

# EXPLORING SOUTHERN AFRICA PACKING LIST

**Keep in mind the luggage restrictions:** Max 20KG per person. You are allowed 1 checked bag and hand luggage of 7KG. Please keep in mind that our trips do suggest light packing for our travelers and I would not advise them to bring a bag of 20KG but rather to pack as per the website which is 15kg - Your baggage should be clearly labelled and restricted to one soft compact suitcase (please avoid a hard-top case), or sports bag, maximum 15kg, plus a daypack

**The weather in South Africa in August varies by region due to its diverse geography.**

- Highveld (e.g., Johannesburg, Pretoria): Expect mild, sunny days (59°F to 72°F) and cold nights, sometimes near freezing. It's usually dry, but cold fronts can occur.
- Western Cape (e.g., Cape Town): August is the end of the rainy season, with a mix of sun and rain. Temperatures range from 45°F to 64°F.
- Lowveld and Kruger National Park: August is the dry season, good for wildlife viewing. It's warm and dry during the day (68°F to 82°F), but morning game drives are cold (around 52°F).

**Overall, August in South Africa:**

- Is the last month of winter, transitioning to spring.
- Is generally dry except for the Western Cape.
- Has mild to warm days but chilly mornings and evenings.
- Is good for safari in dry season areas like Kruger National Park.

## Everyday Wear

- Lightweight long-sleeve shirts (sun protection and layering)
- T-shirts
- Light fleece or hoodie (for chilly mornings/evenings)
- Warm jacket (insulated or down for cold mornings—especially on safari)
- Comfortable pants (jeans, leggings, or travel pants)
- Shorts or capris (for warmer days)
- Casual dresses or skirts, collared shirts and slacks (for cities or nicer dinners)

## Safari & Outdoor Gear

- Neutral-colored clothing
- Breathable hiking pants
- Zip-off pants (convertible to shorts)
- Light scarf or buff (for dust and sun)
- Hat with wide brim
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Gloves (optional—mornings on open vehicles can be very cold)
- Swimsuit (some lodges have pools or spas)

## Footwear

- Sturdy walking shoes or hiking boots
- Comfortable sandals or slip-ons (for camp/lodges or city touring)
- Flip-flops (for shower or pool)

## Toiletries & Personal Items

- Sunscreen (high SPF)
- Lip balm with SPF
- Bug spray with DEET (for areas with mosquitoes)
- Travel-size toiletries
- Moisturizer (air can be dry in winter)
- Personal medications + basic first aid kit
- Hand sanitizer and wipes
- Tissues or toilet paper (for remote areas)
- Small medical kit (pain killers, bandages, tummy meds)

### Tech & Accessories

- Binoculars (great for wildlife viewing)
- Camera or smartphone with extra storage
- Power adapter (South Africa uses Type M plug)
- Portable charger or power bank (may want multiple)
- Flashlight or headlamp (some areas may have power outages)
- Universal travel adapter
- E-reader or book for downtime

### Documents & Travel Essentials

- Passport (with at least 2 blank pages per country visited)
- Copies of passport and visa
- Travel insurance details
- Credit card + local currency (South African Rand)
- Travel itinerary, confirmations, and contact details

### Extras (optional but useful)

- Daypack or small backpack
- Dry bag or ziplock bags (for dust or moisture)
- Reusable water bottle. You cannot drink tap water, but the lodges and the tour companies will have large jugs you can refill from.
- Snacks (especially if traveling to remote areas)
- Travel laundry detergent (for hand-washing)
- Journal or travel notebook

You will be able to wash clothes, however dryers are not common in South Africa. So plan carefully and pack clothing that air dries quickly. Also, leave heated hair tools at home. You will not need them.