



# BAREFOOT SAFARIS & Adventure Tours

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## TRIP DOSSIER

### ZAMBIA: Zambian Wildlife (Fly in Option) (ZW) (12 DAYS LAND ONLY)

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"Zambia: The real Africa". This apt truism is the inadvertent marketing edge of the Zambia National Tourist Board. To travel with a sense of humour in Zambia is essential and will guarantee your welcome.

Zambia is a land of relentless wilderness, ancestral ceremony and smiling faces and beckons to the intrepid, the adventurous and to those who simply want to step off the conveyor belt of mass tourism and marvel at the astounding wildlife of the Luangwa Valley and Lower Zambezi. The first Europeans to arrive in Zambia were Portuguese explorers who reached the African interior from the East Coast. The most famous explorer however to reach this area was David Livingstone, whose exploration heralded the establishment of missions promoting the spread of Christianity, quickly followed by the abolition of slavery.

Our journey will be rich in contrast and full of unforgettable experiences.

**Grading:** *Anyone in good health with a sense of adventure should be able to take part. There is no real physical difficulty involved, but as in much of Africa, rough roads, limited facilities and basic accommodation may require you to adjust your levels of expectations.*

**NB:** *Although it is our intention to operate this itinerary as printed in the brochure and detailed below, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of alterations to flight/boat/train schedules, climatic conditions, or other operational factors. As a consequence, the order or location of overnight stops may vary from those outlined.*

*Included meals are indicated in the daily itinerary (i.e. BLD - Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner).*

and bird life that have made it world famous. This is the landscape of the 'real Africa', where herds of antelope roam the plains; predators stalk through the shadows, and with primordial flora in every vale. The list of animals that frequent the park is endless. Mammals include zebra, buffalo and lion, as well as endemic species such as Thorneycroft's giraffe and Cookson's wildebeest. The park supports one of the largest concentrations of elephant in Africa and also has an expanding population of leopard. For the next night we stay in our Wilderness Camp set in a beautiful location on the banks of the Luangwa River just outside the national park. We have made donations to the anti-poaching unit in this park to assist their good work.

*1 Night Lodge (D)*

#### Day 2: South Luangwa National Park

This morning we depart on one of the biggest adventures: a walking safari in the wilderness of South Luangwa. This enables us to get close to the animals, without the confines of a vehicle. Accompanied by a qualified guide and an armed scout we venture past lagoons, riparian forest and through mopani woodland, seeing, smelling and touching Africa, to our bush camp on the elevated banks of the Luangwa River. After our lunch under huge shady Natal Mahogany trees, we undertake another walking safari along the bank of the slow-moving Luangwa. Tonight while the aroma of our camp meal fills the air, we salute the sun

going down over the distant escarpment.

*1 Night Bush camp (BLD)*



#### Day 3, 4 & 5: South Luangwa National Park

This morning we undertake another walking safari back to our permanent camp next to the Luangwa River. For the next three days we continue to explore this remote wilderness area. The park encompasses a wide variety of habitats and the Luangwa River describes a torturous course along the valley floor. Near the river the vegetation is lush and dense, and along its many tributaries riparian forest remains emerald green all year round.

This afternoon we take a night game drive in the national park followed by a morning and afternoon game drive the next two days. We will also make a



#### Day 1: Arrive in Lusaka

After clearing Immigration and Customs we board our chartered flight to Mfuwe, in Zambia's South Luangwa National Park. The Luangwa valley is one of Africa's prime wildlife sanctuaries, with concentrations and varieties of game



night game drive to catch a glimpse of the nocturnal world within the park illuminated by spotlight. Viewing game at night allows us to see species that would normally be hidden throughout the day, and may include porcupine, hippo grazing on land and honey badger. For scenery and sheer variety of animals, South Luangwa is one of the best wildlife parks in Africa. Multitudes of species thrive in this sanctuary, and the size of the national park allows large herds to develop and live in harmony with each other.

*Lodge, 2 nights (Bx3, Lx3 Dx3)*



**Day 6: Transfer to Lower Zambezi NP**

After breakfast we board our charter flight to the Lower Zambezi National Park. After we have settled into our scenic lodge overlooking the mighty Zambezi River and a scrumptious lunch we embark on a game viewing boat cruise ending the day with sundowners on one of the islands.

*3 Nights Lodge (Bx3, Lx3, Dx3)*

**Day 7: Lower Zambezi NP**

There is an escarpment along the northern end of the park, which acts as a physical barrier to most of the animal species in the park. Enormous herds of elephant, some up to 100 strong, are often seen at the river's edge. "Island hopping" buffalo and waterbuck are common. The park also hosts good populations of lion and leopard. Listen too for the ubiquitous cry of the fish eagle. Today we conduct a game walk accompanied by a grade 1 safari guide and an armed scout in the morning. We have our lunch in the bush under a shady tree and the afternoon we conduct a game viewing boat cruise. The option exists to overnight in a tent on one of the islands in the Zambezi River.

**Day 8: Lower Zambezi NP**

Today we have the option to do a full days canoeing trip down the Zambezi with a pick-up that takes us back to our lodge for sundowners and dinner. The other option is to conduct a game drive

with lunch in the bush followed by an afternoon boat cruise.



**Day 9: To Siavonga; Lake Kariba.**

We leave the mighty Zambezi behind and travel after breakfast to our lodge at Siavonga. This is a travelling day through rural villages and rich farmland. After we settle into our accommodation we have the afternoon free to explore or visit the dam wall, which remains a major attraction. Optional excursions exist to take a cruise at sundown.

*1 Night Lodge (BL)*

**Day 10 & 11: Lake Kariba**

Work on the biggest man-made lake of its time started in the 1950/s. It was considered a triumph of mankind and came into existence following the damming of the Zambezi River to provide hydroelectric power to the industries of Zambia and Zimbabwe. The creation of Lake Kariba was not without controversy: the Tonga tribe was uprooted to make way for the dam, not only did they oppose the building, but according to the Tongas, Nyaminyami, the snakelike River God was opposed to the construction. The Batonga believe the wrathful River God sent the biggest storm in 10,000 years that destroyed the cofferdams in 1957. In the morning, after breakfast we settle in on a house boat and for the next two days we cruise around on the Lake, bird watching and game viewing. As the sun sets over the lake, we moor on the Lake shore and listen to the nocturnal sounds of Africa. We have ample opportunity to sunbath, relax and maybe do a spot of tiger fishing.

*2 Nights House Boat (1xB, 1xL, 2xD)*

**Day 12: Travel to Lusaka**

After our last breakfast on the house boat we disembark at Siavonga and travel north on our way to Lusaka following in the footsteps of David Livingstone after his 2<sup>nd</sup> visit to Victoria Falls. We will also visit a museum on the way to Lusaka.

The afternoon is spent lazing around the swimming pool of our up-market hotel or to do some last minute shopping.

1 Night Hotel (B)

**Day 13: To Airport**

We transfer to the airport after breakfast End of Safari

**RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL**

Since January 2003, Barefoot Safaris has donated £10 for every person we take to Zambia, to assist with the funding and development of **Chanyoli School**. Parents and school staff have recently fired 60,000 bricks and will begin building this year. You may like to bring some books or school equipment to assist this very deserving project and see for yourself how well received it is.

We also support the **SOS Children's Village**, which you can visit in Lilongwe. They would be most grateful for any children's clothes or toys that you might donate.



## Price Includes:

- All transport on tour.
- All meals as per the itinerary\*
- All park entry fees.
- All game viewing activities as per the itinerary.
- All armed scout fees as per the itinerary.
- All accommodation fees as per the itinerary.
- Tents and sleeping mattresses.
- Safari equipment.
- Reference library.

## Price Excludes:

- Airfare.
- Visa fees.
- Airport taxes.
- Meals as per the itinerary.
- Drinks.
- Expenses of a personal nature.
- Any changes to the itinerary.
- Travel and medical insurance.

**NB:** When camping everyone is expected help with camp cooking, camp chores, loading and unloading of the vehicle as well as making & breaking camp.

**\*\* Excursions:** A qualified grade 1 safari guide from Barefoot Safaris will accompany clients on all excursions except where it is necessary to employ a guide from local parks.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Climate:** Although Zambia lies in the tropics, the height of the plateau ensures that the climate is seldom unpleasantly hot, except in the valleys. There are three seasons: the cool, dry winter season from May to September; the hot, dry season in October and November; and the rainy season, which is even hotter, from December to April.

## Baggage:

- One piece of main luggage only (**max 12kg**), this should be a soft bag rather than a hard suitcase, so it can be easily stowed and not take up too much room in the vehicle or in the tent. space in the vehicle is restricted.
- A day sack (large enough to carry your camera, water bottle, & binoculars etc) is also essential.
- Sleeping Bag

## Clothing and Footwear:

- For comfort in the heat, lightweight cotton is best. Brightly-coloured clothing is not appropriate for safari because it is easily seen by animals and has the added discomfort of attracting insects (wear muted tones in natural colours i.e. beige, khaki, olive, etc, but **not** army-style camouflage clothing).
- A long-sleeved shirt is essential to protect neck and arms while on game walks/drives.
- Long trousers and socks for evenings.
- Windproof/waterproof jacket.
- Lightweight trail boots.
- Trainers or sandals for relaxing.

- Sunhat.
- Swimming gear.
- Warm mid layers i.e. fleece or jumper for cool nights and early morning game drives (particularly May to October).
- Kagoul if you are travelling during the rains.

## Equipment:

- Sleeping bag (2/3 season; possibly 3 season in winter months).
- Torch.
- Water bottle.
- Sunglasses, sunscreen and lipsalve.
- Insect repellent.
- Personal first aid kit.
- Binoculars.
- Dust can be a problem for cameras; take a dustproof bag.

## Medicine:

- Basic personal first aid kit.
- Any perscription drugs required.
- Female sanitary products.
- Malaria prophylaxis.

## Visas and Permits:

For Zambia visas can be obtained at Lusaka International Airport. However we recommend that all visas are purchased beforehand.

## Vaccinations & Health Advice:

Vaccination requirements & other health advice can change, so please check with a specialised travel clinic for up to date information before you depart. For useful advice you can visit The Medical Advisory Service for Travellers Abroad [www.masta.org](http://www.masta.org)

Nevertheless we recommend that you protect yourselves against: *Malaria, Hepatitis A, and Polio & Typhoid as a minimum.*

**NB:** The Yellow Fever vaccination is compulsory and must be obtained along with a certificate prior to departure.

**Food:** Although every effort will be made to accommodate any dietary requirements, the availability of certain products is limited in Zambia. Any special dietary requirements should be explained to us in writing at time of booking. Gluten free flour should be booked with you if required. Decaffeinated coffee should be brought with you if required.

**Local Costs:** 10 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 11 evening meals are included. You must pay for all other meals yourself (you can eat very well for £10 a day). Approximate costs are given for guidance only and may vary widely according to location and type of establishment.

Coffee/tea	UK£0.30
Soft drink	UK£0.30
Medium beer	UK£0.60
Bottle of wine	UK£4.00
Local snack lunch	UK£2.00
3-course dinner*	UK£7.00

\* Reasonable mid-range tourist class restaurant.

## Optional excursions:

Some or all of the excursions detailed below may be available; others not listed may also be available. Approximate per person costs are given for guidance only, and may depend on the number of participants. Your safari guide should be able to assist you in arranging them.

Motor boat; half day	UK£13.00
Dug out canoe; half day	UK£15.00
Foot safari (armed ranger)	UK£16.00
Night game drive	UK£16.00

**Telephone:** Mobile phone signals can be received at most major cities in Malawi and Zambia. Whether or not your phone will work depends on the network that you use. There are telephones at the lodges in South Luangwa which can be used in an emergency for a small fee.

**Internet:** E-mail communication for urgent or emergency use is available at most lodges via satellite phone. This is a limited service and a small fee will be charged.

**Radio Comms:** The lodges and camps communicate by HF radio, so if you are staying at a camp without telephone, contact can be made immediately by radio in the case of an emergency. This method of communication is widespread in Africa and the emergency medical services (Flying Doctors) can be contacted directly by radio.

**Seasonal changes:** Although all rooms and tents that we use are protected with mosquito netting; there will be insects and mosquitoes about. The camps are essentially "al fresco" so you should be prepared with insect repellent and appropriate long sleeved/legged clothing.

Insects are attracted to lights at night and are especially prevalent during the rainy season. Switching the lights off and placing a hurricane lamp a distance from you will remove the problem.

The evenings and mornings will be chilly from about June to August; so it is advisable to take a light sweater or fleece. The Highlands in Malawi has a much cooler climate, so if you are visiting these areas warmer clothes will be required during these months.

**Currency:** Zambian Kwacha. We recommend that you bring cash in US\$.

**NB:** Pre 1990 dollar bills are not accepted in most African countries. Foreign currency can be changed at commercial banks and major hotels, although opportunities to change money outside of major towns and tourist centres are limited. Your safari guide will be able to advise you on when and where to change money. Unfortunately, credit cards are not accepted at some of the lodges or camps that we visit.

**Airport Tax:** Please allow US\$20.00 for airport tax upon departure from Lusaka.



**Climate Chart: Zambia (Lusaka):**

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temp: Average Daily Max/Min (°C)	26/17	26/17	26/17	26/15	25/12	23/10	23/9	25/12	29/15	31/18	29/17	27/17
Rain: Average Monthly (mm)	231	191	142	18	3	0	0	0	0	10	91	150
Relative Humidity (%)	71	70	56	47	32	32	29	26	19	23	46	61