



Importing your Gun

It is essential that you have all the necessary documentation before leaving for the airport.

Please read this document attentively and follow all instructions carefully.

Step-by-step importing guide

Before you leave home

1. Fill out the Temporary Import Application form number SAP 520
Visitors bringing firearms into South Africa for hunting purposes, will be asked to fill in a SAP 520 –

USE THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM:

Leave the form unsigned at the end -- Sign only in the presence of a police official.

1. Black ink must be used to fill in the form.
2. The form should be left unsigned until the document is finalized in front of the police official issuing the actual permit. This gives the police official the opportunity of making sure the signature is an original and is yours.

3. PLEASE NOTE THAT NOT ALL SECTIONS OF THE FORM APPLY. ONLY COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

Section D – mark (temporary import or export permit)

Section E - 1 - 25.4

Section G

Section I - (Must fill in all details requested)

Section J - (remember do not sign until in front of police officer at firearm office)

ENSURE YOU HAVE WITH YOU THE FOLLOWING NEATLY TOGETHER IN AN ENVELOPE OR FOLDER

1. **Passport** – have a copy in your folder
2. **Return Airline Ticket** – if it is issued before you leave home – make a copy
3. Proof of Ownership and Export
For USA **Customs Declaration Form 4457** (officially stamped) - make a copy

You have to obtain this document a couple of days/weeks prior to your departure by taking your rifle to your local airport or first point of departure – make an appointment or make sure that the person who can help will be there before you drive there.

4. **Invitation Letter from Somerby Safaris**

This document is available on our website (INVITATION LETTER)
Print this document out, complete all sections and add it to your application

When you arrive in South Africa

NB: READ BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR HOME AND READ AGAIN BEFORE ARRIVING IN SOUTH AFRICA

Firearms will be physically inspected to ensure the serial number(s) match those of the licenses (proof of ownership) and the application form. Ammunition will also be inspected.

CLEAR WITH THE AIRLINE BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR HOME HOW YOUR AMMUNITION MUST BE PACKED.

For visitors clearing customs at the Johannesburg International Airport, please take note of the following procedure to be followed on arrival:

1. Clear passport control in the Terminal where your flight arrives (generally SAA and its co-partners at Terminal 2 and all other airlines at Terminal 1).

2. Proceed to baggage claim at the respective carousel. Pick up general baggage, then LOOK FOR THE PERSON STANDING WITH ALL THE GUN CASES, GO TO HIM AND IDENTIFY YOURS AND SIGN FOR THEM TO RELEASE IT.

Proceed through customs and exit. When you enter the arrivals area you will meet a Somerby Safaris representative here who will go with you to the Police office to assist you to collect your rifle.

Please have all the relevant documentation handy at this point – the sooner we get in the line the faster you can leave the airport.

Firearm / Ammunition Allowances and Specifications PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. No more than one firearm per caliber and 200 rounds per firearm will be permitted. No ammunition for other rifle calibers will be permitted.

An exception to this may apply for shotguns where more than one of the same calibers may be allowed for bird hunting purposes if the client produces on arrival at the SAPS Gun Office an acceptable written motivation as to why more than one is required.

2. Firearms must bear the manufacturer's serial number or any other mark by which the firearm can be identified. The identification number must be stamped and the mark affixed in the prescribed manner on the barrel or the frame or the receiver of the firearm.

3. Handguns will be allowed into the country, but only for hunting purposes. Any visitor wanting to bring in a handgun in this regard needs to have a letter from an association in the country of origin stating the handgun will be used for hunting purposes.

4. Prohibited firearms, which may NOT be imported into South Africa, includes:

- a. Any fully automatic weapon
- b. Any semi-automatic weapon
- c. Handgun/s for self-defiance
- d. Weapons which fall under military categories

5. Bows and black powder guns are also permitted for import- please contacts us for more info on this matter.

General Provisions: READ CAREFULLY

- Please check with the Airline you are flying regarding where/how to pack your ammunition – in your gun case or in your luggage. Do not put your ammo in your hand luggage.
- Whenever the holder of a temporary import permit leaves the Republic of South Africa, the firearm in respect of which the permit is issued must accompany the holder of the permit
- Applicant must be 21 or over
- Please ensure that your firearm/s arrive on the same flight as you do. This must be done with the airline company on departure. Your firearm/s may only be signed for by you and will not be released to your outfitter or professional hunter should it/they arrive on a separate flight.
- Please do not pay for any service regarding the handling of firearms at Johannesburg International Airport, or any port of entry. The issuing of the SAP 520 is a free service and the South African Police Service asks clients not to pay anybody involved in handling firearms from the time of arrival in South Africa right through until you receive your firearm/s and the permit from the SAPS.

There is no permit required, nor any charge by the South African Police Service for a bow. Airline and/or security companies for bows and handguns charge handling fees.

Please note that the SAPS will hold NO firearms for safekeeping. If a client brings in a prohibited firearm, brings in more than what is allowed, or lacks the necessary documentation and his request for a temporary import permit is denied, the involved firearms must be exported immediately by the client or voluntarily surrendered to the State.

This information was provided by the South African Police Service and the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa as of 12 August 2004