

ZAMBIA



OVERVIEW

Raw and 'real' Africa, blessed with jaw-dropping scenery and some of the best big game viewing on the continent, Zambia is surprisingly sometimes pitched as a 2nd time safari-goer's destination, behind the more 'iconic' options of the Masai Mara, the Serengeti or the Okavango Delta. However, Zambia is second to none: truly exceptional in its safari offering, and, indeed, is deemed unsurpassable for many safari aficionados once it has been experienced. With the Victoria Falls, one of the 7 natural wonders of the world, on the southern border, Zambia lends itself to some compelling circuit itineraries, combining excellent wildlife, action & adventure and spectacular landscapes.



KEY FACTS

CAPITAL	Lusaka
CURRENCY	Zambian Kwacha
TIME ZONE	GMT +2hrs
LANGUAGE	7 official vernacular languages and English
RELIGION	Traditional Beliefs & Christian



KNOWN FOR

Combination of wildlife, adventure activities and scenic splendour.
High quality guiding (home of the original Walking Safari)
Large herds of elephant & large population African wild dog
Diversity of activities due to riverine environment in many parks
Excellent birdlife



ACCESSIBILITY

Flights: Well-served by Emirates, Ethiopian Airways, Kenya Airways and SAA | New Lusaka Airport opening Nov 2020 | Excellent domestic schedules with Proflight and others – mainly via Lusaka but also direct flights connecting top destinations. Also Private charters.

Roads are poor. Three main internal train lines.



WHO FOR

Wildlife enthusiasts
Safari aficionados and safari first timers alike
Honeymooners
Families
Adrenalin-seeking adventurers



WHEN TO GO

Sub-tropical climate. Two distinct climatic zones - East is wet, West dry, a mix of weather zones on the central plateaux. The Rainy season from November to April, dry season runs from May – October. Jan – March is the cyclone season.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Victoria Falls & Kafue	Good	Good	Good	Better	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Better	Good	Good
Lower Zambezi National Park	Good	Good	Good	Better	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Better	Good	Good
Liuwa Plain	Good	Good	Good	Better	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Better	Good	Good
The South Luangwa	Good	Good	Good	Better	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Better	Good	Good

Good
 Better
 Best
 Off Season



PACKING

Light layers of clothing in neutral colours. Bright coloured clothing is not suitable for walking safari. Packing checklist: Layers – long and short sleeve shirts and trousers | Warm fleece or jumper for cooler evenings | Waterproof jacket | Comfortable, sturdy shoes | Flip-flops / sandals Swimming attire | hat/ baseball cap | Sunglasses & Sun-cream | Personal items – toiletries, small medical kit etc | Torch, plug adapters and charging equipment | Binoculars and camera | Books etc for siesta time
Please speak to a healthcare professional about vaccinations and malaria medication

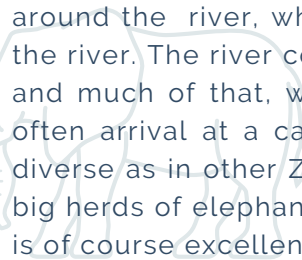
KEY REGIONS

Lusaka is Zambia's capital and is a really vibrant city for those who want to get a flavour for modern African city culture, which is often much missed by visitors, and is very much worth a 'decompression' stop before or after safari.

Zambia has a huge amount to offer with 20 National Parks throughout including:

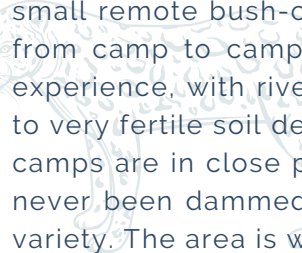
LOWER ZAMBEZI NATIONAL PARK

The Zambezi is the 4th largest river in Africa and the safari experiences focus on and around the river, where the game gravitates. All of the camps and lodges are set along the river. The river combined with a northerly escarpment concentrates game in the area, and much of that, within 5km of the river. Activities are both land and river based and often arrival at a camp will be by river which is very memorable. The game is not as diverse as in other Zambian parks but there are huge populations of the game there is – big herds of elephant, buffalo, impala and good for predators like leopard and lion. There is of course excellent fishing.




SOUTH LUANGWA

One of the continent's great unspoilt wilderness, which boasts a huge variety of species, with some animals which are endemic. Accommodation comprises lodges combined with small remote bush-camps, with sleep-outs and hides on offer - and it is possible to walk from camp to camp. Again the Luangwa River itself is a defining feature of the safari experience, with river safaris offered in Emerald Season. The river is meandering leading to very fertile soil deposits which have a very high carrying capacity of game. Again, most camps are in close proximity to the Luangwa river. Unusually for a river of its size, it has never been dammed, so it's a very vibrant river following its natural seasonal cycle and variety. The area is well known for its population of leopard and wild dog.



KAFUE

Zambia's oldest and largest NP (formerly the largest in Africa) and still relatively under-developed for tourism. There is a large variety of mammals – (including more species of antelope than any other park in Africa). Guests can do balloon safaris over the Busanga Plains which offers an unforgettable perspective on the game below. The camps and small and remote, with some lovely new unusual options e.g. Green Safaris' 'birds' nest' camps.



LIVINGSTONE

The Victoria Falls are a natural phenomenon of global magnitude and significance and its inclusion in any Zambian itinerary is a must. There are some large hotels right at the top of the Falls themselves; with more private, smaller/ boutique camps upstream of the Falls. In addition to their visual splendour the Falls offer lots of activities including microlight flights, bungee jumping, white water rafting, the Devils Pools, the Elephant Café, Livingstone Express and Livingstone Island.

