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BORDER POSTS & PROCEDURES

1. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WHEN TRAVELLING BY CAR.

- a. A valid passport. On your arrival it should have six months of life before it expires. Double check that it's stamped with the correct date at immigration when you enter the country.
- b. Original vehicle registration certificate (a certified copy is acceptable).
- c. A letter from the financial institution, company or friend giving you authorization to take the vehicle across the border. This letter must stipulate dates for which you are allowed to take the vehicle out of the country and also must be signed by the owner and commissioner of oaths.
- d. A yellow fever certificate for each traveller who has come from an infected area, this will be issued at the place of vaccinations.
- e. Tip: keep all your official documents together in a plastic envelope. Print your vehicle details (like licence number and make) in a large letter type and put that, together with your registration paper, back to front in the envelope so that it is readable through the envelope.

2. BORDER CROSSING PROCEDURE

- a. The driver and all passengers must present themselves to immigration first to get their passports stamped. Always check that your passport has been stamped according to the correct dates of your stay and have it amended immediately if a mistake has been made.
- b. Each passport holder older than 16 in your group will be required to fill in an arrival / departure form so take a pen with you.
- c. At immigration the driver must ask for the vehicle register and complete the details. Have all the required vehicle documents ready. The driver will receive a gate pass : motor vehicle insurance (valid for 3 months), National road fund (NRF) (valid for 12 months) and road permit for vehicles up to 3500kg.
- d. Declare all your valuables at customs. Have a list of all your cameras and electronic equipment with serial numbers and values already, it will be much easier to complete the forms. Make sure you declare all your equipment at all the border posts otherwise you might be liable for paying import duty when you arrive back in your home country.
- e. You can now proceed to the border gate. Have your gate pass (signed by both the customs and immigration departments) together with your passports ready for inspection. If your gate pass is not stamped you will be sent back to the border post for the additional stamp.

3. TIP!

- a. Not all border posts are equipped to accept payments and issue receipts for all the vehicle fees. Do not worry too much about that. If you are stopped anywhere and asked for the receipts, the official will check your passport to see at which border you crossed and will pardon you if that particular border is not equipped to take payments

4. CUSTOMS

- a. It is illegal to have any of the following prohibit goods in your possession:
- b. Narcotic, habit-forming drugs and related substances in any form.
- c. Military firearms, ammunition and explosives.

- d. Indecent and obscene material such as pornographic books, magazines, films, videos, DVDs and software.

5. ENTERING AND LEAVING SOUTH AFRICA WITH CHILDREN

- a. If you intend crossing South Africa and you are travelling with children under 18, you must be able to present valid passports for them as well as unabridged birth certificates stating both parents names and consent-to-travel affidavits from any parent not present.
- b. There are a number of permutations of this rule relating to adoptive parents, guardians, children travelling alone etc. if one of these scenarios applies to you, look up relevant requirements on the South African Department of Home Affairs website (www.dha.gov.za), CIVIC SERVICES, Menu, TRAVELLING WITH CHILDREN ite.

6. PAYMENT

- a. While some border posts do have credit card facilities these are sometimes offline. For this reason it is best to have local currency with you (and make sure you have change) the border posts do not always accept foreign currency.