



...go wild

What should I pack?



It's time to plan what to put in that suitcase of yours! These tips will help you figure out the essentials of what to pack for your safari. Please reach out to a member of the Wilderness Legends team if you have any specific questions that aren't addressed here, and we'll be happy to help!

1. Passport, Itinerary, Travel Insurance Docs, E-tickets, I.D. etc

Make a copy of all of the above and put in a folder that you keep on your person while travelling (for the passport, just a copy of the bio page). It's also good to take photos of all docs with your phone and keep a folder somewhere in your phone gallery that you can readily access.

2. Prescription and preventative meds

Remember to put prescription medications in your carry-on in case your checked baggage is delayed. Put together a small bag of preventative meds, too – good to have on hand in case of the unexpected. We suggest anti-diarrhea tablets, probiotics, Tylenol or Ibuprofen, antacids, insect repellent, hand sanitizer, an antihistamine, sore throat lozenges, and eye drops. Even more important – breath mints – you'll be glad you did!

3. Prescription Glasses and contact lenses

If you wear prescription glasses, be sure to pack more than one pair (in case you lose one or they get broken). The same goes for contact lenses.

4. Camera, Video and Binoculars

Your regular camera and mobile phone for video and photography are a must. Also, consider bringing a pair of binoculars, too, for optimum wildlife viewing on safari. A good pair will make a big difference, and we recommend at least 8x or better still, 10x magnification if possible. And don't forget charging cables, plus extra batteries for those devices that use them, and additional SD cards for your camera.

5. Clothing

If you have any flights on smaller aircraft once in country, your luggage weight allowance will be considerably less, and you could end up with additional surcharges for what is considered normal weight on larger planes. Another good reason to pack light! Check with your international carrier for their luggage guidelines (typically 50 pounds or 23 kilos). Weight limits on smaller aircraft tend to range between 7 to 15 kilos.

At most camps and lodges, same day laundry service is generally available. If you are staying two nights at a camp, this is the best time to have laundry done though due to the extra available day (all items are generally hand-washed and line-dried). Plan to have your laundry done once or twice while on safari and you can easily reduce the amount of clothing you bring. Side note: typically laundry at the camps does not include washing of personal undergarments. Bring a travel size bottle of laundry detergent for handwashing those items.

Casual, comfortable clothing is suitable throughout the year when on safari. Lightweight natural fabrics are recommended, like cotton and linen, and neutral colours are best. White and/or bright colours are not practical as they tend to stand out, and definitely not advisable on a walking safari. The newer, quick-drying fabrics and shirts with ventilation are nice options.

Wearing clothes in layers is the most practical way to cope with fluctuating day/night temperatures and potentially cool evenings.

Here are the "must-haves" to pack for your safari:

T-shirts, shirts or blouses - long sleeves and collars help to protect from the sun and mosquitoes

Lightweight slacks, capris, skirts and a pair of shorts

A pair of lightweight hiking boots or walking shoes if your safari includes day trip hikes to waterfalls or a guided walk in the bush.

A pair or two of sandals for general daytime use in warmer months

A pair of rubber thongs (flipflops) to wear in your tent or shower

A hat (collapsible material is good)

A cotton scarf or pashmina for cool evenings, and a sarong (kanga, pareo, kikoi) for the pool or beach

Swimsuit - a number of lodges and camps have swimming pools

A 'dressy casual' outfit is nice for dinner at some lodges or camps

Fleece or warm jacket (depending on time of year)

A light, compact raincoat if it is likely you will encounter rain (especially if gorilla and chimp trekking)

And, of course, your undergarments, sleepwear and socks!

Do not wear dark blue or black as Tsetse flies are attracted to these colours!

Camouflage print (any form of brown/green "combat" style coloring) is not allowed.

It is recommended to not take any expensive personal jewelry on safari. Keep it to just those everyday items that you normally wear, like your wedding band, inexpensive earrings and watches.

Note: Tanzania is a conservative country. It is suggested to dress somewhat modestly when visiting local villages, government or religious sites. This applies even more so if visiting Zanzibar which is mostly Muslim and more conservative than the mainland.

6. Phone, tablet and laptop

Phone, tablet and/or laptop - and their respective chargers, are a must, along with a country-specific converter / adapter and plugs.

In Tanzania there are two associated plug types, types D and G. Plug type D is the plug which has three round pins in a triangular pattern and plug type G is the plug which has two flat parallel pins and a grounding pin. Tanzania operates on a 230V supply and 50Hz. Here's a great [LINK](#) for a global travel adapter set that you may want to explore.

Note: your camps will generally have a communal USB charging station for your phones and devices available

7. Odds & Ends

A good torch (flashlight) is a must. It can be pitch black in the bush or in your tent in the middle of the night. A rechargeable torch is ideal, but a small battery-powered torch is sufficient. The new LED miner's lights that fit on your head (and leave your hands free) are also a good option. A smaller (pencil) torch for emergencies or looking at star maps is also worth considering. Most camps will provide a torch, or will walk you back to your tent as required, but being self-sufficient is always a good idea. Travel-sized first-aid and sewing kits are good to have with you, too.

A travel diary or journal is something we recommend. You will see and experience so much in such a short period of time on safari, that the only way to maintain a good record of it will be to write it down. You'll be glad you did!

