



Holden Safaris Office
1300 Bristol Street N. #100
Newport Beach, CA 92660
Local: 949-500-0094
www.holdensafaris.com

PACKING TIPS FOR YOUR SAFARI

The weather in East and Southern Africa is generally pleasant throughout the year, warm to hot days, and cool to warm nights, summer (September to April) being the hotter months. During winter months, however, (May to August), it can get cold at night and in the early morning, particularly when on safari, so we would like to suggest that you pack accordingly. Evening dress is casual. Long pants and long sleeves are suggested for early morning and after sundown, due to mosquitoes. Sweater or Jacket for cool mornings and evenings. Closed toe shoes are recommended when out in the bush.

Most people make the mistake of taking too much clothing. Remember that you are limited to 15 kg (33lbs) of luggage, (packed in a soft-sided duffel bag) on the small planes flying between various lodges in Africa. Most lodges will hand-wash clothes, however in some of the more remote, smaller lodges, the staff will not wash women's undergarments. Some lodges will give you soap to wash your clothes.

SAFARI COLORS AND MATERIAL

The sensible colors for clothes are classic safari colors (khaki, stone, green) and muted colors that blend in well with the natural environment. Avoid black and blue, as this may attract Tsetse flies, and bright red should also be avoided. Bright colors as well as white, stand out against the muted brown and green tones of Africa. It is also not recommended to wear camouflage clothing as this could be associated with the military.

SUGGESTED PACKING LIST:

- Sun hat/bush hat/preferably with chin strap, complete coverage including the back of the neck area, and the hat must allow your head to "breathe." It should also be waterproof on the outside.
 - Tilly LTM6 Airflo Hat
- Headscarf/bandana – particularly for dusty dry regions.
 - Exofficio Insect Shield Bandana
- Golf-shirts and/or T-shirts – preferably with sleeves to protect your shoulders from the sun.
 - Exofficio Long Sleeve Roll Up Shirts
- Long-sleeved cotton shirts.
 - Exofficio Nio-Clime shirt
- Shorts and/or skirts – really short skirts are not practical for getting in and out of game drive vehicles.
 - Exofficio Nomad Pant/Shorts
- Long trousers/slacks.
 - Exofficio Pant/Shorts
- Track suit.

- Pyjamas – lightweight for summer and warm/thermal for winter.
- Underwear – on game drives the roads can be bumpy and uneven so a suitable bra may be required.
 - Exofficio Give-N-Go Underwear
- Socks – thermal options are recommended for the winter months.
- Good closed walking shoes (running/tennis shoes are fine).
 - Propét Lightweight travel shoes
- Woolite Travel Soap for washing clothes
- Sandals – preferably low heeled or flat if you are going on safari.
- Swimsuit.
- Lightweight jersey or fleece in summer.
- Light rain gear or jacket for summer months.
 - RedEdge packable lightweight rain jacket
- Warm jersey or fleece plus anorak or parka in winter.
- Additionally, a scarf, gloves and beanies/woollen hats for the cold winter months.
- More formal attire for your stay at prestigious city hotels or on one of the luxury trains.
- Compression socks for international flights
 - Sockwell Graduated Compression Socks

EQUIPMENT & OTHER

- A soft-sided duffel bag with or without wheels that is not too large since the smaller planes only allow 15kg (33lbs) of luggage.
 - Eagle Creek Cargo Hauler 45L Packable Duffel
 - Eagle Creek Load Warrior Carry-On (Wheeled)
 - Eagle Creek Afar Backpack
- Money belt, or small bag to carry
 - Eagle Creek RFID Blocker Money Belt & Neck Wallet
- Good quality sunglasses, UV protected, preferably polarised. Tinted fashion glasses are not good in strong light.
- If you wear contact lenses, we recommend that you bring along a pair of glasses in case you get irritation from the dust.
- Flashlight or a head lamp.
 - Pelican Small Flashlight
- Southern African bird guide if you are a keen birder, e.g., Newman’s or Sasol.
- Personal toiletries (basic amenities are supplied by most establishments).
 - 3-1-1 Bag for liquids & GoToob 3oz Bottles
 - Baggallini Deluxe Travel Cosmetic Case
- Malaria tablets (if applicable).
- Antihistamine tablets if you suffer from any allergies.
- Anti-nausea tablets if you suffer from motion sickness.
 - Tripease homeopathic motionsickness tablets
 - No-Jet-Lag homeopathic tablets
- Packable Pillow for Long Flight
 - Eagle Creek Exhale Neck Pillow
- Moisturising cream and suntan lotion – SPF 30 or higher recommended.
- Lip balm.
- Pop-Ups “Just Add Water” Compressed Towelettes

- Insect repellent for body application, e.g. Tabard, Rid, Jungle Juice, etc.
 - Exofficio Insect Shield Clothing & Bandana
 - MosRepel Mosquito/Tick/Flea..etc. Repellent Bracelet
- Camera / personal camcorder
- Binoculars – Average Size 8 x 40
- Electrical adaptor plug suitable for the relevant country
 - Voltage Valet adapters & converters for electronics

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED ITEMS AND CLOTHING FOR GORILLA TRACKING SAFARI:

- Paths on gorilla treks can be slippery, muddy and steep so sturdy good, well-worn hiking boots are essential.
- Long pants (Jeans/Khakis) and a long sleeved shirt
 - Exofficio Nomad Pants
- Some people take thick gardening gloves because of the brambles and nettles en route
- A light waterproof jacket
 - RedLedge lightweight packable waterproof jacket
- Snacks - in case it's a long trek.
- Walking stick or pole.
- Cap or hat
- Water bottle
 - Vapur Element collapsible water bottle
- Basic first aid kit

We suggest you leave your good jewelry at home, except, of course, jewelry you normally wear at all times. If you do bring very good jewelry, it is strongly suggested that you make use of safe deposit boxes at each hotel/camp which are generally offered free of charge. Holden Safaris cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen valuables.
