



Tipping on safari can sometimes feel like a tricky subject, so we've put together a few helpful guidelines. First and foremost, tipping is completely up to you—there's absolutely no obligation, and you should never feel pressured to tip. That said, even a small tip can go a long way and is always deeply appreciated by the staff at the lodges.

Keep in mind that while your guide will likely be your main point of contact, there's a whole team working behind the scenes to make your safari smooth, comfortable, and unforgettable. From housekeeping to kitchen staff, many of these dedicated individuals may not be visible, but their contributions are just as important.

### How much do I tip?

If you'd like to leave a tip, we recommend giving it in cash (currencies detailed below) —Average **\$35 per person per day**. *Any extra tips are always deeply appreciated and have a far greater impact on the lives of the staff than you might ever realize.*

**Camp/Lodge Staff:** There is a lot that happens behind the scenes of your safari and it's important to consider and acknowledge all the wonderful people who look after the lodge. From housekeepers, to wait staff, to chefs – they all deserve to be thanked appropriately!

### How do I tip?

Most lodges will provide you with envelopes to place the tips in. Please hand your tips to the camp host/hostess. They'll ensure it's shared fairly among all the staff based on their roles and efforts.

### South Africa

#### Who to Tip:

- Safari lodge stays: \$25–\$35 per safari guest/day
- Long distance transfer Drivers: \$ 20-\$25 per service

**Currency:** South African Rand (ZAR) preferred.

## Botswana

### Who to Tip:

- Safari lodge stays: \$25–\$35 per safari guest/day
- Tracker/Mokoro Poler: \$5–\$10 per guest/day

**Currency:** USD preferred; Botswana Pula accepted but not typical for tips.

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## Zimbabwe

### Who to Tip:

- Safari lodge stays: \$25–\$35 per safari guest/day

**Currency:** USD only; avoid ZWL or Bond Notes.

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## Zambia

### Who to Tip:

- Safari lodge stays: \$25–\$35 per safari guest/day

**Currency:** USD strongly preferred; Kwacha accepted but not ideal for tipping.

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## Kenya

### Who to Tip:

- Safari lodge stays: \$25–\$35 per safari guest/day

**Currency:** USD preferred; Kenyan Shilling acceptable for small tips.

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## Uganda *(for Gorilla Trekking Safaris)*

### Who to Tip:

- Gorilla Trekking Guide/Ranger: \$10–\$20 per safari guest/day
- Tracker/Escort Staff: \$5–\$10 per safari guest/day
- Lodge/Camp Staff: \$10–\$15 per safari guest/day
- Drivers/Transfers: \$2–\$5 per transfer

**Currency:** USD preferred; Ugandan Shilling acceptable for minor services.

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## General Safari Tipping Tips

**When to Tip:** At the end of your stay at each lodge or with each guide.

**How to Tip:** Use envelopes or tipping boxes. For staff pools, let the manager distribute tips fairly.

**Currency Rules:** Use clean, recent USD notes (post-2006). Local currencies acceptable for minor services.

**Avoid:** Old/torn USD notes, asking staff to exchange currency, or overtipping under pressure.

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## Which Currency?

### Note

Banks and foreign exchange bureaus are available at all international airports and main towns, however, ATM's do not dispense USD notes.

Properties with gift shops have credit card facilities, but tips cannot be accepted via credit card.

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*They say that all bugs in Africa bite...but the Safari Bug is the worst of them all!*