

July 2014

NEWSFLASH

Linkwasha Camp in Hwange to open May 2015

Scheduled to open on 1 May 2015, the new Linkwasha Camp is located in a stunning part of our private concession. Categorized as a Classic 1 camp, it will consist of 7 twins plus 1 family room. There will be a private vehicle and the camp will utilize the same airstrip as Little Makalolo and Davison's. Rates are fully inclusive and activities on offer will be similar to Little Makalolo (game drives, walking, local village visits) although the camp itself will be more luxurious. Access is by air according to the Wilderness Air Zimbabwe schedule or by road – transfer or self-drive – with the same rules, rates and timings as applicable for the other Hwange camps. The booking sheets are open in WISH and rates have been added to the nett Zimbabwe 2015 Rates Sheet.

Explorations Update for 2015

After reviewing our Botswana Explorations offering, the decision has been taken to focus on Explorations that offer the highest degree of comfort. The Migration Routes Exploration will therefore be discontinued from 2015 and going forward, Explorations will offer two fully-serviced and guided Discoverer-only journeys in Botswana – the Great Wilderness Journey and the Botswana Summer Encounter.

In Namibia, the Diverse Namibia will continue for those guests who prefer an Adventurer-style Exploration. The Great Namibian Journey will however, be replaced by the new Desert Dune Safari – an adventurous journey beginning at the iconic red dunes of Sossusvlei and ending at Desert Rhino Camp to track black rhino. This 9 night itinerary includes Swakopmund, Terrace Bay and the "new kid on the block" – Hoanib Skeleton Coast!

Six Countries 2015

The new season of the very popular Six Countries deal is now available, valid for travel from 1 November 2014 to 31 March 2015! Please contact your Journey Specialist or Sales Manager for further details, however, key features of this version are:

- Classic and Adventures camps in Botswana are no longer common-rated
- Kalahari Plains is a higher rate as this is peak season for the camp and area
- The Banoka Bush Camp rate has reduced
- The VAT increase in Zimbabwe has been taken into account on the rates from 1 January 2015
- There is still no single supplement on accommodation
- Children 6 to 16 years sharing in a family room with full paying adults, pay 50% of the adult rate
- These Six Country rates are available for accommodation only - all scheduled charter flights and road transfers are based on our standard nett rates and minimum numbers

TRAVEL REGULATIONS

New Visa Rule for Mozambique

The Embassy of Mozambique has advised that all foreign (non-South African) passport holders are now required to apply for a visa prior to departure - Tourist Visas and Business Visas are no longer issued on arrival. South African passport holders may still obtain a Tourist Visa on arrival, however, business travellers must also apply for a Business Visa prior to departure.

Yellow Fever Requirements for Botswana

The Hospitality & Tourism Association in Botswana (HATAB) have advised that travellers from or through countries which have been declared Yellow Fever infected areas must provide an international health certificate of vaccination upon arrival in Botswana. While Yellow Fever is not a requirement for Botswana itself, travellers who have come from the listed countries and are not carrying a Yellow Fever certificate, may be denied entry into Botswana. This includes those travelling by road/ferry from Livingstone into Botswana. Please contact your Journey Specialist for a copy of the list.

Important Zimbabwe Immigration Update

An increasing number of passengers are arriving in Victoria Falls without the necessary visa in hand. We are sourcing an updated list of those who need to obtain visas prior to arrival and those who only need to obtain them on arrival. In the interim, the Zimbabwe Immigration department are now enforcing their immigration regulations. Those

visitors who must obtain visas in advance and do not comply, will be deported that same day at the company/airline's expense plus the company/airline will be liable for a fine of US\$ 2000.00 per passenger that is refused entry into Zimbabwe.

Reminder – New South African Travel Regulations

While there are ongoing discussions between the relevant parties on this subject, at this time the new ruling remains. Over and above the requirement of travellers to apply in person for bio-metric visas, please do take note of the situation regarding children – bearing in mind this is a requirement for all transit passengers too, not only those visiting South Africa.

As of 1 October 2014, all passengers under 18 years of age will need to present an unabridged birth certificate as well as a valid passport when entering, departing or transiting South Africa. This requirement applies to minors of ALL nationalities – whether travelling unaccompanied, with both parents, with one parent or with other adults. Travellers from non-English speaking countries must also a sworn translation (certified/authenticated) into English of all documentation.

An "Unabridged Birth Certificate" contains the following details:

- Particulars of the child - date & place of birth, gender and name in full
- Particulars of the parents - full names, date & place of birth and their citizenship at time of birth

For single parents, or those travelling alone with their child/ren, the following must be provided:

- An affidavit (no more than 3 months old on the date of travel) in which the absent parent gives consent for the child to travel, or
- A court order granting full responsibilities or legal guardianship of the child, or
- The death certificate of the absent parent

UPDATE: South African Passport Holders need Visas for Kenya

Further to my previous update, the Kenyan High Commission announced that all South Africans travelling to Kenya for pleasure, business or in transit will require a visa as of 1 July 2014. Note that the implementation of this has been postponed until 1 September 2014.

IMPORTANT

Child Policy Update

Per my recent 2015 Rates communication, there has been a slight change to our child policy. The discounted child rate is only applicable to bookings in family rooms or standard twin rooms in camps that have a family room (should the family room not be available for your particular booking). Child rates no longer apply at those camps that do not have family rooms (such as Mombo), with the exception of Abu where the child rate may be extended to a triple booking.

Please be advised that this is applicable to all new bookings for the rest of the 2014 season, with effect from July 2014. All existing bookings at camps without family rooms, where child rates have been confirmed or quoted, will be honoured. The 2014 and 2015 Nett Rates Sheets include an updated grid and additional note to this effect.

Minimum Connecting Times

Although airline systems allow for 1.5 hours, we are finding this is often not viable. The increase in the number of people travelling, new or pending travel regulations and/or visa requirements plus additional security checks – exacerbated by the recent announcement that all mobiles, laptops, tablets, etc. can be switched on when travelling to the United States of America – are resulting in delays and/or arrangements being affected. Please do all possible to allow for 2 to 3 hours connection time between flights. If this is not possible, note that Wilderness Safaris may not be held responsible for delays/missed connections/additional costs that occur as a result of short connection times.

GENERAL

Internet/Wifi Access

Please refer to the General Information Manual and individual Camp Information Sheets available on the Information Centre for specifics on which camps do or do not have access. Should a client enquire, please ensure they are aware that due to the remote locations of many of our camps, signal and access can be intermittent and/or unreliable.

Species Checklists

Copies of our species checklists are available on our website under the Wildlife Section of every camp. Choose Camp; then Wildlife; then scroll down to Species Checklist.

BOTSWANA

Little Vumbura Floating Jetty

Little Vumbura has installed a new floating jetty which will move according to fluctuations in water levels allowing for

greater ease of access to the camp and activities.

CONGO

Changes to the Congo Specific Pre-tour

Please refer to the latest version on the Information Centre on our Agent Portal as a number of changes have been made to the Congo pre-tour document, including:

- Revised vaccination requirements for 2015
- Updated packing suggestions
- Additional information regarding photography and camera equipment

Meet & Assist/VIP Lounge In Brazzaville

A Wilderness representative meets all guests when they arrive in Brazzaville, after clearing customs and immigration. However, we do offer assistance through immigration and customs as an optional service that must be booked and charged for separately, as well as access to a VIP lounge. Please contact your Journey Specialists for further details and costs for both options.

Weight Restrictions for Odzala & Luggage Storage at Mikhael's Hotel

Important: there are strict luggage restrictions in place on all Odzala departures and there is no option of excess luggage accompanying our guests to the camps. Luggage - INCLUDING camera equipment and hand luggage - is restricted to 20 kg (44 lb) per person. Any excess weight will have to remain in Brazzaville where your Journey Specialist will make arrangements accordingly.

KENYA

Nanyuki/Segera Transfer Rate Available

Applicable to scheduled flights to/from Nanyuki only, costs for a road transfer from Nanyuki to Segera Retreat and vice versa are now available. Private charter flights land at the Segera airstrip directly.

NAMIBIA

Hoanib Skeleton Coast Excursion

On a stay of 3 nights or more at Hoanib Skeleton Coast, a full day fly-in excursion to the Skeleton Coast is included. We do not know at this time whether it will be feasible to offer this excursion on a stay of only 2 nights and therefore do not have any rates or further details in this regard. Should guests want the excursion to the coast, they must stay a minimum of 3 nights at Hoanib. In addition, remember that there is no private option possible for the Skeleton Coast excursion.

Luggage Storage in Windhoek

Excess luggage may be stored in our Windhoek operations office – at no extra charge and at guests own risk.

SOUTH AFRICA

Diving & the Ocean Experience at Rocktail Beach Camp

To ensure guest expectations are met, please confirm the following with your clients prior to travel and advise your Journey Specialist accordingly.

- Are they planning to do a scuba diving course?
- Are they keen divers, hoping to do multiple dives?
- Are they casual divers, happy with only one or two diving excursions?
- Are they planning to do the Ocean Experience boat excursion?

Fishing Permits for Rocktail Beach Camp

Fishing licences/permits are required for both conventional and fly-fishing at Rocktail. These are not available in camp nor from national parks offices. They must be obtained by the client prior to arrival from a branch of the South African Post Office.

New Tours offered by Wilderness Touring Cape

The following new tours are now available – contact your Journey Specialist for further details:

- Full Day City, Table Mountain & Township
- Full Day Peninsula with lunch at The Flagship

ZAMBIA

Shumba Camp re-opens on 1 August

After an unfortunate fire at the end of last season destroyed the main area at Shumba, we are on track to re-open as planned on 1 August 2014!

ZIMBABWE

Sunset Cruise Options

Options are available for sunset cruises on the Zambezi River on the both Zimbabwe and Zambian sides of the river. The boats differ in size (18 to 150 seater), experience (standard or upmarket) and cost – contact your Journey Specialist for more information.

WILDERNESS AIR

Pilots Require Single Accommodation

In line with best aviation practice and fatigue risk management, note that all pilots require single accommodation. This is applicable to Wilderness Air and across most other charter companies. Please ensure you book, confirm and charge for accordingly.

RATES UPDATE 2014

Botswana

2014.04	The child policy has been updated.	30/06/2014	Pages 3 & 4
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Explorations

2014.03	The itinerary for the Great Wilderness Journey has changed.	25/06/14	Page 1
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Kenya

2014.04	The road transfer rate from Nanyuki Airstrip to Segera has been added.	17/07/14	Page 3
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Malawi

2014.04	The child policy has been updated.	30/06/14	Page 3
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Namibia

2014.15	The child policy has been updated.	30/06/14	Page 3
2014.16	The luggage transfer rates from Windhoek Airport to the Wilderness Safaris offices have been removed, as they no longer apply.	07/07/14	Page 13

South Africa

2014.04	The child policy has been updated.	30/06/14	Page 2
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Zambia

2014.12	The child policy has been updated.	30/06/2014	Pages 2 & 3
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Zimbabwe

2014.10	The child policy has been updated.	30/06/2014	Page 3
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RATES UPDATE 2015

Explorations

2015.01	The Desert Dune Safari has been added to the rate sheet.	21/07/2014	Pages 3 & 4
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Kenya

2015.01	The Segera House rates for the period of 01 Jul 2015 – 30 Sep 2015 were published incorrectly and have been corrected.	17/07/14	Page 1
2015.02	The road transfer rate from Nanyuki Airstrip to Segera has been added.	17/07/14	Page 3

Namibia

2015.01	The luggage transfer rates from Windhoek Airport to the Wilderness Safaris offices have been removed, as they no longer apply.	07/07/14	Page 13
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Recommended Selling Prices

2015.02	Linkwasha Camp rates have been added to the rate sheet.	02/07/2014	Page 11
2015.03	The Desert Dune Safari has been added to the rate sheet.	21/07/2014	Pages 13 & 14

Zimbabwe

2015.01	Linkwasha Camp rates have been added to the Rate Sheets.	02/07/2014	Page 1
2015.02	The transfer rates have been amended, as they were pulling through the single person rate.	11/07/2014	Page 9
2015.03	The 50% flying discount has been continued for 2015 and a note in this regard has been added the rate sheet.	16/07/2015	Page 1

Warm regards,
Tina

Wilderness Product Services Manager

For further information on Wilderness product or rates, please refer to our Agent Portal or contact either myself tinak@wilderness.co.za or your reservations cluster/Journey Specialist directly.

www.wilderness-safaris.com

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