CROSS-BORDER CHECKLIST · TOWING A TRAILER

Botswana · Namibia · Zimbabwe · Mozambique · Eswatini · Lesotho · Zambia — researched 14 November 2026

EVERY TRIP, EVERY COUNTRY

- ☐ Passports valid for 6+ months, with blank pages
- ☐ SARS online traveller declaration for every traveller (since 1 July 2026)
- ☐ Driving licence; International Driving Permit for Zambia
- ☐ Vehicle registration papers + bank letter of authority if financed
- ☐ Trailer registration papers + CampEzi letter of authority (we prepare these)
- ☐ Police verification for vehicle and trailer if going to Zambia or via Chirundu (ask us when you book)
- ☐ Two copies of every document, plus photos on your phone
- ☐ Rand, US dollars and local currency in small notes
- ☐ Two warning triangles, fire extinguisher, reflective vests, ZA sticker

BOTSWANA VISA-FREE FOR SOUTH AFRICAN PASSPORTS · BORDER CASH ≈ R170–R300

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Road permit and road safety levy: the levy is also charged on the trailer
- Third-party insurance: about P50
- Temporary import permit: issued at the border
- Pay in pula. Some larger posts take cards, so carry cash anyway

KIT

- Two warning triangles and a fire extinguisher are sensible extras

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- Getaway: how to book campsites in Botswana's parks
- Travel News Africa: Botswana postpones park fee increases
- Drive South Africa: border crossing guide

NAMIBIA VISA-FREE, UP TO 90 DAYS · BORDER CASH N$874 CBC

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Cross-Border Charge (CBC): N$534 for a car or bakkie and N$340 for a caravan or light trailer, from 1 August 2026
- Pay online before you go, or at the border

KIT

- Two warning triangles; a fire extinguisher is a sensible extra

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- Namibia Road Fund Administration: Cross-Border Charges
- Namibia RFA: pay the CBC online
- Namibia Wildlife Resorts (rest camps)

ZIMBABWE VISA-FREE, UP TO 90 DAYS · BORDER CASH ≈ R900–R1,450

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Third-party insurance: US$30 a month (ZIMRA), or buy it before you leave from an AA-accredited agent
- Carbon tax: US$10 a month
- Beitbridge bridge toll, plus ZINARA toll gates on the main roads
- The US$10 Road Access Fee no longer applies (Statutory Instrument 113 of 2026, gazetted 24 July 2026)

KIT

- Reflective tape: white at the front, red at the back. Honeycomb tape is best, plus two small red squares on the back of the trailer
- Two warning triangles, a fire extinguisher and reflective vests: roadblocks check

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- ZIMRA: apply for a Temporary Import Permit online (eTIP)
- ZIMRA: TIP requirements and charges (PDF)
- The Herald: Road Access Fee removed (SI 113 of 2026)

MOZAMBIQUE VISA-FREE (THE OFFICER STAMPS YOUR PERMITTED STAY) · BORDER CASH ≈ R300–R450

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Temporary import permit: about R15, paid in meticais
- Compulsory third-party insurance: about R160 for the vehicle and about R80 for the trailer, valid 30 days. You can buy it before you go from AA-accredited agents and outdoor stores
- Vehicle declaration: about R50

KIT

- Two red warning triangles
- Two reflective vests and a fire extinguisher
- Blue-and-yellow triangle stickers when towing: one on the front of the vehicle and one on the back of the trailer

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- AA: Mozambique cross-border requirements
- SANParks: Giriyondo border post via Kruger
- Gorongosa National Park: fees and rules

ESWATINI VISA-FREE, UP TO 30 DAYS · BORDER CASH ≈ R50–R100

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Road tax: about R50 on entry
- Third-party insurance is included in the fuel price, so no document is needed

KIT

- Two warning triangles

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- Big Game Parks, Eswatini (Hlane, Mlilwane, Mkhaya)
- Drive South Africa: border crossing guide

LESOTHO VISA-FREE · BORDER CASH ≈ R30–R150

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Road toll on entry, set by vehicle weight class: about R30–R75 for a 4x4, more with a trailer. The rates went up in April 2025

KIT

- Two warning triangles
- Low range and good brakes: mountain gradients are steep

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- AA: Lesotho cross-border requirements
- Lesotho toll gate fees increased (April 2025)

ZAMBIA VISA-FREE, UP TO 90 DAYS · BORDER CASH ≈ R1,000–R1,600

PAY AT THE BORDER

- Road toll fee: US$20 for South African-registered vehicles, in US dollars cash
- Carbon emission surtax: set by engine size, in kwacha cash. Travellers report K150–K490 for a 4x4. Check the amount against your engine size and the receipt
- Third-party insurance from the agents at the border, unless your COMESA Yellow Card covers Zambia. About K130–K310 for 30 days, and the trailer may be charged separately. Agents push 3-month cover: buy what you need
- Council levy: K30–K60, in kwacha. Some councils charge it on entry and on exit
- Kazungula Bridge toll, if you come from Kasane: about K350–K450, or about US$20. This is often the only counter that takes cards
- Inland toll plazas on the main roads: keep small kwacha notes

KIT

- Reflective tape: white at the front, red at the back. Check the trailer as well as the vehicle
- Two warning triangles and a fire extinguisher: roadblocks check

CHECK CURRENT RULES

- Zambia Tourism: border crossings and vehicle fees
- Zambia Tourism: getting around and driving
- Zambia Tourism: national park entry fees

Amounts are approximate for one vehicle towing one trailer and change often. Always confirm with the official links before you travel. Full guide: campezi.co.za/cross-border-travel-guide · CampEzi Off-Road Trailer Rentals, Pretoria · 081 395 5673