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Zambia Safari: Exclusive Camps & Bush Walks

Travel Style - Guided Walking Tour

This small-group Guided Walking Adventure offers an authentic travel experience, one that takes you away from the crowds and deep into the fabric of local life. On it, you'll enjoy 24/7 expert guides, premium accommodations, delicious meals, effortless transportation, and local wine or beer with dinner. Rest assured that every trip detail has been anticipated so you're free to enjoy an adventure that exceeds your expectations.



Sip sundowners to the sound of hippos splashing in their wallow. Dine under the stars as elephants stride by. Hear the music of a thousand birds by day, and by night a serenade of mysterious forest sounds. This is the Africa you've been searching for, and you've found it on this exceptional Country Walkers walking adventure through Zambia's iconic South Luangwa National Park, where the walking safari was pioneered. Your adventure begins at award-winning Mfuwe Lodge, a luxurious point of entry from which you venture deep into the bush on daily game drives. Continue to three remote yet deluxe bush camps for an intimate wildlife experience on foot in one of Mother Africa's last unspoiled regions. This is the real Africa—with all the challenge, beauty, mystery, and excitement that a walking safari promises.

Venture into iconic South Luangwa National Park to connect with Africa's abundant safari wildlife. From exquisite bush camps nestled amid natural surroundings, embark on unforgettable walking tours of Zambia's wild landscape. At a comfortable stroll, you can truly experience the unspoiled world underfoot, while local guides reveal to you the wonders of their country. Cover even more ground during daily game drives, marveling at the diversity of wildlife that surrounds you. As night falls, return to your accommodations, exceptionally crafted to create a remote oasis of comfort and luxury in the untamed wild. This is the real Africa – with all its challenge, beauty, and mystery yours to discover.

What is a Guided Walking Safari?

Optional guided walks are a feature of our safaris, getting you out of your safari vehicle and into the incredible sights, sounds, and smells of Africa. You'll learn tracking techniques from our expert, naturalist guides and revel in the tiny details that present themselves when you're out in nature: flowers in bloom, birds on the wing, and newborn antelope foraging in the tall grass. On the days where walks are offered, they range from 1-3 hours, with shorter and longer options when feasible. Our goal is to offer as much walking as possible, but there are some days where due to park restrictions and/or transfers, game drives or water activities are included instead. Walks are in the



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bush and generally depart directly from the camps and lodges.

Tour Only Itinerary - 2019

Day 1

Join your Country Walkers *Zambia Safari: Exclusive Camps & Bush Walks*

Afternoon/evening game drive

Upon arrival at the tiny Mfuwe Airport you are warmly welcomed by your guide and transferred approximately 45 minutes to your home for the next two nights, the lovely Mfuwe Lodge. Depending on your time of arrival, you may have time to refresh and relax before you set out on your first game drive.

Prolific game gives this region its renown: buffalo, antelope, giraffe, crocodile, and other impressive creatures congregate around the lagoons adjacent to the lodge and give you hours of entertainment. After your first game drive this afternoon, relax over sundowner cocktails and dinner, and then enjoy a new spectacle as spotlights pick out a parade of nocturnal creatures. You've arrived in an animal-lovers' paradise!

Accommodation: Mfuwe Lodge, Zambia

Voted Zambia's "Best Lodge," Mfuwe Lodge crouches beneath a canopy of ebony and mahogany. Its charming thatched buildings sit on the banks of two lagoons where a steady stream of wildlife offers enthralling vignettes. Each of its 18 thatched chalets gives visitors a private piece of Africa, with secluded covered verandas that overlook the lagoon shores where hippos wallow and animals come to drink. Rooms offer stylish African interiors, comfortable sitting rooms, and en-suite bathrooms with panoramic walk-in showers.

Lodge facilities are designed to complement the natural surroundings and include open deck, swimming pool, bush spa, and curio shop.

Day 2

Mfuwe Lodge: morning and evening game drives

Enjoy a full day based at Mfuwe Lodge in the remote southern part of Zambia's iconic South Luangwa National Park. In between today's two game drives in the —one setting out at first light, and the other in late afternoon when wildlife is most active—you enjoy free time to relax and explore your new surroundings. Watch the comings and goings of hippos and other wild game from your private veranda, indulge in a treatment at the lodge's onsite Bush Spa (not included in tour price), or head



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into the small village of Mfuwe, where you may have the opportunity to visit the local school—funded in part by Country Walkers’ sustainable tourism initiatives. Evening brings new opportunities to relax and share stories with your travel companions, serenaded by the sounds of the Zambian night.

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Day 3

Mfuwe Lodge to Zungulila Bushcamp: Morning transfer/game drive and afternoon bush walk

1-hour of walking, easy to moderate

Today you head off on a morning game drive that takes you to Zungulila, your camp for the next two nights. You journey deeper into the exceptional, lush diversity of South Luangwa National Park. This modern-day Eden has verdant floodplains alive with huge herds of game, mopane woodlands, and indigenous hardwood forests that sustain more than 400 species of birds. The concentration of game around the Luangwa and Kapamba Rivers and their oxbow lagoons is among the most intense in Africa; these twin rivers attract thirsty animals like a magnet. Renowned explorer David Livingstone was one of the first to note the extraordinary riches of South Luangwa Valley, saying, “It is impossible to describe its luxuriance.”

Acquaint yourself with your new surroundings after lunch today, relaxing on your own private sundeck with outside soaking tubs, or lounging under the camp’s open-sided tented pavilion. Today’s late afternoon bush walk brings you into contact with the wealth of wildlife on the floodplains of the Kapamba River, directly adjacent to camp. Afterwards, return to camp for a classic Zungulila experience: drinking sundowners astride a lounge chair, with your feet immersed in the shallow river.

Accommodation: Zungulila Bushcamp, Zungulila

Zungulila combines modern convenience with the essence of old Africa. From its riverbend location, breathtaking views extend onto an expansive plain where natural springs attract a variety of game. Camp consists of just four shaded tents, built under thatched roofs, with private bamboo verandas opening onto sweeping views filled with wildlife. Stylish interiors, en-suite bathrooms, outdoor showers and deep soaking tubs assure your privacy and comfort.



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Day 4

Zungulila Bushcamp: morning bush walk and evening game drive

1-2-hours of walking, easy to moderate

Today, enjoy the luxurious tranquility of spending every waking moment in and around Zungulila Bushcamp, taking advantage of the camp's many amenities and exploring its gorgeous surroundings. An early morning knock on the door lets you know that tea and coffee are waiting on your doorstep—your invitation to this morning's exhilarating bush walk. Join your group for juice and toast around the campfire, then head off to discover the broad variety of habitat that surrounds your camp. The area is so rich with wildlife watching opportunities, it's hard to know where to begin, but your expert Zambian guides—all certified under one of Africa's most rigorous training programs—are always at your side to point out exciting new discoveries. Perhaps you surprise a colorful flock of carmine bee-eaters in their nest along the riverbank, or happen upon a herd of puku antelope, keeping one step ahead of their main predator, the stealthy leopard. Around mid-morning, head back to camp for brunch, followed by a period of relaxing downtime. Later this afternoon, you rejoin your guides for a thrilling game drive before sundowners and a family-style dinner with your small group.

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Day 5

Zungulila Bushcamp to Kapamba Bushcamp: morning bush walk and afternoon game drive

2-4 hours of walking, easy to moderate

Leaving Zungulila Bushcamp on foot, enjoy a leisurely walk along the river, arriving at Kapamba in time for lunch. Hippopotamus, 14 different species of antelope, Thornicroft's giraffe (unique to Luangwa Valley), eland, impala, kudu, baboons, vervet monkeys, and dozens of other animal species are prolific in Luangwa—as are 400 different species of birds.

This afternoon, settle into the relaxing rhythm of your new camp, enjoying sublime perspectives on the Kapamba River from the spacious deck. Later, head out to explore the surrounding wilderness on an afternoon game drive. Perhaps you cross paths with a family of elephants making their way across the river, or witness a herd of zebra or buffalo roaming the adjacent grasslands. Back at camp this evening, enjoy the camaraderie of your small group, sharing recollections of the day's adventures over sundowners and dinner.



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Accommodation: Kapamba Bushcamp, Kapamba

Kapamba Bushcamp combines serene isolation and superb game viewing opportunities with unexpected touches of luxury in such a remote location. Beautifully positioned on the banks of the shallow Kapamba River, fed by freshwater springs, this idyllic spot is surrounded by some of Luangwa's most diverse wildlife. The central bar and dining room sit beneath a cluster of matumi and sausage trees, while the wide deck provides a prime vantage point for views of the Kapamba River.

Rest comfortably in one of four spacious, en-suite chalets. Simple and original in design, the open-fronted rooms have wide verandas with river views, twin showers and double-sized sunken stone baths. Watching elephants bathe in the river as you lounge on your private deck or in your tub, is just one of the many astonishingly beautiful moments that await you.

Day 6

Kapamba Bushcamp: morning bush walk and afternoon game drive

1-2 hours of walking, easy to moderate

Kapamba Bushcamp is your delightful home base for today's explorations. Make the most of your wilderness location with a morning bush walk, setting off early to watch the surrounding floodplains and grasslands come to life, then return to camp for a hearty brunch. Afternoon brings new opportunities to get out and explore in 4WD vehicles with your expert guides. After another convivial dinner with your small group, surrounded by the sounds of the African night, perhaps you head out this evening for a drive, in search of nocturnal creatures such as the night ape and bush baby.

Accommodation: Kapamba Bushcamp, Kapamba

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Day 7

Kapamba Bushcamp to Bilimungwe Bushcamp: morning bush walk and afternoon game drive

2-3 hours of walking, easy to moderate



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The magic of Luangwa continues to enchant as, after a hearty breakfast, you set off on foot from Kapamba. A two to three -hour walking safari will take you through the bush to Bilimungwe Bushcamp, where you spend the next two nights. Accompanied by your expert guide, experience the magic of striding through untouched wilderness, where large herds of buffalo roam grassy plains and elephants pause to drink at fresh springs along the Luangwa's riverbanks.

Upon arrival at Bilmungwe Bushcamp, take some time to settle in before this afternoon's game drive. In the evening, after wading through the river, join your hosts for sundowners, sit around the campfire recounting the day's adventures, and enjoy a starlit supper at your table overlooking the water.

Accommodation: Bilimungwe Bushcamp, Bilimungwe

A warm welcome awaits you at Bilimungwe Bushcamp. This exclusive, premium lodge has just four raised thatched chalets offering spacious accommodation with en-suite bathroom, indoor and outdoor shower, and private porch with remarkable views onto one of three waterholes.

The heart of camp is its lounge, built beneath the protective canopy of a huge mahogany tree. It overlooks a shady waterhole, drawing thirsty visitors throughout the day including warthog and elephant.

Day 8

Bilimungwe Bushcamp: morning bush walk and afternoon game drive

1-2 hours of walking, easy to moderate

Immerse yourself today in the welcoming warmth and isolated enchantment of Bilimungwe Bushcamp. The camp's idyllic position between the Luangwa River and a series of three waterholes teeming with wildlife often makes guests feel as if they've stumbled upon Noah's Ark. Split your time today between a morning walk and an afternoon game drive into the surrounding national parkland, interspersed with time to enjoy the comforts of camp—reading in a cozy armchair under the shade of the giant mahogany tree, watching Bilmungwe's unrivaled multitude of birds and animals flock to the lagoon just off your private porch, or sharing reminiscences of the past week with your traveling companions and newfound friends. The day concludes with an intimate farewell dinner under the stars, with the best of wild Zambia spread out at your doorstep.

Accommodation: Bilimungwe Bushcamp, Bilimungwe

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Day 9

Your *Zambia Safari: Exclusive Camps & Bush Walks* tour concludes

Today you bid farewell to the extraordinary beauty of the South Luangwa Valley and all of the friends you have made along the way. You are transferred to the Mfuwe Airport for your included flight back to Lusaka for a mid-day or late afternoon arrival. Please note, depending on the flight schedule, your departure may be quite early (pre-dawn with optional breakfast boxes provided) or after breakfast.