



SIMBA 4x4 TOURS AND SAFARIS

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Terms and Conditions *Please read this carefully!*

1. The **SIMBA GUIDE** is the Tour Leader and his instructions should be adhered to at all times. If there is a problem of any kind, please inform him immediately, either face to face or by radio. A radio will be issued to each vehicle. The driver will be responsible to keep the battery charged.
2. Maximum group size is 12 to 14 people (depending on the specific tour and the campsites/accommodation available). Advertised basic pricing is based on camping (unless stated otherwise) in a group of 8 adults or more. Pricing for groups of less than 8 adults is calculated as follows: 6 to 7 adults will attract a 10% cost premium; 4 to 5 adults will attract a 25% premium; less than 4 adults will pay a 40% premium on advertised pricing. No children under 8 allowed. Children older than 8 need to be mature and independent and their inclusion needs clearance with us beforehand. Children under 12 pay half price.
3. Booking of tours will need at least a 3 to 4 month lead time. The longer this lead time is, the better, to ensure desired dates are available. This is very important over 11. The Easter Holidays, 21. End of April and early May, 31. Late June to mid July and 41. Mid September to mid October. These dates are most popular for touring north of SA. December is very booked up at any campsite or lodge within the borders of South Africa (School holidays).
4. The initial **deposit is 33.3% of the full tour price**. Paying it will signify acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.
5. Once bookings are provisionally booked, notice will be given for the **33.3% non-refundable deposit** to be paid. This deposit needs to be paid into **SIMBA 4x4 TOURS AND SAFARIS'** PayPal account within 7 days of notification. Notice of the date of the deposit will be sent by email. Once bookings are confirmed, notice will again be sent to participants. The balance of the tour price has to be paid in full, 30 days before the start of the tour. This **final payment is also non-refundable**, as by this time we have committed financially to our suppliers. PayPal details will be notified via email. Late payments will unfortunately lead to your exclusion of tour participation, unless we are notified of problems and there is still accommodation available.
6. Standard convoy size is 4 vehicles. On certain tours we may be able to accommodate 6 vehicles.
7. **You must provide your own or a hired 4x4 vehicle and all camping equipment.**
8. We will assist with 4x4 vehicle hire for overseas (also local if required) visitors. We will find reputable reasonably priced vehicles and forward the details to prospective tourists. Tourists will deal and pay for the vehicle directly with the supplier. The standard safari vehicle is a single cab 4x4 with a canopy, equipped with camping equipment, fridge/freezer, water tank, crockery and cutlery, bedding and a rooftop tent for two people. Double cab vehicles with 2 rooftop tents can also be arranged, at an additional cost. Insurance must be included in the hire agreement. Please check for this before leaving hire company.
9. Private vehicles need to be serviced no more than 2 weeks before commencement of the tour and need to be in a good condition and capable of the trip ahead. **SIMBA 4x4 TOURS AND SAFARIS** cannot be held responsible for vehicle breakdowns, causing other participants not complete the scheduled safari. Where ever possible, help will be offered with repairs and temporary transport arrangements, but costs of such arrangements will be for the account of the vehicle owner concerned. We cannot hold up the safari for too long and cause inconvenience other guests by arriving at our destinations late or forfeiting accommodation bookings. **Tuff Stuff** or **Cross Country** cover (see 10 below) will cover traveller repatriation and vehicle recovery back to your home town.
10. No family / private vehicle will be allowed to participate on any 4x4 tour / safari without proof of vehicle insurance cover from either **Tuff Stuff** or **Cross Country**. These two Insurance providers will issue policy holders with a letter (via email) confirming cover for the vehicle for the duration and countries to be visited. This email should be forwarded to info@simba4x4tours.co.za at least one month before departure. Failure to adhere to this requirement will lead to exclusion WITHOUT A REFUND of fees paid up to that point!
11. Please take along a copy of vehicle's registration document and a permission letter to leave the SA, from the registered owner (bank if vehicle is financed).
12. Meals on 4x4 tours are generally prepared on open fires and that will result in most meals consisting of a variety of grilled meats, pot breads, and vegetables done in foil. These types of meals are easier to prepare on fires. Menus need to be planned beforehand, so that shopping lists can be planned and coordinated prior to tour departure. Evening meals will typically be done before darkness falls, around a communal fire. Prepare sufficient food so that you can use the extra portions for the next day's lunch, as lunchtime stop on the road would not leave enough time for meal preparation. Because of time restraints in mornings (breaking up camp, packing up and leaving early) breakfasts are normally a cup of coffee, cereals, yoghurt and maybe some rusks or biscuits.
13. Don't forget snacks for during the day whilst on the road. Each vehicle must carry at least 10 litres of drinking water in the vehicle when the convoy departs every morning. This will be the driver's responsibility; the guide will not check and takes no responsibility if this advice is not taken or adhered to.
14. Most mornings we will leave camp around 08h00. We will take regular leg stretch breaks. Toilet and fuel stops will be discussed at the start of each day trip or at evening meals the night before. We will try, wherever possible, to arrive at our overnight stop by 15h00 for 16h00. Convoy speeds will be around 100kph on paved roads and we will adapt our speed to road conditions when on dirt or off-road. Please do not take fuel stops as shopping opportunity.
15. Once your tour deposit is paid, we can discuss menus and food preferences. Once again, camping makes grilling meat on fires the most practical way of cooking. Vegetables can also be cooked on open fires, either in a casserole dish or in tin foil. Pumpkin, onions and potatoes last well unrefrigerated, but other vegetables and fruit will not last more than a week if not refrigerated. Refrigerator space is fairly limited. Pastas and rice travel well and make a nice change in the diet occasionally. We normally bake our own breads on trips, time permitting. Food can be bought at bigger towns and cities on tour.
16. The day before the start of the safari, the tourists will be required to accompany the tour operator to the local Supermarket and Butchery to buy food for the trip. Perishables will be transferred directly into fridge/freezers of the vehicles immediately after buying. Tours for international tourists will start and end in Johannesburg. Local tourists can already buy their food before arrival at the assembly point. Arrangement can be made to have local tourist start and end the tour wherever it may be most convenient for all parties.
17. Tourists may choose to sleep in their rooftop tent at the **SIMBA 4x4 TOURS AND SAFARIS** premises or they may choose to stay over at a local Bed and Breakfast. There are several B&Bs and restaurants within walking distance of the **SIMBA 4x4 TOURS AND SAFARIS** premises.
18. Tourists must ensure they have the correct visas for the countries on our itinerary.
19. We will notify you if your tour falls within a known malaria area. Tourists must make provision for Malaria prophylactics in their home countries. In South Africa, these can only be bought from a dispensary and with a Doctor's prescription. Most of these tablets require the traveller to start taking this medication 2 weeks before arriving in the malaria area. The use of anti-malaria lotion daily, at dawn and dusk, is strongly recommended. Long sleeves and trousers at these times are also advised. We take no responsibility should you contract malaria.
20. Yellow fever inoculations are required by South African authorities if you return from African countries north of Namibia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Please make sure you comply with lead times required for such inoculations. Yellow fever inoculations last for 10 years, so staple your Yellow fever certificate to your passport to keep it safe for future use.
21. On tour, we will have daily meetings every morning and evening, to discuss the route and other arrangements for the next day. The main meeting is normally done around the campfire at dinner. A quick meeting and a radio test will be done every morning just before departure.

NOTE for South African Travellers using their own 4x4's

Tuff Stuff and **Cross Country** are the only two insurance companies in SA that will recover a damaged vehicle outside the RSA and repatriate the driver and passengers back to SA, be this by emergency air ambulance, scheduled commercial air transport or hired vehicle. The above applies to both accident damaged vehicles and vehicles that are incapacitated due to mechanical breakdown. Vehicles are normally repatriated by flat-bed truck. Please look at point no **10** regarding insurance. A vehicle police clearance will be required if you leave Zimbabwe to go north! These must be obtained in SA.

Anglo Boer War Tours (no children under 16)

1. Lead times of 3 to 4 months must be given for booking of these tours. Most towns are small and accommodation for a larger group can be complicated (if not impossible) at short notice.
2. Maximum group size on most of these tours is limited to 12 – 14 tourists, again due to accommodation restraints.
3. Accommodation on these tours will be in B&Bs, Lodges or Hotels depending on availability.
4. For evening meals, a smart elegant dress code applies. (No jeans, collarless shirts or running shoes)
5. A 4x4 is not always required, vehicle with a high clearance is recommended as we often travel on dirt roads and two spoor tracks.
6. We will employ an expert Subject Matter Tour Guide and his fees, accommodation and meal costs are included in the tour price. Tips for these tour guides are excluded and will be up to the tourist's discretion.
7. Costs included in these tour prices as given:
 - Tour guide fees,
 - Accommodation per person sharing (single supplement) on a bed and breakfast rate,
 - Dinners at our place of accommodation (where indicated)
 - Entrance fees.
8. Costs not covered in the pricing for these tours:
 - Lunchtime meals,
 - All alcoholic beverages and drinks at stop-overs,
 - Outside restaurant meals,
 - Tips
 - Fuel.
 - Vehicle costs
9. You may bring your own eats along for lunchtimes or you may ask the Hotel / Lodge to provide a packed picnic lunch. We may also stop off at eateries for a light lunch. Such lunch opportunities will be notified beforehand.
10. Some of the sites we visit cannot be reached by vehicle. We will park the vehicles at the side of the road or somewhere out of the traffic, from where we will proceed on foot. This may include strenuous climbs up kopjes and hills that may be covered by thorny vegetation or bushes.
11. Please make provision for comfortable walking or hiking shoes, a hat, and sun protection cream.
12. Don't forget a bottle of water of at least 500ml per person and snacks for during the day, be it whilst on the road or on foot in the veldt.
13. Grass seeds will accumulate in your socks whilst walking in the veldt, for your own comfort, bring along something to wear over your socks (such as putties worn by soldiers).
14. Some seating may be available in the Tour Guides' vehicles; tourists may avail of such seating daily on a rotational basis at no extra cost.