

Africa Through Your Lens (ATYL)

Photographic Safari Guidelines

Thank you for considering a safari with Africa Through Your Lens (ATYL), our home base is at ChaZen Nature Conservation & Education Center (ChaZen). We look forward to being your hosts and we feel confident that your safari experience with us will be the vacation of a lifetime!

ABOUT CHAZEN:

ChaZen, located in the Free State Province of South Africa, is an independent, family-owned and operated enterprise, dedicated to protecting our country's wild places and conserving the indigenous animal species that make Africa a unique world destination.

The ChaZen Nature Reserve is located within the Vredefort Dome, an International World Heritage Site and is the largest and oldest meteorite impact structure on earth. It's the only land crater on earth visible from space! The reserve serves as a model of habitat restoration.

Since 1990, the Viljoens have extensively tested and developed new techniques to restore an over-utilized sheep/cattle ranch to healthy natural habitats. They have successfully restored numerous wildlife species to their natural environment. The Viljoens have also led landscape-level conservation efforts within the Vredefort Dome. ChaZen is now a model of biodiversity in South Africa due to its unique climate and rich habitats that sustain numerous species such as:

- Approximately 216+ bird species.
- Mammals: Giraffe, Cape buffalo, Zebra, Blue, and Black wildebeest, and 45+ other mammal species.
- Predators: Cheetah, Lion, African wild dog, Leopard, Serval, Caracal, Civet, Spotted hyena and many more.

Participation in a photographic safari with ATYL helps to continue ongoing conservation efforts at ChaZen, to protect Africa's wildlife and their habitats.

The mission of ChaZen is to promote wildlife conservation by educating and training the next generation and to awaken an understanding of the importance of conservation in South Africa and abroad.

"In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will only understand what we have been taught" **Baba Dioum, Senegalese Conservationist**

ABOUT AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS:

Join Africa Through Your Lens on a thrilling photographic safari to areas that combine natural beauty, incredible wildlife, and cultural diversity. Experience the essence of natural tranquility with our team who has lived, worked and explored Africa for more than 22 years.

We offer crafted safaris for a maximum of 10 to 12 travelers and your guide (minimum group size is 6 people). Countries explored include South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Tanzania.

Make your African dream a reality by choosing one of our crafted safari options or create a custom safari. Below is a list of our safaris with availability depending on the time of travel and seasonal movement of wildlife:

- **Ultimate North West** (South Africa): Visit private and provincial nature reserves, explore the Cradle of Humankind, and are enchanted by a cultural village.
- **Ultimate Wildlife Sabi/Kruger** (South Africa): View and abundance of wildlife in the Sabi region, bordering the Kruger National Park.
- **KwaZulu-Natal** (South Africa): Travel through South Africa to observe wildlife, tribal cultures, and dip your toes in the Indian Ocean.
- **Ultimate Wildlife Natal** (South Africa): This safari focuses on viewing the various wildlife species in their natural surroundings.
- **Chobe & Victoria Falls** (South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe): Explore wildlife in South Africa, head to Botswana, cruise the Chobe River and explore Victoria Falls on foot and by helicopter.
- **Victoria Falls, Hwange & Chobe** (South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe): Spend time on a private reserve in South Africa before heading to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. Travel to Hwange National Park, and observe large migrations of elephants at Chobe in Botswana.
- **Tanzania Migrations** (Tanzania): Land in Kilimanjaro. Watch the flamingos in Lake Manyara National Park and discover a vast diversity of wildlife across Tarangire National Park and Ngorongoro Crater. Trek through the Serengeti to discover the wildebeest and zebra migration.
- **Okavango Delta, Chobe & Victoria Falls** (South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe): Explore 3 UNESCO world heritage sites. Visit Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, and view wildlife by boat at Chobe in Botswana. Discover the Okavango Delta by dugout canoes to navigate past wildlife.
- **ChaZen Safari** (South Africa): Enjoy wildlife viewing on our private reserve located in the Vredefort Dome World Heritage Site. Explore the beauty and solace of South Africa and immerse yourself in the wild.

HOW TO BOOK A SAFARI

For a list of safari pricing and further details, email ATYL at info@atyl.co.za.

BOOKING YOUR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:

AIRFARE:

The traveler is responsible for booking international airline tickets to and from South Africa or Tanzania, depending on the selected safari.

ATYL will book all flights within Africa, of the itinerary chosen; this includes flights from South Africa to Botswana and Zimbabwe (depending on the selected safari).

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

ATYL recommends trip insurance for all safaris.

Should you choose not to purchase trip insurance, the traveler assumes all costs associated with adjusting travel plans.

PASSPORTS & VISAS

U.S. citizens traveling to South Africa are required to have a valid passport, with an expiration date of at least 6 months from date of return, and 2 blank pages in the passport. Travel requirements are always subject to change and ATYL recommends researching this when you decide to travel on a safari.

Visas for travel outside of South Africa, if required, are the responsibility of the traveler to obtain. ATYL and/or your travel professional will offer guidance if such travel documentation is required for the safari you have chosen. Visa costs are the responsibility of the traveler, and the cost varies. Travelers will be informed in advance of estimated costs required for visas.

EXCHANGE RATE

ATYL recommends checking the current exchange rate. Be aware many vendors and facilities do not accept credit cards and it is recommended to travel with some local currency. Work with ATYL and/or your travel professional for further recommendations concerning this.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Safari pricing does not include gratuity and visa costs. Alcohol is not provided at all lodges. Souvenirs and other personal purchases are not included in safari price. Laundry is not included in the safari price. Additional costs are dependent on the itinerary chosen.

PAYMENT & CANCELLATION POLICY

DEPOSIT:

An initial deposit is required to reserve your space for any given safari. We request that a deposit of \$1000.00 USD per traveler be made as soon as possible to guarantee your space. This deposit is non-refundable as of 365 days before your trip. The deposit secures the safari price and lodging. Confirmation will be provided by ATYL once a deposit has been received.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Once the initial deposit is received a payment schedule will be provided, with the final payment being due to ATYL no later than 90 days before the starting date of the safari. Reservations made within 90 days of the start date, require immediate full payment.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

A deposit of \$1000 USD is payable to reserve a booking.

- If a cancellation is made more than 365 days before the safari start date the deposit will be returned, less bank charges.
- This deposit becomes a non-refundable deposit as of 365 days before the start date of the safari.
- 90 days or less from start date – forfeit the full amount paid on booking
- 91-150 days from start date – forfeit 75% of the full amount paid on booking
- 151-270 days from start date – forfeit 50% of the full amount paid on booking
- No show: Forfeit the full amount paid on the booking.

Any money refunds above, exclude bank processing fees, at the discretion of ATYL.

Should cancellation be necessary, a confirmation directly from ATYL will be valid proof that a reservation has been canceled.

DISCLAIMER:

It is expressly understood and agreed that AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) assumes no responsibility or liability for service, transportation or equipment made available by any resort, hotel or other person or entity, either as to its availability or as to its safety, quality or condition, nor for the acts (negligent or otherwise) of any employee or agent of such establishment, firm, person, or entity.

While we take every reasonable precaution to ensure your safety and comfort while you are on safari with us, it is also understood and agreed that AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) does not assume any responsibility or liability for the safety of any participating individual.

It is further understood that remoteness of the area, local custom, and prevailing weather conditions may cause substitution of facilities and/or equipment, minor inconvenience or modification to the itinerary and AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) reserves the right to modify and/or cancel arrangements due to unfavorable weather conditions and to substitute comparable facilities and equipment. It is understood and agreed that AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) makes no warranty and assumes no responsibility or liability for such substitutions.

Travelers are advised that, even in the most serene settings, the animals are wild and can pose a threat to life and safety. Travelers are cautioned to observe all local or park regulations and heed all instructions given by tour guides.

We regret we cannot accept liability or pay compensation where the performance or proper performance of our obligations is prevented or affected by any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events include war or threat of war, riots, civil strife, border closures, unexpected government acts, terrorist activity, industrial disputes, natural or nuclear disaster, extreme weather conditions, fire, technical and/or mechanical problems to transport, road closures, disease and all similar events beyond our control.

No oral or other representations, statements or inducements have been made to the Trip participant, apart from these stated terms and conditions.

Trip participant hereby indemnifies and holds harmless AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) and its officers, directors, agents, and employees from any and all claims, suits, liability, injuries, losses and damage of any person which arise out of traveler's participation in an AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) travel program; and for Trip participant's withdrawal, cancellation or expulsion from a AFRICA THROUGH YOUR LENS (ATYL) travel program.