

South Africa: Cape Town to Kruger National Park

Pre-departure information for your tour



Passport, visa & entry requirements

- In order to enter South Africa (and Zimbabwe on the tour extension), U.S. and Canadian citizens need a valid passport with an expiration date extending at least six months beyond the date of reentry.
- We recommend having at least three blank passport pages for entry stamps.
- There is no visa required for U.S. and Canadian citizens to enter South Africa.
- U.S. and Canadian passport holders must obtain a visa in order to enter Zimbabwe on the tour extension. We recommend obtaining your individual visa by purchasing it on arrival at the airport, at the cost of \$30USD. If you choose to purchase your visa in advance, you may do so by applying directly for [an e-visa](#). (Please note: if you would like to visit both sides of Victoria Falls, you will need to purchase a multiple-entry visa to cross the bridge to Zambia and then re-enter Zimbabwe.)
- If you are not a U.S. or Canadian citizen, you must contact each destination country's consulate for your specific entry requirements.
- If you are or will be accompanied by a minor (under the age of 18), additional documents will be required to travel through South African ports of entry. Visit the [South African Department of Home Affairs website](#) for the most-up-to-date requirements for minors traveling to or from South Africa.
- You can see the most up-to-date entry requirements for the destination(s) you'll visit on tour by going to goaheadtours.com/entry-requirements and searching the code SFA.

Tour pacing & mobility

- You will walk for about 1 hour daily across mostly flat terrain, including dirt paths and unpaved walkways, with some hills and stairs.
- Travelers should be healthy enough to participate in all included walks without assistance. Adding optional excursions may increase the total amount of walking on your tour.
- You should feel comfortable managing your

own baggage at times, as well as getting in and out of boats. This tour also includes long bumpy rides in safari vehicles.

- If you have any mobility concerns or physical restrictions, please contact our Customer Experience Team.

Transportation & arrival information

- Round-trip flights booked through Go Ahead Tours arrive in Cape Town and depart from Johannesburg. A representative from Go Ahead Tours will meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel. Please remain in the arrival lounge, as the representative might be escorting one of your fellow travelers to the bus at the time of your arrival.
- Transfers to and from the airport at your destination are included for travelers who have purchased their flights through Go Ahead Tours. Travelers who purchase their own flights may request airport transfers with Go Ahead Tours for an additional cost.
- A flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg as well as a boat ride to Robben Island are included in the price of your tour. (The tour extension also includes a flight from Johannesburg to Victoria Falls and Victoria Falls to Johannesburg.)
- During game drives, you will be traveling in a specially equipped safari van.
- All other included transportation on this tour is by private motor coach.

Baggage allowance

- Airlines have varying weight restrictions on baggage. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage; be advised that you are responsible for any such costs.
- Contact your airline for baggage size and weight restrictions for your flight, but please note that our travelers are restricted to one checked bag per person due to storage limitations on motor coaches.
- One carry-on bag of 45 total inches (length + width + height) is also permitted.
- Make sure you label your baggage and keep valuables, medication, and documents in your carry-on bag.

Clothing & packing tips

- Loose-fitting, layered clothing that can accommodate varying temperatures will be most comfortable. Quick-dry material is best for hot days outside and a warmer layer may be needed for chilly evenings and early mornings.
- Comfortable closed-toes shoes, such as sneakers or lightweight hiking boots, are best for walking during the day.
- Sun protection is very important. Bring sunscreen, sunglasses, and a broad-brimmed hat to protect your face and the back of your neck from the sun.
- Occasional rain showers are common from April through August, so lightweight rainwear may be necessary depending on the timing of your trip.
- Insect repellent, binoculars, and a flashlight are highly recommended.

Health

- At least 60 days prior to departure, check with your doctor or healthcare provider for the latest updates and entry requirements, or visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).
- Local governments may require proof of a yellow fever vaccination (often referred to as a "yellow card") or a statement of medical exemption from the vaccine. This is only required of travelers arriving from a country with a risk of yellow fever virus transmission (Please note: This does not include the U.S. or Canada). Visit [cdc.gov/yellowfever](https://www.cdc.gov/yellowfever) for more information. Travelers flying with South African Airways with a fuel-stop in Dakar, Senegal will not be exiting the aircraft and therefore will not be required to present proof of vaccination due to this stop.
- Bring a small first aid kit, including antacids, anti-diarrhea medication, motion sickness medication, and any prescription medications in your carry on luggage.
- If you have medication that you take daily, be sure you have enough for each day of the tour as well as any possible delays encountered.
- If you have dietary restrictions and/or food allergies please notify Go Ahead Tours at least 30 days prior to departure by logging in

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to your account and updating your traveler info. To update this information closer to your departure date, please call our Customer Experience Team.

- You can see the most up-to-date entry requirements for the destination(s) you'll visit on tour by going to goaheadtours.com/entry-requirements and searching the code SFA.

Cuisine

- You'll find that most cuisine in South Africa reflects the region's British, German, and Dutch colonial periods as well as Afrikaner influences. High-quality meats, vegetables, and fruits are sourced from the surrounding area's farmland.
- On the tour extension in Zimbabwe, cornmeal is an important staple used for making porridge and *sadza*, which is thicker and resembles Italy's polenta. Rice, greens, potato, pumpkin, peanuts, black-eyed peas, and local fruits are popular additions to any meal.

Electricity & air conditioning

- South Africa operates on 220–240 volts and uses a Type M plug with two small round pins and one larger round pin.
- Zimbabwe (on the tour extension) operates on 220-240 volts and uses a Type G plug with three large, flat pins.
- We recommend packing a universal adapter, as well as a voltage converter if you plan on using your own hairdryer or other electrical device without a built-in converter.
- Not all of the hotels on this tour will have air conditioning.
- Hotels may provide hairdryers, irons, and other small appliances, but these amenities cannot be guaranteed.

Connectivity

- Wi-Fi is available in some hotels, though some charges may apply.
- There is no Wi-Fi on any of the motor coaches or safari vehicles.
- Please contact your mobile service provider for information on roaming charges.

Time zones

- South Africa (plus Zimbabwe on the tour extension) are two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and six hours ahead of Eastern Time (ET). South Africa (plus Zimbabwe on the tour extension) do not observe Daylight Saving Time.
- From November through March, when it's noon in New York, it's 7pm on tour. From April through October, when it's noon in New York, it's 6pm on tour.

Currency

- The currency you will be using on your tour is the South African rand. (In Zimbabwe on the tour extension, it's recommended that you use U.S. dollars or South African rand.)
- You may be able to purchase South African rand in advance from your local bank or a foreign currency exchange retailer, such as Travelex.
- Please note, travelers cannot import or export more than \$25,000 in South African rand and may be required to claim any additional foreign currency at customs.
- We recommend that you carry as little local cash as possible as well as small amounts of U.S. dollars (only crisp bills printed in 2004 or later).
- ATMs are not readily available in the more rural areas.
- Major North American credit cards are accepted but can be difficult to use in remote locations (Visa is the most widely accepted).
- International banks and businesses primarily accept debit and credit cards that work with the EMV chip system. If you do not already have at least one debit or credit card with a chip in it, we strongly recommend requesting one from your bank prior to your tour.
- We suggest that you inform your bank and credit card company of your travel plans, so that they won't confuse your international purchases for fraudulent charges.

Tipping

- At the conclusion of your tour, it's customary to offer your Tour Director and driver a

gratuity in local currency. Please keep current exchange rates in mind.

- We recommend tipping the equivalent of \$8USD to \$10USD per person per day for your Tour Director and the equivalent of \$3USD per person per day for your driver.
- We also recommend tipping the equivalent of \$5USD per person for your local wildlife guides per game excursion and the equivalent of \$2USD per local guide if applicable.
- Tips can only be paid in cash.
- Gratuities for baggage handling are included in the price of your tour.

Purchasing excursions on tour

- Most optional excursions will be available for purchase while you are on tour.
- Your Tour Director will only accept cash (in USD only), Visa, or MasterCard as payment for excursions.
- Please be advised that if you pay for an excursion by credit card while on tour, it may take up to three months for your card to be charged.
- Some optional excursions may only be purchased in advance. See page four of your tour itinerary for more information. International travel is, by its very nature, unpredictable. We must therefore reserve the right to change this itinerary, without advance notice, to meet with local conditions at the time of travel. We appreciate your understanding. Please refer to our website for Terms & Conditions, dates, and prices.