



PACKING TIPS, LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS, TIPPING GUIDELINES, CURRENCY ADVICE AND ELECTRICAL ADAPTOR INFORMATION



ZAMBIA

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.
- Headscarf/bandana – particularly for dusty dry regions.
- Golf-shirts and/or T-shirts – preferably with sleeves to protect your shoulders from the sun.
- Long-sleeved cotton shirts.

- Shorts and/or skirts – really short skirts are not practical for getting in and out of game drive vehicles.
- Long trousers/slacks.
- 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.
- Socks – thermal options are recommended for the winter months.
- Good closed walking shoes (running/tennis shoes are fine).
- 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 / 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

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.
- Money belt, or small bag to carry
- 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.
- 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).
- Malaria tablets (if applicable).
- Antihistamine tablets if you suffer from any allergies.
- Anti-nausea tablets if you suffer from motion sickness.
- Packable Pillow for Long Flight
- 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.
- Camera / personal camcorder

Photography: *This is a photographer's paradise. If taking photographs of local people, always ask their permission beforehand. They may ask for payment. As in most countries, do not take photographs in airports or airport buildings, military or police buildings and of uniformed personnel. If you are traveling with digital photographic and/or video equipment, ensure you have the specific charging apparatus for each piece of equipment (as well as the appropriate socket plug adaptor and voltage converter if required). Ensure you have enough memory cards before you head off for the bush – people usually end up taking more pictures than they thought they would*

- Binoculars – Average Size 8 x 40
- Electrical adaptor plugs suitable for the relevant country

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
- Some people take thick gardening gloves because of the brambles and nettles en route
- A light waterproof jacket
- Snacks - in case it's a long trek.
- Walking stick or pole.
- Cap or hat
- 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 valuable

Zambia Luggage restrictions

- Most transfers between parks use light aircraft which results in a luggage restriction.
- Domestic flights inter camp within Zambia are booked on light aircraft. Soft (duffle type) bags preferred due to light aircraft luggage storage.
- Baggage allowance for all the Proflight flights is 50lbs (23kgs) check-in baggage and 11 lbs (5kgs) hand baggage.
- Soft bags are not mandatory provided their bags fall within the below dimension. The number of bags does not matter as long as they don't exceed the baggage allowance and below dimension. *The total dimension of each checked in bag must not exceed 157 cms/61 ins. (add the length, with and height of your luggage to obtain its total dimensions.*
- Royal Zambian Airlines: International Flights
 - Checked baggage 66 lbs (30 kgs) which may be spread across 2 pieces of luggage. No single piece of luggage may weight more than 50 lbs (23kgs)
 - Carry-on baggage – one piece at 17 lbs (8kg)
- Royal Zambian Airlines: Local flights
 - Local inter-camp flights: Baggage allowance capped at 33 lbs (15Kg) in the Caravan and there is no provision in the aircraft for cabin baggage with the exception of lady's handbags & small backpacks/laptop bags.
 - Luggage is limited to soft bags with dimensions of 25cm (10 inches) wide by 30cm (12 inches) high and 62cm (24 inches) long.
- All Private charter flights – Baggage limit is 33lbs (15kgs) per person
- Wilderness Air – Baggage limit is 44 lbs (20kgs)
- Green Safaris – Baggage limit is 26lbs (12kgs)

Zambia tipping guidelines

- Porters US\$ 1 per person per day.
- Waiters US\$ 2 per person per day
- Driver guide US\$ 10 per person per day
- Normally the guide/ranger is tipped separately in order to show your appreciation and the guide/ranger tip can be made at the end of your stay in each location.
- Driver/guide for transfer from airport /lodge/ airport – an hour or so away - \$20 per group or \$5 per person if only 2 or 3
- At many camps there will be a tipping box at checkout or you can give to the manager to share with all camp staff. Recommend US \$ 10 per guest per day

Currency Advice

- The currency in Zambia is the Kwacha it was re-based in January 2013, this process involved removing 3 zeros from the currency and of course issuing new notes and coins. At time of writing (September 2021) the Dollar to the Kwacha is approximately US\$1 = ZMW 17.
- Hard currency is accepted in most tourist facilities so for those booked on fully inclusive safari holidays it is not usually necessary to purchase any local currency. For those that do want or need some Zambian Kwacha you can change money at banks or in bureaus but the easiest way of obtaining local currency would be from cash-point machines which can be found in all major airports and in urban centres throughout the country.
- It is recommended that you bring a small amount of cash US Dollars with you as a “back-up” also if you are buying your visa on entry to Zambia this will be charged in US\$. Be sure to bring notes of varying denominations since change is often a problem in Africa and all notes must have “large heads” – the old series notes with “small heads” are no longer accepted anywhere in Zambia.
- Credit cards are accepted in many places but it is safer not to rely on any single card to get you through Africa. Authorization usually needs to be obtained for larger purchases and this is sometimes difficult. Visa is the easiest card to use in Zambia, followed by Mastercard and American Express.

Electrical Adaptor

- The standard voltage is 220-240 V. The standard frequency is 50 Hz.
- PLEASE NOTE: Some camps have limited or no electricity. Candles and hurricane lamps may be provided.



Type G