



TAILOR-MADE DESTINATIONS

Wild Zimbabwe

Small Group Escorted Tour



This 11 night/12 day escorted tour of Zimbabwe departs with a minimum of two people. Beginning in Harare, highlights include the Eastern Highlands, the Great Zimbabwe Ruins, Matobo and Hwange National Parks, and Victoria Falls. The tour is all-inclusive with no hidden extras.

Day 1: Harare

On arrival in Harare you will be met and transferred to Casa Kadiki Guest House (or Bronte Hotel, depending on availability) for 1 night including dinner and breakfast.

Casa Kadiki Guesthouse

This small, discreet owner-run guesthouse is set in a quiet suburb of Harare. 11 attractively decorated en-suite rooms lead onto verandas overlooking the gardens. All day tea and coffee making facilities are available and breakfast is a choice of continental and/or cooked.



There is also a lovely swimming pool and a small bar. The facilities are good (modern TVs in the rooms and free wireless internet).

Your Financial Protection

All monies paid by you for the air holiday package shown [or flights if appropriate] are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3145.

For more information see our booking terms and conditions.



Days 2 & 3: Eastern Highlands, Nyanga

Depart Harare after breakfast for the beautiful Eastern Highlands. After 3-4 hours on the road, you'll arrive at Troutbeck Lodge in Nyanga, your home for the next two nights (full board).

Troutbeck Inn

You would be forgiven for thinking that you had arrived in the Scottish Highlands on your first visit to Troutbeck Inn. The colonial home, with its manicured gardens and small golf course, is evocative of a distant era of Zimbabwe's history.

Troutbeck isn't just a colonial relic, however. Its 73 rooms are modern and beautifully-furnished, each with en-suite bathroom and all the expected amenities (tea and coffee-making facilities, satellite TV, AC and heaters). Dining here is a delight—the pleasant dining room overlooks the gardens, and there is a small bar, the Hare and Hound, with a log fire—perfect for winter evenings!



Troutbeck is the perfect base for exploring the surrounding area, including Nyanga National Park with its beautiful scenery and waterfalls.



Nyanga National Park

Situated in the Eastern Highlands, Nyanga is not typical safari territory. This is a mountainous region, notable for its stunning landscapes, its green hills, rapids and waterfalls, rather than its big game. The climate is cool and fresh, and the scenery spectacular. The hills are home to a variety of game, mostly antelope, including waterbuck, zebra, kudu and eland, among others. The region, which is crossed by several fast-flowing rivers, is also famous for its Nyanga trout, a local specialty!

Days 4 & 5: Eastern Highlands, Mutare

Depart Nyanga this morning and head south en route to the town of Mutare. It's a two hour drive into the Bvumba Mountains. Expect to arrive at Musangano Lodge, where you stay 2 nights (full board), in time for lunch.



Musangano Lodge

Musangano Lodge nestles in the Bvumba Hills about half an hour's drive from the town of Mutare. It's a charming, homely lodge, made up of 9 individual cottages/chalets, carefully spaced apart so as to ensure a good level of privacy. The chalets are beautifully decorated and generously sized. The views of the hills are stunning.

The rest of the afternoon and tomorrow is free to explore the surrounding area—enjoy a forest walk, visit the botanical gardens, take a tour of a working tea plantation, or, if you prefer, just relax at the lodge swimming pool or in the comfort of your chalet.



Day 6: Masvingo, Great Zimbabwe

Depart Mutare this morning and drive approx. 3-4 hours to the town Masvingo. Here you check into Norma Jeane's Lakeview Lodge for 1 night (full board).

Norma Jeane's Lakeview Lodge

This attractive, lakeside lodge is situated on the outskirts of Masvingo overlooking Lake Mutirikwi, and offers comfortable, homely accommodation and a tranquil setting.

It's a small, intimate lodge, with only 8 en-suite rooms each spaced apart and with a private balcony with a view of the Lake. There's a comfortable lounge and a charming dining room.

Norma Jeane's mainly attracts guests coming to Masvingo to see the Great Zimbabwe Ruins, but it has other attractions besides. The surrounding woodlands offer wonderful birding, while guided game drives and bush walks are on offer at the nearby Lake Mutirikwi Park.



Great Zimbabwe Ruins

The Great Zimbabwe Ruins are one sub-Saharan Africa's most remarkable ruins. With the exception of the magnificent monuments of Ethiopia, there is little else that compares.

The ruins are the remains of the 1,000 year old Bantu civilization, one of the great lost African empires, which at its height incorporated much of East, Southern and Central Africa.

At its height, Great Zimbabwe was home to perhaps 18,000 people and covered an area of 200 square miles. It was an important trading centre in the late middle ages, exchanging ivory and gold with the Arabian and Portuguese traders who would come to dominate the East African coast.



Designated a World Heritage Site in 1986, Great Zimbabwe is remarkable not just for its history but also for its design. Similar to the Sabaen structures of Ethiopia, such as Yeha, Great Zimbabwe's huge towers and are built out of many thousands of carefully balanced bricks, without the aid of mortar.

Days 7 & 8: Matobo Hills National Park

Leaving Masvingo this morning, drive west en route to Matobo National Park, passing the town of Bulawayo along the way. After about 4 hours on the road you'll reach your destination, the Big Cave Camp, where you stay for two nights (full board).



Big Cave Camp

Big Cave Camp sits on top of an enormous granite kopje, commanding marvellous views across the famous Matobo National Park. The thatched, African cottages, of which there are only 8, have been built among the rock formations and carefully spaced. Each is en-suite and features a private balcony.

The central living area at Big Cave Camp has been built against a dramatic backdrop of massive boulders. The rock formations have been incorporated into the design of the lodge; the bar and dining area are built around a huge rock and trees that grow through the roof, creating a natural atmosphere. Dining here is communal, with guests sharing a dining table with the lodge manager. There's also a stylish teak bar.

Outside, there is a natural rock pool and sundeck. At sundown the romantic cave-style boma is illuminated by lanterns.



During the course of the next two days you will have the chance to explore the surrounding area and national park on game drives and guided bush walks. A highlight of the region is rhino tracking.

Matobo National Park

A UNESCO world heritage site, Matobo is known for its spectacular scenery and striking rock formations. It is also known as one of the world's last remaining rhino sanctuaries, where both black and white rhino are found in stable numbers.



The 45,000 hectare park incorporates the fascinating Matobo Hills, a rugged range of granite domes, boulders and spires—terrific hiking territory! Matobo is not all hills and kopjes, however. It's lower foothills and grasslands provide a typical safari bush environment and support a diversity of game, including not just rhino but also many species of antelope, cats (leopard and cheetah, though no lion), rock dassies, wildcat, crocodile, giraffe, hippo and baboon.

Days 9 & 10: Hwange National Park

Depart Matobo this morning and head north for Hwange National Park, a drive of 4-5 hours. Here you check into the Ivory Safari Lodge for two nights (full board).



Ivory Safari Lodge

Small and intimate, Ivory Safari Lodge occupies a superb location in Zimbabwe's largest safari park, Hwange. The lodge offers a superb game-viewing experience. Driven safaris to track the huge herds of plains game and elephant that Hwange is famous for are of course a highlight, but you needn't leave the camp to view the wildlife; Ivory Lodge's raised viewing platforms overlook a busy watering hole that is frequented by a variety of animals, including a resident herd of elephant.

There are 9 raised treehouses at Ivory Safari Lodge, accommodating a maximum of 18 guests. Each room overlooks the watering hole. There is no air-con in the rooms, only ceiling fans (as well as electric blankets for the winter). All rooms have mosquito nets, 24 hour electricity and en suite bathrooms. The central bar area and dining room are attractively furnished and overlook the watering hole and lodge swimming pool. Internet access is available.



Morning and evening game drives are offered during your stay.

Hwange National Park

Hwange is Zimbabwe's largest and most famous national park. Simply teeming with game, it provides a safari experience to rival the great parks of East Africa, the Serengeti and Masai Mara.

Formerly the royal hunting grounds of the warrior kings of Zimbabwe, Hwange became one of the first conservation areas in Africa when it was made a national park in 1929. Today it is not nearly as well-known as it once was, owing in large part to the difficult political situation in Zimbabwe, but safari enthusiasts still consider it one of the best game-viewing territories on the continent. Indeed, it's years out of the spotlight have if anything improved it, as it hasn't experienced the excessive visitor numbers that have affected some of the more famous safari parks of Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa.



Hwange is perhaps best known for its tremendous elephant populations, which are among the largest in Africa, but it boasts a diversity of game, including all of the Big 5.

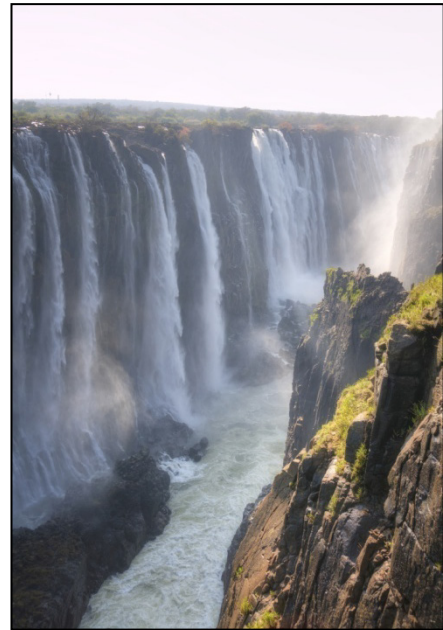
Days 11 & 12: Victoria Falls

Begin the last leg of your journey by travelling north to the famous Victoria Falls, approx. 2-3 hours from Hwange National Park. Here you spend 2 nights at the Kingdom Hotel (full board).

Kingdom Hotel

Kingdom is one of the larger hotels on the Zimbabwean side of Victoria Falls, a large complex with four swimming pools, a variety of restaurants, bars and good facilities including an internet cafe. The rooms are en suite and equipped with air-conditioning, telephone, safe, satellite TV and tea/coffee-making facilities.

The next two days are free to explore the area around Victoria Falls. A guided tour of the Falls is included, as is a sunset Zambezi River cruise. There are a huge range of activities available in the area, including light aircraft trips, river rafting and bungee jumping (at additional cost).



Price Guide:

*The cost of this itinerary is **£3050 per person**, based on twin share (single supplement is £350).*

The tour is a small group safari departing from Harare on the following dates:

2014: 17th Nov, 5th Dec

2015: 14th Jan, 10th Feb, 10th Mar, 3rd April, 11th May, 9th June, 25th June, 17th July, 26th July, 7th Aug, 24th Aug, 18th Sept, 5th Oct, 19th Oct

For more information, or if you would like to enquire about a tailor-made holiday combining part or all of the above itinerary, please [contact us](#).

Includes:

Internal transfers
Full-board accommodation
Local drinks at Big Cave and Ivory Camp
All excursions as detailed
National Park fees
Sunset river cruise on the Zambezi

Excludes:

International flights
Drinks unless stated otherwise
Visa fees
Travel Insurance – ask us for a quote