

COMPLETE SAFARI PACKING LIST

This is a list of the items that I recommend for your safari.

Space and weight will be at a premium on the vehicle and especially if you will be on a light aircraft.

Weight on the aircraft is limited to 15kg (33lbs) / person. The pilot may refuse to take any additional weight or may charge a / kg fee which could be very expensive.

Baggage ideally needs to fit within a 70 x 25 cm (28 x 10 in) baggage pod. The pilot's are not usually as concerned with the size, however, remember there may be other passengers on your flight so space can be an issue.

This list may look long but depending on your personal circumstances and the type of safari you are doing some of the items will not be applicable to you.

SAFARI GEAR:

- clothing in neutral colors: khaki / light brown/green, tan. Avoid bright colors and white.
- a safari jacket can be very useful as it has lots of pockets
- comfortable short and long sleeved safari shirts (2-3 of each)
- comfortable short and long trousers (convertible pants work well) (2-3 of each)
- underwear (4-5 pair)
- pajamas
- swim suit
- wide brim hat
- flip-flops / Crocs
- comfortable walking / hiking shoes especially if you are doing a walking safari
- socks (4-5 pairs)
- extra shoelaces

- insect repellent (no pressurized containers for air travel)
- sun block SPF 30
- light travel towel
- unscented baby wipes / hand sanitizer
- sunglasses
- water filter / steri pen / Chlorine Dioxide tablets

PERSONAL ITEMS:

- Toothbrush / toothpaste / floss
- pocket knife with scissors (in your checked bag)
- tweezers
- lip balm
- razor / shaving cream
- birth control
- sanitary requirements
- contact lens / solution
- band aids
- antibiotic cream (recommend you get a prescription of Bactroban)
- Ibuprofen / pain medication
- heartburn medication
- allergy medication
- antibiotic (Cipro usually covers most emergencies)
- sterile needles (if appropriate/concerns of hygiene in an emergency)
- shampoo/soap
- washing powder

- book /Kindle etc
- pack of cards
- PRESCRIBED MEDICATION / MALERIA PROPHYLAXIS
- pen / pencil
- string (spectra rope-very small and lightweight and available at REI)
- sleeping bag liner (usually silk and light weight)
- zip lock bags (small / large)
- water bottle

SAFARI LUGGAGE:

- soft luggage works best
- a small backpack is useful
- wheeled luggage does not work well in the bush as it has to be "carried". Most times there will be someone to carry your luggage.

SAFARI EQUIPMENT:

- binoculars (8 x 32 work well. 10 x50 are heavy to hold all day. Good quality binoculars (Leica etc.) are expensive but worth it as they are clearer and let in more light in low light conditions in the early morning / evening.)
- flashlight / headlamp
- camera /charger /batteries
- small bean bag works well for a tripod
- plug adapters (Africa usually 3 pin round / square)
- mini combination locks (TSA locks work well)

- travel pillow
- money belt
- travel alarm
- small collapsible cooler
- Snacks / hard candies – these can be purchased at the duty free on the flight over (chocolate will tend to melt in the heat)

DOCUMENTS:

- passport and visa
- airline ticket /E-ticket
- travel vouchers (for hotel/safari/flights/transport)
- vaccination certificates (Yellow Fever etc.)
- itinerary
- travel insurance policy
- emergency phone numbers (if you have a GSM / unlocked phone you can get sim cards cheaply to use)
- copies of prescriptions/important medical history
- EXTRA PASSPORT PHOTOS (take 3 as needed for visa)
- copy of passport and credit cards (kept separately)
- wildlife books (birds and animals)
- journal
- credit cards (notify the card company that you will be travelling in Africa so they do not block charges)
- cash in small denominations (\$1 / \$5 / \$10...sometimes they will not cash larger denominations)