



Bushveld Game Ranger Experience, South Africa

You will need to be at Tambo International Airport on the morning of the first day of the trip; we will email you a recommended flight for you to get to the airport on. If you chose to fly separately then you will need to arrive before this flight arrives and we will meet you in Arrivals (we'll be wearing wide brimmed hats no doubt!).

It is important to ensure that if you do not come on the recommended flight that you arrive in plenty of time, as there is a further 5.5 hours travel from the airport and we will not be able to wait for you if your other flight is delayed. Most flights from the UK will arrive between 06:30 and 09:30.

Our accommodation is mainly in chalets within the reserves we operate on however there will be the chance to sleep out in the bush also and so be prepared for both. The nature of the course means we cannot guarantee how many nights will be spent where as we are fluid in our approach in order to get you close animal encounters on foot.

Kit List

- **Sleeping System**
 - Self-supporting mosi-net
 - 1 season sleeping bag
 - Thermarest or other ground mat
- **Hydration**
 - Water bottle – a 1 litre metal bottle is best.
 - Hydration system such as Camelback, Platypus, MSR Dromedary systems with a drinking hose (optional)
- **Clothing**
 - Wide brimmed hat or cap with neck protection
 - Light weight loose fitting clothing. Ideally cotton, but modern synthetics are fine. Must be long-sleeved / full length legs. We recommend Rugged Wear

Shirts as we've tried and tested them and form part of our instructor uniform. Shorts, t-shirts and change of shoes are worth bringing for relaxing at the end of the day. Washing is done at intervals during your stay.

- Fleece – evenings can feel cool and become very windy.
- Light-weight waterproof coat
- Light-weight walking boots with ankle protection to give a barrier against snake attack.

- **Miscellaneous**

- Notebook and pen/pencil
- Head Torch or Torch with 2 sets of spare batteries
- Sun cream
- Sun glasses
- Insect repellent
- Personal first aid kit
- Personal effects – wash kit, medication etc. It is important to take your own supply of analgesia, rehydration salts, anti-diarrhoea tablets and anti-bacterial wipes/gel as well as toilet paper.
- Camera
- Binoculars – we cannot stress enough how a good pair will enhance your experience. We recommend the Opticron 8x42 as a fantastic set for the price bracket.
- Daysack – this can be separate from your main luggage rucksack and will be used for your daily essentials during excursions and activities. It is also useful as your carry-on luggage when flying.
- Optional – swim wear as there may be the chance of a dip in a private pool at one of the game reserves we operate in.

For transportation reasons this must all fit into a single rucksack or holdall.

Money

You will need very little spending money, as the opportunity for shopping will be limited. All food and drinks (excluding alcohol) are provided. Spending money is only required for additional snacks, souvenirs, buying items in the craft market and any alcoholic drinks.

You know how many souvenirs you will like to buy! Sterling, Euros and Dollars can all be exchanged at the airport.

Entry Requirements

At the time of publication (December 2017) UK citizens do not require a visa to enter the country however please consult the Department of Home Affairs for the Republic of South Africa before your trip, we would recommend a check at 4 months, 3 months and then before you travel just to keep an eye on current guidelines.

Health

Current guidelines suggest making sure you are up to date with typhoid, cholera, diphtheria, tetanus, polio and Hepatitis A and B, however, please do consult your local doctor for up to date advice. A Yellow Fever vaccination is NOT required unless travelling from a Yellow Fever affected area, if you have travelled to such an area recently it would be worth retaining your documentation and proof of vaccination. Anti-Malarial treatment is considered necessary as there has been outbreaks of Malaria for the first time in 2017 in areas we may be operating in but again please consult your doctor for further and up to date advice.

We will only be drinking safe water, some areas we have bore hole access, however, other tap water may not be suitable. Under these circumstances we will provide either bottled or boiled/purified water. To avoid sickness and/or diarrhoea all raw fruit and vegetables should be washed in "safe water" before consumption. Salads in hotels and restaurants should therefore be avoided as should ice in drinks. To avoid the spread of any stomach upsets everyone is advised to only use their own water bottle, and use anti-bacterial wipes after going to the toilet and before eating.

Even by taking these precautions it is still possible to get an upset stomach, so having your own supply of anti-diarrhoea tablets and toilet roll is essential.

Weather

In our experience South Africa at this time of year can throw anything at us, it is likely we will experience warm dry days with temperatures up in the high 20's low 30's, however, we do sometimes get cloud cover and although it is the dry season we do sometimes get torrential (warm) rain. So be prepared, although it usually passes rather swiftly.