# August 2026

## Symphony of Africa – A Private Air Safari across Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia and the Indian Ocean

Great Migration, Ruaha National Park, Lake Malawi, Mana Pools Lower Zambezi, Victoria Falls, Lake, Fanjove Island on the Indian Ocean

**Dates: 8th – 28th August 2026**

### The Journey

Our adventure will begin with one of the greatest spectacles of nature: the Great Migration in the Masai Mara Reserve. We will stay in an exclusive camp, immersed among endless herds of wildebeest and zebras, and predators lying in wait: an experience that defines the very essence of wild Africa.
From Kenya we will fly south, landing at Ruaha National Park in southern Tanzania, a place where the ecosystems of East and Southern Africa meet. We will stay at Jabali Ridge, an elegant camp set among rocky outcrops, perfect for exploring this remote and majestic park.
We will leave Ruaha's savannas to soar above the crystalline waters of Lake Malawi.
Our stop will be the tropical paradise of Kaya Mawa, a magical lodge lying on a private island: snorkeling, kayaking, diving, or simply relaxing on the white sandy beach.
The journey continues with a spectacular flight over the Zambezi Valley, flying across immense and remote landscapes until we reach Mana Pools in Zimbabwe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will experience an authentic and thrilling safari, on foot or by canoe among elephants, lions, and herds of buffalo.
From the heart of Mana Pools we will cross the border into Zambia, staying at the splendid Royal Chundu on the banks of the mighty Zambezi. Here, boat excursions, sunset cruises, and scenic flights above Victoria Falls await us, to experience Africa in its most majestic expression. After so much adventure, we will return south, finding serenity on the shores of Lake Malawi at Club Makokola. Golf, fishing, water sports, or simple dolce far niente will be our options in this idyllic corner.
Reinvigorated, we will fly above the Tanzanian coast until we reach the enchanting private island of Fanjove, in the Indian Ocean. A dream island, where luxury meets unspoiled nature: deserted beaches, snorkeling among pristine coral reefs, and fiery sunsets that seem to suspend time.
Finally, a spectacular last flight will take us back to Kenya, where we will conclude our journey with three optional nights at Campi ya Kanzi, embraced by the timeless magic of the Chyulu Hills and the regal shadow of Kilimanjaro.

### The Aircraft and the Pilots

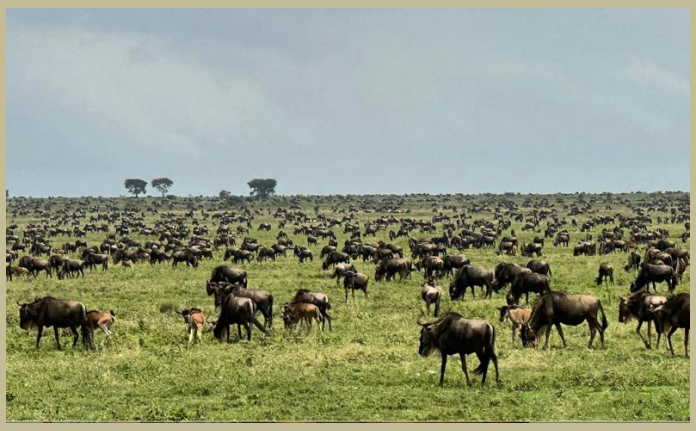
Murtaza (Chief Pilot of Scenic Air) and Luca (Chief Pilot of Luca Safari) are highly experienced pilots, with thousands of hours of flight over Africa and numerous successful air safaris behind them.
They will accompany you aboard a Cessna Grand Caravan, configured with 8 comfortable business class seats. During all flights, refreshments will be available, to ensure comfort and pleasure at every moment of the journey.

## 8 August 2026: Arrival in Nairobi

We recommend arriving in Nairobi the day before the departure of the air safari.
This optional overnight stay is not included in the quotation.

## 9 and 10 August: Great Migration, Maasai Mara, Ngenche Camp

Our journey will begin with a spectacular flight from Nairobi, flying over the magnificent Rift Valley, where the earth opens in deep canyons and hills carved by time.
We will continue the flight above the Great Migration, a living river of millions of wildebeest and zebras moving tirelessly across the vast plains of the Masai Mara — one of the most extraordinary spectacles of nature. We will land in the heart of the Mara, where we will stay for two nights at the exclusive Ngenche Camp, perfectly immersed between winding rivers and ancient acacia forests.
Here we will live unforgettable safari days, surrounded by an incredible density of wildlife: immense herds of wildebeest and zebras and the great predators following them — lions, cheetahs, leopards. Each dawn and each sunset will be an explosion of life, sounds, and colors that will remain imprinted on the soul.



## 11 and 12 August: To the Wild Lands of Ruaha National Park, Tanzania

A magnificent flight over Tanzania will take us to one of the most unique national parks in all of Africa: Ruaha. With more than 20,000 square kilometers, Ruaha is actually the second largest nature reserve in Tanzania, after the Selous. This extraordinary park stretches between granite peaks, gentle wooded hills, and vast open plains. What truly makes a safari in Ruaha special is the deep sense of wilderness: an Africa still intact, far from the beaten tracks. The landscape is extremely scenic, alternating wide valleys, open expanses, and rocky hills with their characteristic rounded tops. The reserve is centered around the Great Ruaha River, which, at the end of the rainy season (May), becomes a true artery of life for the entire region. Ruaha occupies a unique position, at the transition point between East and Southern Africa: its open plains recall those of the Serengeti, its grassy hills dotted with imposing baobabs evoke the great landscapes of the south. We will stay at the refined Jabali Ridge Lodge, designed by internationally renowned architect Nick Plewman.

This elegant camp is set on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Mwagusi River and the Ikuka escarpment. In this landscape of sun-bleached plains, millenary baobabs, and hardy shrubs live numerous prides of lions, elephants, buffalo, and even the rare and fascinating African wild dogs.
Ruaha will offer us total immersion into one of Africa's last great wild frontiers.

## 13 and 14 August: From the Savannas to the Crystal Waters of Lake Malawi

We will leave the wild lands of Ruaha to take flight over boundless landscapes, following the profile of Africa until we reach the shimmering waters of Lake Malawi, the third largest lake in Africa and one of the oldest in the world.
Against the backdrop of golden beaches and turquoise waters, we will land on an enchanted island where time seems suspended: Kaya Mawa.

This dream lodge, immersed in nature, is located on a small rocky island connected to the coast by a sand bar, and was entirely built by hand in collaboration with the local community.
At Kaya Mawa, the rhythm slows down:

- We will snorkel among colorful cichlids, fish unique in the world.
- Explore the lake by kayak or sailing boat.
- Relax on private beaches, where the only sound will be that of the waves.

Every corner of this island tells a story of authenticity and unspoiled beauty. Kaya Mawa is not just a place to stay: it is a refuge for the soul, where luxury is measured in emotions and moments of pure connection with nature.

## 15 and 16 August: From the Waters of the Lake to those of the Zambezi: Mana Pools

From the golden sands of Malawi we will fly to another paradise of water and life: Mana Pools, in the beating heart of the Lower Zambezi.

A place where nature still reigns supreme and every breath seems measured by the eternal rhythm of the river. A safari at Mana Pools offers an unparalleled wilderness experience, celebrated worldwide for its walking safaris — a true sensory immersion in unspoiled nature.
We will have the entire camp to ourselves, on the banks of the Zambezi River, with a private plunge pool for each room.

We will explore intact floodplains, ancient acacia forests, and breathtaking escarpments, where herds of elephants, African wild dogs, buffalo, and antelopes move freely, without barriers or boundaries.
Mana Pools is a sanctuary of wild beauty and pure adventure, a perfect place for those seeking an authentic connection with the deep soul of Africa. Each step will be a return to origins. Each dawn, a new promise.

## 17 and 18 August: Royal Chundu – The Tranquil Kingdom of the Great Zambezi

A magnificent scenic flight above the Zambezi River will bring us to Livingstone, gateway to one of the planet's most iconic natural wonders: Victoria Falls.
From here, we will continue to the splendid Royal Chundu, a refuge of extraordinary beauty and peace, lying on the banks of the great river, in a private 15-kilometer stretch protected by two rapids that preserve the intimacy and magic of the place.

We can visit the majestic Victoria Falls, experiencing up close the overwhelming energy of this natural marvel. For those who wish to push emotion even further, it will be possible to fly over the falls with an exhilarating scenic helicopter flight, gliding above the fury of the water and entering the impressive gorge carved by the river: a breathtaking experience, revealing the most primeval Africa from an absolutely unique perspective. And for the boldest, the thrill of bungee jumping will be an adrenaline option to be lived at the beating heart of this natural spectacle.
Royal Chundu will be our oasis of African elegance, between sunset cruises and dinners under millions of stars.

## 19 and 20 August: Club Makokola, Lake Malawi – The Warm Heart of Africa

After so many intense emotions, our journey will soften as we land in Malawi, nicknamed “The Warm Heart of Africa” for the extraordinary welcome it extends to every traveler.
A small country with a huge heart and a surprising variety of experiences to live.
Our refuge will be Club Makokola, overlooking the splendid shores of Lake Malawi, a true inland sea of sweet, warm waters, lapped by golden beaches that seem stolen from the tropics.

Here time will expand:

- We will swim, snorkel among colorful fish, dive or kayak in tranquil waters.
- Lovers of sailing and water-skiing will find paradise.
- Those who prefer relaxation can simply abandon themselves to dolce far niente under the African sun.

Club Makokola also offers the chance to explore lush tropical gardens, an invitation to rediscover the pleasure of slow rhythms and harmony with nature. It even features a small private golf course!
A perfect moment of pause before resuming the flight towards the enchantment of the Indian Ocean.

## 21, 22, and 23 August: Fanjove Island – The Secret Dream of the Indian Ocean

From Lake Malawi we will take flight towards the endless blue of the Indian Ocean, with another spectacular scenic flight that will bring us to an island out of time: **Fanjove Island**.
Fanjove is a hidden gem, part of a small private archipelago off the southern coast of Tanzania. On this untouched island, luxury is measured in absolute silences, dazzling deserted white beaches, and a starry sky that seems to touch the sea.
We will stay in elegant eco-villas facing the ocean, perfectly integrated into the landscape, to live days of pure enchantment:

- Snorkeling among pristine coral reefs.
- Diving into virgin seabeds, inhabited by turtles, mantas, and a myriad of tropical fish.
- Excursions in *dhows*, the traditional Swahili sailing boats, to sail towards the sunset.
- Solitary walks on the beach, where the only footprints will be our own.

The waters around Fanjove offer one of the most exclusive marine experiences in the world, with untouched dive sites rarely visited by other boats.
It is possible to see mantas, barracudas, dolphins.

Here, far from everything, we will rediscover the slow and ancestral beat of the purest Africa, lulled by the eternal sound of the waves.

## 24 and 25 August: Hemingways's Green Hills of Africa

With a breathtaking flight along the Indian Ocean coast, flying above endless beaches and wind-carved cliffs, we will return to Luca's and Antonella's home: landing among the legendary *Green Hills of Africa*.

Nestled at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, **Campi ya Kanzi** is our Maasai home in the Chyulu Hills, a sanctuary where wilderness, culture, and elegance meet.
For two nights, we will immerse ourselves in this pristine ecosystem, celebrated by Hemingway as the *Green Hills of Africa*.
Here, we will hike through the mystical **cloud forest**, a realm of giant trees, orchids, and rare birds, where every step reveals the hidden secrets of this ancient landscape.
Evenings will be crowned with unforgettable **sundowners at Lookout Hills**, as the sun sets in a blaze of colors behind the Kilimanjaro skyline, the plains of Tsavo stretching endlessly below us.
Campi ya Kanzi is more than a lodge: it is a living bond with the Maasai community, a place where conservation and culture unite to protect one of Africa's last great wildernesses.

## 26 and 27 August: Chyulu Club – Between Tsavo and Amboseli

Just a short game drive away lies **Chyulu Club**, a private oasis set in the heart of a Maasai conservancy. For two nights, we will embrace its blend of contemporary elegance and deep wilderness.
From here, we will set off on two extraordinary full-day excursions:

- To **Tsavo**, Kenya's largest national park, a land of lava flows, red elephants, and immense horizons, where wilderness stretches as far as the eye can see.
- To **Amboseli**, world-famous for its vast herds of elephants roaming beneath the snow-capped crown of Kilimanjaro, offering some of Africa's most iconic wildlife encounters.

Chyulu Club is a retreat of privacy and adventure, where every day brings a new journey, and every night ends under a canopy of stars brighter than anywhere else on earth.

## 28 August: fly back home

We will fly to Nairobi and prepare for the flight home.
In this incredible air safari we will have crossed five African countries, flying above crystal-clear lakes, mighty rivers, endless savannas, silent deserts, and infinite oceans.
We will have encountered an extraordinary variety of wildlife, tribes, cultures, and landscapes that change like in an ancient poem.
It will have been an epic and unrepeatable safari, a journey that will remain etched in our memory and our hearts for the rest of our lives.
A return not only to a place, but to the very essence of Africa that welcomed us, moved us, transformed us.

## Kenya

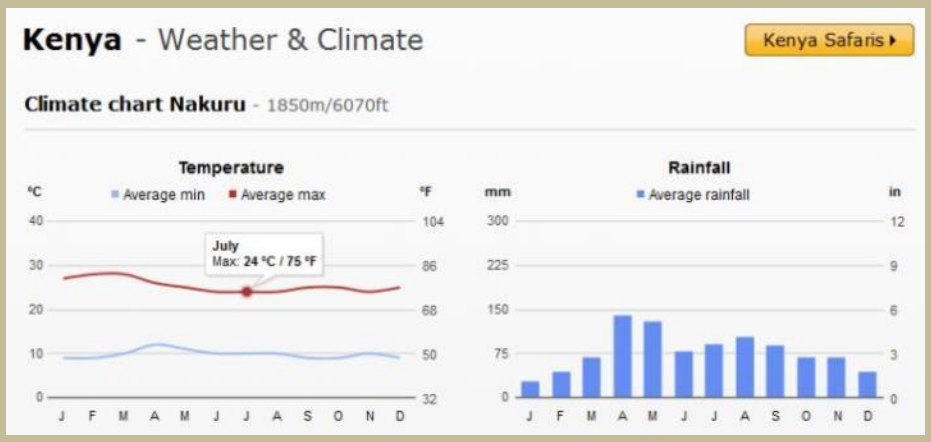
Kenya is the gateway to safari, a land where the rhythm of wildlife and the majesty of landscapes combine to define the essence of Africa. From the golden plains of the Masai Mara to the snow-capped peaks of Mount Kenya, from the arid deserts of the north to the emerald forests of the Chyulu Hills, the country holds a staggering variety of ecosystems within its borders.

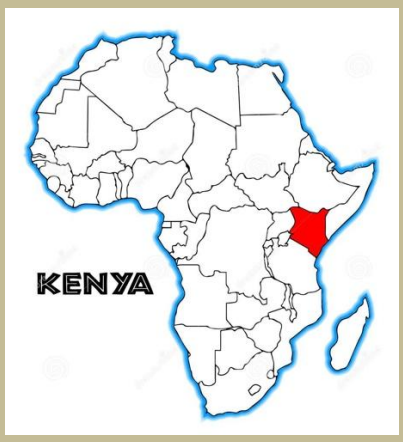
The Rift Valley has revealed some of the earliest traces of humankind, making Kenya not only a land of wildlife, but also of our deepest origins. Over centuries, the Swahili traders of the coast and the proud Maasai warriors of the savannas have added to a rich cultural tapestry that still endures today.

Colonized by Britain at the end of the 19th century, Kenya achieved independence in 1963 under the leadership of Jomo Kenyatta, becoming a symbol of African freedom and resilience. Today, it stands as one of the continent's most vibrant nations, balancing progress with the preservation of ancient traditions.

Its national parks and reserves protect an extraordinary wealth of wildlife: elephants, lions, leopards, and the vast herds of the Great Migration. Along its coastline, white beaches and coral reefs offer a different but equally captivating beauty.

Above all, Kenya is a land of harmony and contrast — where wilderness, culture, and community meet, and where the spirit of Africa welcomes every traveler with open arms.




## Tanzania

It is believed that the origin of modern man lies in the Rift Valley region of East Africa.
In Tanzania, archaeologists have discovered not only fossil remains of hominids but also the oldest known human settlements on the continent.

Around the first millennium A.D., the region was populated by Bantu-speaking communities, migrated from the west and north.
On the coast, the Arabs founded Kilwa around 800 A.D., while the Persians settled in Pemba and Zanzibar.
In the 1200s, from the fusion between Africans, Arabs, and Persians, a new and lasting culture was born: the Swahili civilization.

In 1498, the great explorer Vasco da Gama sailed along this coast, opening the way to Portuguese dominance.
At the beginning of the 1700s, Zanzibar became an important center of the slave trade under the control of the Arabs of Oman.
At the end of the 19th century, the German explorer Carl Peters began the colonial expansion that led to the creation of German East Africa, later transformed, after the First World War, into the British Mandate of Tanganyika.

The struggle for independence culminated in the 1950s under the leadership of Julius Nyerere and the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU).
Tanganyika obtained independence in 1961, followed by Zanzibar in 1963.
On April 26, 1964, the two territories united to form the United Republic of Tanzania.

Under Nyerere's leadership, Tanzania adopted *Ujamaa*, a model of African socialism based on agricultural cooperation, before moving towards multiparty democracy in 1992.

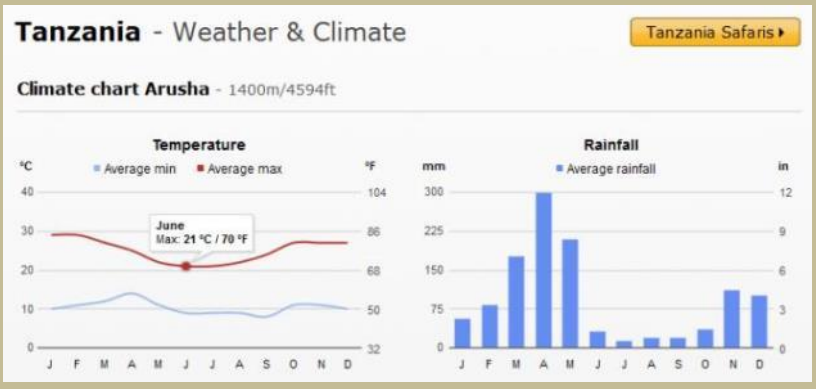
Today, Tanzania hosts some of Africa's most extraordinary natural spectacles.
The endless savannas of the Serengeti offer close encounters with great African wildlife, while the nearby Ngorongoro Crater teems with lions, leopards, elephants, and even the rare black rhino.
The vast Selous Reserve, larger than Switzerland, invites immersion into still primeval nature.

Dominating the horizon is the iconic Mount Kilimanjaro, the continent's highest peak at 5,895 meters. Climbing it, which takes about a week, is one of Africa's most fascinating and memorable challenges.

Tanzania is also a vibrant cultural mosaic, with more than 120 ethnic groups, from the Swahili coastal villages to the proud Maasai, guardians of ancient traditions.

Along the Swahili Coast, echoes of ancient trade routes still resound. Spices, jewels, and centuries-old stories passed here, leaving as heritage coral palaces, ancient mosques, and a language, Swahili, that today unites all of East Africa.

Tanzania remains a place where the roots of humanity, the majesty of nature, and cultural richness intertwine in an experience that remains forever engraved in the soul.



## Malawi

The Republic of Malawi, located in southeastern Africa, was formerly known as Nyasaland.
It borders Zambia, Tanzania, and Mozambique, covers about 118,500 km$^2$, and has a population of nearly 14 million.

Initially colonized by Bantu tribes around the 10th century, Malawi has a long and fascinating history.
In 1891 the area was occupied by British colonial powers and in 1953 became part of the Central African Federation, a semi-independence union bringing together Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia). The federation was dissolved in 1963 and Malawi gained independence, adopting its current name in 1964.

Before the Bantu migrations, the area was inhabited by small groups of hunter-gatherers. Around 1500, Bantu populations founded a vast kingdom, but already at the beginning of the following century, trade and alliances with the Portuguese began to alter the local balance. By 1700, the ancient empire had fragmented into independent tribes.

In 1859, British explorer and missionary David Livingstone reached Lake Nyasa (today Lake Malawi) for the first time, finding the former Maravi Empire already collapsed under invasions. This was followed by the establishment of several religious missions and, in 1889, the proclamation of a British protectorate over the Shire Highlands, south of the lake. In 1907 the protectorate was renamed Nyasaland, a name maintained until the end of colonial rule.

In 1944 the Nyasaland African Congress was founded and a few years later the country entered the Central African Federation with Northern and Southern Rhodesia. The federation lasted until 1963; in 1964 Nyasaland officially became independent Malawi.

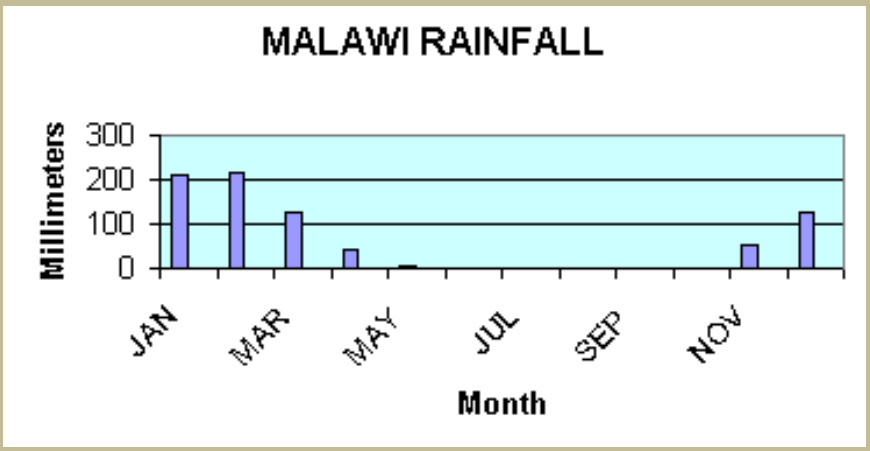
With the new constitution, Malawi was transformed in 1966 into a one-party state under the Malawi Congress Party (MCP). A referendum in 1993 restored the country to multiparty democracy. Later, Joyce Banda became Malawi's first female president, leading a democratic government.

Today, Malawi is considered one of the least developed countries in the world, with an economy largely dependent on agriculture. The government relies heavily on foreign aid, which has declined in the past twelve years, making the challenges of economic expansion, improved health services, and full financial independence even more complex.

In 2014, Lonely Planet included Malawi among the 10 must-see destinations. The great attraction of the country is undoubtedly Lake Malawi: a shimmering blade of crystal-clear water stretching about 500 km along the eastern border, separating it from Mozambique and Tanzania's wild, mountainous coasts. Isolated villages dot the northern shores of the lake, while Liwonde National Park lies in the south, offering unspoiled landscapes and extraordinary sightings.

With more than 500 species of fish inhabiting its waters, Lake Malawi offers ideal conditions for world-class freshwater snorkeling and diving.

The name Malawi derives from the ancient Maravi Empire, founded by the Nyanja people, who still inhabit this land of rare beauty.



## Zambia

Zambia extends largely over a vast plateau at about 1,800 meters above sea level and boasts major rivers such as the Zambezi, Kafue, and Luangwa — as well as one of the world's most spectacular waterfalls: Victoria Falls, shared with neighboring Zimbabwe.

Much of the country enjoys a mild, pleasant climate, while river valleys are hotter and more humid; the far north becomes tropical along the shores of Lake Tanganyika, one of Zambia's ten great lakes.

While Lusaka is the administrative capital, Livingstone, just 10 kilometers from the falls, is famous among travelers as the adventure capital, offering thrilling adrenaline activities on the Zambezi and around the falls themselves.

Zambia offers extraordinary wildlife diversity, both in terms of species and numbers, and is home to some of the wildest and most remote natural areas of the continent. In the Luangwa you find endemic subspecies of giraffes and wildebeest, while enormous herds of black lechwe populate the Bangweulu floodplains.

The birdlife is exceptionally rich, with about 740 recorded species, including many rare ones: Zambia represents, for example, the southernmost range of the extraordinary African shoebill, one of the most coveted species among birdwatching enthusiasts.

It was in Zambia that the concept of walking safaris was born, still considered the best way to explore the extraordinary flora and fauna of its 19 national parks.

To all this is added the adrenaline of activities on the Zambezi: rafting, bungee jumping, abseiling, and canoeing, making Zambia a complete destination for those seeking excitement, nature, and authenticity.

Here, you can catch some of Africa's largest tiger fish while watching majestic elephant herds on the Lower Zambezi, or fly over the mighty Victoria Falls in a breathtaking flight.

## Zimbabwe

As early as 200 B.C., the San (Bushmen) are believed to have been the first inhabitants of present-day Zimbabwe.

Among its most extraordinary archaeological treasures is **Great Zimbabwe**, a ruined city that was the capital of the ancient Kingdom of Zimbabwe during the Iron Age. The kingdom reached its peak between the 11th and 14th centuries, following the dominance of Mapungubwe further south.

The ruins of Great Zimbabwe are the largest of that era in sub-Saharan Africa, characterized by imposing dry-stone walls built without mortar. The Great Enclosure, with walls 11 meters high and 250 meters long, represents the largest ancient structure south of the Sahara.

Artifacts found indicate extensive trade with Kilwa on the Tanzanian coast, and trade routes that extended as far as Arabia, India, and China. During its peak, it is estimated that up to 1,000 kg of gold were extracted.

Later, with Bantu dominance, the Shona people settled, followed by the Nguni and Zulu tribes. In the mid-19th century, the descendants of the Nguni and Zulu, known as the Ndebele, founded their own kingdom in the territory.

By 1850, the British arrived, conquering the region and making it a colony known as Rhodesia, named after Cecil Rhodes and his British South Africa Company. It was later renamed Southern Rhodesia and in 1923 European settlers voted to become a self-governing colony under British authority.

In 1963, after the Second World War, Northern Rhodesia (today Zambia) and Nyasaland (today Malawi) gained independence, while Southern Rhodesia decided to remain a colony.

Two years later, the white minority unilaterally declared Rhodesia's independence from Britain, and in 1970 officially proclaimed the republic. The government, led by Ian Smith, continued to resist the demands of self-determination from the black majority, pushing the country into conflict and civil war.

In 1978, the white minority finally agreed to transfer power to the black majority, though Smith remained interim Prime Minister.

In 1980, the first multiracial elections were held and the overwhelming victory of Robert Mugabe marked the birth of independent Zimbabwe, officially celebrated on 17 April 1980.

Today, Zimbabwe is a landlocked country but rich in fertile soils, mineral resources, and breathtaking landscapes. Legendary destinations such as Victoria Falls, Hwange National Park, and Mana Pools are world-renowned.

The territory ranges from the granite hills of Matopos to majestic mountains, lush forests, and crystal-clear rivers of the Eastern Highlands, offering an extraordinary variety of habitats.

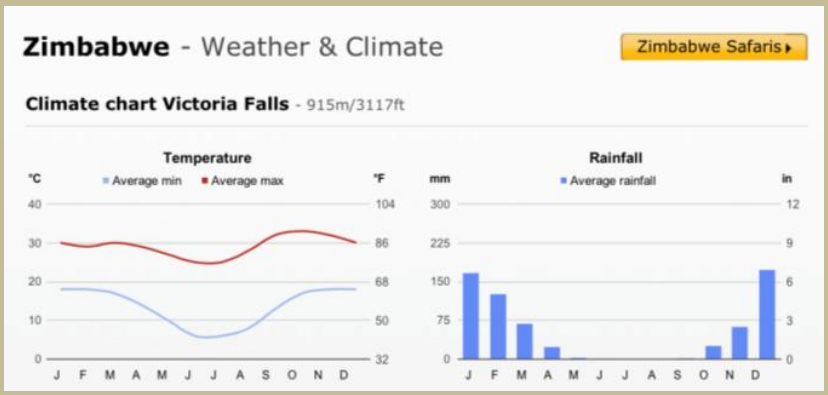
The Zambezi River offers landscapes of spectacular beauty, crowned by one of the world's most famous natural wonders: Victoria Falls. The national parks along its course, such as Mana Pools, provide close encounters with Africa's great wildlife in some of the continent's most pristine environments.

Along the border with Botswana, the eastern edges of the Kalahari Desert blend with teak forests inland, creating unique habitats where desert-adapted animals coexist with woodland species.

Zimbabwe's black population mainly belongs to the great Bantu ethnic group of southern and central Africa. Two main linguistic groups:

- The Mashona (Shona-speaking), who make up about 75% of the population and represent the oldest and largest group.
- The Matabele (Sindebele-speaking), about 20% of the population, settled in the southwest around Bulawayo about 150 years ago, as direct descendants of the South African Zulu group.

The Matabele dominated the Mashona until the British occupation of 1890.



## Suggested reading

**Africa**, John Reader;
**The Covenant**, James Michener;
**The Lost World of the Kalahari**, Laurens van der Post;
**West With The Night,** by Beryl Markham
**My African Song,** by Antonella Bonomi