

ACACIA AFRICA

Updated 12/10/2012
FOR ALL 2012
DEPARTURES

LION AND ELEPHANT ENCOUNTER – TOUR DOSSIER

Tour Code LEE5

VICTORIA FALLS

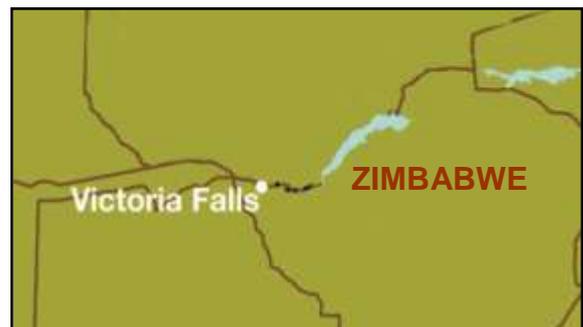
5 DAYS

Departure Point & Time: **Meet on arrival at Victoria Falls Airport on day one**

HIGHLIGHTS

Zambezi Sunset Cruise
Elephant Back Safari
Walking With Lions

Relax on your 4-day stay in Victoria Falls, marvel at the Falls themselves and have close encounters with two of Africa's best loved animals. Take an elephant back safari in the bush and 'walk with lions'; an exciting experience with Africa's iconic big cats.



INTENDED ITINERARY

Whilst it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary.

This tour is operated in association with a local operator. Acacia is proud to be working with local companies supporting local communities.

Duration: 5 Days
Countries visited: Zimbabwe

DAY 1
Airport transfer, Zambezi Sunset Cruise
No Meals
Twin/double rooms – en-suite

On arrival you will be met off the flight and transferred to your accommodation in Victoria Falls. The local name for Victoria Falls is 'Mosi Oa Tunya' ('the smoke that thunders') referring to the huge spray that this huge curtain of falling water creates in full flood. Your accommodation is situated a short walk from the main town centre with facilities including a bar, restaurant and swimming pool so there is plenty of opportunity to relax when not doing activities, and enjoy the resorts tranquil surrounds. Our guide can take bookings for a wide variety of activities for which the area is renowned. We highly recommend you book optional activities a day or so in advance. This afternoon you will take a sunset river cruise on the Zambezi River hoping to spot animals coming down to the waters edge to drink. Commonly spotted animals include hippo, crocodile, various antelope and birdlife, and if we are very lucky elephant. The cruise starts between 3pm – 4pm so please ensure that your flight arrives in plenty of time to enjoy this experience.

DAY 2
Elephant Back Safari
Bx1
Twin/double rooms – en-suite

After a relaxing start to the day you will be picked up and taken to the beginning of your elephant back safari. Many of the elephants at the centre have been hand reared after being orphaned through poaching and later rescued from the bush. Sitting high on one of these magnificent creatures is a wonderful experience, offering the chance to see the bush from the eyes of an African elephant. It is easy to see how at home they are here

and as they are accepted into their environment so naturally there is often the chance to enjoy close quarter game viewing on the walk. Afterwards, there is a chance for you to interact with the elephants as the handlers introduce you to them and you can begin to appreciate their individual personalities.

DAY 3
Walking With Lions

Bx1
Twin/double rooms - en-suite

Today you encounter your second of Africa's 'Big 5' up close. The session with lions lasts approximately an hour and a half, in which time you have the chance to interact with 2 or 3 lion cubs. The session is fully supervised by experienced handlers who show you how to behave and teach you about the lions as you wander with them along the riverine vegetation on the Masuwe River. An African experience like no other! For the rest of the day you can relax back at the lodge or maybe go and visit the 'Falls' themselves. 'Mosi oa Tunya' or 'The Smoke the Thunders' is a spectacular sight. At over a mile wide and around 100 metres deep it is, in full flood the largest curtain of falling water in the world and creates columns of spray visible miles away.

DAY 4 - 5
Day at leisure, Airport transfer to airport

Bx1
Twin/double rooms - en-suite

Today you have a full day to enjoy Victoria Falls and its surrounds. If you haven't already you may like to visit the powerful Victoria Falls. There are also a number of activities you can do around the area. If adrenaline activities are what you're looking for why not try bridge swinging, abseiling or bungee jumping 111m over the Batoka Gorge into which the 'Falls' plunge! Alternatively enjoy the thrill of the rapids with white water rafting or jet boating. More relaxing is a canoe safari on the Upper Zambezi where you may spot hippos, elephants or fish eagles on your journey. Horse riding, game drives and scenic flights over the 'Falls' are also available. Victoria Falls town is a great place to pick up a souvenir and try your hand at haggling in the markets. After a fulfilling day of activities and relaxing you may like to take a meal at 'The Boma' a local restaurant specializing in exotic foods and game meats. This quintessential taste of Africa is a great way to toast the end of your stay in Victoria Falls. The following day is yours at leisure before your transfer to Victoria Falls International Airport where your arrangements end.

TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR STYLE

Short Safari's and Treks

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Tour highlights, transport, return airport transfers, accommodation, meals as indicated and services of an English speaking excursion leader

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visas, travel insurance, flights, optional activities, laundry, tips to driver & local guides, passport & visa fees & items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is in single or twin share en suite hotel room with air conditioning. The hotel is a short walk from downtown Victoria Falls with bar and restaurant facilities and swimming pool, allowing you to relax at the end of the day.

TRANSPORT

Minibus or microbus, elephant, river boat, foot

MEALS

Meals include Breakfast (B) x 4. Meals not included in the tour can be ordered from the hotel restaurant or take a short walk to check out the local restaurants in Victoria Falls town.

OPERATOR

As this tour is run by a respected local tour operator, you will benefit from their extensive local knowledge and enthusiasm as well as helping Acacia support local businesses in Africa.

TOUR PREPARATION

This tour, although not guaranteed to be a private tour, is designed for small numbers or individual parties. As it has no fixed scheduled departures you can simply choose the date you, with friends or family want to take this adventure - allowing you more flexibility and service from your guide.

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent the invoice and related documents. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher. Victoria Falls is well served by a variety of airlines. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

Accommodation in **Victoria Falls**:
Address:

The Mecure Rainbow Hotel
278 Parkway Drive,
Victoria Falls,
Zimbabwe

Contact details:

Tel. +263 39 122 48462

Tour start time and point:
Tour end time and point:

On arrival at Victoria Falls airport on day one
Transfer to Victoria Falls airport on day five

EXTENDING YOUR STAY

If you wish to extend your stay at the beginning or end of the tour, additional accommodation can be booked in advance. See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. These prices may be subject to change so please contact Acacia or your agent to check current prices.

Description	Price (GBP)	Description	Price (GBP)
Victoria Falls			
Pre/Post tour accommodation - Single pp/pn	\$110	Pre/Post tour accommodation – Twin pp/pn	\$70

WHAT TO BRING

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg limit. It should be brought in a soft holdall or rucksack along with a smaller day bag. You will need to bring a mixture of lightweight clothing and warm clothing for the evenings and early morning. We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/ belt that are easily hidden. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use your hotel safe to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets.

VACCINATIONS/HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
Zimbabwe	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	R	R	R

C = Compulsory, **R** = Recommended, * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk.

For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the Acacia website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
Zimbabwe	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes									

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition of Acacia that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can recommend a respected, specialist travel insurance provider for this tour. Please contact Acacia for more information.

MONEY MATTERS

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$15-20 per day. Also keep US\$ cash for relevant airport taxes and visas needed, optional activities and any additional accommodation before or after your tour.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in US dollars, Sterling or Euro which can then be transferred into the Rand on arrival. Your guide can advise how and when you can change the rest of your money throughout the tour.
- **Currencies** are as follows: Zimbabwe – Zimbabwe Dollar.
- **ATM machines** are not to be relied upon in Vic Falls.
- **Credit cards** can be used to pay for larger optional activities although there may be a high fee for their use.
- **Travellers cheques** can be difficult to cash but make suitable emergency funds. Again expect high fees.

It is recommended you bring your money in a mixture of ways and your guide can best advise on what to use where.

TIPPING

As in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy, it has become customary to give a small gratuity to local staff at the end of a tour for services rendered. This is at your own discretion.

LOCAL PAYMENT

The Local Payment (LP) set out in the brochure is to be paid to the local tour guide in Arusha at the start of the safari. It is used by the tour leader to pay for running costs on the road. Travellers' cheques and credit cards are not accepted.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (subject to change and availability).

Activity	Price (US\$)	Activity	Price (US\$)
Victoria Falls		Flying Fox/ high wire	\$80
Abseiling/ Gorge Swing x 2	\$80/ \$115	Bungy Jump over the Falls	\$120
Zambezi Jet Boating & Cable Car	\$100	White water rafting	\$110- \$120
Horse Riding	\$70 - \$120	Fishing Safaris half/ full day	\$125 - \$255
Riverboarding/ rafting combo	\$155 - \$175	Game Drive	\$50
Flights over the Falls (various modes)	\$125 - \$240	Victoria Falls tour	\$45

NB The above costs have been converted into approximate US dollars for convenience. Expect to pay for some optional extras in the local currency.



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimises negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa

GET CONNECTED

Join our facebook group www.facebook.com/AcaciaAfrica and get connected with other Acacia travelers, check out the pictures, videos and feedback from their tours and meet up with other people booked on your tour

Follow us on twitter @AcaciaAfrica and get the latest buzz. Got a question? Ask us on twitter!

Follow our blogs from the road <http://acaciaontheroad.blogspot.com/> and <http://africastuckonyou.blogspot.com/> get regular updates from our crew on the road as well as other Acacia Travellers

Don't forget to sign up to our newsletter to get regular updates and special offers www.acacia-africa.com

For information on our Premium Overlanding, Acacia Small Group Safaris, Short Safari's & Treks, Short Breaks & City Stays, Voluntours and Dive Tours please visit www.acacia-africa.com



Acacia Adventure Holidays Ltd

London

23A Craven Terrace
London
W2 3QH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7706 4700
Fax: +44 (0)20 7706 4686
Email: info@acacia-africa.com

Cape Town

PO Box 27632
Rhine Road
Cape Town 8005
Tel: +27 (0)21 556 1157
Fax: +27 (0)21 557 5983
Email: info@acacia-africa.com

