

Walking with African Wildlife

Expedition Packing List

REQUIRED COVID-19 SAFETY ITEMS

The following items are required to be prepared in the event you or another person on site displays symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19:

- Multiple face masks—enough for the duration of the project (N95, FFP2, or equivalent are recommended)
- **IMPORTANT:** Multiple (3–4) COVID-19 antigen (rapid) tests
- Personal thermometer
- Hand sanitizer
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination (if required by your destination country)
- Enough personal medications or other necessities to cover possible time in quarantine beyond your planned travel days.

GENERAL

- Expedition Logistics Document
- Your travel plans, rendezvous details, and Earthwatch's emergency contact information
- Photocopies of your passport, flight itinerary, and credit cards in case the originals are lost or stolen; the copies should be packed separately from the original documents
- Passport and/or visa (*if necessary*)
- Certification of vaccination (*if necessary*)
- Documentation for travel by minors (*if necessary*)

CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR FOR FIELDWORK

- Dull, earth-toned colors (i.e., dark khaki or dark green)
- Lightweight, quick-drying, long-sleeved shirts
- Lightweight trousers
- Warm clothes for cool evenings and mornings (a sweater/jumper/fleece, warm jackets, and/or thermals)
- Windbreaker for early mornings and late afternoons
- T-shirts
- Shorts
- Socks
- Hat with wide brim to protect against sun
- Balaclava or warm hat (e.g., wool), scarf, and warm gloves for cold mornings/evenings
- Light rain wear (poncho or coat)
- Well worn-in, comfortable, sturdy hiking boots with ankle support (do NOT bring brand-new boots)
- Rubber boots (shallow river wading may be necessary on some transects)

FIELD SUPPLIES

- Water bottle(s) able to hold at least two liters (3 liters is recommended)
- A pair of binoculars (10 x 42 recommended) for wildlife viewing and use during fieldwork
- Mechanical/click pencils for data recording are required for all fieldwork
- One 20-pack or one 24-pack of AA batteries for the GPS units, preferably Duracell or another leading brand
- Small daypack
- Sunscreen lotion SPF 30+
- Flashlight/torch or headlamp with extra batteries and extra bulb
- Insect repellent

BEDDING AND BATHING

Note: The project will provide a mattress, fitted sheets, and pillows

- **Important:** Sleeping bag (with a full zipper)
- Sheet bag (optional but helpful)
- Towel

CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR FOR LEISURE

- Two sets of clothing to keep clean for the end of the expedition and the recreation day
- Sandals to wear around camp
- Comfortable closed-toe shoes for evenings in camp temperature control)

PERSONAL SUPPLIES

- Personal toiletries
- Antibacterial wipes or lotion (good for cleaning hands while in the field)
- Personal first aid kit (e.g., anti-diarrhea pills, antibiotics, antiseptic, itch-relief, allergy meds, pain reliever, bandages, blister covers, etc.) and medications
- Spending money
- Money to cover COVID test for return travel if required by your home country (current cost is approx. 10–70 USD in South Africa at the time of publication of this document)

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Travel guide
- Adaptor if your electronic equipment requires charging
- Mosquito net
- Pocket knife (be sure to pack in checked luggage)
- Musical instrument
- Sunglasses (“Sporting” sunglasses are best)
- Swimsuit for recreational time
- Favorite snack foods
- Gifts for the school (e.g., calculators, science kits, DVD players, simple stationery, educational games, toys, books, atlases, teaching aids, etc.) Teams will not visit the schools, but donations can be delivered by field staff.



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- Gatorade or similar energy drink mix
- Extra batteries for the GPS units make a great donation to the project and are much appreciated—batteries are expensive in Africa.
- Camera, film or memory card(s), extra camera battery
- Hardware for sharing digital photographs at the end of the expedition
- Dry bag or plastic sealable bags (e.g., Ziploc) to protect equipment like cameras from dust, humidity, and water
- Books, games, art supplies, etc., for free time
- Earplugs for light sleepers

Note: *Bring only what you can carry and handle on your own. If traveling by air and checking your luggage, we advise you to pack an extra set of field clothing and personal essentials in your carry-on bag in case your luggage is lost or delayed.*

Transferring Luggage: If you are taking an international flight that has one or more connections within the country of your destination, you must collect any checked bags at the airport where you first arrive in the destination country. After proceeding through customs, you must recheck your luggage before flying to your destination.