



*Wild & Isle*

AFRICA, ISLANDS & BEYOND

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TRAVEL INFO

# What to Pack for an African Safari

## What to bring on safari?

Casual, comfortable wash and wear clothing is most useful. Jackets and ties are only required in certain hotel restaurants and golf clubs. All hotels and most lodges offer quick laundry services, usually done within a couple of hours. It is not necessary to bring a separate change of clothing for each day and evening, and it is recommended that you keep luggage to a minimum.

# A handy checklist for your safari:



Binoculars



Wide brimmed hat,  
Personal toiletries,  
sun barrier creams  
and lip creams



Sunblock



Camera and  
accessories  
(remember spare  
batteries)



Personal toiletries,  
sun barrier creams  
and lip creams



Sunglasses



Casual lightweight  
cotton, khaki or neutral  
coloured clothes  
for safaris



Comfortable sturdy  
ankle length thick-  
soled walking boots



Shorts & cotton  
T shirts Swimming  
costume



Fleece or sweater  
and a warm jacket  
for game drives or cool  
evenings Shorts & cotton  
T shirts. Swimming costume,  
Wide brimmed hat,  
Personal toiletries,  
sun barrier creams  
and lip creams



Sandals  
Binoculars



Swimming costume.  
Wide brimmed hat.  
Personal toiletries,  
sun barrier creams  
and lip creams

## Checklist

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## Autumn and Winter months (May to September)

Warm clothes (thick jacket, scarf) are needed for evening activities and high altitudes. Light sweaters are sufficient for midday.

## Spring and Summer months (October to April)

Neutral coloured light cotton clothing, T-shirts and shorts for everyday wear. Jeans or safari trousers for evening wear. Swimwear & Sandals.

## Luggage

Take a soft bag, especially if you will be using light aircraft transfers to your lodge or camp. The baggage limit is 12kg per person for lodge safaris as well as scheduled camping safaris.

## Visa, Customs and Immigration

All visitors are required to carry a passport that is valid for six months beyond the intended length of stay. Nationals of certain countries do not require visas this depends on the country you are visiting. It is advisable to check with the Consulate of the country you intend visiting for the latest visa and entry requirements.

We assist our clients with information regarding the visa requirements for each destination visited as the requirements and costs change on a regular basis.

## Safety In Africa

Southern Africa is in general a safe destination for international travellers. However, it is wise to take certain standard security precautions while travelling. These precautions should be applied while travelling anywhere in the world. Following basic advice can avoid most potential problems.

Most safaris take place in remote wildlife areas and game reserves, away from villages, towns and cities. This means that you will most probably not find other people around, except those who look after your every need while on safari ! The transfers (by road, air or water) between airports, hotels and lodges are operated by reputable companies or by the properties themselves. If you booked a packaged holiday through a tour operator it means that you will not be unattended at any time during your safari.

A few tips to consider are the following: make photocopies of your passport, airline tickets, drivers license and other important documentation. Also keep a record of the numbers of your travellers cheques. These should be kept in a safe place. Rather leave expensive jewellery at home.

When in towns and cities, do not carry large amounts of cash in your pocket. Keep enough for the expenses of the day and place the rest in a safety deposit box at the hotel/lodge or money pouch under your shirt. Also be discreet with an expensive camera or jewellery. Take note of onlookers and keep your possessions in sight at all times to avoid opportunistic theft. Make use of your hotel safety deposit box for expensive items. Never leave baggage or personal items unattended, especially at airports. It is best not to wander around the streets after dark.

If you are travelling in a car (self drive safari), it is important to lock all the car doors and keep the windows as far up as possible. Plan ahead and know which route you intend to take using clear maps. When leaving your car, do not leave your purse or bag lying on the passenger seat in clear view rather keep them in the car boot. Never pick up hitchhikers. South Africa and Namibia and ideal self destinations.

## Health Related Questions About Africa Travel

### Is it safe to drink the water?

**Botswana:** Tap water is purified and safe to drink at hotels, inns, lodges and other public places. Remember water is a scarce resource, especially in this drought stricken country, so please be respectful and help to conserve water.

**Kenya:** While mains water in major towns is chlorinated and relatively safe to drink, it is safer to stick to sealed bottled water, available from most hotels and lodges.

**Mozambique:** It is safer to stick to bottled water.

**Namibia:** Tap water is purified and safe to drink at hotels, inns, lodges and other public places. Remember water is as precious as diamonds in this drought stricken land.

**South Africa:** The tap water in South Africa is safe to drink. If you prefer, bottled water is available.

**Tanzania:** It is advisable to drink boiled or bottled water, bottled or canned drinks. If camping bring drinking water and all other camping provisions.

**Zambia:** Tap water is usually safe to drink, but bottled water can be purchased if preferred.

**Zimbabwe:** Tap water is purified and safe to drink at hotels, inns, lodges and other public places.

## Are there any medical precautions?

As vaccination requirements change from time to time, we suggest you consult your local doctor or health department for prophylactics and the latest health precautions. Some countries require advance inoculations (and certificates thereof)

- The Safari Company will advise you of these. Most lodges have qualified emergency first-aid staff members.

Malaria is present in many parts of Africa - we will advise you if you will be visiting a malaria area. Anti-malarial precautions are essential when travelling to Africa with exception to some parts of South Africa.

If you are on prescription medication, please ensure you have an adequate supply to last the duration of your stay and a copy of your prescription(s).

## Malaria In Africa

Not the whole of Africa is impacted by malaria. Most parts of South Africa is malaria free except northern KZN and the Kruger area. The Kruger is a low risk area, but precautions still need to be taken. Don't let malaria keep you from enjoying a safari in Africa. There are several malaria free reserves in South Africa to choose from. Addo Elephant, Kwandwe, Shamwari, Welgevonden and Madikwe are to name but a few.

## Children and malaria

A children's version of the antimalarial drug Malarone is available. The most important precaution against being bitten by mosquitoes is to cover up and to apply repellent. Your kids should have the right gear for their safari. Long sleeved shirts and long trousers are essential for early morning and evening. A child friendly high concentration DEET repellent is available on the market.

# Packing Tips for Traveling in Africa

When preparing for a holiday, we tend to overpack or we take the incorrect clothing. Here are helpful tips to take into consideration when it comes to travel in Africa.

1

When packing for an African adventure, give yourself enough time to get the right clothes and apparel that'll make your trip a pleasure. Don't leave it for the last few days before you depart. If you pack in advance you'll easily pick up if you miss something or need a specific item. Use a packing list this will make the task much easier and ensure that nothing of importance is left behind.

2

'Must-take' items often left at home include a good hat that packs easily, a comfortable pair of walking shoes (not necessarily hiking boots), a warm jacket for nippy nights (fleece jackets work well), and a pair of sunglasses. Refer to the below suggested packing list to check if you have everything.

3

When traveling, dress in layers, so that you can peel off when it's hot and add on when it gets cooler. Quick-dry or cotton shorts and long sleeved t-shirts work very well.

4

Try to get at least one pair of trousers that have the zip-off legs. It then doubles as shorts when the day gets hot.

5

Keep a sarong handy. This large, towel-sized cloth can double as a skirt for the ladies, head gear for dusty days or when exploring deserts and a towel at the beach. Very versatile and doesn't take up much space.

## Packing Tips for Traveling in Africa

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6

When traveling in Africa, especially if you plan to join a group or make use of light aircraft, best leave the Samsonite at home. The most useful luggage is a soft duffel bag with handles. Pack the valuables and very necessary items in a day pack you can carry on your back.

7

Before packing your bags, put out all your clothes, shoes and items that you plan to take with on holiday. Now reduce it by 50% and then pack your bags. It is a known fact that you always take too much luggage on holiday.

8

Pack neutral coloured clothing and hats. These won't show dirt easily and it wouldn't stand out when your in the bush on game walks or drives. There's no need to look like you live in the bush. There are some very practical, stylish clothes available for adventures in Africa.

9

Take a plastic bag that can be used for dirty clothes between washes.

10

Also pack your shoes in plastic bags to keep your clothes clean packed in your luggage.