

Exploring Africa's KAZA Conservation Frontier:

A Safari to Zambia, Namibia, and Botswana with WWF's Lisa Steel

September 13 - 20, 2019 -

In 2011, five African countries—Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe—signed a treaty to create the world's largest transboundary conservation area. About the size of California, the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA) will promote a culture of peace, share resources, and encourage wildlife tourism.

In Zambia— home to Victoria Falls, one of the largest waterfalls on Earth —you will see why the country has the potential to contribute to conservation and boost local economies. In Namibia— a global leader in community-based conservation—explore the wildlife-rich wetlands of the Caprivi Strip. Finishing in Botswana's Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta on Earth and home to excellent wildlife viewing and spectacular landscapes.

Join WWF's Lisa Steel for a once-in-a-lifetime a safari into the heart of our efforts as we visit three vital countries for success of KAZA. Explore firsthand how WWF is working with with communities, NGOs, governments, and the private sector on the ground to protect the region's iconic wildlife, their habitat and the people who call KAZA home.



Itinerary at a Glance

Day	Date	Location	Accommodation
1	Sept. 13	Arrive Livingston / Victoria Falls, Zambia	Toka Leya
2	Sept. 14	Victoria Falls	Toka Leya
3 - 4	Sept. 15 - 16	Nkasa Rupara National Park, Namibia	Nakasa Lupala Tented Lodge
5 - 7	Sept. 17 - 19	Okavango Delta	Tubu Tree Camp
8	Sep. 20	Depart Maun, Botswana	

Itinerary in Detail

DAY 1, September 13: ARRIVE LIVINGSTONE & VICTORIA FALLS, ZAMBIA

Arrive Livingstone & Victoria Falls today. After completing immigration, baggage claim, and customs formalities, you will be met by a Natural Habitat Adventures & WWF representative in the arrivals hall holding a signboard with your name. You will be transferred to Toka Leya. Overlooking the mighty Zambezi River and some of its islands, Toka Leya is a perfect combination of relaxation and adventure; ideal for the beginning of your African safari. This evening we enjoy a welcome dinner with our WWF host and safari Expedition Leader.

Overnight Toka Leya

(D)

DAY 2, September 14: LIVINGSTONE & VICTORIA FALLS

Today we begin our adventure with a visit to Victoria Falls, a World Heritage Site, one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural World, and where we work with the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust on wildlife crime related work. A mile and a half wide and 350 feet high, the sheer volume of its spray earned it the name "Mosi oa Tunya" from the local people, or "Smoke That Thunders" – the same name that the surrounding national park now bears. But the falls aren't the only attraction around Livingstone. From enjoying a sunset cruise on the mighty Zambezi river, to tracking wild rhinos in the National Park, to visiting a local village, there is much to experience and learn from in the Victoria Falls area. *Overnights Toka Leya*

DAY 3, September 15: ONWARDS TO NKASA LUPALA NATIONAL PARK, NAMIBIA We will drive from Livingstone to Nkasa Lupala crossing Botswana's Chobe Flood Plains and northern Namibia's Salambala Conservancy. By September, the Chobe River reaches its lowest point and there is a high concentration of wildlife along the banks, adjacent floodplains and previously submerged islands. Traverse through Salambala Conservancy, home to numerous congregating zebras as they prepare to migrate south into Botswana. A study led by a research team from WWF and partners, recently found this migration to be longest of its kind in all of Africa. In the Caprivi Strip, we will visit a village in the Wuparo Conservancy and learn about efforts to mitigate human-wildlife conflict so that wildlife conservation and tourism can coexist with agriculture.

We settle in to Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge, built on the banks of one of the many channels of the Kwando-Linyanti river system. This unique Namibian wetland paradise in the eastern Caprivi region, is commonly known as Mamili and was recently renamed Nkasa Lupala National Park. The lodge and the Wuparo Conservancy are part of the successful and award-winning Namibian conservancy program where WWF works through the IRDNC (Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation) on Wuparo's operation, especially with regards to countering wildlife crime and wildlife management

efforts. At Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge, be ready to experience a unique example of sustainable community-based tourism that benefits wildlife and the community. *Overnights Nakasa Lupala Tented Lodge* (B,L,D)

DAY 4, September 16: NKASA LUPALA NATIONAL PARK

The area is ideal for exploring the wildlife-rich wetlands along the Kwando-Linyanti river system and it a key corridor for all large mammal species moving between Namibia and Botswana, particularly African elephant and buffalo. The camp has a variety of activities including game drives and river cruises to view elephants, buffalo, hippo, lions, leopard, impala, kudu, zebra and wildebeest. Night drives, walking safaris and a village visit to the Wuparo Conservancy are also available. *Overnights Nakasa Lupala Tented Lodge* (*B,L,D*)

DAYS 5 - 7, September 17 - 19: OKAVANGO DELTA

You will be transferred by road to Kasane, Botswana, clearing immigration formalities before embarking on a charter flight to the sensational Okavango Delta. The beating heart of KAZA and home to almost two thirds the conservation area's elephants. Here WWF works with the Ecoexist Project to reduce conflict and fostering coexistence between elephants and people.

Tubu Tree Camp sits on Hunda Island, the largest permanently dry land area in this region of the Okavango Delta, surrounded by grasslands that attract many plains animal species. A range of diverse habitats, from dry Kalahari sand to mopane and riverine forest, ensures spectacular wildlife viewing at the edge of permanent waterways. Activities focus on drives in open 4x4 vehicles in search of elephant, lion, Burchell's zebra, red lechwe, southern giraffe, tsessebe, and blue wildebeest on the sprawling floodplains. In forested areas we are on the lookout for kudu, impala, and bushbuck. And, of course, we'll hope to see the predators that track them, including lion and leopard. *Overnights Tubu Tree Camp* (*B,L,D*)

DAY 8, September 20: DEPARTURE

After breakfast you will have a shared charter flight from Tubu Tree Camp to Maun for your onward departing flights back to the US. For those wishing to continue their safari adventure, we are pleased to offer a number of extensions in the area, including additional camps in Botswana, as well as other exciting safari adventures like those to the great sand dune sea of Namibia or an immersive walking safari in Zambia.

Should you wish to extend your safari in Botswana, Namibia, Zamiba or elsewhere in Africa, our travel partners, Natural Habitat Adventures, would be happy to explore options with you. Please discuss custom extensions at time of booking.

(B)

Meet Our Expert



Lisa Steel, WWF Senior Director, Africa Wildlife Conservation

A nature loving adventurer, Lisa Steel spent 17 years living and working in Africa, starting as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Zaire and later working in Gabon, Zambia, and Central African Republic. Eventually, her journey took her full circle, back to her roots in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (the former Zaire). Her work ranged from supporting community-based conservation in Zambia, to managing complex forest landscapes in some of the more remote parts of central Africa. Today, Lisa applies her experience and expertise to sustaining and magnifying community-based conservation efforts in places like KAZA.

What to Expect-

Since our adventures specialize in viewing wildlife, every effort is made to plan itineraries where wildlife is known to inhabit. However, the animals we visit live wild and free and we cannot fully predict or control their migratory patterns (nor would we want to). In an attempt to locate wildlife, which may have deviated from its normal pattern, or in the interest of traveler comfort or safety, we may be required to make reasonable changes in itineraries. Your guide will determine your final activities in the best interest of the group.

About WWF Expeditions

WWF Expeditions is an invitation-only conservation travel program for our closest supporters, along with friends and family, to see firsthand the positive impact World Wildlife Fund is making.

These custom-designed journeys are led by WWF experts and offer exclusive opportunities to discover the wildlife and ecosystems we protect; meet community members whose lives are being improved because of our work; and immerse yourself in the worlds of our field staff and partners on the ground. Come explore the best of the natural world and see how together we are making a difference for our planet.

About Our Travel Partner



Discovering Our Planet Together

This journey is being arranged by Natural Habitat Adventures of Boulder, Colorado. For more than a decade, WWF has partnered with Nat Hab to take travelers to view nature's greatest sights. WWF selected Natural Habitat as its partner because of its long-standing commitment to conservation and the exceptional quality of its adventures.

Accommodations

TOKA LEYA



Toka Leya Camp consists of 12 en-suite safari tents raised on wooden stilts and connected by wooden walkways to the main common area, minimizing the footprint on the land. Tent interiors utilize earthy hues that harmonize with the environs, and all have shaded wooden decks with expansive views over the Zambezi's braided channels. Resident hippos often create a ruckus nearby, while elephants are frequently seen along on the banks and islands. Each tent has individual climate control to ensure a cool summer sanctuary, gauzy mosquito nets draped from poster beds, and spacious en-suite bathrooms with double-basin vanity and large showers. The camp's shared central area incorporates a lounge with plush sofas and reading lamps, a bar, and a canvas-sheltered dining area complete with traditional pizza oven. A swimming pool surrounded by a large wooden sun deck with lounge chairs overlooking the Zambezi invites a refreshing dip.

NKASA LUPALA TENTED LODGE



Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge is built on the banks of one of the many channels of the Kwando-Linyanti river system. This unique Namibian wetland paradise in the eastern Caprivi region, is commonly known as Mamili and was recently renamed Nkasa Lupala National Park. The lodge and the Wuparo Conservancy are part of the successful and award-winning Namibian conservancy program. At Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge be ready to experience a unique example of sustainable community-based tourism. The Lodge has 10 luxury tents constructed out of steel, canvas, and wood with proper doors and windows and en-suite bathroom facilities. A central main area with bar, dining room, lounge facility, kitchen, storage, and office is linked to the rooms through a network of pathways. The lodge, which is totally energy self-sufficient thanks to solar panels, will serve as an example of sustainable construction and planning not only in the region but in Namibia as a whole.

TUBU TREE CAMP, OKAVANGO DELTA



Tubu Tree Camp is built in traditional safari style, with eight well-appointed tents on raised wooden platforms, each surrounded by picturesque floodplain vistas. The private placement of each tent ensures a sense of intimacy. Attached verandas offer comfortable private seating to take in the sweeping views and vivid African sunsets following daytime safari activities. En-suite bathroom facilities are standard as are private indoor and outdoor cascading showers. Perched among the trees, the stylish rooms are adorned with traditional décor and offer the utmost comfort. The gracious main dining area, lounge, fire ring and pool are also raised on platforms providing the opportunity to view elephants, zebra and other wildlife traveling across the watery meadows nearby. Tubu Tree Camp features an outdoor pub, which lies under a canopy of a massive marula tree and is backlit for relaxing evenings under the stars.

Superior personal service is a hallmark of Tubu Tree Camp and beckons travelers to visit again. Wildlife spotted around Tubu Tree Camp includes elephant, lion, Burchell's zebra, red lechwe, southern giraffe, tsessebe, and blue wildebeest upon the sprawling floodplains. Kudu, impala, leopard and bushbuck are also seen in the forested areas. The variety of bird life is impressive, with dry-land species seen on the large islands and all the wetland birds seen on the floodplains and waterways, including Pel's fishing-owl, rosy-throated longclaws, coppery-tailed coucal and African Skimmer. Throughout the year, day and night wildlife drives in open 4x4 vehicles are available.

Expedition Information

Dates: September 13 - 20, 2019 Land cost: \$13,490 per person in double occupancy Internal air cost: \$1,765 Single supplement: \$2,185

GROUP SIZE: Limited to 10 guests.

INCLUDED: All accommodations, transfers, and meals from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on final day as indicated in the itinerary; beer, wine and non-alcoholic drinks at certain camps, with meals, and in vehicles; services of NHA Expedition Leader, local guides and lodge staff; some gratuities; airport transfers on Day 1 and final day; permits and entrance fees; and all taxes.

NOT INCLUDED: Travel to and from start and end point of trip, alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees, optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, souvenirs, etc.),

airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes, optional travel insurance, and required medical evacuation insurance.

PAYMENTS: A nonrefundable deposit of \$1,000 confirms your space. Payments are accepted by credit card or by check made out to Natural Habitat Adventures.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: Cancellations must be received in writing at NHA by US mail, email or fax. At the time WWF receives your written cancellation, the following per person penalties apply: 121 days or more before departure: lose deposit. 120 to 61 days before departure: forfeit 50% of tour cost. 60 days or fewer before departure: no refund.

INSURANCE: Since the areas we travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for our guests' safety. If you decline the medical evacuation insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat Adventures, we request that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We will add the cost of a medical evacuation policy to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company's name, contact number and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests' safety.

GETTING THERE & GETTING HOME:

Arrival: Please arrive in Livingstone & Victoria Falls, Zambia, no later than 1 pm on Day 1 Departure: You are free to depart from Maun, Botswana after 1:30 pm on Day 8.

We highly recommend that Natural Habitat Adventures' air department staff make your reservations, as they are intimately familiar with the special requirements of this program. They can also make any necessary extra night hotel arrangements for you.