



SHOEBILL SAFARI



The Luangwa Valley, which marks the end of the Great Rift Valley, is one of the last unspoilt wilderness areas and possibly the finest wildlife sanctuary in Africa. It covers an area of over 9000 sq. km. through which the meandering Luangwa River runs. The oxbow lagoons, woodland and plains of the valley host huge concentrations of game - including elephant, buffalo, leopard, lion, giraffe, hippo - and over 450 species of birds.

The Bangweulu wetlands, just north of Kasanka are one of Africa's most spectacular wildlife secrets with over 100,000 black lechwe and the world's most visible shoebill storks. Kasanka is famed for having over 400 bird species, as well as both the tsessebe and sitatunga species of antelope. The South Luangwa and Zambezi River add to the wildlife experience with the chance to see wild dog and explore the lush, colourful landscape at this time of year.

This is an exceptional 6 day safari combining South Luangwa National Park, Kasanka National Park and Bangweulu Swamps. One of our leading guides – Keyala (Kiki) Phiri - will lead this trip. Any of our guests who has travelled to Nkwali will remember Kiki for his outstanding knowledge and infectious laugh.

Join Keyala Phiri for this exceptional trip covering the South Luangwa, Kasanka, and Bangweulu swamps. On the hunt for the remarkable shoebill stork, you will also encounter elephants, lions, giraffes, and host of other species.

After a couple of nights at Nkwali in the South Luangwa the group flies to Kasanka there are many bird species that will be new to the safari and the sitatunga will certainly been seen at the swamp. Then the safari will continue onto Bangweulu Swamps, which remains one of Zambia special gems - with superb birding from all the water birds to the endangered wattled crane elegantly strolling around the plains. Of course the star attraction remains the extraordinary shoebill. At this time of year it is virtually a sure sighting. The area also hosts the endemic black lechwe along with tsessebe and buffalo.

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Day 1 On arrival at Lusaka International Airport, you will be met by a representative from Tours Africa, who will assist you with your luggage and check-in for your flight to Mfuwe. Keyala will be waiting for you at the Mfuwe airport where he will drive you to Nkwali Camp. The drive to Nkwali Camp is 1 hour through colourful local scenes of villages, agriculture as well as bush. Nkwali Camp has a wide view of the Luangwa River. On Robin's private land, and overlooking the South Luangwa National Park, Nkwali is ideally situated for the start of your safari. The six rooms all look out over the river and have open air bathrooms.

Depending on your arrival time in the day you will enjoy a lunch looking out over the lagoon to the back of Nkwali or if in the afternoon for tea and the afternoon and night game drive.



Day 2 This is a full day to explore the Luangwa, onboard a vehicle or on foot.

Day 3 After breakfast around the camp fire you will be transferred to Mfuwe Airport with Keyala for the 50 mins flight to Kasanka National Park. Depending on your flight time you may arrive in time for lunch and then enjoy birding for the afternoon with Keyala along the Luwombwa River. With luck you may see African finfoot, ross' lourie, pel's fishing owl and osprey. Returning to camp for dinner and an early night or after dinner drinks around the camp fire.



Day 4 Enjoy a day of birding and game watching in the hope of seeing many mammal species such as Lichtenstein's hartebeest, sable antelope, reedbuck and the rare blue monkey. Visit the sitatunga hide with its panoramic views over the Kapabi Swamp where you can spot as many as 40 sitatunga feeding at one time.



Day 5 Transfer by plane to Bangweulu Swamps, arriving at Shoebill Camp by boat from the airstrip. The search by boat and foot will start - to track down the elusive Shoebill. Back to camp for lunch and out again after tea to see the herds of antelope for which the area is famous. Dinner is simple but adequate and then an early night.

Day 6 Another relaxing day at Shoebill Camp with morning and evening activities birding and enjoying the surroundings. Watch from the hide at dawn or dusk as thousands of waterfowl fly overhead.



Day 7 Today you will take a flight back to Lusaka for your onward connection. Alternatively you can extend your Shoebill safari with more nights in the South Luangwa National Park, Livingstone, the Lower Zambezi National Park or Kafue National Park – just ask!

TRACKS SAFARIS – WE GET YOU CLOSER TO AFRICA!

