

A Guide to South Luangwa National Park

South Luangwa is Zambia's most wildlife-dense and well-established safari region, often regarded as the country's premier game-viewing area. It offers a classic African safari experience with excellent guiding, strong predator sightings, and a wide range of activities, all set along the Luangwa River and its floodplains.

For agents, it is one of the easiest regions in Zambia to sell with confidence - reliable sightings, good infrastructure, and a strong reputation among both first-time and repeat safari travellers.

Access & Getting There

Access is via Mfuwe Airport, served by scheduled domestic flights via Lusaka (or charter flights from other safari destinations)

Typical flight time from Lusaka: approx. 1 hour

Road transfers from Mfuwe to lodges vary but are generally straightforward - only 30 minutes from the entrance to the park.

Access remains good throughout most of the year, though some seasonal camps may close in the peak green season

Note: South Luangwa is one of Zambia's most logistically straightforward safari regions, making it ideal for tighter itineraries or clients new to Africa.



Best Suited For:

- First-time safari travellers to Africa
- Clients prioritising wildlife sightings over scenery alone
- Couples, honeymooners, and small adult groups
- Keen photographers and 'big-game' focused travellers
- Great for families, depending on lodge selection and season.



Ideal Pairings & Itinerary Combinations:

Lower Zambezi – for a contrast between classic game viewing and water-based activities

Livingstone – to add Victoria Falls, river cruises, and soft adventure

Lake Malawi – for a safari-and-beach combination (season dependent)

Note:

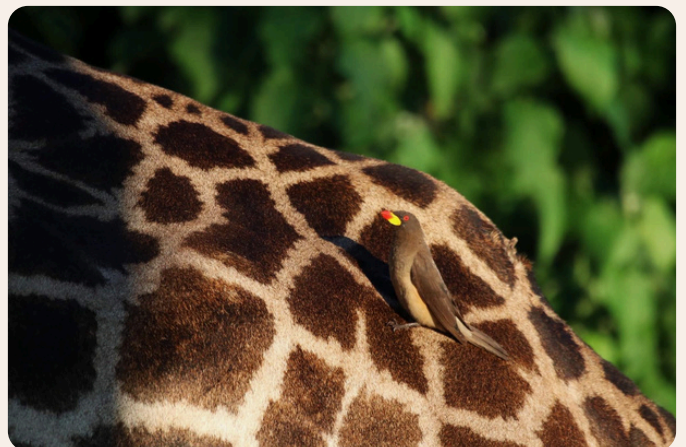
With a good balance of bush camps and traditional safari camps, South Luangwa can stand alone as a one-stop safari destination with excellent game viewing and controlled costs.



Time of Year & Seasonality:

- Peak game viewing: June to October (dry season)
- Shoulder / green season: November to April (lush scenery, fewer visitors, excellent birding)
- Many camps close during the heaviest rains (typically Jan–Feb)

Note: Green season can offer excellent value and atmosphere for repeat travellers who understand safari seasonality.



How To Position South Luangwa

We often position South Luangwa as the anchor safari region in a Zambia itinerary - particularly when clients want strong wildlife encounters without overly complex logistics.

It is one of the best safari destinations for big Cat sightings (known as the valley of the leopard)



Want to Know More?

If you'd like to deepen your knowledge of this region or feel more confident selling Zambia, we offer dedicated agent training sessions tailored to your needs.

Training can include destination overviews, regional comparisons, itinerary building support, and practical tips from an on-the-ground operator's perspective.

Request training here:

info@tusksandtrails.com

We're always happy to support you with insight, guidance, and hands-on expertise.

