



Luambe National Park, Luangwa Valley *Welcome to the Wilderness*

Practical Information

Zambia is a land-locked country. Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia are its neighbours to the South, Malawi and Mozambique to the East, Tanzania to the North and Angola and the Republic of Congo to the West.

Lying between the 10 and 20 degrees latitude Zambia belongs to the tropics. However, the majority of the country lies 1300m above sea level, a fact responsible for Zambia's welcoming climate.

The country is further bordered by three massive lakes (Lake Bangweulu, Lake Kariba, and Lake Tanganyika) and is fed by several rivers, the Zambezi being the most famous and the biggest. Two thirds of this majestic African river runs through Zambian territory.

The Zambian government has created 19 National Parks which cover 8% of the country's land surface.

Lusaka, the capital, is the centre of this upcoming country. From here major roads lead to the North, South, East and West.

The road network covers approximately 38,700 km of tarred road, 8,600 km of gravel road and 2,200 km of dirt track strictly for 4x4 users only.

In comparison to the bordering countries Zambia is not as densely populated. The majority of its inhabitants (approx. 10 million people) live in big cities - approximately 2 million in Lusaka.

The population includes more than **70 ethnically diverse groups**. And almost as much diversity can be found in the local languages. Around Luangwa Wilderness Lodge people speak Nyanja.

Zambia has been a democracy since it has gained its **independence in 1964**. In the past the country has had to overcome exploitation, a high credit debt and a socialistic government. But Zambia has always had free elections and a peaceful change of government.



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The country currently represents one of the most stable and economically promising countries in the region.

The **country is peaceful and friendly** when it comes to the people, a country of exciting contemporary culture, but wild and untamed in respect of wildlife and adventure.

Lusaka and Lilongwe can be reached from Europe by direct flight from London on British Airways. Air Ethiopia flies regularly direct to Lusaka via Addis Abbeba. Alternatives are Lufthansa, South African Airlines, Emirates or Qatar via Jo'burg or KLM in cooperation with Kenya Airways via Nairobi. International visitors may need a visa and different fees apply according to nationality.

Visitors carrying UK passports must pay £75 or \$150 per entry. Visitors from Continental Europe must pay \$50 for a single entry visa or \$175 for a multiple entry visas. These rates are subject to change (we are actively lobbying the Zambian Government to reduce them!), so please do check your with your local Zambian embassy or high commission for updates.

All reasonable precautions are made to minimise the occupancy of mosquitoes in the camp area, with mosquito nets being provided in each tent. All drinking water is boiled and filtered for utmost safety. All clients are advised to take precautions for malaria, as it is a common precaution for the whole Luangwa valley.

Please consult your doctor or travel clinic with regard to other vaccination recommendations for travel to Zambia.

Being in an untamed wilderness far away from health services we strongly advise clients to obtain health insurance that covers emergency evacuation to the closest suitable hospital - often in South Africa.

Although a British doctor in Mfuwe can be consulted for minor problems, in general the healthcare in Zambia is still very basic and does not correspond to international standards.

Due to the remoteness of the camp we are not connected to public electricity or water supply. In order to run our fridges and deep-freezers as well as the communication systems we have installed 3 electrical circuits run by solar power.



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Razors, camera batteries etc. can be charged on request.

Our water is collected from a deep well and all drinking water filtered through a porcelain filter. The water is provided in tents in a flask has been filtered and boiled and is safe for drinking. Although every effort is taken to keep the lodge free of mosquitoes, we strongly advise malaria prophylaxis as Zambia falls under the malaria risk regions. As mosquitoes tend to bite more at sunset we recommend long-sleeve shirts and long trousers for the afternoon as well as the use of insect repellent on exposed unprotected skin.

Wildlife reacts to bright reflecting colours. Clothing should therefore be of natural colours and natural materials such as cotton are more comfortable and advisable.

Try not to wear blue as tsetse flies are attracted by this colour. Tea tree oil and taking Vitamin B 12 tablets are also recommended for keeping tsetse fly at bay.

Your packing list should further include binoculars, enough camera equipment, films, necessary medication, batteries, a good torch, a wide-brimmed hat and UV-protecting sunglasses. For game walks we recommend tight angle-high shoes/ boots.

Zambia's time zone is GMT +2 / MEZ +1.
The international phone code is 00260.