

KIT LIST AND TOUR INFO

South African ENTRY/EXIT regulations: On 1 June 2015, South Africa brought into effect new regulations applying **ONLY** to children under 18 years of age. Any child of any nationality will require the following when departing from or arriving in South Africa:

- 1) **A CHILD TRAVELLING WITH BOTH PARENTS:** A Birth Certificate which has the names of both parents on it. This must be either an original or a copy which has been certified by a Commissioner of Oaths. (In SA, a police station will certify such copies)
- 2) **A CHILD TRAVELLING WITH ONE PARENT ONLY:** The birth certificate as well as an affidavit (an official letter stamped and signed at a police station) from the non-travelling parent giving permission for the child to travel into and/or out of South Africa.
- 3) **A CHILD TRAVELLING WITH AN ADULT WHO IS NOT THEIR PARENT:** If the child is travelling with another adult, this person must produce the birth certificate as well as an affidavit from the parents giving the child permission to travel into and/or out of South Africa with this adult, copies of the parents' identity documents and their contact details
- 4) **A CHILD TRAVELLING UNACCOMPANIED:** If the child is travelling unaccompanied, the child must produce the birth certificate as well as an affidavit from the parents giving the child permission to travel into and/or out of South Africa and the parents' contact details as well as the identity documents and contact details of the person receiving the child in South Africa.

If you unsure about any aspect of these regulations, contact us for clarity, or else contact your nearest South African embassy or if in SA, the nearest Home Affairs office.

NOTE that we have spoken to the station commander at the South African border post at Sani pass and he is inclined to be somewhat lenient to people on our tours, but he suggests that anyone unsure contact him directly to clarify their individual situation as follows:

Captain Dlamini of the Sani Pass border post on +27 33 7029000 or +27 33 7029001 or +27 33 7029002

BRING ALONG:

Warm clothing ie tracksuit or long trousers and jacket
Raincoat (even in good weather, useful to keep off cold winds!)
Comfortable footwear for walking ie. hiking boots, trainers/takkies
Hat
Sunscreen
Small daypack
Beanie, jacket, scarf and gloves for winter
Refuse bag for your own rubbish

DRAKENSBERG ADVENTURES MINIMUM IMPACT REFUSE POLICY

All your own refuse must be carried out with you. If you "have to go" somewhere away from a toilet, no toilet paper or tissue paper is to be buried, placed under a tree or rock, or strewn about above ground. Please bring your own refuse bag to discard any litter you generate on the tour; ie plastic bottle, tissues, used toilet paper, plastic bags.

BASIC TOUR INFO:

Departure: From Sani Lodge backpackers at 9am

Return: To Sani Lodge Backpackers around 5 - 5.30pm

Tour itinerary: Travel up Sani Pass in our 4x4. Lots of stops along the way for birds, animals and flowers of interest. Stops for information on the history of Sani Pass, the geology, natural history and good yarns from days gone by. Superb views – ask your guide to stop for a photo anywhere you like. Cross into Lesotho. Travel along the Sani Flats. Visit a household in a shepherds' village and see how people live, taste the local beer and bread. Visit the shearing shed to see shearing in action (sheep from October to end of January, goats in May). Travel to the top of the next pass beyond Sani, Black Mountain at 3240m. Interact during the day with shepherds. Picnic lunch at Black Mountain and (an optional) short walk to a viewpoint where you can see Thabana Ntlenyana, the highest point in Southern Africa. Return to Sani Top, time for a drink in the Highest Pub in Africa before the return journey to Sani Lodge Backpackers.

Toilet stops: Flush toilets at the SA border post and the Pub, pit latrine (long drop) at the Lesotho border post, *au natural* elsewhere on the tour.

COMMUNITY INTERACTION IN LESOTHO:

Drakensberg Adventures has pioneered the system of paying all community service providers for services rendered to our tours. This includes the lady of the house we visit in Skiring village, 'Me Vitelena, the shearing shed and the shepherds. 'Me Vitelena is paid R25 per visitor for the giving of her time and space, and for having local bread and beer to taste. The shearing shed receive R35 per vehicle for allowing us to visit, interact and take photos. The shepherds also agreed to be part of our tour, and we allocate R35 per vehicle to the "shepherds fund". The proceeds of the fund are used to buy new blankets for the shepherds. We collect the names of the shepherds we interact with over the season, and then in February we have a big event where the blankets are handed over.

Our pioneering way of doing things has been recognized by the Lesotho Tourism Development Corporation (LTDC). LTDC held a series of meetings in the Underberg area during 2016, the aim of which was to ensure that all the local tour operators who visit the Sani Top area use the same model of "payments for services rendered" as we do. Each operator was required to sign a written agreement with their service provider in Skiring village. We signed our agreement with 'Me Vitelena in a ceremony presided over by LTDC at Sani lodge backpackers in September 2016. It formalized the verbal agreement which had operated for many years between us. We are thrilled that LTDC has recognized our way of doing things as "Best Practice".

See the "Vehicles and Guides" and "Community Tourism" pages of our website at www.drakensbergadventures.co.za for more information on our tour ethos.