

How to import your firearms to Zimbabwe for hunting purposes when travelling via South Africa

Hunting rifle importation procedures to South Africa and how to fill out the SAPS 520 form.

In transit Permits are required to be obtained by any passenger spending the night in South Africa while in transit to a third country. The same prerequisites apply as to obtaining the normal Temporary Import permit. A fee is **no longer payable** to the authorities as from 28th November 2005 for this permit. The in-transit permit application form is known as the **SAPS 520**. A link to download the **SAPS 520** in pdf format is available in the next paragraph.

If you are bringing a rifle into South Africa for the purpose of hunting, or are in transit with a hunting rifle(s), you must fill out a SAPS 520 form and the US Customs 4470 form. You are welcome to download the **SAPS 520 from here** and you are welcome to download the **Zimbabwe Rifle Import**

This is your checklist for the paperwork you need to bring along when hunting in Zimbabwe and hunting in Mozambique – in transit permits

1. SAPS 520 forms must be completed in black ink only – unsigned until told by a South African official to sign it.
2. Notarized copy of your passport (photo and signature page only) Please make sure you have a minimum of **two free pages** in your passport and a passport validity of six months **after** returning home.
3. Notarized copy of your proof of ownership of the firearms you intend bringing along on your safari hunt.
4. Copy of your flight schedule / itinerary.
5. Copy of your letter of invitation from your outfitter: You can download a copy of the invitation letter on our "Forms" page; we can also forward you a letter of invitation upon acceptance of a hunt with us.

How do I prove ownership of my hunting rifles / firearms?

A notarized copy of **Proof of ownership of your firearms in the form of:**

1. US Customs form 4457 OR
2. A letter from your local sheriff in the form of an affidavit confirming ownership, OR
3. An invoice from the gun shop where you purchased the firearms, OR
4. A copy of your firearms license (whichever one is applicable).
5. The Proof of Ownership 4457 (or any of the other forms of proof of ownership) and the copy of your passport must be signed and stamped as true copies of the original documents by a Public Notary.

Now follow the steps listed below

Complete the following on the SAPS 520:

1. You must complete sections E 1 to E 25.4, G, I and J (**only sign the document in the presence of a police official when requested to do so**)
2. Please complete the SAPS 520 in **black ink only**, no other color will be accepted by the authorities.
3. An original notarized copy of your passport (photo and signature page). The passport must have a minimum of two free pages and a minimum of six months validity **after** the termination of the hunt.
4. A letter of invitation from **Georgia Safaris** will be sent to you prior to your departure. You must have this invitation handy with your other documentation upon arrival.
5. You need to ensure that:
 - 5.1 You have a maximum of four firearms, depending on how many firearms the **airline you are traveling with will allow per passenger.**
 - 5.2 You may **NOT** bring in to South Africa **more than one rifle of the same caliber**

5.3 The frame, barrel or action of all your firearms are marked with the same serial number

Additional information required:

1. A letter of motivation by yourself stating the following: That you are temporarily importing the firearms (list serial numbers and calibers) to South Africa while in transit to Zimbabwe.
2. List the species of animals that you are intending on hunting and where in Zimbabwe or Mozambique you will be hunting in.
3. Add your intended date of departure Please bear in mind that all firearms will be physically inspected by a police official upon entry into South Africa, and again on departure.

The following firearms may not be imported into South Africa.

- Any fully automatic firearm.
- Weapons which can be classified as military firearms.
- You are not allowed to bring into the country two firearms of the same caliber