

Tipping Guidelines



There are sometimes different expectations when it comes to tipping from different nationalities and we have found expectations are quite often in line with cultural norms back in respective home countries. In Africa tips are customary in most service industries, however it is not obligatory.

How, when and what to tip: You will often find that the subject of tipping comes up during your stay. The amount of tip generally differs depending on the staff job being done.

These figures are designed to be a guideline based on what have become normal tipping amounts over time. Remember that you should not feel obligated to pay exact amounts and if you feel like giving more or less then please do – it is a tip after all!

- **Airport/Hotel Porters/Bag carriers:** USD 2.00 per porter
- **Safari Driver/Guides:** USD 30.00 per group per day. Hand to the driver/guide directly at the end of the trip
- **Butler (only for lodges that offer this service ie Singita):** USD 15.00 per person per day. Hand to the butler directly at the end of the trip
- **General Camp Staff:** USD 20.00 per person per day. This can be placed in a communal tip box or hand to the camp manager.
- **Community Excursions:** USD 10.00 per person, to be given to the village leader for distribution
- **Kilimanjaro Climbers:** Please refer to the Kilimanjaro Tipping document
- **Gorilla Trekking Guidelines:**
 - **Transfer only guides:** USD 5.00 per group per transfer
 - **Safari Driver/Guides:** USD 30.00 per group per day. Hand to the driver/guide directly at the end of the trip
 - **Local Tour Leaders/Professional Local guides:** USD 40.00 per group per day to be paid at the end of the trip
 - **Gorilla Trek:** USD 30.00 per person per trek (usually 2 treks), hand to the head guide for distribution to the team at the end of the trek
 - **Gorilla Porters** are not mandatory, they are from the local villages and are paid USD 10.00 per porter and no tip is required.

US dollars are generally the most widely accepted tipping currency. It is best to have a range of denominations to enable tips to be broken out. Please plan for this before you holiday.

Please also consider that unused snacks and clothing/equipment will also be gratefully accepted by the staff.

Please note we discourage giving money, sweets, and school supplies directly to the children as this promotes begging. Should you wish to contribute school supplies please refer to Epic's Making A Difference document.