

1. How can we reach the hunting area?

There are regular flights from London to Johannesburg or Cape Town. From there it is possible to rent a private plane and land on the property next to the concession, or take a domestic flight to Kimberley or Upington. In this case, the last part of the trip is by car. It is also possible to make a stop-over in Cape Town and enjoy some sightseeing and wine tasting in this beautiful area before heading to Kimberley.

2. Importing firearms

South Africa requires a temporary import/export permit for your firearms and ammunition. This can be issued at your port of entry into South Africa or applied for before you arrive in South Africa. To make this as hassle free as possible, Kalahari rangers will send you an application form for your temporary import/export firearm permit. This is known as a SAP 520 form. Kalahari rangers will also send you firearm importation procedures prior to your safari. PHASA (Professional Hunters Association of South Africa) offers an Airport Assistance service to ensure a smooth entry through customs with your firearms at O.R Tambo International airport.

Details are sent to you prior to your safari:

- Automatic weapons are illegal in South Africa.
- For any of the "Big Five" the law requires a minimum caliber of 375. For plains game any caliber from 270 upwards will be suitable.
- Shots range from close quarters in thick bushy conditions, to fairly long shots up to 300 yards in plains, so a good variable scope is recommended.
- For bird shooting, a 12-gauge shotgun is recommended. We can supply shotgun shells for bird hunts.
- Firearms can be hired by prior arrangement.
- No more than ONE firearm or shotgun per caliber or gauge
- Only 200 rounds for each permitted firearm or shotgun will be allowed
- Ammunition must be packed in a lockable box/case and placed in your checked luggage separate from your firearms

We recommend that you take care in selecting an appropriate gun case for transporting your firearms as they can be exposed to extremely harsh treatment by airline baggage handlers.

- U.S. Customs Form 4457
- If you plan on bringing your own firearms, you need to visit a U.S. Customs Office and obtain Customs Form 4457 to register your firearms. [Find a U.S. Customs Office location in your state.](#) Form 4457 is a Certificate of Registration for Personal Effects Taken Abroad and you will need this form upon entering South Africa and upon re-entering the USA. The form will contain your name, address, a description of your firearm, and your signature. Once your firearm has been inspected, the Customs Officer will certify the form with an official stamp. You can include more than one firearm on one form if you like.
- The description of your firearm should include the: make, model, caliber, firearm serial number, scope, scope serial number. To expedite the process, have all of this information written out before you enter the Customs Office.
- You can view, enter your firearm information and print a copy of the Customs Form 4457 to take with you to the Customs Office at the following link: [U.S. Customs Form 4457 PDF](#)

3. Taxidermy

Our professional taxidermists specialize in African Animals. Their vast experience with these animals out in their natural environment and years of mounting experience, give them an edge over many others.

The moment that your trophy is taken you create a memory that will last a lifetime. Some hunters are happy returning home from their safari with only photographs, others prefer just the bleached skull and horns of their animal but we believe the majority of hunters want their trophy mounted in some way, such as a shoulder mount, pedestal mount or a full mount. Whether it is a photo, skull or any kind of mount, these will always be a reminder of that particular hunting moment. They will return you to the memory of that hunt and your surroundings, how blue the sky was, the smells carried in the breeze, the terrain and vegetation and sounds that were around you, and all of the emotions and thoughts you had at that moment in time.

Taxidermy of your trophies is considered an option and is not viewed as a must or a part of the safari. However it is something to be thought about, as it is possible for the cost of taxidermy to add up to as much or more than that of your safari.

Initial preservation of your trophy is done by Kalahari Rangers prior to delivery to the Taxidermist.

4. Climate

The hottest period is from November to end of February, at this time of the year, it is the raining season and temperatures can go up to 40°C (please change form us °)

The opposite is July and August with a possible -4°C at night and a maximum of 25°C during the day.

The middle seasons March to June and September to October is mild.

5. Health -Malaria, vaccinations

South Africa is a safe country in terms of health risks as medical facilities are world class, with many capable hospitals, clinics and private practices throughout the country.

Before visiting South Africa, we recommend consulting with your health care provider at least 4-6 weeks prior to your departure to determine if you will require any immunizations, vaccines, or medications prior to your arrival in South Africa

There are no immunizations required to enter South Africa. A Tetanus Booster (be sure yours is up to date prior to your departure) and Hepatitis A have been recommended by local Health Departments.

The Kalahari is Malaria free

Sufferers of specific allergies and ailments should ensure that they bring their own medications and prescriptions. Don't forget suitable headwear for sun protection and sun protection creams.

6. Hunting season

The hunt is open all year but remains nevertheless marked by the seasons.

March will be much greener after raining season, and make the approach a little bit easier but make the animal more difficult to spot in the field.

In winter, we will have a better view of animals and animals is moving much more to find food, so make more easy to find

7. Additional activities

- For non hunter or observer, it is always possible to join the hunter twice a day, because the hunter leaves in the morning and comes back to the lodge for lunch so the non hunter can join in the afternoon.
- It is also possible to organize a separate team for a picture safari to that focus more on other species like giraffe, zebra, birds etc.
- The lodge is equipped with a swimming pool and games for children.
- We also offer a child caring facility on request.
- Horse riding or donkey car tours (traditional transport from Kalahari) are also available on request.
- We can make a tour in Tsabong, Botswana 30km from lodge
- A visit to the Diamond Mine museum (the Big Hole) in Kimberley can be arranged on the day of departure.
- A visit to the Wonder Caves that offer exquisite bushman paintings are on the way to Kuruman and is worth a visit.

8. References from the industry:

- Our hunting was selected by Magic Safari Lodge as one of the top 8 in South Africa and has been since 2006.
- We were also selected as one of the LEICA 6 "Leica Safari Lodge" and offer, in this context, access to high-level demonstration equipment to our clients.
- Our lodge is a 4-star lodge rated by SATSA (South African tourism Services Association) in the province of Northern Cape, which is oriented toward hunting.

9. What should be included in my suitcase?

- Clothing should be simple, layered and of a neutral color. Khaki, Green or Olive drab work best.
- (A Khaki shade should be more of a medium rather than very light.) Camouflage clothing can be worn.
- Comfortable boots or walking shoes are a must, be sure they are well broken in prior to arrival, as blisters can ruin a safari.
- Three changes of comfortable, cotton bush clothes are recommended. We recommend long sleeve shirts as it can be cool in the mornings and as it warms up you can always roll the sleeves up.
- Long pants protect you from the thorns and if you get the ones that zip into shorts you should be comfortable at any time.
- Bring at least one warm jacket for those cold mornings and a pair of gloves. I also bring an extra sweater along for the layering effect.
- You will also need a hat for protection from the sun and branches while stalking.
- Laundry service is provided on a daily basis so it is not necessary to pack a change of clothing for each day of your safari.

10. Electricity

Voltage in South Africa is 230 - 240 volts, 50 Hz. For your electrical items you will need a voltage converter. You will also need a plug adapter to plug your converter into the wall. The universal plugs that come with some converters indicate that they can be used in Africa. They will not work with the type of plugs that are in use in South Africa. We have some plugs available in the Lodge; however for your insurance it would be best to purchase these items before you arrive.

10. Cellular and Internet Service

The majority of later model cellular phones that operate on a 2G, 3G or 4G network will generally connect with network service in the airports and major cities in South Africa allowing you to make calls, receive calls, and text message. We do provide internet services via our private Wi-Fi Network. When connecting via cell phone network we use Vodacom, it is a strong signal, re-curve, and unfortunately it is a 2G network.

13. Currency & South Africa

The unit of currency in South Africa is the Rand (R), which is divided into 100 cents. Notes are in R200, R100, R50, R20 and R10. Coins are in denominations of R5, R2, R1 and 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c.

CREDIT CARDS:

Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Diners Club are accepted by most restaurants, hotels and stores however we suggest you call your credit card company prior to your departure to inform them you will be using your card in South Africa. Proof of identity may be requested in some instances. It is therefore useful to carry a passport or some form of photo ID at all times.

The lodge only accepts cash or EFT.

14. More facts on bow hunting:

What type of bow should I bring and what draw weight should I use?

For plains game hunting, you should bring your normal big game set up you would use for whitetail, elk or any other type deer. We have archers who use compound, re-curve, and long bow as well as crossbows. The most important aspect of your hunt will be that you are familiar with your bow and equipment you bring.

What type of broad head should I use on African game?

We recommend a fixed three blade cut on impact. No mechanical broad heads.

What type of shooting practice should I do?

Shooting on level ground, from tree stands and from inside pop up blinds would all be very good practice. You need to be very proficient from 50 yards and closer.

How long will the shots be?

Most of the shots will be 25 yards or less. It does not always work that way and longer shots are taken especially when following wounded game.

When is the best time to bow hunt in South Africa?

We prefer our bow hunting clients to come from June to October. This is winter and early spring for us and the weather is quite nice for bow hunting. By this time normally all the scattered waterholes have dried up and animals come to water daily. Also most of the cover is gone from the trees and you can see the game coming in and gives you the chance to study the animals for trophy quality.

Do I need to apply for any permits to bring my bow into South Africa?

Not at all. Unlike fire arms, bows are currently not regulated coming in to South Africa. You simply pick up your bow and proceed through the customs area.

We welcome you to the Kalahari Rangers Lodge

