



# ZAMBIA KAFUE NATIONAL PARK

AN IMPACTFUL TRIP WITH WILDERNESS SAFARIS & PANTHERA

7 days, 6 nights supporting lion conservation in Zambia

"There is a purpose that drives everything
we do — a shared passion and love for the
natural world and wildlife, and an urgent need
to conserve some of the most remote and
pristine places on Earth".

- Keith Vincent



# 26 September – 02 October 2022

Explore Zambia's untamed wilderness and participate in the Kafue's lion conservation initiatives during this 7-day safari. Crafted to offer guests exclusive, behind-the-scenes access to the conservation and community projects we support, this journey will provide a truly unique experience for conservation-minded travellers.







#### MORE ABOUT WILDERNESS SAFARIS and PANTHERA

As leaders in responsible tourism and conservation, Wilderness Safaris offers unforgettable luxury adventures that help preserve biodiversity, conserve wildlife and uplift local communities. Since its founding in Botswana in 1983, Wilderness Safaris has shared its passion for Africa with thousands of guests, as well as its custodial sense of protection, and the urgency to protect these ecosystems and the life they support. Operating in seven countries across 58 diverse camps, and protecting 2.3 million hectares (5.6 M acres) of Africa's wilderness, Wilderness Safaris is the world's largest conservation tourism platform.

Panthera is the only organisation in the world devoted exclusively to the conservation of the world's 40 wild cat species and their ecosystems. Utilising the expertise of the world's premier cat biologists, Panthera develops and implements global strategies for the most imperilled large cats. Recent years have witnessed increasing NGO activity, with Panthera and partners in the Kafue National Park to support efforts which combat key threats to wildlife, such as poaching. Lion numbers in Kafue have been under pressure for some time due to bushmeat poaching, which has reduced prey numbers and in some cases resulted in the mortality of lions in snares.





These conservation journeys are a vehicle to disseminate Wilderness Safaris' and Panthera's shared belief that the most powerful way to advocate for wilderness and wildlife is through conservation tourism and immersive educational experiences. These trips will bring together Wilderness Safaris' award-winning camps and itineraries, and Panthera's scientific and operational expertise, in ensuring a future for wild cats and the vast landscapes on which they depend.

## ABOUT KAFUE

#### Why Kafue?



Safe and stable



Strong conservation ideals



Greatest antelope diversity of any national park in Africa



Some of the best lion viewing in Africa



Remote and exclusive



An integrated ecotourism and conservation model

#### Some of the wildlife to be seen







Elephant



Antelope including roan and sable





Hippo



Large numbers of plains game including buffalo

Wild dog

#### Best time to visit

**Dry (Peak) Season: Jul – Oct.** 25°C (77°F) to 35°C (95°F)

- · Drying water sources.
- High game concentrations and large herds settle around the diminishing water on the Busanga Plains.
- · Abundant predators.
- **Highlight:** witness the area's famous "flying lions" leaping across the channels.

The Busanga Plains are submerged and inaccessible during the wet season, from November until June.

#### Some of the effects of Wilderness Safaris' conservation-tourism presence in Kafue.

- Through conservation tourism, Wilderness Safaris contributes more than USD500 000 to Kafue National Park every year.
- Since opening its camps in the Busanga Plains in 2006, Wilderness Safaris has provided logistical and financial support to the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), as well as a continuous presence, leading to a significant drop in poaching.
- The Wilderness Trust supports a number of research and management projects that contribute towards a better understanding of how best to sustainably manage Kafue National Park.
- Wilderness Safaris employs an average of 150 people per year in the Busanga Plains, bringing training and skills development to the neighbouring communities.



## ITINERARY

Day 1: Fly into Shumba Camp, where you will be met by team members, including the Director of Panthera's KAZA and Cheetah programmes, Dr Kim Young-Overton. After an afternoon game drive, enjoy a hearty dinner and an informal discussion about the Kafue. In preparation for the following day's activities, gather around the fire for a post-dinner chat on the vast Kafue ecosystem.

Day 2: A sunrise start, and a game drive introduction to camera trapping before a bush brunch at Kapinga Island. Back in camp, relax by the pool before meeting the team from the Zambia Carnivore Program, which together with Panthera conducts long term carnivore research projects in the Kafue. Dinner is in Shumba's traditional boma, after which there's a roaring fire to round off the evening.

Day 3: Join the dedicated Kafue lion monitoring teams as they delve into the details of carnivore tracking, using both traditional and radio methods, and learn to identify individuals. Participate in a snare sweep or SMART patrol in the afternoon, before dinner in camp, and a fireside discussion with Wilderness Safaris Group Impact Manager, Dr Neil Midlane.

Day 4: Conduct an early morning game count during the morning game drive. Meet the wildlife police, who will share insights into their daily lives before an afternoon game drive and snare sweep. After dinner, Kim will discuss her lion conservation experiences and what it takes to conserve a species at risk in today's world.

Day 5: Explore more of the sweeping Busanga Plains on a morning game drive. Relax around the pool after brunch. After tea, either enjoy another game drive or spend a leisurely afternoon in camp. Soak in the night sky around the campfire, after dinner.

Day 6: Retrieve the camera traps while out on the morning game drive, and then analyse them back in camp. After tea, there's a game drive and dinner in the bush, to round off an exceptional week. Around the fire, share lion conservation ideas, challenges and solutions with Panthera.

Day 7: After a short game drive it's time to depart for the airstrip to meet your chartered flight to Livingstone.









#### ABOUT SHUMBA CAMP

Set in the heart of the Kafue's Busanga Plains, Shumba Camp offers front row seats to a wildlife extravaganza, only accessible for five months a year during the dry season. Situated on 28 000 hectares of exclusive wilderness, surrounded by open plains that are home to at least 500 bird species and 158 mammals, Shumba, named after the prides of lion seen in the area, is found on a wooded island right in the centre of the million-hectare Busanga Plains.

Standing sentry over these endless plains are six luxury tented units raised on wooden platforms. Each spacious guest tent is a tranquil space from which to observe the wilderness – either from your bed, the various seating areas or even the indoor or outdoor showers. With hundreds of red lechwe, puku and other plains game and their predators, the wild and remote floodplains seemingly go on forever.

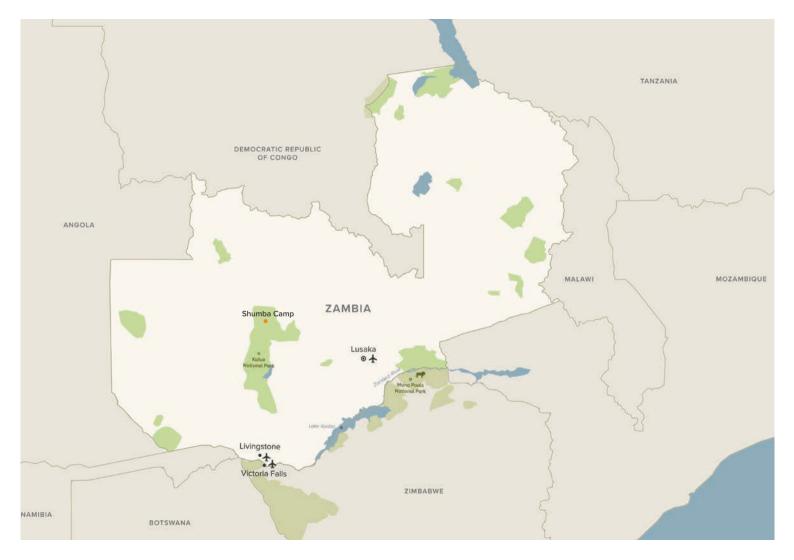
Enjoy Zambian hospitality in the main area, where sumptuous dining, cooling off in the pool and shaded relaxation are the order of the day, while convivial fireside tales and stargazing are a nightly ritual.











## YOUR HOSTS



# Director of Panthera's KAZA and Cheetah programmes - Dr Kim Young-Overton

Kim has enjoyed a long career in threatened species and ecosystem management. Her work has focused on understanding the requirements for the conservation of large mammals at vast spatial scales across southern Africa, with a focus on how humans disturb their movement patterns and demography.

Kim has previously led several international, national, regional and local-scale conservation projects, and now leads a large-carnivore coalition of partners across the vast Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA), the world's biggest transfrontier park and Africa's prime conservation landscape.

She is particularly invested in the conservation of wildlife at large spatial scales, and is committed to working at the interface between science and conservation management to ensure that managers are afforded the best available scientific information to make the greatest impact.

Kim is the Director of Panthera's KAZA and Cheetah programmes, and her work is based in the enormous Greater Kafue Ecosystem in Zambia, with Kafue National Park lying at its core.

#### YOUR HOSTS



#### Wilderness Safaris Group Impact Manager - Dr Neil Midlane

In his role as Group Impact Manager, Neil's main focus is to drive the company's mission of using its conservation tourism business to conserve and restore Africa's wilderness and wildlife, contribute to community development, and to inspire people to advocate for positive change. Neil works with all other elements of the business to ensure a cohesive approach to utilising conservation tourism as a force for lasting positive impact.

Neil is a member of the African Lion Working Group, which is affiliated with the Cat Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission, as well as a member of the Mozambique Carnivore Working Group, the KAZA Elephant Working Group, the KAZA Carnivore Working Group and the Transfrontier Specialist Group.

As a passionate conservationist and advocate of the valuable role that conservation tourism plays in protecting Africa's wildlife and pristine areas, Neil is excited to be a part of the Wilderness journey, and for the opportunity to make a significant, positive contribution to the development of sustainable wildlife-based economies across the continent

#### RATES

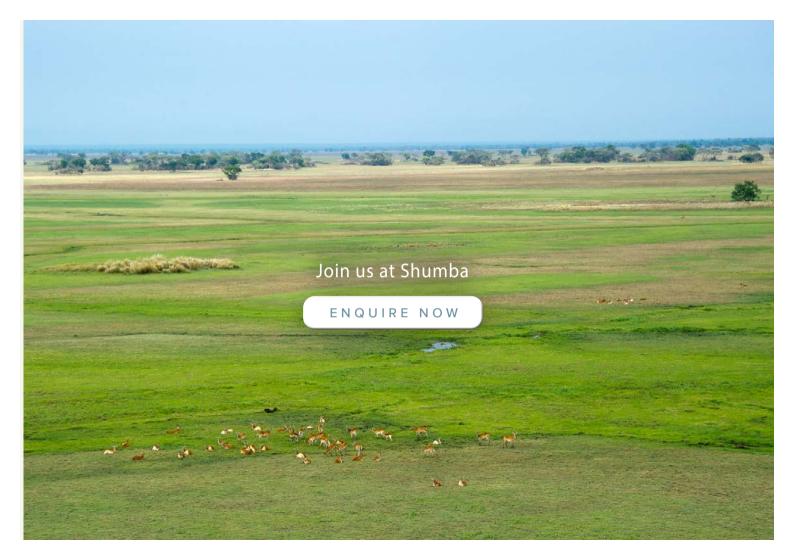
# USD15 100 PP sharing USD4 180 single supplement

#### What's included?:

- Sole-use return flights from Livingstone to Shumba
  - · All meals
  - · Daily activities as per Itinenary
    - · Park fees
    - Laundry
- All local drinks (excludes premium imported brands and champagne)
  - Transfer to/from the Plains airstrip
  - · Hosted Panthera guide and activities

#### What's excluded?

- International long-haul flights to and from your home country
- Items of a personal nature i.e. telephone calls, mini-bar etc
  - Cancellation, baggage and medical insurance
    - Staff gratuities
- Any new government taxes, levies, fuel or industry increases, which are beyond our control
  - Visa fees where relevant
  - Departure taxes, unless specified
- PCR Testing in Livingstone including overnight accommodation, meals and transfers in Livingstone as required



Our journeys change lives

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