

9 - 12 Months

- Go see your personal Dr. for a physical before starting an exercise program
- Purchase Safari Guide II and read about your destination
- Make an appointment with a tropical disease doctor to ensure you received proper pre-trip and post-trip care (if-needed)
- If you need an airline approved gun case, buy one now so you know how much room you will have for your gear.
- Purchase a hydration pack for use during exercise sessions to familiarize yourself with the product.
- Highlight the items on the Essential Gear List that you will need to acquire and the time-frame in which you will practice with and break-in those items.
- Understand all airline and luggage regulations.

4-8 Months

- If you are purchasing new boots start breaking them in during training walks
- Practice with your shooting sticks to familiarize yourself with them and to avoid developing a flinch from the bench if you are frequently practicing with a big bore
- If purchasing a leather culling belt, bring it to the range along with your safari bino sling to break in and to get used to operating a firearm with them
- Purchase your medical evacuation policy
- Get shots as early as possible (keeping in mind how long they are good for) to account for any soreness/reactions
- Check your passport expiration date
- Complete your Custom Form 4457 for firearms and other high value items
- Secure all taxidermy tags
- Call your cell phone provider and see if they can provide international services. If not, consider a satellite phone if your phone does not have a viable alternative.

0-3 Months

- If you are using DEET, try it before departure to make sure you do not have a reaction
- Treat your clothes with Permethrin two weeks before departure
- Decide what gear you will wear/carry on
- Do a trial pack 30 days before departure to ensure everything fits as expected and the weight of each bag is balanced to avoid “heavy” surcharges
- Make extra copies of all important documents (Customs 4457, itinerary, plane tickets, medical/shot records, cell phone instructions, hunt contract, trip and medical evacuation policy, etc.) and leave one set at home and take one set with you
- Put fresh batteries in all your gear and make sure you have all your chargers ready to go
- Check to make sure you have enough of your regular and safari related prescriptions
- Select your reading materials/DVD’s for the trip over and back
- Secure cash, travelers checks, and call your credit card company to make sure they do not turn your card off while you are overseas