

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION SOUTH AFRICA, ZAMBIA & ZIMBABWE

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of eight (8) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps. *Note: you will need two (2) consecutive blank visa pages for each entry into South Africa.*

### 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.

### Zambia

**Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Zambia for stays of up to 30 days.** A tourist visa/permit is issued free of charge upon arrival (subject to change without notice).

### Zimbabwe

**A tourist visa is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Zimbabwe and can be obtained on arrival at all points of entry.** Although there is also a Zimbabwe e-Visa option, it is not available to U.S. or Canadian citizens.

- U.S. citizens can obtain a single-entry visa on arrival valid for 30 days for USD \$30 (subject to change) or multiple-entry visa valid for 60 days for USD \$60 (subject to change).
- Canadian passport holders may obtain a single-entry visa on arrival for USD \$55 (subject to change) or a double-entry visa for USD\$75 (subject to change).

**KAZA UNIVISA:** The KAZA UNIVISA option (USD \$50; subject to change) is valid for 30 days and allows multiple entries into Zambia and Zimbabwe. If you are only visiting Zambia then you do not need to get a visa or the KAZA UNIVISA. If you are entering Zimbabwe multiple times during your journey it may be a less expensive option to obtain the KAZA UNIVISA. The KAZA UNIVISA can be obtained at certain points of entry in either Zambia or Zimbabwe.

Ports of entry include:

### Zambia

- KK International Airport Lusaka
- Harry Mwaanga International Airport Livingstone
- Victoria Falls Land Border with Zimbabwe
- Kazangula Land Border with Botswana

### Zimbabwe

- Harare International Airport
- Victoria Falls International Airport
- Victoria Falls Land Border with Zambia
- Kazangula Land Border with Botswana

All visa fees subject to change without notice. Payment must be made in cash in U.S. dollars.

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

South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe currently have 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.

## YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION & MALARIA PREVENTION

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter all four countries 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 will be travelling to areas 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.

## LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

### Restrictions on Taking Non-Prescription Medications into Zambia

The Zambian Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) has in the past detained a number of travellers for possession of Benadryl and other over-the-counter medications which contain small quantities of diphenhydramine, an active ingredient that is on Zambia's list of controlled substances. Although unaware of these restrictions, travellers have been charged with drug trafficking offenses, had their passports confiscated, and been jailed. As a result, you should consider leaving all non-prescription medications behind.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

**South Africa:** 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.

**Zambia:** The country has a cash-based economy. Cash transactions can be made in either U.S. dollars or local currency. U.S. dollars should be recently issued bills in smaller denominations. Major credit cards are accepted on a limited basis at shops, hotels, safari lodges and restaurants. Access to ATM machines is extremely limited.

**Zimbabwe:** The country has a cash-based economy. Cash transactions must be made in Zimbabwean dollars (though U.S. dollars are still accepted for the purchase of visas on arrival, provided that payment is made in recently issued bills in smaller denominations.) Major credit cards are accepted on a limited basis shops, hotels, safari lodges and restaurants. Access to ATM machines is extremely limited and any ATMs you do find are likely to be either out of order or out of money.

## OF SPECIAL NOTE

### Age Restrictions on Bush Walks in South Africa

Due to South African government regulations, persons under the age of 16 are not allowed to participate in bush walks (game viewing on foot) at National Parks and private game reserves in South Africa. Persons over the age of 60 are required to produce a note from their physician

stating that they are fit enough for such an activity. Note: Enforcement of these regulations can vary at each safari property in South Africa. We recommend guests over the age of 60 carry the physician's note as a precaution. These age restrictions do not currently apply to safari properties in Zambia or Zimbabwe.

#### Connecting through Johannesburg en route to Zambia

If you are connecting through Johannesburg en route to Zambia, in order to reduce the risk of your luggage being lost or delayed, we highly recommend that you do NOT check your luggage all the way through to Zambia and instead check it only through to Johannesburg and then re-check it prior to boarding your flight to Zambia.

In addition to this, as a further precaution, we highly recommend that you pack at least one change of clothing in your carry-on luggage as a precautionary measure in the event that your checked luggage is delayed.

#### Airport Taxes and Fees in Zambia and Zimbabwe

All applicable airport taxes and fees are included on our **Small Group Journeys** for both domestic flights within Zambia and Zimbabwe and/or international flights departing from Zambia and Zimbabwe.

If you are traveling on a **Signature** or **Tailor Made** program, both domestic flights within Zambia and Zimbabwe and international flights departing Zambia and Zimbabwe are subject to Departure Taxes and Aviation and Infrastructure & Development fees.

The current applicable taxes and fees in **Zambia** range in cost between 5 and 56 Zambian Kwacha (approximately USD \$1-\$10) per sector (subject to change without notice) and must be paid directly on site either in local currency or U.S. dollars.

The current applicable departure taxes in **Zimbabwe** are USD \$15 per sector (subject to change without notice) and must be paid directly on site in U.S. dollars.

#### 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 jacket and tie for gentlemen, and elegant for ladies, such as cocktail/evening dresses or suits. The Victoria Falls Hotel in Zimbabwe has relaxed its long-standing dress code for dining in the Livingstone Room. Long pants and collared shirts for men and corresponding attire for women are now considered the standard.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with traction
- 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
- A pair of rubber beach sandals to use as slippers.
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Swimwear/cover-up
- Personal garments
- Sports bra for women for bumpy roads
- Sleepwear
- Socks

### Other Recommended Items

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

### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Lightweight binoculars
- Small daypack or fanny pack
- Inflatable pillow or stadium cushion can make bumpy roads more comfortable
- 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 and Signature/Private 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.