VICTORIA FALLS

Victoria Falls lies on the Zambezi River which forms the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. Whilst neither the highest nor widest waterfall in the world, Victoria Falls’ combined height and width makes it the planet’s largest single sheet of falling water.

The wet season in Zambia/Zimbabwe falls between late Nov and early May. The volume of water falling is highest between Feb and May, peaking in Apr. The falls look most dramatic at peak flow; however, the amount of spray can obscure the view. Nov generally has the lowest water levels.

You might get wet! © Wilderness Safaris

VICTORIA FALLS

3 days/2 nights
From $665 per person twin share
Departs daily ex Victoria Falls

Tour cost per person from: Twin Single
The Elephant Camp $1600 $1600
Old Drift Lodge $1600 $1600
Vic Falls Safari Club (Club Rm) $1109 $1109
Victoria Falls Hotel (Deluxe Rm) $1069 $1859
(Victoria Falls Hot & Standard Rm) $953 $1617
Ilala Lodge (Deluxe Rm) $1023 $1387
Vic Falls Safari Lodge (Lodge Std Rm) $877 $877
Batonka Guest Lodge (Standard Rm) $723 $883
The Kingdom (Standard Rm) $665 $1019

*Full board basis.

INCLUSIONS
Scheduled airport/hotel transfers, hotel accommodation on a B&B basis (except Elephant Camp & Old Drift Lodge full board including local drinks) and scheduled tour of the Victoria Falls. Children of all ages welcome at all hotels except Victoria Falls Safari Club: Children 10+ and Elephant Camp & Old Drift Lodge 7+.

FOR OPTIONAL VICTORIA FALLS EXCURSIONS PLEASE SEE P84.

Day 1 Victoria Falls
Transfer from Victoria Falls Airport to your hotel for overnight.

Day 2 Victoria Falls
This morning enjoy a tour of Victoria Falls. The afternoon is at leisure, or you can take some optional tours including the Flight of Angels by Helicopter, a Sunset Cruise on the Zambezi River or lunch on Livingstone Island (see p84).

Day 3 Tour ends
Transfer to Victoria Falls Airport. Tour ends.

Victoria Falls is often considered one of the seven natural wonders of the world. In 1855, from an island close to the precipice of the falls, explorer Dr. Livingstone described the waterfall as “forming scenes so lovely they must have been gazed upon by angels in flight.” Named in honour of Queen Victoria, the falls’ official name, Mosi-oa-Tunya – “The Smoke That Thunders” – is commonly used as well. Columns of spray can be seen from miles away as 546 million cubic metres of water per minute plummet into a deep gorge over 100 metres below.
HOTELS & LODGES • VICTORIA FALLS (ZIMBABWE)

THE ELEPHANT CAMP
Enjoy sundowners from the comfort of your private deck as a family of habituated elephants forage nearby. The Elephant Camp Main offers 12 luxury tents with personal plunge pools, indoor/outdoor showers and distant views of Victoria Falls. For extra exclusivity and seclusion, there are 4 additional tented suites located in a wing known as The Elephant Camp West, which operates independently from the main camp.

OLD DRIFT LODGE
Just 7 kilometres upstream from the crashing falls, historic Old Drift Lodge offers accommodation in 14 canvas-clad suites (including 4 family units). Fitted with private viewing decks, plunge pools, star beds and claw-footed tubs, these resplendent suites face the Zambezi River. Guests enjoy easy access to the waterfall and centre of town, and can explore the national park surrounding the property by boat, vehicle or on foot.

VICTORIA FALLS HOTEL
Set amongst century-old shade trees and tropical gardens, this gracious, old-world hotel offers Edwardian grandeur and excellent service. All 161 air-conditioned guestrooms are exquisitely decorated and combine traditional majesty and modern sophistication. Deluxe suites have a view of Batoka Gorge and the spray of the falls. Facilities include four restaurants, a bar, library, reading room and 24-hour room service. Afternoon tea is served on the Stanley Terrace overlooking the Victoria Falls Bridge that links Zimbabwe to Zambia and a 10-minute stroll along the hotel’s private pathway leads to the falls.

Resident herd of elephants at Elephant Camp © David Rogers
Main guest area with fire pit © Wild Horizons
Luxurious Elephant Camp Suite © Elephant Camp
Room with a view © Wild Horizons
Victoria Falls Hotel © African Sun
Resident herd of elephants at Elephant Camp © David Rogers
Main guest area with fire pit © Wild Horizons
Luxurious Elephant Camp Suite © Elephant Camp
Room with a view © Wild Horizons
Victoria Falls Hotel © African Sun
Victoria Falls Hotel Honeymoon suite © African Sun
Victoria Falls Hotel, Hotel High Fees © African Sun
 ILALA LODGE  
The closest hotel to Victoria Falls, family-run Ilala Lodge offers 73 appealing, private guestrooms spread across two wings. Facilities at this convenient, upscale property include a pool, bar and an award-winning restaurant where the spray of the nearby waterfall can often be seen. The Victoria Falls National Park shares a border with the property, and wild animals such as warthog and impala often graze the hotel’s manicured lawns.

 THE KINGDOM  
This 4 star resort hotel has a total of 294 tasteful, air-conditioned rooms with picturesque lake views and is located just a few minutes’ walk from the famous waterfall. The Kingdom’s stunning architecture is inspired by the ancient Shona Kingdom of Munhumutapa, with towering pillars and many water features. Inside the “Great Enclosure” houses several restaurants, bars, a casino and three swimming pools.

 VICTORIA FALLS SAFARI LODGE & CLUB  
The award-winning Victoria Falls Safari Lodge is set on a plateau with panoramic views over the Zambezi National Park and a private waterhole attracting herds of buffalo, elephant, giraffe, zebra, as well as night-time predators, such as lion and leopard. It features 72 contemporary guestrooms built from natural materials such as timber and thatch, with private sunset-facing balconies. For families and small groups, there are standalone two and three-bedroom suites which have access to all lodge facilities.

 The premium Victoria Falls Safari Club is situated on the grounds of the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, also overlooking the private waterhole. The Club features 20 luxurious, air-conditioned rooms and suites, with stunning bush views, private balconies, large ensuite bathrooms, minibars and espresso machines. The Club has a range of amenities exclusive to guests, plus all Club guests also enjoy access to the facilities of the Safari Lodge.
THE SMOKE THAT THUNDERS!

3 days/2 nights
From $698 per person twin share
Departs daily ex Livingstone

Tour cost per person from:  Twin  Single
Tongabezi Lodge (FB & Activities)  $2380  $2542
Sanctuary Sussi & Chuma  $2070  $2070
(TB & Activities)
Toka Leya Camp (FB & Activities)  $2044  $2714
Thorntree River Lodge  $1934  $1934
(SB & Activities)
Sindabezi Island (FB & Activities)  $1838  $1998
Anantara Royal Livingstone (B&B)  $1410  $2665
AVANI Victoria Falls Resort (B&B)  $698  $1289

INCLUSIONS
Return airport/hotel transfers, 2 nights accommodation in lead-in room and Tour of the Falls. Meals and further activities as indicated above Anantara Royal Livingstone and AVANI Victoria Falls Resort B&B only, all other properties include full board, laundry, local drinks and the following activities: game drive in Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, a village visit and a cruise on the Zambezi.

FOR OPTIONAL VICTORIA FALLS EXCURSIONS PLEASE SEE P84.

Zambia is where you’ll find historic Livingstone Island and the “Devil’s Pool”, a natural basin mere metres from where the Zambezi River plunges over the edge into First Gorge. This side of the falls offers romantic riverside accommodation, exceptionally close views of Victoria Falls and access to the lush Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park.

THORNTREE RIVER LODGE
This fabulous lodge blends contemporary style and environmentally-conscious design with authentic African architectural elements. The 12 gorgeous rooms (four of which can be used as family suites with interlinking walkways) are fitted with a private plunge pool. Gourmet meals are served in the main lodge which features a large panoramic deck, sunken ‘boma’ and infinity pool. Children welcome.

TOKA LEYA
Situated 12km upriver from Victoria Falls, peaceful Toka Leya comprises 12 ensuite classic safari-style tents (including 3 family tents) that boast fantastic views over the Zambezi. Wooden walkways connect tents to the main lodge that features a dining room, lounge, open-air fire pit, infinity pool, spa and panoramic yoga deck. Children 6+.

SANCTUARY SUSSI & CHUMA
Built on a dramatic bend in the Zambezi River, Sanctuary Sussi & Chuma is named after two of Dr Livingstone’s most faithful friends. Guests at this stunning camp stay in 12 treehouses or 2 private two-bedroom villas. This is the only lodge in the area where walking safaris are offered, supplementing game drives, canoeing and of course a tour of the nearby falls. Children: 6+.

TONGABEZI & SINDABEZI ISLAND
Just 20 minutes from Livingstone on the banks of the Zambezi is the exclusive Tongabezi Lodge, with 5 spacious riverside cottages, and 6 completely private houses. Located on a private island in the Zambezi River, luxurious and romantic Sindabezi Islands accommodates just 10 guests in 5 open-sided chalets. Children: Tongabezi 7+ and Sindabezi 14+.

AVANI VICTORIA FALLS RESORT &
ROYAL LIVINGSTONE BY ANANTARA
The AVANI is a very popular 212-room family-oriented resort located very close to the falls. Sharing a driveway, the Royal Livingstone by Anantara is of an entirely different character – a 5-star hotel redolent of colonial days gone by, with 173 elegant rooms. Both properties have a pool and onsite restaurants. Children welcome.
VICTORIA FALLS

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

12-13 minutes to 1 day
Departs Vic Falls or Livingstone daily

Tour cost per person (Min 2):
Zim Zambia

Flight of Angels by Helicopter^ $273 $357
Sunset Cruise by Ra-Ikane riverboat $143 $249
White Water RaftingΩ $263 $322
Low water run Aug-Dec (approx) $263 $356
High water run full day Feb-Jun (approx) $263 $356
Livingstone Island Lunch – $469

Chobe NP Safari Full Day Tour $334 $357
Wildlife Conservation & Awareness Safari# $276 –

^ Approx USD$12-$22 park fees to be paid locally.
Ω White Water Rafting may not operate due to water levels. Min 4 ex Zambia. No minimum ex Zimbabwe.
# Half day tour ex Zambia. Full day ex Zimbabwe.

FLIGHT OF ANGELS
This exciting 12-13 minute joyride over the roaring falls and rushing Zambezi River will leave you breathless. It’s a wonderful way to fully appreciate the incredible size of the falls, and the awesome power of the water as it carves solid rock into zig-zagging gorges. Longer flights as well as by microlight aircraft are also available. Contact us for details.

WHITE WATER RAFTING
This 22km run down the rapids of the Zambezi River forms the world’s best one-day white water rafting experience. Although graded 5, the rapids are accessible by anyone who is reasonably fit. The rafts used are top quality and you are guided by a qualified oarsman, so no experience is necessary. You must however, be able to swim. Min age: 15yrs.

LIVINGSTONE ISLAND LUNCH
Livingstone Island sits at the lip of the cliff over which the Zambezi River tumbles forming Victoria Falls, and is the place where Dr. Livingstone had his first glimpse of the falls. Only accessible during the low water season, and with only a limited number of visitors allowed each day, lunch on the island is an exclusive and very scenic experience.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND AWARENESS SAFARI
This hands-on, half day safari run by Charles Brightman of the Victoria Falls Anti Poaching Unit (VFAPU) offers a behind-the-scenes look at wildlife conservation. Start at 0630 with a field trip into the Zambezi National Park to help record game sightings, identify spoors, sweep for wire snares, etc. Part of the tour cost goes directly to support the VFAPU (see page 11).