



Barefoot Safaris and Adventure Tours

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TRIP DOSSIER: 15-Day Zimbabwe Safari – Revised 19 November 2025

Embark on an unforgettable 15-day journey through Zimbabwe's most iconic landscapes, wildlife havens, and cultural treasures. Your adventure begins in Harare, the vibrant capital, where the rhythm of modern Africa blends with rich tradition. After a warm welcome and overnight stay, you head south toward one of Zimbabwe's most historic wonders.

In Masvingo, explore the legendary Great Zimbabwe Ruins, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the ancient heart of a lost kingdom. Wander through towering stone walls and discover the stories carved into this centuries-old civilization.

Your journey continues to the mystical Matobo Hills, famous for its balancing granite rocks, ancient rock art, and one of the world's largest black and white rhino populations. Enjoy game drives, cultural

encounters, and tranquil evenings at your lodge.

From there, venture to the sweeping savannahs of Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe's flagship wildlife sanctuary. Spend your days tracking elephants, lions, painted dogs, and an extraordinary diversity of wildlife on expert-guided safaris, before relaxing under starlit African skies.

Next, feel the thunder of nature at Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Experience breathtaking viewpoints, optional adventure activities, sunset cruises along the Zambezi River, and the warm hospitality that defines this legendary town.

Your route then turns east toward Chinhoyi, home to the mystical Chinhoyi Caves and their crystal-blue pool — an enchanting geological marvel. Continue onward to the vast waters of Lake Kariba, where shimmering horizons, tranquil houseboat moments, and

lakeside wildlife viewing create the perfect blend of adventure and serenity.

Finally, return to Harare, enriched with unforgettable memories, breathtaking landscapes, and the true spirit of Zimbabwe.

NB: While it is our intention to operate the itinerary as printed below, it may be necessary to make changes due to flight schedules, weather conditions, accommodation availability, or other operational factors. Therefore, the order and location of overnight stops may vary.

Starting and end Point:
Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport, Harare



African Buffalo



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Included:

- Transportation
- Accommodation and meals as per itinerary
- Services of English speaking driver/guide
- All the activities specified in the itinerary inclusive of applicable entrance fees

Not included:

- International flights
- Optional activities
- Travel insurance
- Tips and gratuities
- Personal items and beverages not specified
- Visas for countries visited

Brief Day by Day Description

Day 1: Arrival in Harare

Arrive at Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport. Meet your safari guide and transfer to your accommodation.

Safari briefing in the evening, to set expectations for the next 15 days.

Dinner for own account.

Accommodation: Hotel or Guesthouse

Meals: None



Harare

Day 2: Masvingo (300km)

After breakfast, set off on a scenic drive from Harare to Masvingo, traveling through Zimbabwe's rolling highlands, rural villages, and picturesque farmlands. As the landscape gradually opens into the country's historic southern plains, you arrive in Masvingo, gateway to the legendary Great Zimbabwe Ruins and the cradle of ancient African civilization. A comfortable and charming stop, Masvingo sets the tone for an enriching cultural and historical adventure.

Accommodation: Lodge or Guesthouse

Meals: Breakfast



Great Zimbabwe Ruins

Day 3: Great Zimbabwe Ruins (60km)

After breakfast, make your way to Great Zimbabwe Ruins, an extraordinary ancient city built entirely of stone and once the heart of a powerful African kingdom. This UNESCO World Heritage Site features impressive granite walls, intricate passageways, and sweeping hilltop views. A visit reveals the ingenuity, culture, and mystery of one of Africa's most remarkable archaeological treasures. Enjoy a guided walk through this ancient city.



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Return to your accommodation for an afternoon of leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Lodge or Guesthouse

Day 4: Matobo Hills (330km)

After breakfast, set off to Matobo Hills. Your journey winds through picturesque rural landscapes and rolling granite outcrops that hint at the dramatic scenery ahead. Upon arrival in this UNESCO-listed wilderness, you enter a world of ancient rock formations, sacred history, and abundant wildlife.

In the afternoon, experience rhino trekking. Accompanied by skilled guides, you'll venture on foot into the rugged terrain in search of the endangered white and black rhino. Walking quietly through the bush, you'll feel the thrill of encountering these magnificent animals in their natural habitat—an intimate and truly memorable wildlife adventure.

The Matobo Hills offer a perfect blend of culture, scenery, and close-up wildlife encounters, making this leg of your journey both inspiring and exhilarating.

Return to your accommodation for dinner

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Lodge or similar



Matobo Hills

Day 5: Hwange National Park (340km)

After a delicious breakfast, your journey continues north toward Hwange National Park, weaving through wide-open landscapes, rural villages, and stretches of untouched wilderness. As the scenery shifts from rugged granite

outcrops to vast savannah plains, you enter Zimbabwe's largest and most wildlife-rich reserve.

Hwange National Park is Zimbabwe's premier wildlife sanctuary, renowned for its vast savannahs, diverse habitats, and impressive animal populations. Home to one of the largest elephant herds in Africa, the park also offers excellent sightings of lions, buffalo, giraffes, and the rare painted dog. With its natural waterholes and wide open plains, Hwange provides unforgettable safari experiences and spectacular game viewing throughout the year.

Enjoy an open jeep safari in the late afternoon, before returning to the lodge for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Safari Lodge or Similar

Day 6: Hwange National Park

Set out at sunrise as the bush comes alive with the



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calls of birds and the movement of wildlife. Your expert guide leads you through diverse landscapes—from open grasslands and mopane forests to natural waterholes where elephants, buffalo, zebra, and a variety of antelope gather to drink.

Throughout the day, enjoy close-up encounters with Hwange's famous elephant herds, keep an eye out for lions and painted dogs, and admire the park's rich birdlife. A picnic lunch in a scenic spot allows you to soak in the tranquil wilderness before continuing your afternoon game drive.

From dawn to dusk, this immersive safari offers unforgettable wildlife moments, stunning scenery, and the true essence of Zimbabwe's wild beauty.

Return to the lodge for dinner, and share your wildlife memories around a crackling fire.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Safari Long or Similar



African Lioness

Day 7: Hwange National Park

Wake early for another immersive safari experience in Hwange National Park, where each day brings new wildlife adventures and breathtaking landscapes. Venture deeper into the park's diverse habitats, from expansive savannahs to dense woodlands, accompanied by your knowledgeable guide who shares insights on animal behaviour, ecology, and conservation.

Spend the morning tracking elephants, lions, giraffes, and buffalo, with opportunities for stunning wildlife photography at natural waterholes where animals gather to drink. After a scenic bush lunch, continue your afternoon game drive in search of elusive species, including leopards, wild dogs, and a rich variety of birds.

As the sun sets over Hwange's golden plains, return to your lodge with memories of up-close encounters, dramatic landscapes, and the untamed spirit of one of Africa's finest wildlife destinations.

If time allows, enjoy an optional walking safari

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Safari Lodge or Similar



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Leopard

Day 8: Victoria Falls (190km)

After we enjoyed breakfast, leave the sweeping savannahs of Hwange National Park behind as you travel northwest toward the legendary Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. The journey takes you through scenic rural landscapes and along the edge of the Zambezi River, building anticipation for the awe-inspiring spectacle ahead.

Arriving at Victoria Falls, you'll be greeted by the thunderous roar and misty spray of this iconic waterfall, and African wonder. With panoramic viewpoints, lush rainforest trails, and a lovely African atmosphere. This leg of the journey marks the transition from wildlife-rich plains to

one of Africa's most breathtaking natural landmarks.

Enjoy a guided tour of the Victoria Falls in the afternoon, where your guide takes you through this African wonder and its fascinating history.

Enjoy an own expense dinner with your guide at any of the many restaurants in town.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation:
Guesthouse or hotel



Victoria Falls

Day 9: Victoria Falls

Enjoy a leisurely day in Victoria Falls, with the freedom to explore at your own pace or indulge in a range of optional excursions. Stroll along the

rainforest trails for breathtaking views of the cascading falls, capture the perfect photograph, or simply relax and soak in the misty atmosphere.

For the adventurous, choose from activities such as a thrilling helicopter flight over the falls, white-water rafting on the Zambezi River, bungee jumping, or a sunset cruise along the river's tranquil waters. Whether you seek relaxation, adventure, or discovery, this free day allows you to experience Victoria Falls in a way that suits your style.

Enjoy an included sunset cruise on the Mighty Zambezi River, sharing your memories of Africa created.

Enjoy an own expense dinner at any of the restaurants.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation:
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African Wild Dog

Day 10: Chinhoyi (700km)

A long drive today.

After breakfast, your journey takes you eastward through Zimbabwe's scenic countryside toward the intriguing Chinhoyi Caves. Travel past rolling hills, rural villages, and patchwork farmlands, enjoying the changing landscapes along the way.

Arriving at Chinhoyi Caves, you'll encounter a natural wonder famed for its deep, crystal-clear underground pools and fascinating limestone formations. A guided tour reveals the caves' geology, history, and local legends, offering a unique and captivating contrast to the dramatic waterfalls and wildlife of

earlier adventures. This stop provides a serene and memorable experience, blending nature, mystery, and discovery.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel or guesthouse



Chinhoyi Caves

Day 11 to 13: Lake Kariba (240km)

Set off to explore the Chinhoyi Caves after breakfast. Chinhoyi Caves, a remarkable underground wonder in Zimbabwe. Marvel at the crystal-clear, cobalt-blue pools that seem to glow from within, and wander through limestone chambers carved over millennia. Your guided visit reveals the caves' geological formations, rich history, and local legends, making it a captivating stop that combines natural

beauty, adventure, and a touch of mystery.

Leaving the intriguing Chinhoyi Caves behind, your journey continues northwest toward the shimmering waters of Lake Kariba, one of the world's largest man-made lakes. Travel through scenic landscapes dotted with wildlife, rural villages, and dramatic escarpments, gradually approaching the tranquil expanse of the Zambezi River valley.

Arriving at Lake Kariba, you are greeted by breathtaking sunsets over sparkling waters, abundant birdlife, and the chance to experience lakeside wildlife encounters. This leg of the journey blends scenic travel with relaxation, setting the stage for serene exploration and unforgettable moments along Africa's majestic waterways.

Spend the next 3 nights on one of the houseboats on Lake Kariba, one of Africa's largest man-made lakes. Glide across the sparkling waters, surrounded by



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dramatic escarpments, lush shorelines, and an abundance of wildlife. From your deck, keep watch for elephants, hippos, crocodiles, and a wide variety of bird species, while the calm waters create the perfect setting for relaxation and reflection.

Each day offers a choice of activities: try your hand at fishing, explore hidden coves and secluded bays, or simply lounge on deck and take in the breathtaking scenery. In the evenings, enjoy magical sunsets that set the lake ablaze with colour, followed by starlit skies and the soothing sounds of nature. With comfortable accommodations, delicious meals, and the chance to connect with Africa's wild beauty, this houseboat experience is a perfect blend of adventure, wildlife, and serenity—a truly unique way to discover Lake Kariba.

Meals: Breakfast x 3
Lunch x 3
Dinner x 3

Accommodation: Houseboat on Lake Kariba



Lake Kariba

Day 14: Harare (360km)

Enjoy a delicious breakfast, before making your way back to Harare. Enjoy a farewell dinner with your guide, and share your lifetime memories created.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation:
Guesthouse or hotel

Day 15: Departure

Enjoy a last breakfast, before making your way to the airport for your flight home.

****END OF SERVICE****



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Terms and Conditions

Price Includes:

- Shared accommodation
- Entrance Fees and park fees
- Transfers and activities, as listed
- Professional Guide
- Meals as indicated

Price Excludes:

- International Flights
- All Beverages
- Optional Activities & Entrance Fees
- Visas, travel insurance, tips and personal expenses

Practical Info

**** Excursions:** A qualified Barefoot Safaris guide will accompany clients on all excursions except where it is necessary to employ a guide from local parks.

- Please feel free to add on to this tour with any of the other possible tours we offer in the area.
- The accommodation specified in the itinerary is a guide only and subject to availability. Alternatives will be of a similar standard if required.
- The Dollar rate is just an indication of the price at the current exchange rate, it cannot be guaranteed

until a confirmed booking is made

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Climate:

Zimbabwe enjoys a subtropical climate with distinct wet and dry seasons, making it ideal for wildlife safaris and outdoor adventures. The wet season runs from November to March, bringing warm temperatures, lush landscapes, and vibrant greenery, while occasional afternoon showers refresh the land. The dry season, from May to October, features cooler temperatures, clear skies, and excellent wildlife viewing as animals gather around water sources.

Daytime temperatures are generally warm, ranging from 20°C to 30°C (68°F–86°F), while nights can be cool, especially during the dry winter months. The country's varied topography—from highland plateaus to low-lying valleys—creates local microclimates, making every region uniquely beautiful and enjoyable year-round.

Baggage:

- 1 soft bag (maximum 20kg)
- 1 daypack

Clothing and Footwear:

- Lightweight cotton, long sleeves for sun protection
- Warm layers for cold nights
- Waterproof jacket and raincoat
- Hiking boots for trekking
- Shoes for wearing in the bush
- Swimwear, sunhat, insect repellent

Equipment:

- Hat for the sun
- Sunglasses, sunscreen
- Binoculars
- Camera and cover for dust
- Basic first aid, and personal medication
- Malaria Prophylaxis Recommended

Visas and Permits:

1. Visa on Arrival / eVisa Eligibility

Most European Union citizens (Category B) are eligible to obtain a visa on arrival in Zimbabwe.

U.S. citizens can also get a visa on arrival at major entry points (airports and land borders).

Zimbabwe offers an eVisa platform, where eligible travellers (including many Europeans and Americans) can apply online for tourist, business, or KAZA (univisa) visas.



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A new eVisa-on-arrival (Electronic Travel Authorization) has been reintroduced for travellers from ~118 countries, simplifying entry for many European and American tourists.

2. Visa Types & Durations

Single-entry tourist visa: Valid for up to 30 days.

Double-entry visa: Valid for multiple entries within a few months, useful for travellers coming and going (e.g., to Zambia).

Multiple-entry visa: Available for up to six months.

KAZA Univisa: A special visa that permits travel between Zimbabwe and Zambia (within the Kavango-Zambezi TFCA), valid for 30 days.

3. Visa Fees & Payment

Visa fees must typically be paid in USD cash on arrival.

Approximate visa fees (may change; always check current rates):

US single-entry (30-day): ~US\$30

Double-entry visas are more expensive (for example, for U.S. citizens) — check the

eVisa portal for up-to-date pricing.

4. Passport Requirements

Passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your planned stay in Zimbabwe.

Ensure you have blank pages in your passport for entry and exit stamps.

5. Processing Time

For eVisas, processing typically takes around 7 working days, though times may vary.

For visa-on-arrival, you should fill out the arrival declaration online before travel, generate a QR code, and present it on arrival.

***Tip for European & American Travelers*:** Because Zimbabwe's visa rules (especially eVisa vs visa-on-arrival) can change, check the official Zimbabwe eVisa portal or your nearest Zimbabwe embassy before you travel to confirm current visa options and fees.

Local costs: 14 Breakfasts, 5 lunches and 8 dinners are included.

Approximate costs are for guidance only and may vary

widely according to location and type of establishment.

Soft drink

USD\$2.00

Medium beer

USD\$2.80

*Reasonable Mid-range tourist class restaurant

Tipping and Gratuities :

For better or worse, tipping is an accepted part of everyday life, and - although it is always at your discretion - you will be expected to tip to reward service. Your tour guide will give you an indication of when and how much is appropriate. This can vary widely, but please allow USD 100per person for this tour.

Suggested

Hotel Staff: USD 2.00 per person per day

Porters: USD 1.00 per bag

Waiters: 10% of bill or equivalent

Safari Guide: USD 15.00 per person per day

Seasonal changes: Although all rooms/chalets in malaria areas that we use are protected with mosquito netting; there will be insects and mosquitoes about. The camps, lodges and resorts are essentially "al fresco" so you should be prepared with insect repellent and appropriate long sleeved/legged clothing.

Insects are attracted to light at night and are especially



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prevalent during the rainy season. Switching the lights off and placing a hurricane lamp a distance from you will remove the problem.

The evenings and mornings will be chilly from about June to

August: so, it is advisable to take a light sweater or fleece

Currency: Official currency is USD (\$)

Hotels, resorts, and tourist restaurants, accepts Rands, Euros, Pounds

Credit Cards are widely accepted at all tourist shops, safari operators, restaurants

However, smaller local shops, markets, and taxis usually prefer Tanzanian shillings.

Important to note

Newer US Dollar notes only: Many places do not accept notes printed before 2009, and they prefer clean, undamaged \$50 or \$100 bills for the best exchange rate.

Change is often given in shillings, even if you pay in USD.

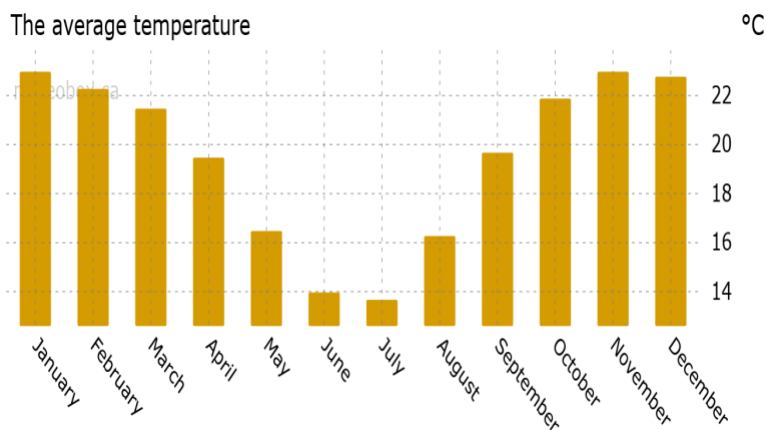
Euros and GBP can be exchanged, but are not commonly used directly for payment.

ATMs are available in Stone Town and major resorts; they dispense Tanzanian shillings.

NB: Pre-2009-dollar bills are not accepted in most African countries

Airport Tax: This should be included in your air ticket. Please confirm with your air carrier

The average temperature





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