

Before you get to the border

Just after Komatipoort, before the border on the South African side, there's a BP service station. Pull in here and do the following:

1. 1 Fill up. This is the last time you can get petrol using your card. In Mozambique you'll have to pay in cash.
2. Exchange money. Change rand's to meticals at the FX Africa Bureau de Change (013 793 7457) next to the convenience store on the forecourt.
3. Buy insurance. If you're going to be driving in Mozambique it's compulsory to buy third-party insurance. You can do it at the border but it's easier to get it at the kiosk inside the bureau de change. It costs R 150 per car and an extra R 80 if you're towing a trailer. You'll be given a form. Keep it safe, as border officials and traffic police will ask you to produce it.
4. 4 Check your paperwork. Get all your documents together.

Make sure you have:

- Triages
- Reflective Vest
- Puncture repair kit
- ZA and trailer sticker on your car.
- Passport
- Driver's licence
- Car registration papers (plus papers for trailer, caravan or boat), or certified copies of the original registration papers and a letter from the owner.
- Third-party insurance form
- A pen. You won't find one easily at the border!

At South African Border:

Enter the gate and you will be given your gate pass which includes: your car registration and number of people in your vehicle

Park your vehicle in the designated parking areas and enter the building, complete a vehicle temporary export document and gate pass, have them both stamped.

If you have any questions go to the Customer Services Help Desk.

Proceed to immigration, with your passports, where they will be stamped.

If you have any export goods to declare, go to the Customs desk where your original invoices must be stamped

Proceed to the Vehicle Registration desk (You should have all your vehicle registration documents) and collect the DA341

Complete the DA341 form and have it stamped with your gate pass by the official.

Proceed to Immigration desk along with your passport and gate pass and have your passport stamped.

If you are not a South African citizen and want to reclaim VAT, present the goods and original invoices at the VAT counter for a VAT refund

Return to your vehicle and give your gate pass to the official at the gate, at this stage a Customs Official may ask to search your car.

Proceed to the Mozambique border post

At Mozambique Border:

You will receive a gate pass on entering Mozambique, make sure that you obey the directions and signals of the border officers and that you stop or park where they show you. **Do not give your gate pass to any one. This is a scam to get you to pay them money to get your gate pass back.**

Do NOT let the locals, help you, with the paperwork. Customs officials are not allowed to receive money, but helpers are, so they work together.

This means that together they will go through your belongings, to find something, to make you pay for, where as the customs officials on his own is likely to go through your belongings.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE; Do not use the private individual people alongside the road. Not only is this illegal but you stand a good chance of being ripped off.

All passengers plus the driver must personally go through passport control at the immigration desk on the right as you walk in. in order to be allowed to enter Mozambique. The people at Global alliance office is very helpful and fraud should be reported to their offices.

The driver will take the gate pass and temporary export permit to the customs desk across the room get them stamped

Normal cameras and personal goods do not need to be declared, although if you are uncertain, ask.

If you are taking anything of high value or electronic equipment through. declare the items.

Items like laptops must be declared AND TAKE NOTE, fill in a separate form for each person. I have had an experience where I entered Mozambique with a friend and we declared our two laptops on one form. I exited 3 days before my friend from Kosi Bay border post, with no problem and he exited from Ressano Garcia 3 days later. When he went through customs they asked him where the other laptop was and no amount of explanations sufficed.

They stated that he had sold the other laptop and was liable for R5000,00 duty. It cost him a bribe of R100,00 to avoid this blatant manipulation and threat.

Very important -make sure that you have your 3rd party insurance. This can be obtained at the Global Alliance offices.

Exit the building and find a customs official, usually dressed in a blue uniform, with orange pull-over, he will check your vehicle to see that no forbidden goods or plants are being brought into Mozambique.

He will sign your gate pass which you hand to the officer at the gate, who will then allow you through into Mozambique.

Note: You may be stopped for a control inspection along the N4. Keep to the speed limit !!