

Zambia

Zambia, a country extravagantly rich in wildlife and wild terrain. Its game parks are among the best in the world, and it shares with Zimbabwe two of the scenic highlights of southern Africa: the Zambezi River and Victoria Falls.

Landlocked Zambia is set on a high plateau (averaging 4,265 ft/1,300 m in altitude), with mountains and hills in the east and north. Almost half the land area is savanna and bush, a quarter is forest or woodland and less than 10% is cropland (tobacco, corn and peanuts are the main crops). The Copper Belt, where most of the mines are located, stretches across the northern part of the country. The Zambezi River begins in the west and runs southeast, eventually delineating the Zambian border with Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe. The country is also bordered by Angola to the west, Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) and Tanzania to the north and Malawi and Mozambique to the east.

VISAS AND TAXES

A visa is required for US passport holders traveling to Zambia. Visas may be purchased upon arrival. Please refer to your Pre-Travel Checklist and itinerary for details. If you are not a US passport holder your entry requirements may vary; please contact your local government office for entry requirements.

Passengers flying within/out of Zambia may be required to pay a departure and security tax directly at the airport. Exact change is required. Please refer to your itinerary for details; if there are no details in the itinerary this means that the taxes are already included in your tickets. All government fees are subject to change without notice.

HEALTH & MEDICATION

Certain over-the-counter medications contain ingredients that are on Zambia's list of controlled substances. As a precaution we recommend that you do not take unnecessary non-prescription medication with you when travelling to Zambia. For prescription medication, please carry a doctor's prescription with you and ensure that the medication is in its original bottle.

CURRENCY

The official currency in Zambia is the Kwacha, however US Dollars can be used for any expenses within Zambia. All US currency should be 2008 bills or newer. Although you can pay for anything in Zambia using US dollars, only Zambian Kwacha can be withdrawn from ATMs. If you plan to use an ATM please note that most machines in Zambia only accept Visa cards. Some bank locations may also accept MasterCard, but most only accept Visa debit cards.

LANGUAGE

The official language of Zambia is English. However, it is estimated that up to 85 languages are spoken in Zambia.



CREDIT CARDS

Visa and MasterCard are generally accepted throughout Zambia, but American Express and Diners Club are often not. Some camps in very remote parts of Zambia do not accept credit cards at all so it is advisable to travel with small denominations of cash.

PERSONAL SAFETY

While on safari the greatest danger is wild animals; always observe park rules, never get out of your vehicle unless you are certain that it is safe, and never confront wild animals.

At safari lodges/camps, listen to the camp staff and guides. Safety precautions need to be taken seriously, and strictly adhered to.

RECOMMENDED READING

- * Zambezi-The River of the Gods Jan & Fiona Teede
- * African Thunder: The Victoria Falls Jan & Fiona Teede

JUST FOR FUN

- * Zambia's national bird is the African fish eagle. It resembles the North American bald eagle, except that the white feathers extend farther down the neck.
- * The black lechwe and Kafue lechwe are two antelope found only in Zambia.

Zambia *Average lows and highs													
Temp.		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
LVI	°F	63/90	63/86	64/88	57/84	50/84	45/77	43/77	46/82	57/91	64/93	64/88	63/88
LUN	°F	62/78	62/78	61/83	60/78	53/75	51/72	48/72	52/77	57/83	66/86	63/84	63/79
LVI	°C	17/32	17/30	18/31	14/29	10/29	7/25	6/25	8/28	14/33	18/34	18/31	17/31
LUN	°C	17/26	17/26	16/28	16/26	12/24	11/22	9/22	11/25	14/28	19/30	17/29	17/26
*Rain variations occur each year. Amounts are dependent on your specific location.													
Rain		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
LVI	in	8.47	7.28	3.94	1.77	0.19	0.11	0.03	0.11	0.15	0.78	3.94	7.48
LUN	in	0.0	9.30	5.20	1.90	0.20	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.10	0.60	4.00	0.0
LVI	mm	215	185	100	45	5	3	1	3	4	20	100	190
LUN	mm	0	236	132	48	5	0	0	0	3	15	107	0
					LVI- Liv	vingstor	ne. LUN	l- Lusak	a				