

ZIKOMO SAFARI

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PACKING LIST

**** PLEASE NOTE:** Bright Colors and white are not recommended and we ask that you leave any CAMOUFLAGE clothing and accessories at home as it is illegal in Zambia and many other African countries **

- T-shirts and at least one long-sleeved cotton shirt
- Shorts/Slacks/skirts
- Long trousers
- Underwear and socks
- Ladies, we recommend a sports bra for the bumpy roads on game drives
- 3 sets bush colored safari outfits (long/shorts/shirts) green/brown/dark khaki are good colors for the bush (not white, cream or bright colors)
- 2 sets casual evening clothes (long trousers to reduce insect bites)
- 1 light weight sweater. Warm jacket in winter.
- Thongs/flip flops/trainers
- Bush hat
- Bathing suit
- Lightweight rain gear for all safaris in the summer months
- Bandana- you may want to take one for dust when game viewing

Also:

- Good quality sunglasses preferably polarized. Tinted fashion sunglasses are not much good in harsh light.
- Camera equipment and plenty of film (12-15 rolls) as it is very expensive and often unattainable. Flash for night photography, spare camera batteries, lens tissue, good dust proof bag, filters, and video equipment.
- Tissues and disposable moist tissues.
- A good flashlight with spare batteries
- Basic medical kit (aspirins, Band-Aids, Imodium, antiseptic cream, anti-histamine cream and tablets.)
- Binoculars- very important. Even an inexpensive second hand pair works!
- Malaria tablets (Please read section on malaria in "HEALTH ADVISORIES")
- Moisturizing cream & high strength sunscreen. Lip salve.
- Insect repellent.
- Personal toiletries.
- Visas, tickets, passports, money.
- If you wear contact lenses, we recommend that you bring along a pair of glasses in case you get eye irritation from the dust.
- Alarm clock.
- Small wallet to carry local currency.

For walking safari:

- Walking Boots, We suggest lightweight boots with ankle support. Waterproof is best but not necessary.

BOOKING AND VISAS

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please ensure that you are aware of our booking conditions enclosed in your documents and legal waiver. Your traveling on the safari implies acceptance of these conditions. If you need a copy of these conditions, please contact us and we will gladly send you one.

PASSPORT

Please be sure your United States passports are current, in good order and valid for at least six months from the date of your return

Please note that everyone **MUST** have **AT LEAST** two (2) consecutive blank pages in their passport which lie side by side when the passport is open (i.e. left and right page). Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months from the date of your return. Passengers who do not comply with these requirements could either be stopped from boarding an aircraft or risk deportation upon arrival. This is true for all passengers transiting through South Africa.

VISAS

A single-entry visa For United States citizens may be obtained at the port of entry for \$50. Travelers must apply in advance at a Zambian Embassy or consulate for a multiple-entry visa. Citizens from other countries should check with their embassy regarding travel to Zambia.

The cost of the visa can go up and might be slightly higher than stated above.

HEALTH ADVISORIES

INOCULATIONS

Visitors from or passing through a yellow fever and cholera zone (most of tropical Africa and South America) must be able to produce a valid International Certificate of Vaccination. Air travelers who only pass through the airports of such a zone are exempt from the requirement.

The yellow fever vaccination has been removed as a requirement to enter Zambia. Always check the government website of the country you are visiting before going as facts change and it is always better to make sure you have the updated information.

MALARIA

We **HIGHLY** recommend you take anti-malaria medication. Malaria is widespread worldwide and its control has become increasingly complex. With sensible behavior, the problem can be easily managed. There are different drugs effective against different strains of malaria. Your personal physician can recommend which drug is best for you. Expert opinion differs regarding the best approach to malaria chemoprophylaxis, especially in areas where chloroquin resistance has been reported. It is inadvisable for non-immune, pregnant women to visit malaria areas as malaria infection during pregnancy can result in severe effects to the mother and fetus. Please remember that the best insurance against contracting malaria is to try to prevent one from being bitten. 95% of malarial infections take place between 8pm and 6am. Use mosquito repellents liberally, we recommend you wear long sleeved shirts and trousers or slacks in the evenings; if staying in a tent spray with an insecticide to kill the mosquitoes. Use bed nets where supplied. Zip your tent at night. Should you become ill on your return, whilst still on prophylaxis or even once you have stopped, Make sure that your doctor does everything necessary to establish that your illness is not malaria. It is essential to seek a specialist advice right away. Prompt and proper treatment of malaria should always be successful. Please note that we are not medical practitioners and therefore these recommendations should be treated as a guideline only. We recommend you check with your physician and follow his/her advice.

The above information is not meant to alarm you, but rather to inform you.

TSETSE FLIES

Tsetse flies are a seasonal nuisance in very limited areas. You may encounter them in isolated localities. Tsetse flies are large day-time feeding flies.

AIDS

The HIV virus and AIDS are serious health issues in many African countries. However, the risk to travelers is negligible assuming proper precautions are taken. Transmission of HIV is by bodily fluids only. Use the same precautions while in Africa as in your home country to protect against contracting the virus.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Always take precautions against the persistent overhead sun. Proximity to the equator makes the African sun particularly strong so ensure you use the proper level of protection.
- In the winter months, the big game areas can be dusty. Contact lens wearers may be advised to bring eye drops. Wraparound sunglasses provide the best protection from the dust and other irritants.
- Sun-protective Chap Stick, sunscreens, moisturizing creams and insect repellents are recommended. Please make us aware of any specific health restrictions that may affect your choice of accommodation or style of travel.

TRAVEL PRECAUTIONS

HEALTH AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

Zikomo Safari and its agents and associates cannot be held responsible or liable for loss, damage, or theft of personal luggage and belongings, nor can they be held liable for personal injury, accident or illness. Please ensure that you are adequately insured before your departure. Travel insurance is highly recommended. Before you travel anywhere it is advisable to have medical and accident insurance which covers you while you are away, as well as for emergency repatriation all the way back to your home town.

CANCELLATION INSURANCE

You might have to cancel your safari due to unforeseen circumstances. If you cancel your trip close to your departure date for any reason, you will lose the cost of your safari. Dependent on that reason, cancellation insurance should cover you for this eventuality.

BAGGAGE INSURANCE

Airline liability with respect to your baggage is limited. It is advisable to take out insurance if you are carrying expensive and valuable camera equipment. You should always carry such equipment as "carry-on" luggage. Do not put anything of value in your checked baggage.

CLAIMS

If you anticipate an insurance claim upon your return, be sure to document as accurately as possible any accident, injury or loss. Doctor's notes and police reports will aid any claim.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION INSURANCE

Each guest is advised to take out full insurance to cover them for evacuation from the site of any accident to the nearest hospital and onwards to their own home town. If you do not have this insurance and you have to be evacuated anywhere on your trip, you will have to pick up the full tab for a very expensive item.

LUGGAGE

On International, Regional and Domestic flights passengers are permitted 20kg (44 pounds) of baggage in economy class and 30kg (70 pounds) in Business and First Class. However, it is important to note that on charter aircraft, there is a 12 kg (26.4 pounds) baggage allowance per passenger, which is strictly enforced due to safety factors and the limited space available on these air-crafts.

Charter companies typically insist on a soft carry all (instead of a suitcase), which is the following maximum dimensions: 80 cm long (32 inches) by 30cm wide (14 inches). A clothing list is enclosed for your information. Please keep in mind that baggage compartments on some of the light air-crafts are only 25cm high (10 inches), so the pilots must have the ability to manipulate the bag into the compartment.

It is best advised if you call the airlines you are scheduled to fly with before you pack to make sure of any restriction on luggage and/or weight of the passengers.

LOST BAGGAGE

Luggage that goes missing on scheduled flights is beyond the control of Zikomo Safari, our agents and associates, and often the airline concerned. The airport controls what happens to passenger's luggage from when it is checked in until it is put on-board the aircraft.

We suggest that you take the following precautionary action: Please pack a small bag with your essentials, which can be carried with you as hand luggage, and pack a second bag containing non-essentials that can be loaded into the aircraft hold. If the second bag was not to arrive, you will still have your essential items on hand to see you through the first couple of days while trying to recover your baggage.

AIR SCHEDULE

If Zikomo Safari had booked international air arrangements for your safari, you will find a copy of your current flight schedule in your packet. If you are handling your own air arrangements or any portion of your own air arrangements, we ask that you please forward a copy of your itinerary to us for our records as soon as possible.

INVOICE

A deposit of 25% is due within 14 days of booking your safari and no later than 30 days before your

Arrival date the balance must be paid in full or we cannot hold your reservation if it is not received.

CLIMATE

Typical Zambian climate is as follows:

Months	Season	Mean Daily Maximum °C (°F)	Mean Daily Minimum °C (°F)
May-August	Cool and Dry	21-26 (70-79)	6-12 (43-54)
September-October	Hot and Dry	28-35 (82-95)	17-22 (63-72)
November-April	Rainy	25-30 (77-86)	14-19 (57-66)

MONEY AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Please check the details on your itinerary to see where your board is fully inclusive and where it is not. Where you are paying for your own lunch or dinner you should allow between \$10 and \$25 per person.

Personal expenditure, gratuities for drivers/guides/staff, airport taxes and visa fees are excluded from the cost of your tour. We suggest that you allow from \$15 to \$25 per day to cover the cost of personal expenses.

In Zambia you may use dollars or the Kwacha (the country currency).

GRATUITIES

The traditional gratuity to safari guides or camp staff is not included in the price of your safari but is completely discretionary. Beware of unscrupulous people who try to extort extra payment from unwary passengers just for shuffling their bags around. Our general recommendation is to tip moderately in accordance with the level and quality of service provided.

COMMUNICATIONS

Generally speaking, communications in the bush in Africa are not what you are accustomed to at home. Connections can be bad to nonexistent, in addition to being costly. However from city centers, you can call home to the US direct through the AT&T direct service. To make an AT&T calling card or collect call to the USA, simply dial 00-899, you will get straight through to a helpful AT&T operator back in the US.

WATER

It is very important that you drink plenty of water especially during the warmer months. Most of the water served comes from underground sources and it is very clean and pure. Bottled water is widely available throughout Africa, and it is recommended that you drink at least 2-3 liters of water per day to limit the effects of dehydration. This excludes tea, coffee and alcoholic beverages, which can act as diuretics and can, actually contribute to dehydration.

FOOD

Please make us aware of any specific dietary preferences or restrictions.

ELECTRIC CURRENT

Electricity in Africa is generally at 220 watts AC. Therefore, for most 110 appliances you will need both an adapter for the proper plug configuration and a converter for the correct current. Both round and rectangular three pronged plug sockets are in use.

LAUNDRY

Laundry can be done at Zikomo Safari dependent on the weather. If you are staying in a chalet laundry is inclusive in your rack rates.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The choice of the correct camera equipment and film will determine the quality of your photographs on your trip. For good photography of birds and animals, a good SLR camera and telephoto lens is necessary. The minimum size is 200mm. A zoom lens can be extremely useful on safari. Consideration should be given before traveling with any lens bigger than 400mm as most interesting shots are taken using hand held equipment.

SMOKING

There is no smoking on game drives and/or boats. The dry African bush ignites very easily, and a flash fire can kill animals. In addition, please be considerate towards other guests.

WILD ANIMALS

Many of the animals and reptiles that we will see are potentially dangerous. Attacks by wild animals are rare. To date we have an unblemished record but no safari in Africa can guarantee that such incidents will not occur.

Neither Zikomo Safari, its staff members, agents, associates nor their suppliers can be held liable for any injury caused during an incident involving the behavior of wild animals. Please note that our camp, like most camps, is unfenced and wild animals can and do wander freely through the camp. Please make sure that you listen to and abide by the safety talks given by your guides or camp staff. **DO NOT** go wandering off on your own without a guide.

RESPECTING WILDLIFE

Observe the animals silently and with a minimum of disturbances to their natural activities. Loud talking on game drives can frighten the animals away. Do not stand up when the vehicle is close to dangerous animals. Never attempt to attract an animal's attention. Do not imitate animal sounds, clap your hands, pound on the vehicle or throw objects. Please respect your driver or guide's judgment about our proximity to lions, cheetahs or leopards. Do not insist that he take the vehicle closer so you can get a better photograph. A vehicle driven too close can hinder a hunt, or cause animals to abandon a hard earned meal. Litter tossed on the ground can choke or poison animals and birds and is unsightly. **NEVER** attempt to feed or approach any wild animal on foot. This is especially important near lodges or in campsites where animals may have become accustomed to human visitors.

SECURITY

Safety and security is a matter of common sense. Therefore, take the same precautions while traveling that you would in any major city at home. Do not carry large sums of cash with you; keep a close watch on handbags, purses, wallets, etc when walking in crowded areas. Avoid walking alone at night. Lock up valuables in the camp safe and never leave valuables unattended in cars or tour buses. Word of advice: make copies of passports, credit cards, and other pertinent identification and documents. Keep one copy with you and leave one copy with your emergency contact at home.