

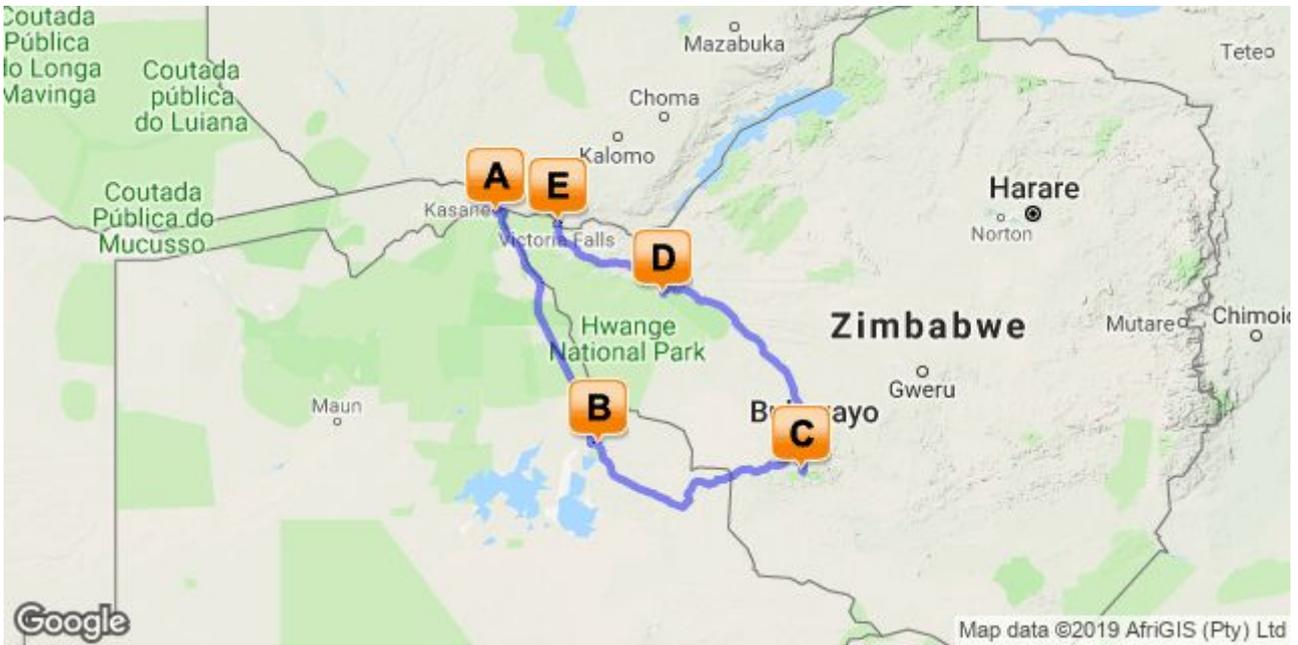
11 Day Botswana and Zimbabwe Circle







Chobe River Front - Nata - Matobo National Park - Hwange National Park - Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
11 Days / 10 Nights



Introduction

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Chobe Safari Lodge	Chobe River Front	B&B	2 Nights
Nata Lodge	Nata	B&B	2 Nights
Matobo Hills Lodge	Matobo National Park	B&B	2 Nights
Hwange Safari Lodge	Hwange National Park	B&B	2 Nights
Victoria Falls Safari Lodge	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	B&B	2 Nights

Included

- Self-drive 5 seater rental vehicle for duration of the tour + navigation
- Accommodation as per the program
- Entrance fees and activities as mentioned in the program
- Meals as per the program

Excluded

- Flights, airport taxes and visas (where applicable) and not specifically mentioned as included
- Conservation fees not mentioned in above itinerary
- All entrance fees not specified
- Meals not specified
- All drinks / beverages not specified
- Curios
- Telephone Calls / faxes
- Internet / Wi-fi
- Laundry
- Optional activities

Rates:

Please email us for up to date rates: lizelle@highline.co.za

Day 1: Chobe Safari Lodge, Chobe River Front

Chobe River Front

The Chobe River forms the northern boundary of the Chobe National Park, renowned for its diverse and abundant game viewing opportunities. This section of the park is best known for its dense concentration of wildlife including elephant and hippo populations, but the waters attract all manner of game including large herds of buffalo and the lions that prey on them. A visit to this area guarantees close encounters with an array of African wildlife. Visitors can look forward to some exciting activities such as: driving along the game-dotted river banks in a 4WD; cruising along the river in a motorboat, spotting rare birdlife and for a unique, luxury safari experience, hire a houseboat.

Day Itinerary

Arrive at Kasane International Airport from where you will be transferred to your accommodation near the Chobe National Park. We arrive at our accommodation in the afternoon, in time for an afternoon **boat cruise on the Chobe River** (included)

Overnight: Chobe Safari Lodge – Standard Rondavels on Full Board Basis [View iBrochure](#)

Chobe Safari Lodge is situated in Kasane on the banks of the Chobe River and shares a border with Chobe National Park. Right on the doorstep is the meeting of four African countries: Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia. Chobe Safari Lodge therefore offers an excellent getaway location to Chobe, Victoria Falls or Caprivi.

The close proximity to Victoria Falls International Airport, Livingstone International Airport and Kasane International Airport makes it easily accessible, with daily road transfers or charter flights connecting all these airports with Chobe Safari Lodge. The lodge has been recently renovated; matching a magical lodge experience to the spectacular game viewing.



Activities

Chobe Safari Lodge Boat Cruises

Chobe National Park

Chobe Safari Lodge Boat Cruises

Chobe Boat Cruises are a wonderful way to experience the Chobe National Park. Herds of elephants can be seen crossing the Chobe river into the island which is a spectacular sight to witness. Other animal species such as hippos and crocodiles can be seen lounging in the sun by the riverside. The boat cruises are available in a number of different options. The standard cruise boards approximately 30-40 people. The bigger boats feature a bar on board

for refreshments while the smaller boats are perfect for bird watching. Boat cruises depart from the town of Kasane at either the morning or afternoon departures. A private boat cruise can be arranged for alternate times.

Chobe National Park

Renowned for its impressive, shifting migratory population of more than 50 000 elephants, Chobe National Park is situated in the far northeast of Botswana, bordered to the north by the mighty Chobe River. It is the second largest national park in Botswana featuring four distinct ecosystems: the Savuti Channel in the west; the Linyanti Swamps in the northwest; the arid hinterland in between and Serondela in the extreme northeast with fertile plains and thick forests. This diversity of habitats provides a sanctuary to an astonishing array of African wildlife. In addition to spotting Chobe's great pachyderm herds, you are likely to spot lion, leopard, hyena, wild dog, impala, waterbuck, kudu, zebra, wildebeest giraffe, and warthog. The park is also famous for its wonderful riverboat safaris, making Chobe an essential destination for any avid safari enthusiast.

Day 2: Chobe Safari Lodge, Chobe River Front

Day Itinerary

Early morning game drive in Chobe National Park (included)

This afternoon, guests can drive into town (own account) for souvenir shopping and / or enjoy the lodge facilities.

Activities

Chobe Safari Lodge Game Drive

Chobe Safari Lodge Game Drive

Chobe Safari Lodge Game Drive offers guests the opportunity to view abundant species of animal life including elephants up close. There is also the possibility of encountering a large predator. The game drives have three departure times during the time, which all have a duration of approximately three hours. Alternative arrangements can be made to book either a half or full day drive with a picnic lunch.

Day 3: Nata Lodge, Nata

Nata

Situated 180 kilometres north of Francistown, the small village of Nata is a popular stopover between Maun and Kasane along a road known as the 'game drive route' as there is often a chance to catch a glimpse of wildlife along the way. The unique landscape that surrounds the area around Nata features white sand, tall termite mounds and the Mokolwane palm trees. Nata is a convenient stop for tourists to fill up at numerous filling station. Nata serves as an excellent base from which to explore the eastern section of the spectacular Makgadikgadi Pans. The Nata Sanctuary is a popular stop and a highlight for avid bird watchers, where lucky visitors can be rewarded with large flocks of Flamingos and Pelicans, which breed here each year.

Day Itinerary

Today we drive south towards Nata and arrive at our accommodation in the late afternoon.

Overnight: Nata Lodge – Standard Tent on Dinner, Bed and Breakfast basis [View iBrochure](#)

An oasis set among the Mokolwane palms on the edge of the pans. It is ideally situated close to the entrance to the Nata Sanctuary and is just off the main road, 10 km from Nata village. This is the junction to the Okavango, Chobe and Francistown areas.

The Nata River delta feeds the Sua Pan in the Nata sanctuary and forms the breeding ground for a host of water birds including pelicans and flamingo in their thousands, transforming the shore line into a pink haze blending into the western sky. Nata Lodge offers guided tours in open safari vehicles into the sanctuary, not to be missed.



Activities

Nata

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Sanctuary is a popular stop and a highlight for avid bird watchers, where lucky visitors can be rewarded with large flocks of Flamingos and Pelicans, which breed here each year.

Day 4: Nata Lodge, Nata

Day Itinerary

This morning we embark on a trip to the **Makgadikgadi Salt Pans**, via the **Nata Bird Sanctuary** which is a community development project supported by Nata Lodge. (included)

Activities

Makgadikgadi Salt Pans
Nata Bird Sanctuary

Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

The Makgadikgadi Pan is the world's largest salt pan, formed on the bed of an ancient lake that began evaporating aeons ago. Visiting Makgadikgadi is a unique desert experience: in the dry season, this vast expanse of sun-baked salt glistens in the light and when the rains come, the pan is home to a cornucopia of flamingos and other waterbirds, as well as one of Africa's biggest zebra populations, whose annual migration is a wonder to behold.

Day 5: Matobo Hills Lodge, Matobo National Park

Matobo National Park

Idyllically located in the spectacular Matobo Hills, the renowned Matobo National Park is known for its rich human history, its remarkably diverse flora and fauna and its magnificent rugged terrain. This unspoiled natural wilderness features a range of massive red-tinged, granite boulders interspersed with gorgeous wooded valleys making it a dream destination for hikers, climbers and nature lovers alike. The reserve is compact, easily accessible and is home to an impressive range of African wildlife including the highly endangered black and white rhinoceros, zebra, wildebeest, giraffe, cheetah, hippo, warthog and crocodile as well as Africa's largest concentration of leopard and black eagles. This unforgettable national park serves as an ideal stopover for travellers heading to the popular tourist sites of Hwange and the majestic Victoria Falls.

Day Itinerary

Today we enter Zimbabwe via Plumtree borderpost from where we make our way to **Matobo National Park**.

After check in, we make our way to the **Rhode's Gravesite** where we watch the sunset over the ancient hills. (entrance fees excluded)

Overnight: Matobo Hills Lodge - Standard Room on Dinner, Bed and Breakfast basis

Matobo Hills Lodge is situated within a private wildlife reserve bordering Matobo National Park (50km from Bulawayo). Matopos hills is an area of exquisite beauty, the lodge's accommodation units are built upon a granite outcrop with sweeping panoramic views over the surrounding hills. There is a separate lounge/bar which commands spectacular 360-degree views of Mount Fifi and the Maleme Valley.

In an area of exquisite beauty, the lodge's accommodation units are built upon a granite outcrop with outlooks over the surrounding hills. 34 beds in seventeen luxury hilltop lodges; 13 twin bedded and 4 double bedded. All lodges have shower, bath toilet and basin and wall-to-wall carpet. Extra beds on request.



Activities

Matobo National Park

Grave of Cecil John Rhodes

Matobo National Park

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Grave of Cecil John Rhodes

On the 26 March 1902 at the age of 49 Cecil John Rhodes died in Muizenberg, Cape Town. Despite the fact that the Boer War still raged, his body was sent on an epic railway journey through war torn South Africa to Rhodesia to be laid to rest at this spot.

Day 6: Matobo Hills Lodge, Matobo National Park

Day Itinerary

This morning guests have the opportunity to **track white rhino** on foot with a professional guide (included).

This afternoon, guests can relax at the lodge or book optional activities (own account) such as cultural visits, a game drive or a visit to a nearby cave painting site.

Activities

Matobos Rhino Tracking

Day 7: Hwange Safari Lodge, 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 sizable 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 Nyamandlovu Pan.

Day Itinerary

Transfer to accommodation near **Hwange National Park**

PM Game Drive inside Hwange National Park

Overnight: Hwange Safari Lodge in Standard room on Full Board Basis

Hwange Safari Lodge caters for a diverse range of individuals and groups from the lone adventurer to couples, families and tour groups. It offers comfort, modern conveniences and the opportunity to experience the real African wild. Guests soon learn that this is the home of the wildlife they have come to see but that they, and the Lodge, are guests of the real owners of the land, the elephants, rhino, lions and giraffes.



Activities

Hwange National Park

Hwange Game Drives

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 8: Hwange Safari Lodge, Hwange National Park

Day Itinerary

AM Game drive inside Hwange National Park

PM - Guests have the opportunity to participate in optional activities such as a visit to the **Painted Dog Centre** or a nearby cultural village (own account)

Activities

Painted Dog Conservation

Painted Dog Conservation

PDC was originally established as Painted Dog Research in 1992 by Gregory Rasmussen. During the first two years the human-induced carnage from snares, shooting and road kills accounted for 95% of all dog mortalities. Early public presentations showed prejudice and ignorance and it was clear that unless this situation was addressed, the species could become extinct. The initial emphasis was thus to identify the critical issues and develop a pragmatic and holistic strategy that would make a substantial, lasting contribution to Painted Dogs, nature conservation and, very importantly, to the lives of the local people.

Day 9: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, 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

Transfer to accommodation in **Victoria Falls** Town

PM Sunset Cruise on the Zambezi River (included)

Overnight: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge standard room on Bed and Breakfast basis [View iBrochure](#)

Built on a plateau overlooking the Zambezi National Park, Victoria Falls Safari Lodge is just 4km from the majestic Victoria Falls and offers a unique wildlife experience.

We're proud to have been voted Best Safari Lodge/ Resort Hotel in Zimbabwe for 21 consecutive years and look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful destination. Our staff is warm and personable, and will ensure your holiday is hassle-free.

Built of thatch and timber, the lodge rises several levels, giving the impression of a vast open-plan tree house. Our rooms all have private balconies, most of which overlook a central waterhole, offering the opportunity to observe herds of buffalo, elephant and kudu, as the sun goes down, and hyenas later in the evening.

Dining

Dining options include the a la carte MaKuwa-Kuwa Restaurant, the more casual Buffalo Bar and The Boma – Dinner & Drum Show. The Boma Café, set in a tranquil garden setting and located close to the Lokuthula Lodges, offers breakfast and light meals until 4.30pm.



Activities

Shearwater Sunset Cruise

Shearwater Sunset Cruise

The sunset cruise on the Zambezi River is a definite must on any trip to Victoria Falls. Relax with a sundowner and snacks as you gaze out onto the banks of the river. Have your camera ready to capture one of the most amazing sunsets in Africa.

You'll be sure to spot wildlife animals as they come down to the river for a drink after a hot day in the Zambezi National Park (Zimbabwe) and the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park (Zambia). Sightings of elephants, giraffes and other resident game are common. There's always an abundance of hippos and crocodiles. Birdlife is superb and the Fish eagles will usually fill the scene with their calls.

Day 10: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Day Itinerary

AM Guided tour of the Falls

PM - Guests have the opportunity to participate in numerous optional activities (own account)

Activities

Shearwater Guided Tour of the Falls

Shearwater Guided Tour of the Falls

A knowledgeable guide will take guests on an unforgettable experience through the Victoria Falls rainforest, a journey that not only affords a view of one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World but provides a great deal of interesting facts about the geology, wildlife and history of Africa's most famous landmark. Visitors will listen to magical tales of local legend while they enjoy the constant spray from the "The Smoke that Thunders". The Shearwater guide will also help ensure the best photographic opportunities of this breath-taking World Heritage Site. At the end of the tour, guests can enjoy something to eat at Shearwater's Rainforest Cafe, which provides an ideal place to stop and refuel before their next adventure.

Day 11: End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Today we travel from Victoria Falls back to Kasane where we started to return the rental vehicle and take a departure flight.

Basis

Bed & Breakfast

Travel Information



Situated in the southern reaches of Africa, Botswana is renowned for its pristine wilderness areas characterised by deep lagoons, wetlands, lush palms, rugged hills and desert plains scattered with scrubland. The country's primary tourist drawcard is undoubtedly the vast red expanse of the Kalahari Desert and its remarkably beautiful Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta in the world. These natural wonders provide a tranquil haven for an abundance of

African wildlife to thrive. Other highlights include the impressive Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, where visitors are privy to massive zebra migrations during the flood season; the Savuti plains, which host large prides of lions; and the Tsodilo Hills, where 4500 rock paintings form a unique record of human settlement over many millennia.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Botswana's currency is Pula (which means 'rain' in Setswana). It is divided into 100 thebes (which means 'shield' in Setswana). Travellers' cheques and foreign currency may be changed at banks, bureaux de change and authorised hotels.

The US dollar, Euros, British Pound and the South African Rand are the most easily convertible currencies (and accepted by some establishments - but, generally, then an inflated rate of exchange will be applied).

Banking

Seven main commercial banks, as well as a number of foreign exchange bureaux, operate in Botswana. Operating hours are Monday to Friday 08h30 to 15h30 and Saturday 08h30 to 10h45.

Full banking services are available in major towns, although ATMs are sprouting up all over the country. Most credit cards are accepted at hotels and restaurants. Cultural sites and community art and craft outlets usually only accept cash.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Botswana is geared towards the needs of the local populace and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Botswana's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

Driving off the main roads in Botswana is only recommended to expect in 4x4 vehicles, that are equipped correctly. Most lodges offer transfers or they can be arranged. If, however, you will be driving in Botswana: your home driving licence will be accepted (with an official English translation if necessary; driving is on the left side of the road; and the national speed limit is on tarred roads is 120km/h and 60km/h in towns and villages.

Be sure to watch out for wild animals on the roads!

There are major airports in Maun, Kasane and Gaborone, while smaller charter flights are used to get to the other top attractions and camps.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Tap water is considered safe to drink, although outside main cities and towns, visitors are advised to check first and sterilise water if in any doubt. Bottled water is available in most tourist centres. Filtered water is available at most camps and shops offer bottled water - it is advised to be well stocked of bottled water if you are travelling off the beaten track. Milk is pasteurised, and dairy products, local meat, poultry, seafood, fruit and vegetables are generally safe.

Safari lodges and camps serve international-style cuisine, generally of an extremely high standard, along with local beer and imported wine and spirits. Good restaurants and bars can be found in main towns, often within hotels. Beef and goat are very popular meats. Elsewhere, food is more basic: millet and sorghum porridge are the local staples.

A discretionary 5 to 10% tip is typical for restaurant bills. In many places, a service charge is automatically added. It is customary to tip the game guide and lodge staff while on safari.

Climate and Weather

Botswana's climatic pattern is typical of southern Africa, although its rainfall is less than countries further east. The rains in Botswana come mostly between December and March, when average minimum temperatures are in the low 20°s. Some days will be bright and sunny, some will have afternoon thunderstorms, and some will just be grey.

As with Namibia, April and May in Botswana are generally lovely, with the sky clear and the landscape green. Night temperatures start to drop during these months, especially in the Kalahari. Note that places in and around the Okavango tend to have less extreme, more moderate temperatures than the drier areas of the Kalahari.

From June to August the night-time temperatures in drier areas can be close to freezing, but it warms up rapidly during the day, when the sky is usually clear and blue. It's now very much 'peak season' for most safari areas: the land is dry in most areas so the animals congregate around the few available water sources.

This continues into September and October, when temperatures climb again, drying the landscapes and concentrating the game even more. This is the best time for big game safaris – although October can feel very hot, with maximum temperatures sometimes approaching 40°C.

November is difficult to predict, as it can sometimes be a continuation of October's heat, whilst sometimes it's cooled by the first rains; it's always an interesting month.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

In summer, lightweight, lightcoloured cottons are preferable. Avoid synthetic materials and black clothing, as they increase perspiration and discomfort. In winter, wear trousers, long sleeve shirts / blouses and jerseys. From May – August, night temperatures can fall below zero degrees celsius, so warm jerseys and jackets are vital, especially on morning and evening game drives. Garments of neutral colours that blend with the bush and forest are advisable for safaris and game viewing. Bring a lightweight jacket and/or jersey for unexpected temperature changes or rain. Closed, comfortable walking shoes for gym shoes are a must in all seasons. Special attention should be given to protection from the sun. Bring a sunhat, good quality sunscreen, sun lotion and polarised sunglasses. Wide brimmed sun hats are essential.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana are the "Type M " South African SABS1661 ("Large" 15 amp BS-546) sockets. This is actually an old British standard. The "Type M " South African plug and socket is not to be confused with the "Type D " Indian plug and socket. In pictures, they look very similar, but the South African type is much larger than the Indian type, and they are physically incompatible. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into.

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana usually supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 220-240 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need.

But travel plug adapters *do not change the voltage*, so the electricity coming through the adapter will still be the same 220-240 volts the socket is supplying. If you need to use appliances that are not compatible with 220-240 volt electrical input, you will need a voltage converter.



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 US\$ as well as its own unit of currency, the Zimbabwe Bond Dollar. It is advised to carry small denominations of change with you, however it is best to pay for as much as possible outside of the country. US\$ work best and are widely accepted in supermarkets, and for curios, accommodation, activities and gratuities. South African Rand and Euros are only accepted in some places in Victoria Falls. 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, plus extra, into US\$. 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. 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 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 acclimating 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.

In **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 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 that 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.
