



## GUN REQUIREMENTS

If you are a U.S. citizen traveling with a hunting rifle and ammunition to South Africa, you must comply with both U.S. export rules and South African import regulations.

### PRO TIPS

Complete all forms and gather documents well before departure to avoid delays.

Keep copies of all paperwork.

If you are not a U.S. citizen, check your home country's export/import rules for firearms.

Consider using a pre-approved permit service if your outfitter offers it

By following these steps, you can ensure a smooth process for bringing your hunting rifle and ammunition into South Africa while complying with both U.S. and South African regulations.

email questions to: [hello@theafricasafarico.com](mailto:hello@theafricasafarico.com)

## 1. U.S. EXPORT REQUIREMENTS

**Before leaving the U.S., you must:**

Complete CBP Form 4457 (Certificate of Registration for Personal Effects Taken Abroad) and present it to a CBP officer at departure U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

This form proves you own the firearm/ammunition and is required for reentry into the U.S. later.

The firearm must be registered with CBP before departure; it will be inspected at the airport [U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#).

## 2. SOUTH AFRICA IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

**Upon arrival in South Africa, you must:**

Apply for a Temporary Firearm Importation Permit (SAPS 520) at the SAPS Firearm Office in Terminal 2, Johannesburg International Airport

Complete the SAPS 520 form in black ink, filling out sections D (Temporary Import/Export Permit), E1-E25.4, G, and I. Do not sign section J until the police officer issues the permit

**Bring :**

Proof of ownership (for U.S. citizens, CBP Form 4457; for EU citizens, EU Firearms Passport)

Passport (valid for at least 6 months)

Airline tickets to/from South Africa

Invitation letter from your hunting outfitter (provided by your safari company)

Customs declaration form (Form 4457 for U.S. citizens)

The SAPS Firearm Office will inspect the firearm and ammunition to ensure serial numbers match your license

## 3. ADDITIONAL RULES

Limitations: Visitors may temporarily import a maximum of two hunting rifles (same caliber not allowed) [DIRCO](#).

Ammunition: Reasonable amounts per caliber are allowed; cases must not exceed 5 kg (11 lbs)

Domestic flights: Only certain carriers (Flysafair, SA Airlink) allow firearms; check your booking is not a shared carrier flight

Return to U.S.: Present the signed Form 4457 and firearms/ammunition to CBP upon reentry [U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#).