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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Passports and Visa – Republic of South Africa

Visitors who wish to travel to South Africa must have a passport that is valid for at least 30 days after their intended return date from South Africa. Visitors with an extended validity on a machine readable passport are not allowed to enter or transit South Africa. It's important to note that non-South African passport holders must have at least 1 completely unused visa page for entry or departure endorsements by South African Immigration Service in their passport. Government regulations prohibit airlines from boarding travellers without the required blank visa pages, even if you hold a valid ticket and a valid passport.

Websites to assist with travel planning to South Africa:

<http://www.dirco.gov.za/>

<http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/applying-for-sa-visa>

Flight and Transport Details

All flights must be booked to and from OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg, in the Republic of South Africa.

A connecting flight from Johannesburg to Hoedspruit and back can be booked at various flight service centres. Please ensure booking is done at least two months before arrival.

<https://www.travelstart.co.za> or a similar service

A road shuttle service is also available from Johannesburg to Hoedspruit and back. Please ensure booking is done at least two months before arrival.

<https://ashtonstours.com>

Biometric Capturing

The Republic of South Africa is currently implementing the biometric capturing system at ports of entry. As a non-South African citizen, travelling through the ports of entry you will be expected to provide your fingerprints and photograph at the Immigration counter.





The following Goods are prohibited from Import into South Africa

Vegetables, groundnuts, firewood, honey, raw animal wool and hair, electric blankets, coins, video recorders and reproducers, revolvers and pistols.

Vaccinations

No vaccinations required.

Malaria prevention is required. Please see your doctor or travel clinic about 4 to 6 weeks before your trip. Some malaria pills require that you start taking the drug 3 weeks before you depart.

Packing List

- Windproof jacket
- One or two (fleece) sweaters
- A pair of long pants, trekking pants, but jeans will do
- Some pairs of shorts or convertible pants for flexibility
- T-shirts or shirts
- Sun hat
- Sunscreen
- Closed shoes
- Swimming wear
- Mosquito repellent
- Chronic and other personal medicine required
- Small backpack

Tips for the Trip

Enjoy and absorb all the little things; try to understand the different sounds and smells and what they could mean. The African bush is a unique experience and will change your whole outlook on life.

Take your sense of adventure, disconnect, and immerse yourself in nature, culture and in a new experience. These are memories that will last a lifetime... the rest will still be there when you get home.

Have your camera ready at all times, not packed away in your bag, or you could miss out. If you are afraid of dust, cover it with something that can be removed quickly.



Dehydration is serious and can ruin your trip. It is not just about drinking enough water, it is about replenishing the salts you lose from the action of wind and sun.

Always shake out your shoes before putting them on – you never know what may have made a home there during the night.

Dust is part of the experience. Carry some wet wipes to freshen up.

Insect repellent is a must.

The best thing to stop the itch from a mosquito or tsetse fly bite is, would you believe, Haemorrhoid cream

Ladies, don't forget to bring your sports bra for those bumpy bush tracks used.

A spare pair of glasses, an all-purpose charger for your camera battery especially (but for any other devices too), and a waterproof bag that covers your camera – it's useful for all sorts of things, especially in sudden downpours.

A kikoi or a sarong. It's multi-functional: you can wear it as a scarf, wrap it around your head as a turban, wet it and cool off your body or use it as a bath towel.

Bring comfortable clothes, preferably in neutral colours.

SAFETY TIPS

Safety has become an important issue throughout the world. The Tourism Safety Task Group of South Africa has compiled the following tips for tourists and migrants who come to the country:

In the street:

- Avoid ostentatious displays of expensive jewellery, cameras and other valuables
- It's definitely not advisable to carry large sums of money around (rather, we recommend using a safe, convenient prepaid debit card designed specifically for travellers)
- At night, steer clear of dark, isolated areas
- It's better to explore in groups and to stick to well-lit, busy streets
- Plan your route beforehand
- Avoid walking in deserted areas on your own during the day and particularly at night.
- A policeman or traffic officer will be glad to direct you if you get lost

In a car:

- Plan your route in advance
- Keep the car doors locked at all times and wind the windows up
- Lock valuable items in the boot (trunk)
- At night, park in well-lit areas
- Never pick up strangers



- Keep a certified copy of passports and other important documentation such as flight tickets in a safe place such as the lodge safety deposit box.
- Do not wear expensive jewellery.
- Do not allow yourself to be separated from your hand luggage.

- Laptops, camera's, mobile phones and handbags are targeted items.
- Do not allow yourself to be distracted by one person while another person runs off with your possessions.
- If you are hiring a car and intend driving from the airport be sure you know the exact route you should take so that you need not stop to ask for directions making yourself vulnerable and an easy hijack target.
- Please also avoid giving money to beggars; you are more likely to lose your whole wallet in this type of situation. Poverty breeds crime!

South Africa is not the only country where the above list applies, it applies to many destinations and innocent tourists are caught up in unpleasant situations because they are not vigilant and do not apply wisdom because they are "on holiday" and in a carefree mood.