

TRAVEL CHECK-LIST AND GENERAL TRAVEL TIPS

Travel documentation

- Passport
- Itinerary
- Air tickets
- Vouchers for ground arrangements
- Driver's licence
- Scuba diving certification (If needed)
- Foreign exchange
- Insurance policies

Ensure you have adequate and appropriate insurance cover for the duration of the trip, including cancellation or curtailment of reservations, lost luggage and, importantly, medical expenses

Immunisation

Immunisation is not required for visitors entering South Africa, except for those who have left an area infected by yellow fever. In such cases, visitors will need a valid international yellow-fever vaccination certificate. Visitors travelling to other countries in southern Africa (besides South Africa) should let their travel advisor know, so that he or she can check additional immunisation requirements.

Malaria & Insect Repellant

Please consult your doctor regarding precautions to be taken prior to departure, during your trip and upon returning home. This is especially important when visiting malaria-endemic areas such as Mpumalanga, parts of KwaZulu-Natal and Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique and East Africa.

Peaceful Sleep, Tabard and herbal, citronella-based repellants are available in South Africa.

Medication & Allergies

- Personal prescription medication should be brought from home in sufficient quantities for the duration of your trip, plus copies of prescriptions.
- Advise your travel advisor of any allergies, injuries, chronic medication or physical or mental handicaps in case of an emergency.
- Inform your travel advisor of any dietary requirements (diabetic, kosher, halaal, vegetarian, vegan) or allergies.

Sun protection

- Sunscreen lotions and lip balms with a high UV-protection factor
- Sunglasses for the strong sunlight and glare common in southern Africa.
- A wide-brimmed sun hat

Clothing

- Cool, casual clothes and sturdy, yet comfortable, walking shoes for day wear.
- Swimming costume – pool towels are provided at the hotels and lodges.
- Pack neutral colours for safaris as they are most conducive to good bird watching and game-viewing.
- Long-sleeved cotton shirt to wear in the evenings in malaria areas
- Warm clothing for night wear: a sweater, tracksuit or anorak, woollen hat and gloves are recommended for early morning and evening game drives
- Semi-formal attire for dinner at city restaurants

Equipment

- Camera with spare batteries and film or a back-up memory card
- Battery charger and download cable
- Video camera with charger
- Binoculars – these are great to have on game drives so it is best to bring your own International plug adaptors
- Novels for lazy afternoon reading or, if you want to travel light, download your favourite novels onto your Kindle
- Journal and pen to record the holiday of a lifetime
- iPod and its charger
- Electric toothbrush charger
- Bird, mammal, insect, plant and tree field guides. Most lodges have libraries, but bring your own field guides if you have a keen interest in these subjects.

Hotel Safety

- Place valuables / passports in hotel safe
- Never leave property unattended
- Close & lock door when you are in your hotel room

Give Responsibly

- It is recommended that you do not give directly to people begging on the street
- Support recognised NGOs and projects assisting homeless adults and children

Attending conferences & meetings in the town

- Stay in a group
- Don't keep all your money in one pocket
- Stay on lit paths
- Use accredited taxis
- Be vigilant when withdrawing money from ATMs.

In the street

- Don't walk in deserted or dark areas
- Keep your handbag and possessions close to your body
- Don't use cell phone while walking
- Avoid wearing expensive jewellery or visibly carrying cameras or other valuables
- Let people know where you are going

ATM & Banks

- Use ATM in well-lit and safe places
- Don't allow your card to be removed from your sight
- Don't accept help from strangers or give your pin to anybody
- Watch out for people standing very close to you and looking over your shoulder as you type in the pin
- Never leave your card in the ATM. If stuck follow instructions provided by the ATM machine
- Make sure you are not followed after a transaction