



## **FIREARM IMPORT / EXPORT**

South Africa requires a temporary import/export permit for firearms and ammunition when traveling to South Africa.

The following are rules & regulations for the import/export/transit of firearms to South Africa

- You may temporarily import a maximum of four firearms per hunter, but not more than one of the same calibres.
- **ONLY SA Airlink** allow the transportation of firearms. Ensure your domestic flight/s you are booked on indicate it is an SA Airlink flight **AND NOT** a SHARED CARRIER flight. The shared carrier will not honour or permit the carry of firearms. **EVEN IF YOUR FLIGHT INDICATES IT'S AN SA AIRLINK FLIGHT, DOUBLE CHECK IT IS NOT A SHARED CARRIER FLIGHT.** Please note there will be an extra baggage charge for both Rifle Case and Ammunition Case. Ammunition case to not exceed 5KG/11LBS.
- Rifles and shotguns will not be accepted as Checked Baggage, unless approved no less than three (3) working days prior to departure through Airlink Reservations Control Tel +27 11 451 7350/ Your Travel Agent. Rifles must be unloaded with the safety catch on, and suitably packed and accompanied by all documents legally required by the countries of departure, destination and any stopovers.
- You may only bring ammunition applicable to the firearms that you will be carrying.
- No person under the age of 21 may bring firearms into South Africa or apply for a temporary import permit in his / her name.
- The barrel, frame or action is to be marked with the same serial number.
- Semi-automatic shotguns for bird hunting or a custom-made handgun can be bought into South Africa for hunting purposes only.
- No self-protection firearms allowed.
- If in transit, permits are required by any passenger spending the night in South Africa while in transit to a third country. The same pre-requisites apply as to obtain the normal temporary import permit.

Firearm Import/Export permits can be issued at both our international ports of entry, Johannesburg and Cape Town International airports, or applied for before your arrival in South Africa.

We strongly recommend using **Air 2000 / Hunters Support** to assist you through this process. Visit the website, for all documentation and requirements. By sending Air 2000/Hunters Support the required details, they will apply for the permit on your behalf; meet you at the airport and walking you through customs onto your connecting flight. Please note Air 2000 Hunters Support does charge a minimal fee for this service – be sure to double check rates with them at the time of the service.

If you will be using the Air 2000 Hunters Support service to assist in the clearance of your rifle/s upon arrival and departure, please take note:

1. All applications must be completed in black ink and in the original form, no Photostats or emailed copies will be accepted.
2. The copy of the signature and photo page of the passport must be notarized by a notary with a notation specifying: *I hereby confirm this is a true copy of the original document signed and stamped.*
3. The copy of the proof of ownership i.e. copy of the firearm license or **US Customs Form 4457** must also be notarized with the notation specifying: *I hereby confirm this is a true copy of the original document signed and stamped.*

No applications will be accepted by Air 2000 Hunters Support if the lead time is less than 4-6 weeks prior to your arrival in South Africa.

Permits for semi-automatic shotguns must be submitted to Central Firearms 90 days prior to arrival into South Africa, and the letter of motivation must be in the original format as per the requirements of the Firearms Control Act.

Don't forget to send off your Hunters Support paperwork sooner rather than later, not forgetting they need all of the following:

- Hunters Support Form
- Letter of Invitation from Western Cape Safaris
- SAPS 520 Form
- Notarized copy of the passport
- Notarized copy of the US Customs Form or License (whichever is applicable)
- Hard copy of your flight itinerary

If you have any queries or questions please contact Hunters Support and Travel, they will gladly assist.

**Air 2000 email – [air2000@global.co.za](mailto:air2000@global.co.za)**

**<https://www.hunterssupport.com/hunters/>**

Lastly - When dealing with Air 2000 Hunters Support and acquiring their custom clearing service/s, be sure to specify if you would like to be met upon international arrival only OR upon arrival and departure into/from South Africa.

## **Traveling with Ammunition**

ALL ammunition you are travelling with, internationally arriving/departing in/out of South Africa and within South Africa / regionally within Southern Africa on SA Airlink must be in a separate locked hard metal/plastic ammunition case. (No tapped cardboard boxes allowed) Ammunition is no longer allowed to be checked within checked luggage arriving in South Africa.

Ammunition will never be carried in the cabin or flight deck of the aircraft. Ammunition must be packed separately and securely from the firearm case and not in the checked bag onto final destination.

Also note a maximum of 200 rounds of ammunition is allowed per firearm/per calibre. Most airlines have a weight limit on ammunition of 5KG/11 LBS, which is approximately 140 rounds of 243 / 120 rounds of 300 Win Mag / 100 rounds of 375. From past experience we would recommend no more than 80 rounds per calibre.

## **Letter of Invitation**

Lastly, hunters traveling with rifles will require a **Letter of Invitation** from Western Cape Safaris. Please contact our office to arrange this letter prior to submitting application forms to Air 2000 Hunters Support or arriving at either of our international airports.