



7 Day Hwange, Vic Falls & South Luangwa 2020



In Africa Tours

7 Day Hwange, Vic Falls & South Luangwa 2020

Hwange National Park - Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe - South Luangwa National Park

7 Days / 6 Nights

2 Persons

Reference: 7 Day Hwange, Vic Falls & South Luangwa 2020

Date of Issue: 09 December 2019



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

Enjoy a quick 6 night tour to the famous Victoria Falls, Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe and the South Luangwa National Park in Zambia. Victoria Falls is one of the 7 wonders of the world and is definitely a must see if you find yourself in the Southern end of the African continent. Hwange National Park is Zimbabwe's biggest reserve, home to a profusion of wildlife, including giraffe, lion, zebra and approximately 40 000 elephants. It provides sanctuary for all the country's endangered species, including a population of wild dogs thought to be among the most sizeable surviving groups on the continent. Bordering the Luangwa River, the northern and southern Luangwa National Parks contain some of the most breathtaking and untouched wilderness in Africa. As a result of this and the parks' successful anti-poaching campaigns, the area has developed into a world-renowned wildlife haven. The South Luangwa National Park is renowned for its walking safari, which allows visitors to view elephant, hippo and even lion close-up under the supervision of professional and knowledgeable armed guides.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Room Type	Duration
Davison's Camp	Hwange National Park	FB+	1x Double Room	2 Nights
Ilala Lodge Hotel	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	B&B	1x Double Room	2 Nights
Nkwali Camp	South Luangwa National Park	FB+	1x Double Room	2 Nights

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

FB+: Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

Price

11 January - 31 March 2020:

USD 4 395 .00 per person sharing

01 April - 31 May 2020:

USD 4 928 .00 per person sharing

01 June - 31 October 2020:

USD 5 878 .00 per person sharing

01 November - 19 December 2020:

USD 4 870 .00 per person sharing

20 - 31 December 2020:

USD 5 068 .00 per person sharing

Included

02 night's accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis: Ilala

02 night's accommodation at Davison's Camp including:

All meals

Twice daily scheduled camp activities

Park fees

Laundry

All local drinks (excludes premium imported brands and champagne)

The services of a professional ranger and camp staff

02 night's accommodation at Nkwali Camp including:

All meals

Game viewing activities

Park fees

The services of a professional ranger and camp staff

All road transfers as per itinerary

Sightseeing in Victoria Falls as per itinerary

Afternoon Elephant Encounters per itinerary

Tourism levy

Airport taxes (subject to change)

Flights:

Johannesburg - Vic Falls one way incl. taxes (SAA)

Livingstone - Lusaka - Mfuwe Airport one way incl. taxes (ProFlight)

Mfuwe Airport - Lusaka one way incl. taxes (ProFlight)

Lusaka - Johannesburg one way incl. taxes (SAA)

Excluded

Visas if required
 Personal items and gratuities
 Bar accounts not specified & premium imports
 Meals not specified
 Flights not specified
 Laundry not specified
 Additional activities / sightseeing / entry fees / park fees
 Travel Insurance

Day 1: Davison's Camp, Hwange National Park

Hwange National Park

Situated in western Zimbabwe, the Hwange National Park is the country's biggest reserve, home to a profusion of wildlife, including giraffe, lion, zebra and approximately 40 000 elephants. It provides a sanctuary for all the country's endangered species, including a population of wild dogs thought to be among the most sizeable surviving groups on the continent. The park's magnificent terrain ranges from desert dunes, savannah lands and mopane woodlands to rocky outcrops and sparse forests. Visitors can look forward to game drives, guided walks or horse riding safaris. Other highlights include: the Bumbusi National Monument and the Nyamandhlovu Pan.

Day Itinerary

Today you will board your flight at the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg for the Victoria Falls International Airport in Zimbabwe. On arrival in Victoria Falls you will depart on your light aircraft flight to Linkwasha Airstrip followed by a road transfer of approximately 1 hour to your lodge. Here you will spend (2) nights at the **Davison's Camp** in a tent including: all meals, twice daily scheduled camp activities, park fees, laundry and all local drinks (excludes premium imported brands and champagne). Enjoy an afternoon safari activity should time allow.

PLEASE NOTE: Ex Victoria Falls to Hwange - January to December only one flight per day at 14:30 (PM)
 Ex Victoria Falls to Hwange - April to November two flights per day, one at 08:30 (AM) and another at 14:30 (PM). Departure Taxes are not included and must be paid direct, in cash, preferably in small denominations. Travellers Cheques and credit card payments are not accepted for this purpose.

Overnight: Davison's Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Friendly Davison's Camp offers the most affordable way to enjoy a Hwange private concession experience. The shady camp with its adjacent waterhole attracts large numbers of animals, especially thirsty herds of elephant in the dry season. Subject to availability, guests may have the opportunity to visit and learn more about the Scorpion Anti-Poaching Unit team.

Guests staying in one of Davison's nine tents (including a family room) can enjoy the quintessential Hwange experience, viewing the wildlife on game drives and walks in this diverse and exciting area. Arranged directly in camp only, and subject to vehicle availability, it may be possible to include a visit to one of the local villages.

INSIDER'S TIP: A small upper deck in the main area is the ideal location from which to watch wildlife at the waterhole.



Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities
All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 2: Davison's Camp, Hwange National Park

Day Itinerary

Day spent enjoying morning and afternoon safari activities. The middle of the day can be spent at leisure.

Hwange National Park

Situated in western Zimbabwe, the Hwange National Park is the country's biggest reserve, home to a profusion of wildlife, including giraffe, lion, zebra and approximately 40 000 elephants. It provides a sanctuary for all the country's endangered species, including a population of wild dogs thought to be among the most sizeable surviving groups on the continent. The park's magnificent terrain ranges from desert dunes, savannah lands and mopane woodlands to rocky outcrops and sparse forests. Visitors can look forward to game drives, guided walks or horse riding safaris. Other highlights include: the Bumbusi National Monument and the Nyamandhlovu Pan.

Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities
All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 3: Ilala Lodge Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Resting on the southern banks of the Zambezi River at the western end of the eponymous falls, this popular tourist town is compact enough to walk around and makes an ideal base for travellers exploring the seventh wonder of the world, the unfathomably vast Victoria Falls. About two-thirds of the falls can be viewed from the Zimbabwean side and, while the falls are undoubtedly the star attraction, the area provides both adventure seekers and sightseers with plenty of opportunities to warrant a longer stay. Popular activities include scenic flights over the falls in helicopters or microlights, bungee jumping off the Victoria Falls Bridge, white-water rafting (seasonal), and day trips to Chobe National Park. The town itself offers some excellent accommodation and restaurant options as well as an

eclectic variety of African curios and authentic art sold by friendly Zimbabwean locals who are wonderfully welcoming and eager to help you enjoy your stay.

Day Itinerary

After your morning safari and breakfast you will be transferred by road transfer of approximately 1 hour back to Linkwasha Airstrip to depart on your light aircraft flight to Victoria Falls Airport. On arrival at the airport you are collected for your transfer to town. Here you will spend (2) nights at the **Ilala Lodge** in a standard room on a bed & breakfast basis.

PLEASE NOTE: Ex Hwange to Victoria Falls - April to November only at 16:15 (PM) & January to December at 10:10 (AM)

In the afternoon you will be collected for **The Zambezi Royal Sunset cruise**. The luxurious Zambezi Royal is a single level cruise boat and offers a unique and intimate way to view the Zambezi River.

During the premium two hour guided sunset cruise guests can look forward to 5-star service on board, consisting of imported wines and spirits, gourmet hot & cold canapés. A variety of game is consistently spotted as well as a vast plethora of bird species. The boat is the first of its kind, custom built to maximize comfort, style, practicality and service. Guests relax in the lush furnishings of this modern and contemporary vessel, as they coast up-river taking in the stunning scenery and surrounds of the upper Zambezi River. **Inclusions:** Imported wines and spirits, gourmet hot & cold canapés. Transfers from all Victoria Falls hotels within a 5km radius of the jetty are included in the rate. Park fees

Overnight: Ilala Lodge Hotel [View iBrochure](#)

Ilala Lodge Hotel is ideally located only 8 minutes away from the spectacular Victoria Falls. A family run hotel, Ilala Lodge has 73 stylish, well-appointed spacious rooms, that offer the ultimate in comfort and luxury. As we are the closest hotel to the beautiful Victoria Falls, the spray makes for a perfect backdrop during your stay.

Experience a culinary journey at the award-winning Palm Restaurant at Ilala Lodge Hotel. Centrally located only minutes away from the Victoria Falls, The Palm Restaurant offers a magnificent à la carte menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Guests can choose from an extensive list of South Africa's finest wines, cocktails and artisan gins. We offer an unrivalled al-fresco dining experience under the starlit African sky, with the sound of the Falls in the background. The Palm Restaurant is an adventure for the appetite that is not to be missed.

Relive the historical journey embarked by David Livingstone exploring the mighty Zambezi River aboard the Ra-Ikane fleet. Named after his instrumental guide, the boats represent the grace of a bygone era honouring the rich history of Victoria Falls and its explorers, adventurers and heroes. The Ra-Ikane offers a variety of cruises, including breakfast, lunch and sunset, as well as private charters.



Activities

Wild Horizons Zambezi Royal Luxury Sunset Cruise

Wild Horizons Zambezi Royal Luxury Sunset Cruise

During the two hour guided luxury Sunset cruise, departing daily from the Wild Horizons Jetty Site, guests can look forward to 5-star service on board, consisting of imported wines and spirits, gourmet hot & cold canapés. A variety of game is consistently spotted, such as elephant, hippo, crocodiles, as well as a vast plethora of bird species. The Zambezi Royal is the optimum way to view the beautiful stunning scenery and surrounds of the upper Zambezi River. The perfect activity for the whole family and a great way to relax and enjoy the beauty of the Zambezi after a busy day in Victoria Falls.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 4: Ilala Lodge Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Day Itinerary

After breakfast depart on a guided **tour of the falls**. It's a truly awe-inspiring experience – the sight, the sound, the smell; the humbling feeling that here indeed is Nature's Supreme Masterpiece. No photograph can begin to depict the reality...and nothing prepares you for your first sight. The Victoria Falls – Now In Its 150 Millionth Fantastic Year – Reaches Its Zenith In About May each year. This tour is conducted in the morning and afternoon. En route, clients may be taken past the 'Big Tree' where they may stop and take photos. Clients will be accompanied through the Rain forest by one of our qualified Guides who will give a brief history of the Falls themselves as well as detailing the flora, fauna, bird & wildlife and other points of interest. Guides are also happy to assist clients with photographs whilst visiting this most spectacular of waterfalls. Raincoats are provided when needed. **Inclusions:** A Tour of the Victoria Falls, transfers (from / to hotels in Victoria Falls) and rain coats. Park fees.

You enjoy a **Village Tour**. Clients are taken to an authentic rural village approximately 20 km from Victoria Falls town where they are given the opportunity to watch local villagers going about their daily tasks. The tour enables the client to see rural life first hand; visiting rural homes, watching their fields being tended and possibly getting the chance to help in some of the day-to-day chores. Meet the village chief and learn about the way of life from him. Guests are able to gain an insight into Zimbabwean rural life. This enables visitors to understand the cultural aspect of this life style and allows them to interact with different cultures, often for the first time. This is a good experience for children.

This afternoon you will be taken on an **elephant encounter** activity. The Elephant Encounter affords guests the opportunity to unobtrusively observe some of the biggest personalities in Africa, in a pristine wilderness environment overflowing with raw natural beauty. Guests spend time and connect with elephants in the most positive and natural way possible. An open-design thatch Boma gives guests an uninterrupted view of the beautiful Masuwe River, and against this breath-taking back drop, guests will be given an insightful and educational presentation on the Wild Horizons Elephant Sanctuary and Orphanage.

The sanctuary was founded on the principle of conservation, and one of the most effective ways to evoke a sense of environmental responsibility is to show what stands to be lost.

Guests will have an opportunity to talk to guides that have journeyed – physically and metaphorically, incredible distances with these elephant, and learn more about the complexities of the individuals and the herd structures. Guests will learn about the elephant as well as their history and how they came to be in our care as well as the threats facing elephant populations today, in an interesting and informative talk. Guests will venture out into the bush to spend time with the elephant and the sight of the gentle grey mammals up close and personal will be imprinted on guests' minds' long after they have returned home. Witness the special relationship the elephant keepers share with the animals and become a part of it. You will have the opportunity to take photographs with the elephants, marvel at their size and watch them behaving normally; browsing and interacting with one another.

After the encounter with these amazing creatures guests will be offered a selection of refreshments in the cool of the Wild Horizons Elephant Wallow. A transfer back to Victoria Falls concludes the experience.

Activities

Wild Horizons Tour of the Falls Zimbabwe

Wild Horizons Elephant Encounter

Victoria Falls - The Falls

One of the original natural wonders of the world, the Victoria Falls is breathtaking and not surprisingly a World Heritage Site. Known locally as 'The Smoke that Thunders' this spectacle is accessible from both Zambia and Zimbabwe. Unlike other waterfalls Victoria Falls has a natural catwalk across from the falls which provides for spectacular viewing.

Wild Horizons Tour of the Falls Zimbabwe

The Victoria Falls – Now In Its 150 Millionth Fantastic Year - Reaches Its Zenith In About May each year. It's a truly awe-inspiring experience – the sight, the sound, the smell; the humbling feeling that here indeed is Nature's Supreme Masterpiece. No photograph can begin to depict the reality...and nothing prepares you for your first sight.

This tour is conducted in the morning and afternoon. En route, clients may be taken past the 'Big Tree' where they may stop and take photos. Clients will be accompanied through the Rainforest by one of our qualified Guides who will give a brief history of the Falls themselves as well as detailing the flora, fauna, bird & wildlife and other points of interest. Guides are also happy to assist clients with photographs whilst visiting this most spectacular of waterfalls. Raincoats are provided when needed.

Departures: Daily

Minimum / Maximum participants

Minimum: N.A

Maximum: Unlimited

Departure Times:

AM between 08h00 and 08h30 from hotels and B&B's in Victoria Falls Town

PM between 13h20 and 13h45 from hotels and B&B's in Victoria Falls Town

Duration: 2 hours

Age Restrictions:

Minimum age: * Child Policies are available upon request

Maximum age: N.A

Language: English (French, German, Italian & Spanish available on private tours, at supplement cost – subject to availability)

Transfers: Included

Wild Horizons Elephant Encounter

The Wild Horizons Elephant Sanctuary and Orphanage has been a safe-haven to a myriad of orphaned and injured elephants since its conception in 1992. Whilst hand rearing these orphans we have come to understand that the best way to appreciate these magnificent creatures is to watch them living wildly and freely. The Elephant Encounter will give guests the opportunity to unobtrusively interact with some of the biggest personalities in Africa, in a pristine environment overflowing with raw natural beauty.

Guests will venture out into the bush to spend time with the elephant and the sight of the gentle grey mammals up close and personal will be imprinted on guests minds long after they have returned home. Witness the special relationship our keepers share with the elephants and become a part of it. You will have the opportunity to take photographs with the elephants. Marvel at their size and watch them behaving normally; browsing and interacting with one another.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 5: Nkwali Camp, South Luangwa National Park

South Luangwa National Park

Bordering the Luangwa River, the northern and southern Luangwa National Parks contain some of the most breathtaking and untouched wilderness in Africa. As a result of this and the parks' successful anti-poaching campaigns, the area has developed into a world-renowned wildlife haven. The South Luangwa National Park is renowned for its walking safari, which allows visitors to view elephant, hippo and even lion close-up under the supervision of professional and knowledgeable armed guides.

Day Itinerary

Early this morning you will be transferred across the border to Livingstone Airport on the Zambian side of the Falls. Here you will board your scheduled flight to Lusaka Airport with a connecting flight to the Mfuwe Airport in South Luangwa. On arrival at Mfuwe Airport you will be met and transferred to the **Nkwali Camp** where you will enjoy (2) nights in a chalet including: all meals, return airport transfers to/from Mfuwe Airport, game viewing activities, National park fees and Conservation Levy, Laundry and drinks (except premium drinks) . Enjoy an afternoon safari activity.

Overnight: Nkwali Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Many places claim to be "among the remaining wilderness areas" or "one of the last wildlife sanctuaries"; South Luangwa National Park lives up to both and more. The Luangwa Valley is vast, remote and home to both people and a truly impressive variety of game.

Nkwali is located on the banks of the Luangwa on a magnificent meander in the river overlooking the National Park where leopards roam along the bank and can often be spotted from camp. Situated on Robin Pope Safaris' private land outside the park there is a private game viewing area behind camp as well as exclusive access into the park either by boat or across the pontoon.

The six chalets with bamboo woven walls and thatch roofs offer a rustic luxury opening up to magnificent views of the river as well as open air en-suite bathrooms.

Nkwali offers understated elegance, seclusion and superb service.



Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 6: Nkwali Camp, South Luangwa National Park

Day Itinerary

Day spent enjoying morning and afternoon safari activities. The middle of the day can be spent at leisure.

South Luangwa National Park

Bordering the Luangwa River, the northern and southern Luangwa National Parks contain some of the most breathtaking and untouched wilderness in Africa. As a result of this and the parks' successful anti-poaching campaigns, the area has developed into a world-renowned wildlife haven. The South Luangwa National Park is renowned for its walking safari, which allows visitors to view elephant, hippo and even lion close-up under the supervision of professional and knowledgeable armed guides.

Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 7: End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Today you will be transferred to Mfuwe Airport in time for your flight to Lusaka Airport. Here you will board your flight back to Johannesburg. On arrival at the OR Tambo International Airport you will continue to your outbound flight back home (**as booked by you**). Continue under your own arrangements.

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
	Scheduled	British Airways	OR Tambo International Airport [JNB]	11:25	Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA]	13:05		
	Charter Flight		Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA]		Linkwasha Airstrip			
	Charter Flight		Linkwasha Airstrip		Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA]			
	Scheduled		Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport [LVI]		Kenneth Kaunda International Airport [LUN]			
	Charter Flight		Kenneth Kaunda International Airport [LUN]		Mfuwe Airport [MFU]			
	Scheduled		Mfuwe Airport [MFU]		Kenneth Kaunda International Airport [LUN]			
	Scheduled	South African Airways	Kenneth Kaunda International Airport [LUN]	16:05	OR Tambo International Airport [JNB]	18:10		

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
		Linkwasha Airstrip	Davison's Camp		Transfer
		Davison's Camp	Linkwasha Airstrip		Transfer
		Victoria Falls International	Ilala Lodge Hotel		Transfer

Airport [VFA]		
Ilala Lodge Hotel	Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport [LVI]	Transfer
Mfuwe Airport [MFU]	Nkwali Camp	Transfer
Nkwali Camp	Mfuwe Airport [MFU]	Transfer

Travel Information



A nation of spectacular natural beauty, friendly people and rich culture, Zimbabwe's status as one of Africa's leading safari destinations was dampened for years by its political instability. But now that the country is transcending its strife and returning to a state of equilibrium, it is once again emerging as a vacation highlight of the continent. Victoria Falls – known to locals as 'The Smoke That Thunders' – is one of the seven natural wonders of the world and the sheer power of this massive body of water plunging into the Zambezi Gorge is awe-inspiring and unforgettable. Lake Kariba, with its game-rich shores and islands, is an idyllic safari spot featuring mind-blowing sunsets; Hwange National Park is known for its huge herds of elephants; and a kayak trip down the Zambezi through the Mana Pools National Park will appeal to the intrepid traveller, providing close encounters with crocodiles, hippos and a host of other wildlife.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Zimbabwe uses its own unit of currency, the Zimbabwe Dollar. No other currency is accepted. Do not plan on being able to use cash machines in Zimbabwe to draw money. Before leaving home please exchange all the money that you will need for your trip. Most of this should be in 1, 5, 10 and 20 denominations because change is not always available. In an emergency you can try Barclays Bank, Stanbic Bank or Standard Chartered Bank as they will infrequently accept foreign debit cards for withdrawing cash.

Banking

Banks in Zimbabwe are open for business Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 08h00 to 15h00, on Wednesdays from 08h00 to 13h00 and Saturdays from 08h00 to 11h30. They are closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Only VISA and MasterCard are accepted in Zimbabwe, however it should be noted that very limited facilities will have credit card machines, and the connection is not always reliable so it is advisable to carry cash as back up.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Taxis are safe and reliable, and can be booked through your hotel front desk. Taxis in cities travel within a 40km radius of the city. Always take a taxi at night.

Major airlines fly into Victoria Falls, Harare and Bulawayo. Charter flights are available to most attractions and camps.

Zimbabwe has a good road infrastructure, by African standards, although potholed. Between major towns, there are frequent road blocks. Traffic drives on the left side of the road.

If you are driving yourself around Zimbabwe, be sure to check on fuel availability in advance. If you are covering long distances within the country, ensure you carry extra fuel in 5 or 10lt metal containers in case of emergency. Fuel is generally available, but supply can fluctuate. Fuel is only available for cash.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Zimbabwe's native cuisine is based on sadza, a cooked porridge made from ground maize which is normally be accompanied by some tasty relish, perhaps made of meat and tomatoes, or dried fish. Safari camps will often prepare sadza if requested, and it is almost always available in small restaurants in the towns.

Camps, hotels and lodges that cater to overseas typically serve a variety international fare, and the quality of food prepared in the most remote bush camps is usually excellent.

If you are driving yourself around and plan to cook, then get most of your supplies in main towns. There are a number of South African shopping chains operating in Zimbabwe which will generally have all that you will need.

Water in the main towns is usually purified.. The locals drink it, and are used to the relatively innocuous bugs that it may harbour. If you are in the country for a long time, then it may be worth acclimatising yourself to it. However, if you are in Zimbabwe for just a short period of time, then try to drink only bottled, boiled, or treated water available in towns and from all camps, lodges and hotels.

Climate and Weather

In Zimbabwe, the rains come principally in **December, January, February** and **March**; the further north you are, the earlier the precipitation arrives and the later it leaves. Zimbabwe's higher eastern areas usually receive more rainfall than the lower-lying western ones.

By **April** and **May** most of the rain is gone, leaving a verdant setting, which is starting to dry out. Especially in more southerly and higher locations, the night-time temperatures start to drop.

The nights in **June, July** and **August** become much cooler, so don't forget to bring some warmer clothes, in case you want to spend an evening outside; the days are still clear and warm. For Zimbabwe, this is the start of the 'peak season'— days are often cloudless and game sightings continually increase.

Into **September** and **October** the temperatures rise once again: Zimbabwe's lower-lying rift valley – Mana Pools – can get very hot in October. During this time, you'll see some fantastic game, as the Zimbabwe's wildlife concentrates around the limited water sources.

November is unpredictable; it can be hot and dry, it can also see the season's first rainfalls – and in this respect it's a very interesting month, as on successive days, you can see both weather patterns.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

When in Zimbabwe the cardinal rule is to wear casual, comfortable clothes during the day as temperatures can get very hot. It is advisable to wear light loose fitting clothing, such as cotton or linen, as they are cool and easy to wash. Warmer clothes are advised for the evenings and rainwear for the wet season.

A brimmed hat and sunglasses are a good idea year round. Long sleeved shirts and long trousers will also guard against the scorching sun rays. It is recommended you wear light shoes, especially if your itinerary entails a lot of walking.

For safaris, please remember to wear appropriate clothing and shoes. Earth colour clothes, such as browns, greens and tans are advisable.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Current is 220/240 volts at 50 cycles per second. Both square and round plugs are used.



This unique, peanut-shaped country, once known as Northern Rhodesia, offers visitors an authentic African experience complete with adrenalin pumping adventure sports, a variety of fascinating cultural activities, and an abundance of indigenous wildlife, which finds refuge in Zambia's vast national parks. Spend your evenings enjoying the spectacular site of the world's largest waterfall, the Victoria Falls, while sipping on sundowners after an exhilarating day of whitewater rafting down the rapids of the mighty Zambezi River. If that sounds a little too adventurous for your taste, take a houseboat cruise along the exquisite Lake Kariba while watching wild elephants drink at the riverbank as you try your hand at catching the elusive tiger fish. However you choose to spend your time in this unique country, you are bound to leave with a heavy heart and a desire to return again soon to this exceptionally beautiful Southern African country.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Zambia's unit of currency is the Kwacha (ZMW), formally ZMK which was rebased in 2013. The denominations are K100, K50, K20, K10, K5 and K2. It is subdivided into 100 *ngwee*. Coins available are K1, 50 ngwee, 10 ngwee and 5 ngwee.

However, some prices are quoted in US\$. It is therefore possible to use dollars and pounds as well.

Banking

In the cities and larger towns, you can change cash and travellers cheques at branches of Barclays Bank and Standard Chartered Bank. Larger branches have ATMs that accept Visa. Foreign exchange offices are easy to find in cities and larger towns.

Banks are generally open on weekdays from 08h15 to 15h30 and 08h15 to 12h00 on Saturdays. Banks are closed on Sundays and public holidays.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Proflight flies from Lusaka to Mfuwe (South Luangwa), to Livingstone and the Copperbelt and also does charters. Various air charter companies will fly to any of the many airstrips around the country and most of the areas worth visiting are accessible by air.

Public Transport

There are many taxis available. Prices are negotiable. There is a good bus service to Chipata, Livingstone, the Copperbelt and Harare, but they don't always follow strict schedules. The main bus terminus is in Dedan Kimathi Road in Lusaka where one can inquire about timetables. Other private bus companies offer more reliable services to Livingstone, Harare and Johannesburg.

Travel by Bus

Long range buses frequently leave from Lusaka to all the main towns. The intercity bus terminal can be found one road up from Cairo Road at the station.

Minibuses and taxis, local transport – all painted blue – can be jumped on at pretty much any juncture. They're not expensive and you can always find a minibus that won't cost too much to buy all the seats in it to get your own private minibus to wherever you want to go but you'll have to negotiate.

Travel by Road

Zambia has 38,763 kilometres of roads, about 10,000 kms of which are tarred and another 8000 kms are gravel road. The rest range from reasonable to bad dirt roads.

If you're doing a vehicle trip through Zambia it is a good idea to carry a range of tools and essential spares with you.

Be really careful, especially if travelling at night for road markings are usually non-existent. Do watch out for animals in the road, vehicles without lights, pedestrians, unannounced roadworks, bad drivers and broken down trucks with no warning triangles. If you see a tree branch in the road, slow down immediately – these are improvised warning triangles and there's bound to be a truck or car in the middle of the road up ahead.

Be sure to have all your vehicle papers on hand as you're bound to encounter a few roadblocks.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Zambia's native cuisine is based on nshima, a cooked porridge made from ground maize normally accompanied by some tasty relish, perhaps made of meat and tomatoes, or dried fish. Safari camps will often prepare nshima if requested, and it is almost always available in small, local restaurants.

Camps, hotels and lodges that cater to overseas visitors tend to serve a range of international fare, and the quality of food prepared in the most remote bush camps is typically excellent.

Water in the main towns is usually purified, provided there are no shortages of chlorine, breakdowns, or other mishaps. The locals drink it, and are used to the relatively innocuous bugs that it may harbour. If you are in the country for a long time, then it may be worth acclimatising yourself to it. However, if you are in Zambia for just a few weeks, then try to drink only bottled, boiled, or treated water in town.

Out in the bush, most of the camps and lodges use water from bore-holes. These underground sources vary in quality, but are normally perfectly safe to drink.

Climate and Weather

The rains in Zambia come mostly in December, January, February and March though the further north you are, the earlier the rains arrive and the later they leave. Eastern areas and higher areas generally receive more rain than western and lowland areas.

By April and May most of the rain has faded away, leaving a landscape that's still green, but starting to dry out. Nighttime temperatures start to drop, especially in higher and more southerly locations.

In June, July and August the nights become much cooler, but the days are clear and warm. Make sure you bring warm clothes to wrap up if you're out at night, as some nights get very cold! Most of Zambia's small 'walking bush camps' open at the start of June, when the roads have dried out sufficiently to allow access. This is the start of the 'peak season' for these countries – with often cloudless days and continually increasing game sightings.

Into September and October the temperatures climb: the lower-lying rift valleys – Lower Zambezi, Mana Pools and Luangwa Valley – can get very hot in October. However, you'll see some superb game as the animals concentrate around the limited water sources.

November is variable; it can be hot and dry like October, or it can see the season's first downpours. Often it's a very interesting month as you can see both patterns on successive days.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Zambia has mild winters and the summer days can be scorching hot. Lightweight casual clothes can be worn all year round, with a jacket or jersey for early winter mornings and evenings.

On safari keep clothes to neutral colours - khakis, browns and greens. A sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses and insect repellent are a must.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Current is 220/240 volt at 50 cycles per second. Both square and round wall plugs are used.
