



PACKING TIPS City & Bush combo

(With apologies to the men, this is mainly from the female perspective!)

What to Wear On Safari?

Above all, clothing on a safari should be practical and comfortable. Roads can be dusty and the temperature can fluctuate as much as 20 degrees during the course of the day.

Mornings are generally cooler - and in some areas cold. As the day progresses and the sun rises higher in the sky, the temperatures rise. The cooling process begins again in the late afternoon, as the sun sets.

Included in packing below.

1 traveling outfit – comfortable and smart (include jacket or coat)

Wear your heaviest shoes/clothing on the flight

BUSH

Concentrate on neutral colors. No white or red or bright neon colors. Dark colors tend to attract more bugs so stay away from black or navy during safari

1 capris or shorts

1 pair long pants/trousers safari colors

2 cotton tops/ T-shirts/ Polo shirts in neutral tones – beige, stone, green, kahki, brown or mixes

2 pairs shoes, walking shoes/trainers and flip-flops

Warm fleece or jacket and 1 pullover/sweater

Beanie, gloves and warm scarf for early morning and evening game drives in winter

1 swim suit and cover-up/sarong

Sun hat or cap, sunglasses

Traveling in open vehicles and game viewing after the sun has dropped and on the way home – a pair of clear glasses or safety glasses protect your eyes from dust and bugs.

Cotton scarf is great for warmth, keeping hair in place and also wrapping around face if lots of bugs while on drives

CITY

1 pair slacks or 1 jeans

1 long skirt or dressier pair slacks for evening

1 top for evening wear – make one long or ¾ sleeve for cooler temps

1 cardigan or long-sleeve shirt

2 cotton tops/ T-shirts – various colors – short sleeve or 3/4 sleeve length

2 silk or cotton scarves, one leather belt, dress jewelry for evening wear

1 pair shoes, comfortable flats or sandals

Nightwear, underwear, socks, gym wear

Cosmetics, basic toiletries include sun-block, medicines, travel alarm



Ideally the slacks and tops from both city and bush will co-ordinate and can be worn at either place depending on weather. Shoes and jackets will be place specific.

Don't wear expensive jewelry while in Africa. Use costume jewelry and other accessories.

Remember it gets cool in the evenings once the sun has set, so always bring a cardigan or jacket for evenings.

I highly recommend traveling to Africa with the following:

- Binoculars - your own set is always useful to have. Buy compact, light lenses
- Camera - a good camera will be invaluable in tracking your African adventure
- Extra memory cards or large memory cards
- Batteries - if your appliances take these, make sure you travel with extras
- Small flashlight (torch)
- Any chargers or power-stick and any connector leads for your appliances
- Include sunblock with cosmetics

In addition consider taking:

- Travel adaptor - you will need an adaptor to fit South African 3 point round and Zimbabwean 3 point square. Most luxury hotels/lodges provide these or else have similar 2 point plug points as in US. Also available for purchase at SA Airports. This will not work with hair-dryers etc as the voltage difference is 110v to 220v, unless your appliance has a built in adaptor.
- Compression stockings for long flights really help me. Pick them up at the airport if you haven't already purchased a pair.
- Avoid Safari clothing that needs to be dry-cleaned, as these facilities are not generally available at lodges and camps. Remember that casual dress is acceptable while on safari. Safari camps and lodges all have laundry facilities. Make use of this facility.
- On safari, Safari clothing can double up as dinner clothes.
- Dining out in the cities at nicer restaurants/fine-dining establishments, expect to dress up and enjoy being more formal. However it is not usually necessary for men to wear jacket & tie; a collar shirt (not golf shirt) is generally acceptable.