

PILLOW TALK

Zambia conjures up the mystique of an authentic African safari. Since Norman Carr pioneered the walking safari in South Luangwa in the 1950s, the country has seen an evolution in accommodation options to suit all budgets and styles, without losing the spirit of those original bush camps. To get a sense of what's available, here's a small sample from each of the most visited destinations.



LIVINGSTONE

Tongabezi Lodge

Tongabezi started life in 1990 as a 'tents with bucket showers affair' and has since grown into one of the world's most-acclaimed properties, now part of the Green Safaris portfolio. **4 river cottages and 7 houses, each with a private valet.**



LIVINGSTONE

Waterberry Zambezi Lodge

Overlooking the Zambezi, Waterberry has a reputation for its home-away-from-home feel and offering great value. Secluded location upstream. **7 different-in-style thatched garden cottages, 3 woodland tents and a private farmhouse.**



KAFUE NP

Mukambi Safari Lodge

Often referred to as "the gateway to Kafue", the lodge sits on the Kafue River. Mukambi also operates two seasonal bush camps, Busanga Plains in the far north, and Fig Tree in the remote centre. **4 luxury tented suites, 8 chalets and a riverside villa.**



KAFUE NP

Musekese Camp

Nestled on the lip of a lagoon, this Classic Zambia owner-run camp has made a name for itself with its guiding, fine food and game viewing. Three-hours-drive north, they also offer Ntemwa-Busanga, a classic thatched bush camp. **5 brand-new canvas chalets.**



KAFUE NP

Ila Safari Lodge

Green Safaris' original Zambian property, a luxury tented lodge on the Kafue River with strong eco-credentials: home to the country's first electric game drive vehicle, and uses solar-powered boats. **10 luxury tents.**



KAFUE NP

Nanzhila Plains Camp

Owner-run camp in the grasslands in the far south of the park. Rooms sit in the treeline, overlooking the dambo. They recently opened Lake Camp, where the Musa River meets Lake Itezhi-tezhi. **3 safari tents and 3 thatched chalets.**



SOUTH LUANGWA NP

Kafunta River Lodge

Classic safari lodge, renovated in 2019, sits on the edge of a floodplain in one of the best game-viewing areas in the park. Other Kafunta options are Island Bush Camp and the sleepouts at Three Rivers Camp. **8 thatched chalets and 2 luxury suites.**



SOUTH LUANGWA NP

Flatdogs Camp

The closest camp to the main Mfuwe entrance to the park, Flatdogs offers great value and views over the river. A range of accommodation styles and a reputation for great food. **8 tents, 6 chalets, 1 treehouse, 1 private tented house with pool.**



SOUTH LUANGWA NP

Nkwali Camp

An intimate camp offering understated elegance in a private concession. Robin Pope Safaris offers several other safari camps, including the popular Nsefu, and the Luangwa Safari House. **6 open-front chalets overlooking the Luangwa river.**



SOUTH LUANGWA NP

Kuyenda Bushcamp

One of six Bushcamp Company options in South Luangwa — each with a distinct character and a maximum of eight guests. Recently refurbished but retaining its intimate connection with nature. **6 thatched rondavels.**



SOUTH LUANGWA NP

Shawa Luangwa Camp

A partnership with guide Jacob Shawa gave this wilderness camp — in one of the most untouched parts of the park — its name, and enabled Green Safaris to bring its silent safaris to South Luangwa. **5 luxury tents on stilts overlooking the Luangwa River.**



NORTH LUANGWA NP

Mwaleshi Camp

Remote Africa' refreshingly simple camp on the Mwaleshi River is as remote as they come. Most activities here are on foot. Combine with Takwela Camp for the ultimate walking safari. **4 thatched chalets rebuilt annually out of natural materials.**



LOWER ZAMBEZI NP

Chiawa Camp

The original Lower Zambezi camp, the family-operated, carbon-neutral Chiawa is renowned for its quality guiding. For a wilder bush experience, head 35km downstream to Chiawa's Old Mondoro. **8 new tents and a private suite.**



LOWER ZAMBEZI NP

Chongwe Camp

A family – and elephant – friendly camp, born in the 1990s, on the confluence of the Chongwe and Zambezi rivers. Time + Tide also offer suites and a private house under the Chongwe name. **8 classic safari tents.**



LOWER ZAMBEZI NP

Chula Island Camp

Original-style tented safari camp – think Hemingway – tucked away on a remote island. Classic Zambia also offer Kutali Camp, on Kulefu Island, or you could opt to fly-camp. **5 bespoke tents.**