

### WILDERNESS PRODUCT News and Updates

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### ZIMBABWE July 2024

# **GENERAL UPDATES**

#### Zimbabwe – Linkwasha Airstrip

Due to increased traffic, there are challenges flying in and out of Bomani Airstrip. Flights will now be landing at Manga airstrip until 31 August – both for Wilderness Air flights and also Wilderness guests who are self-flying in. Manga Airstrip remains the best alternative, with driving distances to Wilderness camps as follows:

- Little Makalolo is approximately 2h30
- Davison's is approximately 2h45
- Linkwasha is approximately 2h40

It's important to highlight that this transfer includes a game drive through exceptionally wildlife-rich areas within the park. Many guests typically explore these areas later during their stay, but this transfer allows them to experience them right from the airstrip to the camp. Now, from Manga Airstrip, guests will cover a similar drive time, but in the form of a game drive through a slightly different area. This ensures they experience both the drive and the wildlife upon arrival, much like a standard game drive tailored to their preferences, complete with drinks, snacks, and stops.

### WILDERNESS TOURING - ZAMBEZI

#### Zambezi Vista Sunset Cruise

This new tour promises relaxation, stunning views, and a touch of luxury, making it an essential part of any Victoria Falls itinerary.

Make the most of your cruise by enjoying the three-course canapé menu paired with premium drinks, all complimentary, enhancing your luxurious experience on the Zambezi River.

#### **Highlights:**

- **Scenic Transfer:** Begin your adventure with a scenic transfer to the jetty launch site.
- Zambezi Vista Cruise: Sail on the Zambezi Vista and enjoy a leisurely two-hour cruise.
- **Luxury Experience:** Relax in exquisite luxury, gliding gently downstream along the tranquil waters and through lush landscapes.
- **Photographer's Dream:** Capture stunning photographs with the glorious sunset as your backdrop.
- **Gourmet Delight:** Savour a three-course canapé menu and a selection of complimentary premium drinks.
- **Convenient Transfers:** Return hotel/lodge scheduled transfers are included within Victoria Falls Town.

#### https://wetu.com/Itinerary/DayTour/C5DE6FB9-7D82-4239-8314-8B5175A0B9E9



# **SPECIALS**

A reminder that our Wilderness Exclusive Safari Offers have been extended to 2025. Download our PDF with all the offers <u>here</u>.

# **CAMP REVIEWS**

#### Wilderness Davison's

Our journey from Toka Leya to Davison's was remarkably smooth, as if we were still in the same country! The logistics flowed seamlessly from one point to the next. Upon arrival, we were greeted with singing and dancing that echoed a heartfelt "welcome home". Davison's is nestled beautifully under trees, without fences and a modest elevation; it gave us a profound sense of freedom and safety. It was our first experience of communal dining, where the delightful food brought guests and management together, creating a warm atmosphere for sharing safari stories.

The following morning, we had the privilege of being guided by Aminata Jackson, a pioneering female Zimbabwean guide. Her expertise and insights enriched our bush experience as we explored. We couldn't contain our joy when another vehicle approached and discovered it was an all-women group out in the bush! It was a moment of pride and empowerment.

Overall, Davison's provided an unforgettable blend of adventure and hospitality. It left us with cherished memories and the unique beauty of the Hwange National Park wilderness.





#### Wilderness Linkwasha

In the afternoon, our Linkwasha guide Josh picked us up, and it took us around 30 minutes to reach the camp from Davison's. Josh immediately won us over with his deep passion for the bush and the Wilderness brand. Our afternoon game drive was nothing short of thrilling, as we followed lions on the hunt for buffalo! Despite eventually having to return to camp because the lions took a route we couldn't follow, we cherished the experience. Returning to camp was a delight; Linkwasha felt like a warm sanctuary after our chilly adventure. We enjoyed a lovely braai (BBQ) dinner, gathered around the fireplaces to warm up and share stories, then retired to our tents. This camp has all the comforts you could wish for – including electric blankets!

The next morning was wonderfully relaxed as we spent time in the hide. Although it was too cold for many animals to visit the waterhole early on, we were visited by a lone elephant (bless his heart). Then it was time for us to move on to Chikwenya...



#### Wilderness Chikwenya

This was our last destination; what a breath-taking area Mana Pools National Park is! This was the ideal location to end our trip as we were very laid back and had no rush to go find another pride of lions or leopards.

Staying at Wilderness Chikwenya offers a unique off-the-beaten-path experience. Nestled in a valley overlooking the Zambezi River, we were captivated by the lodge's beautiful layout and the majestic welcoming tree. The spacious tents, complete with baths as well as expansive decks and seating areas, afforded spectacular views of the Zambezi Mountain Range and the river itself.



The team at Chikwenya was incredibly friendly and attentive. The meals were consistently delicious and flavourful. Causemore, our jolly and well experienced guide took us on a river cruise on the first afternoon, and one of the standout moments was witnessing an elephant crossing the river, as well as the sound of hippos and the beautiful birds flying over us as the sun was setting.

Chikwenya is great for safari lovers who want a genuine wilderness experience. It's also ideal for photographers, as Causemore suggests staying at least three nights to fully appreciate the beautiful sunrises, sunsets, and amazing birdwatching.

