

# 14 NIGHT ZIMBABWE WILDERNESS A LUXURY FLYING SAFARI VICTORIA FALLS, HWANGE, MANA POOLS AND LAKE KARIBA



# DAY ONE

On arrival into Victoria Falls International Airport and after clearing customs you are met by Tracks Safaris representatives and transferred the short distance to the Victoria Falls Hotel for two nights on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. We have included a visit to Victoria Falls and a Sundowner Cruise during your stay.

With dramatic views of the gorges of Zimbabwe's spectacular Victoria Falls, The Victoria Falls Hotel was built by the British in 1904 and was originally conceived as accommodation for workers on the Cape-to-Cairo railway. Today it is a famous luxury hotel offering world class comforts in a very unique setting. Serene lily ponds, arched loggias and broad verandas – the hotel and some rooms offer magnificent views of the gorges and bridge below.

Steeped in history and one of the oldest hotels in Africa, The Victoria Falls Hotel features 161 rooms and suites - a five-star experience of glamour and old world style.



#### DAY THREE

Today you will be transferred back to Victoria Falls International Airport in time for your light aircraft flight to Hwange National Park. On arrival you are met by Wilderness Safaris and transferred to Little Makalolo Camp for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

Little Makalolo lies in the heart of one of the best game viewing areas in Hwange National Park. Overlooking a vibrant waterhole, it offers privacy for guests who enjoy small camps and a sense of remoteness.



The camp's six traditional-style tents – including a family unit – are spacious and en-suite, with indoor and outdoor showers. Solar power is used for tent lights and to heat water, ensuring a lighter environmental footprint.

Linking the tents to the main area are teak walkways. Here a false mopane tree in the centre of the camp shades a separate dining and living area with an open fire deck for those convivial evening fireside tales under the stars. A raised pool deck, which also shelters the bar and breakfast 'room', offers evocative views of the much-frequented waterhole in front of camp.

If you would really like to get a little closer to the wildlife we recommend spending a few hours in the photographic hide – you can get some wonderful photos of wildlife coming to the waterhole to drink!

Hwange's mix of different veld and landscape types means that game viewing is productive year-round. Wildlife frequently encountered in our area includes lion, large herds of elephant, buffalo, cheetah, leopard, spotted hyaena, giraffe, sable, blue wildebeest, impala, waterbuck and reedbuck. In summer, wildebeest, zebra and eland are found in abundance on the open plains, while in winter elephant congregate in enormous numbers around the waterholes. Birdlife in the area is prolific with over 400 species - and varied.



# DAY SIX

Today you will transfer to the airstrip for your light aircraft flight to Mana Pools National Park. On arrival you will be met by Wilderness Safaris and transferred to Ruckomechi Camp for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

On the middle reaches of the Zambezi River, a hundred km below Lake Kariba is the Mana Pools National Park situated in the heart of the Zambezi Valley. Ruckomechi Camp lies on the banks of the Zambezi, shaded by a large grove of acacia and mahogany trees and with a superb view of the mountains of Africa's Great Rift Valley across the river in Zambia. Ruckomechi Camp accommodates guests in ten spacious en-suite tented units all of which overlook the Zambezi River. Each tent has both indoor and outdoor showers - and an outdoor 'bath-with-a-view' in a secluded, scenic spot.

The central dining, bar, library and lounge areas face the escarpment and are connected to the rest of the camp by low-level walkways that minimise environmental impact. There is a separate deck with infinity pool for swimming and sun bathing, and an inviting, cushion-strewn star gazing deck.

Ruckomechi Camp has aimed to be as environmentally friendly as possible - hot water and lighting for each unit is provided by solar power.

The area is renowned for large numbers of elephant, buffalo, hippo and eland, especially in the winter when they concentrate along the river. Predators such as lion, leopard and wild dog are all found in the area. Birdlife is superb, particularly for both mopane woodland and riverine species with numerous local specials like Collared Palm-Thrush, Racket-tailed Roller, Purple-banded Sunbird and Black-throated Wattle-Eyes.

Activities at Ruckomechi Camp include wildlife viewing in open 4x4 vehicles, on motorised pontoon boats, on foot and in canoes.



#### DAY NINE

Today you are transferred to the airstrip for your light aircraft flight to Lake Kariba. On arrival you are met by Bumi Hills and transferred to the lodge for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

Bumi Hills Safari Lodge is set on a range of remote hills in one of Zimbabwe's finest wilderness locations and with the Zambezi escarpment as its backdrop, this haven of serenity overlooks the shimmering waters of Lake Kariba below. Not only is Kariba's shoreline wildlife-rich, but the lodge's proximity to Matusadona allows for the wildlife to freely move between the national park and Bumi Hill's private concession creating superb game-viewing opportunities.

Ten spacious suites are appointed with all the comforts you will need for your stay and each has airconditioning, an en-suite bathroom, hairdryer, battery charging points, mini-bar and a private viewing deck offering spectacular views of the lake. For families there is the option to stay in the Baobab Villa, a two bedroomed private villa with a private butler, safari guide and a dedicated safari vehicle.

Activities include guided walking safaris, water activities, day and night game drives all led by our qualified and passionate guides who will share their knowledge and love of the bush with you. All activities complimentary.



# DAY TWELVE

Today you will be transferred back to the airstrip in time for your light aircraft flight back to Victoria Falls. On arrival you will be met by Elephant Camp and transferred to camp for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

Situated on a private concession within and bounded by the Masuwe River and the Zambezi gorges, The Elephant Camp has breath taking views of the Victoria Falls as well as the spectacular gorges which separate Zimbabwe and Zambia.

The Elephant Camp is a luxury and intimate lodge under canvas around 10 minutes from Victoria Falls and all its attractions and activities, yet secluded in its own private game reserve so as to allow close-up encounters with wildlife.

The suites are all equipped with indoor and outdoor showers, huge baths, private lounges, mini bar and tea/coffee stations, overhead fans plus air conditioning and are all mosquito proofed.

The Elephant Camp overlooks a waterhole that is fed by natural streams in the rainy season that rush down to meet the Masuwe River, and the Zambezi gorges below the Falls.

We have included a 'Meet the Elephant' experience at Horizons Elephant Sanctuary and Orphanage - an authentic and positive elephant encounter. 'Meet the Elephant' will allow you the opportunity to unobtrusively interact with some of the biggest personalities in Africa!



#### DAY FIFTEEN

You are transferred to Victoria Falls Airport in time for your international flight back home.





# **TRACKS SAFARIS – WE GET YOU CLOSER TO AFRICA!**

