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## SAPS 520 – how to fill out the SAPS 520

### How to fill out SAPS 520 and form SAPS 520

In this section we discuss how you must fill out the SAPS 520 (SAP 520) application form when traveling to South Africa with firearms for hunting purposes. The SAP 520 form is available in pdf format and can be downloaded from slightly further down on this page. Please follow the instructions diligently and **do not sign** the form unless requested to do so **in the presence of a South African police official**.

(If you need an example of how to fill out the SAPS 520, ask us and we will email you a copy if you are booking a hunt through us, or if you are booking a photo safari or Hunting Safari with us on your way to hunt in Zimbabwe with Mangwa Hunting **Safaris**).

**This is your checklist for the paperwork you need to bring along on your safari:**



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## Firearm and hunting rifle import procedure when hunting in South Africa – SAPS 520

Please only use the following instructions: (Downloads available further down the text)

- SAPS 520 form must be completed in black ink only (unsigned until told by a South African official to sign it)
- Notarised 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 validity of six months **after** returning home.
- Notarised copy of your proof of ownership of the firearms you intend bringing along on your safari hunt (US Customs form 4457 or License)
- Copy of your flight schedule / itinerary
- Copy of your letter of invitation from your outfitter: Mangwa Hunting Safaris will forward you an invitation upon acceptance of a hunt with us.
- For precise assistance with the importation process, we highly recommend you have your firearms pre-cleared ahead of your arrival. This will save you at least 2 – 3 hours at the South African Police Service clearing office at the airport in Johannesburg, depending on how many other hunters there are on the flight with you. For this service we recommend the services of Hunters Support at [www.hunterssupport.com](http://www.hunterssupport.com) They have someone in the customs area who will assist you from there right up to receiving your firearms.

If you are bringing a rifle into South Africa for the purpose of hunting, you must fill out an SAP 520 form and the US Customs 4470 form. You are welcome to download the **SAPS 520 from our site** and you are welcome to download the **US Customs 4470 from our site**



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Then, follow the steps listed below:

## USA Citizens wishing to import hunting rifles to South Africa

For temporary firearm importation permits you need to 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.
  - 3.1A notarized copy of **Proof of ownership of your firearms in the form of:**
  - 3.2The US Customs form 4457 OR
  - 3.3A letter from your local sheriff in the form of an affidavit confirming ownership OR
  - 3.4An invoice from the gun shop where you purchased the firearms OR
  - 3.4A copy of your firearms license. (whichever one is applicable).
4. 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.
5. A letter of invitation from **Mangwa Hunting Safaris** will be sent to you prior to your departure. You must have this invitation handy with your other documentation upon arrival.

You need to ensure that:

- 6.1 You have a maximum of four firearms, depending on how many firearms the **airline you are travelling with will allow per passenger.**
- 6.2 You may **NOT** bring in to the country **more than one rifle of the same calibre**
- 6.3 The frame, barrel or action of all your firearms are marked with the same serial number
- 6.4 For semi-auto shotguns, we will refer you directly to [www.hunterssupport.com](http://www.hunterssupport.com) for assistance as this is a tricky process.
- 6.5 Handguns for hunting purposes: please visit [www.hunterssupport.com](http://www.hunterssupport.com) for assistance as this is a tricky process.



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## Hunting in Zimbabwe and Hunting in Mozambique – SAPS 520 in transit permits

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. There are other prerequisites for nationals from other countries.

**Mangwa Hunting Safaris** will ensure that you receive the correct procedures to make your entering into the country as smooth as possible.

### 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) for the sole purpose of hunting in South Africa.
2. List the species of animals that you are intending on hunting and also which province (State) 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

Regards

Jacques Brits

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