

VAAL BARRAGE

COORDINATES (degrees, minutes, seconds)

LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
26° 45' 43" S	27° 42' 00" E

LOCATION

The Vaal Barrage is located in quaternary catchment C22K, near Vanderbijlpark in Gauteng Province, South Africa.

DESCRIPTION

The Vaal Barrage is a gravity barrage. It has a full supply level of 1,421.1 m and a dead storage level of 1,413.5 m. The bottom of the reservoir is at 1,410.5 m.

PURPOSE

This reservoir was once used to supply water to the Witwatersrand but no longer does so, because the quality of its water is deteriorating due to pollution. It is now used for recreational activities, such as boating, skiing, fishing and swimming. Many holiday resorts have been established on its banks.

PHYSICAL INFORMATION

Dam name	River	Quaternary catchment	FSC* (million m ³)	FSA (km ²)	Owner	DWA code	Wall height (m)	Wall length (m)
Vaal Barrage	Vaal	C22K	55.40	13.50	Rand Water	C2R008	10	329

* Live full supply capacity (ORASECOM, 2007a, WRYM datasets and DWA, 1990)



Vaal Barrage (source: SA Dept of Water Affairs)



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Year of completion	Demands/abstractions (million m ³ /a)			1:50 yield (million m ³ /a)	Maximum spillway capacity (m ³ /s)
	Domestic	Irrigation	Other		
1922	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

AREA-CAPACITY RELATIONSHIP

Elevation (m)	Storage (million m ³)	Surface area (km ²)
1,422.5	77.50	18.20
1,421.1	55.40	13.50
1,420.5	47.90	12.10
1,418.5	28.10	8.10
1,416.5	14.50	5.70
1,415.5	9.40	4.70
1,414.5	5.10	3.90
1,413.5	2.00	2.60
1,413.5	1.90	2.50
1,410.5	0.00	0.00



Canoeists paddle along the Klip River, a tributary of the Vaal River, near Meyerton, south of Johannesburg. The Vaal River basin extends across the economic and industrial heartland of South Africa (© UNOPS/Greg Marinovich).

