

New
KAFUE
Predator Collaring
2019

Collar a carnivore, count herbivores and meet the conservators of Zambia's million-hectare Busanga Plains



WILDERNESS
SAFARIS

THE LUXURY OF PURPOSE

Introducing Kafue Predator Collaring, one of a portfolio of eight life-changing, ‘purposeful’ journeys crafted to offer guests access to unique and privileged, behind-the-scenes conservation and community projects run by ourselves and our partners.

On this itinerary we invite you to join us in Zambia’s Kafue National Park to collar a carnivore, count herbivores and meet the conservators of Zambia’s million-hectare Busanga Plains.

All funds raised from this itinerary are directly channelled to the NGO *Zambian Carnivore Programme* (ZCP).





23 - 28 October 2019

Zambia

Busanga Plains

(remote northern Kafue)

Trip guaranteed to travel with minimum 4 guests.

KAFUE PREDATOR COLLARING



On this journey...

- Observe darting and collaring of lion
- Participate in a road count survey of large mammals on the Busanga Plains
- Exposure to and interaction with local experts and authorities
- Watch an integrated ecotourism and conservation model at work



About the Purpose

Zambia's Kafue National Park is a vital stronghold for Africa's large carnivores. Thanks to our year-round presence and logistical and financial support to local anti-poaching activities, wildlife populations have grown, particularly species such as lechwe, puku and even elephant.



Itinerary

23 Oct 2018 Fly into Busanga Plains, afternoon game drive. Overnight Busanga Bush Camp.

24 Oct 2018 Morning and afternoon game drives, evening presentation by Zambian Carnivore Project (ZCP) on the darting/collaring process.
Overnight Busanga Bush Camp.

25 Oct 2018 Collar replacement – lion. Overnight Busanga Bush Camp.

26 Oct 2018 Early morning hot air balloon excursion; road count; evening talk by ZCP expert on conservation actions in the area.
Overnight Busanga Bush Camp.

27 Oct 2018 Early morning hot air balloon excursion; road count; evening discussion on counts by Wilderness ecologist Arnold Tshipa.
Overnight Busanga Bush Camp.

28 Oct 2018 Morning game drive, then to airstrip for flight out.

Ts & Cs apply



Rates

4 Guests \$13,765.00 per person sharing

Single Supplement \$1,500.00

Exclusions:

- International long-haul flights to and from Lusaka.
- Meals not specified.
- Items of a personal nature i.e. telephone calls, laundry, 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.



Zambia

OUR CONCESSIONS (KAFUE)

KAFUE'S UNIQUE BUSANGA PLAINS

UNUSUAL ANTELOPE

Kafue is home to fantastic concentrations of common antelope species such as puku, lechwe and wildebeest, but also comparative rarities not easily seen in most other places in Africa: the stately roan, nimble oribi, secretive sitatunga and unusual Lichtenstein's hartebeest.

UNUSUAL LION

The lion is the dominant carnivore of the Busanga Plains. In these flat and open surroundings, the lions have taken to using raised points for the cooling breeze more than other populations, climbing both fig trees and the raised decks of the camps. This unusual behaviour occurs only in the hotter months of September and October.

The open terrain also means that hunts – unusually – can often be watched from start to finish as the pride chases and brings down red lechwe or puku (their two most common prey species here).

They are also known for their impressively stocky physiques, as well as for their ability to survive the inundated summer months on this floodplain.

ACTIVITIES ON THE BUSANGA PLAINS

HOT AIR BALLOON SAFARI

Drifting aloft over the remote and private Busanga Concession at sunrise makes this one of the most exclusive hot air ballooning destinations in Africa. A 360-degree vista of the surrounding expansive plains that meet the enormous sky at the horizon also make it the most visually stunning. A bird's-eye view of wildlife can include thousands of red lechwe and puku, as well as regular sightings of hippo and buffalo. A delicious champagne breakfast follows, served in the Park's vast grasslands.

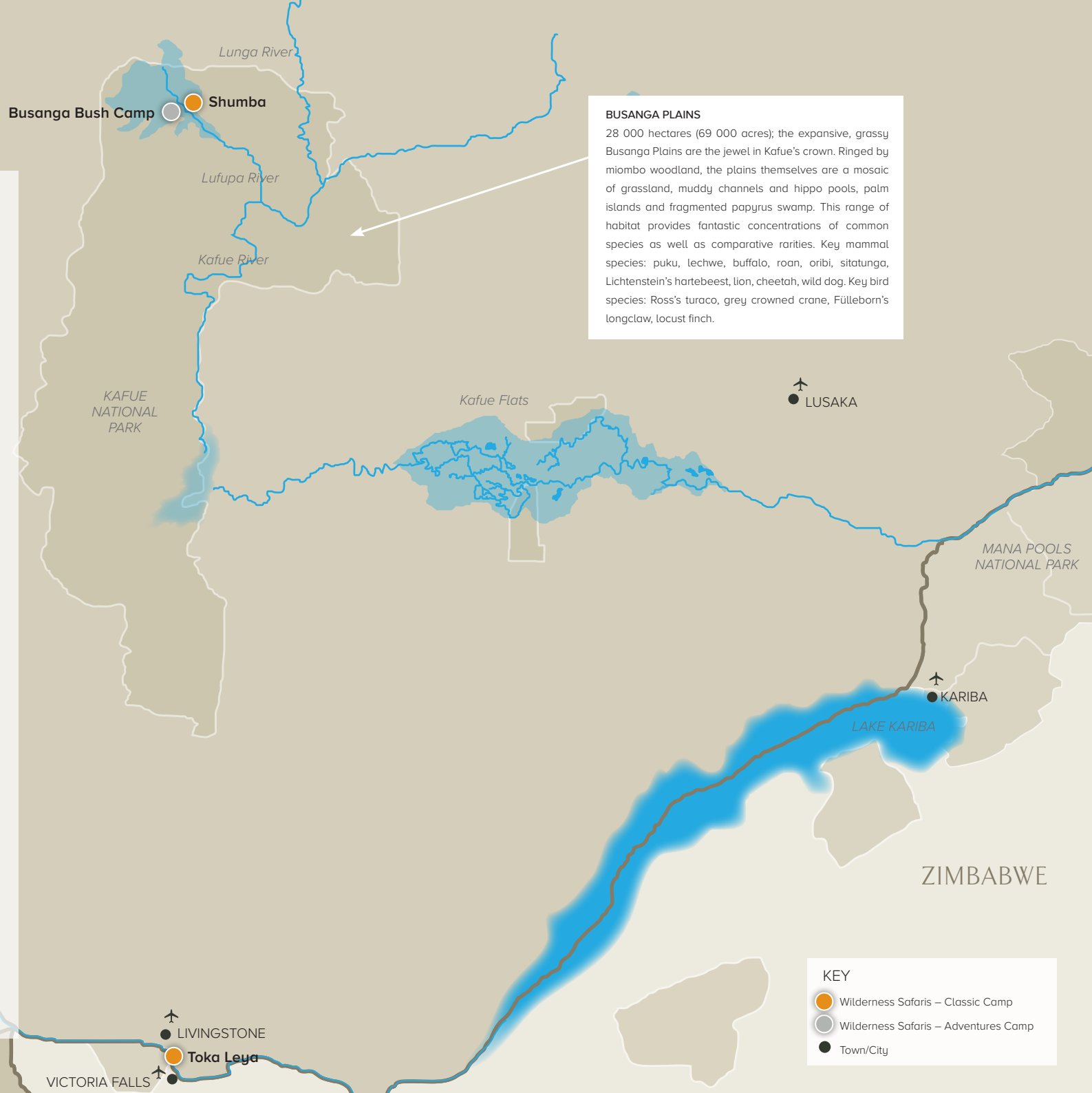
The hot air ballooning season runs from August until the end of October.

BOATING

At the beginning of the season (from June, and even into July), should summer rains have been heavy enough, it is possible to traverse parts of the Busanga Plains by boat. Specially-adapted motorboats can be used in very low water levels allowing excellent birding opportunities and viewing of hippo, lechwe and puku.

GAME DRIVES

The mainstay of our game-viewing activities, day and night game drives take place throughout the season and cover large areas of the plains and the tree-line edge in search of wildlife. The vast open landscape allows for excellent visibility, whether of large predators or the herds of plains game.



BUSANGA PLAINS
28 000 hectares (69 000 acres); the expansive, grassy Busanga Plains are the jewel in Kafue's crown. Ringed by miombo woodland, the plains themselves are a mosaic of grassland, muddy channels and hippo pools, palm islands and fragmented papyrus swamp. This range of habitat provides fantastic concentrations of common species as well as comparative rarities. Key mammal species: puku, lechwe, buffalo, roan, oribi, sitatunga, Lichtenstein's hartebeest, lion, cheetah, wild dog. Key bird species: Ross's turaco, grey crowned crane, Fülleborn's longclaw, locust finch.

KEY

-  Wilderness Safaris – Classic Camp
-  Wilderness Safaris – Adventures Camp
-  Town/City



Meet your Experts

Ben Goodheart, Zambia Carnivore Project

Since graduating from the University of Montana in 2012, Ben has worked extensively as a field ecologist, conducting a wide range of research on migratory songbirds, small mammals, forest carnivores and venomous snakes. He joined the ZCP team in April 2016 and spent his first two years in the Luangwa Valley, before moving to the Kafue team as Co-manager.



Dr Kambwiri Banda, vet, Zambia Carnivore Project

Dr Banda joined the ZCP team in 2015, after receiving his degree in Veterinary Science from the University of Zambia in 2014. He is the field-based vet and Co-manager for ZCP's Greater Kafue Project. As the only field vet in Kafue, his presence is critical for the important de-snaring work that ZCP undertakes in the area.



Arnold Tshipa, Wilderness Safaris Zambezi Environmental Manager

Arnold's father was a professional guide who, as soon as they were old enough, would take his children on bush drives and camping. It is no wonder then that Arnold studied Forest Resources and Wildlife Management, joining Wilderness Safaris Zambezi's Conservation Department in 2012. Over the years he has honed his research skills and has been involved in the draft of the Hwange Conservation Management Plan as well as several action plans for the management of Hwange National Park. Arnold is currently preparing his PhD report for submission. The aim of the project is to improve understanding of elephant movements and habitat use in Hwange National Park where elephant density is one the world's highest.



Partner and Beneficiary

Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP)

The Zambian Carnivore Programme is a non-profit Zambian registered trust dedicated to conserving large carnivore species and the ecosystems they reside in for one of Africa's most wildlife-rich places. The Programme works across three distinct ecosystems in Zambia, each encompassing a wide range of biological, environmental and human variation. One of these is the Greater Kafue Ecosystem (GKE) where the ZCP has undertaken long-term carnivore research projects.

Its goals include:

- To safeguard large carnivores, their prey, and habitat in Zambia through applied research, conservation, and education.
- Utilising large carnivores and their prey as flagship species for large scale habitat conservation, which in turn will benefit many other species.
- Providing information and recommendations to the Zambia Wildlife Authority, and supporting them in all efforts to safeguard wildlife species and the ecosystems they reside in.
- Increasing knowledge and understanding of large carnivore and herbivore dynamics and interrelationships, and contributing to the conservation of these species as a whole.
- Building capacity within local Zambian organisations and government bodies for the sustainable conservation of large carnivores and herbivores, their ecological functions, and their habitats.

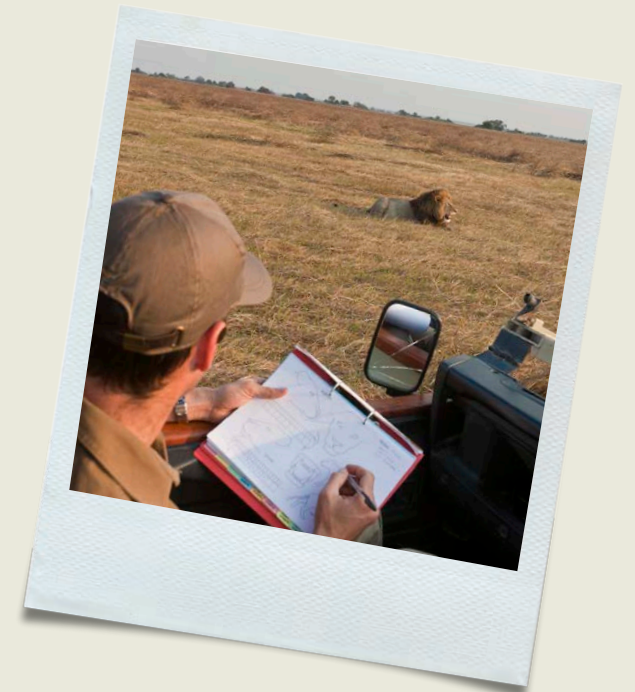


<http://www.zambiacarnivores.org/donation>

KAFUE PREDATOR COLLARING

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Our journeys change lives





*Travel
with Purpose*