



KIT LIST AND TOUR INFORMATION FOR HODGSONS PEAKS

South African ENTRY/EXIT regulations: On 1 June 2015, South Africa brought into effect new regulations applying ONLY to children under 18 years of age. Any child of any nationality will require the following when departing from or arriving in South Africa:

- 1) **A CHILD TRAVELLING WITH BOTH PARENTS:** A Birth Certificate which has the names of both parents on it. This must be either an original or a copy which has been certified by a Commissioner of Oaths. (In SA, a police station will certify such copies)
- 2) **A CHILD TRAVELLING WITH ONE PARENT ONLY:** The birth certificate as well as an affidavit (an official letter stamped and signed at a police station) from the non-travelling parent giving permission for the child to travel into and/or out of South Africa.
- 3) **A CHILD TRAVELLING WITH AN ADULT WHO IS NOT THEIR PARENT:** If the child is travelling with another adult, this person must produce the birth certificate as well as an affidavit from the parents giving the child permission to travel into and/or out of South Africa with this adult, copies of the parents' identity documents and their contact details
- 4) **A CHILD TRAVELLING UNACCOMPANIED:** If the child is travelling unaccompanied, the child must produce the birth certificate as well as an affidavit from the parents giving the child permission to travel into and/or out of South Africa and the parents' contact details as well as the identity documents and contact details of the person receiving the child in South Africa.

If you unsure about any aspect of these regulations, contact us for clarity, or else contact your nearest South African embassy or if in SA, the nearest Home Affairs office.

NOTE that we have spoken to the station commander at the South African border post at Sani pass and he is inclined to be somewhat lenient to people on our tours, but he suggests that anyone unsure contact him directly to clarify their individual situation as follows:

Captain Dlamini of the Sani Pass border post on +27 33 7029000 or +27 33 7029001 or +27 33 7029002

WHAT TO BRING:

In addition to the normal hiking clothing such as shirts and shorts (preferably made from wicking materials) and good hiking boots or shoes (and gaiters), clients should also have a day pack large enough to fit the following items:

- Warm jacket (fleece or equivalent)
- Warm long pants (fleece or equivalent)
- Windproof and waterproof jacket/Rain suit – jacket and rainpants
- 1 litre water bottle
- Beanie or balaclava, gloves (in winter)
- Sun hat
- Sun block
- Personal medications
- Sunglasses
- Camera
- Binoculars (optional)

Hiking stick(s) (optional)

Refuse bag for your own rubbish

Whistle (**HELP CALL: S.O.S. three short blasts, three long blasts, three short blasts**)

NB All clothes not being worn should be wrapped in garbage bags to keep them dry and all items that may be damaged or rendered inoperable by water should be placed in Ziploc bags. There is no such thing as a waterproof rucksack!

DRAKENSBERG ADVENTURES MINIMUM IMPACT REFUSE POLICY

All your own refuse must be carried out with you. If you “have to go” somewhere away from a toilet, no toilet paper or tissue paper is to be buried, placed under a tree or rock, or strewn about above ground. Please bring your own refuse bag to discard any litter you generate on the tour; ie plastic bottle, tissues, used toilet paper, plastic bags.

BASIC TOUR INFO:

Departure: From Sani Lodge backpackers at 7.45am

Return: To Sani Lodge Backpackers around 5 - 5.30pm

Tour itinerary: Travel up Sani Pass in our 4x4. Short stops along the way for birds, animals and flowers of interest information on the history of Sani Pass etc. Cross into Lesotho. Park at Sani Top and hike 6km each way (altitude gain of nearly 400m) to the south peak of Hodgsons peaks. Picnic lunch on the summit (weather permitting). Conditions may require a change of plan, other options would be to climb the nearer north peak, to go as far as the middle of the Giants Cup formation or to do a hike further into Lesotho if conditions near the edge of the escarpment are not good enough for hiking. If all else fails, the tour will follow the basic itinerary of the Standard Sani Pass day tour. Return to Sani Top, time for a drink in the Highest Pub in Africa before the return journey to Sani Lodge Backpackers.

Toilet stops: Flush toilets at the SA border post and the Pub, pit latrine (long drop) at the Lesotho border post, *au natural* elsewhere on the tour.

COMMUNITY INTERACTION IN LESOTHO:

Drakensberg Adventures has pioneered the system of paying all community service providers for services rendered to our tours. This includes the shepherds around Sani Top, who also agreed to be part of our tour, and we allocate R35 per group to the “shepherds fund”. The proceeds of the fund are used to buy new blankets for the shepherds. We collect the names of the shepherds we interact with over the season, and then in February we have a big event where the blankets are handed over.

See the “Vehicles and Guides” and “Community Tourism” pages of our website at www.drakensbergadventures.co.za for more information on our tour ethos.