

SOUTHERN AFRICA

NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

THE REWILD WAY



REWILD
SAFARIS™

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Welcome!

We are excited and grateful you have entrusted us to guide and support you on your journey. Please consider this guidebook essential instructions for your upcoming adventure.

Refer to it for everything from passport and visa instructions to tipping etiquette, as well as important health, safety, and conservation information.

At Rewild Safaris, our “what” is providing sustainable luxury for travelers and continuing our growth as a leader in conservation-centered premium travel. Our “why” is to inspire traveler commitment to wildlife protection, preservation, and the rehabilitation of the wild.

We hope to help “rewild” your soul and spirit through these life-changing escapes from an overdeveloped world, to profoundly connect you to the wild, and inspire support for vital global conservation efforts.

By joining us on this adventure, you are helping to protect Namibia and South Africa’s incredible wildlife and support sustainable tourism. Together, we can ensure these wild spaces thrive for generations to come. So let the rewilding begin!



Tom LaRock
PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER



James Ward
CHIEF EXPLORATIONS OFFICER

DESTINATION SOUTHERN AFRICA



WHERE DESERTS MEET OCEANS, AFRICA SPEAKS IN EXTREMES

Namibia's landscapes defy imagination: scarlet dunes rise like waves at Sossusvlei, oryx stride across dry riverbeds, and Etosha's vast salt pan shimmers white beneath the sun. In these arid spaces, life has learned to adapt. Desert elephants wander along hidden channels, and black rhinos emerge under starlit skies.

South Africa offers a different kind of drama. In Kruger, lions, leopards, and elephants define the rhythm of the savanna, while Cape Town's streets bustle at the foot of Table Mountain. Along the southern coast, the Garden Route winds past forests, cliffs, and crashing surf; just offshore, whales breach against the backdrop of towering headlands.

Together, these countries reveal Africa in extremes: silence and storm, desert and ocean, wilderness and city. To travel here is to move between contrasts. Each moment vivid, each encounter unforgettable, each horizon leaving its imprint long after the journey ends.

Namibia Wild Facts



TIME ZONE

Namibia operates on Central Africa Time (CAT) which is GMT +2. The country stays at the same time all year—there’s no Daylight-Saving Time to worry about.



LANGUAGES

English is Namibia’s official language, though many Namibians speak indigenous languages such as Oshiwambo, Herero, Nama, Damara, and Kavango languages. Afrikaans and German are also widely spoken, especially among older generations. A simple **“Hello”** is always welcomed, but you might also hear **“Walalapo?”** in Oshiwambo or **“Hallo”** in Afrikaans.



CLIMATE

Namibia offers distinct seasonal contrasts. **May to October (Dry Season):** Excellent wildlife viewing with clear skies and low humidity. Daytime temperatures range from 70–80°F (21–27°C); mornings and evenings can drop to 40–50°F (4–10°C), especially in June and July. **November to April (Rainy Season):** Occasional afternoon showers bring greenery and newborn wildlife. Daytime temperatures are warmer, averaging 80–95°F (27–35°C).



GEOGRAPHY

Situated along the southwestern coast of Africa, Namibia shares borders with Angola, Zambia, Botswana, and South Africa, with the Atlantic Ocean to its west. The country is known for its vast desert landscapes, including the towering red dunes of Sossusvlei in the Namib Desert and the wildlife-rich Etosha National Park. The Skeleton Coast’s dramatic shoreline offers haunting beauty, while the Caprivi Strip creates a lush contrast in the northeast.



CURRENCY

The Namibian Dollar (NAD) is the official currency, divided into 100 cents. The South African Rand (ZAR) is also legal tender and widely accepted throughout Namibia at a 1:1 exchange rate. Credit cards are accepted at most hotels, lodges, and larger shops with Visa and Mastercard being more widely accepted. US dollars may be accepted in some tourist areas but are not commonly used for daily purchases. ATMs are available in the city and at the airport to withdraw or exchange for local currency.



FINDS

Hand-carved wooden animals and masks; Himba jewelry made from beads, shells, and copper; semi-precious stones like malachite and quartz; woven baskets and textiles; San (Bushmen) rock art replicas.

NOTE: Avoid purchasing any products made from protected wildlife (including ivory, tortoise shells, or endangered species products). Check for legal certification when buying leather or animal products.

South Africa Wild Facts



TIME ZONE

South Africa is on South Africa Standard Time (SAST), which is GMT +2. The country stays on the same time all year—there's no Daylight-Saving Time to worry about.



LANGUAGES

South Africa has 11 official languages, including Zulu, Xhosa, Afrikaans, and English. English is widely spoken, especially in tourism. You may hear **"Sawubona"** (Zulu for "Hello") or **"Molo"** (Xhosa). In casual conversation, **"Howzit?"** is a popular South African greeting.



CLIMATE

Safari Regions (Kruger, Madikwe)

May to September (Dry Season): Great wildlife viewing, 70–80°F (21–27°C) days, cool mornings as low as 40°F (4°C)

October to April (Summer Rainy Season): Afternoon thunderstorms, 80–90°F (27–32°C)

Cape Town:

November to March: Warm and dry, 75–85°F (24–29°C)

May to October: Cooler and wetter, 60–70°F (16–21°C)



GEOGRAPHY

At Africa's southern tip, South Africa is bordered by Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Eswatini (Swaziland), with Lesotho completely surrounded by its territory. The country features stunning diversity: the Drakensberg Mountains, Kruger National Park's savannas, the scenic Cape Winelands, and the iconic Cape of Good Hope where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet.



CURRENCY

The South African Rand (ZAR) is the official currency, divided into 100 cents. Credit cards are widely accepted, including at most hotels, restaurants, shops, and safari lodges. US dollars are not typically accepted for everyday purchases but can sometimes be used for tipping or private guides in tourism settings.



FINDS

Zulu beadwork and jewelry; woven baskets; hand-blown glass; local wines; rooibos tea; ostrich leather products (certified farms); wire sculptures and recycled art.

NOTE: Avoid purchasing shells, coral, ivory, or items made from endangered species. Only buy leather products that are clearly certified as sustainably farmed.

There is something about the African
landscape that makes you feel you
have come home.

—Jodi Picoult





Wildlife & Safari Highlights

In Namibia, the desert tells its own story. Watch elephants and rhinos adapted to its harsh rhythms roam dry riverbeds or stand at the edge of Etosha's shimmering salt pan as herds gather at life-giving water holes. At dawn, climb the ochre dunes of Sossusvlei, where shadows stretch for miles across an ancient sea of sand, and look out to the Atlantic where desert meets surf.

South Africa reveals a different kind of abundance. In Kruger National Park, the Big Five patrol savannas rich with life, while whales breach off Hermanus and penguins waddle the beaches of the Cape. Drive the Garden Route, where forests and cliffs meet the ocean, or sip vintages in the Cape Winelands beneath towering mountains. By night, the Kalahari sky blazes with stars; vast, unbroken, eternal.

From desert silence to coastal horizons, from salt pans to savanna plains, Namibia and South Africa embody the wild contrasts of Southern Africa.





Conservation: Namibia

Namibia is recognized globally as a leader in community-based conservation. Over 40% of Namibia's land is under some form of conservation management, including national parks, conservancies, and private reserves. The country's groundbreaking communal conservancy program empowers local communities to manage and benefit directly from wildlife tourism. Flagship protected areas include Etosha National Park, Skeleton Coast National Park, and the Namib-Naukluft Park, home to the towering dunes of Sossusvlei.



46.8%
of land under
conservation management

20%
of land Community
Conservancies

17%
of land National Parks

15%
of jobs tourism related



Conservation: South Africa

South Africa is a continental leader in conservation, with a vast network of over 20 national parks and numerous private reserves protecting its extraordinary biodiversity. From the iconic Kruger National Park to the marine sanctuaries of Table Mountain National Park and the elephant-rich landscapes of Addo, the country is home to the Big Five, rare species like wild dogs and pangolins, and more than 850 species of birds. South Africa's conservation efforts are strengthened by a pioneering blend of government, private, and community-led initiatives that ensure wildlife protection goes hand in hand with local benefit. Through sustainable tourism and bold rewilding projects, South Africa continues to lead by example, where protecting nature also uplifts the people who live alongside it.



21

National Parks

850

bird species

42

Marine Protected Areas

68%

World's White Rhino Population





Getting the Shots

James Ward, our Chief Explorations Officer, is also a professional wildlife and conservation photographer. Here are a few tips he'd like you to consider.

Catch the light, catch the moment: In Etosha, use a fast shutter to freeze elephants at water holes or springbok on the move. In Kruger, sharp light calls for fast speeds, while along the Cape coast, slower shutters bring drama to waves and seabirds in flight.

Gear up but stay mobile: A zoom lens (200mm+) is key for predators, birds, and distant herds, while a wide-angle captures dunes at sunrise, elephants silhouetted at sunset, or Cape seascapes. A beanbag helps on game drives, but pack light and adaptable, especially for walking safaris or coastal explorations.

Downwind and down low: On foot in Namibia's desert valleys, stay downwind for natural encounters. In Kruger, crouch low for eye-level shots of lions or rhinos. Changing perspective adds intimacy and drama to every frame.

Silence is golden: From antelope to elephant herds, wildlife reacts to sound. Use silent shutter mode and move slowly. The quieter you are the more authentic the encounter.

Frame the full story: Think beyond close-ups. Capture oryx against red dunes, elephants at Etosha's shimmering pan, or giraffes framed by the Drakensberg mountains. Landscapes make the wildlife part of a larger story.

Respect the wild: Always follow your guide's lead. From Namibia's deserts and salt pans to South Africa's sweeping parks and coasts, these lands are powerful, unpredictable, and alive.

Local Flavors



Namibia and South Africa's culinary traditions reflect a rich blend of indigenous heritage, European influences, and contemporary creativity. Local availability and regional diversity shape safari menus, but together these countries offer meals that celebrate flavor, culture, and place. Here are some dishes you may encounter:

Namibia

Kapana: Grilled street-side beef or game, often served with chili and spices

Potjiekos: Slow-cooked stews made in cast-iron pots, featuring meats, vegetables, and aromatic spices

Oshifima: A stiff maize porridge, often served alongside stews or sauces

Kingklip and Hake: Fresh Atlantic fish served in coastal regions



South Africa

Braai: South Africa's version of a barbecue, featuring meats, boerewors (sausage), and vegetables grilled over open flames

Bobotie: Spiced minced meat baked with egg custard on top—a Cape Malay favorite

Biltong & Droëwors: Air-dried meat snacks perfect for game drives

Amarula: A creamy liqueur made from marula fruit, perfect for sundowners



When not to be adventurous:

- **Drink only bottled, purified, or filtered water.** Avoid tap water, ice cubes, and unpasteurized juices
- **Fruit & vegetables:** Avoid raw salads & prepared fruit (peeled) outside of your safari accommodations
- **Street food:** Avoid unless recommended by your guide
- **Dairy:** Avoid raw milk or unpasteurized products outside of your safari accommodations

If you have any dietary restrictions, make sure to include them on your safari registration

PRE-FLIGHT CHECKLIST



Entry Requirements

- Valid, signed passport
- Passport is valid for at least six months after arrival
- At least four blank pages in passport*
- Passport name matches your booking exactly
- Yellow fever vaccination certificate if you have traveled through a country where the disease is endemic
- Proof of Tourist Travel: Travelers may be asked to present itinerary and/or to demonstrate sufficient funds for their stay
- Printed color copy of Namibia visa
- South African Online Customs Traveler Declaration – saved to your mobile or printed copy to present at customs
- If traveling with a minor to South Africa, you will need additional documentation – requirements found here: <https://www.gov.za/faq/travel-tourism/what-are-requirements-travelling-children>

Share with us: provide Rewild Safaris with a copy of your passport during your safari registration or send via encrypted link: <https://rewildsafaris.com/passport-upload/>

***Note:** if you are travelling to multiple destinations, ensure you have enough blank pages to cover each entry & exit



Visas

Namibia

US, Canada, UK and EU passport holders require a tourist visa for entry to Namibia.

Apply online at <https://eservices.mhaiss.gov.na/visaonarrival>. The cost for the visa is ~88 USD.

South Africa

US, Canada, UK and EU passport holders do not require a visa to enter South Africa.

However, please note that all travelers should complete the online Customs Declaration prior to arrival.

It can be found here: [Customs Online Traveler Declaration](#). If you are unable to complete it online, you will be able to do so upon arrival, but it may cause delays.

PASSPORT TIPS



- ✓ Keep your passport with you at all times during your trip: Southern Africa is shared by three different countries, and you might be required to provide it if crossing between them
- ✓ Expedited Services: Use professional passport services if you need a fast renewal
- ✓ Carry color photocopies of your passport's photo page at all times
- ✓ Report a lost passport immediately to the nearest embassy or consulate

Booking Flights

IMPORTANT: Once you've booked your flights, forward your confirmation to support@rewildsafaris.com so our Southern Africa team can coordinate a seamless safari.

FLIGHT TIPS



- ✓ Book early: Reserve flights ahead of time for the best prices and seat options
- ✓ Allow extra time: We recommend allowing 2 - 3 hours before your international departures and for connections
- ✓ Early arrival: Consider arriving a day early in case of delays and to acclimate to your destination

**PACK SOFT.
PACK LIGHT.
TRAVEL RIGHT.**



Your Carry On

THE ESSENTIALS

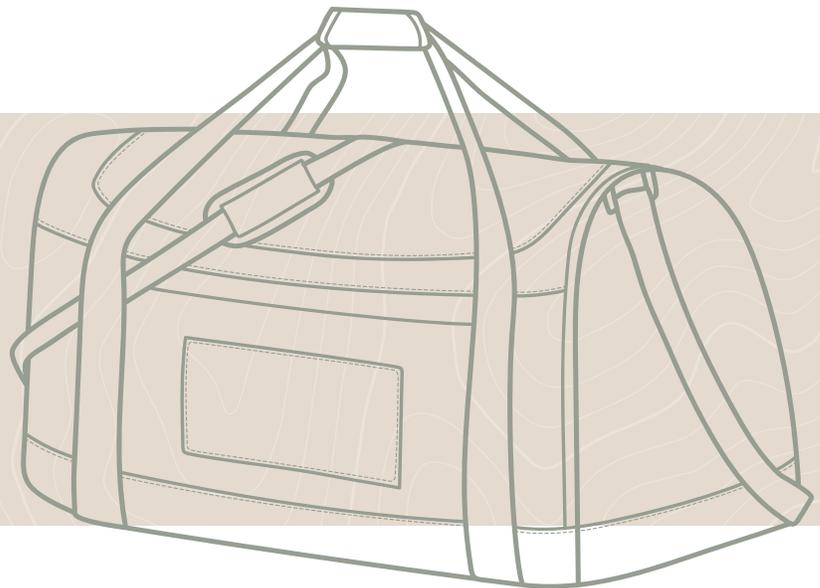
- Passport
- Photocopies of your passport's photo page in a separate compartment
- Medications
- Printed color copies of Traveler Declaration & visa
- Cameras and Devices (plus memory cards, extra batteries, chargers, lens cleaning supplies)
- Change of clothes (in case of luggage delay)
- Spare eyeglasses or contacts (with a copy of your prescription)
- Credit Cards and Cash

Luggage Limits

OVERSIZED LUGGAGE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON REGIONAL FLIGHTS. THINK SMALL.

- For safaris that include light aircraft flights, passengers are entitled to one piece of checked luggage and one small carry-on item only
- Maximum checked in luggage weight is 15kg (33lbs) and should not exceed 25cm (10in) wide x 30cm(12in) high x 62cm (24in) long
- Maximum hand luggage is 5kg (11lbs)
- Strictly soft sided bags only, no wheels or frames or rigid sides
- For additional camera equipment or overweight luggage, additional seats must be purchased prior to departure

Recommended luggage for your travels will be gifted to you by Rewild Safaris.



DRESS FOR SUCCESS



What to Wear Here

CLOTHING

- Light, breathable layers in neutral colors (light brown, khaki, olive, beige) to stay comfortable and blend in with the environment
- **Do not wear** camouflage (military use only), bright colors, blue or black (attracts insects)
- Long-sleeved shirts & trousers—protection against sun, insects & brush
- Shorts & short sleeved shirts
- Warm layers (fleece, light puffer jacket/vest)
- Waterproof/windbreaker jacket
- Sturdy, comfortable closed-toe walking shoes or light hiking boots
- Comfortable socks and underwear
- Casual shoes or sandals for relaxing at camp
- Wide-brimmed hat for sun protection
- UV protective, polarized sunglasses
- Bandana or Buff—useful for sun, dust and warmth
- Gloves & beanie—for early morning winter game drives
- Optional: Swimwear—for Cape Town and lodge/hotel swimming pools
- Optional: clothing for city touring in Cape Town, The Winelands and Johannesburg



OTHER ESSENTIALS

- Electrical sockets in South Africa and Namibia are mostly **Type M**, though you may occasionally come across **Type N or Type D**. A universal adapter is recommended for convenience. Voltage is 220–240 V at 50 Hz. If your device does not support this voltage, you will need a voltage converter.
- Good binoculars for wildlife viewing
- High-SPF sunscreen and lip balm
- Daypack
- Insect repellent
- Headlamp or small flashlight
- Medications, including a small first-aid kit
- Device chargers
- Extra batteries for your camera and devices
- Reusable water bottle
- Waterproof/dustproof bags/cover for camera gear

CLOTHING TIPS

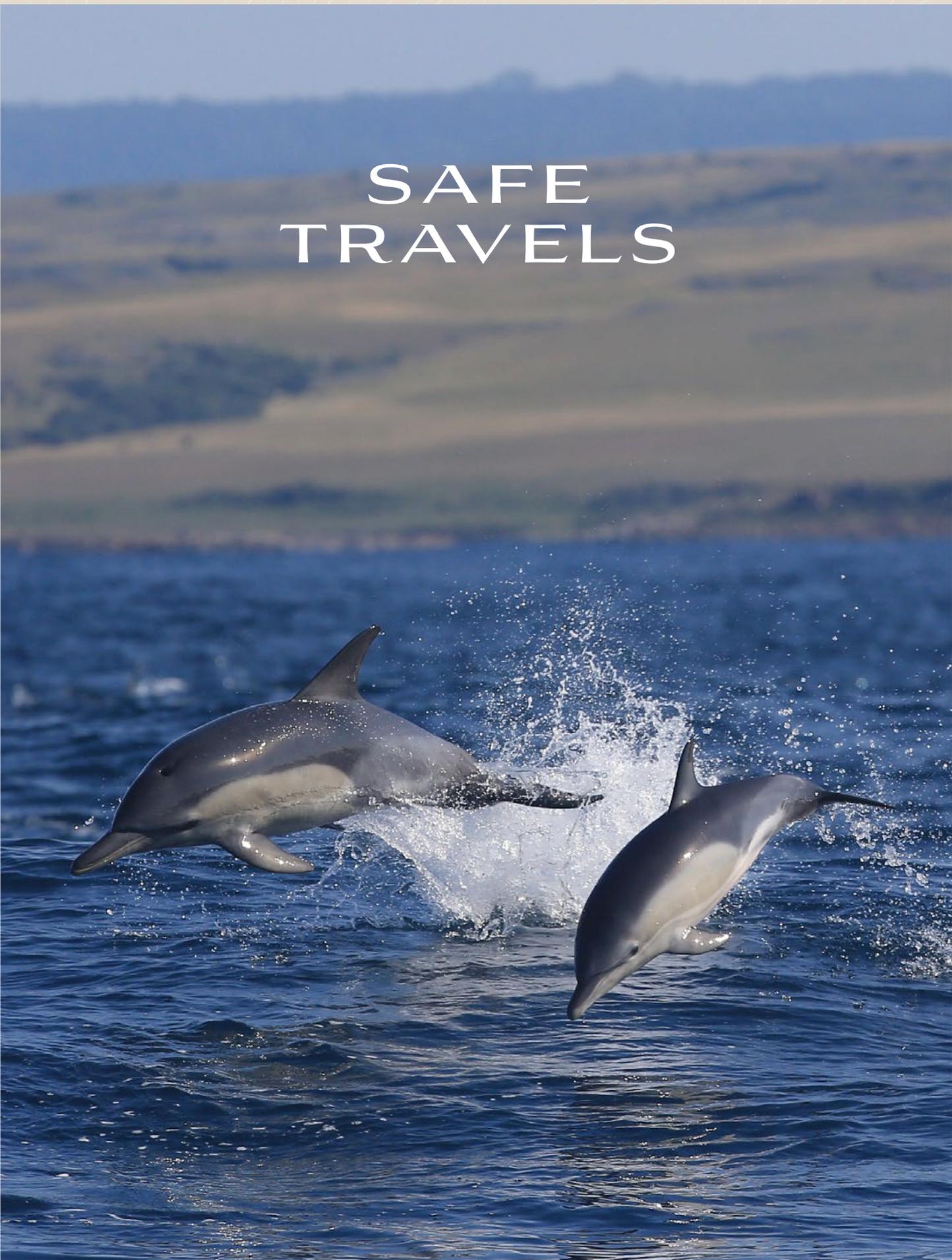


Some suggestions for upscale performance (and fashionable) safari gear:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| ✓ Patagonia | ✓ Arc'teryx |
| ✓ Orvis | ✓ LL Bean |
| ✓ Fjallraven | ✓ Tilley Endurables |



SAFE TRAVELS



Health & Safety

VACCINATIONS AND MEDICATIONS

Consult your doctor or travel clinic at least six months before departure. Inform them of everywhere you're visiting, your current medications and conditions. Bring enough of your prescription medicines in their original packaging. It's also a good idea to pack medications for digestive discomfort, itching and rashes—just in case.

ASK ABOUT

- **Malaria prevention medication:** You might have to start taking it before you travel
- **Vaccinations:** Share your itinerary with your doctor or travel clinic for accurate vaccination requirements or recommendations
- **Medication restrictions:** Some destinations have requirements, restrictions & penalties for traveling with certain medications.

Check the CDC website for up-to-date information on your destination/s. <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Carry a letter from your physician with personal information on any existing needs or conditions
- Carry extra prescription medications and written prescriptions
- Inform Rewild Safaris in advance of any conditions that may require special care
- Review the details of your travel insurance coverage to be sure you're adequately covered on your journey and purchase additional insurance if needed



HEALTH TIPS



- ✓ Stay hydrated—carry a reusable water bottle and consider electrolytes
- ✓ Drink only bottled or treated water—including for brushing your teeth
- ✓ Eat mindfully—ease into local cuisine to avoid digestive upset
- ✓ Protect yourself from the sun—use sunscreen, wear a hat & sunglasses always



ON YOUR SAFARI



Good to Know

TRAVEL SMART

It's always wise to take basic precautions when traveling internationally. Be aware of your surroundings, especially in areas frequented by tourists. Do not leave your food or drink unattended. Being alert is a good way to help ensure a safe and enjoyable trip.

Check for travel advisory updates on your local government website. For the US: <https://travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/travel-advisories.html>

HEALTH CARE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

While Namibia and South Africa offer modern, well-equipped hospitals in major cities, safari areas and remote destinations are often hours away from advanced medical care. In the event of a serious emergency, medical evacuation services are available but may not be immediate. Many lodges and camps have staff trained in basic first aid, but they should be relied upon only for initial assistance, not full medical treatment.

We strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance that includes medical evacuation coverage and always keeping a list of your emergency contacts and insurance details with you.

VALUABLES AND PACKING

Keep valuables with you or in safes when available. Travel light for easier mobility and smoother transfers.

CPAP MACHINES

Some lodges run on solar or generators with limited hours. If you need one, consider purchasing a portable, battery-powered model to take with you. If you can only use a CPAP that requires overnight electricity, contact us at support@rewildsafaris.com to ensure that the lodges and camps on your itinerary can accommodate your needs.

STAYING CONNECTED

Mobile coverage is generally reliable in major cities and towns, but it can be limited or unavailable in remote safari areas. WhatsApp is widely used and often the most reliable way to communicate when Wi-Fi is available. Many lodges and camps provide basic Wi-Fi, typically sufficient for messaging and checking emails, though not always strong enough for large uploads or streaming. Consider it an opportunity to stay lightly connected while embracing the chance to disconnect and immerse yourself in the wilderness.

ETIQUETTE

Respect Southern Africa's stunning wildlife, landscapes and environment by following these guidelines:

- Follow local laws and customs
- Ask before photographing people, especially in local villages or markets
- Stay quiet and avoid sudden movements to reduce stress on wildlife
- Keep a distance from all wildlife
- Do not touch or feed wildlife
- Do not touch or remove anything from the environment, e.g. rocks, plants, flowers
- Do not litter
- Rewild Safaris have a strict no smoking/no vaping policy
- Follow your guide's instructions to minimize your impact on the environment
- Conserve resources like water and electricity, especially in lodges using solar power
- Follow the "Leave No Trace" principal

TIPS ON TIPPING



Per person, per day, USD:

City hotel/airport porters: \$2

Hotels, Lodges, Camps General Staff Tip Box: \$10

Lodge Guides: \$20

Tracker: \$10

City Tour Driver/Guide: \$15

Half Day Activity: \$10 / Full Day Activity: \$20

Restaurants (outside of meals included on safari): 10 - 15% of total bill

It's Go Time!

Thank you for choosing Rewild Safaris. This journey not only offers incredible wildlife and landscapes but also supports conservation efforts in Southern Africa. Your trip makes a difference by helping preserve these ecosystems and uplift local communities.

Get ready for an unforgettable experience—Africa awaits!

