

Victoria Falls Experience

3 days | Starts/Ends: Victoria Falls



PRIVATE TOUR: Visit Zimbabwe's spectacular Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, and enjoy a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River on this three day package which can be extended to allow more time to partake in the exciting array of activities that Africa's adventure playground has to offer.

- A sunset cruise on the Zambezi River - shared with other guests (for the Superior and Deluxe versions of this package the cruise is aboard the luxurious Ra-Ikane)
- Guided tour of the Victoria Falls (shared with other guests)

What's Not Included

- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Optional activities
- International flights and visas

After breakfast enjoy a guided tour of the spectacular Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World and the largest single sheet of falling water on Earth. The force of the water, estimated at around 545 million litres per minute during the rainy season, sends clouds of spray up to 500m into the air. The falls lie within Victoria Falls National Park and from the forest path which runs along the edge of the falls, there are a number of spectacular vantage points.

In the afternoon is free for you to partake in some of the exciting optional activities that Victoria Falls has to offer. There are activities to entertain all ages and interests from high octane to sedate. Enjoy a bird's eye view of the falls on a helicopter ride or an exhilarating micro light flight, go white water rafting on the Zambezi River, bungee jump from Victoria Falls Bridge or enjoy a scenic horse ride. We recommend booking activities in advance so please let our reservation team know what interests you. **Overnight - Victoria Falls (B)**

Day 3 : Victoria Falls

Depending on your departure time, you will be taken to Victoria Falls Airport for your onward flight.

Note: If you'd like more time to enjoy the many activities on offer at Victoria Falls, additional nights accommodation can be booked upon request. **Overnight - Victoria Falls (B)**

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Marvel at one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World
- Enjoy a scenic sunset cruise on the rushing Zambezi River
- Choose from an exciting range of activities on offer in Africa's adventure capital

What's Included

- 2 nights STANDARD accommodation. SUPERIOR or DELUXE accommodation upgrade options are available upon request. Accommodation rating – See Trip Notes for details
- 2 breakfasts
- Airport arrival and departure transfer

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Victoria Falls Sunset Cruise

Arrive into Victoria Falls, Southern Africa's adventure capital. At the airport you will be met and transferred to your accommodation. This afternoon, relax on a sunset cruise along the mighty Zambezi River. **Overnight - Victoria Falls**

Day 2 : Tour of the falls



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HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Bayete Guest Lodge

The family run Bayete Guest Lodge is just 3km from Victoria Falls town. Recently renovated the lodge boasts 25 rooms all set in a tropical lush garden. Guest rooms are spacious with four poster beds. The walls are adorned with beautiful African artwork and the rooves are in a thatched style. A beautiful tear drop swimming pool sits in the centre of the lodge and the onsite Ingwezi Tavern is a great place to relax and grab a refreshment or two.



Ilala Lodge

Set amongst pretty landscaped gardens, the elegant Ilala Lodge is the perfect place for exploring Victoria Falls. Spread out over two floors, the guest rooms are beautifully furnished in a classic style with teak wooden furniture. The falls are much more visible from the upper floors however the ground floor offers charming proximity to the friendly warthogs who frequent the hotel grounds to graze. The hotel also benefits from a gorgeous outdoor pool and award winning restaurant. The lodge is located within walking distance of the mighty Victoria Falls.



Please note

The Victoria Falls tour is scheduled, this means that you'll be joined by other travellers, it is not a private tour.

We offer a choice of standard, superior and deluxe accommodation. Please see below for details. Should you wish to stay at an alternative hotel please let us know and we can try to arrange this for you.

Accommodation ratings

On our Private trips, you can often choose your style of accommodation. The price quoted on our website is reflective of the included accommodation, please see the "included" section on the first page of this document for details. Should you opt for an alternative hotel category, this will be confirmed in writing with the respective price on your invoice.

For further details about the indicative hotels, please see the "hotels" tab on our website. Here we rank hotel's in their respective country (REGIONAL CATEGORY) - but we also tell you how it ranks by Western standards (OUR CATEGORY).

STANDARD - Equates to a Western 3-star standard, always featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant.

SUPERIOR - Equates to a Western 4-star standard, featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant and often a swimming pool and/or a fitness centre.

DELUXE - Equates to a Western 5-star standard, usually featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, excellent service and customer care.

LUXURY - Equates to a Western 5-star plus standard - the creme de la creme. Featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, this accommodation is a cut above the rest. Sheer opulence!

Standard accommodation

Amadeus Garden Guesthouse or similar (rooms with en-suite bathrooms, swimming pool, bar and restaurant area)

Amadeus offers clean and clutter free accommodation in eleven rooms all of which are tastefully decorated and furnished with local teak furniture. All beds are fitted with firm therapeutic mattresses. Rooms include solar heated en-suite hot and cold shower, windows fitted with fly-screens, electronic safes and are naturally ventilated by ceiling fans. Relax and revitalise in the shade of the thatched gazebo set in a sub-tropical courtyard. Find your space and privacy in the garden or cool off in the crystal clear swimming pool.

Superior accommodation

Ilala Lodge or similar (rooms with en-suite bathrooms, swimming pool, bar and restaurant)

Ilala Lodge offers distinguished accommodation in warm elegant surroundings. The decor evokes an era of early adventure and the quest for discovery in Africa. The Hotel is ideally situated being the closest to the mighty Victoria Falls as well as the town centre. The National Park borders the front of the property and wild animals often graze on the hotel lawns, with the spray of the falls in the background.

Deluxe accommodation

Victoria Falls Safari Club or similar (rooms with en-suite bathrooms, swimming pool, dining area and bar)

Set high on a plateau which forms a natural boundary to the Zambezi National Park and offering uninterrupted views of pristine Africa, the sumptuous Victoria Falls Safari Club with its 16 Club Rooms and 4 lavish suites afford a superior five-star premium experience. Rooms are decorated in a distinctive and fresh African style, and host modern comforts such as air-conditioning, mini bar, large digital safe, a beverage station with espresso machine and complimentary Wi-Fi. Designed with space and comfort in mind, rooms are fitted with glass sliding doors leading on to private balconies with beautiful vistas.

Guests enjoy peaceful exclusivity with numerous benefits and personal butler service, including access to facilities such as dining, the pool, the bar and terrace at

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the adjacent award winning Victoria Falls Safari Lodge Resort. The Club's supreme wilderness location belies the fact that nature's masterpiece, the Victoria Falls, and the town centre are just 10 minutes away on a complimentary on-the-hour shuttle coach.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Passports & visas

Please ensure that you have at least two blank pages in your passport, plus an additional blank page for each visa/African country you are visiting. If travelling on one of our longer overland safaris we recommend that you have at least 12 blank pages in your passport.

Please also note that your passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the end date of your trip.

Any visa information provided in this document is for general guidance purposes only, visa requirements and fees are subject to change. It is essential that you check current entry requirements with each relevant embassy/consulate prior to departure. Visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go.

Booking your flights

When booking your departure flight you should allow time at the end of your African safari for any unexpected delays. We recommend that you book your onward flight no earlier than 24 hours after the end of your safari. In the case of our longer overland camping safaris (22 days or more) we advise against making any firm arrangements for at least 48 hours after the scheduled departure date. Your tour leader can help to arrange post tour accommodation locally upon request.

Allergies/likes/dislikes

Whilst all will be done to accommodate everyone, sometimes the choice available is limited as your cook may be making the best of very limited availability, so some flexibility may be required when encountering something you're not particularly fond of or have chosen not to eat as a lifestyle choice. Should you possess allergies which will result

in a medical emergency or a life threatening situation then please ensure you speak to your cook on arrival so you can discuss the options available whilst en-route. This will ensure also that they are fully aware of what you can or cannot eat and make adjustments.

Zimbabwe Country Guide

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Africa.

UK, Ireland, Australian, New Zealand, USA and Canadian passport holders require a visa to enter Zimbabwe, these visas are available at the border for the following costs: Australian, New Zealand and US citizens: US \$30 single/\$45 double entry visa. British and Irish is US\$55 single/\$70 double. Canadians can only obtain a single entry visa at the border for US \$75. South African passport holders can obtain a visa for free. Visas can be brought using post 2003 US\$ notes, GB£ or South African Rand.

KAZA Visa

Zimbabwe and Zambia have re-introduced the popular, and much-awaited KAZA (Kavango-Zambezi) "Uni-Visa", which allows visitors to stay in either (or both) countries for up to 30 days for a single payment of US\$50.

The UniVisa is available at Harare, Victoria Falls, Lusaka and Livingstone International airports, the Victoria Falls land border (Zimbabwe/Zambia) and the Kazungula land border (Zimbabwe/Zambia/Botswana).

The border crossings we use in Zimbabwe include:

Kazungula (Botswana/Zimbabwe)

Vaccinations

Seek advice from your doctor or travel clinic at least six weeks prior to departure about

what vaccinations you require. Typically the list includes typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, polio, hepatitis A and B (for stays over 4 weeks).

In Zimbabwe a malarial risk exists from November to June in all areas below 1200m and throughout the year in the Zambezi Valley. We strongly recommend that you take your anti-malaria medication. Other precautionary measures to prevent contact with mosquitoes include: insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and wear long sleeve clothing and long trousers in the evenings.

Yellow fever: A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers over one year of age coming from infected areas.

Currency

The Zimbabwean Dollar was abandoned in April 2009. The country has adopted a multi-currency scheme; the US Dollar and South African Rand can be used for domestic transactions.

Zimbabwe is essentially a cash-only society now with ATMs pretty useless for the foreigner. Credit cards only used in a handful of places, however all major hotels will now accept this payment. We recommend bringing enough cash to cover your stay in Zimbabwe (in either USD or ZAR) especially in the smaller denominations (US\$1-20 and ZAR10 - 200) as there is always a shortage of change and shopkeepers will often refuse larger bills. Please also be aware it is illegal to leave Zimbabwe with over \$1000 (or equivalent) in cash.

Zimbabwe introduced Bond Notes into circulation on 28 November 2017 which will be used alongside the US dollar and other currencies. These Bond Notes will be at a 1:1 parity with the US dollar. However, they are only legal tender within Zimbabwe and as such can only be used there. These Bond notes will be in \$2 and \$5 denominations and there will also be a new \$1 Bond coin.

Banking hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri - 0800-1500, Wed 0800-1300 and Sat - 0800-1130. In major towns/cities most banks have an ATM. American Express, Diners

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Club and Visa cards are widely accepted. Major foreign currencies can be exchanged at bureaux de change and banks at the official exchange rate. Please also be aware it is illegal to leave Zimbabwe with over \$1000 (or equivalent). As of June 2016 it is becoming increasingly difficult to withdraw money from ATMs in Zimbabwe. There is a cash limit of \$500 per day - however a lot of banks are not replenishing the ATMs. It is strongly advised that you bring enough money with you before you enter Zimbabwe and don't rely on getting any whilst there.

Travellers cheques are accepted at banks, these should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Most banks will want to see your passport and proof of purchase receipt before cashing your travellers cheques. Please Note: Travellers cheques can be difficult to cash so do not rely upon them as your sole source of funds.

Time & Voltage

Standard voltage is 220-240V. Primary sockets require a 'Type G' - British plug, or 'Type D' - old English plug or Indian plug. You will need a voltage converter and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Zimbabwe is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

Climate

Although located in the tropics, temperate conditions prevail all year round in Zimbabwe as the climate is moderated by altitude and the inland position of the country.

Zimbabwe has a rainy season from November/December to March, during this time days are hot and sunny with possible afternoon thunderstorms. By April and May most of the rain is gone, skies are clear and days are sunny and warm. Night time temperatures drop dramatically between June and August although daytime temperatures remain pleasantly warm. Late August sees the start of the hot and dry season which continues until October.

Zambian Airport Departure Tax

NOTES FOR THOSE FLYING OUT OF LIVINGSTONE AIRPORT IN ZAMBIA

An airport departure tax is in place for all flights departing from Zambian airports. It will no longer be included on the ticket and will now be collected in Zambian Kwacha cash direct from the passenger. The amount payable is currently K28,000 for Domestic Flights and K56,000 for International Flights and is payable on departure from all Zambian airports. Passengers need to have ZMK cash available for this tax. Please note, departure taxes are subject to change.

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