

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## SOUTH AFRICA

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey end and should have a minimum of two (2) consecutive blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

Note: you will need 2 blank visa pages, each time you enter or re-enter South Africa during the course of your journey. Therefore, keep this in mind if your specific itinerary includes travel to countries outside of South Africa followed by a return to South Africa.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into South Africa for stays of up to 90 days.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

### COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

South Africa currently has no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information and travel advisories. All requirements are subject to change.

Note: Guests travelling on a Rovos Rail journey which includes travel to other countries, should check the COVID-19 entry requirements for these destinations.

### YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION & MALARIA PREVENTION

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter South Africa if you are arriving from, or have transited through, a yellow fever-endemic area in South America or Africa. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country/countries you are visiting.

You may be travelling to an area of malaria transmission. We strongly advise that you speak with your doctor or travel clinic regarding your itinerary, individual risk assessment and options for mosquito bite prevention and antimalarial drugs. We recommend filling any prescriptions before you depart.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions should be made in South African Rand. Major credit cards are widely accepted at shops, hotels, safari lodges and restaurants. Access to ATM machines is widespread in large cities such as Johannesburg and Cape Town but limited in rural areas.

### PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

On flights within Southern Africa, each passenger is limited to 1 piece of checked luggage and 1 carry-on bag with a combined total weight of no more than 44 pounds (20 kilograms). This includes the weight of purses and camera equipment in addition to your other luggage. Luggage

restrictions are adhered to very strictly and passengers should pack their bags accordingly. Soft-sided luggage or duffels are required for luggage storage on safari vehicles and also on light aircraft used throughout Southern Africa. Dimensions of your checked bag should not exceed 23 inches (58 centimeters) long x 13 inches (33 centimeters) high x 10 inches (25 centimeters) wide. As a convenience, A&K provides each safari guest with a complimentary, custom-designed A&K Duffel. This bag is specifically crafted to meet airline standards\*. Your carry-on bag should be small enough to fit in your lap or under your seat.

\*Note: in addition to the size and weight restrictions noted above, O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, South Africa also imposes additional restrictions for checked baggage. The A&K Duffel meets these additional requirements as well. However, if you plan to check any bags other than the A&K Duffel during the course of your journey, please be aware of the following regulations:

- Only regular shaped bags will be allowed to be checked in. All bags must have at least one flat surface to be accepted. Round or irregular-shaped bags will not be allowed.

- Bags with long straps will not be allowed. Long straps need to be detached and stored in the luggage (the strap on the A&K Duffel easily detaches and can be stored inside).

Passengers whose bags do not conform to the above rules will be required to have their baggage wrapped with one flat side at an approved baggage wrapping station within the airport.

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

#### Clothing

Choose comfortable and casual clothing in natural, "breathable" fabrics and versatile styles that can be layered as temperatures may vary considerably in the course of the day. For game viewing, wear neutral colors (though not camouflage, which is illegal in most national parks and reserves). Black, navy or other dark colors tend to attract insects. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Note: If your itinerary includes a journey aboard the Rovos Rail train, the required dress code at dinner in the main dining car is a collared shirt and tie for gentlemen (jacket optional), and cocktail attire for women.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Casual slacks                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking shorts  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses | <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirts or blouses   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable walking shoes with traction            | <input type="checkbox"/> If you are travelling during Africa's winter months of mid-May through early September, bring warm clothing —heavy sweater, hat, gloves, lined jacket —to protect against chilly early morning and evening temperatures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A pair of rubber beach sandals to use as slippers. |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brimmed hat for sun protection                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimwear/cover-up   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal garments                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports bra for women for bumpy roads  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwear  | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks   |

#### Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer

- Sunglasses / Sun block
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Insect repellent with high % of DEET to protect against mosquitos and tsetse flies\*
- Simple first-aid kit
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

#### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Lightweight binoculars
- Inflatable pillow or stadium cushion can make bumpy roads more comfortable
- Foldable walking stick
- Small daypack or fanny pack
- Low-suds detergent for washing small items of personal laundry

\*Note: many properties provide insect repellent in rooms/tents. However, you may wish to bring your own preferred brand.

Laundry Service is available at most hotels, lodges and camps. Because some laundries in Africa do not accept any underclothing, be prepared to wash your own smalls. Laundry techniques may not be suitable for delicate and/or synthetic fabrics. Check costs and return times before using these services.

#### TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey.

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Safari Guides	Included	\$20 per person, per day (full day)
Game Trackers (spot game from front of vehicle to assist Safari Guide)	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Driver-Guides for City Sightseeing	Included	\$20 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Bush Lodges and Permanent Tented Camps	Included	\$10 per person, per day – Gratuities are accepted at each property and shared among the staff.
Staff aboard Trains or Cruise Vessels (if applicable)	Included	\$10-\$15 per person, per day – Gratuities are accepted on board and shared among the staff.
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night

Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.