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HOME AFFAIRS LAUNCHES ONLINE APPLICATION SERVICE

The Department of Home Affairs has taken Passport and ID applications online by launching its live pilot eHomeAffairs system. The service will allow South Africans to apply for their Passport or Smart ID card online, at a cost of R140 for the ID and R400 for a passport. However, in order to use it a person will be required to register an eHome Affairs profile as well as confirm eligibility which has been restricted to applicants aged between 30 and 35

EMIRATES EXTENDS ONLINE CHECK-IN

Emirates has extended its online check-in from 24 to 48 hours before departure. The change which is effective immediately means passengers can check-in online on desktop and mobile devices from 28 hours to 90 minutes before flight departure. Emirates said for flights to and from the United States, while online check-in is available 48 hours before departure boarding passes will only be issued 24 hours in advance.

EMIRATES INTRODUCED NEW BAGGAGE POLICY

Emirates has introduced a new baggage policy for all its return outbound African flights. Adult and child passengers flying in economy class are allowed two pieces weighing 23kg each, adult and child passengers in business and first class may take two pieces weighing 32kg each. Infants flying in either class are allowed one piece weighing 23kg. The baggage allowance applies to all

return Emirates flights commencing from Algeria, Angola, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

KAZA UNIVISA SUSPENDED

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office stated that the Kaza UNIVISA is temporarily suspended until further notice. The visa allowed for inter-changeable travel between Zambia and Zimbabwe. Travellers who are required to obtain the visa to travel between Livingstone and Victoria Falls will need to apply for a visa for each of these countries.

EGYPTAIR

Egyptair announces the new A330 300 on the Johannesburg route from JNB to CAI 4 times a week commencing from the 11th of May 2016. For more information please contact Grayston Travel.

KENYA AIRWAYS LAUNCHES FLIGHTS FROM CAPE TOWN TO NAIROBI

Kenya Airways will launch three flights a week from Cape Town to Nairobi, effective July. Flights will operate on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays and will fly via Livingstone.

BRITISH AIRWAYS LAUNCHES MULTIPLE BOARDING PASSES

British Airways has updated its mobile travel application to include up to eight boarding passes on one mobile device provided that the passengers are travelling on the same booking reference number. Previously each person had to carry

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their own smartphone to show their mobile boarding pass to go through security or board a flight. The multiple boarding passes will first be available at the following airports: Aberdeen, Amsterdam, Basel, Belfast, Dublin, Dusseldorf, Edinburgh, Geneva, Glasgow, Jersey, Leeds, London City, London Gatwick, London Heathrow, Manchester, Vienna and Zurich.

YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC

Angola is grappling with a Yellow fever outbreak, which has been described by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the worst outbreak in 30 years. So far there have been 450 laboratory-confirmed cases and at least 178 deaths. Cases of Yellow fever have also been reported in other countries including China, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Kenya. Namibia and Zambia remain on high alert for imported cases. Clients who are travelling to Yellow fever areas in the coming months should be advised to go for their Yellow fever vaccinations sooner rather than later. Although South African travel clinics report they still have a sufficient supply of Yellow fever vaccines the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned there is currently a global shortage of Yellow fever vaccines

VISA FOR GHANA

Starting from July travellers from all 54 African Union (AU) states will qualify for visas on arrival when visiting Ghana, making the West African nation one of the easiest to travel to within Africa. The move will allow travellers to stay in the country for a period of 30 days without a visa.

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