

December 2014

## NEWSFLASH

### VAT in Zimbabwe for 2015

There is a possibility that the implementation of VAT in Zimbabwe in 2015 will not go ahead, although we have received conflicting messages in this regard. Once we receive clarification/official notification and the Zimbabwe Government do decide against introducing VAT, we will review our rates accordingly and advise all parties if there is a change. In the interim, our prices remain as published.

## IMPORTANT

### Update: KAZA UNIVISA

Implemented on 28 November 2014, we can advise that to date, the new Univisa is working well:

1. It is currently available at the 8 ports of entry listed below:
  - ZAMBIA
    - a. Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (Lusaka)
    - b. Harry Mwaanga International Airport (Livingstone)
    - c. Victoria Falls Border (with Zimbabwe)
    - d. Kazungula Border (with Botswana)
  - ZIMBABWE
    - a. Harare International Airport
    - b. Victoria Falls International Airport
    - c. Victoria Falls Border (with Zambia)
    - d. Kazungula Border (with Botswana)
2. The Univisa costs US\$50.00 and is paid in cash.
3. It is valid for 30 days as long as you remain in Zambia and Zimbabwe.
4. It covers those visiting Botswana on a day trip.
5. Applicable to those nationalities who may obtain a Zambia or Zimbabwe visa on arrival.
6. For further details, refer to the Zimbabwe and Zambia Visa folders on the K:Drive.

### Update: Six Countries & Ongava Tented Camp

Ongava Tented Camp may be used as an alternative to Ongava Lodge in this great summer season deal!

## REMINDERS

### Specific Dietary Requests

Please do let us know in advance if your clients have specific dietary requests – whether of a health (allergy/gluten-free), religious (Kosher/Halaal) or other (vegetarian/vegan) nature. The remote locations of many of our camps present logistical and operational limitations so prior warning is vital in order to accommodate these needs to the best of our ability. Advance planning is required and additional costs do apply in certain scenarios.

### Blank Pages in Passports

Each country in which we operate has a different requirement regarding the number of blank pages in a passport. Generally, they require at least 2 side by side blank pages on entry for both visas and stamps, which would mean 4 to 6 pages on an itinerary including more than one country (excluding the country of departure and return). It is the decision of the traveller should they wish to take the risk and travel with fewer blank pages, bearing in mind that should there be insufficient blank visa (not endorsement) pages in your passport, then entry into a country could be denied.

### Yellow Fever & In Transit

Per the Port Health Authority, the ruling for South Africa states:

*Airport transits under 12 hours through the airport of a country with risk of Yellow Fever transmission, do not warrant a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate. Airport transits exceeding 12 hours, through the airport of a country with risk of Yellow Fever transmission requires a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate on entry into South Africa. Travellers entering South Africa via transits exceeding 12 hours without valid Yellow Fever certificates must be treated the same as travellers entering South Africa without a valid Yellow Fever certificate.*

However, we are aware of occasions where guests have been denied boarding due to an over-zealous official who does not check the transit dates and times – simply that the traveller has a Zambia, Congo, Kenya, etc. stamp in their passport. Bearing this in mind, we would suggest having a) the Yellow Fever vaccination when travelling to Africa...valid for 10 years and therefore viable for a repeat Africa traveller and b) travel with it at all times to avoid any possible issues when moving from or through one country to the next.

## **WILDERNESS AIR**

### **Wilderness Air & Airport Departure Taxes on the Livingstone/Victoria Falls/Kasane Triangle**

These taxes are EXCLUDED from flights departing Livingstone or Victoria Falls as travellers must pay the necessary amounts direct at the airport. The Botswana Departure tax however, is INCLUDED in the price of the Wilderness Air flights departing Kasane.

## **ZAMBIA**

### **Proflight Accessing the Kafue**

Proflight have introduced a Kafue Schedule for 2015 where, on request and at additional cost, they will fly via the Plains airstrip in Busanga to access our camps – Shumba and Busanga Bush. Please contact your Journey Specialist for further details on this. Our Wilderness Air schedule for Zambia, operated by Staravia, remains in place for 2015.

## **AIRLINES**

### **SAA Fuel Surcharge**

SAA have revised their fuel surcharge (YR Surcharge), effective for tickets issued on/after 2 December 14.

## **RATES UPDATE**

### **Recommended Selling Prices 2015**

2015.06	The River Club Rates have reduced for 2015.	01/12/14	Page 9
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Best wishes for the festive season and a successful 2015!

Warm regards,

Tina

## **Wilderness Product Services Manager**

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For further information on Wilderness product or rates, please refer to the Information Centre on the Wilderness Window or contact either myself [tinak@wilderness.co.za](mailto:tinak@wilderness.co.za) or your reservations cluster/Journey Specialist directly.

[www.wilderness-safaris.com](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com)

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