



23 February 2016

NEWSFLASH

Introducing Private Plunge Pools at Abu

Between 1 and 25 March 2016, we will be installing private plunge pools in the guest units at Abu Camp in Botswana.

Little Kulala Maintenance

We will be carrying out sanding and painting of the rooms and main area from 20 February up to and including 31 March 2016. We have closed three rooms in inventory over this period so that we can work through the rooms in turn. The bulk of the work will be done when guests are out on activities, so that there is minimum impact, however, there may be some signs of the work in progress such as seeing workmen on site or the smell of paint.

IMPORTANT

Third Party Aircraft Charter Operators

Wilderness Safaris will NOT accept or make any bookings on your behalf with charter companies that have not been audited or do not meet our minimum legal and safety requirements. Please contact your Journey Specialist should you require further information.

KAZA Visa

The governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe plus the tourism industry are still working on getting the KAZA visa back online as soon as possible and discussions are underway in this regard. It is currently unavailable so in the interim, standard visa applications and costs will apply as relevant for visitors to Zambia and Zimbabwe.

UPDATE | South African Travel Regulations

Until the necessary amendments are made to the Immigration Regulations Act and an official advisory is received by all parties including airlines, the requirements communicated last year are still law and remain in place:

- Minors accompanied by both parents must have a valid passport, valid visa if required and an unabridged birth certificate (UBC) or equivalent document.
- Minors accompanied by a person who is not the biological parent must have a valid passport, valid visa if required, a UBC or equivalent document and a parental consent affidavit accompanied by copies of the identity documents or passports of the parents or legal guardian of the minor; contact details of the parents or legal guardian of the minor; and contact details of the person in whose care the minor will be in South Africa.

The Department of Home Affairs has stated that the pilot project of capturing biometric data from foreign travellers at South Africa's international airports has been completed and is now in full effect. All foreign travellers as well as transiting travellers, are submitting biometric data at arrival and transit counters at Lanseria International Airport, OR Tambo International Airport, King Shaka International Airport and Cape Town International Airport.

REMINDER

Pack for a Purpose & About Wilderness Safaris

Wilderness Safaris has partnered with the non-profit organisation **Pack for a Purpose** www.packforapurpose.org – dedicated to making a difference to the lives of children in remote rural villages. Guests travelling with us can use any available space in their luggage – no matter how small – to donate supplies to the communities in the areas they visit. Many Wilderness camps/lodges and the needs of the local community schools are listed on this innovative site where suggested items include stationery or sporting goods, such as deflated soccer balls, plus educational books.

Should you need it, this information is included in the About Wilderness Safaris document, available on the Info Centre, along with details on the Wilderness Trust and Children in the Wilderness. Every guest should receive a copy of this – either electronically or in hard copy – along with the General pre-tour and country specific pre-tours.

WILDERNESS TOURING

ZAMBEZI FEATURED EXCURSION | The Ra-Ikane Sunset Cruise

The Ra-Ikane is a small luxury cruise boat that reflects the ambiance of a bygone era, while paying tribute to Ra-Ikane, one of the guides who first led David Livingstone to the Victoria Falls. Period decor, historic memorabilia, fine cuisine and refreshments characterise a level of comfort and grace unsurpassed on the Zambezi.



CAPE FEATURED EXCURSION | Private Full Day Jewish Culture & Table Mountain Tour

Depart the city for Table Mountain's Lower Cableway Station, ascending in the revolving cable car to explore the summit and enjoy the wonderful views from this iconic mountain.

Return to the city via the old Cape Malay Quarter, for a walk through the Company's Garden, a fresh produce garden for ships and locals from the mid-17th century, and now home to the South African Museum, the Houses of Parliament, the National Gallery, St. George's Cathedral and Cape Town's "Jewish Campus". Founded in 1841, the Gardens Synagogue is the oldest Jewish congregation in South Africa, and next door is the South African Jewish Museum, opened by Nelson Mandela in 2000.

After lunch at the stylish kosher Café Riteve, explore this highly acclaimed high-tech museum, where interactive audio and visual exhibits narrate the story of South African Jewry from its early beginnings. Move on to the Cape Town Holocaust Centre, the first in Africa, which explores racial and religious intolerance, ideological conflict and persecution, echoing the human rights abuses of Apartheid. End the day with a visit to the Great Synagogue, consecrated in 1905, before returning to the hotel.

RATES UPDATES

Explorations NETT & RSP Sheets

The following updates have been made to our published Explorations rates sheets:

- New trips added – Into the Wilderness Botswana, Okavango Channels & Plains and Hwange Walking Safari.
- Single Supplement costs removed as they are no longer applicable.
- Maximum number of guests reduced to 7 per departure.
- Relevant notes updated accordingly.

NAMIBIA

REMINDER | Welcome on Arrival vs Meet & Greet at Windhoek Airport

All guests arriving at Hosea Kutako International Airport in Windhoek are welcomed on a complimentary basis. Our Meet & Greet service includes the welcome on arrival plus a Wilderness Airport Representative sitting down with the guests and discussing their itinerary, providing tips and information. This is at additional cost and must pre-booked, along with any other special arrangements such as the provision of lunch packs.

Connection Times

Please allow for sufficient connecting time (minimum 1 hour to 1.5 hours) between arrivals/departures on scheduled commercial flights and the set times of our Namibian flying circuit. Delays are being experienced due to immigration and custom formalities, police checkpoints, re-packing of luggage if incorrect bags are brought or weight is in excess of our guidelines, etc.

INFO CENTRE

REMINDER | Search Functionality on the Info Centre

If you are battling to find a specific document, do remember that we have a search option under [the Product Information](#) section of the Info Centre on the Wilderness Window to assist you. Click on the + and in the field that pops up, type in a word related to the topic you are looking for – camp name, weather, family, etc. and all documents related to that topic with that word in the header will appear:



- + Camp Facts
- + E-Brochures
- + Family Travel
- + FAQs
- + General Information Manual
- + Maps
- + Pre-Departure Information
- + Product Categories & Selling Tools

AIRLINES

Renovations at OR Tambo

On 9 February 2016, renovations commenced in Terminal A at OR Tambo International Airport. Expected to last six to eight weeks, this will have an impact on security screening and immigration. While relevant airline check-ins remain in Terminal A, such as Air Botswana at counters 75 and 76, passengers will be re-routed to the Central Terminal Building screening area for security and immigration formalities. Accordingly, passengers should arrive well in advance to avoid any delays due to the resultant congestion.

BA Comair Amends Closing Time for Departures

With effect from 1 March 2016, all domestic and regional British Airways flights operated by Comair will close 45 minutes prior to departure as opposed to the previous closing time of 30 minutes. Travellers are advised to check their flight status prior to travelling, as the closing time of their flight may be earlier than previously published which may have an impact on connections.

Warm regards,
Tina

Wilderness Product Manager

www.wilderness-safaris.com

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