

Zimbabwe has been named one of the most beautiful countries on the continent and it certainly lives up to that in spectacular style. Home to one of the world's seven natural wonders and the uncontested "adventure capital of Africa" – the magnificent Victoria Falls – and no less than four UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Zimbabwe's diversity and splendour is indeed remarkable.

There are fantastic game-viewing and other adventurous outdoor activities to be enjoyed across Zimbabwe, an unspoilt wilderness that is a favourite for travellers looking for authentic and uncrowded experiences. Mana Pools is renowned for its walking safaris and hosts one of the biggest wild dog populations in southern Africa, while the elephants of Hwange National Park enjoy free rein through a myriad of amazing landscapes. Matusadona presents a magical water wilderness and Kariba remains one of the largest man-made lakes in the world and treats visitors to the most breathtaking sunsets.

Travellers to Gonarezhou are astounded by the red sandstone cliffs and thrilling big cat sightings, whilst Malilangwe is the place to see the "Big 5".

Visa Information

Visa are available from ports of entry for a number of countries, however please do check if you require to acquire your visa in advance <https://www.evisa.gov.zw/regime>. Fees differ according to country of residence.

Canadian passports: Single entry - US\$75

British and Irish passports: Single entry - US\$55 (or equivalent in SA Rands or Pounds); Double entry - US\$70.

Other passports (USA, Europe, Australia, New Zealand): Single entry - US\$30 (or equivalent in SA Rands or Pounds); Double entry - US\$45 (or equivalent).

Zimbabwe immigration visa website will assist with up to date information www.evisa.gov.zw.

Airport Tax

Most airlines now include airport taxes in the tickets. But for charter flights these may still be payable and where it is applicable you will be notified at the time of booking.

Medical

Malaria protection is imperative. Tetanus and hepatitis vaccinations are recommended. Please consult your regular doctor or travel clinic in your home country for up-to-date information. It is advisable to know your blood group type in case of emergency.

Insurance

We ask that full insurance is put in place at point of confirmation. We highly recommend that every guest to have insurance that covers the following as a minimum:

- Cancellation and curtailment
- Medical costs (including full hospital costs if needed)
- Personal accident or death
- Emergency evacuation from the point of evacuation to the nearest best hospital and then back to the guest's hometown. Family or travelling partner should also be covered for accompanying the evacuation.

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- We cannot emphasize how important it is to be fully covered. Private hospitals in Africa will not accept a patient until full medical insurance has been established.

Money

US\$ cash is accepted. It is advisable to travel with smaller denominations (ie 1, 2, 5 and 10 dollar notes) as change can be a problem. Credit cards are becoming more widely accepted but not in remote areas and should not be relied upon. John's Camp does not have a credit card facility in camp.

What to Bring

For safety reasons a luggage weight limit of 20kgs per person (for hand luggage, camera equipment and checked bags). Additional fees may apply to overweight luggage. Extra seats may be booked for heavier luggage.

Passengers weighing over 100kgs will need to notify Robin Pope Safaris of their actual weight so this can be taken into consideration. Additional fees may apply to passengers weighing over 100kgs.

In the recent years we have had more and more guests arriving without their luggage. Unfortunately, with new security at airports hand luggage is being restricted. However, where possible we recommend that you travel with anything essential (medication, space glasses), and if possible, a change of clothes.

List of items to bring:

A hat, sunglasses, high strength sunscreen, moisturizer, lip salve, strong insect repellent, antihistamine cream and tablets should always be carried.

Clothes - all properties have a daily laundry service so do not bring too many clothes. Here is a good guide:

- 3 sets bush coloured safari outfits (long shorts/shirts) i.e. green/brown/dark khaki (not white, cream or bright colours - especially for walking).
- A couple of sets of lighter clothes for Livingstone.
- 2 sets casual evening clothes (long trousers, shirts, and socks to reduce insect bites).
- 1 lightweight sweater. Warm jacket in winter (June/July/early August).
- Light rain gear for the wet months (November - April).
- A few camps do have pools so bring a costume with you.
- A good pair of covered shoes for walking – should you be on a walking safari; we highly recommend walking boots that support the ankle. Water resistant walking shoes are also handy during the wet season.
- Open shoes or sandal type shoes (with firm grip for Victoria Falls Tour) for warmer days.
- **Note:** Out of respect for local culture, undergarments will not be washed even where laundry is available.

4. Binoculars – one pair per person is a must.

5. Torch.

6. Glasses - if you wear prescription glasses bring a spare pair. If you wear contact lenses bring a pair of glasses as well since dust can be a problem.

7. Camera equipment: a telephoto lens (200/300mm). Flash for night photography. Camera cleaning equipment and a good dust/waterproof bag. Videos - bring spare batteries.

Climate

- April, May - chance of rain, warm days (28C), cool nights (15C)
- June to August – no rain, cold mornings, and evenings/nights (8C), sunny days (26C)
- September, October - dry and very hot during the day (35C plus), warm nights (25C)
- November to March – hot days (30°C plus), warm, balmy nights (23C), high chance of rain and thunderstorms

Safety

Africa's wild animals are unpredictable and potentially dangerous. Photographic safari activities and staying in a safari
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camp places visitors near wild animals. There is therefore an inherent risk to those persons wishing to undertake these activities. Whilst every care is taken by Robin Pope Safaris and its personnel to minimize exposure to risk, Robin Pope Safaris Zimbabwe (Pvt) Ltd bears no responsibility whatsoever for any loss, injury, illness, death, delays, cancellation of flights or change of itinerary and retains the right to alter, amend or cancel any part of a safari with just reason.

Voltage

220-240 A.C with a 3 square prong plug.

Most remote camps and lodges may not be on mains electricity, with most being on solar power or generators - electricity hours may therefore be limited.

Hairdryers cannot be used at camps and lodges with generators, but video battery recharging is fine.

Dietary requirements

Please let us know any food allergies or any other special dietary requirements well in advance so the camp /lodge can accommodate you.

Nut Allergies: While our kitchen is fully capable of catering for most dietary requests, we regrettably are unable to cater for people with severe nut allergies as we cannot guarantee a completely nut free environment.

Photography & Film

Please be sensitive when photographing & filming local people and their villages. Ask the guide or the villagers first.

Be careful when photographing and filming public buildings and persons in uniform - again, ask first. Drone flying is not allowed in the national parks.

Tipping

Tips are not expected but always enthusiastically received if you are happy with the service. Please always give tips for the camp/lodge staff to the management to be shared out and please tip your guides individually. When asked, 'How much?' we say for camp/lodge staff from US\$5 per person per night and for guides the same again.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

In case you need to get hold of us in an emergency, you can contact us as follows:

Munyama Mudaala, Reservations Manager:

T: +260 95 709 0441

E: info@robinpopesafaris.net

Harare, Zimbabwe Office:

T: +263 772 361 712

The above will have contact with the camps and lodges as well in the case of family needing to reach you.