

PACKING LIST

We are arriving in South Africa at the beginning of winter. Winter in (May to July) is characterized in the higher-lying areas of the interior plateau by dry, sunny, crisp days and cold nights. The Western Cape gets most of its rain in winter, with quite a few days of cloudy, rainy weather. However, these are always interspersed with wonderful days to rival the best of a British summer. April and May are generally the most pleasant months to travel to South Africa, because the rainy season over the summer-rainfall areas has ended and the rainy season in the winter-rainfall areas has not yet begun.

	Average Winter Temperatures (July)			
	C		F	
	high	low	high	low
Cape Town	18	7	64	45
Johannesburg	17	4	63	39
Pretoria	20	5	68	41
Nelspruit	23	6	73	43
Skukuza	26	6	79	43

I. BAGGAGE (Pack light!)

Delta Airlines regulations:

http://www.delta.com/traveling_checkin/baggage/baggage_allowance/index.jsp

1. ONE check-in bag. Maximum 50 lbs (23 kg), maximum size 62 inches (length + width + height).

United allows two checked bags per passenger, but we will not have room for that many bags in the van. So it's one checked bag per student. If you think you will be taking back souvenirs and need extra room, pack an empty duffel bag in your suitcase. You can put all your dirty clothes and other soft items in the duffel on the return trip, and put more fragile items in your suitcase.

In check-in bag, pack a copy of your flight itinerary with your home address and phone number plus a copy of our itinerary in South Africa.

2. ONE carry-on bag (“A carry-on bag must fit under your seat or in the overhead bin.

Carry-on bag dimensions cannot be more than 9" x 14" x 22" (length + width +height) or 45 linear inches (the length, height and width added together). It should be large enough water bottle (empty when you pass through security) notebook, camera, snacks, hat, sunscreen, and other essentials.

3. ONE personal item (such as a purse, briefcase, or laptop computer)

II. IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS

1. Passport with one completely empty visa page.
2. WHO yellow card
3. Airplane ticket

III. MONEY: Enough to pay for incidentals (e.g., some meals, snacks, souvenirs, local transport, recreation, etc. in South Africa)

1. US \$\$ (for airports)
2. Traveler's checks
3. ATM card (ATMs are common in South Africa)
4. Credit card (preferably VISA)

IV. PHOTOCOPIES (packed separately, i.e., both suitcase and carry-on)

1. Passport (one extra color copy on you at all times)
2. Copy of WHO yellow card
3. Photo ID card (student ID card or something other than passport)
4. Traveler's insurance card provided by the university
5. Travelers' check record

V. IMPORTANT PERSONAL PACKING ITEMS -

A. Personal care/medical:

1. Medication - at least 14 days of any medication & supplements (e.g. birth control, inhaler, insulin, vitamins)
2. Travel Medical Kit: you will get a nice kit from the Travel Clinic
3. Sun protection: Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat
4. Insect repellent with DEET
5. Toiletries (tooth brush & paste, soap, deodorant, shaving equipment, nail clippers, shampoo & conditioner, moisturizer, sanitary pads/tampons, toilet paper/tissues, etc.)
6. Spare eyeglasses/contacts or your most recent prescription, and croakie
7. ear plugs (anticipate loud plane cabins, noisy neighbors, barking dogs, and snoring roomies)

B. Clothing: Dress is casual but professional. Leave your holey jeans and ripped t-shirts at home. Africans of all socioeconomic levels, across the entire continent, pride themselves on neatness in dress and personal appearance. Clothes should be hand-washable and dry quickly,

Cotton does not dry quickly, most field clothes are synthetics that wick and dry quickly

1. Shirts – multiple short-sleeves, at least one long-sleeve shirt
2. Pants – khakis or quick-drying (jeans may take too long to dry)
3. Underwear, socks, sleepwear, swimsuit
4. Light-weight sweater or sweatshirt
5. Closed-toed boots and field shoes; sneakers and sandals are fine for after-hours.

VI. OTHER USEFUL ITEMS

1. Digital camera with significant chip storage
2. Binoculars
3. Watch with alarm feature
4. Small write-in-the-rain notebook / pencil or pen
5. Locks (padlocks for bags, backpack)
6. Towel (thin, quick-dry)
7. Hat or head covering (preferably with Wolfpack logo!)
8. Sunglasses
9. Bandana or handkerchief (for dust)
10. Small flashlight
11. Notebook, pens and pencils
12. Plastic bags (e.g., ziplock)
13. Water bottle
14. Telephone calling card (prepaid cards can also be purchased in South Africa)
15. Small gifts for new friends
16. Gift for your Venda host family – Dr. Nichols will give some guidance here.
17. Address list for postcards
18. Small umbrella (for both rain and sun protection)
19. TP in a ziplock (don't count on finding personal hygienic items when you need them)

VII. DON'T BRING

1. Entire contents of your wallet, Multiple credit cards, other plastic
2. Valuables or sentimental objects
3. Perfumes, dressy clothes, etc.
4. Hair dryers, other electric items
5. Knives of any length, or cutting instruments of ANY kind (metallic or non-metallic) including carpet knives, box cutters and folding or retractable blades regardless of length, ice picks, straight razors (safety/disposable razors ARE allowed), and elongated scissors.
6. Recreational drugs