How to Get There

Victoria Falls and Zambezi National Parks lie on the southern bank of the Zambezi River and include the magnificent Falls themselves. Visitors can travel by car, driving 440 km northwest from Bulawayo, or through the Kazungula Border Post with Botswana, 90 km to the west. The Victoria Falls Border Post is within meters of the Falls for access by road from Zambia. The road from Bulawayo to the Falls is completely tarred, and the roads around the Falls can easily be negotiated by all types of vehicles. Victoria Falls boasts an international airport, with services from Harare and many regional and international destinations. The town is also serviced by the National Railways of Zimbabwe which operate scheduled services linking all main centres in Zimbabwe.

For Reservations or Further Information contact:

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority
Central Reservations Office
P. O. Box CY 140, Causeway Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel: +263-4-706077/8, 707624/9, 792786/9
Fax: +263-4-726089 or 724914
Email: natparks@africaonline.co.zw
Cnr. Borrowdale Rd. & Sandringham Dr.
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 08:00 - 16:00

Bulawayo Office
P.O. Box 2283, Bulawayo Zimbabwe
Tel: +263-9-63646
Tel/Fax: +263-9-65592
Cnr. Herbert Chitepo St. & 10th Ave.
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 08:00 - 16:00

Zambezi National Park
The Warden
P. Bag 5925, Victoria Falls Zimbabwe
Tel: +263-13-42294 / 44566
Office Hours: Daily 06:00 - 18:30

Photographs: Dana Allen @PhotoSafari
Victoria Falls and Zambezi National Parks

Victoria Falls, known locally as Mosi oa Tunya - The Smoke that Thunders, is one of the seven “wonders of the world” and one of the largest and most spectacular waterfalls on earth. The Falls are 1.7 kilometres wide and nearly 550 million liters of water cascade 70 to 108 meters into the gorge below - every minute - during the Zambezi River’s peak flow.

The rain forest area of Victoria Falls is filled with many unique species of flora and fauna. Wander amongst the Fig, Ebony, Mahogany and Date Palm groves while gazing at the Falls from magnificent viewpoints. Many species of birds and small mammals may be spotted beneath the protective canopy of the forest. The David Livingstone statue can be found at the left end of the Falls near the spectacular Devil’s Cataract viewpoint. On 16 November, 1855, Livingstone (the first Western explorer to view the Falls) wrote in his journal: “... scenes so lovely must have been gazed on by angels in their flight.”

Zambezi National Park together with Victoria Falls National Park cover an area of some 56,000 hectares. The northern border of the park is formed by the great Zambezi River which also forms the border between Zimbabwe and Zambia for much of its length. A wide variety of larger mammals may be found within the Zambezi National Park including The Big Five: elephant, lion, buffalo, leopard and white rhinoceros. In addition, herds of sable antelope, eland, zebra, giraffe, kudu, waterbuck and impala as well as many of the smaller species of game can be viewed. The Zambezi River is home to a large variety of fish and is famous for its bream and fighting tiger-fish.

Zambezi National Park has two main game-viewing sections: the Zambezi River Game Drive, with an extensive network of roads along the river accessed through the main gate of the park, and the 25 km Chamabonda Game Drive in the southern part of the park, which begins about 5 km outside of Victoria Falls Town - just off the main road to Bulawayo.
Facilities

National Park operate self-contained lodges at Zambezi Camp on the river bank six km upstream from Victoria Falls. The camp is served by a tar road and is open all year round. There is no restaurant or store. Dogs are not permitted and firearms must be declared on arrival. Transport is essential although taxi and rental cars are available from town. The lodges, which are fully equipped, have two bedrooms (maximum five persons), living rooms, bathroom (with bath or shower) and kitchen with stove and refrigerator. All lodges are electrified and are serviced daily.

Three exclusive fishing camps: Kandahar, Sansimba and Mpala Jena are attractively situated on the banks of the Zambezi, off the Zambezi River Game Drive. Sansimba, (about 30 km upstream), and Mpala Jena (17 km) are open only during the dry season between 1st May and 31st October. Kandahar is open throughout the year. Exclusive bookings may be made for a party of up to ten persons. Facilities consist of a flush toilet and cold shower, tap water, a sleeping shelter (with low side walls at Kandahar), cement table with bench and braai unit. Firewood can be purchased at the reception office but, as supplies are limited, it is recommended that visitors bring their own means of cooking. These areas are not serviced and visitors are requested to leave the camps in a clean and orderly condition. Power boating is permitted above Kandahar Island and limited to two boats per camp. Fishing by boat is excellent in these areas.

For an unforgettable wilderness experience, there are four minimum development camping sites available in the park. Situated on the banks of the Zambezi, these areas which are unfenced and completely in the wild, are equipped with a braai stand and bush toilet only. Chundu 1 (25 km upstream from the reception office) and Chundu 2 (26 km) are situated in an acacia forest close to the river’s edge. Chomuza (40 km) is sited near some rapids and Siamunungu (47 km) is located at the end of the Zambezi River Drive on a particularly lovely stretch of the river. Each camp can accommodate a maximum of twelve people. Visitors to these camps should bring their own cooking facilities and are required to take their own rubbish bags which should be disposed of when exiting the park.
Upstream along the Zambezi River drive there are twenty-five numbered sites where day visitors may picnic or fish. These sites are attractively situated on the banks of the river and sheltered beneath the beautiful shady riverine vegetation. No licences are required, however fishing is only permitted at designated areas. Visitors are requested to be aware of their surroundings and remove all traces of their presence before leaving.

**Activities**

Marvelling at the splendour of Victoria Falls is, of course, the prime activity of the area. Visitors should plan on viewing the Falls at several different times, as the ever-changing mist and light can afford spectacularly different views throughout the day. Moonlight viewing is an unique opportunity which takes place during periods of the full moon. Game-viewing, fishing and many different types of river activities are sure to provide days of enjoyment. The Victoria Falls Publicity Association is situated in the centre of town where staff are happy to provide up-to-date information on all aspects of touring activities. Information available includes: hotels and other accommodation; guided tours; river cruises; bungee jumping; whitewater rafting; helicopter and microlight flights over the Falls; game-viewing and safari activities; tribal dancing; craft villages and curio shops; crocodile ranch; dinners and dancing.

You may contact them at the following address:
Victoria Falls Publicity Association
P.O. Box 97, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

Visitors to Victoria Falls are advised that there is a slight risk of contracting malaria in the area. This can be minimised by the simple precaution of taking an antimalarial prophylactic.