



## **GERNERAL TRAVEL INFO ZAMBIA**



### **ZAMBIA**

The best time to visit Victoria Falls on the Zambia side is March to May (end of rainy season) otherwise there may be no water coming over the Zambian side of the falls.

If you want to have the best game viewing and pleasant daytime temperatures is May to October.

**The best places to explore in Zambia are as per our recommendations:**

- Victoria Falls
- North Luangwa National Park
- South Luangwa National Park
- Lower Zambezi National Park
- Kafue National Park

**Top 4 reasons why one should Go:**

- Big game viewing is consistently good
- Excellent local guides and some of the best in Africa
- The National Parks offer a diverse list of activities
- Upmarket accommodations
- Victoria Falls



### **Some great things we recommend to Do and See:**

- Take a guided walking safari in the South Luangwa National Park
- Take Game drives around the Luangwa River which is known for the concentration of game
- Canoe or fishing safari on the lower Zambezi River
- Book a trip to the Livingston Island and have a dip in the famous Devil's pool which is not to be missed!
- Stay in one of the luxury tented camps in the Kafue National Park

### **Top 3 Restaurants recommended in Zambia:**

- Marlin Restaurant is a steakhouse and well known by the locals as well as tourists. Address: Lusaka Club Longacres, Lusaka
- The Rainforest Cafe offers African and Mediterranean cuisine. Address: Livingstone Way, Victoria Falls
- Zambezi Sun Poolside Grill & Pool Deck Bar, Address: Mosi-oa-Tunya Road, Livingston

### **CURRENCY:**

In 1968 the short-lived Pound was replaced by the Kwacha. The Kwacha is the currency of Zambia and is undivided into 100 Ngwee (ZMW). The name Ngwee translates as "bright" in the Nyanja language.

Herewith the available coins and bank notes as follows:

Coins - 5, 10, 50 Ngwee and 1 Kwacha

Bank Notes - 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 Kwacha

Zambia has a free market economy with no exchange control and the Kwacha rate can fluctuate significantly. Such as US Dollar, British Pound, Euro and other currencies can be exchanged over the counter at Bureau de Change companies and banks in cities and towns across the country.

Please note: Exchanging money on the streets or with individuals at the border posts is illegal and often expensive.

ATM machines are available in the centre of Livingstone town and airport, and accept Visa though Stabic Banks. Most larger hotels, shopping malls and restaurants will accept MasterCard.

### **DRIVING INFO:**

Only about 18% of the roads are paved and once you venture off those roads enter some of the most beautiful and remote areas in Africa.

4x4 experience is needed to tackle Zambia tracks in the bush especially after rains most of the gravel roads are only passable when using a 4x4. Therefore the routes are only recommended for someone who has driven on a self-drive safari in Africa before.



The speed limit is 80km/h on tar/paved roads and 60km/h on gravel roads and in cities/villages.

Motorists must keep their driver's licences with them and the seat belts in from and on the back seats must be worn at all times.

### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS:**

In the last 15 years of operating and selling holidays in Africa we fortunately did not experience any big emergency's. But just in case anything would happen please find some important info below.

Emergency Services: 999  
Emergency Police: 991  
Ambulance: 991  
Fire Brigade: 993  
Air Rescue Service: +260 211 236 644/ 211 702 664

### Hospitals:

Kabulonga: MKP Trust Medical Hospital, Tel: +260 211 26 6986  
Livingstone: Livingstone General Hospital, Tel: +260 213 32 0221  
Lusaka: Medicross Hospital, Tel: +260 97 959 5498  
Lusaka: Thebe Medical Centre, Tel: +260 211 29 1037  
Lusaka: Victoria Hospital, Tel: +260 211 29 0985  
Lusaka: Villa Hospital, Tel: +260 211 22 5477  
Woodlands: Lusaka Trust Hospital, Tel: +260 211 25 2190

### Police Stations:

Airport: Tel: +260 211 271 363  
Chingola: Tel: |+260 212 313 111  
Choma: Tel: +260 221 464  
Gwembe: Tel: +260 240 026  
Katete: Tel: +260 252 211  
Kitwe: Tel: +260 212 231 888  
Livingston: Tel: +260 323 575  
Luanshya: Tel: +260 212 510 600  
Lupapule: Tel: +260 2 821 644  
Lusaka: Tel: +260 979 810 007, 950 180 007, 969 180 008  
Mazabuka: Tel: +260 230 600  
Muchinga: +260 955 373 939  
Mufulira: Tel: +260 212 410 037  
Nyimba: Tel: +260 374 283  
Petauke: Tel: +260 371 011  
Sida: Tel: +260 240 09 / 245 046



## **LANGUAGES / HOSPITALITY:**

Zambia widely claimed to have over 72 languages which some of them are dialects. Bemba is Zambia's most widely spoken language together with English, which is the official language also in business and education.

Seven vernacular languages have official status and are members of the Bantu family and are closely related to one another.

Herewith a few basic in Bemba:

<b>Ulishani / Mulishani</b>	Hello
<b>Ishina Ivandi ni...</b>	My name is...
<b>Niwe nani?</b>	What is your name?
<b>Ninani</b>	His/her name is
<b>Ni we John?</b>	Are you John?
<b>Inkewebe...</b>	Let me introduce...
<b>Muli Shani (formal)?</b>	How are you?
<b>Wafumakwa?</b>	Where are you from?
<b>Nafuma ku Great Britan</b>	I am from the Great Britain
<b>Walishimba icisunau?</b>	Do you know English?
<b>We panono</b>	Yes a little
<b>Mbelelako uluse</b>	I am sorry / Excuse me
<b>Kakulva cakasuba</b>	Lunch
<b>Kakulva cakungule</b>	Dinner
<b>Ifvakulva</b>	Food
<b>Ifvakunwa</b>	Drink
<b>Natotela sana</b>	Thank you for a wonderful time
<b>Ee</b>	Yes
<b>Awe</b>	No
<b>Bweno</b>	Ok
<b>Mukwai</b>	Please
<b>Mwaikaleni</b>	Good morning
<b>Cngulo mukwai</b>	Good afternoon
<b>Sendamenipo</b>	Good night
<b>Tukamonana</b>	See you later
<b>Ndolela</b>	Please wait for me
<b>Nshishibe</b>	I don't know
<b>Nintatala</b>	I am cold
<b>Ninkaba</b>	I am hot

## **FOOD IN ZAMBIA:**

The country is well-known for its cuisine and towns like Livingstone and Lusaka have some good Western style restaurant and curry houses.

You will find in the luxury lodges and safari camps interesting barbecued game meats and other African influenced dishes.



Nshima is a stiff porridge made from ground maize and eaten daily in the rural area. A thinned down version is eaten for breakfast with sugar and butter. The Nshima is served with Ndiwo which is a relish or sauce made from fish boiled with green vegetables or meat.

Chibuku (known as Shake-Shake) is a very popular drink amongst the people. This is a beer made from maize/sorghum and tastes a little like a sour alcoholic milkshake.

Their delicacies includes such as sautéed grasshoppers, caterpillars, dices and flying ants and Zambians look forward to the once-a-year feast!

### **Tipping:**

Some restaurant will add a service charge to your bill and if not 10% is customary in restaurants.

### **SAFETY:**

Where ever you travel your safety is of course always of our utmost concern. With over 15 years of travel experience in Africa we compiled some general tips below.

You must always be prepared for the unexpected like an animal wandering on the road, huge potholes and/or unexpected corner. It is wiser never to exceed about 80km/h on tar roads and 60km/h on gravel roads.

Never drive at night unless you have to due to wild and domestic animals spending the night by the side of the roads which makes it a warm resting place, pedestrians and unlit moving vehicles. We also do not suggest to drive nor take a walk outside the main towns or in townships. Remember, criminals are more active at night and the risk of carjacking and criminal activity increases.

Car windows and doors should be locked when driving on congested roads and no valuables should be left inside the car when parked at all times.

### **VISA REQUIREMENTS / BORDER POSTS:**

Visas are required for most passports and can be purchased at the airport or border posts in US Dollars cash.

Please reconfirm before departure with your embassy whether is is advisable for you to apply for a visa or not. You can also log onto [www.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm](http://www.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm) for further information and please note that the visa requirements can change without notice.

**PLEASE NOTE** as from the 1st July 2015 visitors entering SA travelling with kids require an unabridged birth certificate to enter the country.  
No passenger will therefore be allowed to travel without these papers - be it by land, sea or air.  
For more detailed info on the minor travel/immigration regulations, please visit - [www.dha.gov.za](http://www.dha.gov.za)



For our self-drive tourists the most used border posts into Zambia are:

ANGOLA / ZAMBIA:

**Jimbe Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

**Caripande / Chavunna Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

BOTSWANA / ZAMBIA:

**Kasungula Ferry**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

MALAWI / ZAMBIA:

**Chipata / Mchinji Border Post**

Opening hours: 24 hours

MOZAMBIQUE / ZAMBIA:

**Chanida / Cassacatiza Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

**Luangwa / Zumbo Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

NAMIBIA / ZAMBIA:

**Wenela Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

TANZANIA / ZAMBIA:

**Mbala Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

**Nakonde Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

ZIMBABWE / ZAMBIA:

**Chirundu Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

**Siavonga / Kariba Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 20h00

**Kazungula Ferry**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

**Kazungula Road**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

**Livingstone / Victoria Falls Border Post**

Opening hours: 06h00 - 18h00

Please note: A third party insurance is compulsory and is obtained at border post

**HEALTH / INSURANCE:**

Livingstone is a Malaria area and prophylactics should be taken. Whatever prophylactics you use, remember to complete the course as directed after leaving the malaria area.

It is advisable to ensure that your Tetanus vaccine is up to date (6-8 weeks in advance of departure) and your local travel clinic will be able to assist you with further information regarding other needed inoculations.

A Medical and Travel insurance is highly recommended prior to the start of the holiday.

**WHAT TO PACK:**

In **Zambia**, the **climate** is tropical or sub-tropical depending on altitude, with a hot, humid, and rainy season from mid-November to March and a dry season from April to mid-November.

- Clothes in neutral colours
- Long-sleeved shirts that offer protection from the sun and mosquitoes
- T-shirts
- Shorts or a light skirt
- Jeans or safari trousers for evenings and cooler days
- Jackets and sweaters for early morning and late afternoon game drives

For evening we suggest something more formal at more up market and exclusive lodges/hotels. DO NOT FORGET the binoculars for the game viewing!