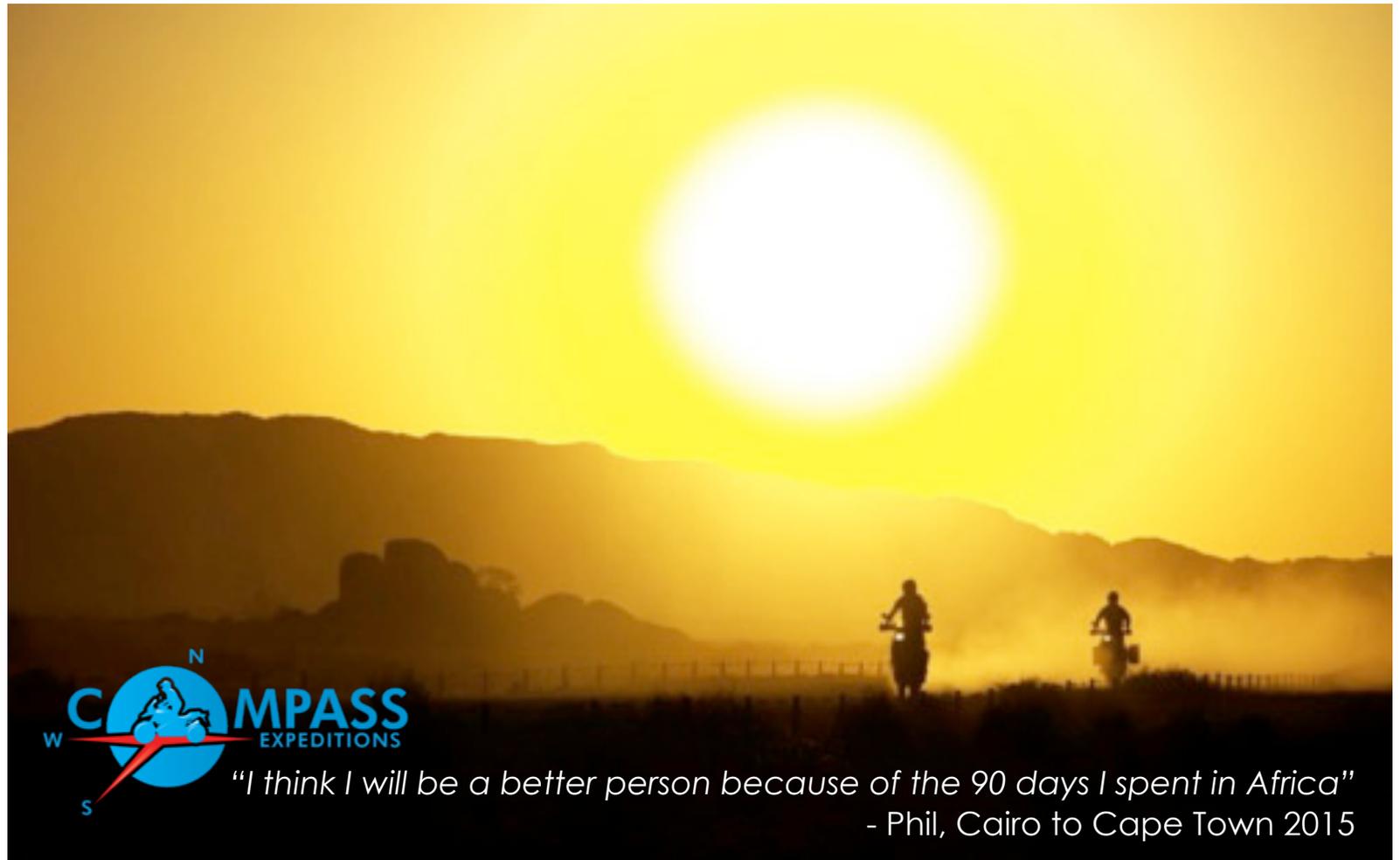


# Cairo to Cape Town: 81 days

2019 Client Information Kit

A journey of epic proportions that travels the length and breadth of this riveting continent. Riding Africa is a bikers experience like nowhere else on earth



*"I think I will be a better person because of the 90 days I spent in Africa"*  
- Phil, Cairo to Cape Town 2015

## Welcome to Compass Expedition's "Cairo to Cape Town" info Kit. Within these pages you will be introduced to one of the world's most captivating and historical continents. This kit will detail everything you need to know to participate in this epic ride. Read on and dare to dream.

Africa is a continent of dreams, the stuff legends are made from and riding this incredibly diverse, sometimes challenging continent is what life changing experiences are all about. If incredible wildlife encounters, world beating antiquities, ever changing landscapes and an utterly fascinating diversity of peoples all experienced from a motorbike is your thing then Africa is your continent.

From the start; after visiting Alexandria & nearby El Alamein we visit the renowned pyramids and sphinx in Cairo. We ride along the Red sea coast, then inland to the Southern Nile cities of Luxor and Aswan, visiting the ageless temples and tombs of the Pharaohs, before crossing into the mysterious Sudan. We cross the Nubian Desert past the little known remote pyramids Jebel Barkal & Meroe then onto the city built on the confluence of the mighty White and Blue Niles; Khartoum. From Khartoum we ride west across the flat lands into Ethiopia and start climbing into some of the most spectacular mountains on the planet, the roads twist ever higher up into the Simien Mountains and onto the rock hewn churches of Lalibela and then Addis Ababa. We venture south further past lakes and villages to the southern border crossing into Kenya, before spending time at a wonderful Rhino conservancy followed by some colonial history to have high tea at the old residence of Joy Adamson, (born free fame), on Lake Niavasha. Riding south we have the chance to see Giraffe and Zebra on the roadside before arriving at Kenya's capital, Nairobi. We are soon in Northern Tanzania to begin our quintessential African safari experience into the Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti National Park, catching glimpses along the way of Masai tribesmen. As we head to the south west across Tanzania we ride amazing, winding stretches of the Great Rift Valley, past majestic Baobab trees and

seemingly endless horizons of Umbrella Acacia trees into Malawi. We continue on great winding roads almost devoid of traffic, along the shores of Lake Malawi with a well-earned rest at the iconic overlanders resort at Ngala Beach. Heading South West out of Malawi we take the quick, but scenic ride through Mozambique then onto the capital of Zimbabwe, Harare. The great roads, superb scenery, wonderful people, and stunning National Parks in Zimbabwe will be a highlight of our adventure as we head first to the Great Zimbabwe ruins, then onto an amazing Lion experience at Antelope Park, Gweru, where we can walk with the lions. Continuing onto one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural world, Victoria Falls. From here we take the short ride across to Botswana to take our evening cruise on the Chobe River, to visit the national park of the same name that is home to over 70,000 Elephants. From here we head across the plains of Botswana to our jumping off point at Maun to visit the biggest inland Delta in the world, the Okavango Delta. We then ride North/West into Namibia, in this land of great motorcycling roads we visit national parks, remote seal colonies, see the 2nd largest canyon in the world and ride some of the best constructed gravel roads amongst majestic desert scenery, before crossing the Orange River into our final country, South Africa. Our final few days will see us ride south to Cape Agulhas before finishing in the beautiful city of Cape Town.

When you reach South Africa you will barely be able to comprehend the diversity of scenery and experiences that make up this breathtaking adventure and join a very elite group of riders who have ever ridden the iconic Cairo to Cape Town route. Welcome to the club.



## A little about the expedition

# Expedition Route

## Week One

We spend 2 nights in the city founded by Alexandria the Great, Alexandria, allowing us time to clear our bikes from Customs and visit the WW2 cemeteries nearby at El Alamein. In Cairo we visit the Pyramids and Sphinx at Giza & the unbelievable Egyptian Museum before heading South West to follow the Red Sea coast to the resort town of Hurghada for 2 nights where we can dive in the Red Sea.

## Week Two

We head inland to the mighty Nile River and the city of Luxor, where we will visit the 3500-year-old Temple of Karnak and the awesome Valley of the Kings & Queens. We then visit the southern town of Aswan. While in Aswan we take a leisurely Felucca ride on the majestic Nile River observing a Middle Eastern lifestyle and soaking up the culture from Pyramids to modern day Mosques. Our departure from Egypt will take the new road South past the outstanding Abu Simbel then a short ferry ride across Lake Nasser to Wadi Halfa in Sudan. This remote Northern region of Sudan is made up mostly of the Nubian Desert and is full of spectacular desert-scapes, star laden nights and glorious sunrises. We head further south to the little known & remote Pyramids of Jebel Barkal.

## Week Three

This week will see us visit the amazing Meroe Pyramids, staying at a wonderful permanent tented camp before riding into the surprisingly modern city of Khartoum and the chance to visit the confluence of the White and Blue Niles. Entering Ethiopia the road starts climbing immediately and we soon find ourselves winding upwards into remote mountains before we get our first taste of Ethiopian culture at Gonder. From here we head off into the Simien Mountains National Park, this world heritage site is home to the Gelaba Baboon, Walia Ibex and the Ethiopian Fox, all extremely rare species. Aside from the wildlife, the scenery is jaw droppingly magnificent and is often the highlight of the entire route.

## Week Four

From the Simien Mountains we continue around a northern route through such towns as Axum and Mekele, before arriving at the famous Lalibela which is home to the Ethiopian Orthodox Christian churches that were built around the 12th and 13th century. These churches are unique in that they were carved from single monolithic rocks that only have the top surface on ground level, so the churches have been carved from the roof down. You have to see them to believe them. Leaving Lalibela we ride the scenic roads across to the town of Bahir Dar, situated on Lake Tana the source of the Blue Nile and largest Lake in Ethiopia, then onwards to Debre Markos and the capital Addis Ababa.

## Week Five

This bustling city is home to the largest open-air market in Africa, the remains of the fossilized skeleton of "Lucy", and much, much more, not to mention the brewing of tasty beers and the best coffee in Africa. From here we take the Southern mountainous roads all the way to the town of at Yabello and from here we cross into Northern Kenya. This first full days ride in Kenya will take you across the rocky desert scrub high plains and further south into the rolling hills and open bush land. This wild, open, remote north countryside is stunning. Staying at an established Samburu campsite at Archers Post will enable us to gain an insight into traditional Samburu life. After skirting around Mt Kenya we take the winding scenic roads to the wonderful Solio Rhino Conservancy.

## Week Six

This week will see us arrive at Niavasha, on the shores of beautiful Lake Niavasha and site of the old home of Joy Adamson, of Born Free fame. We have a rest day to visit some of the local wildlife and enjoy the sounds of the hippos grazing at night only a short distance from our camp. We then have a short ride from here into Nairobi, where we will stay 3 nights to refresh, repair and unwind. After Nairobi we take the short, but



scenic route out of Kenya into Tanzania and stop at Arusha situated under Africa's second highest mountain, Mt Kenya. Arusha is also our jumping off point for our 3-day, 2 nights, all-inclusive Safari to the Ngorongoro Crater and epic Serengeti National park, an absolute must for any visit to Africa. The Serengeti is your best chance to see "The big five" game from the back of specially constructed safari vehicles led by experienced guides, this simply is the quintessential African experience and nothing compares to listening to the roar of lions from your permanent safari tent at night.

## Week Seven

Returning to Arusha we take the main road south through Dodoma, before arriving at our luxury accommodation at the Old Iringa farmhouse, a century old cattle station located in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. We then follow paved roads through scenic tea plantations to the Malawi border. With its well-made, quiet roads, riding is a treat in Malawi. We will be skirting the stunning freshwater Lake Malawi and spend a night on the beach in rustic cabins at Chitimba Beach Camp, before spending 2 nights at the spectacular Ngala Bay Resort. After Ngala we head south on exhilarating roads to the capital, Lilongwe.

## Week Eight

From the capital of Malawi we cross into Mozambique for a change of language and culture to stay at the town of Tete located on the mighty Zambezi River. From here we ride through to Zimbabwe, on great roads with beautiful scenery, it is hard to believe this road was once known as the "Gun Run" corridor, during the civil war in Mozambique, many truck drivers and overlanders were ambushed and robbed on this stretch of road but that was long ago. From here we enter Zimbabwe from the rolling hills of the Northeast, and quickly find ourselves in the capital Harare for 2 nights before riding south to visit the Great Zimbabwe Ruins, the palace for the Royal Monarch from the 12th to the 15th centuries. Continuing on we take quiet back roads through to "Antelope Park" on the outskirts of Gweru. This beautiful establishment has a conservation focus on the protection and breeding of Lions with the plan to release them back into the wild to help reduce the decline of the Lion population. From Gweru we ride good paved roads amongst the forests all the way up to Victoria Falls.

## Week Nine

The incomparable Victoria Falls is a sight you will not forget in a hurry, you will have a chance to visit the park and enjoy these amazing falls, and you will see why it is listed as one of the Seven Wonders of the World. You will also have the chance to partake in some of the many adrenalin activities in this great town. A short trip will take us across to Botswana and the Chobe National Park where we will take an evening game cruise on the Chobe River, hoping to catch a glimpse of some of the 70,000 plus elephants in the park. Further southeast we visit Planet Baobab where we spend 2 nights amongst the Baobabs, our free day at Planet Baobab we shall embark on a Meerkat safari. We continue onto the town of Maun, the gateway to the Okavango Delta. We take, Mokoro's, "modeled on traditional dug out canoes" into the

## Highlights

- Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx
  - The wonderful Alexandria
- Karnak Temple and Valley of the Kings
- Felluca cruise on the Nile River at Aswan
  - The Nubian Desert of Sudan
  - Temples of Jebel Barkal & Meroe
- Khartoum and the confluence of the White and Blue Nile
  - Simien mountains (Ethiopia)
  - Amazing Rock hewn churches of Lalibela
- Solio Rhino Conservancy & the amazing Rhino Watch Lodge
  - Samburu tribes people overnight camp
- High tea at the house of Joy Adamson (of Born Free fame)
  - Massai Culture
- Quintessential safari experience with 3 days visiting the Ngorongoro crater and Serengeti National parks
  - Lake Malawi and Ngala Beach
  - Great riding through Mozambique
- The 12<sup>th</sup> century Ruins of Great Zimbabwe
  - Visit the Mighty Victoria Falls
  - Meerkat Safari in Botswana
- Boat cruise on the Chobe river, Botswana
  - Makoro trip into the Okavango Delta
  - Great dirt roads of Namibia
    - Etosha National Park
  - Private game reserve at Omaruru
    - Superb Namibian farm stay
- Adrenalin capital on Namibia, Swakopmund
  - Dune 45 and the incredible Deadvlei at Sesriem
- Visit Fish River Canyon, the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest canyon in the world
- The Southern Tip of Africa at Cape Agulhas
  - Cape Town

wilderness of the Okavango Delta for a half-day excursion and a flight over the delta (optional). Leaving Maun we follow the North/Western edge of the Delta into Namibia for a night in a beautiful camp beside the Kavango River,

## Week Ten

We visit the Iconic 'Etosha National park' for a evening and morning of game viewing drives, we then head South West onto the amazing private game reserve at Omaruru where you can get up close and personal to a rhino and numerous other animals. Our next stop is Swakopmund for a rest day and the chance to try any of the adrenalin activities from sand boarding to Parachuting or dune buggies in the many nearby sand dunes. Leaving Swakopmund we visit the remote Namib-Naukluft National Park where we take the trip in to visit the famous Dune 45 and the staggeringly beautiful Deadvlei in this remarkably scenic desert region. Heading south again over an ever changing, rocky, dry landscape we overnight in the superb Burgsdorf Goat Farm

## Week Eleven

We start the week off with a visit to the amazing Luderitz, a town being slowly consumed by the desert sands, before hitting the dirt to the renowned Fish River Canyon to explore the rim and watch a spectacular sunset at what is claimed to be the second largest canyon on earth. After another day in the desert we finally hit the green strip for a night along the Orange River that forms the border between Namibia and South Africa. From here we burn up some miles on the great bitumen roads to Springbok. From Springbok we ride south to one of South Africa's premier wine growing towns of Stellenbosch for an overnight stay at this university town. Our penultimate day will take us down to Cape Agulhas, as the geographical Southern tip of Africa and the marked dividing point of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans, it is a must visit. As we stand on the very edge of this magnificent continent you cannot help but contemplate the last 12 weeks of amazing riding across this ancient and wild land. We then saddle up for our last ride into Cape Town with views of the majestic Table Mountain and the final night of our epic journey.

## The Schedule

*The schedule above is a guide only and we will endeavor to remain faithful to the itinerary. However, during an expedition of this magnitude, things sometimes go wrong, events that are completely beyond our control; border strikes, landslides, road closures, surly border guards, local conflict, even being forbidden to ride a motorcycle into a city (it has happened) all may have an effect on our expedition. We will endeavor to get back as per itinerary as quickly as possible. The final decision as to what course of action to take lies with the Compass Expeditions crew.*



## A Day in the Life

No two days are the same, nothing can be assumed but we do follow a certain routine. Each morning we arise at a reasonable hour and have a filling breakfast before going over the days ride. You will be fully briefed the night before of our next destination, route to be taken, road condition, sights to see, and things to do. Depending on location, availability and need we will first fill the bikes before riding out toward our next destination. At a pre-determined point we shall meet for lunch or riders can do their own thing, as each rider will be given complete waypoints for the entire journey. Arriving at our overnight destination we perform minor safety checks of the bikes as well as any routine maintenance that may be needed before having a shower and a cold beer or wine. Breakfast is included on every day of the expedition.

### Weather

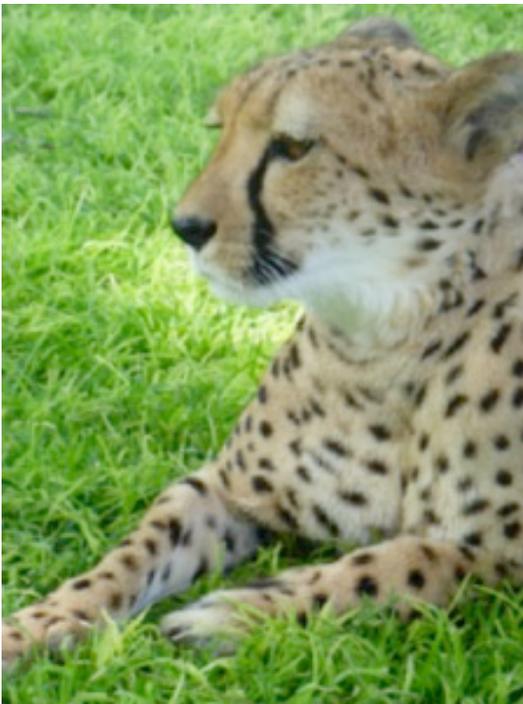
The challenge with Africa is that it is such a long continent from North to South that it covers a lot of weather zones, our itinerary has attempted to get the best of the seasons in as many countries as possible but will hit some less than optimal weather conditions at some point. We shall be leaving Cairo early March and will be anticipating warm, clear weather through Egypt then warmer weather in Sudan before cold weather at the higher elevations of Ethiopia. Kenya & Tanzania will be WET but rarely does it rain all day, we are at the end of the "long Rains". The rains will have ended in Botswana & Namibia and temps will be pleasant but it will also be beautiful and green with new born wildlife and predators nearby. South Africa will be perfect riding weather with little rain and cool temperatures

### Road Conditions

Occasional stock & wildlife and LOTS of pedestrians are a constant hazard on African roads, some countries are worse than others. The road conditions vary wildly on this expedition. The roads in Egypt are generally reasonable tarmac, but the traffic in major centers is busy and at times hectic, especially Cairo. Out in rural areas there are obstacles such as Donkeys pulling, dogs, pedestrians, suicidal chickens etc. to watch out for. We take the "New Road" in North Sudan that is tarmac and sparse traffic with the occasional camels and stock on the road. Some sand is present getting to / from Meroe Pyramids, 5ks in total. Ethiopian roads can be good tarmac, as well as some reasonable gravel roads. In the Simien Mountains we will come across some rough, bumpy smaller dirt roads. Kenyan tarmac varies greatly, from potholed, rutted and potholed tarmac to quite well constructed rural roads. Tanzania has reasonable tarmac in most places, the biggest hazard being the speed of local bus drivers, who have only two speeds; flat out and stop, mix that with hopelessly overloaded trucks that crawl along at 20kph and you are guaranteed to see some "interesting" overtaking maneuver. Malawi has good roads with some great twisties around the lake, very scarce traffic however the local populace uses the road system as their footpath and this can be a hazard. Zimbabwe and Botswana have good, well-made tarmac and Namibia has excellent tarmac and a lot of very well made gravel roads but some sand must also be expected. Finally South Africa will be all great Tarmac.

**This ride is completely achievable by anyone with motorcycling experience. At no times do we include extreme moto-cross style riding, we always chose the least difficult option and the majority of riding is very easy, however this is Africa and we all know that if there were not some challenges along the way it wouldn't be worth doing.**

**We strongly advise riders to undertake an off road riding course well before the expedition and practice the skills you would have learnt, not compulsory but advisable**



## Accommodation

We use hotels/lodges/ pre established safari camps for this expedition, usually 3 to 4 star in standard, however on a very few must use very basic accommodations as that is all that is available. We have chosen our hotels for the location, friendly staff and uniqueness. The accommodations are as varied as the landscapes we ride through, from safari style huts and lodges to fancy hotels.

## Camping

This is an all hotel expedition except for a couple of nights in pre established camps & ONE night free camp; however it may be required to camp 1 or 2 nights more than anticipated during this expedition if we experience unforeseen holdups. We intend to have only 3 nights camping but we do have emergency tents and camping equipment and expedition participants must be prepared for this eventuality.

## ARE YOU UP TO IT?

### The Rider

The rider should have at least two years experience on riding large motorbikes; this however is not a "set in concrete" requirement as we realize that riding skills differ from person to person. The rider does, however, need to be confident with a larger bike and confident in his/her abilities to ride safely in foreign countries that have a slightly different view of road rules than what we may be accustomed to. If taking a co-rider, this expedition is not the time to find out you are not comfortable with it. All participants must have had some off road experience prior to the start of the expedition; even it is a once off weekend course.

### The Co-rider

The Co-Rider needs to have experience in riding as a pillion and have confidence that they can handle some long days on the saddle on some very ordinary roads in sometimes-inclement weather. On the more difficult sections co-riders have the option of riding in the support vehicle, (space permitting).

### In Closing

It is in the nature of this expedition that you will at times be tested. There will be times that people will feel exhausted, dirty or simply frustrated. A flexible attitude is paramount as is a good sense of humor and above all a tolerance for things that can and do go wrong, as well as an acceptance of other peoples and cultures that are completely removed from ours. A willingness to work as a team for the general day-to-day running of the expedition and to "muck in" is essential. The more you put in the greater the sense of achievement at the end. If you are intolerant to riding dirt roads, sometimes lack of choice for lunch supplies/fruit and vegies and the inevitable breakdowns then for your own sake please consider if this journey is for you. It is paramount that all clients are aware that this expedition is 81 days in length and as such you will be away from family and friends for this time.

The points below are critical and you need to possess these qualities for your own enjoyment

### ARE YOU?

- ✓ Good humored
- ✓ Tolerant
- ✓ Accepting of things that may be different
- ✓ Willing to help out for the success of the expedition
- ✓ Have the drive to keep going when everyone else has long since given up

## GREAT THEN READ ON!!

# CHOOSING YOUR BIKE

## Choosing to ride a Compass bike

If you choose to ride one of Compass Expeditions bikes you will be riding the new BMW F 700 / 800 GS or R 1200 GS. These bikes come from a stable of the worlds finest touring bikes and as such we have chosen them for our exciting "Cairo to Cape Town" ride. Unencumbered by luggage these powerful bikes are ideally suited for the demands of riding this challenging expedition from the North to the South of Africa.

### Additional Accessories for Compass Expeditions bikes

- » Crash bars
- » Aluminum Bash Plate
- » Top box
- » Radiator protector
- » Bark busters (hand guards)

## Bringing your own bike

There is no doubt that just about any bike could feasibly attempt such a journey, but for the sake of the expeditions success we must insist you leave your step through 50cc at home. Bikers will insist that they and they alone have the most suitable bike for doing the "Cairo to Cape", they could be right, but we have compiled a "by no means complete" list of the bikes we have owned over the years and that would be more than capable of completing this expedition. Please be aware below is not a definitive list

### Suitable bikes

- » BMW R 1200 GS or any BMW in the GS Range
- » HONDA TRANSALP/ DOMINATOR/ AFRICA TWIN
- » YAMAHA TENERE
- » KAWASAKI KLR 650
- » KTM 990 ADV or 690
- » TRIUMPH TIGER
- » Suzuki DR 650 / V-Strom

### Modifications that need to be considered

- ✓ At least 650cc, Range of at least 300ks/ 200miles
- ✓ Have protective equipment such as crash bars, aluminum bash plate, headlight protector, Radiator guard, Barkbusters
- ✓ Top box for personal day use items
- ✓ Bike alarm and/or disc lock
- ✓ GPS unit (compulsory)

All bikes must be in a roadworthy condition be fully serviced with new chain sprockets (were necessary) & new tyres immediately prior to shipping. We reserve the right to refuse participation for any bike we believe simply won't make it; the timely success of the expedition is our priority. Contact us on [info@compassexpeditions.com](mailto:info@compassexpeditions.com) for any questions concerning your bike.

## Bike shipping

We include all shipping of your bike to and from the African continent; this means we ship your bike to Egypt and out of Cape Town. It is the riders responsibility to get there bike to the port of disembarkation of our choice, for example for our Australian clients all bikes are shipped out Melbourne, it is your responsibility to get you bike to Melbourne, (we can assist with this)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What do I do if my bike breaks down?

If your bike breaks down we will endeavor to fix it ourselves or get it to a point where it can be fixed, all repair costs are borne by the client (only if client owns bike). We have never been "stuck" unable to proceed.

### Is it safe to travel in Africa?

Understandably, this is the most commonly asked question, Africa doesn't have a great reputation but given the millions of tourists that travel there each year it is as safe as any other destination. We have NEVER had a client attacked in Africa or for that matter had very few issues of theft in the many years that we operated tours in this continent. While in Egypt we are accompanied by a virtual army of police for every minute of every day for the entire time we are there, there is safety in numbers.

### Do I need to bring my own spares?

Yes you do need to bring a basic list of spares with you suitable for your bike. These spares need to include, Front fork seals, head stem bearings, wheel bearings, front and rear sprocket and drive chain clutch and brake lever, mirror brackets, brake pads, this is for new bikes, and if riding an older bike you will be familiar with what you need however please contact us at [mick@compassexpeditions.com](mailto:mick@compassexpeditions.com) for more info. Our support vehicle will carry all you spares. A more complete list of spares is provided in due course.

### What about tyres/tires?

Tyres are very difficult to get everywhere except South Africa. Your tyres MUST be new at the beginning of the expedition and be dual purpose such as Mitas or Heindenau. We will carry limited spare tyres and have a stock of pre ordered tyres waiting for us in Nairobi. Contact us with any questions you may have regarding your tyre choice.

### What about servicing?

The only authorized BMW dealership we will come across other than in Cape Town, South Africa, will be in Nairobi, Kenya. Any issues with your bike MUST be notified to your crew ASAP so that we can arrange repair, sourcing of parts as far in advance as possible.

### Will it get stolen?

Hopefully not, it's a long way to walk. Seriously though, theft is an important consideration. We park our bikes at secure bike/car parks when available or pay a local security guard or park them inside the hotel property whenever in a city. A disc lock and/or immobilizer is required. Theft is not something to stress ourselves about; with a little care your beloved bike will be safe.

### How do I get to start/finish point?

Easy, we can assist you with your overland to port requirements in your home country, if needed, (don't forget all shipping to / from Africa is included)

### Suggested airlines home

Some airlines operating from Cape Town with international connections are listed below:

- » British Airways: [www.britishairways.com](http://www.britishairways.com)

- » Delta Airways: [www.delta.com](http://www.delta.com)
- » Malaysia Airlines: [www.malaysiaairlines.com](http://www.malaysiaairlines.com)
- » Singapore Airlines: [www.singaporeair.com](http://www.singaporeair.com)
- » Virgin Atlantic: [www.virgin-atlantic.com](http://www.virgin-atlantic.com)
- » KLM: [www.klm.com](http://www.klm.com)
- » South African Airways: [www.flysaa.com](http://www.flysaa.com)
- » Qantas flies out of Johannesburg with connections on SAA from Cape Town: [www.qantas.com.au](http://www.qantas.com.au)

### **Can I get my bike insured?**

Good luck, we have never met an insurance company that will go near you once you mention that you are taking your bike overseas, but at least give your insurer a call, miracles may occur. It is however compulsory to purchase 3rd party insurance for each African country we visit; we endeavor to purchase a COMESA policy that will cover you for "most" African countries. Our first opportunity to get this policy is in Kenya.

### **Do I need a Carnet de Passage en Douane if bringing my own bike?**

Yes, most African countries do require a carnet; if this changes we will keep you updated and also guide you in the process of obtaining a carnet at your own cost. The carnet issue is ever changing and it would be foolish to put here what the situation will be in 2019. Recently the RAC in the UK and the CAA in Canada / USA have announced they will no longer issue carnets however new carnet issuers have popped up and we can advise you of these.

### **What about visa's?**

- » Egypt; Obtained at the Egyptian Embassy in your home country
- » Sudan; currently a letter of introduction (LOI) is needed for Sudan; we will supply you with the LOI (at our cost). Visa obtained at the Sudanese embassy, if an embassy is not in your country you must apply at the nearest Sudanese Embassy to your country of permanent residence; for example Australians must apply, via post, to the embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia
- » The Ethiopian Visa MUST be applied for in your home country.
- » Kenya: Obtained via E-Visa
- » Tanzania: obtained at the border
- » Botswana; obtained at the border
- » Zimbabwe; obtained at the border
- » Botswana; obtained at border
- » Malawi; obtained at border
- » Mozambique; obtained in Lilongwe
- » Namibia; obtained at border
- » South Africa; obtained at border

These are current, at time of writing (2017), visa regulations for UK / Canadian / UK / Australian / NZ clients and will change. We use a visa agency to obtain the required visas on our behalf and will provide all required data when needed. We strongly recommend clients use our nominated visa agency to obtain all required visas however visas are the clients responsibility and Compass cannot be held liable if clients do not get their visas!!

## What about vaccinations?

We highly recommend that you speak with your doctor and/or check out the World Health Organization website at [www.who.int/country](http://www.who.int/country) and have a look at their excellent International Travel and Health book, available online. In Australia visit the Australian Medical Centre website at [www.traveldoctor.com.au](http://www.traveldoctor.com.au) or phone 1300 65 88 44. For our U.S clients visit [www.cdc.gov/travel/](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/) and for our U.K clients go to [www.doh.gov.uk/traveladvice/](http://www.doh.gov.uk/traveladvice/) for travel health recommendations in general go to [www.mdtravelhealth.com](http://www.mdtravelhealth.com)

## WHATS INCLUDED WHEN RIDING A COMPASS EXPEDITIONS BIKE?

### Equipment

- ✓ BMW F 700 / 800 GS or BMW R 1200 GS
- ✓ All mechanical spares, servicing, repairs and tyres/tires
- ✓ Top box for personal day use items
- ✓ Crash protection

### Expedition support

- ✓ Services of ride leader, & support vehicle driver with mechanical and / or medic experience
- ✓ Support vehicle to carry all luggage, (two Compass Supplied bags per person), spares etc
- ✓ Satellite phone
- ✓ DeLorme Satellite communicator x 2

### Daily on road costs

- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ All accommodation of a generally 3 to 4 star standard
- ✓ All camping equipment excepting personal sleeping bag
- ✓ One bonus night accommodation in Cairo
- ✓ Mentioned dinners
- ✓ All breakfasts on every day of expedition
- ✓ Mentioned picnic lunches
- ✓ All tolls, ferries and security park costs

### Excursions and entrances

- ✓ Entrances to all national parks as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ All entrances to historical sights as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ City guide, (this is for city guide only, if extra guiding is asked for by client, such as take me to a good bar or a BMW dealership, this is at clients costs)

## Other stuff

- ✓ A medical kit on support vehicle
- ✓ Comprehensive pre-departure booklet
- ✓ Full GPS waypoints and routing
- ✓ Daily briefings on route and destination

## WHATS NOT INCLUDED WHEN RIDING A COMPASS BIKE?

- × Visa's
- × Fuel
- × Carnet de Passage
- × Sleeping bag
- × Traffic fines
- × Repair and/or recovery costs to Compass Expeditions bike for loss or damage caused by negligence or failing to heed ride leaders directive
- × Medical costs, it is a pre-requisite that all clients have comprehensive medical insurance that covers for riding a motorcycle over 650cc in foreign countries.
- × Activities not mentioned on the itinerary
- × International flights

## WHATS INCLUDED WHEN RIDING YOUR OWN BIKE?

### Expedition support

- ✓ Services of ride leader & support vehicle driver with mechanical and/ or medic experience
- ✓ Support vehicle to carry all luggage, (two bags per person), spares etc
- ✓ Satellite phone (charge per minute)
- ✓ Mechanical support if needed
- ✓ DeLorme satellite Communicator x 2

### Daily on road costs

- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ All accommodation of a generally 3 to 4 star standard
- ✓ All camping equipment, excepting personal sleeping bags
- ✓ One bonus night accommodation
- ✓ All breakfasts on every day of expedition

- ✓ Mentioned dinners
- ✓ Mentioned picnic lunches

## Excursions and entrances

- ✓ Entrances to all national parks as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ All entrances to historical sights as mentioned on itinerary
- ✓ City guide, (this is for city guide only, if extra guiding is asked for by client, such as take me to a good bar or a BMW dealership, this is at clients costs)

## Shipping

- ✓ Shipping of your bike to Cairo and from Cape Town

## Other stuff

- ✓ A medical kit on support vehicle
- ✓ Comprehensive pre-departure booklet
- ✓ Complete GPS waypoints and routing
- ✓ Daily briefings on route and destination

## WHATS NOT INCLUDED WHEN RIDING YOUR BIKE?

- × Visa's
- × Fuel
- × Carnet de Passage & associated charges
- × Third party insurance
- × Servicing of your bike, repairs and transport costs to repair point (if needed)
- × Traffic fines
- × Repair and/or recovery costs to your bike for loss or damage caused by negligence or failing to heed ride leaders directive
- × Medical costs, it is a pre-requisite that all clients have comprehensive medical insurance that covers for riding a motorcycle over 650cc in foreign countries.
- × Activities not mentioned on the itinerary
- × International flights
- × Personal spending money

**An important note: the word “medic” does not imply that our medic is a doctor or paramedic, but our medic will have successfully completed advanced first aid training at the very least.**

**The word “mechanic” does not imply that our mechanic is a fully qualified BMW technician, but our mechanic will be very experienced with motorcycles in general**

# WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE GETTING ON THE PLANE!

## Personal documents

All documents must be the original and will be checked before departure so to ensure no nasty surprises while sitting at a far-flung border.

- ✓ Carnet de Passage and 1 copy of information page
- ✓ Passport, must be valid for at least 18 months from the beginning of this expedition, passport must also have at least 20 blank pages
- ✓ Eight colour passport photos
- ✓ US\$ cash
- ✓ Your original local driver's license
- ✓ For riders bringing their own bikes, the original bike registration document known as the V5 logbook in the U.K
- ✓ International drivers license I.D.P available at your motoring organization e.g.: AAA in the U.S, R.A.C in the U.K, R.A.C.V, R.A.A etc in Australia.
- ✓ Credit card, either Visa or Master Card
- ✓ ATM card
- ✓ Original travel insurance documents
- ✓ Visa's
- ✓ Please supply to us one photocopy of all documents and keep two copies for yourself
- ✓ A current vaccination certificate showing all inoculations

## Things of a personal nature

- ✓ Camera, SLR and a small digital one to carry in the jacket
- ✓ Sleeping bag
- ✓ Mp3, I-pod or something similar
- ✓ Swiss army knife
- ✓ Diary

**A COMPLETE LIST OF THINGS TO TAKE WILL BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR PRE-DEPARTURE BOOKLET**

## Recommended Riding Gear

As bikers you will undoubtedly already have your own personal riding gear. The list below is simply a guide to what you need to be comfortable for the duration of the expedition

### ✓ **Helmet**

A full-face helmet is essential; riding with a motocross style and goggles will be extremely uncomfortable for such a long expedition especially in dusty conditions. A silk or thermal balaclava worn under the helmet is also a lifesaver on those cold mornings.

### ✓ **Clothing**

Waterproof gear is absolutely essential as is removable liners in both the pants and riding jacket. You will be riding through virtually every weather condition so a good jacket and pants that can be adapted to the riding conditions will only enhance your experience. A thermal fleece such as Paddy Palin, Himalaya or Patagonia is excellent for wearing under your jacket especially for the cold Desert mornings. A set of light coveralls is indispensable.

### ✓ **Boots**

Again this is a personal choice, a pair of motocross boots is of course ideal but they are cumbersome and bulky to carry half way around the world. A pair of knee high leather riding boots is a great compromise, they are light, robust and can be polished up to go out at night.

### ✓ **Sunglasses**

Don't forget your sunglasses. A good pair of strong sunglasses is essential; the light is intense out under the blazing African skies.

## EXCURSIONS / ENTRANCES INCLUDED ON THIS EXPEDITION

- ✓ Entrances to all mentioned national parks
- ✓ Day excursion to El Alamein
- ✓ Pyramids of Giza tour
- ✓ Tour of Karnak Temple and Valley of the Kings
- ✓ Day / evening Felucca cruise and Nubian Island experience in Aswan
- ✓ Ferry across Lake Nassar
- ✓ Simien Mountains Guide
- ✓ Entrance and guide to Churches of Lalibela
- ✓ Boat Trip on Lake Tana
- ✓ Village visit at Samburu camp
- ✓ Solio Rhino Conservancy safari
- ✓ High tea visit to Elsemere, Lake Niavasha
- ✓ 3 Day Safari to The Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti National Park
- ✓ Entrance and guide to the Great Zimbabwe Monument
- ✓ Entrance to Victoria Falls
- ✓ Sunset Cruise on Chobe River
- ✓ Meerkat excursion, Makgadikgadi Pan
- ✓ Makoro boat trip out onto the Okavango Delta
- ✓ Safari into Etosha National Park



**We are sure you will have a thousand more questions; we hope so. Below are our full contact details. Thanks for spending your time reading this info kit. We hope it has inspired you to challenge yourself, if not riding with us then just riding and enjoying this remarkable world that we live in.**

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