

In-depth Zimbabwe

Trip dates: 15 - 24 September 2024

Location: Hwange National Park & Mana Pools, Zimbabwe

Group size: 4; Cost GBP 9,295 per person



A 9 NIGHT, 10 DAY PHOTOGRAPHIC AND WILDLIFE VIEWING ADVENTURE TAKING IN TWO OF ZIMBABWE'S MOST SPECTACULAR WILDLIFE LOCATIONS, EACH OFFERING A WEALTH OF DIVERSE PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITY IN UNCROWDED SURROUNDINGS.

WITH A **GROUP SIZE LIMITED TO JUST 4**, YOU ARE **GUARANTEED PLENTY OF TUITION TIME, AND ALSO PLENTY OF ROOM IN WHICH TO WORK**. THE TRIP IS TIMED TO MAXIMISE THE END OF THE DRY SEASON IN HWANGE, AS WILDLIFE CONCENTRATES MORE AND MORE AROUND DWINDLING WATER RESOURCES, AS WELL AS HEADING TO MANA POOLS TO MAXIMISE YOUR POSSIBILITIES OF VIEWING AFRICA'S MOST ELUSIVE PREDATORS – **WILD DOGS** – AS THEY TRANSITION FROM THE DENNING PHASE TO HUNTING ON THE FLOODPLAIN. CLOSE-UP (AND I MEAN "CLOSE") ENCOUNTERS WITH ELEPHANTS ON FOOT, AS WELL AS MAJOR PREDATORS WILL ALSO BE A TARGET OF OUR TIME IN MANA POOLS.

BASED AT AN **EXCLUSIVE-USE** TENTED CAMP IN MANA POOLS TO BEGIN WITH, AND THEN TRANSFERRING TO A REMOTE BUSH CAMP IN HWANGE NATIONAL PARK ON THE SECOND PART OF YOUR ADVENTURE, YOU WILL BE GIVEN **PLENTY OF TIME TO MAXIMISE A FULL RANGE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITIES**, FROM LION PRIDES AND WILD DOG PACKS TO STANDING ELEPHANTS AND EYE-LEVEL HIPPOS.

ZIMBABWE IS A WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER'S PARADISE...COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- **EXCLUSIVE GROUP SIZE OF JUST 4 GUESTS**
- **3 NIGHTS WITHIN HWANGE NATIONAL PARK** IN A WILDLIFE-RICH PART OF THIS GLOBALLY-FAMOUS NATIONAL PARK
- **6 NIGHTS** IN OUR EXCLUSIVE-USE TENTED CAMP ON THE **BANKS OF THE ZAMBEZI RIVER AT MANA POOLS**
- **BOAT TRIP FOR WATER-LEVEL SHOTS OF HIPPOS, ELEPHANTS, CROCODILES AND OTHER WILDLIFE** WHILST AT MANA – WITH NESTING CARMINE BEE EATERS A POSSIBILITY
- **ON-FOOT PHOTOGRAPHY OPPORTUNITIES** OF ELEPHANTS, WILD DOGS, LIONS AND MUCH MORE AS WELL AS FROM OUR PRIVATE-USE VEHICLE AT BOTH LOCATIONS
- **ESCORTED THROUGHOUT BY ANDY SKILLEN**
- AS MUCH, OR AS LITTLE, **PHOTOGRAPHIC TUITION** AS NEEDED!

COSTS AND LOGISTICS

- **Group size:** 4 guests only
- **GBP 9,295 per person**, based on twin-share accommodation
- **Start point:** Harare International Airport
- **End point:** Victoria Falls International Airport

Note: the price quoted includes bush flights from Harare International at the beginning and a flight back to Victoria Falls at the end of the trip. Note you will be entering and leaving Zimbabwe from two different locations, but we will make sure you are back in time to connect to Johannesburg on the 24th.

WHAT'S INCLUDED...

- 3 nights accommodation at our comfortable bush camp in Hwange National park
- 6 nights accommodation and exclusive use of Little Vundu tented camp within Mana Pools
- All meals and drinks throughout the itinerary
- Private vehicle throughout the trip at both locations
- All guiding fees, both for vehicle viewing and tracking on foot
- Bush flight transfers and airport departure taxes



WHAT'S NOT...

- International and/or any domestic flight to/from the itinerary start/end points
- Items of a personal nature

- Visa fees as appropriate (if required, you pay these in cash on arrival at immigration)
- Gratuities

YOUR ITINERARY....

Days 1-6: Arrive in Harare, transfer to Mana Pools and Little Vundu (6 nights)

Today you will make your way from Harare to Mana Pools by private charter (a flight of around 90 minutes). Depending on exact routing, this can be a spectacular flight over the Kariba Dam and down the Zambezi valley on the way, with Zambia on one side, and Zimbabwe on the other. We suggest you arrive in Harare the day before, and as such we can suggest some comfortable hotels in the city for you. You will be advised of your departure time to Mana Pools the day before you are due to fly, and you will need to make your way to the airport (usually hotel transfer or cheap taxi). Flights are usually early morning.

Over the next six days that we head out from this very special, unfenced base – through which it is not unusual to share with elephants during the day – we will explore the woodlands, floodplains, pools and drainages which make up the mosaic of Mana. It is in this period that we will be focusing even more on predators, particularly African wild dog and lion, as well as some of the most iconic bull elephants in southern Africa. In fact, sometimes we might get so close to the subjects...on foot...that we would almost be able to touch them. Under the guidance of our personal, armed guide – and I work with some of the best in the entire country – we may be able to have some truly adrenaline-pumping experiences, pushing your photography to an entirely new level. We will also provide the opportunity for a canoe trip one afternoon (wind permitting!), giving you the chance to be up close and personal to elephants, hippos and crocodiles and give you the chance for some great wide angle shooting from an entirely different perspective. Nights will bring us clear skies – most of the time! – and depending on moon phase, we will grab the chance for some incredible astro-photography also....there's nothing like an African sky in the dry season!

Days 7-9: Transfer to either Hwange (3 nights)

After leaving the floodplain, we will transfer to our remote bush camp in Hwange National Park (via an included bush flight). We will be collected from the flight on landing and taken to our base, game driving on the way. After settling in and lunch, we will head out to explore our surroundings. Elephant herds (and elephant-hunting lion), cheetah and other specialities such as Roan antelope are some of our targets here, and where possible we will enable you to get out of the vehicle to shoot at ground-level. We will spend the next 3 full days exploring this wildlife-rich part of the National Park, and with just four guests in the vehicle, you will have plenty of room to work in. This is some Hwange's most remote, yet wildlife-filled, wilderness and a chance to get images not captured by thousands of others.

Day 10: One last safari...and onward!

Sadly, all good things must come to an end. However, although this is our last day, we will do our best to squeeze in the chance to fill a few more cards before getting you to the airstrip and your flight to Victoria Falls. From here, you could choose to stay on and enjoy the Falls themselves, or simply connect on to an international flight (usually Johannesburg).

WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

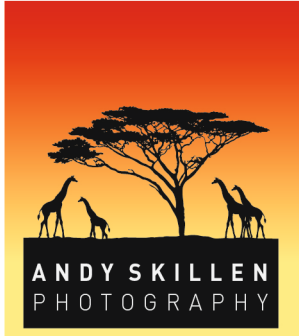
To reserve your space on this very special adventure, send an email to:

Andy@faunavista.com

to register your interest and receive a booking form

Charity...a permanent winner

Andy's photography is all about giving something back; back to a world that has given him such a wealth of memorable experiences and opportunities. As a result, a proportion of all the profits we make from every perspective of Andy's work is donated to some of the world's leading wildlife charities. These include the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF), Animals Asia and the Bushlife Foundation – for which Andy and Carrie are the UK ambassadors. Your holiday is not just therefore an adventure for yourself, your friends and your family, but a true contributor to the frontline of wildlife conservation.



CHANGING THE IMAGE OF WILDLIFE TRAVEL...

