

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Professional Hunters'
Association of South Africa

RESPONSIBLE HUNTING FOR SUSTAINABLE LIFE AND LIVELIHOODS

Tel. +27-12-667-2048 / phasa@phasa.co.za / www.phasa.co.za

SAFETY AND SECURITY TIPS FOR TRAVELLERS

As a domestic or foreign tourist, your enjoyment and well-being are of utmost importance to us. As in any country, there are a few basic safety precautions visitors should take to ensure they experience the best South Africa has to offer in confidence. Based on international guidelines, here are some precautionary guidelines to take before embarking on your trip and when travelling around South Africa:

BEFORE YOU DEPART

- Leave copies of your itinerary, ID document, passport and driver's license with family or friends, so you can be contacted in case of an emergency.
- When renting a car, ensure you have selected an option with Personal Accident Cover, so you can have peace of mind in case of an accident. Alternatively, take out medical insurance with your travel agent to ensure a speedy medical service if required.
- Plan your route by obtaining a set map or saving your planned locations on your mobile.
- Make use of a reputable shuttle service or car rental agency. In the case of ordering a shuttle service, get the name, contact number and photograph of the driver who will pick you up at the airport in South Africa.
- Make sure you have securely locked your bags and luggage, and have placed distinct markers for easy and quick identification.
- Take photos of your luggage and save it on your mobile device, in-case it goes missing and you have to report it.
- Do not cover or wrap your luggage as you may be requested by airport officials to open your bags for standard security inspections. At the airport, you will find luggage wrapping services available that will secure fragile items in your luggage.
- Avoid wearing flashy jewelry, expensive watches and clothing that may create attention.



- Set your mobile device on data roaming, so you have immediate internet and telephonic access when you arrive in South Africa.
- Keep the minimum cash and only small denominations in your wallet. Put the rest in your hand luggage or brief case. If possible, take photos of the notes in your wallet or write down its numbers.
- Activate your credit and debit cards for use in your destination countries with your bank.

TRAVELLING WITH GUNS

- Make sure your paperwork is in order for transit as well as your destination county, especially if you are travelling with sporting equipment such as hunting rifles. Keep notarized/certified colour copies with you and on a mobile device.
- PHASA strongly advise you to make use of a reputable meet-and-greet agent who can get your transit/temporary import/export permits pre-issued and who can assist you at the Firearms permit office upon arrival.
- Restrict your firearms to a maximum of three of different calibers, i.e. 1 x .30-06, 1 x .375 and 1 x 12g shotgun. The FULL description of each rifle must be reflected on your home country's export documentation (i.e.4457) AND your temporary import documentation, i.e. Winchester .470 Win Mag or Krieghoff .458 Lott.
- You are allowed 200 rounds of ammo into South Africa per rifle. However, IATA restricts travelers to 11 pounds/5kg of ammo, which is weighed WITH THE BOX. This is the equivalent of approx. 100 x .375 ammo.
- Your empty brass shells MAY be taken back home. If an airline or official wish to force you to discard the same, report the same to the police. The Firearms Control Act does not prohibit you to take it home for re-loading.
- ALL ammo must be packed in a LOCKABLE BOX and checked in separately from your LOCKABLE gun case. All firearms must be unloaded. The keys must be held by yourself and both gun case and ammo boxes must be opened in your presence for inspection.
- The onus rest on you to make sure that your preferred airline carrier and the countries it transits through allows firearms as cargo.
- Special pre-issued permits are required for handguns and semi-automatic hunting firearms.
- If you have ANY concern or complaint about the services at the firearms permit office or any other police station anywhere in South Africa, contact the SAPS Complaints desk at +27-11-2747757 or +27-86-0267787, gpcomplaints@saps.gov.za with a copy to Col. Reddy at reddyt@saps.gov.za.

AT THE AIRPORT

- Do not allow anyone to handle your bags without your express permission.
- Do NOT trust anyone that cannot be identified.
- Do NOT draw or exchange large amounts of money at the Airport ATM's. Credit cards are widely accepted throughout South Africa.
- When seeking directions, proceed to marked information counters only.



- As you approach your rental, shuttle or tour operator's vehicle, be vigilant and aware of suspicious looking people that may be following you or watching you. Don't be fooled by well-dressed people and expensive-looking cars.
- If you have planned for a shuttle service to pick you up at the arrivals section, call the driver first and tell him or her that you have landed safely. Then ask where exactly they are situated and waiting for you. Try not to look 'lost'.
- Place all luggage in the boot of your/the car and avoid having handbags and brief cases on the car seats.
- If you are asked for a bribe, pay it with the marked/photographed notes in your wallet and immediately go and lay a charge against the culprit and record the numbers on the notes in your affidavit. Make sure you can identify the corrupt official and also report the incident and case number to both TBCSA and PHASA so it can be followed up.

TRAVELLING WITH GUNS

- Passenger travelling on South African Airways (SAA) must upon arrival, sign in at the security desk at baggage collection and then proceed to the firearm permit office outside the secured area.
- Do not disclose any information that may compromise your safety, i.e. how much cash you carry on you, where you are staying over etc.
- Make sure your rifle and ammo boxes are opened and inspected in your presence. Lock it afterwards and keep the rifle and the ammo boxes separate from each other.
- Have copies of all your documentation on hand (4457, copy of firearm license, passport, travel itinerary, invitation letter from outfitter/sport shooting club etc.).
- Be patient and courteous towards the officers at the South African Police Services' firearm permit office.

IN YOUR VEHICLE

- As you or your driver exit the parking area and airport itself, take a 360° look around for any suspicious behavior. Once on the public road and at regular five-minute intervals, try paying particular attention to see if there are any cars following you or driving slowly behind you. If you recognize a car driving behind that you think you saw exiting the airport with you, make the driver aware of it. If you are alone, keep an extra eye out on the vehicle and regularly cross lanes safely.
- Keep the doors locked and windows up at all times, and be vigilant at stop signals. Keep a maneuverable distance between you and the car in front of you.
- Do not leave your mobile device or other valuables where they are visible from outside
- Plan your route in advance. In the case of a car rental, always have the company's number on hand in case you get lost. Make sure the car you are driving is fueled-up.
- Never pick up strangers or hitch-hikers.
- At night, park in well-lit areas.



AT THE HOTEL, GUESTHOUSE, LODGE OR OTHER ACCOMMODATION

- As you approach the accommodation premises, take another 360° look around you.
- Be extra vigilant whilst waiting for gates to open.
- Once at reception, report any unattended luggage or parcels to reception.
- Ask reception if there are any specific safety/security guidelines to note.
- Once in your guest room, review the emergency escape plan or route at the back of your hotel room door. If there is none, insist on reception to explain the escape route to you.
- Store all your valuables in the safety deposit box, usually situated in the wardrobe.
- If someone knocks at your door, check through the eye-hole first before opening. Contact reception if there is reason for concern.

TRAVELLING WITH GUNS

- Your rifles and ammo should at all times be locked in a safe when not in use.

WHILE TRAVELLING

- Limit the amount of cash you carry with you. There are numerous safely located ATM's around in case you need cash. Most establishments and shopping outlets accept credit cards. Never carry your wallet in the rear of your trousers.
- When using an ATM, keep your pin secure and do not accept any help from strangers.
- Always keep fully aware of your surroundings at the ATM and who is around you.
- When paying with your credit card, demand that it be done in your presence. DO NOT let your card out of your sight.
- Plan your day trips in advance and where possible, save the GPS locations on your mobile.
- Avoid wearing expensive or flashy jewelry and clothing. Keep mobile devices and cameras close to you by connecting them to a safety string wrapped around your wrist or waist.
- Do not stop if your vehicle's tyres have been damaged by rocks or obstacles on the road – go to the nearest well-lit service station and call the police on 10111.
- At night, stay away from dark, isolated areas. Where possible, always travel with a group and explore busy and well-lit streets in urban areas.

TBCSA AND PHASA WISHES YOU A PLEASANT AND MEMORABLE STAY IN OUR COUNTRY

TRAVEL & TOURISM TRADE
ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED TO TBCSA

