Travel more intelligently with
World Factbook Travel Facts

South Africa

US State Dept Travel Advisory
The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens consult its website daily via the link below for any travel advisories about visiting this country.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html

Passport/Visa Requirements
US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 30 days after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp that will be required. A visa is not required as long as you do not stay in the country more than 89 days. Currently South Africa requires that children travel with birth certificates, valid passports, and (if not traveling with both of the parents on the birth certificate), a parental consent letter from both of the parents.

US Embassy/Consulate
[27] (12) 431-4000; US Embassy Pretoria, 877 Pretorius St, Arcadia, Pretoria, South Africa

Vaccinations
Yellow fever vaccine, at least 10 days before arrival, is required for travelers originating from or transiting through WHO-designated yellow fever countries. See WHO recommendations.

http://www.who.int

Climate
Mostly semiarid; subtropical along east coast; sunny days, cool nights

Currency (Code)
Rand (ZAR)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)
230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): C, M, N

Major Languages
IsiZulu 24.7%, IsiXhosa 15.6%, Afrikaans 12.1%, Sepedi 9.8%, Setswana 8.9%, English 8.4%, Sesotho 8%, Xitsonga 4%, siSwati 2.6%, Tshivenda 2.5%, isiNdebele 1.6%, other (includes Khoi, Nama, and San languages) 1.9%

Religions
Christian 86%, ancestral, tribal, animist, or other traditional African religions 5.4%, Muslim 1.9%, other 1.5%, nothing in particular 5.2%

Time Difference
UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water
Yes

International Driving Permit
Suggested

Road Driving Side
Left
Placing both hands together with fingers pointing up is a way to say "thank you."

**Telephone Code**
27

**Local Emergency Phone Numbers**
Ambulance: 10177; Fire: 10177; Police: 10111

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

- **World Health Organization (WHO) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination.** [http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)
- **To obtain an international driving permit (IDP). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs:**
  - American Automobile Association (AAA) ([www.aaa.com](http://www.aaa.com)) and
  - American Automobile Touring Alliance (AATA) ([www.aataidp.com](http://www.aataidp.com))

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

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