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NEWSFLASH

EASING OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS GAZETTED

The amendment of South African Immigration Regulations covers the following:

- Change from Unabridged Birth Certificate to Birth Certificate – meaning any birth record of a child issued by the relevant authority indicating the full names, surname and the date of birth (including the name/s and surname/s of the parent/s of said child).
- If a child presents a passport which contains the details of his or her parents, a birth certificate does not need to be produced.
- If a child does not have the details of the parents in their passport, then a birth certificate will need to be produced.
- When the child is from a country where visas are required to visit South Africa, a copy of the birth certificate must be submitted with the visa application.
- When the child is travelling with only one parent, legal guardian or any other person, they may be required to produce a copy of the birth certificate in order to establish the relationship with the child.
- When the child is travelling on an unaccompanied basis, a copy of the birth certificate must be produced.

Where relevant, specific requirements still exist in the form of letters of consent, court orders, copy of death certificate, adoption order, etc. Please contact your Journey Specialist for a copy of the latest Government Gazette stipulating these in more detail and confirm this with the applicable offices of Home Affairs and/or embassies prior to travel. In addition, unabridged birth certificates for minors (younger than 18 years) are still required on entry to Botswana and Namibia, so we recommend erring on the side of caution and travelling with them to avoid inconvenience and disappointment.

CAMPS & ACTIVITIES

NEW | SECOND PRIVATE VEHICLE AT MOMBO – 1 MARCH TO 31 OCTOBER 2019

Available for this specific period only, we are pleased to advise that we are able to offer a second private vehicle at Mombo next year!

- Same rate applies as per the existing Mombo Private Vehicle
- Both vehicles, now loaded on inventory, are shared between Mombo and Little Mombo

GUIDE/PILOT ROOMS AT THE NEW SERRA CAFEMA

There are four single rooms, all en-suite with their own entrance. It is no longer necessary to book and charge for two beds to secure sole use of a room. Two are located within the camp, two are located at the staff village – a walk of about six minutes. Subject to availability, camp management will allocate the rooms in camp first, and use the others for overflow.

ABU CONCESSION – ACTIVITY UPDATE

- Sell Seba with Confidence – this area has come into its own as a truly great game viewing destination! Recent sightings include large numbers of buffalo, zebra, wildebeest, elephant, kudu and giraffe plus cheetah, lion, leopard and hyena. A Pel's fishing owl in clear sight and Cape clawless otters playing in a waterhole at midday were just a couple of other highlights that guests witnessed.
- The Abu concession have ceased offering water activities (mokoro and boat), as water levels have become too low. Please ensure guests travelling to Abu and Seba in the coming months are notified.
- The Abu Star Bed is closed for maintenance until the end of January 2019.

SEASONAL BOATING AT QOROKWE

Qorokwe now offers boating in addition to mokoro excursions. Note that this is subject to water levels so cannot be guaranteed year round.

YOGA AT MOMBO TEMPORARILY ON HOLD

Due to the current Yoga instructor leaving Mombo at the end of this week, there will be no Yoga offering at Mombo until a replacement is found. Should there be a specific request from a guest for Yoga, please let your Journey Specialist know in advance and we will endeavour to bring someone in for the duration of their stay.

COMBINING CAMPS ON THE JAO CONCESSION

Ongoing Delta dynamics always present some challenges. Depending on water levels, there are times when there is no access to Hunda from the camps in the east - Jacana, Pelo and Kwetsani – by road or boat. In this scenario, flights must be booked and charged for between Jao and Hunda airstrips for any guests combining the camps in the east (Pelo, Jacana and Kwetsani) and the camps in the west (Tubu and Little Tubu). Accordingly, we would like to flag October and November as the months where this could be a problem and suggest booking/costing for a flight upfront should you be combining two camps on the Jao Concession at this time. Neither the Jao Concession nor Wilderness Air will carry these costs as they have no control of weather patterns and cannot be held liable, nor can we assume that road and/or boat transfers will be possible year round.

WILDERNESS AIR

WILDERNESS AIR NAMIBIA RATE & TIME CHANGE

Good News - NO Rate Increase for 2019

- Although we had published 2019 rates with an increase, these have been reviewed, and the decision taken that we will not in fact increase the rates for 2019. They will stay the same as 2018, so all flying rates have been adjusted accordingly and are available in the published Rates Sheets. Your Journey Specialist will be in touch regarding revised pricing.

Time Changes to the Circuit – Effective Immediately

- Be advised that with immediate effect, several time changes have been implemented on the Wilderness Air Namibia Circuit. This excludes the Doro Nawas/Damaraland hops but affects most other flights. Relevant changes have been made in the Window and our published Rates Sheets, plus a revised flyer is available on the Info Centre.
- Depending on how far ahead bookings have been finalised and documents produced, please advise your clients that some of the times on their confirmations will not match the reality on the ground. All quotes, bookings and itineraries produced from today forward, will reflect the new, correct times. We have asked Wilderness Air Namibia and Camp Operations to please assist in managing this on the ground, should a guest query the differences in time.
- Be aware that different aircraft may be used on the same route, subject to availability and needs, and as these aircraft fly at different speeds (406, 210, Caravan), times may vary slightly in reality.

TOURING & TRANSFERS

WILDERNESS TOURING & TRANSFERS – ZAMBEZI

INFO | Festive Season Surcharge for Chobe Day Trips

Be aware that a meal surcharge applies over the festive season for the Chobe half day trip with Lunch and Chobe full day trip on 25 December, 26 December 2018 and 1 January 2019.

RATES & RULES

UPDATE – BOTSWANA TOURIST VISA

During November an announcement was made that Botswana would offer visas at all points of entry, airports and land border posts, with effect from 24 November 2018. However, on 27 November, a government official at the Department of Immigration confirmed that the plans were now on hold.

PLANS - ZIMBABWE & ZAMBIA TO EXPAND KAZA VISA REGIME

Zimbabwe and Zambia are engaging regional counterparts in Botswana, Angola and Namibia over the possibility of adopting the Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) Uni-Visa to expedite the movement of tourists. We will keep you posted regarding any developments in this regard.

REMINDERS

REMINDER | EXCLUSIVITY OF A VEHICLE AT WILDERNESS CAMPS

There are two possible options for exclusivity of a vehicle at our camps, subject to availability:

- I. Private vehicle offering – available at most Premier and Classic camps. Separate service, bookable on inventory in addition to accommodation, with a daily private vehicle rate. Chitabe Main is an exception - depending on the number of guests, the daily private vehicle rate is higher and additional beds must be booked to secure it.
 - Guaranteed sole use of a vehicle – possible at all camps but secured according to the number of rooms booked and paid for, using a ROOM rate. Based on accommodation booked in inventory, not a separate vehicle. This would be the option to consider if the private vehicle is not available or a camp does not have a private vehicle at all – like Magashi. There are exceptions but the norm is that if you have booked 3 rooms because you have a party of 5 or 6, then they will get sole use of a vehicle as you are booking and paying for the third room in that scenario. For parties of 1 to 4 guests, a different process and cost applies to book/cost rooms to guarantee sole use of a vehicle. Please contact your Journey Specialist for assistance in this scenario.
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