

# May 2017

## A great African Air Safari Adventure

### Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe

### Returning via Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya

#### Itinerary and lodges:

16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> May: [Campi ya Kanzi](#), Kenya  
20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May: [Dunia Camp](#), in the heart of the Serengeti, for the Great Migration  
22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May: [Shiwa Ngandu](#), Zambia  
24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May: [Royal Chundu](#), Zambia  
26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May: [Abu's camp](#), Okavango Delta, Botswana  
28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May: [Linkwasha camp](#), Hwange, Zimbabwe  
30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May: [Singita Pamushana](#), Zimbabwe  
Returning leg  
1<sup>st</sup> June: [Makokola Retreat](#), Malawi  
2<sup>nd</sup> June: [Mwagusi](#), , Tanzania

#### **About the flying:**

We will scenic fly over the most beautiful areas of Africa... the Rift Valley and the Great Migration, in Kenya and Tanzania, the greenery of Zambia, the majestic Zambezi and Victoria Falls, the Okavango Delta, the wilderness of Zimbabwe.

On our way back to Kenya we will follow the Rift Valley and fly to Lake Malawi, Ruaha, Kilimanjaro and Nairobi. And you will fly in luxury and comfort, with a Cessna Grand Caravan, with 8 business class seats. Fasten your seat belts and read below how our air adventure will unfold.



#### **About the trip:**

We start in Nairobi on 16<sup>th</sup> May, flying to Campi ya Kanzi, in the Chyulu Hills.

On 20<sup>th</sup> we will fly to Kilimanjaro Airport and then Seronera, in the Serengeti, for the Great Migration.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> we will cross Tanzania and fly to beautiful Shiwa Ng'andu, full of history (Zambia constitution was written there). On 24<sup>th</sup> we reach Victoria Falls, staying at charming Royal Chundu on the Zambezi river.

On 26<sup>th</sup> we follow the Zambezi river, enter Botswana and fly to the Okavango Delta, staying at renown Abu's camp. On 28<sup>th</sup> we move to Zimbabwe, in the stunning Hwange National Park.

On 30<sup>th</sup> May we fly over Zimbabwe, reaching its Southern tip and staying at magnificent Singita Pamushana.

On 1<sup>st</sup> June some of our guests will fly with a scheduled flight to Johannesburg, in the afternoon. Some of us will leave early in the morning and fly to Mokokola, on the Southern end of Lake Malawi. On 2<sup>nd</sup> we will fly over the whole lake and enter Tanzania, reaching the Ruaha National Park. On 3<sup>rd</sup> we will fly to Nairobi, via Kilimanjaro Airport.



### 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May: Campi ya Kanzi

Plan to arrive in Nairobi on either the 15<sup>th</sup> evening or the early morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>. We will fly you to Campi ya Kanzi on 16<sup>th</sup> morning.

Luca & Antonella have created this boutique lodge in partnership with the Maasai, in 1996.

While at Kanzi we will have a chance to review the itinerary and enjoy sundowners in front of Mt. Kilimanjaro. You will be able to have diverse safari activities (walk the Chyulu Hills, go on game drives, horse-back ride, visit the Maasai village, visit Tsavo National Park) or simply chill out at our wellness center.





## 20<sup>th</sup> May: Rift Valley flight into the Great Migration

Our day will start by flying to Nairobi Wilson to clear Kenya immigration. We will follow the Rift Valley and fly into Kilimanjaro Airport, to enter Tanzania. From there we will have a magnificent scenic flight, over the Ngorongoro Crater and into the Serengeti.

We will land at Seronera airstrip and, with a great game drive of about one hour, we will reach Asilia (authentic in Kiswahili) camp, Dunia.

Pitched on a major wildebeest migration corridor in the Central Serengeti, Dunia Camp offers easy access to the scenic Moru Kopjes and superb sightings of the big cats, leopard and rhino that roam the forests on the fringes of the Seronera River.

Camp is simple and semi mobile. Here you will enjoy luxurious simplicity. There are eight tranquil and spacious tented suites. Each tent has a king-sized bed, en-suite bathroom with hot-water safari bucket shower and flushing toilet.

We will spend two days enjoying one of the most spectacular wildlife shows on Earth.



## 22<sup>nd</sup> May: From the Great Migration to Livingstone footsteps in Zambia

An early morning game drive will take us to Seronera, from where we will fly into Zambia.

We will reach Shiwa Ng'andu (Royal Crocodile), a beautiful and charming manor with infinite history.

This is without a doubt one of the most fascinating and unique destinations in Zambia.



Shiwa is located in the northernmost part of Zambia amongst the rolling granite hills that form the tail end of the Great Rift Valley, an area of unsurpassed natural beauty, the "Real Africa".

At Shiwa, an intricate and mesmerizing African history - both Ancient and Colonial - delights and intrigues guests to the estate. The estate combines this rich and varied history with a world class private game reserve that is home to over thirty species of wildlife and over two-hundred species of birds. The wildlife reserve covers an area of twenty-two thousand acres of breathtaking terrain and boasts a large natural lake at its center, one of the largest privately owned bodies of water in Africa.

Relaxed morning drives, horse-riding through the hills, fascinating historical tours and indescribable afternoon sundowners looking across the lake, make the Shiwa Ng'andu Estate an unmissable destination when travelling to Zambia.

The relaxed atmosphere and truly warm Zambian hospitality of all at the Shiwa Ng'andu Estate ensures that every guest feels truly at home and very much a part of the estate's incredible history and culture.

My two favorites? Their amazing ice-cream, and the 1927 entry in the airstrip logbook, by a certain Dennis Finch-Hatton...



## 24<sup>th</sup> May: Royal Chundu, Zambezi River, Zambia

On the 24<sup>th</sup> morning we will fly over Zambia. An amazing scenic flight over the Luangwa valley and over Victoria Falls.

Royal Chundu is a sanctum of quiet solitude and untouched beauty and the first Relais & Châteaux property in Zambia. The mighty Zambezi and the Victoria falls are one of the most amazing water shows on Earth. A heli flight over the falls is certainly recommended, as well as a peaceful sundowner boat ride. If you feel adventurous bungee jumping at the falls is also available.







## 26<sup>th</sup> May: From the Zambezi to the Okavango Delta

Today we will fly from the Zambezi to another famous body of water, the Okavango Delta.

We are going to stay at one of the most celebrated camps, Abu's.

Created by Randall Moore in the 90's, after Kenya did not allow him to offer elephant back safari, the camp was later bought by Paul Allen. We will spend two nights in this charming camp.

At Abu Camp, you are invited to immerse yourself in the majestic world of the African elephant and to see the African bush and its wildlife through the eyes of the elephants – by joining the Abu herd (no riding offered). You will form a strong emotional bond with the herd that is both humbling and inspiring and at the same time, gain an understanding of elephant conservation – the premise on which Abu Camp is based.



Named after a very special bull elephant, Abu Camp is set in a pristine copse of riverine forest and blends in seamlessly with the magnificent surrounding hardwood trees. Looking out over a large lagoon, an imaginative use of canvas has created a unique and luxurious style of tent. Each of the six en-suite tents has its own distinctive furnishings and fittings, imparting an air of opulence in the bush, and featuring an indoor and outdoor shower, an outdoor copper bath and a plunge pool sunk into the elevated teak deck.

Morning and afternoon game drives are offered in open safari vehicles. These drives showcase the abundance of wildlife in the varying habitats which range from open grasslands to secluded island sanctuaries and papyrus-fringed channels.

Mokoro (canoe) excursions offer a taste of the “postcard” Okavango – at Abu however offers mokoro moments with a difference – alongside elephants splashing through the water! The traditional dugout canoes



are navigated by a skilled poler and offer guests a tranquil and romantic perspective of the region as well as the chance to witness the elephants' delight at being together in the water.



### **28<sup>th</sup> May: from Botswana to Zimbabwe, Linkwasha camp, Hwange National Park**

A beautiful flight will take us to Linkwasha Camp, which lies in a private concession in the enormously productive south-eastern corner of Hwange National Park.

Situated on the doorstep of the famed Ngamo Plains, which offers great game viewing, the camp's excellent location stands sentry over a magnificent plain and a pan that is a magnet for game year round.

The fresh, open and airy design of Linkwasha Camp is complemented by an eclectic mix of contemporary interiors with the original spirit and essence of safari. Eight en-suite luxury tents and one family tent look out over the surrounding plain, while the main area – including various multi-level decks, a pool area and a winter lounge complete with library – gazes over the abundant waterhole.



At 1.4 million hectares (3.4 million acres), Hwange National Park is the largest game reserve in Zimbabwe with varied habitats and vegetation types – meaning that game drives, in open 4X4 vehicles, are exciting with always something new to be seen.



Hwange was proclaimed some 80 years ago and has served as a haven for one of the densest concentrations of game in Africa. There is no better way to experience this park than on foot with one of the camp's experienced safari guides.

The Hwange 'night act' includes nocturnal species such as lesser bushbaby, spotted hyaena, leopard, lion, Selous mongoose, pangolin, caracal, porcupine, scrub hare, springhare and even honey badger.

We will spend two nights into this lovely camp.

### **30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May: Singita Pamushana, Zimbabwe**

A very scenic flight over vast wilderness and diverse landscapes will take us from Hwange to the most Southern end of Zimbabwe.

Singita Pamushana Lodge is the ecotourism arm of the 130,000 acre Malilangwe Reserve, and its role is to help foster the sustainability of the wildlife and broader ecology, while enabling guests to share the magic of the lodge and the Reserve.

This is definitively one of the best lodges in Africa, nestled on top of a hill and perfectly merged in the beautiful surroundings. We will spend two nights in this stunning lodge.

We will see elephants, white and black rhinos, either on foot or on game drive. Good chances to see even wild dogs.

Walking safaris are an incredible way to experience the bush up close and personal. An expert guide will accompany you as you track animals on foot through the wilderness and explore the magnificent plants and landscapes around you.



### **1<sup>st</sup> June, departing day...**

Well, this will be our farewell day. At least for some of us.

Some will leave to Johannesburg, with a scheduled flight leaving at 15:00 and arriving at 16:45.

For the lucky ones staying on board with us, we will fly to Lake Malawi, staying at Mokokola Retreat.

Nicely the airstrip is just next to the lodge: you will get off the airplane and just walk to your villa on the lake!

Brilliantly green gardens reveal spacious beach villas and rooms perched along the shores of Southern Lake Malawi. Mokokola provides gracious service in an unmatched experience in Malawi. This showpiece property captures the essence of African design, culture and tradition. A convenient one night stop on our way back to Kenya.



### **2<sup>nd</sup> June, flying up the Rift Valley to Ruaha National Park**

Today's flight will take us to another incredibly beautiful landscape, Ruaha, Tanzania's largest National park, after having flown over the entire Lake Malawi.

Situated in the southern circuit of Tanzania, Mwagusi Camp is an expression of the unwavering love and passion of its owner Chris Fox for the Tanzanian bush, its wildlife and its people. The camp is built from organic natural materials with guests being treated to a unique tented safari experience. Each en-suite tent is comfortably secured under a cooling thatched roof and nestled snugly into the sandy banks of the Mwagusi River. Elephants are often visiting the camp. We should arrive in time for an afternoon game drive.



### **3<sup>rd</sup> June, Ruaha to Nairobi**

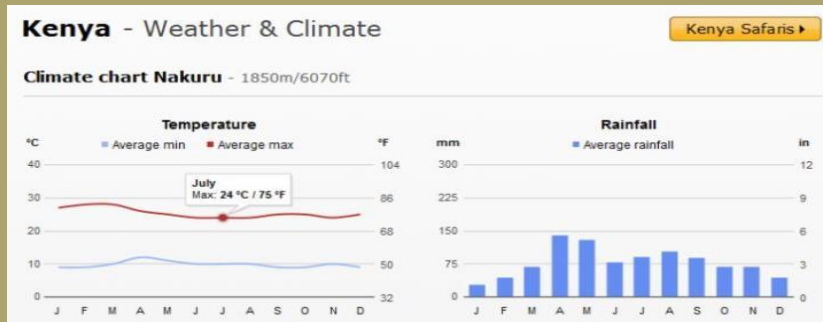
It is our last day... We will leave early in the morning, fly over wild Tanzania and reach Kilimanjaro Airport and then to Nairobi, where we shall arrive in the early afternoon.

It will be time to bid farewell, until the next adventure!



## More about Kenya

Straddling the Equator, and stretching from the Indian Ocean's coral reefs and white-sand beaches to the colossal spread of the Great Rift Valley and beyond, Kenya is a country of huge variety and exceptional natural beauty. The country's lush grasslands, riverine forests, high plains and moorlands, mountain slopes and semi-deserts provide an amazing range of habitats for the full panoply of East African wildlife, and an equally wide choice of options for Kenya holidays. 'Safari' was a concept invented here – the word means journey in Swahili. Within the borders of a single country you can find the most diverse landscapes, timeless cultures unchanged by the modern world, pristine beaches and coral reef, equatorial forests and mighty snow-capped mountains, searing deserts and cool highland retreats and endless opportunities for adventure, discovery, relaxation; more than you would ever expect.



## About Campi ya Kanzi

Campi ya Kanzi is an award-winning boutique eco-lodge that sets a new standard in exceptional luxury in a real, ecologically low-impact way. Working in partnership with the Maasai community of Kuku Group Ranch, the founders have set out to prove that you can enjoy the romance of a great old-world safari, the comfort and service of a top hotel and the fine dining of an Italian palazzo – and all without damaging the very environment you've come to immerse yourself in. With wildlife roaming in abundance, massive outcrops of granite rising above the rivers, lava flows cutting across the plains and a deep and mysterious cloud forest on the crest of the emerald hills, this is truly one of the world's greatest wildernesses.

## More about Tanzania

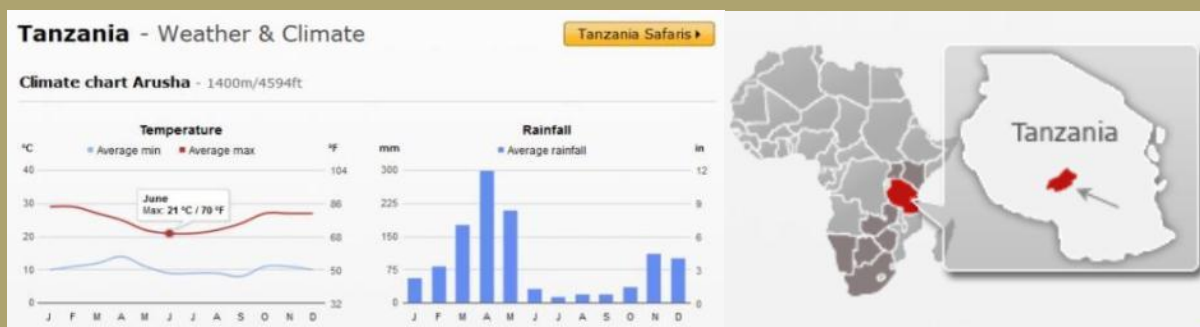
Tanzania boasts the most impressive National Parks and game reserves in all of Africa. The plains and savannahs of Serengeti National Park are considered "the" spot on the continent to see wildlife up close. Nearby, the Ngorongoro crater teems with wildebeest, gazelle, zebra, lions, leopards, cheetahs and even the elusive white rhino. Not to be forgotten, the Selous Game Reserve is larger than Switzerland. A mountain that needs no introduction is Mt Kilimanjaro, snow-capped and standing as Africa's tallest mountain at 5,895m (19,341ft). Open for climbing to those with energy and time on their hands, the week-long ascent is one of Africa's most challenging achievements.

Tanzania is home to over 120 different ethnic groups and takes pride in its multicultural heritage. The tall, red-robed Maasai are the best known of Tanzania's people. Tanzania's coastline, known as the Swahili Coast, was a stop on ancient trading routes between the Indian sub-continent and the Middle-East. Spices, jewels and slaves once passed through, bringing with them a mélange of cultural riches that remain today. The language of Swahili was born here, and old mosques, coral palaces and pearly-white beaches still remain.



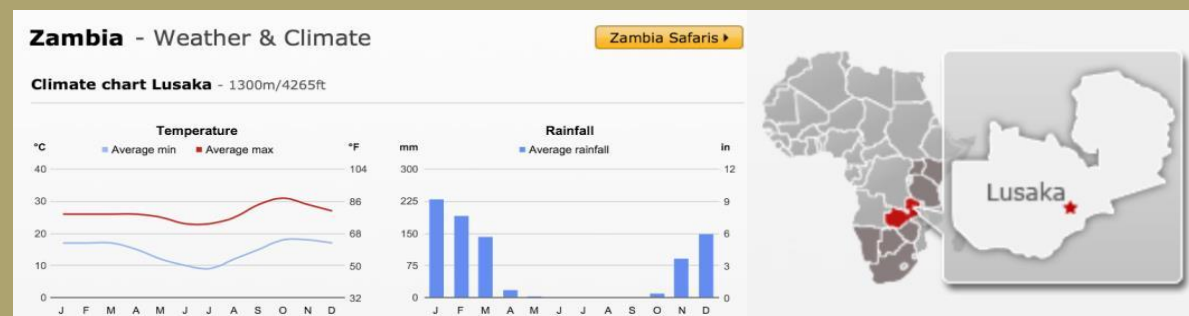
## More about the Serengeti

Largest of Tanzania's national parks, and arguably Africa's premier game park, the Serengeti is the setting for the most awesome wildlife spectacle on earth. Each year, more than two million wildebeest and zebra begin their great circular migration across the open plains and acacia woodlands. Huge columns of advancing zebras and ungainly wildebeest stretch as far as the eye can see with the predators following alongside. Serengeti means "endless plains" in the Maasai language. The extensive grasslands are interspersed with "kopjes", islands of rocky outcrops which are home to their own wildlife communities which include cheetah, leopard, and hyrax, to name a few. The Serengeti leaves the visitor with images of vastness and breathtaking beauty. The most popular time to visit the Serengeti is during January through May when you will find 1.5 million wildebeest and one-quarter of a million zebra in the park. This herd which stretches as far as the eye can see moves north until it reaches Kenya's Maasai Mara sometime in June or early August.



## More about Zambia

Zambia is situated mainly on a vast plateau 1.8 miles above sea level, and boasts the Zambezi, Kafue and Luangwa rivers - as well as one of the largest waterfalls in the world, the Victoria Falls, which it shares with neighboring Zimbabwe. Most of the country has a mild, pleasant climate, while the river valleys are hotter and more humid; the extreme north becomes tropical on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, one of Zambia's ten large lakes. While Lusaka is the country's capital, Livingstone, just 6 miles from the Falls, is more well known to travelers as the 'adventure capital' offering adrenalin-packed activities on and around the Falls and the Zambezi River. Zambia offers impressive wildlife diversity as well as large concentrations and numbers, and some of the wildest and most remote game areas on the continent. Endemic subspecies of giraffe and wildebeest are found in the Luangwa, while enormous herds of black lechwe inhabit the floodplains of the Bangweulu. Birdlife is particularly prolific, with 740 bird species found here, including many specials; it is the southernmost extreme of the bizarre-looking African Shoebill's range for example and one of the best places to see this sought-after species. It was in Zambia that the concept of walking safaris originated as the best way of enjoying the rich flora and fauna of the country's 19 national parks. Add to this numerous adrenalin activities on the Zambezi River, such as river rafting, bungee jumping, abseiling and canoeing, and Zambia qualifies as an all-round excellent travel destination. Here one can catch some of the biggest tiger fish in Africa within sight of a large elephant herd on the Lower Zambezi and fly over the mighty Victoria Falls.

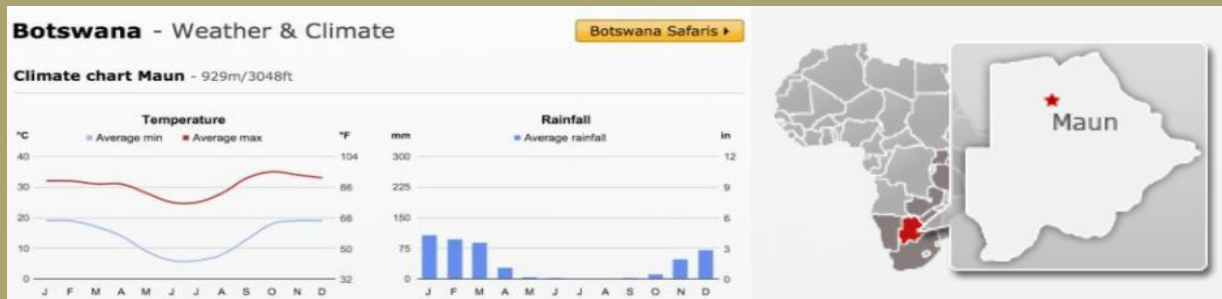


## More about Botswana

With an area of almost 373 000 square miles, Botswana is virtually the same size as France or Texas. Situated in the center of southern Africa, it is a landlocked country, with Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe as its immediate neighbors. Botswana lies an average of 3,000 feet above sea level and is more than 372 miles from the nearest coast.



The Tropic of Capricorn bisects Botswana. The most striking features of the country are its flatness and aridity. With the exception of the eastern part of Botswana where the great majority of Batswana live and where the summer rainfall is slightly higher, three-quarters of Botswana is technically a desert. This is what makes the Okavango Delta even more remarkable. It is a wonderful wetland within a desert, getting its waters from rain falling in central Africa, 621 miles away. On the wildlife front Ian Seretse is one of the country's unsung conservation heroes (and currently its president). When he became head of the military, he positioned his troops to secure Botswana's borders from poachers. The game concentrations within the country multiplied overnight. Many people owe their jobs and careers to his actions. The country abandoned mass tourism and focused on high quality / low volume tourism as the best way to create a sustainable industry that would employ a large percentage of its people, while still preserving the environment. Today wildlife and tourism employs about 45% of all the people who live in northern Botswana.



## More about Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is a land-locked country blessed with fertile soils, mineral wealth and wonderful scenery. Destinations like Victoria Falls, Hwange National Park and Mana Pools are world-renowned and the country is blessed with diverse habitats, from the granite hills of the Matopos to the majestic mountains, lush forests and beautiful rivers of the Eastern Highlands. As such, there is much to attract the traveler, from wildlife viewing and adrenalin adventures to delving into the history of the Zimbabwean people going back thousands of years. The Zambezi has an exceptional variety of spectacular scenery as well as one of the world's natural wonders: the Victoria Falls. The National Parks along the Zambezi are legendary; Mana Pools, located on the floodplains of Africa's Great Rift Valley, offers superb wildlife viewing. Along the Botswana border the easternmost tongues of the Kalahari sands creep into the country and mix with the teak forests of the interior, so that desert-adapted animals share the same habitat with woodland species. Great Zimbabwe is a ruined city that was once the capital of the iron-age Kingdom of Zimbabwe. The kingdom was at its peak between 1100 and 1400, so subsequent to that of Mapungubwe to the south. The ruins are the largest of around 200 such Zimbabwe's most of which feature monumental mortar less walls.

The Great Enclosure has walls 11 meters high and 250 meters long, making it the largest ancient structure south of the Sahara. Artifacts found at the site indicate extensive trade links with Kilwa on the coast of Tanzania and onward to Arabia, India and China. It is thought that up to 1000kg of gold may have been mined during the height of the civilization. Primarily of the Bantu group of south and central Africa, the black Zimbabweans are divided into two major language groups, which are subdivided into several ethnic groups. The Mashona (Shona speakers), who constitute about 75% of the population, have lived in the area the longest and are the majority language group. The Matabele (Sindebele speakers), representing about 20% of the population and centered in the southwest around Bulawayo, arrived within the last 150 years. An offshoot of the South African Zulu group, they maintained control over the Mashona until the white occupation of Rhodesia in 1890.





**Suggested reading:**

Africa, by John Reader

The Covenant, by James Michener

The Lost World of the Kalahari by Laurens van der Post

West With The Night, by Beryl Markham