



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

**Kindly ensure that all your travel documents and entry requirements are correct and up to date.**

Travel For Life will not be held responsible for any incorrect documentation, nor any costs arising thereof. This includes passports, visas, vaccinations, etc required for arrival and departure.

We can provide information to the best of our knowledge, but as these regulations are subject to change and may differ depending on where you are travelling from / to, we suggest you contact the relevant embassy of your intended destination country prior to travel to confirm the current requirements.

#### PASSPORTS

You must be in possession of a **passport valid for at least 6 months after your return date** to enter the country.

The passport must also contain at least **TWO unused pages** when presenting the passport for endorsements in South Africa. Additional pages will be necessary if you are also travelling to other countries during your trip.

#### VISAS

All travellers must have valid visas for the countries they will be visiting, if a visa is required.

These must be obtained before travel commences **and is not the responsibility of Travel For Life.**

Some may be obtained on arrival - kindly confirm before the time.

<http://www.southafrica.info/travel/documents/visas.htm#U4cOKHKSswXE>

#### TRAVELLERS UNDER 18

Where the child is travelling with both his/her parents, the child will need his/her birth certificate or equivalent document.

In the event that one or both of the parents are not travelling with the child, the parent(s) consent is required and will need to be an official document / affidavit (including copies of the parents' identity documents or passports, as well as the child's birth certificate or equivalent document).

The letter will need to be attested by a Commissioner of Oaths - a South African Embassy in the traveller's country of residence may be approached to commission the oath or solemn declaration required in the Affidavit free of charge.

The Affidavit must not be older than 6 months when presented.

*There is a suggested format for the parental consent letter available if required.*

All documents must be either original or copies certified as a true copy of the original by a commissioner of oaths or the equivalent commissioning authority, should commissioners of oath not be a practice in the country concerned.

[Home Affairs on requirements for children travelling through South African ports of entry](#)

#### YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION CERTIFICATE

If you will be travelling from/through a WHO-designated yellow fever country to South Africa, an international yellow fever vaccination certificate is required.

The certificate must be in English, and the vaccination needs to be taken at least 10 days before departure date.

#### NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST CERTIFICATE

Passengers entering/transiting through South Africa must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued at most 72 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.

<https://www.gov.za/covid-19/individuals-and-households/travel-coronavirus-covid-19#>

If you require a COVID-19 test for your flight back home, there are many testing facilities available, including at both Cape Town and Johannesburg Airport (bookings may be required and the turnaround time varies so be sure to look into this prior). If ending on safari, some lodges are also able to arrange for you to have the test done at the lodge.



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### **MASKS**

It is compulsory to wear a mask in public.

### **TRAVEL HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE**

<https://sa-covid-19-travel.info/>

To be completed not more than 2 days ahead of your trip.

*Once completed, you will be issued a unique number (look-up ID), to present to the Port Health Officers as part of the screening process.*

Arrival form: <https://sa-covid-19-travel.info/entryq/create>

Departure form: <https://sa-covid-19-travel.info/exitq/create>

### **ENTRY HEALTH SCREEN FORM**

Can be completed prior to or on arrival.

Arrival form: <https://www.airports.co.za/Documents/ENTRY%20SCREENING%20THQ.pdf>

Departure form: <https://www.airports.co.za/Documents/Exit%20Screening%20Questionnaire.pdf>

### **MALARIA**

In South Africa, there are certain parts which are malaria-risk areas (Limpopo / KwaZulu-Natal / Mpumalanga), with the highest risk being between November - April.

If you will be visiting malaria areas (such as the Greater Kruger area for safari), we advise that you take prophylactics. Please consult your doctor before leaving home, as many prophylactics require a prescription and some need to be taken e.g. a week before entering the malaria area.

Other countries that are malaria-risk areas include: Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, northern Namibia, and northern Botswana.

<http://www.health.gov.za/malaria/>

### **ACCOMMODATION CHECK IN / CHECK OUT TIMES**

#### **GUEST HOUSES / HOTELS**

- Check-in is usually from 14:00 / 15:00
- Check-out is usually by 10:00 / 11:00

#### **LODGES**

- Check-in is usually from 13:00 / 14:00
- Check-out is usually by 11:00

For a very late check-in / very early check-out, the property will need to be informed prior, so that they can ensure the necessary arrangements are made.

For an early check-in / late check-out, prior arrangements need to be made with the properties as it is dependent on availability of the room(s) and an additional cost may apply.

At the safari lodges, the daily schedule is quite set so a late arrival / early departure may cause you to miss a game drive and/or a meal.

## FREE LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE ON FLIGHTS

The luggage policies differ slightly between the airlines - some may restrict you only on the weight while others also restrict you on the number of pieces of luggage allowed.

Kindly refer to your e-ticket(s) for more information, or visit the airlines' website:

### SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

Checked luggage: <https://www.flysaa.com/manage-fly/baggage/checked-baggage>

Carry-on luggage: <https://www.flysaa.com/manage-fly/baggage/hand-baggage>

### AIRLINK

Checked luggage: <https://www.flyairlink.com/baggage-info/checked-baggage>

Carry-on luggage: <https://www.flyairlink.com/travel-info/baggage-info/hand-and-cabin>

### MANGO

Checked luggage: <https://www.flymango.com/en/baggage/checked-baggage>

Carry-on luggage: <https://www.flymango.com/en/baggage/carry-on-baggage>

### KULULA

Checked / Carry-on luggage: <https://www.kulula.com/flights/baggage>

Any luggage exceeding the free allowance will be subject to excess luggage fees, and if it exceeds the maximum weight allowed it will either have to be repacked into separate bags or checked in as cargo (where possible) - also subject to additional fees.

## FEDERAL AIR FLIGHTS

For shuttle flights booked on smaller aircrafts, different regulations apply.

The free luggage allowance entitles all passengers to **one** piece of checked luggage and **one** small carry-on item.

- Soft-sided luggage/duffel bags with ONE flat side will be allowed (applicable to both checked luggage and carry-on)
- Checked luggage: Maximum weight is 20kg (44lbs) and size is 40cm (16 inches) width x 30cm (12 inches) height x 60cm (24 inches) length
- Carry-on luggage: Maximum weight is 5kg (11lbs)
- Soft sided bags can be purchased at the lounge at an additional cost.
- Complimentary luggage storage facility is available at Johannesburg Airport for clients booked on a return basis

Full baggage policy available on request.



## ADDITIONAL LUGGAGE SERVICES

- **A-Teck South Africa** <http://www.a-teck.co.za/> (luggage wrapping / luggage storage)
- **Excess Luggage** [www.excessluggage.co.za](http://www.excessluggage.co.za) (shipping of extra luggage)



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### CAR RENTAL

Kindly note that if you will be renting a car while you are here, you will require a valid driver's license. If you have a driver's license that is **not** in English, you will need to get an International Driver's License prior to arrival.

### PACKING TIPS

#### TOILETRIES

- Dispense personal toiletries into small containers - these can always be replenished when in South Africa
- Many hotels / lodges / guesthouses provide soaps, shampoos and other basic toiletries for your convenience
- Sun block lotion is essential to protect your skin against the harsh African sun
- Mosquito and insect repellent is also recommended, especially in the summer months - these are also widely available throughout South Africa, and many lodges will have some available in the rooms
- If travelling with medication, always keep it in its original, correctly labelled packaging

#### CLOTHING

**Summers** in the Cape Town area are generally hot and dry, whereas in the Kruger area they are hot but rainy.

**Winters** in the Cape Town area are cold and wet, whereas in the Kruger area they are cold but dry.

We generally recommend layering as the temperatures can easily change throughout the day.

Casual wear is widely accepted at hotels / lodges / guest houses.

However, it is a good idea to pack something smart casual / semi-formal just in case you want to go out for a fancy dinner or a special event.

#### CLOTHING - SAFARI

We recommend neutral colours - you want to blend in as much as possible with the natural surroundings.

White is fine but may get dirty quickly. It is best to pack hardy, durable clothing and materials that breath well for the hot days.

But stay away from camo - only the SANDF (South African National Defense Force) are allowed to wear camouflage materials and you could be arrested for wearing it (this is also applicable in many other African countries).

As you are outdoors a lot during the day (you get 2 game drives a day of around 3 hours each) it's good to have something to protect you from the sun (hat and sunglasses).

Also always have something warm with you on the game drives, even if it's just something light during summer - the morning drives start very early and evening drives usually return once it's dark, and even if though it might not feel cold at first the wind can get chilly once the vehicle gets moving.

In the winter a beany, gloves and scarf / buff will help when it gets very cold, and many lodges will also have blankets and/or hot water bottles available on the drives.

We also recommend comfortable walking shoes.

Most lodges also have a pool, so be sure to pack your swimwear!

#### GADGETS

- Binoculars (some lodges provide these on the game drives)
- Camera including memory sticks, charger and additional batteries
- Plug adapters (some lodges / hotels / guest houses may have adapters available that you can use)

#### A FEW MORE TIPS

- Leave space in your luggage for gifts and souvenirs to take back home.
- Pack a small overnight bag for flights or car travel when you are only spending one night somewhere en route to your next destination - then you don't need to unpack your whole bag!
- Check what the weather is like in advance but do prepare for both cold and warm weather. Especially when on safari, you can't pop out to the store to stock up on any extra clothing items you may need.



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### CURRENCY

The South African currency is the **Rand (ZAR)**.

Most hotels, restaurants, attractions and shops accept **credit cards**, however many do not accept AMEX.

There are Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) available if you need to withdraw cash using your debit or credit card.

ATMs are plentiful in South Africa but be very cautious when withdrawing large amounts of money.

Most major commercial banks offer foreign exchange services - ABSA / FNB / Nedbank / Standard Bank / Capitec.

Some banks are also able to provide foreign exchange and credit cards.

If you are travelling to Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique or Zimbabwe the currency of choice is the **US Dollar** (though they do also have their own local currency).

Most hotels, restaurants, attractions/activities and shops accept payment in US Dollars.

Most hotels also accept credit cards (for settling room accounts etc).

If taking cash, rather take dollars in small denominations, and be sure that you carry NEW dollar bills (issued after the year 2000) as older notes are not accepted in US Dollar-based African countries.

### TIPPING

Tipping is customary in South Africa, although entirely at your own discretion.

Hotels and lodges often use an "envelope system" with your tip distributed amongst staff members, so a daily tip is not necessary. This is a good way of ensuring that it reaches all the staff that made your stay comfortable in some way, from housekeeping and kitchen staff to front of house and general staff.

So then a daily tip is not necessary unless a certain staff member has gone out of their way to give you good service, then you can tip them personally.

If an envelope isn't available you can ask them to include it when you settle your room bill.

- **Restaurants / Bars:** The general guideline is 10% of the total bill, or more if you feel you received excellent service.
- **Ranger / Tracker:** It's generally accepted that the ranger and tracker are tipped separately as you spend a lot of your time with them. We recommend around ZAR 200.00 per couple per day for each.
- **Porter:** It's customary to tip them directly (cash) after they've taken your bags to your room - we recommend around ZAR 20.00.
- **Tour guide:** We generally recommend around ZAR 200.00 per couple, or more if you felt the guide went the extra mile to make your tour enjoyable.

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

10111 Nationwide Emergency Response

10177 Ambulance

082 911 Netcare911 (private ambulances and rapid response vehicles)

112 Cell phone emergency\*

\*A call to 112 on a cell phone is free and is even possible on a cell phone that does not have airtime (it also works if you don't have a SIM card).

You will then reach a call centre and they will route you to an emergency service closest to you.

The automated menu acts as a form of triage (priority of treatment) control.



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### SAFETY AND TRAVEL TIPS

As advised by the Department of Tourism <https://www.tourism.gov.za/Pages/Safety--Travel-Tips-Info.aspx>

#### At the Airport:

- Watch out for staged mishaps - like someone bumping into you or spilling a drink - this could be a ploy to divert your attention and steal your bag and passport;
- When seeking directions, proceed marked information counters only;
- Do not take cabs that have been recommended by people standing outside the airport terminal.

#### At your Accommodation:

- Store valuables in the safety deposit box;
- Keep your room locked;
- If someone knocks, check who it is before opening the door. Contact reception if you have any reason for concern;
- Make sure that luggage is only given to bell staff, and a receipt is issued for stored luggage;
- Do not leave unattended valuables on chairs, under tables or on restroom hooks.

#### On the Street:

- Avoid ostentatious display of expensive jewellery, cameras, mobile phones and other valuables.;
- Keep your handbag closed or zipped, and your wallet in an inside pocket and not in the rear pocket of your trousers;
- Do not leave them unattended. Also, it is ill-advised to carry large sums of money with you;
- Do not walk around talking on your mobile phone in the street and do not leave in unattended;
- Exchange your currency at a bank or at the hotel, not on the street.

#### In your Vehicle:

- Plan your route in advance, keep the doors locked and windows up at all times;
- Do not leave your mobile phone or other valuables where they are visible from outside the vehicle. Rather lock valuables in the boot (trunk) before your departure;
- At night, park in well-lit areas;
- Never pick up strangers or hitchhikers;
- If in doubt about the safety of an area, phone a police station for advice and help;
- Make sure you have the number of the car rental company at hand in case you get stranded.

#### ATM and Credit Cards:

- Credit card transactions must be processed in your presence;
- Try and keep a backup credit card and cash in a safe place where you are staying;
- At the ATM be alert at all times. If you see anything suspicious, stop your transaction and leave.

#### Lost or Stolen Mobile Phones:

- Inform your network provider of your loss:
  - Cell C: 140 from Cell C numbers or 084 140 from other cellular phone networks;
  - MTN: 173 (pre-paid) or 808 (contract) from MTN numbers or 083 1173 from a land line or other cellular phone networks;
  - Vodacom: 111 from a Vodacom number or 082 111 from a landline;
- You will receive a reference number to prove that your cellular phone has been blacklisted. Report the loss of your cellular phone to your nearest police station by providing the reference number of your blacklisted cellular phone. The police will register a case;



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- If you make use of a service provider from your country, please ensure that you have their contact details with you to report a lost phone;
- Similarly, please ensure that you have the contact details for your bank or credit card company in case a lost or stolen card has to be reported.

### **Identifying a Member of the South African Police Service:**

- Members of the South African Police Service must carry an identification card stating the member's name, rank, service number and photograph;
- You have the right to request members in civilian clothes and members in uniform to identify themselves with their identification cards.

### **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We recommend that you take out adequate travel / health insurance prior to travel.