid-1830s some 12,000 Boers seeking to leave British controlled Cape Colony expanded into the land between the Limpopo and Vaal Rivers. More Boers moved into this area when the British annexed the Boer republic of Natal. The British recognized the independence of Afrikaners north of the Vaal River under the terms of the Sand River Convention. A constitution was drafted in 1855 and in 1856 the South African Republic was formed. The area was annexed and occupied by Great Britain between 1877-81, with independence granted after 1881. Increasing tension with the British led to the Boer War of 1899-1902. In 1900 Transvaal became a crown colony. In 1910, the Transvaal joined Natal, Cape Colony and the Orange River Colony to form the Union of South Africa. Transvaal issued stamps between 1869 and 1910. A total of 284 regular and commemorative issue stamps, with varieties, were issued during this period. A set of seven postage due stamps were issued in 1907.



Orange Free State, or Oranje Vry Staat in Afrikaans, is a landlocked Boer State in southern Africa. This state is located in eastern South Africa bounded by Natal on the east, Cape Colony on the south and west and Transvaal on the north. This area was set up as a Boer Republic in 1854. Between 1899 and 1902 the Orange Free State joined Transvaal in the Boer War against the British. In 1900, Britain occupied and annexed the Orange Free State as the Orange River Colony. Self-government was restored in 1907. In 1910 Orange Free State became a province in the Union of South Africa. In 1961, the Union of South Africa became the Republic of South Africa. In 1994, the province of the Orange Free State became the province of Free State. The Orange Free State issued the first stamps in 1868 through 1897, when a series of 43 stamps with varieties were issued. Between 1900 and 1901 roughly twenty stamps, with varieties, were issued under British occupation. In 1900, stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were overprinted "ORANGE RIVER COLONY". In 1903, these overprinted stamps were replaced with a set of stamps depicting King Edward VII inscribed "Orange River Colony".





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