

# Packing Checklist

## Tanzania Safari

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Come prepared for super sunny days and potentially chilly nights—yes, even in Africa! Choose dual-purpose, lightweight clothing made from Merino wool and synthetic fabrics like polar fleece. These options are recommended over anything cotton or denim for their quick-drying and sweat-wicking capabilities. It can be surprisingly chilly at night (and pre-dawn) in Tanzania--you may wish to bring a lightweight down puffa jacket to take the edge off!

If you're not sure what any of the items in the packing list are, please ask us or your nearest outdoor outfitter. We want you to be Girl Scout-prepared for your adventure ahead!

Bandanas and sunglasses are going to be your best friends on safari!

## Required Items

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- Main piece of luggage: a sports bag, a soft-sided suitcase, a backpack (30-40L) because it's easier to shove them into the trucks and move around at the safari camps. If you can swing carry-on luggage only, you will ensure that all your items will arrive in Tanzania with you, ready for safari!
- Small daypack (10-20L). This will be for carrying water, snacks, camera and binoculars. A daily packing checklist for your daypack can be found below.
- Sweater or fleece pullover (you will appreciate this at sundown!)
- Lightweight, hiking shoes or boots (if you prefer though they are not necessary as the terrain is not extreme) or trail runners
- Second pair of footwear: trail runners/lightweight running shoes to wear at camps in the evening or sandals/flip flops if that's your game

- 2-3 t-shirts
- 2 lightweight long-sleeve shirts
- 2-3 pairs of shorts
- 2 pairs of pants (for mosquito protection at night)
- Underwear and bras as desired
- Socks: four to six pairs. Choose brands like Smartwool or Darned Tough. They are stink-free and dry quickly if you do some sink laundry on safari.
- Thermal underwear for cold nights (if desired--nights spent in the glamping tents and dome tents at the fly camps can be chilly due to the elevation--and before the sun comes up, it's colder than you might expect!)
- Sleepwear (as desired)
- Plug Adapter (electricity in Tanzania is 220 to 240 volts and 50 hertz and the sockets are British-type with three rectangular blade pins). Recommended [MEC Adapter & Converter](#).
- Insect repellent (containing DEET)
- Sunblock (a small one will last for your whole trip)
- Chapstick with SPF
- Binoculars (strongly recommended)
- Camera, waterproof/dustproof bag (5L dry bag suggested), memory cards and batteries/charger. Pack an extra camera battery in case of power outages and/or a delay in charging your batteries. You can charge batteries in the Land Cruisers while on the game drives but the connection is not always secure due to the bumpy nature of the roads. (Of course a camera is not required but strongly recommended, or your phone will do in a pinch!)
- Sunglasses, preferably polarized with case
- Hat
- Eye drops (if desired, for the dusty game drives)
- 2 bandanas/ Buffs (to block the dust)

- Light rain jacket/shell (if desired)
- Refillable water bottle
- Personal medication (bring in duplicate and pack separately)
- Toiletries (ideally biodegradable): shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, face cloth (if desired), small quick-dry travel towel, glasses/lenses (perhaps a small repair kit if you rely on your glasses!), feminine hygiene products, wet wipes, hand sanitizer etc.
- Earplugs (recommended)
- Small flashlight or small headlamp (headlamp recommended) with spare batteries
- Alcohol-based sanitizer and face masks (if necessary)
- RAT antigen test kits for self monitoring (if necessary)

## Optional Items

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- Jeans or skirt, whatever makes you feel comfortable!
- Small pillow (for travelling/using while tent camping)
- Pencil and notebook, journal or sketchbook
- iPod (but you'll probably want to listen to the all-natural African soundtrack!)
- Reading material
- Tanzanian bird/wildlife guide
- Energy snacks and drinks: Snacks will be provided but you may wish to bring an emergency "hangry stash" if you have special dietary needs or personal favourites
- Small calculator (unless you are a math whiz and can convert millions of shillings into US dollars!
- Personal First Aid Kit (Ibuprofen/ASA, Band-aids, adhesive tape, antihistamines, anti-nausea tablets, Polysporin, Imodium, throat lozenges, extra prescription medication you may be taking—pack it separately), blister kit if you're prone (2nd Skin, Compeeds or moleskin). The WWE guide will carry a first aid kit as well.

Extra sleeping bag sheet or liner to use inside the provided sleeping bags or use in hotels.

## Essential Documents

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- Valid passport: stored in a waterproof wallet/Ziploc bag
- Tanzania visa, available at the airport upon arrival, \$100 USD payable in cash only; \$50 USD for residents of UK/European Union
- Flight tickets and itinerary and copies
- Copies of your passport, medical insurance, air tickets (pack separate from the originals)
- Copy of travel and/or medical evacuation insurance
- Personal medical/dental insurance cards
- Credit card (Visa and Mastercard are most widely accepted), debit card with pin number
- Cash in US dollars (bills MUST be crisp, new-format, issued 2006 or later, with no tears)

## Packing Notes

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### Luggage Logistics

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Prepare for lost or delayed luggage by wearing or carrying on the items that are essential to your expedition (like your sunglasses and binoculars!). When packing your carry-on try to include what you would need to be comfortable for your first few days in

case your checked baggage is misrouted by the airline (medications, hat, itinerary, snacks, change of socks/underwear). If you can swing it, we recommend travelling with carry-on luggage only to ensure that all your items arrive with you, ready to head off on safari!

**As a general rule, don't bring more than you can carry!** This will help ensure smooth-as-pudding transfers in airports, through customs, hotels, and loading vans/trailers/boats. On adventure travel trips it is best to travel with one larger check-in bag and one carry-on bag. Please note the weight restrictions for charter flights below (44 pounds!).

We recommend soft-sided luggage or a medium duffle bag or backpack of 30-50L(your checked bag) and a medium daypack of 20L(your carry-on bag) for most adventures.



**IMPORTANT:** Plastic bags (of all sorts) are now illegal in Tanzania. If you are transporting your liquids in a carry-on bag, you must leave the plastic bag on the incoming flight.

- Charter flights within Tanzania strictly limit passengers to a total of **44 lbs** including carry-ons, so the key is to pack as light as possible.
- Dunia Camp offers complimentary laundry service
- Soft-sided luggage is easier to stow throughout the trip and easier to carry and stack in the Land Cruisers during transfers.
- If you plan to lock your luggage, please use a TSA-approved security device.
- Leave expensive jewellery at home! If you would be heartbroken to lose the item, don't bring it along.
- Keep cash in more than one place and always store photocopies of your documents separate from the originals.
- Game drives can be dusty—a small 5L dry bag will help keep your camera lenses safe.

Please refrain from bringing hair dryers, irons, radios, excess clothing or toiletries. All points of this trip are quite casual, and we recommend that you keep the luggage down to the basics and prepare for a camp-fancy kind of time!

Bright blue and white colors are not recommended for safari as darker colours attract tsetse flies and white, well, it's dusty!

### **Your Daypack Essentials:**

Insect repellent (containing DEET)

SPF 30 (a small one will last for your whole trip)

Chapstick with SPF

Binoculars

Camera and **good telephoto lens**, waterproof/dustproof bag (extra camera batteries--there is a charging station in the Land Cruiser but the Tanzanian roads are bumpy and the plugs will fall out frequently)

Sunglasses, preferably polarized (with case)

Hat

Refillable water bottle

Alcohol-based sanitizer and face masks (if necessary in September)

Medication

Bandanas or Buffs (to block the dust)

## **Resources for Buying Outdoor Gear & Clothing**

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- **Mountain Equipment Co-op, REI, SAIL, Atmosphere, Sportchek**
- **Borrow:** Why buy when you can borrow from a friend?

- **Variety/Value Village, Goodwill, Salvation Army** and online swap sites are also great places to find second-hand gear for a fraction of the price. **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rewear!**