

**CHAMPION SERVICES TRAVEL**  
**SOUTH AFRICA TOUR**  
**December 1–12, 2022 (Victoria Falls, Dec. 1-14, 2022**  
**Know-B-4-U-GO**

Dear South African Participant,

It is with great pleasure that we provide you with some helpful information to prepare you for your tour. Please read the information below in full for helpful hints and instructions for your South Africa Tour.

**PASSPORT/VISA/VACCINATION:** A VISA is not required for US Citizens before traveling to South Africa. You may enter South Africa and receive a free visa stamp upon arrival if you hold a Passport from the United States. **Passports** are required for all U.S. citizens traveling abroad. U.S. citizens must have a passport which is valid for **at least six (6) months** after your return date. Due to TSA Secure Flight requirements, your name must match exactly as it appears on your Passport, including titles such as Jr. or Sr. and any multiple first, middle or last names. If accurate information is not provided, airlines may charge penalties to make corrections or even deny boarding, and you may not be permitted to enter the country. Any changes in names or passport information should be reported to CST immediately. Note; any name changes after final processing of your booking may result in additional fees.

**Departure/Location & Time:** **South African Airlines Dec. 1, 2022- 5:40PM, Dulles Intl Airport, subject to change (IAD)** (please arrive a minimum 3hours prior to departure for all International flights) You are allowed 1 checked bag max., 50lbs ea. and 1 carry-on that must be able to fit in the overhead compartment. Extra checked bags are at a current rate of \$80 per bag. Women/Men are also allowed to carry a purse/backpack. Upon arrival please proceed through TSA Security and onto the boarding gate, where we will all meet. South African Airlines Group Department will not guarantee special seat assignment; however, we will do our best to request. Groups are normally in the same area of the plane. (Follow the TSA 3-1-1 Rule; 3 oz., 1 plastic bag, 1 container ea. and display in the bins when going through TSA) Flight schedules are subject to change without early notice.

**CST Luggage Allowance:** Our "Group" luggage policy allows each traveler one-1 checked piece of luggage weighing no more than 50lbs, plus one-1 carry-on weighing up to 15 lbs. Women/Men are also allowed to carry a purse or back-pack that must be able to fit in the overhead compartment or under the seat in front of you. See baggage measurements and instructions below:

The total dimensions (length + width + height) of each piece must not exceed 150 cm (59 inches). You'll be charged an additional fee for any individual items with dimensions exceeding 150 cm (59 inches), up to a maximum of 300 cm (118 inches). Individual items with total dimensions greater than 300 cm (118 inches) can't be checked as baggage and will need to be sent as cargo or freight. The carry on piece of luggage must not exceed 18" x 10" x 8" so that it fits under your seat or in the overhead compartment.

**Tour Package Includes:**

Round Trip International Air, Round Trip Transfers in South Africa, In-Country Flights, Hotel Accommodations, Air conditioned coaches with English speaking tour guides, A Safari, Breakfast daily and other meals mentioned in the itinerary and all tours.

**Not Included:**

COVID-19 Immunizations, and COVID-19 Tests, things of a personal nature, meals not mentioned in itinerary, beverages with some meals in itinerary (est. cost for meals vary depending on where you dine), tipping to cover our tour guide and driver (\$121 per person-SA only or \$154 per person for SA & VF-to be collected upon entry in S. Africa by CST reps) and travel protection insurance. See information on purchasing travel protection insurance below.

**Eating in Southern Africa:**

South Africa's food menu is tourist friendly. You can eat to your heart's desire. The only food item we caution is their tossed salad; as it is rinsed in their water and may cause diarrhea or an upset stomach. Marinated and cooked vegetables and fruit are just fine. We recommend you carry Imodium in the event it is needed.

**Communication:**

Your cell phone may or may not operate in S. Africa; with today's technology most likely it will. We recommend you check with your cell phone provider for international coverage and cost. Our hotels do offer Free WIFI

**Packing:** During the Dec. season, S. Africa can be warm to hot depending on our location. Expect the weather to be early (Spring & Summer) with temperatures of 70-90's. Make sure to pack comfortable clothing to accommodate weather change. Recommend using the same color pallet to mix & match. Pack a travel size umbrella just in case. Cotton and linen clothing works best; Cotton dresses, sun hat, jacket or shawl for evening. Make sure to pack your sun screen and sunglasses. Carry medication as per each travelers need. There will be a **"Cultural Welcoming Dinner Event"**, so we are asking that you shine in Africa in your African Outfit! **(Men & Women)**... feel free to dress up as much as you wish for this event...smart casual dress attire works for any occasion.

**Suggested items to pack for International Travel:** travel insurance policy, medications, copies of your passport, eyewear, phone charger, camera & accessories, voltage adaptor & plug, a travel umbrella and neck pillow for flying...

**Our Current Flight Schedule:** Mar 31, 2022 on S. African Airways Flight - IAD/Arrive SA 5:40PM (**Direct flight with 1 stop/ do not get off plan**). Approximate flying time 15+ hours with meals, movies, complementary beverages of all types including spirits and great services on board.

**Arriving in South Africa:** We should arrive in SA approximately **5:30PM Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Upon arrival at the S. African Airport we will proceed through Customs, meet with our Tour Representatives and transportation for transfer to our first Hotel. First Hotel is The Da Vinci on Nelson Mandela Square. Check-in to our hotel and relax for the rest of the evening.

#### **Returning Home:**

After a wonderful cultural, educational and fun vacation, we are expected to return to Dulles Intl. **approximately 6:00 AM Dec 12, 2022 and V. Falls travelers, Dec 14, 2022**

**Smart Traveler Enrollment Program: What is STEP;** The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service to allow U.S. citizens and nationals traveling abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Visit this link after you have been issued your Airline E-Ticket. <https://step.state.gov/step/> this is designed for you the traveler so that the US Embassy knows of your whereabouts during your international travel... **we will discuss again at the Document Gathering**

**Immunizations:** **Proof of a full COVID-19 Vaccine Certificate, a Negative PCR Test 72hrs before entry, and Travel Insurance is required for this tour.** No other immunizations are required for US citizens that are up on your childhood immunizations. It would be also wise to check beforehand if you are traveling from a health-risk area. Always check with your physician if you have health issues that need to be addressed. **ONLY IF YOU ARE TRAVELING TO ZIMBABWE/VICTORIA FALLS – MALARIA MEDICATION IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.**

**Carrying Money:** It is the personal choice of each traveler to carry the amount of money you wish for at your leisure, outside activities & tours and shopping. A minimum allowance of \$50 per day should be more than enough (this is only a recommendation) of course you can take as much or little as you wish. Remember, if you spend \$10,000 or more you will have to declare it and pay taxes when returning to the US.

**Money Exchange:** The official currency in S. Africa is the Rand. The US Dollar to the SA Rand is currently at a rate of 14.15 Rands to \$1.00 US dollar. The US Dollar is very strong in SA. \$1 US = \$14.5 Rand. The exchange rates may change and does vary. When changing your US\$ to Rand you will get a better rate in SA. There are money changers at the Airport and throughout SA. You can change small amounts at the airport in SA. Another option; opening a Nationwide “Flex account” – you put enough money for your holiday in the account before you travel and you can then use your card you’re given at any of the ATM s which are all over the place. Nationwide does not charge for withdrawing YOUR cash and they also offer a very high exchange rate. Most all Credit Cards are accepted throughout SA. Travelers Checks are not recommended, some places may not accept them.

**Electric Adaptor:** Universal Travel **plug adapter** for S. Africa – 3 round pin **plug**. Good for Grounded or Non-grounded **plugs** from other countries. Note: This **does** not convert the voltage from 110V to 220/240V. You will **need** a Voltage **Converter** for that. [electrical standards around the world](#). International converter for over 150 countries. (Zimbabwe- the power plugs and sockets are of type D and G. The standard voltage is 220 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.



**Travel Protection Insurance:** Is mandatory for this tour! You have the option of visiting our website for a free quote and to purchase [www.all4champion.com](http://www.all4champion.com) “Travel Guard=AIG” – Please feel free to shop and compare other travel insurance companies

**Traveling as a group?** First and foremost, we kindly ask that you pack your patience and carry them with you every day, especially during our touring and gathering sessions. During our touring time, some activities may take longer depending on the activity and traveler. Think positive and take in the experience. Starting on our first day of touring, when choosing a seat on the motor coach for our touring, choose wisely because this seat is yours for the duration of the trip! Please do not switch seats and especially move someone’s personal items in their seating area. Special seat assignments for air travel can be requested, **however not guaranteed**. Typically, the group booking terms only allow for holding our space, and not assigned seats. Special seat assignments are solely at the discretion of the airlines at the time of making final purchase. We always do our very best at pleading your case.

**ENJOY INCREDIBLE SHOPPING OPPORTUNITIES - There are many SA vendors to with many different arts & crafts to choose from... or maybe check out SA’s famous “Diamonds”?**

#### **What’s not included details?**

- Mandatory **PROOF** of COVID-19 Vaccination and a Negative Covid Test result within 72 hours of arrival
- **Mandatory Travel Protection Insurance. Visit our website at [www.all4champion.com](http://www.all4champion.com) for a FREE Quote & Purchase-optional**
- Meals not mentioned in itinerary and beverages with included meals
- Tipping is not mandatory, however, expected. This is the main salary for the tour guides & drivers. Recommend \$11 per person per day for SA= \$121 or SA & VF = \$154 per person(will be collected upon arrival in SA at the 1<sup>st</sup> hotel check-in), *please have your tipping ready in US Dollars, in a sealed envelope, with your name and the \$-amount on the outside of the envelope* *CST Agent will be in the hotel lobby during check-in to collect your tipping*

### **Why purchase travel protection?**

We highly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment so you can relax and enjoy your trip with a peace of mind. The travel protection plan we recommend, through Travel Guard Insurance Services, helps provide coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay, loss and theft, Medical Expense and Evacuation and more.

Even with the most meticulous planning, travel can be full of surprises. Here are just a few unforeseen circumstances that could arise before or during your travel:

- A family emergency comes up the day before you're due to depart.
- You get sick just before traveling. (Including Covid)
- You booked a domestic connecting flight, but it's delayed, causing you to miss your international flight.
- A severe storm causes your international flight to be grounded, and now you'll miss part of your tour.
- Your bags get lost, misrouted or damaged in transit.
- You get food poisoning or sprain an ankle while on tour.
- You may need a wheelchair or medical assistance; which Travel Guard will provide while on travel
- Travel Guard also offers concierge services around the clock
- With travel protection, you can rest easy knowing that you've got coverage in place for unforeseen circumstances.

### **Tiping during leisure time:**

Gratuities to staff at hotels are at your discretion. Most restaurants expect the typical 10-20% gratuity as in the US. Check to make sure it has not already been added in your bill.

### **Travel Documents:**

Our Document Gathering will be held approximately 3 weeks prior to departure. At our document gathering we will provide everyone with need travel documents and necessities. For those living outside the Washington, Metro area (Washington DC, Maryland or Virginia) and unable to attend, your package will be mailed to you... or living within the Metro area and unable to attend, you may have someone sign out and pickup your document package - otherwise a mailing fee will be added; starting at \$25 per mailing. ***Tentative Date of document gathering - Saturday November 2022 - TBD***

**Highly Recommend:** We highly recommend each traveler leave a copy of your PASSPORT, itinerary, and hotel information at home with a loved one. This would also include important information you would want your family to have.

**Accommodations & Phone Numbers:** (from the US dial 011 + the number)

**US Embassy – Emergency SA**

**The Da Vinci, SA:** [+27 \(0\) 11 292 7000](tel:+270112927000)

0867-701-1000

**Kwa Maritane Bush Lodge, SA:** [+27 14 552 5100](tel:+27145525100)

**Commodore Hotel, SA:** [+27 21 415 1000](tel:+27214151000)

**Victoria Falls Safari Lodge:** [+263 213 284 3201](tel:+2632132843201)

0867-701-1000 - Zimbabwe

**Attention Victoria Falls Participant: December 11-14, 2022**

*Please Note: There is a SINGLE ENTRY VISA charge to enter ZIMBABWE of USD\$30 cash per person for USA passport holders. (Visa fees are subject to change without notice.)*

- Malaria Medication is highly advised prior to the commencement of your holiday. Please contact your physician or travel clinic for advice as to which prophylactic is recommended.

### **Returning Home:**

After a wonderful cultural, educational and fun vacation, we are expected to return to Dulles Intl. **approximately 6:00 AM Dec 12, 2022 and V. Falls travelers, Dec 14, 2022...**

Notices & updates will continue to be issued as needed...

*We look forward to your safe departure & return!*