



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## VISA

It is the responsibility of clients to obtain their own visas.

U.S. & Australian passport holders: U.S. and Australian passport holders do not require a visa to enter South Africa.

Please Note: Some countries require 6 months validity on your passport at the time of travel and at least 4 blank pages in order to gain entry.

## TRAVELLING WITH CHILDREN

Passengers travelling with children under the age of 18 years - arriving, transiting and /or departing from South Africa - are required to produce an unabridged birth certificate (indicating the biological parents of the minor). In addition, children travelling with one parent will require a letter of consent from the other parent.

## MEDICAL

Please consult your General Practitioner or Traveller's Medical Centre for advice on medical issues relevant to your destination. For additional information consult the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention website -

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list.htm>

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is highly recommended that all clients obtain comprehensive Travel Insurance cover. Please furnish Epic with a copy of your insurance policy prior to travel. For US based clients requiring assistance with travel insurance, we recommend Travelex and you can make the application online - [Travelex](#).

Policies should be checked to ensure that they include ALL medical situations, including:

- Hospitalisation and repatriation
- Cancellation
- Loss of baggage
- Loss/breakage of valuables such as cameras (care should be taken on rough roads).

## AIR TRANSFERS & LUGGAGE

Baggage is limited to 20 kg/44 lb per person in soft sided bags including carry-on and camera equipment. PLEASE DO NOT USE HARD SUITCASES OR BAGS WITH WHEELS as bags need to be maneuvered in and out of light aircraft holds.

## COMMUNICATIONS & SAFETY

All camps have 24 hour radio contact with their base support headquarters, and each game-drive vehicle has radio contact with camp. The daily camp tariff includes an amount for emergency evacuation insurance, and in the event of a medical emergency, evacuation will be arranged to the nearest town.

## PHOTOGRAPHY/BINOCULARS

Digital cameras are the best for wildlife, with a good zoom up to 300mm or more. If you have an SLR it is a good idea to bring a point and shoot as back up. Remember to bring plenty of memory cards, spare batteries and battery chargers (Please check that you have all your chargers for cell phones, iPods, kindles, camera and video batteries).

Binoculars are very useful when looking at wildlife in the distance. We recommend 7 x 35mm or 8 x 32mm as these are a good size with great magnification. If size is an issue then 7 x 25mm or 8 x 25mm are compact and can be put into your pocket. Nikon & Canon are great options. Have a look at the following website for further ideas - <http://www.consumersearch.com/binoculars>



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### CELL PHONES

Quad-band cell phones on global roaming generally work from all major urban centres. They do not, however, work from the majority of safari camps.

### POWER IN CAMP

Most camps have no access to regular electrical power as they are located in such remote areas. Camps are solar powered or have generators on site that produce 220V electricity. These are run for 4-6 hours per day, generally over activity times while guests are not in camp. There is ample electricity for charging batteries for video cameras, iPods etc. and most camps have an array of adaptor plugs.

### MEALS

Meals are wholesome home style cooking at elegantly set dining tables - sometimes under the stars, sometimes under thatch or canvas. Meal times are geared around the best game viewing times and activities, and vary from season to season. In most camps you start the day with a continental breakfast of juices, tea or coffee, cereal or porridge and toast, prior to the morning activity. This is followed by a large brunch, and high tea is served before

the afternoon activity. Dinner is served after the evening activity.

The camps can cater to specific dietary requests. Please advise your special requirements (at time of booking) and we will ensure your needs are met.

### BEVERAGES

In most camps alcoholic beverages are included in the daily tariff. Bottled water is available at all times.

Many people enquire whether they can brush their teeth with the tap water, have ice in their drinks, or eat salads (as ingredients have been washed in water). In the camps we use there are no concerns in this regard.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Personal expenses such as purchases from the camps curio shops can be paid for with Visa and MasterCard or cash. There is no need to have local currencies on hand. US\$ speak volumes in Africa and are accepted in markets and for tipping (per the suggested guidelines). It is a good idea to have a quantity of smaller denominations of US\$ for distribution of tips.

### GRATUITIES

Although tipping is not compulsory, if service is exceptional we recommend the following:

- Guides – USD 5.00 – 10.00 per person per day. This should be handed to the guide personally.
- General Camp Staff – USD 10.00 in total per guest per day. This can be placed in a communal tip box or handed to the camp managers.