

WorldwideQuest
Alumni Expeditions

Zambia

INSIDER'S AFRICA

November 3 – 14, 2025 | 12 Days



African
Elephants

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH



ALUMNI

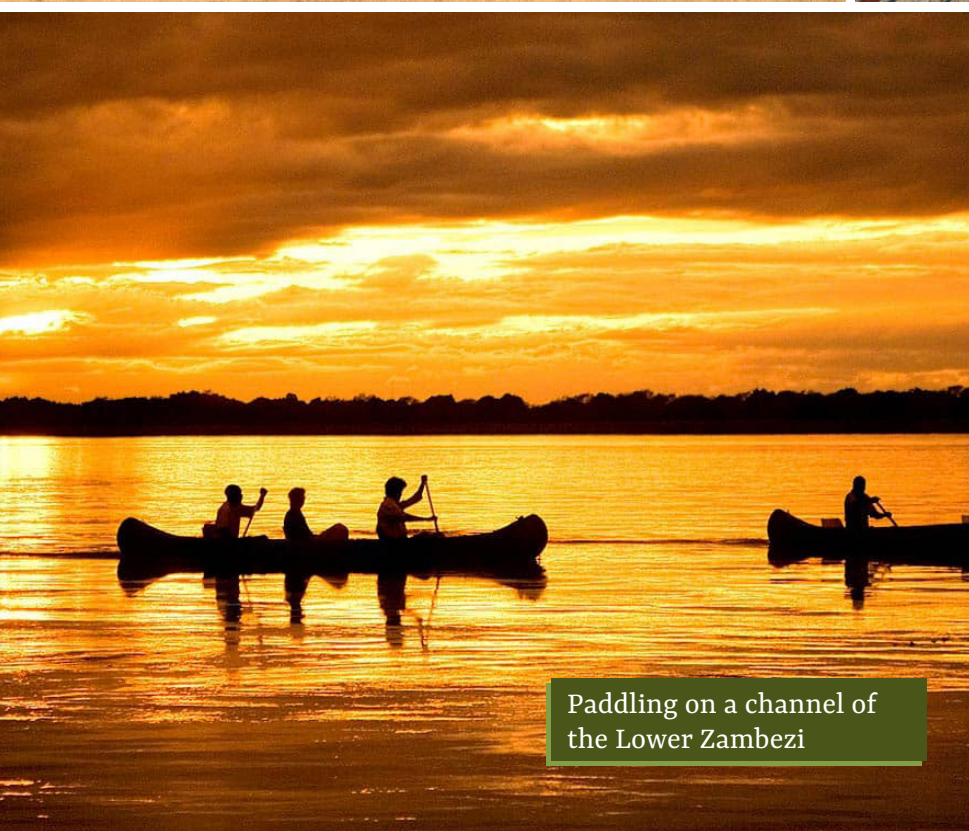


Observing the moods of elephants up close



Walking through the African bush

Being dazzled by Southern Carmine Bee-eaters



Paddling on a channel of the Lower Zambezi

Enjoying the wonders of an African night sky





This tour is presented by the alumni associations of the University of Alberta, the University of Saskatchewan, Western University, and McGill University. All curious travellers are welcome!

Located in the heart of southern Africa and defined in many ways by its large rivers, the huge country of Zambia holds sweeping landscapes that remain largely undiscovered even among discerning nature explorers. Those rivers and their floodplains become the focus of wildlife activity during the dry season, and it is just this activity that draws our interest.

On this leisurely tour, we explore the environs of three great rivers: the Kafue; the Luangwa; and the great Zambezi, Africa's fourth longest river. Unrushed safari drives in all regions bring us into close proximity of signature large mammals and stunning bird life in fascinating habitats. We can also quite literally take our discoveries a step — nay, many steps! — further as we take walking safaris in the country where this very experience was pioneered! Get closer to the land, track wildlife, and enjoy the sounds, smells, and textures of the African bush closer than you could ever imagine. And on the Zambezi, you can even take to the water on a canoe safari!

Zambia's vast and uncrowded spaces offer a unique perspective on nature and wildlife and offer a taste of Africa primeval. Join your study leader for an unforgettable experience of African wilderness.



Tour Leader

Jane Waterman is a professor in Biological Sciences at the University of Manitoba, where she specializes in behavioural ecology. She has taught courses such as Biology of Mammals, Animal Behaviour, Ecology, Ornithology, and Conservation Biology, and offers field courses in the biology of African mammals in South Africa. Her research focuses on the factors that influence the evolution of sociality and mating systems and the majority of her research focuses on sociality in ground-dwelling squirrels. For the past 30 years, Jane has also studied sociality in the Polar Bear. She has degrees from the University of Guelph, the University of Alberta, and the University of Minnesota, and was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Saskatchewan and York University. Jane is also an avid birder and a trip to Zambia in November is very exciting to her, as birds will be in breeding colouration. The chance to see an array of bird and mammal species is something that Jane is particularly excited about, as the biodiversity of Zambia spans wildlife found in both southern and eastern Africa.

Detailed Itinerary



© Justin Peter

Monday, November 3: Arrive in Lusaka

This afternoon upon arrival at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport in Lusaka, you are met by a local representative and transferred to your hotel. Later, attend a briefing with your study leader and local guide, followed by a Welcome Dinner to share in the anticipation of the days ahead!

Overnight: Latitude 15 Hotel

Meals: Welcome Dinner

Tuesday, November 4: To Kafue National Park

Today after breakfast, we transfer to the Lusaka airport for a shuttle flight to Chunga, which situates us in Kafue National Park. At over 22,000 km², Kafue is the largest national park in Zambia and also its oldest. The Park features gently rolling hillsides with gorgeous miombo woodlands alternating with thickly vegetated plains. At this time of year, the woodlands are just starting to green. Our immersive lodge is situated beside the Park's eponymous river, and we have a chance to attune to the sounds and smells of the African bush as we settle in. We may be serenaded at night by the calls of an African Wood-Owl and other wondrous wildlife. Don't be surprised if there's a Hippopotamus or two grazing on the lawn!

Overnight: Ila Safari Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Ila Safari Lodge room



Wednesday, November 5 – Thursday, November 6: Kafue National Park

Over the next two days, we have the opportunity to explore the Park well. We can cross the Kafue River by small ferry and head into the varied habitats here by vehicle. Lions, Leopards, elephants, and more can be found among many other large (and small) mammals. Bird life is impressive, with hornbills, various raptors, rollers, and more, along with the chorus of the African bush. As we cruise along gently, watch for vultures, which may tip us off to the presence of predators.

Overnight: Ila Safari Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Friday, November 7: To South Luangwa National Park

After breakfast, we take the shuttle flight to Lusaka and then another flight east to the town of Mfuwe, whence we drive into South Luangwa National Park. Also associated inextricably with its own eponymous river, the influence of this river is more amply evident than at Kafue. Oxbows and vast clay plains await a complete refill by the South Luangwa River, which swells enormously during the impending long rains. Here, we can explore the various habitats by open safari vehicle and by foot, giving us an opportunity to get acquainted more intimately with the sights, smells, and sounds of the habitats in the area. Leopards stalk graceful Pukus and Plains Zebras in the dry oxbows, and it's recommended to frequently pause to look for any hunts in progress. Thornicroft Giraffes — a subspecies of giraffe restricted in range entirely to this Park (!) — amble gracefully below high crowns of towering acacia trees. Cape Buffalo congregate in large number searching for the final meagre green graze of the dry season. The tall banks of the South Luangwa River host nesting colonies of arrestingly beautiful Southern Carmine Bee-eaters, and there may be an opportunity to approach a colony closely and hear the birds' chatter and capture them on camera. Overhead, bizarre Sausage Trees bear their huge blossoms and fruits. With so much going on, walks and drives here are wonderfully immersive experiences! With luck, we may even see some African Wild Dogs. In any event, expect a variety of spontaneous and compelling experiences!

Overnight: Mfuwe Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

African Wild Dogs





The Thornicroft Giraffe is restricted in range to South Luangwa National Park

Saturday, November 8 – Sunday, November 9: South Luangwa National Park

We spend two full days exploring this amazing Park by vehicle and by foot.

Overnight: Mfuwe Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Monday, November 10: To Lower Zambezi National Park

This morning, we return to the Mfuwe airport for a flight to Lusaka, and then another smaller flight to the Lower Zambezi River and our next lodge. The Zambezi River forms a good part of Zambia's southern and western border, drawing on many tributaries, including the Kafue River upstream from us (and further downstream, the Luangwa). It is a markedly larger river than the others, and its influence stretches as far as the eye can see. Large herds of African Elephants and Hippopotamus frequent the islands that are exposed here during the dry season, and many water birds fly back and forth along its banks. Farther back in the bush, they are joined by the expected suite of other large mammals and a variety of birds. Curiously ornamented Crested Guinea fowl are a local specialty that is readily observable here. Besides safaris by vehicle and on foot, the Lower Zambezi also affords the opportunity to make many Canadians feel very much at home: a canoe safari! Yes, we can use "Canadian canoes" to explore some of the smaller channels where elephants and hippos roam, watching them at a respectful distance but close enough to hear and feel their presence. The opportunities to appreciate bird life are amazing as well. Enormous Goliath Herons (the largest heron in the world) stalk the banks of smaller channels along with other waders and waterbirds, and multiple kingfisher species also frequent the banks.

Overnight: Royal Zambezi Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Crested Guinea fowl



© Justin Peter



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Tuesday, November 11 – Wednesday, November 12: Lower Zambezi National Park

We enjoy two full days of safari adventures here during morning and late-afternoon hours. Pass lazy mid-day hours on the lodge deck overlooking the river watching the wildlife go by or perhaps by having a swim in the riverside swimming pool. Elephants may pass right by while remaining unconcerned by our presence!

Overnight: Royal Zambezi Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Thursday, November 13: Return to Lusaka

This morning, we enjoy our final immersion in the African wilderness before our return flight to Lusaka. We celebrate our experience of Zambia's fine wildlife reserves at our Farewell Dinner!

Overnight: Latitude 15 Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Farewell Dinner

Friday, November 14: Depart Lusaka

After breakfast, we transfer to Lusaka's Kenneth Kaunda International Airport for our flights onward. Consider an extension to a favourite beachside resort along the wonderful turquoise waters of Lake Malawi.

Meals: Breakfast

Note: The itinerary and accommodation described in this detailed itinerary are subject to change due to logistical arrangements and to take advantage of local events.



Royal Zambezi Lodge

Tour Details

Tour Cost (per person): US\$11,995

Includes all taxes and gratuities.

Single Supplement: US\$2765

If you are travelling alone and you are willing to share, we will attempt to match you up with an appropriate roommate.

If we cannot, the single supplement will apply. This will be collected at 90 days prior to departure.

Group Size:

11 – 14 participants

What's Included:

- Airport transfers on tour start and end dates if arriving on group flight
- Accommodations based on double occupancy in hotels listed or similar
- Ground transportation
- All activities as described in the itinerary
- Entrance fees and conservation levies
- Internal flights*
- Departure taxes within Zambia
- Meals as specified in the itinerary
- Coffee, tea, and water at each meal
- Porterage of one standard piece of baggage per person
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, and included meals
- All taxes
- English-speaking naturalist guides at each camp/lodge
- Services of your Study Leader and a Zambian naturalists in the national parks

Not Included:

- Return airfare from your home to join the tour
- Fuel surcharge (if applicable)
- Airport departure taxes
- Visa fee for Zambia
- Travel insurance
- Airport transfers, if not arriving with the group
- Alcoholic beverages with meals
- Phone calls and items of a personal nature
- Additional transportation required due to any emergency or other situation
- Any item not mentioned in "What's Included"

*For the shuttle flights on Days 2 (Lusaka – Chunga) and 5 (Chunga – Lusaka), the per-person baggage limit is 15 kg (33 lbs); for all other internal flights, the limit is 23 kg (50 lbs). Soft-sided bags are required.

Payment Details:

A deposit of US\$750 per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. A second non-refundable deposit of US\$2000 per person is required at six months prior to departure. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

What to Expect



Joining Instructions

Arrival: Monday, November 3, 2025

This tour begins at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (airport code: LUN) in Lusaka. All travellers arriving with the group flight on the start date of the tour are met on arrival and transferred to the group hotel. This transfer is included in the cost of the tour. If you are making your own pre-trip arrangements, the airport transfer can be provided at additional cost.

Departure: Friday, November 14, 2025

The tour concludes with a single included transfer to Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (LUN) in Lusaka. **Please contact us to verify timing of this transfer prior to making any flight arrangements.**



COVID-19 Entry and Travel Requirements

All travellers on Worldwide Quest tours are required to be fully vaccinated and prepared to show proof of vaccination as per local regulations. Please refer to these websites for current requirements:

Zambia: <https://www.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm/covid-19-news/>

Canada: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid>



Weather

We expect mainly sunny weather with some cloud and occasional thunderstorms events, as we straddle the dry season and the beginning of the rains. Temperatures can be hot at mid-day. We plan to limit our field activities to early-morning and late-afternoon times.



Transportation

Between lodges, we will be travelling mainly in a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle driven by a professional driver. We will also take small commercial flights to and from Mfuwe, and a small flight from Lusaka to Royal Zambezi Lodge. At all lodges, we will utilize open safari vehicles that can seat 6 – 10 travellers at a time.



Travel Documents

You require a passport for your trip to Zambia. It should have at least three blank pages. Please make sure your passport is valid for six months after the date of your return home. Canadian and USA passport holders also need a visa for entry to Zambia. Visas may be obtained online or upon arrival. We will provide full details of visa procedures at 90 days prior to departure.



Level of Activity: Easy

We are doing most of our game viewing from the comfort of open safari jeeps. The elevations do not change much, and drives tend to be fairly level. We have some opportunities to partake in walking safaris in some locations, and walks are also generally level and less than 2000 metres in length. Note that smaller roads may be bumpy and dusty, and you should be prepared for this. If you have any concerns about being able to participate in this trip, please contact our office for further information.



Accommodation

Latitude 15 Hotel: This gorgeous boutique hotel located in the embassy district of Lusaka features eclectic African décor and a beautiful courtyard pool.

Ila Safari Lodge: Located along the Mfuwe River, Ila features tented accommodations on wooden platforms, with each tent offering a river view.

Mfuwe Lodge: Mfuwe Lodge is situated between two oxbow lakes — one permanent and one seasonally flooded. It features thatched chalets set among a glade of large mahogany and ebony trees.

Royal Zambezi Lodge: Overlooking the mighty Lower Zambezi River, this luxurious lodge's facilities provide sweeping vistas and easy access into Lower Zambezi National Park, and on terra firme, too.

Additional Info

African Skimmer

Terms and Conditions

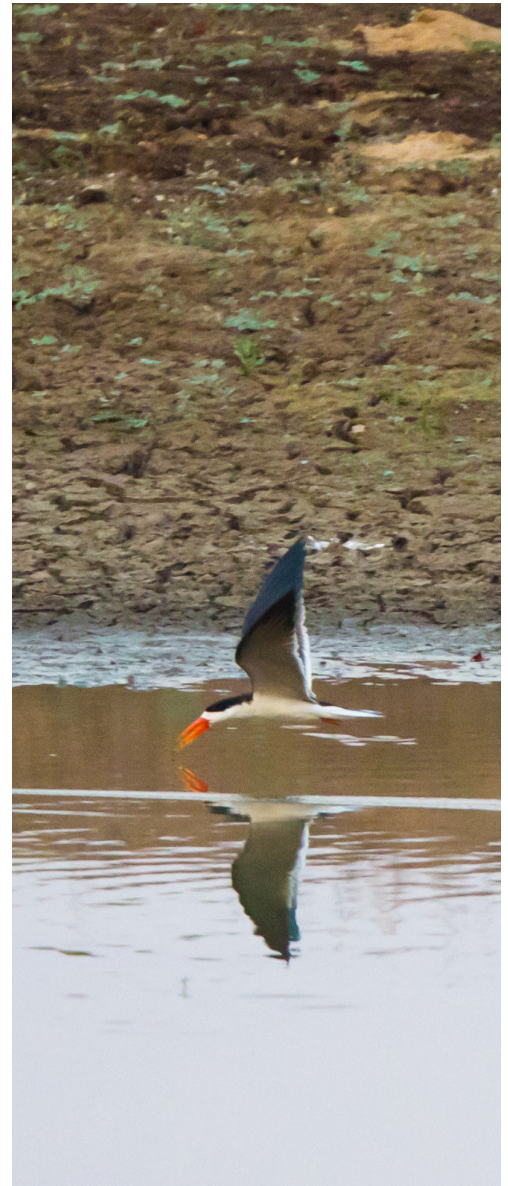
For additional information about our terms and conditions, please refer to your booking form, the current brochure or our website. All participants booking with Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario - License # 2667946). See full details [here](#).

Cancellation Policy

All payments are non-refundable, however you may transfer your initial deposit for any land tour to another tour 90 days or more prior to your scheduled departure date. Initial deposits for cruises are non-refundable and non-transferable. Your second payment and your final payment are non-refundable and non-transferable. If you cancel within 90 days prior to trip departure, all associated trip costs are non-refundable. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing. See full details [here](#).

Travel Insurance

We urge you to ensure that you have adequate cancellation and medical insurance in place, should an unexpected event cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip or should the tour not be operable per our terms and conditions. We will offer you Manulife insurance coverage. Medical insurance including emergency medical evacuation coverage is mandatory on all our tours.



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How to Book

Please contact the Worldwide Quest office for more information and to secure your booking.

1-800-387-1483 | 416-633-5666
travel@worldwidequest.com



TICO#: 2667946