

COVID-19

Top five tips for essential travel

We are currently living in uncertain times because of the need to limit the spread of the coronavirus, especially when it comes to deciding when to travel or not.

The upcoming Easter holiday is one of those times when South Africans traditionally use the long weekend to spend time with their families or take a short break. You might have planned to take leave to be able to take the children on a holiday while schools are closed, or simply felt that after the first quarter of 20 plenty, you need a change of scenery, some time away from it all, and a bit of space from everyone.

As an individual, only you can decide whether your travel is essential, and this is dependant on why you travel.

You could be travelling to get away and reconnect with yourself, to experience new cultures, to expand your knowledge of the world and its people, to spend time with your squad or family, to support those you love, or for business and career commitments.

To help you make the right decision for you and your health when it comes to whether you travel or not during these times, South African Tourism has put together some tips for you.



1. Stay away from high-risk countries

You aren't allowed to travel or transit through the identified list of high-risk countries including Italy, Iran, South Korea, Spain, Germany, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, and China. You are encouraged to re-look non-essential travel to countries not included in the high-risk list.



2. No cruises

If you have booked a cruise, you must seriously consider cancelling or postponing it to a time when the situation has normalised. Please also check what postponement or cancellation terms and conditions are applicable to your holiday booking.



3. Review commitments with loved ones

When it comes to commitments you've made with friends, your partner, and family, it's important to weigh up the pros and cons and decide based on that review. These commitments can be weddings, funerals, parties, cultural ceremonies and your thinking on this needs to be shared with everyone involved in order to avoid hurting the feelings of the people you love. Don't forget the restrictions of 100 people on social gatherings as you make your decision.



4. Follow company policies with regards to business travel

If you are self-employed, the decision to distance yourself might be easier and if you have employees, please ensure they know that their health comes first. As an employee, your company would have communicated that all business travel is postponed and that you need to follow policies and procedures.



5. Your peace of mind is important

If you know you will not have peace of mind while travelling due to your concerns, current health, or exposure to those infected, perhaps reconsider travelling right now.

It is important that you take precautionary measures, even while travelling, such as washing your hands regularly and properly for a minimum of 20 seconds, avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth, as well as covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.