



TUSKS & TRAILS
Destination Management • Zambia

Pre-Travel Information



TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Passport

Ensure your passport is valid for at least six months from your date of entry into Zambia and has at least two blank pages.

Visa

Zambia is visa free for many countries, including USA, UK and most European countries. For those needing visas you can apply online for an e-Visa.

<https://eservices.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm/>

Travel Insurance

Strongly recommended - it should cover medical emergencies, evacuation, and trip cancellations.



HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Vaccinations

The following are recommended by WHO for Zambia, but please consult your travel doctor: Yellow Fever is only required if you are arriving from a YF endemic country. Hepatitis A and B, Typhoid, Tetanus and Diphtheria. Rabies is optional and mainly advised for extended stays or close wildlife work.

Malaria

Zambia is a malaria-risk zone. Speak to your doctor about suitable prophylaxis. Carry insect repellent and wear long clothing in the evenings.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Zambia is a safe and welcoming destination, especially in tourist areas and national parks. Travellers should take normal precautions, keep valuables secure, and avoid walking alone at night in unfamiliar areas.

Comprehensive travel insurance, basic health precautions, and following guide and lodge instructions - particularly around wildlife - are strongly advised, with lodges able to assist in medical or safety emergencies.

Please note that all wildlife, however small, can be dangerous. Please always follow guide instructions.



TIPPING

Tipping is always at your discretion based on your experience of the service. Should you wish to tip the local guides, drivers, and/or staff you interact with, here are some guidelines on appropriate amounts.

Safari Guide: USD 10-20 per person per day

Driver: USD 10-15 per person per day

Hotel/Lodge Staff: USD 5-10 per person per day (there is generally a tip box at most lodges/hotels)

Restaurants: A general guide for tipping at restaurants is to add 10% of your bill as a gratuity.



SAFARI SEASONS

We like to split Zambia's safari seasons into 4 - Rainy (Emerald) season, Shoulder season, Peak Season & Hot (dry) season, each offering a different experience.

Emerald Season

Nov – Mar 🌿 Lush, green, dramatic skies, excellent birding, many lodges closed due to rains and inaccessibility.

Shoulder Season

Apr – May 🌿 Fresh landscapes, fewer visitors, great value

Peak Season

Jun – Aug Cooler mornings, peak season and great wildlife viewing

Hot Dry Season

Sep – Oct 🔥 Hot, intense, superb wildlife viewing with wildlife concentrated at water.



LIVINGSTONE



Victoria Falls (Livingstone) shares Zambia's rainfall seasons, but its water levels lag behind due to the Angolan catchment feeding the Zambezi - resulting in experiences defined by flow and activities, not wildlife movement.

Nov - Dec Falls at their lowest, often with much exposed rock. Best time for Devil's Pool and adventure activities such as swimming under the Falls

. Jan - April 🌿 - Powerful flow with clearer visibility, excellent balance of Falls viewing and activities. Large incredible storms and dramatic skies. Peak flow expected

May - Aug - Peak flow revealing defined cascades, crisp winter mornings, excellent visibility and peak travel period.

Sep - Oct 🔥 - Hot, dry, Livingstone town frequented by elephants which are seen in numbers on and beside the roads. Falls still nicely flowing, reducing towards the end of October.