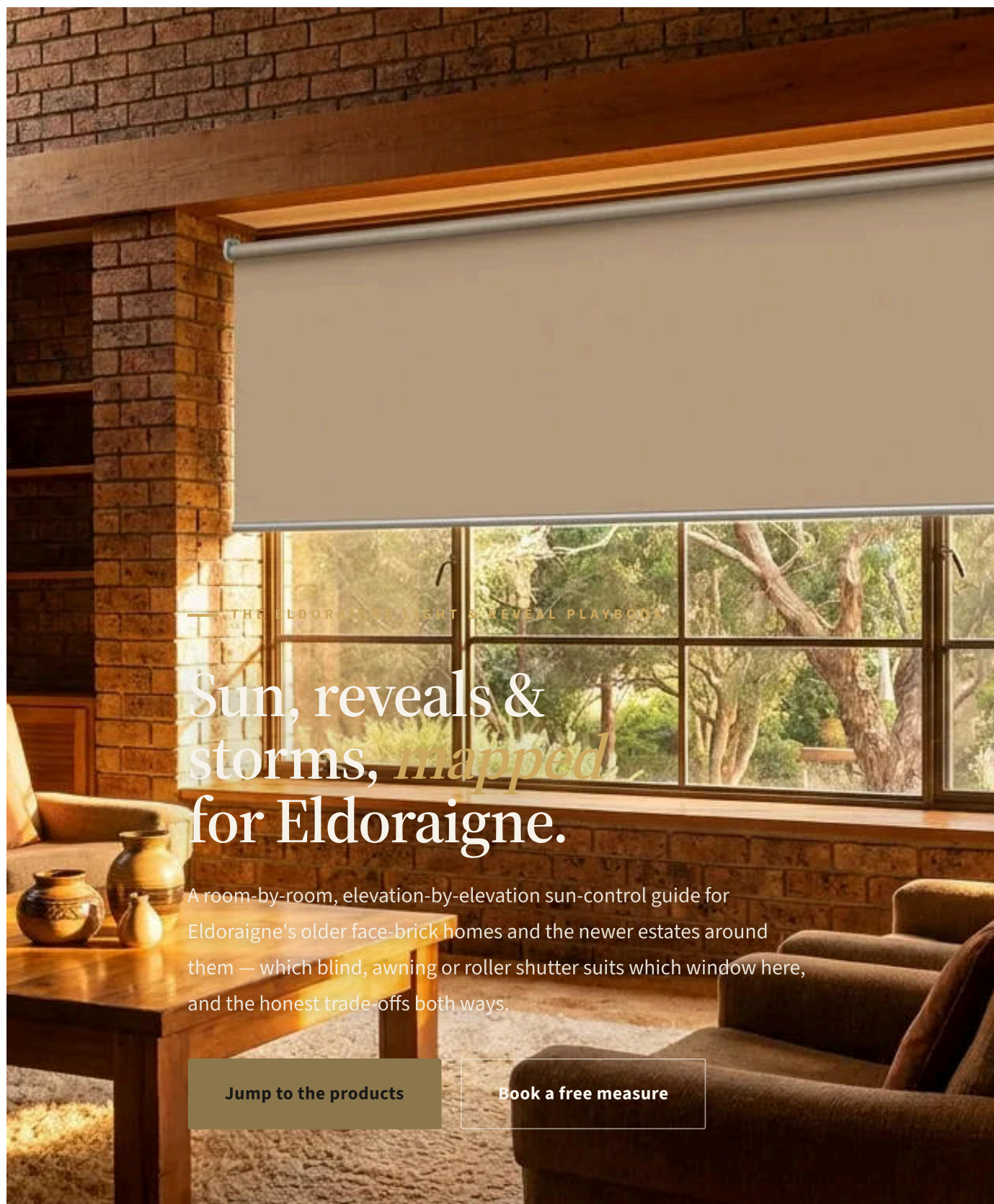




— THE ELDORAIGNE LIGHT & REVEAL PLAYBOOK —

Sun, reveals & storms, *mapped* for Eldoraigne.

A room-by-room, elevation-by-elevation sun-control guide for Eldoraigne's older face-brick homes and the newer estates around them — which blind, awning or roller shutter suits which window here, and the honest trade-offs both ways.

[Jump to the products](#)

[Book a free measure](#)

— START HERE

Eldoraigne is often two window problems on one stand — and they want opposite answers.

Eldoraigne is one of Centurion's older, established suburbs — spacious stands, mature leafy gardens and predominantly **face-brick homes from the 1970s and 80s**, most single-storey or split-level with original steel-framed casement windows set in deep brick reveals. Property portals call it "**one of Centurion's older but up-market and affluent, always expanding, suburbs,**" ranging from big free-standing houses to newer security-estate pockets like Eldoglen and Eldo View.

That mix is the whole story for shading here. A single Eldoraigne home routinely carries a 40-year-old casement window with a deep reveal **and** a brand-new stacking door on a rear extension — and the right blind for the old opening is the wrong blind for the new one. This playbook walks both — the light on each elevation, then product by product, with the reasoning and the honest trade-offs. No rand figures; those come from measuring your own windows. Just a clear map of what we'd specify where, and why.

— THE LIGHT HERE

A high summer sun, a hard west afternoon, and a sky that turns by three o'clock.

Eldoraigne sits at about **25.8° south and roughly 1,430 m up** on the Highveld plateau. That far south, the sun crosses the **northern** half of the sky, so north-facing rooms get steady light all day — and the angle swings hard by season. At midsummer the noon sun stands almost overhead here (around 87°), so a modest eave shades a north window; at midwinter it drops to about 41°, a low northern sun that reaches deep inside as welcome warmth. The rooms that suffer face the sunset: South African building-orientation guidance puts it plainly — "**west-facing windows get hot afternoon sun, which can cause overheating,**" while east windows take a harsh, low morning sun.

Altitude sharpens all of it. UV climbs roughly **10–12% for every 1,000 m** because the thinner air filters less, so the Highveld runs high UV year-round, strongest October to March — fading curtains, carpets and timber faster than at the coast, and cooking any west lounge behind the single-pane glass of Eldoraigne's original windows.

Then the storms. The Highveld is "especially prone to intense afternoon and evening thunderstorms between October and March," hail included — peaking in November and usually building through the afternoon around 3pm to 6pm. That one fact decides how any *exterior* shading is built here: motorised and wind-sensed, so it retracts itself before the gust and the hail arrive.

— ELEVATION BY ELEVATION

Find your window before you pick a product.

The direction a window faces matters more than the room it is in. Here is what each side of an Eldoraigine home is actually dealing with.

NORTH-FACING Steady light you tune, not fight The easy elevation — high summer sun is largely handled by the eaves, low winter sun is welcome inside. The job here is glare and UV on the view glass, not raw heat.	WEST-FACING The hard problem: afternoon heat Low, blinding and hot from about 3pm in summer, straight through original single glazing — the one elevation where stopping the heat <i>outside</i> the glass beats anything hung inside.
EAST-FACING Sharp early sun in bedrooms A low, direct sunrise into east bedrooms and breakfast rooms. You want a proper morning block here — not just a glare filter that still lets the room light up at dawn.	SOUTH-FACING & OLD REVEALS Even light, cold nights, odd sizes South rooms get soft, even light but the coldest winter nights; and Eldoraigine's original casement openings and deep reveals are rarely a standard size — each one is measured on its own.

— THE PICKS, WITH REASONS

What we'd specify here, and why it beats the alternative.

Every recommendation below carries its honest trade-off — including the times the simpler or cheaper option is the right call. Tap "**Carry into my request**" on any card and it drops straight into your free-measure list and the ballpark table at the foot of the guide.



WEST ELEVATION • OUR PICK

External venetians

On a west wall the win is simple physics: **stop the heat before it crosses the glass**. External venetians sit outside the pane and reflect the afternoon load away, so the room stays cooler than it ever will with a blind inside — an interior blind darkens the room, but the sun-struck glass still radiates its absorbed heat inward. And unlike a solid roller shutter, the slats still **tilt**, so you keep daylight and the garden view.

The honest trade-off: exterior systems cost more than an interior blind, and in a security estate their colour and profile usually need sign-off. Where the west glass is small, or a body corporate is strict, a good interior **blockout roller** is cheaper, protects furnishings from fade and stays invisible from the street — sometimes the smarter call.

Prefer a solid exterior? Roller shutters do the same job with full blackout and a physical face over the glass for hail season — these are **shading** shutters, not security-rated ones.

NORTH & GARDEN-VIEW GLASS • OUR PICK

Sunscreen roller blinds

On the north-facing living glass that looks over Eldoraigne's mature gardens, a **sunscreen roller** keeps the view while cutting glare and the Highveld's fierce UV — a single smooth fabric sheet on a tube, no folds, at the usual 3–5% openness sweet spot. It filters the light rather than blocking it, so the leafy outlook people move here for stays part of the room.

The honest trade-off: sunscreen turns see-through at night once the lights are on, so it gives you daytime glare control but not evening privacy. In a room used after dark, pair it with a **blockout roller** on a double bracket — one fabric for day, one for night.

EAST BEDROOMS • OUR PICK

Blockout roller blinds

East windows take a low, sharp sunrise straight onto the pillow. In a bedroom the honest answer is a **blockout roller** — a dense single fabric on a tube that genuinely darkens the room for a proper sleep-in, and holds winter warmth against that early chill. It's the simplest, most cost-effective fix for a room that lights up at dawn.

The honest trade-off: a blockout is all-or-nothing — up for light, down for dark, with no daytime middle setting. If you want privacy-with-a-bit-of-view during the day as well as a night block, a **day/night (zebra) blind** gives you both from one blind, at a little more cost and complexity.



COLD SINGLE-GLAZING • OUR PICK

Cellular / honeycomb blinds

Eldoraigne's older homes are almost all **single-glazed**, and Highveld winter nights are properly cold. A cellular blind traps a layer of air in its honeycomb cells right against the glass — the **most insulating blind we fit** — taking the edge off both the winter cold and the summer heat through that thin old pane, and it stacks away small on a shallow reveal.

The honest trade-off: a cellular blind raises and lowers but it cannot tilt, so it gives you privacy-or-view, not the in-between a venetian offers. If you like watching the garden through half-tilted slats, that flat cell face will feel like a compromise — the gain here is comfort and quiet, not adjustability.



CHARACTER ROOMS & KITCHENS · OUR PICK

Timber venetian blinds

In a living room, study or open-plan kitchen where the face-brick warmth matters, a **timber venetian** steers light instead of just blocking it — tilt up for glare-free daylight, down for privacy — and warm basswood slats sit at home against brick and older joinery, working *with* the character of the room rather than hiding the window behind a flat panel.

The honest trade-off: timber slats gather dust and can bow in a steamy room over a few wet Highveld summers. Where there's real moisture — the kitchen sink window, a bathroom, a laundry — an **aluminium venetian** gives you the same tilt control but wipes clean and never warps. Choose timber for warmth, aluminium for the wet rooms.



THE BRAAI PATIO • OUR PICK

Folding-arm awning

To shade a patio or braai area without building a permanent roof, a **folding-arm awning** extends a fabric canopy on articulated arms — no posts, no structure, and gone at the touch of a button when the low winter sun is exactly what you want on the paving. It gives you the shade of a roof only when you need it.

The honest trade-off: because it is fabric on an exposed Highveld elevation, it **must** be motorised with a wind sensor so it retracts before the afternoon storm — an un-sensored awning is the one that ends up wind- and hail-damaged. If you want permanent, walk-away cover, a fixed structure or a **zip screen** enclosure is more robust, if less flexible.

WIDE SLIDING DOORS & REAR EXTENSIONS • OUR PICK

Vertical / panel blinds & motorisation

Where an older Eldoraighne home has been extended at the rear with wide stacking or sliding doors, one narrow blind won't do it. **Vertical or panel blinds** tilt for light and draw fully clear of the glass, so you keep the whole opening; and on a wide or high span **motorisation** is often the only practical control — one remote or app for the elevation, and it removes cords entirely, the safest child-safe setup.

The honest trade-off: a wired motor is tidiest but wants deciding at renovation stage, while the walls are open; retrofitting cable through a finished ceiling is disruptive. If the extension is already closed up, **battery motors** are the clean way in, at the price of the occasional recharge.

— TWO WAYS DOWN FROM HERE

Want this mapped to your own windows?

Send us the rooms that are bothering you and we'll do it properly — free, on site. Or pop in rough sizes first for a ballpark. Both live below.

[Take me to the two ways forward](#)

— ESTATES & OLDER FRAMES

Two very different rulebooks on one street.

In the older part of Eldoraigne, the rulebook is the building itself. Original steel-framed casement windows sit in **deep brick reveals** that are rarely square and rarely a standard size. How far the glass sits back from the wall decides whether a blind mounts neatly inside the recess or face-fits onto the wall — and on a deep reveal, an outside mount often looks tidier and makes the window feel larger. That's measured window by window, never assumed.

In the newer security-estate pockets — Eldoglen, Eldo View and the like, plus the estates across the surrounding Centurion belt — anything visible from outside usually needs to satisfy an estate or body-corporate guideline on approved exterior colours and profiles. We specify exterior products in clean profiles and

estate-appropriate colours, and can supply the product documentation most committees ask for at submission stage, so an approval isn't held up over a datasheet.

— THE HONEST BIT

What a guide can't settle — and a measure can.

This is why the free in-home measure exists. These five things change the specification, and none of them can be judged from a page.

01 The exact reveal depth, window by window

Whether each casement mounts inside its deep brick recess or face-fits onto the wall — and on Eldoraigne's older openings it varies from one window to the next.

02 What the existing fixings and frames will hold

Fixing into original steel frames, plastered brick and older lintels is a look-and-tap job on site — not something judged from a page.

03 The true wind exposure of the patio

How open your braai patio is to the Highveld's afternoon gusts decides the awning cassette and the wind-sensor spec — an exposed corner is a different brief to a sheltered one.

04 Where the motor power actually runs

On a wide rear extension or a double-volume, whether we route wired power or fit battery motors depends on the cabling and the ceiling — decided on site.

05 Your estate's specific colour & profile rules

Each estate or body corporate asks for different documentation and finishes; we confirm exactly what your scheme wants before quoting anything visible from outside.

The free measure — or a ballpark first.

Real per-window pricing comes from an in-home measure. If you'd rather see rough numbers before anyone visits, the ballpark tool does that too. Either is free, and neither commits you to anything.

— SOURCES

Where the facts in this guide come from.

Every climate, sun-path and suburb claim above is drawn from the references below. Anything we couldn't verify to a specific source — a gazetted heritage boundary, an exact founding year for Eldoraigne — we've deliberately not asserted.

1. Eldoraigne location, coordinates ($\approx 25^{\circ}50'30''\text{S}$ $28^{\circ}09'33''\text{E}$), population & character — Wikipedia: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eldoraigne
2. Eldoraigne housing stock ("older but up-market", large stands, established leafy trees, security-estate pockets) — Private Property area guide: privateproperty.co.za
3. Centurion altitude ($\approx 1,432$ m) & coordinates — CountryCoordinate: countrycoordinate.com; latitude.to
4. Building orientation for South Africa (north / west / east elevations, "west-facing windows get hot afternoon sun") — Architecture South Africa: architecturesa.co.za; corroborated by Meik Architects "Why North?": meik.co.za
5. High-altitude UV (≈ 10 – 12% rise per 1,000 m) — Delta Health: deltahealthco.org; Spot My UV: spotmyuv.com
6. Highveld thunderstorm & hail season (Oct–Mar, peak November, afternoon 3–6pm) — Highveld storms briefing: flightlineweekly.com; Gauteng supercell study, Univ. of Pretoria: repository.up.ac.za; SA hail-hazard study (NHESS): nhess.copernicus.org
7. Summer/winter noon sun elevation ($\approx 87^{\circ}$ / $\approx 41^{\circ}$) — calculated from the verified latitude (25.8°S) using standard solar declination ($\pm 23.44^{\circ}$), not asserted from a single page.