



## **World of Wonders Best of Zimbabwe 21 days**

**21 DAYS / PRICED FROM EUR 1995 (see details below)**

**HIGHLIGHTS • Dazzling Victoria Falls • Exciting game drives in Hwange National Park  
• Unique community project and village visit in Lukhosi • Vibrant city life of Bulawayo  
• Rhino track and trace in Matopo National Park • Great Zimbabwe Ruins •  
Chimanimani Bridal Veil Falls and mountain trekking • Chinhoyi Caves • Mana Pools  
National Park • Lake Kariba houseboat and Matusadona National Park**

### **THE FACTS:**

Tour duration	21 days
Start	Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)
End	Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)
Type of trip	overland camping and lodges safari
Means of transport	4x4 safari vehicle, minibus / overland truck
Accommodation	chalets, lodges (eco friendly) and camping
Number of participants	9-20 persons
Crew	a driver mechanic and a guide / cook
Catering	breakfast, lunch, dinner

### **ITINERARY**

#### **DAY 1 Flight from Amsterdam / Brussels to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**

#### **DAY 2 Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**

Welcome to Victoria Falls town on the border of Zimbabwe and Zambia. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your campsite: Victoria Falls Rest Camp is where we are going to start and stay. In the evening you will meet your guide and the rest of the group for your pre-departure meeting. If time will allow us, we will visit the mighty Victoria Falls together for sunset. Otherwise we will do so the next morning. (UNESCO World Heritage site)

The falls are known as the greatest curtain of falling water in the world and present a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur on the Zambezi River, forming the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. It was described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 1800s as 'Mosi oa Tunya' or 'The Smoke that Thunders'. Columns of spray can be seen from miles away as, at the height of the rainy season, more than five hundred million cubic meters of water per minute plummet over the edge, over a width of nearly two km, into a gorge over one hundred meters below. [B]

Your accommodation: Victoria Falls Rest Camp (camping)

Travel distance: 0-25 km

### **DAY 3 Living on the edge: bungee jumping, wildlife encounter or white water rafting**

Vic Falls is the adventure capital of Zimbabwe. The possibilities are plenty. Today is a free day to participate in some optional activities. [B]

Your accommodation: Victoria Falls Rest Camp

Travel distance: 0-25 km

### **DAY 4 Hwange National Park: world famous elephants among other wildlife**

After breakfast we head to Hwange National Park. This is the largest park in Zimbabwe occupying roughly 14,650 square kilometers. It is located in the northwest corner of the country, about one and a half hour south from Vic Falls. Hwange boasts a tremendous selection of wildlife with over one hundred species of mammals and nearly 400 recorded bird species. Enjoy the park's beauty on an amazing afternoon game drive in an open 4x4 safari vehicle. In the evening we will have our first campfire, where we'll share the experiences of the day as well as other heroic stories. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping in the heart of Hwange National Park

Travel distance: 145 km

### **DAY 5 Morning glory and lazy afternoon in Hwange National Park**

Watch the sun rise over a mind-blowing scenery. Today we start with a morning game drive in an open 4x4. After brunch we proceed to one of the water holes. There we will sit and wait for animals like lions, elephants and all the different types of antelopes to come to drink and take a bath. The elephants of the park are world famous and its population is one of the largest in the world. Our aim is to spot the big five. And we have a good chance! [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping in the heart of the National park

Travel distance: 80 km (game drive)

### **DAY 6 Village walk, back on route and wild dog orphanage**

After breakfast we take off for a unique village visit. Meet the people of Lukhosi and learn how they survive in this dry region of Zimbabwe. Here we are conducting a project on building Blair toilets for families who don't have any toilets (depending on the season of the year our sustainable project can change). The villagers will prepare lunch. Back on the road we will have a stopover at the Painted (or Wild) Dog Conservation near by Hwange NP. The Wild Dog population in Zimbabwe is one of the last strongholds of the species and this place is committed to their conservation, with the local people.

Final destination for this day is the spectacular campsite on the boundary of Hwange NP close to the beautiful Ivory Lodge. This lodge is located outside Hwange National Park on a private concession of 6,000 squared acres. This well appointed lodge is situated in the key home range of the Presidential Elephant herd, made famous by Alan Elliot in the 1980s. Words can't simply explain this amazing piece of paradise! We will have our sunset drinks while watching the animals having their sunset drink too. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping on the boundary of Hwange National Park

Travel distance: 160 km

### **DAY 7 The cultural city of Bulawayo**

Today we head to the second biggest city of Zimbabwe, the cultural hotspot of Bulawayo. It is a relaxed, elegant city with wide tree-lined boulevards and an air of shabby gentility, surrounded by beautiful parks, a legacy of Cecil John Rhodes. Within the city there are many examples of early Victorian buildings. The day is free to use

either to see the city or visit the Natural History museum, the Railway museum or the Bulawayo Art gallery, which is housed in a most attractive turn-of-the-century building. Or visit Mzilikazi Arts and Crafts Centre, situated just out of town off the Old Falls Road. Here visitors can choose from a wide selection of skillfully crafted sculptures, basketry, pottery, beadwork and woodwork - all made by the locals. In the evening you can take the opportunity to explore the city's nightlife, enjoy the local cuisine and dance the night away! [B]

Your accommodation: Travellers Lodge  
Travel distance: 260 km

### **DAY 8 Bulawayo – Matopo National park: Rhino track and trace – Bulawayo**

An early start to explore Matopo National park, home to the largest population of white and black rhinos. The park is one of Zimbabwe's major tourist attractions, less than an hour's drive from the city. Traveling south, you will see a number of granite outcrops, which increase in number and size, finally surrounding us the landscape in a dramatic and enveloping scenery that is truly extraordinary. In Matopo we have a walking safari, tracking the rhinos on foot. Afterwards we head back to the city where you can go out for dinner at own cost. (UNESCO World Heritage site)  
[B]

Your accommodation: Travellers Lodge  
Travel distance: 80 km

### **DAY 9 Great Zimbabwe Ruins**

After breakfast we head toward the Great Zimbabwe Ruins. In Zimbabwe people say "no visit to Zimbabwe could possibly be complete without visiting the world-famous Great Zimbabwe Ruins." And this is what we will do on this eighth day. Dating from around the 11th century these iron-age ruins have been the source of much speculation and disagreement over the years. Built without any mortar some of the walls are up to 5 meters high and still standing after so many centuries. This site was also home to 8 carved Zimbabwe birds, the image of which is found on the Zimbabwean national flag. We have a 2hour informative tour in the afternoon about the history of the ruins and Great Zimbabwe, where the country is actually named after. (UNESCO World Heritage site) [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping at the base of the ruins  
Travel distance: 360 km

### **DAY 10 Chimanimani**

After breakfast we proceed to Chimanimani National Park, where we have a challenge for those who want to put their adventurous hiking adrenaline power to the test. Our group activity today is a picnic at the crocodile free Bridal Veil Falls pool. [BLD]

Your accommodation: Camping at Heaven Lodge  
Travel distance: 270 km

### **DAY 11 Chimanimani hiking uphill**

Chimanimani National Park is situated along the eastern boundary of the Chimanimani district (bordering Mozambique) in an area of rugged mountain grandeur, enhanced by many spectacular gorges and high peaks rising to 2436 meters. There are several streams cascading through the mountain formations as well as numerous mountain springs. After breakfast we drive to the base camp. Hikers to the summit are usually encouraged to take either of two routes. Experienced hikers will find The Bailly's Folly a

worthwhile challenge, while the aspiring hikers are best advised to take The Banana Grove. Our aim is to reach the hut at 1620 meters or Terry's or Peter's cave for overnight. Both routes will bring us to the summit. For those not willing to take the trekking challenge, an optional horse riding trip can be arranged, or a free day back to the Bridal Veil Falls to relax and catch up with your diary. Overnighing in the mountain on a bush camp is an optional choice. [BLD]

Your accommodation: Camping at Heaven Lodge or bush camping  
Travel distance: 18 km and 1620 m hiking

### **DAY 12 Chimanimani downhill**

After breakfast those who choose to bush camp proceed downhill back to the base camp, where they will meet the rest of the group. For those already in the campsite it's a free day to relax and catch up with your dairies. [BLD]

Your accommodation: Camping at Heaven Lodge  
Travel distance: 18 km and hiking

### **DAY 13 To Harare**

On this full day of traveling we will meander through the Eastern Highlands Mountains via Mutare to Harare where we will sample the nightlife of Zimbabwe's capital city. More attractive than most other Southern African capitals, Harare is a safe and laidback city where wide avenues are lined with dusty red earth, and indigenous plants and blooming jacarandas give it a lovely African summertime feel. Hang around in Harare to enjoy its fine dining, museums, craft markets and hip bars. We will go out for dinner, to a recommended restaurant at your own costs. [BL]

Your accommodation: Bronte Hotel  
Travel distance: 395 km

### **DAY 14 Chinhoyi caves and Mana Pools National Park – afternoon activities**

Today we leave Harare early after breakfast so we can escape the traffic jam, looking forward to our action packed day. The first stop is at Chinhoyi caves. The caves radiate an aura that commands respect, while provoking excitement in the minds of all who go near them. With a silence that is both eerie and profound, the caves are a geographical spectacle and one of Zimbabwe's best-kept tourism secrets.

We will continue to the magnificent Mana Pools National Park where we meet our professional safari partners, Natureways Safaris. Mana Pools is synonymous with the Zambezi River and wilderness. This unique park is a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site, based on its wildness and beauty, together with the wide range of large mammals, over 350 bird species and aquatic wildlife. Its magic stems from its remoteness and pervading sense of the wild and natural.

At Mana Pools you can pick the following activities: canoe safari, walking safari and game drive in a safari jeep (fishing is optional). The activities will keep us busy for the next two days. The group will be split in small numbers for safety reasons and each person will be able to do all three included activities in two days. We will end the days with tasty meals prepared by our safari chef. Our accommodation is a luxury safari mobile camp prepared by our safari crew. (UNESCO World Heritage site) [BLD]

Your accommodation: Nyamepi campsite in the heart of Mana Pools National park  
Travel distance: 350 km

### **DAY 15 Morning and afternoon activities in Mana Pools National Park**

Mana Pools National Park is one park in Zimbabwe where you're guaranteed to see plenty of hippos, crocs, zebras and elephants, and almost guaranteed to see lions and possibly wild (painted) dogs. Pick your activities of this day. Half of the joy is experiencing the quiet, solitude and beauty of the unspoiled bush around you. (UNESCO World Heritage site)

Your accommodation: Nyamepi campsite in the heart of Mana Pools National park  
Travel distance: max. 40 km (game drive activity)

### **DAY 16 Morning game drive and off to Lake Kariba**

After breakfast we will do a game drive slowly heading back to our transport at the National Parks entry. Here we will say goodbye to our safari crew and we proceed to Lake Kariba. Tonight we will camp on the shore of the world's biggest man-made lake. We will pack only what we need for the next night to take on a houseboat, while our crew will run around looking for fishing gear for those who want to try fishing. No, we don't do sport fishing; we eat what we catch! [BLD]

Your accommodation: Lomagundi campsite, on the shore of Lake Kariba  
Travel distance: 125 km

### **DAY 17 Houseboat to the shore of Matusadona National park**

Today we take a break from driving and embark on the houseboat after breakfast. An adventure to those who love fishing! A paradise to game viewers and those who want to kick back and relax. Lake Kariba is a man-made lake, which took 9 years to build, the dam wall being completed in 1959 when the plains began to flood. Animals became stranded on submerging islands and the National Park launched a massive rescue exercise, moving the animals to what is now Matusadona National Park, one of the Zambezi valley's wildlife and wilderness treasures. Both remote and rugged, this wonderful park encompasses Lake Kariba's most beautiful southern shorelines, creeks and bays, a vast flat bush-covered plateau cut through by numerous rivers and backed by the wild, wide, 600m-high Matusadona mountain range which divides the Zambezi valley from the upland farmlands behind.

Whilst cruising on the houseboat we can view elephants, buffalos, kudus, waterbucks and, if lucky, lions as they come down to drink by the water's edge. Sunsets over the lake create a rich backdrop of colour for the stark silhouettes of the fossilized leadwood trees remaining in the lake. This also a day to relax or catch up with your dairy. For the fishermans , its time to try your luck. [BLD]

Your accommodation: houseboat  
Travel distance: 10 km

### **DAY 18 Kariba – Livingstone, Zambia**

After early breakfast we head back to mainland. We then proceed to cross the border into Zambia where we will drive to Livingstone to stay a night at The Victoria Falls Waterfront lodge. The lodge, centrally located in between Livingstone town and The Victoria Falls, boasts great facilities catering to travelers every need including a riverside restaurant and bar with stunning views over the Zambezi River – the perfect spot for a sundowner. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping on the edge of the Zambezi: The Victoria Falls Waterfront (former Zambezi Waterfront)  
Travel distance: 495 km

### **DAY 19 Livingstone, Zambia**

Today is the last day of our trip. The perfect closure for us as a group will be an optional Sunset Cruise on the mighty Zambezi, before having a last group dinner at the beautiful outdoor restaurant of the The Victoria Falls Waterfront (at your own costs). [BL]

Your accommodation: camping on the edge of the Zambezi: The Victoria Falls Waterfront (former Zambezi Waterfront)  
Travel distance: 0 km

### **DAY 20 To the airport**

Too bad this is the end of our tour! We have a last breakfast together before we bring you to the airport. [B]

### **DAY 21 arrive in Amsterdam / Brussels**

## **Activity Package**

Listed below are activities and highlights of the trip that form an optional activity package. You will need to purchase this package if you want to partake in what we consider "essential activities" of our tours. The activity package is written in itinerary of your tour. Please do keep in mind if you don't book the package, the activities won't be included. We suggest that you notify us on booking the trip that you will partake in activities so we can arrange in advance to ensure availability. (Payment to be done on the second day at pre-departure meeting)

• Entry to the Victoria Falls	\$40
• Victoria Falls township tour	\$30
• 3 game drives in Hwange National Park	\$300
• Lukhosi Village culture exchange tour	\$30
• Painted Dogs Conservation visit	\$10
• Matopo game drive plus rhino walk	\$170
• Great Zimbabwe tour	\$10
• Bridal Veil Falls and Chimanimani trekking	\$100
• Chinhoyi caves	\$20
• Mana Pools NP entry and game drives/canoe safari/walking safari	\$500
• Kariba house boat	\$150

### **Total price of USD 1360- EUR 1240**

Exchange rates are subjected to change.  
*Only inclusive if you order an activity package.*

### **World of Wonders**

### **Best of Zimbabwe**

### ***Waterfalls, Mana Pools NP and Lake Kariba on a houseboat***

### **21 DAYS / PRICED FROM EUR 1995**

### **EUR 1000 + local payment EUR 995 (for accommodation and meals, payment to be done at the pre-departure meeting)**

(Combi Lodge/Camping Safari)

Activity Package: EUR 1240

**Total EUR 3235 trip covered**

Single supplement: EUR 300 (only at request not to share)

**INCLUDED**

- 6 nights in luxury and comfortable lodges, house boat and tented camp, 12 nights camping accommodation
- Meals as per itinerary: 18 x breakfast, 14 x lunch and 12 x dinner
- All transport in an air-conditioned minibus/ 4x4 safari land cruiser and canoes
- Experienced (Dutch and English speaking) local guide/ cook and a driver mechanic
- Camping and kitchen gear (sleeping bags NOT included)

**NOT INCLUDED**

- Travel insurance and visa if necessary
- Flights
- Pre and post tour accommodation
- Optional activities and excursions not part of the Activity Package
- All drinks, tips and curios
- All personal expenses

**Important advice:**

Make sure you ask for a KAZA Visa at the point of entry in Zimbabwe. This Visa covers both Zimbabwe and Zambia on your trip.

Make sure you notify us in advance if you want to participate on the Activity Package.