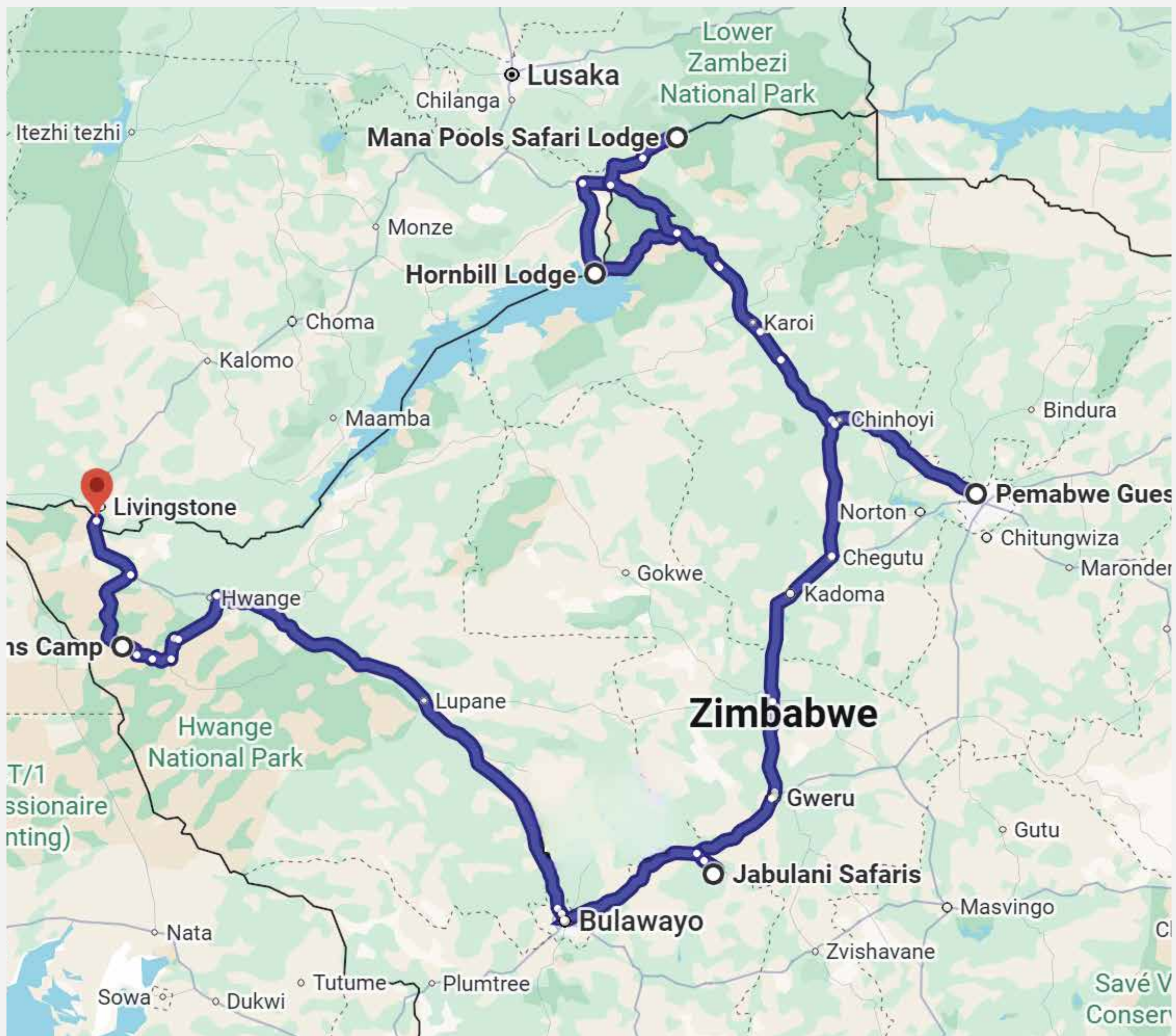




12 DAY ZIMBABWE HIGHLIGHTS SAFARI



HARARE – KARIBA – LAKE KARIBA HOUSEBOAT – MANA POOLS – SHANGANI – HWANGE – VICTORIA FALLS

This detailed itinerary showcases Zimbabwe's most iconic landscapes, wildlife regions and cultural highlights. From the gentle urban calm of Harare to the vast blue waters of Lake Kariba, the immersive houseboat experience, the legendary wilderness of Mana Pools, the rocky formations of Shangani, the elephant rich plains of Hwange and finally the thundering spectacle of Victoria Falls - this journey captures the beauty, diversity and spirit of Zimbabwe.

HARARE

Harare is a bright, welcoming African capital set on a high plateau with tree lined avenues, vibrant markets, expansive parks and a warm climate. The city blends modern architecture with historic buildings and leafy suburbs, creating a peaceful, inviting atmosphere that introduces you gently to Zimbabwe.

Accommodation

Pemabwe Guest Lodge (1 Night)

A quiet, privately owned lodge set in attractive gardens, offering clean, comfortable en-suite rooms and warm local hospitality. The property is surrounded by well-tended lawns, flowering shrubs and shady trees that create a peaceful setting ideal for unwinding after your journey.

Inside, the rooms are thoughtfully furnished with soft linens, local touches and all the essentials you need for a restful stay. The atmosphere is calm and unhurried, giving you space to settle in, enjoy the natural surroundings and adjust to the gentle pace of life in Zimbabwe.

Whether you choose to relax on the veranda, take a stroll through the gardens or enjoy a quiet moment with a cool drink, the lodge provides a tranquil base to rest after your travels before your safari adventure begins.

Activities

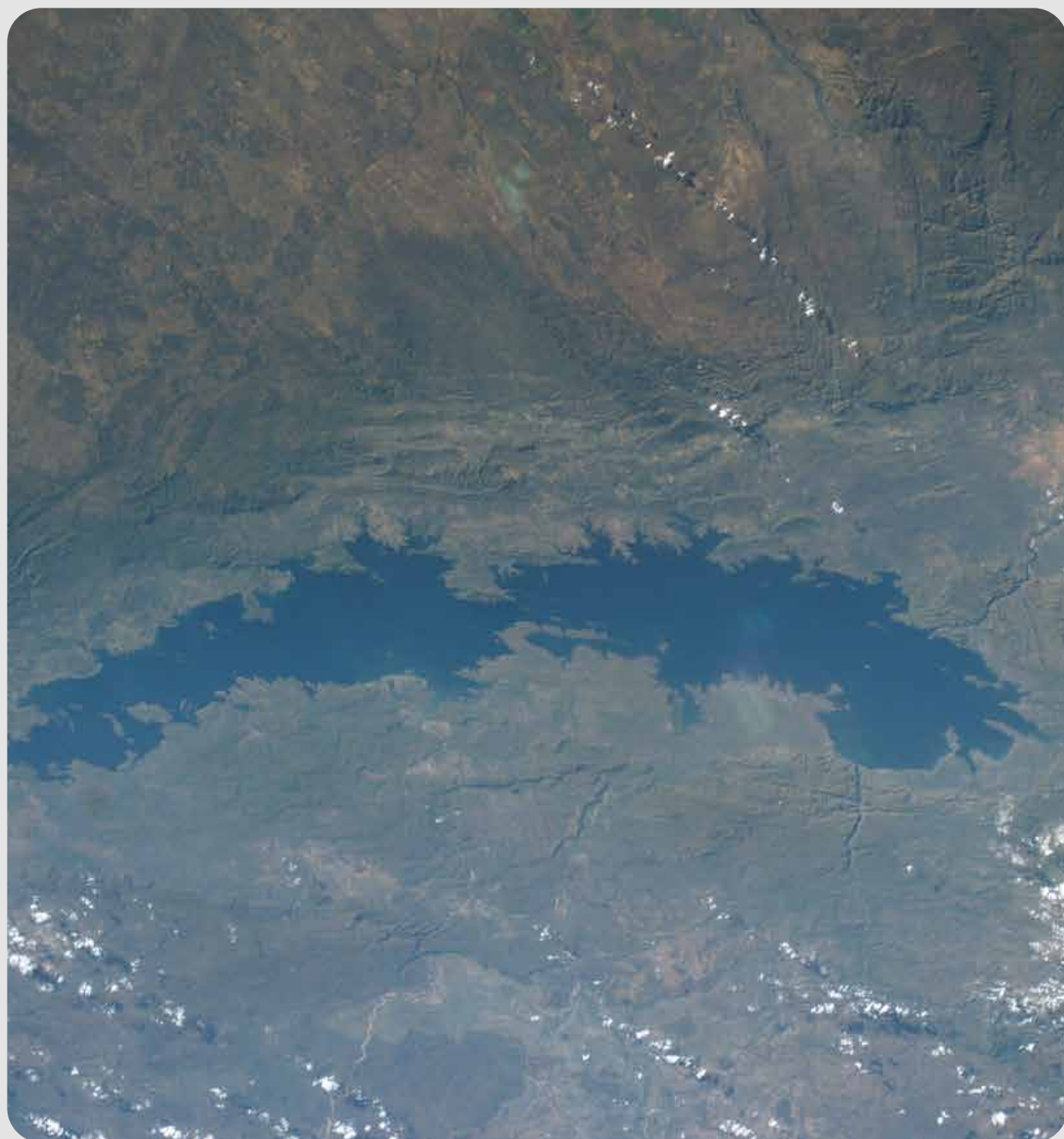
Harare City Exploration (Optional)

- A relaxed introduction to the capital where you can visit colourful craft markets, admire local art at the National Gallery or stroll through quiet city parks lined with jacaranda and msasa trees. This outing offers insight into the creativity, culture and everyday rhythm of Zimbabwe's capital.



KARIBA

Kariba is a lakeside town rich in history, set against rugged hills and the deep blue expanse of Lake Kariba. Created by damming the mighty Zambezi River, the region carries stories of engineering triumph and local legend. The warm climate and sweeping lake views create an atmosphere of serenity that welcomes you into Zimbabwe's watery wilderness.



Accommodation

Hornbill Lodge (1 Night)

Located on Mica Point high above the lake, Hornbill Lodge offers panoramic views, lush gardens and personalised service. The elevated position allows you to look out across the vast blue waters of Lake Kariba, creating a sense of space and tranquillity from the moment you arrive. The lodge is surrounded by beautifully maintained gardens filled with vibrant flowers, shaded pathways and quiet corners where you can pause and take in the scenery.

Inside, the rooms are bright, comfortable and designed to blend seamlessly with the natural environment. Large windows draw in soft light and frame the sweeping views outside, while thoughtful touches in the décor create a warm inviting atmosphere.

Activities

Kariba Town and Dam Tour

- A guided tour that introduces you to the history, culture and landmarks of this unique lakeside town. You will visit the Kariba Dam Wall where the immense power of the river and scale of the construction are immediately striking. At Observation Point sweeping views stretch across Lake Kariba offering unforgettable photo opportunities. The tour continues to St. Barbara's Church built in remembrance of the workers who lost their lives during dam construction. You will end with a visit to the curio market where local artisans craft carvings, textiles and traditional artwork.



LAKE KARIBA - HOUSEBOAT EXPERIENCE

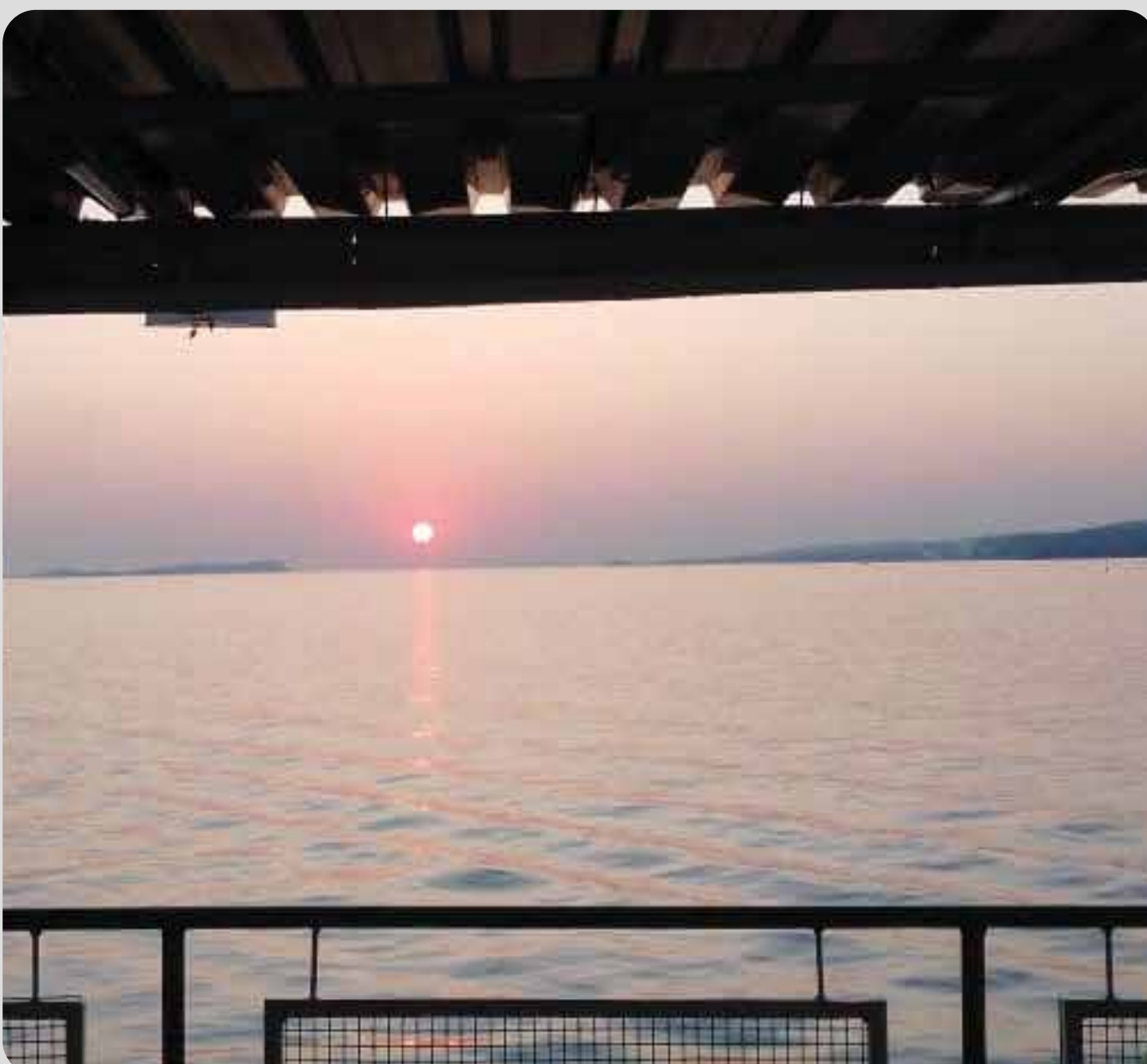
The Lake Kariba houseboat journey is a signature Zimbabwe experience. Days unfold gently as you drift across calm water framed by distant mountains. The atmosphere is peaceful and unhurried, with wildlife, river breezes and vibrant sunsets creating moments of pure relaxation.



Accommodation

Karabezi Houseboat (3 Nights)

A stylish, intimate vessel with five cabins, a spacious lounge, panoramic dining areas and a breezy upper deck ideal for viewing the lake. A jacuzzi offers refreshing midday relaxation while tender boats allow exploration of nearby inlets islands and wildlife filled shorelines. Freshly prepared meals and scenic anchor points complete the experience.



Activities

Sunrise and Sunset Cruises

- Drift along the lake in the soft glow of early morning or golden late afternoon light. These cruises highlight Kariba's beauty as hippos surface quietly, elephants drink along the banks and fish eagles call from treetops. The stillness and changing colours make these cruises some of the most memorable moments on the lake.

Fishing on Lake Kariba

- Lake Kariba is known for exciting tigerfish and peaceful bream fishing. Tender boats take you to prime fishing spots where your guide will assist with equipment. You will enjoy the gentle rhythm of the lake, the anticipation of a catch and the peaceful natural setting.

Game Viewing by Tender Boat

- Small boats allow you to approach wildlife quietly along the water's edge. Elephants, buffalo, crocodiles and various antelope frequent these areas. Birdlife is abundant with herons, kingfishers and fish eagles patrolling the shores. This intimate perspective provides excellent photography and a deep connection with the wild.

Beach Barbecue

- Your crew will anchor at a remote sandy beach for a relaxed outdoor meal cooked over open flames. You can explore the shoreline, enjoy shade under trees or simply soak in the peace of the lake. Shared meals in such a pristine natural setting often become favourite memories.

MANA POOLS

Mana Pools National Park is one of Africa's wildest and most beautiful parks. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the area is known for its wide floodplains, ancient river channels, albedo forests and rich wildlife. The Zambezi River creates a lush corridor filled with elephants, hippos, predators and extraordinary birdlife. Mana Pools is renowned for its walking safaris, relaxed elephants and sense of untouched wilderness.

Accommodation

Mana Pools Safari Lodge (2 Nights)

Situated along the Zambezi River, this lodge blends into the landscape and offers uninterrupted views of the river, floodplains and wildlife. Spacious rooms open onto natural surroundings creating an atmosphere of total immersion in the wilderness.

Activities

Game Drives

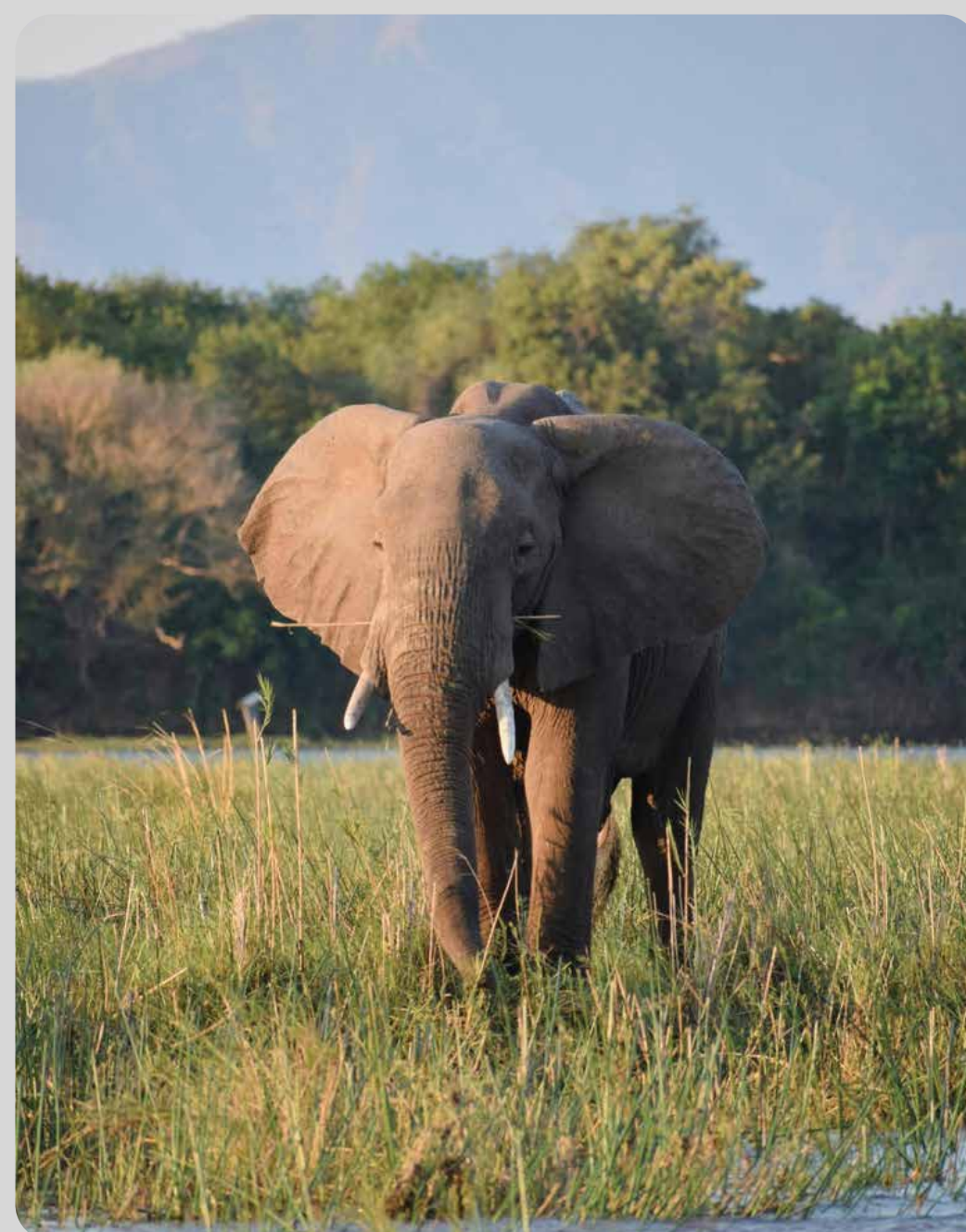
- Guided drives through Mana Pools reveal constantly changing scenery from open floodplains to dense riverine forests. Elephants often wander close, lions and wild dogs may be seen on patrol. Your guide will interpret tracks behaviour and natural features that bring the landscape to life.

River Safari on the Zambezi

- A river safari offers one of the most peaceful and awe-inspiring ways to explore Mana Pools. As you drift along the river hippos surface with gentle snorts, crocodiles warm themselves on sandbanks and elephants wade into the water to feed.

Birdwatching

- Mana Pools is a paradise for bird lovers. Colourful bee eaters, herons, fish eagles and other woodland and waterbird species thrive here. Whether you are a seasoned birder or new to the hobby, you will be captivated by the abundance and variety of birdlife.



SHANGANI

Shangani is a quiet rural region shaped by sweeping savanna granite kopjes and pockets of woodland. It offers peaceful landscapes, ancient archaeological sites and slow paced natural beauty. The area provides a refreshing contrast to the river and floodplain environments encountered earlier in the journey.

Accommodation

Jabulani Safaris (1 Night)

A charming lodge set among granite outcrops and natural savanna. The surroundings are rich in birdlife and game and walking routes. Shady areas under msasa trees, verandas with gentle breezes and scenic viewpoints create a peaceful environment.

Activities

Scenic Bush Walks

- Walk through landscapes dotted with granite boulders and shaded by woodlands while your guide explains plant life geology and signs of wildlife. The quiet natural surroundings and ancient rock formations make this a relaxing and insightful activity.

Birdwatching

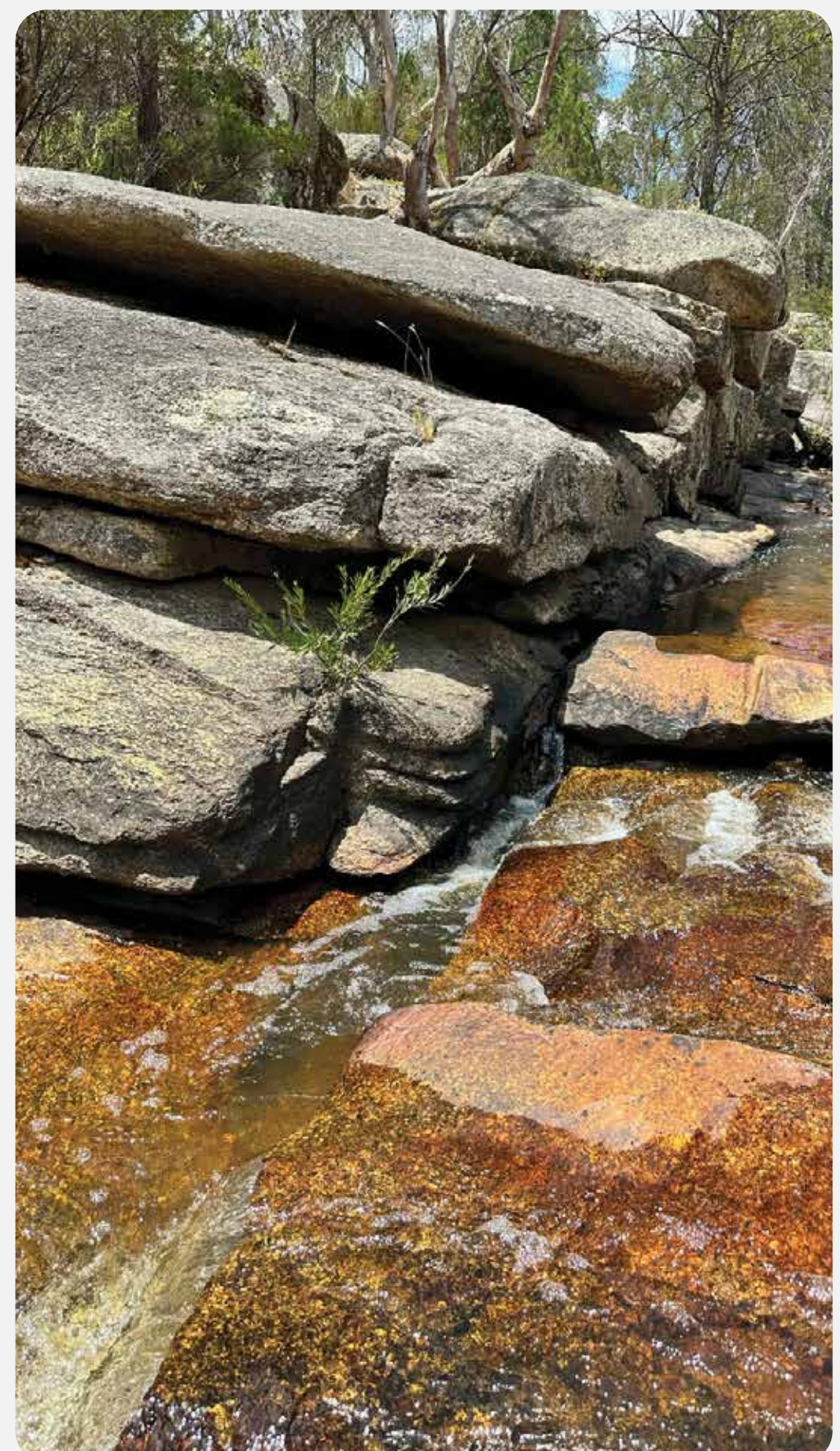
- Shangani offers excellent birding opportunities due to its varied habitats. Colourful woodland species, raptors and waterbirds can be spotted while walking or relaxing.

Visit to Historical Ruins (Optional)

- The region is home to ruins such as Nalatale and Dhlo Dhlo which feature ancient stonework terraces and remnants of early civilizations. Exploring these sites provides historical context and a deeper appreciation for Zimbabwe's cultural heritage.

Mermaids Pool Visit (Seasonal and optional)

- A unique natural waterslide created by smooth granite and flowing water. This picturesque spot is ideal for a refreshing break on warm days.



HWANGE NATIONAL PARK

Hwange is Zimbabwe's largest national park and one of Africa's premier wildlife destinations. The park supports massive elephant herds, predators such as lions, leopards and wild dogs and a huge variety of antelope and bird species. Landscapes range from teak forests to wide open plains creating exceptional game viewing year-round.



Accommodation

Robins Camp (2 Nights)

Located in a remote region of the park, Robins Camp offers comfortable chalets surrounded by wilderness. The area is known for its birdlife, large buffalo herds, raptors and panoramic views over open plains and woodlands.



Activities

Game Drives

- Explore diverse habitats from grasslands to forests, where elephants gather in large numbers and predators roam in search of prey. Every drive brings new surprises - whether it is a pride of lions resting under trees or giraffes browsing peacefully.

Waterhole Viewing

- Hwange's pumped waterholes attract incredible numbers of animals, especially during dry months. Watching elephants interact, buffalo drink cautiously or birds gather along the edges offers insight into the dynamic life of the ecosystem.

Sundowners in the Bush

- Enjoy refreshments in a scenic location as the sky shifts into deep orange and purple hues. This peaceful moment celebrates the beauty of the African sunset and offers time to reflect on the day's sightings.

VICTORIA FALLS

Victoria Falls is one of the world's most dramatic natural wonders. Known as Mosi oa Tunya, meaning 'The Smoke that Thunders', it features a massive curtain of water plunging into a deep gorge, creating clouds of mist, vibrant rainbows and a roaring sound that can be felt as much as heard. The surrounding rainforest and lively tourism town make this a perfect finale to your journey.



Accommodation

Victoria Falls Rainbow Hotel (1 Night)

Located close to the centre of town and within easy reach of the falls, this hotel offers comfort, convenience and a rooftop deck that provides views of the falls spray, the river and surrounding landscapes.



Optional Activities

Guided Tour of Victoria Falls

- A breathtaking visit along rainforest paths leading to multiple viewpoints of the falls. You will feel the cool spray, hear the thunderous roar and learn about geology, local legends and the discovery of the falls. Each viewpoint reveals a different perspective of the gorge and the magnitude of the water.

Town Exploration and Cultural Experiences

- Explore local craft markets, art galleries and cultural centres where you can meet artisans and learn about Zimbabwean traditions. Victoria Falls town is lively, colourful and welcoming.

Sunset Cruise on the Zambezi River

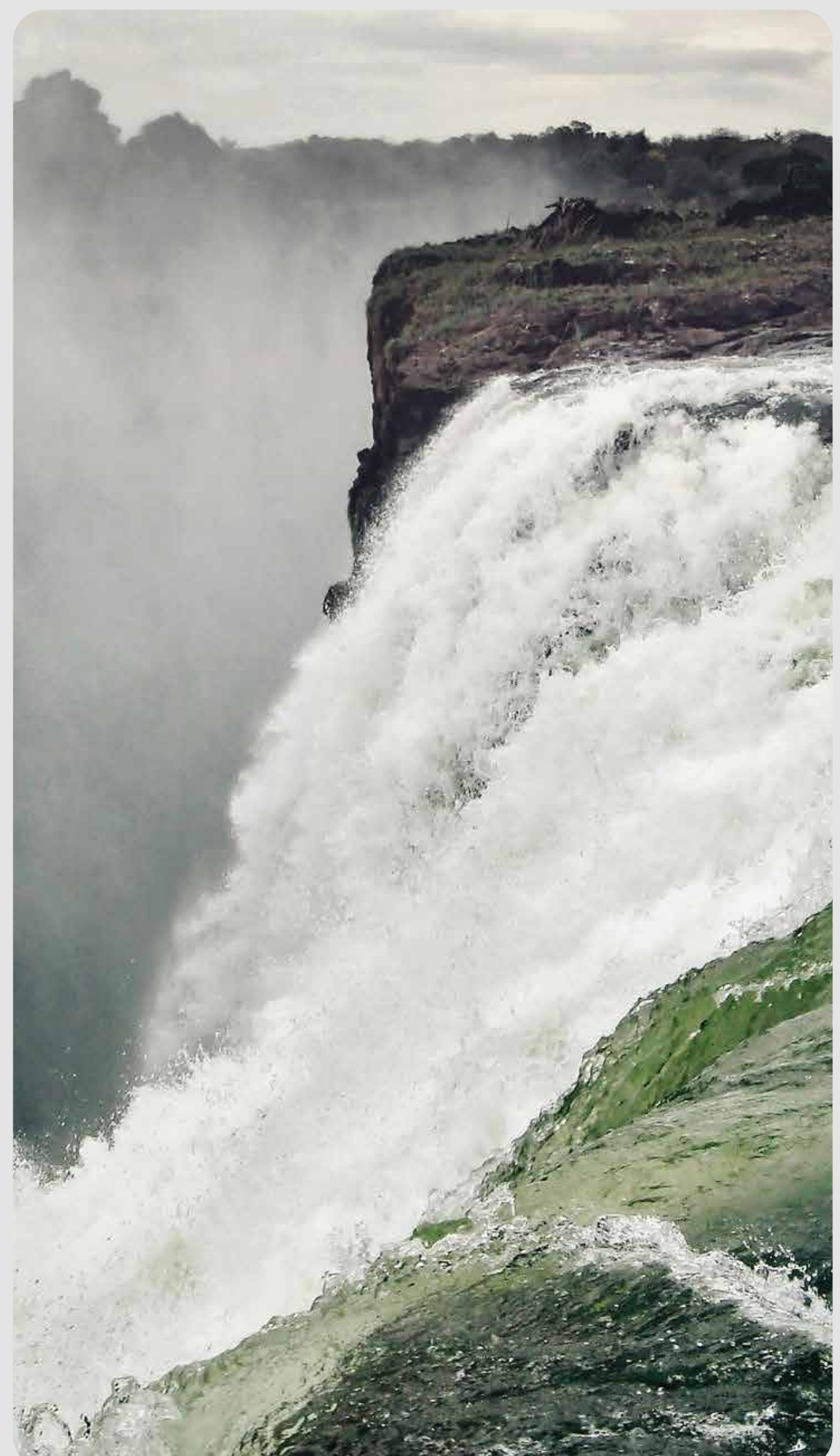
- Drift along the calm upper Zambezi while watching hippos, elephants and birdlife as the sun sets.

Flight of Angels Helicopter Ride

- An unforgettable aerial view of the falls and the surrounding gorge system.

White Water Rafting (seasonal)

- One of the world's most exhilarating rafting routes with powerful rapids and dramatic canyon scenery.



SPECIAL MEMORIES ARE MADE ON TOUR
WITH US IN ZIMBABWE

