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AFRICA | ASIA | SOUTH AMERICA | PACIFIC

TOURING

VICTORIA FALLS



(TIME+TIDE)

CLASSIC VICTORIA FALLS — TOURS —

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ABOUT VICTORIA FALLS

Victoria Falls is a stunning destination frequently featuring on many of our guests' bucket lists.

The dramatic showpiece of the Zambezi River as it winds its way eastwards, Victoria Falls shares borders with both Zambia and Zimbabwe. Each side has its own attractions and appeal, but both are equally as recommended.

Spectacular simply to witness, 'The Smoke That Thunders' offers a vast array of activities, from adrenaline-fueled adventures to sedate river cruises and superb restaurants with one of the best views in the world.

The best viewing of the falls is dependent on the time of year, with Zambia benefiting from the high-flood months between February and August and Zimbabwe offering an impressive sight year-round.

On the Zimbabwean side, it is also possible to enjoy a safari through Victoria Falls National Park. Though not on par with many of Africa's national parks, it is nonetheless populated by white rhino, elephant, giraffe, eland, Cape buffalo and numerous other creatures to make it a highly worthwhile excursion.

QUICK FACTS:

- As with much of the Zambezi River, Victoria Falls shares borders with both Zambia & Zimbabwe
- The falls are known locally as Mosi-oa-Tunya - 'the smoke that thunders'
- Up to 25 million cubic feet (700,000m³) cascades over the precipice every minute
- At 5,604 feet (1,708m) wide & 360 feet (108m) high, it is almost twice the size of Niagara, making it the biggest curtain of water in the world
- You can get spectacular views from either side, but the best perspective is from the air
- The Zambezi is in full flood between Feb-May, & this is considered the best time to visit, but even when the water is low, the gorge is still a spectacular sight

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CLASSIC SCENIC TOURS

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TOUR OF THE FALLS (Zambia & Zimbabwe)

This tour is truly an awe-inspiring experience – the sight, the sound, the smell; the humbling feeling that here indeed is nature’s supreme masterpiece – one of the seven wonders of the natural world. You will be accompanied through the rainforest by a qualified guide who will share a brief history of the Falls and what local customs and traditions surround them as well as detailing the flora, fauna and other points of interest.

Described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 1800s as ‘Mosi-oa-Tunya’ – the Smoke that Thunders – the Victoria Falls are a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur. A path along the edge of the forest provides the visitor who is prepared to brave the tremendous spray (at certain times of the year) with an unparalleled series of views of the Falls.

Whilst only a fraction of the falls are located in Zambia, it does arguably boast the best vantage point across the Knife Edge bridge, where you can have the finest view of the eastern cataract and the main falls as well as the Boiling Pot where the river turns and heads down the Batoka Gorge. Zimbabwe on the other hand, provides the best viewing year-around, particularly in the low flood months of September to January, as it contains the bulk of the Zambezi’s flow volume. Other vantage points include the Falls Bridge and the Lookout Tree which offers panoramic views across the main falls.

This tour is available from both countries, taking full advantage of the best viewing locations around the perimeter of the falls.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore both sides of the Batoka Gorge
- See the spectacular falls from different perspectives
- Learn the cultural history of the region
- Spot a range of smaller wildlife through the rainforest and river banks
- Shop in the open-air markets for an array of souvenirs & crafts

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THE FALLS BY AIR (Zambia & Zimbabwe)

The short flight (approx. 13 min) takes off over the magnificent Victoria Falls, making varied circuits over the Victoria Falls, offering superb viewing, photographic and filming opportunities for all passengers. Tracing the Zambezi River, a return route over Zambezi National Park completes your flight. The longer flight (approx. 28 min) also begins with a flight over the Victoria Falls, before continuing downstream over the Batoka Gorge. Experience the natural beauty of this awe-inspiring dramatic feature before following the mighty Zambezi as it carves its way between steep cliffs. The return journey takes you over the upper Zambezi River and the National Park, home to a wide variety of wildlife species that can be spotted from the air.

MICROLIGHT FLIGHT (Zambia)

Microflight flights offer unique, uninhibited views of the Falls and the spectacular gorge that the Zambezi has carved into the surrounding landscape over many thousands of years. The 12–15-minute short flight takes off over the Zambezi River and onwards to Victoria Falls, circling over the Falls and the islands before returning to Maramba Aerodrome.

The longer 25–30-minute flight again follows the Zambezi River, offering breathtaking views of the Falls and the islands of the upper Zambezi. It then flies upstream along the Zambezi to Kalai Island, descending to give you a low-level perspective of Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Gain a new perspective of the iconic Victoria Falls
- Enjoy the thrill of a helicopter flight
- Gain unparalleled photo opportunities of the landscape, Zambezi River, falls & wildlife of the region
- Get an unfettered, exciting view of the falls
- Experience the adrenalin of a thrilling microflight flight
- Take an aerial game drive over the national park

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ZAMBEZI SUNSET CRUISE (Zambia & Zimbabwe)

In the fading twilight hours, take a two-hour sunset cruise on the tranquil Zambezi River. The transition from day to night sees a marked change in life on the river as birds swoop in to roost for the evening, hippos grunt and snort in the twilight and the golden rays of the sun at dusk set the water's surface alight.

Enjoy each stage of this wonderful transition while sipping traditional cocktails and enjoying snacks aboard a relaxing and comfortable river cruise, taking time to unwind and drink in every moment.

A wonderfully sedate way to experience the life of the river, a Zambezi cruise provides you with a distinctive and unequalled perspective, seeing elephant wallowing in the shallows, giraffe wander the banks and crocodile lurk imposingly along the banks.

Safe aboard the vessel, you are afforded myriad photographic opportunities, the still waters making for a movable hide and prime position to capture some wonderfully unique images.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sip cocktails & nibble on snacks as you cruise gracefully along the Zambezi
- Make the most of the golden hour of sunset
- See the river from a new perspective
- Relax and unwind on this tranquil excursion
- Gain the perfect vantage point for some wonderful sunset images of the waterway & its inhabitants

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CLASSIC ADVENTURE — TOURS —

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PLEASE NOTE: With many of Victoria Falls' adventure tours, certain age and fitness restrictions may apply. Please consult your Travel Designer to confirm eligibility for these activities.

DEVIL'S POOL (Zambia)

The iconic Devil's Pool is an unforgettable experience. While not for everyone, it is completely safe and far more achievable than it might first appear, and we urge guests to summon their bravery and give it a try.

Swimwear is, of course, essential, and the view you gain over the brink of the pool is unlike any other. Sometimes compared to a rim-flow or infinity pool, one can safely bask in the small lagoon without concern of being swept away. Your guide will also ensure that you remain safe at all times.

WHITEWATER RAFTING (Zambia & Zimbabwe)

For the active and adventurous, the thrill of rafting down the churning waters of the Lower Zambezi is exceptional.

You will start your tour with a detailed safety briefing before your experienced rafting guides steer you through the rapids throughout the duration of your tour. Paddle across the Boiling Pot and swim beneath the cascading torrents of Victoria Falls for a dynamic aquatic adventure.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Plunge into the Devil's Pool for an exhilarating perspective of the falls
- Cool off in the rushing waters of the Zambezi
- At certain high-flood times, Devil's Pool may be closed, but nearby Angel's Pool is a spectacular alternative
- Embrace the thrill of rafting the tempestuous waters of the Lower Zambezi
- Swim beneath the tumbling waters of Victoria Falls
- View the falls from their base to take in their immense & impressive scale

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BUNGEE INTO THE FALLS (Zambia & Zimbabwe)

For the truly adventurous, or perhaps mildly deranged, plunging 365 feet (111m) from the iconic Victoria Falls bridge into the Second Gorge is a 4-second freefall of pure adrenalin. With Victoria Falls behind you and the river rushing below, this is certainly no ordinary bungee jump.

PLEASE NOTE: Minimum age for the bungee experience is 14 years of age, and maximum weight is 300 pounds (140kg). The Bridge Bungee can be accessed easily from either Zambia or Zimbabwe.

HORSEBACK SAFARI (Zambia & Zimbabwe)

Canter through open bush, explore hidden paths and roam through the wilderness on a Victoria Falls horse safari. Surrounded by national park, this wonderfully peaceful experience provides a superb adventure for all levels of rider. You may track elephant, buffalo and other game to the shady banks of the Zambezi River, or ride within feet of shy impala or kudu. A horseback safari provides one of the best ways to view wild game in the Victoria Falls region.

RHINO TRACKING (Zambia)

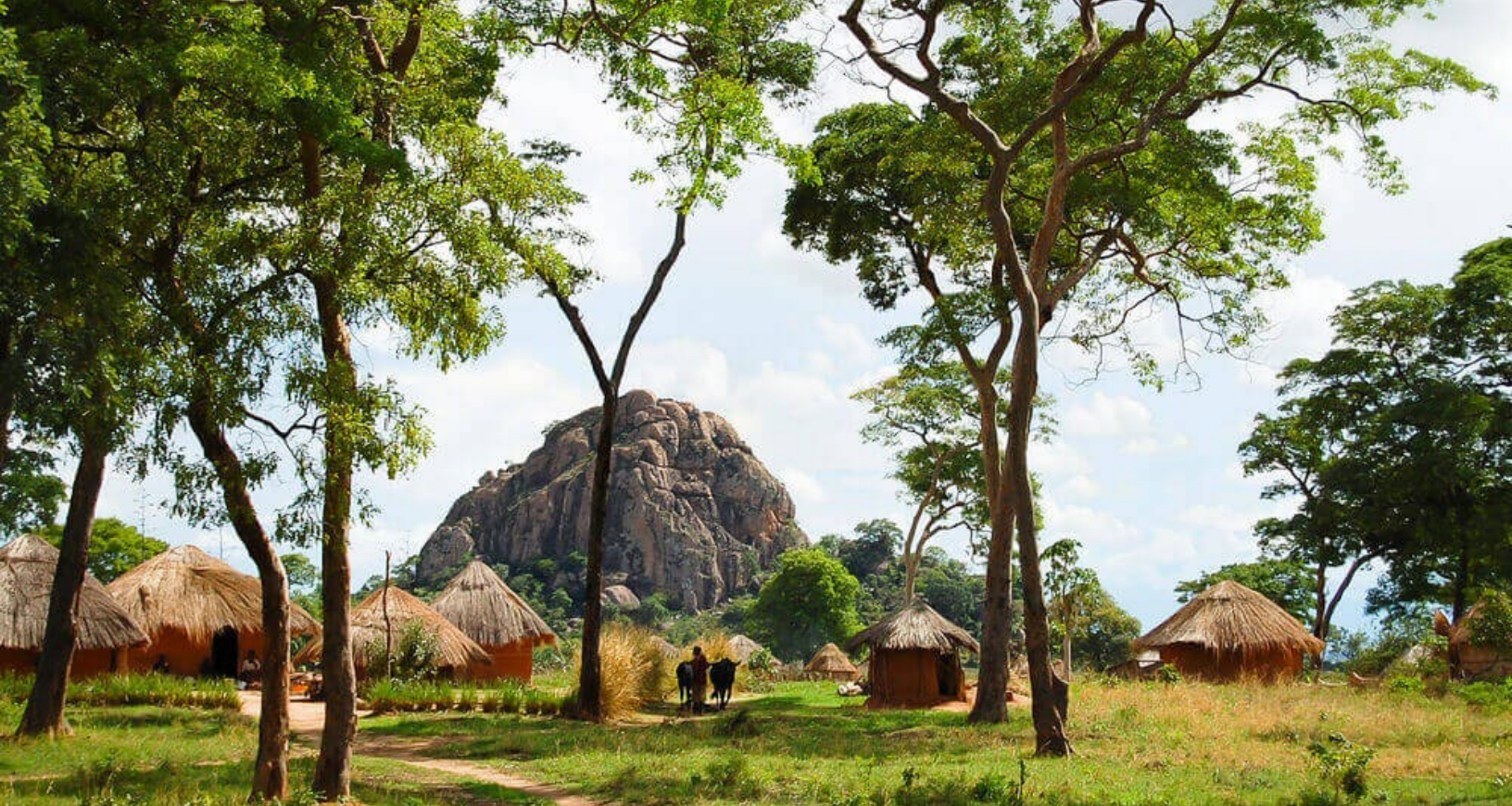
Venture on foot into Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park in search of elusive and highly-endangered white rhino. Your expert guide will provide the best possible chance of witnessing these majestic creatures, while your two-hour walk will also allow you to experience a true taste of the wild.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Dare to leap from the Victoria Falls bridge
- Experience a 4-second bungee freefall into Second Gorge
- Become one with nature on a relaxing horseback ride
- Spot a wealth of wildlife, including elephant, buffalo & impala
- Go in search of the critically endangered white rhino on foot
- Observe the abundant wildlife of Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park

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SIMONGA VILLAGE (Zambia)

Simonga Village is home to approximately 3,000 inhabitants – a mixture of the Lozi and Tonga tribes. Upon arrival, guests are escorted through the village by a local resident and introduced to the daily activities of an African village. The village was founded in 1958 and is situated approximately 12 miles (20 kilometres) from Livingstone Town, along the Kazungula/Sesheke road, which runs parallel to the Zambezi River as it flows down towards Victoria Falls. This village is quite unique as it one of only three in the entire country of Zambia that is ruled by a Head-woman, Inonge Imusho Samachila, who was chosen by the Royal Family to rule in 1970, following the death of her father, Imusho Samachila.

CHINOTIMBA VILLAGE (Zimbabwe)

Visitors will have an opportunity to observe township-life, from the oldest houses to the taverns, the local market and churches. A visit to the Chinotimba Primary School will include an escorted tour around the property, interacting with the students and meeting the headmaster with a possible song from the children. *(Please note that school visits are subject to the school being open).*

The word Chinotimba describes the roar of the water from the mighty Victoria Falls in the local Nambya language. The Nambya and the Tonga people are the indigenous people of the Victoria Falls region. The majority of the people in Victoria Falls live in the Chinotimba township, which has a population of approximately 60,000 people.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Observe authentic village life
- Meet some of the region's first peoples
- Learn local words & phrases
- See some of the region's oldest dwellings & properties
- Explore the local markets, filled with produce & crafts
- Go back to school & meet some of the local primary students
- Be regaled by the youngsters' delightful songs

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