



# Things to Remember

When travelling to Zimbabwe,  
Botswana and Zambia



### INSURANCE

It is essential adequate travel insurance be taken out prior to departure. This should cover any medical situation such as hospitalisation, as well as cancellation, curtailment of arrangements and baggage. When you travel with African Bush Camps, you are automatically covered by our emergency evacuation insurance. This guarantees emergency evacuation to the nearest hospital should you suffer either severe illness or injury. This does not cover the cost of treatment once in hospital and in no way replaces your normal travel insurance. There are certain medical exclusions. Please advise us of any existing conditions in advance in order to arrange cover, subject to our insurer's approval. Please contact us for further details. African Bush Camps and its agents and associates cannot be held responsible or liable for loss, damage, or the theft of personal luggage and belongings, nor can they be held liable for personal injury, accident or illness.

### HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

- Anyone who has any special medication should take enough supplies to last the visit.
- **Yellow fever** certificates are required for entry into Southern Africa if you have travelled through the yellow fever belt.
- Please consult your physician before you travel to Africa for advice on precautions against **malaria**.
- Ticks can be found in Africa's wilderness areas. To avoid getting bitten when going on bush walks, guests are advised to take precautions by wearing long trousers, socks and boots. Please note that there is a possibility that tick bites could lead to **tick bite fever**. Symptoms include fever, headaches and painful, enlarged lymph glands in the area of the bite. If you experience these symptoms after returning home, please visit your doctor and advise them of the possibility of tick bite fever.

The Botswana and Zambian Ministries of Health have announced new measures to prevent the spread of **Ebola**. Any tourists who have been to an Ebola infected area (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria or Liberia) in the past 30 days will be denied entry into Botswana and Zambia and returning residents from Zambia and Botswana may be subject to quarantine if they have travelled through high risk countries. Please note the list of high risk countries may increase should circumstances change.

### PASSPORTS AND VISAS

- Passports are required by all foreign visitors and must be valid for 6 months after the intended length of stay. Please ensure that you have at least 2 consecutive blank visa pages (not endorsement pages) in your passport. Our recommendation is 3 or even 4 blank pages if you are travelling through more than one country. If there are insufficient pages entry could be denied. Please find more information on our website: [www.africanbushcamps.com](http://www.africanbushcamps.com)
- It is imperative to check your visa requirements with the relevant embassies / consulates as it may vary according to your nationality.
- Where visas can be obtained at port of entry, these are payable in US dollars cash in most destinations; we recommend small-denominations as officials are not in the position to give change.
- Visa payments at various Airports can be made via VISA, MasterCard, Maestro and American Express. Should there be any network issues that affect the systems, guests will be asked to draw the cash at the nearest ATM.

It is recommended to obtain visas prior to arrival as there is a likelihood of long queues at all airports.

<b>BOTSWANA</b>	Minors travelling through all Botswana ports of entry must adhere to new requirements set by the Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs on the 19 October 2016. Minors must be in possession of:
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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Valid Passports</li><li>• Certified unabridged birth certificates for all minors below the age of 18</li><li>• A letter of consent from the other parent should the minor be travelling with one parent.</li></ul> |
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<b>ZIMBABWE AND ZAMBIA</b>	Depending on nationality and country of origin, a visa may be required to enter. Visas can be obtained at port of entry and are payable in US dollars cash only.
<b>WHAT TO EXPECT</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guests are required to present themselves at Immigration.</li> <li>• Queues can be expected at Immigration.</li> </ul>	
<b>ZIMBABWE – ZAMBIA</b>  <b>VISA VERSA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross over the Victoria Falls Bridge – here only two light vehicles are allowed on this bridge at any one time, which can cause occasional delays.</li> <li>• Heavy truck congestion blocking parts of the road may also cause delays.</li> <li>• When crossing the border guests will be required to change vehicles from a Zambian vehicle to a Zimbabwean vehicle or vice-versa.</li> <li>• You may need to walk a short way with bags to change transfers. Your driver will assist with your luggage.</li> </ul>
<b>ZIMBABWE – BOTSWANA</b>  <b>VISA VERSA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guests are required to present themselves at Immigration</li> <li>• Queues can be expected at Immigration.</li> <li>• When crossing from Zimbabwe to Botswana guests will change from a Zimbabwean vehicle to a Botswana Vehicle</li> </ul>
<b>LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You may need to walk a short way with bags to change vehicles. Your driver will assist with your luggage.</li> </ul>	
<b>BOTSWANA – ZAMBIA</b>  <b>VISA VERSA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guests are required to present themselves at Immigration.</li> <li>• Queues can be expected at immigration.</li> <li>• Guests will cross the Zambezi River in a boat, which will take approximately 5 minutes.</li> <li>• The general public and their vehicles cross this border on one of two commercial ferries.</li> <li>• There may be delays due to heavy truck congestion.</li> <li>• On the Botswana side of the river you will be transferred in a closed vehicle.</li> <li>• On the Zambian side of the river you will be required to walk a short distance between the boat and the transfer vehicle.</li> </ul>
<b>HOW YOU CAN HELP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have your passport and visa (or cash for visa) ready. The best currency to carry is US dollars.</li> <li>• Have some water and reading material at hand in case of delays. Water will be provided by your service provider</li> </ul>
<b>FLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check-in is 1&amp;½ hours prior for domestic and 3 hours prior for international departures.</li> <li>• Scheduled regional and inter-lodge flights may involve multiple stops before reaching final destination. Flights are operated as “shuttle transfers” and therefore departure times may vary up to 1 hour. Times are subject to change without notice.</li> <li>• In the event of bad weather airlines reserve the right to drop guests off at the nearest serviceable airstrip which may mean a road transfer for guests to get to their final destination. Any costs resulting from such diversions would be for your own account.</li> <li>• Some shuttle inter-lodge flights may depart very early in the morning which means you will miss your morning activity. Regrettably, this is beyond our control as flights are scheduled to meet onward flight transfers and connecting flights out of the various international airports. If a specific departure time is required, a private charter would need to be booked and paid for.</li> <li>• Aircraft used on inter-lodge flights are small and interior space limited. In addition, some activity and scenic air operators may also have weight and/or height restrictions per guest per seat. For the sake of your own comfort, please advise us at time of booking if you are particularly bulky or tall and we will do our best to accommodate you. Please note additional costs may apply.</li> </ul> <p>For self-drive guests it is advisable to arrive at their safari lodge/camp no later than 14h30 as afternoon activities generally starts from 15h00.</p>	
<b>CHECK- IN TIMES</b>	
<p>In accordance with global practice, check-in times are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check-in: 14h00</li> <li>• Check-out: 11h00</li> </ul>	
<b>FIRST AID</b>	
<p>Although most of our camps are equipped with a First Aid Kit, we suggest that you bring a small air tight container with a few well-chosen articles, such as: plasters, travel sickness tablets, antiseptic cream, antihistamine cream, pain relieving tablets for headaches, indigestion tablets, sunscreen, eye drops, insect repellent, medication for upset stomachs and after-sun moisturiser. We remind travellers who have any allergies i.e insect stings, or an asthma condition, to pack the required medication.</p>	

As you will be travelling in vehicles and aircraft with limited space, luggage is required to be packed in a soft bag. No hard suitcases are allowed and oversized bags may not be carried on your lap. An additional seat can be booked for extra luggage, subject to availability.

The weight restriction in each region is as follows:

- Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe: Maximum of 20kg (44 lbs) which includes hand luggage.
- When travelling in Africa, please remember that it's a criminal offense to be in possession of, to deal with or to traffic in wildlife products. This includes, without limitation, Ivory, Rhino horns, furs, claws, teeth, bones, eggs, meat and feathers of any form of wildlife. The penalties for violating legislation governing the possession and trafficking of wildlife products in Africa are among the most punitive in the world and may even lead to life imprisonment upon successful prosecution. To avoid any inconvenience you are strongly advised not to purchase any wildlife products of any nature from any street vendor, local market place, or village market when participating in any excursion. Only purchase wildlife products which are offered for sale at legitimate curio vendor establishments located within the duty free demarcated area of the airport as these vendors are required by law to hold the necessary legal permits to enable them to offer for sale the wildlife products on display in their establishments.

#### **WHAT TO PACK**

As a general guide, comfortable, casual wash and wear clothes are recommended. Muted colours are recommended for game-viewing. Game-drives are conducted in the early morning and late afternoon which can be very cold, especially in winter.

The most practical items to pack for safari are:

- Khaki, green, beige and neutral colours
- Shirts with long sleeves (even in summer, as protection from the sun and mosquitoes)
- T shirts
- Shorts or a light skirt
- Jeans or safari trousers for evenings and cooler days
- Jackets and sweaters are recommended for early morning and evening game drives
- Lightweight water-proof jacket
- Swim and beachwear
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, insect repellent, moisturizer and lip-salve are all essentials
- Binoculars and camera equipment
- Good quality safari clothing is available in Trading Posts
- Camouflage-patterned clothing is not permitted in Zimbabwe. This applies to any clothing that can be construed as mimicking military-wear. Travellers are urged not to wear, or even carry, any military-inspired clothing while travelling in Zimbabwe.

Laundry: All camps do their best to deliver a same day laundry service, weather permitting. Dry cleaning is not available at camp. At the camps soap suds are generally provided in your room for delicate items. Please be mindful that, due to culture and customs in many of the areas in which we operate, some camps do not wash underwear. While most camps can arrange for your shoes to be polished, we regret that we are unable to provide a service for these to be washed.

#### **CLIMATE**

<b>BOTSWANA</b>	Botswana's climate is mainly temperate. Summer, October to April, can be very hot, but daytime temperatures typically average around 30°C (86°F). The rainy season lasts from January to March. Winter, May to September, brings cooler weather with an average temperature of 25°C (77°F); early mornings and evenings may be very cold.
<b>ZIMBABWE</b>	Although located in the tropics, temperate conditions prevail all year as the climate is moderated by altitude and the inland position of the country. The hot and dry season is from August to October, and the rainy season from November to March. Night-time temperatures can become very cold during the winter months.
<b>ZAMBIA</b>	Although Zambia lies in the tropics, the altitude of the plateau ensures that the climate is seldom unpleasantly hot, except in the valleys. There are three seasons: the cool, dry winter season from May to September; the hot, dry season in October and November; and the warm, wet season from December to April.

### ELECTRICITY

Botswana: 220/240 Volts AC, 50hz  
Zimbabwe: 220/240 Volts AC, 50hz  
Zambia: 220/240 Volts AC, 50hz

Lodges in the more remote areas do not have electricity. Our camps generally rely on generator and solar power for lighting and refrigeration but this power only runs at critical times of the day. Please be aware that you will not find a plug socket in your tents, they will however have charging stations in the main areas for all guests to make use of. Please advise your consultant of any specifications prior to arrival so arrangements can be made, may you need power 24hrs a day.

### MONEY

- Banks and foreign exchange bureaus are available at all international airports and main towns.
- African Bush Camps will not have credit card facilities in camp. Please make sure you have sufficient cash during your stay.

#### **BOTSWANA**

General banking hours in Maun and Kasane:  
Monday – Friday 08.30 – 14.30; Saturday 08.15 – 10.45  
The currency is Pula (P); US Dollars cash is widely accepted.

#### **ZIMBABWE**

General banking hours in main towns are:  
Monday – Friday 09.00 – 15.00; Saturday 09.00 – 12.00  
Most shops do not have credit cards facilities. We recommend small denominations of USD cash.  
ATM's are available in all towns – you will NOT be able to draw USD. Only Bond Notes.

#### **ZAMBIA**

General banking hours in main towns are: Monday – Friday 08h30 – 15h30 The currency is US Dollars.

### LANGUAGES

English is widely spoken throughout Southern Africa.

### DIETARY

Most dietary requirements can be catered for. Please advise us of any specific dietary requirements and these will be communicated to all properties. Kosher meal options are not available.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

- Please make sure to bring sufficient memory cards and batteries as these are not readily available in Southern Africa. Please remember to ask permission before taking a photograph of any local resident.
- Please be advised that the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones) is not allowed in any of the conservation areas we manage, until such time as their impact on wildlife and anti-poaching initiatives can be assessed. This rule will apply throughout Africa, as our partners in various countries and regions have adopted a similar stance.

### GRATUITY GUIDELINE

Please note, the below are guidelines only. Gratuities are at your own discretion and are not compulsory.

### ON SAFARI

**RANGER/ GUIDE** USD 30 per couple per day

**BUTLER** USD 20 per couple per day

**CAMP STAFF** USD 20 per couple per day

### CONTACT DETAILS

**CAPE TOWN**  
African Bush Camps Cape Town Office  
Tel: +2721 7010 270  
Emergency: +263 772 126 986  
Physical Address: Unit G1 Victoria Junction, Prestwich Street, Green Point, 8001 Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

**ZIMBABWE**  
African Bush Camps Bulawayo Office  
Tel: +263 923 4307  
Fax: +263 923 0582  
Emergency: +263 772 126 986  
Physical Address: 63 Heyman Road, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

To the best of our knowledge all information above was correct at the time of going to print.