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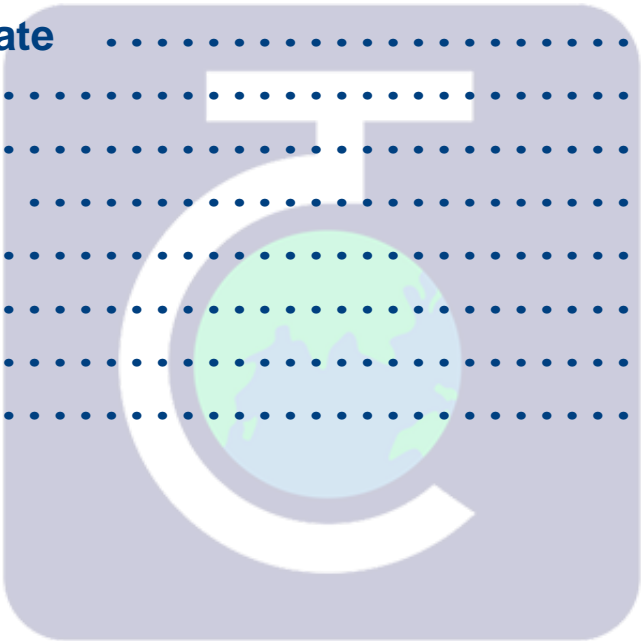
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1. Geographical location

A town in the province of Matabeleland North in Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls is located on the southern bank of the Zambezi River at the western end of the Victoria Falls themselves. The population of the town as per 2012 Population census is 33,060.



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

The Neighboring Cities Of Victoria Falls Are Bulawayo With A Distance Of 441.7 Kilometers, Lusaka With A Distance Of 490.2 Kilometers, Gweru With An Approximate Distance Of 541.5 Kilometers, Harare With An Approximate Distance Of 709.6 Kilometers And Chitungwiza With An Approximate Distance Of 729 Kilometers.



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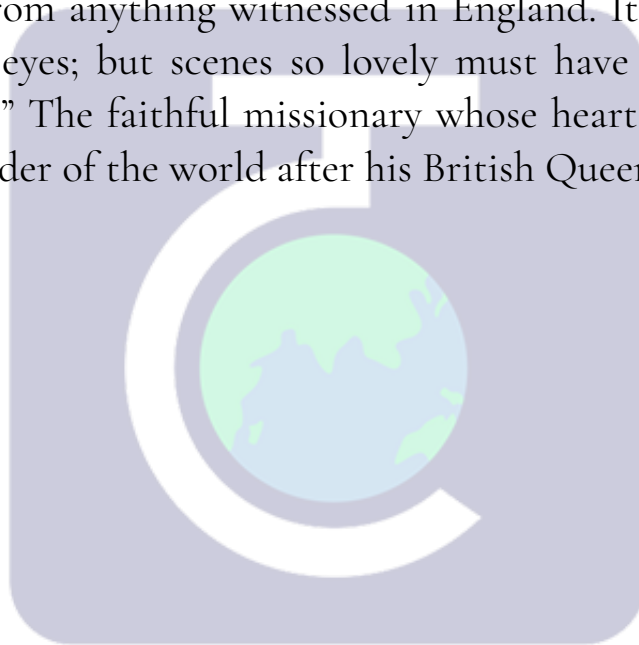
3. Significance

Victoria Falls is enough a reason to visit the city of Victoria Falls in the country of Zimbabwe. The greatest waterfalls in the world, the Victoria Falls is truly awe-inspiring. Africa is not all about the wildlife and the acacia trees. The Victoria Falls offers an array of adventure sports including bungee jump, whitewater raft, elephant riding, kayaking, soaking in the Devil's Pool and many more to name. All the adrenaline junkies have got their fix here at the Victoria Falls.



Index**4. History**

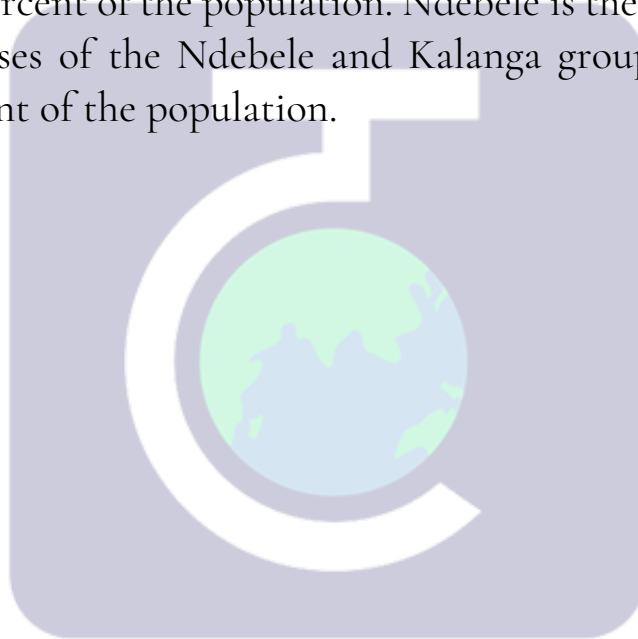
On November 17, 1855, Dr. David Livingstone was the first one to set his eyes on this astounding natural wonder of the world. The local Makalolo people transported him in a canoe to the very edge of these falls. The Scotsman was so overwhelmed by his first sight of the hypnotic falls that he for a moment abandoned his scientific observations and recorded, “No one can imagine the beauty of the view from anything witnessed in England. It had never been seen before by European eyes; but scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight.” The faithful missionary whose heart lies buried in Africa named the great wonder of the world after his British Queen, Victoria.



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5. Cultural identity

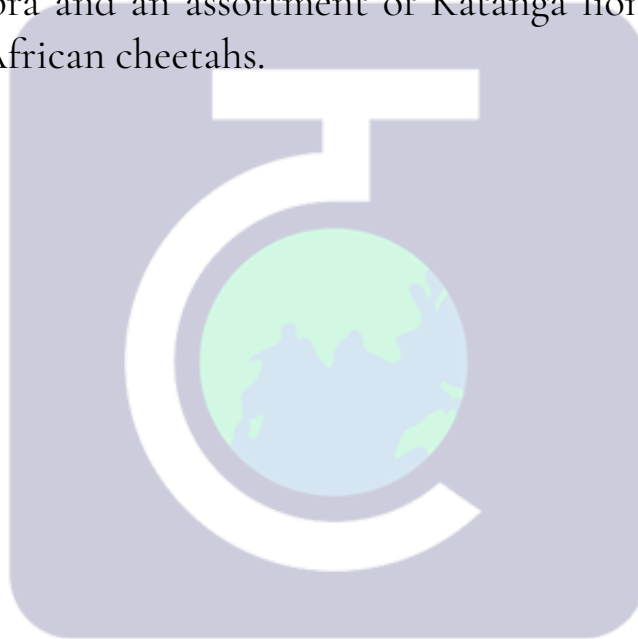
The culture of a place reflects its society. Zimbabwe is one African country which exemplifies a diverse culture. Zimbabweans highly regard dance and music. Dancing plays a significant role in portraying the culture of the capital city, Harare. Shona, is the largest ethnic group of Zimbabwe which comprises of Manyika, Karanga, Zezuru, Rozwi, Korekore and Ndau groups, which constitutes around seventy six percent of the population. Ndebele is the second largest ethnic group which comprises of the Ndebele and Kalanga groups, which constitutes about eighteen percent of the population.



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6. Natural resources

Victoria Falls houses two national parks: Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park and Victoria Falls National Park. Also, the city is home to different types of flora and fauna. Mopane woodland savannah outweighs in the area with smaller proportions of miombo and Rhodesian teak woodland and scrubland savannah. The national parks in the area houses abundant wildlife including buffalo, giraffe, elephant, Grant's zebra and an assortment of Katanga lions, antelopes, African leopards and South African cheetahs.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Zambezi National Park

The Zambezi National Park along with the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park is stretched over 56,000 hectares of land. The Zambezi River forms the northern border of the Park and it is home to over 75 species of fish and is very well-known for its bream and fighting tiger fish. The park houses a wide variety of mammals including lions, buffaloes, elephants, zebras, giraffes, elands, waterbucks, kudus, impalas and some smaller species, too. You can also enjoy the game drives here at the Zambezi National Park.

Address : Shop 13 Landela Complex, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.911224999999999, 25.808048999999983

Contact : +27 11 465 6623

Nearest Public Transport : Zambezi river cruise terminal (not recommended)

Entry Fee : 5400 ZWD (\$15) per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily: 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 5

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

Index

7.2. Free

7.2.1. Victoria Falls

Flowing on the Zambezi River at the border of 2 countries, the Victoria Falls is no less than a wonder of the world. It is the only waterfall in the world spread over 1 kilometer in length and more than 100 meters in height. Considered as the largest fall in the world, the noise of the falls can be heard from a distance of 40 kilometers. No wonder the local tribes has named it Mosi-o-Tunya, "The smoke that thunders"!

Address : Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.92385, 25.847753600000033

Contact : +263 77 343 0221

Nearest Public Transport : Zambezi river cruise terminal (not recommended)

Open & Close Timing : Daily: 06:30hrs to 18:00hrs (Winter) Daily: 06:00hrs to 18:00hrs (Summer)

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Elephant Walk Shopping Village

Visit Elephant's Walk Shopping Village to purchase the unique Zimbabwean art and craft made by the local artists residing here. You can also find some of the best specialty shops and studios that the country has to offer.

Address : Victoria falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9245467, 25.840659100000004

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

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8. Key sites sports & adventure

The adrenaline blood in you has got its fix here, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. You cannot simply afford to miss out on the helicopter rides over the magnificent Victoria Falls. White water rafting, bungee jumping, gorge swing, elephant back safari and boat cruises are a must try here, in Victoria Falls.

- **White Water Rafting -**

Address : Victoria Falls Rd, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9452244,25.8210342999999

Contact No : +263 13 44571

Website : <http://www.wildhorizons.co.za/>

Entry Fees : 72,000 ZWD (\$200) per person

Open / Close Time : Daily: 07:30hrs-14:30hrs

Time Required : 6

Wait Time : 10 minutes

- **Bungee Jumping -**

Address : Park Way, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.927202,25.83767

Contact No : +263 13 44471

Website : <http://www.shearwatervictoriafalls.com/>

Entry Fees : 57,600 ZWD per person

Open / Close Time : Daily: 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Wait Time : 20 minutes

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9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

The most popular sports game among the people of Victoria Falls is Soccer.



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10. Spas and relaxation

What's a holiday without pampering your skin with some massages and beauty therapies?! Many 5-star hotels provide spa services in the adrenaline city of Zimbabwe, which is open for outsiders, too. Unwind yourself at any of the following spa centers after experiencing an adrenaline gush at the Victoria Falls:

- **Victoria Falls Hotel:**

Address : 1, Mallet Dr, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.930799,25.842192999999952

Contact No : +263 13 44751

Website : <http://www.victoriafallshotel.com/>

- **Ilala Lodge Hotel:**

Address : Ilala Lodge, A8, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.927176,25.841454999999996

Contact No : +263 13 44737

Website : <http://www.ilalalodge.com/>

11. Events calendar

Month

Events

Vic Falls Carnival

One of Africa's biggest and must attend end-of-year festival, the Vic Falls Carnival is a three-day extravaganza event which begins on December 29th and ends on December 31st.

Zimbabwe Colour Run Event

Zimbabwe Colour Run Event is an annual event which is organized in the first weekend of December. It's a 5 km paint race that brings together everyone to celebrate health, happiness, life and individuality.

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12. Key local guides and tours

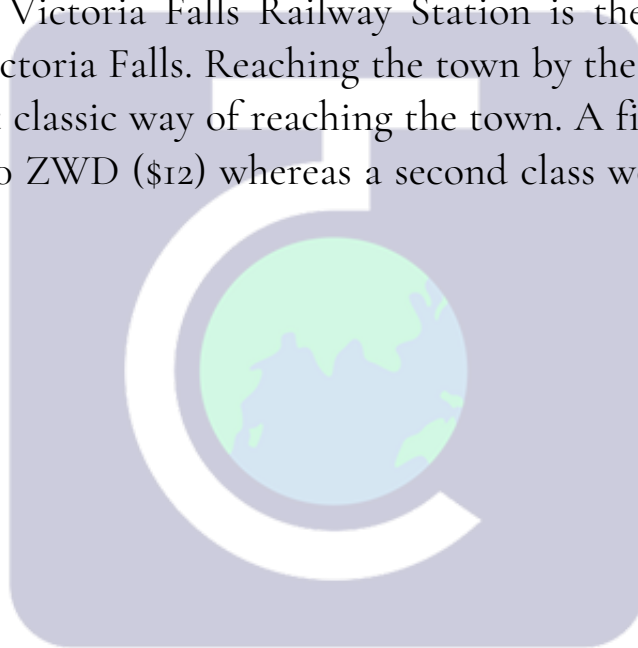
The adrenaline city of Zimbabwe can be explored with or without a local tour and local guide. But, it is advisable to explore the city through the eyes of a local guide or a tour because to experience the best of the adrenaline city you'll need to tie up with a local tour. The local tour agencies will help you experience all the adventure sports in the town. Some of the tour agencies in the city are Tours by locals, Shearwater and Wild Horizons.



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13. Transportation hubs

Airport: An international airport serving the Victoria Falls tourism industry, the Victoria Falls Airport is located 18 kilometers south of the town of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. You can reach to the city center either via using the services of shuttle services at the airport or via a taxi ride. Shuttle transfers are relatively cheaper than a taxi ride. A taxi ride from the airport would cost you around 5,400 ZWD (\$15). **Train Station:** Victoria Falls Railway Station is the major train station serving the city of Victoria Falls. Reaching the town by the overnight train from Bulawayo is the most classic way of reaching the town. A first class ticket would cost you around 4,320 ZWD (\$12) whereas a second class would cost you around 2,880 ZWD (\$8).



Index**14. Transportation cost**

Taxis: If you are staying in any of the high-class hotels in the downtown or some budgeted accommodation just outside the downtown area, exploring the town on foot is feasible. Most of the places are not more than 3 kilometers away from the Victoria Falls. Most of the hotels have their own transfer services. Nonetheless the town offers taxi services in profusion. It would not cost you more than 2,160 ZWD (\$6) for a taxi ride.



Index**15. Baggage allowance**

Prefer exploring the adrenaline city of Zimbabwe either by taxi or a cab when carrying a large suitcase. Large suitcases are allowed in the buses but refrain yourself from travelling via same because pickpockets are the regular passengers. One can carry a backpack easily when exploring the city. When riding on the city bus, no additional fee is charged for carrying extra luggage but it is advisable not to carry bulky and too many baggage. Else, keep an eye on your luggage.



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16. Must try food and local savouries

Maize / Corn is the main staple of Zimbabwe gastronomy and it is used in a variety of dishes. Food in Zimbabwe is influenced by traditional African food only for the most of its part. However British colonization has apparently left its mark on Common British breads, spices, sugar and tea. Following dishes are a must try when in Victoria Falls:



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17. Restaurant & Nightlife

Victoria Falls is not too popular for its nightlife. But there are plentiful of restaurants to try near the greatest falls itself. Don't worry as these restaurants are not going to break the budget. Every restaurant here offers you great value for money with the mesmerizing view of the falls as complimentary!

Food -

Victoria Falls is not too popular for its nightlife. But there are plentiful of restaurants to try near the greatest falls itself. Don't worry as these restaurants are not going to break the budget. Every restaurant here offers you great value for money with the mesmerizing view of the falls as complimentary!

- **Mama Africa:**

Address : Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9283475,25.8397605999999

Website : <http://www.mamaafricaeatinghouse.com/>

- **The Boma Restaurant Victoria Falls:**

Address : Safari Lodge, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9208364,25.820076100

Contact No : +263 13 47010

Open / Close Time : Daily: 07:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **The Palm Restaurant:**

Address : Ilala Lodge, A8, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.926191,25.8415720000000

Contact No : +263 13 44737

Website : <http://www.ilalalodge.com/the-palm-restaurant>

- **Shearwater Cafe:**

Address : Shop 1 Centre, corner of Livingstone Way and Parkway Drive, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9281854,25.8380717999999

Contact No : +263 13 46789

Open / Close Time : Daily: 08:00hrs-22:00hrs

- **Shearwater Rainforest Cafe:**

Address : Victoria Falls Visitors Centre, Livingstone Way, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9249368,25.8475722000000

Contact No : +263 13 44471

- **Lola's Tapas and Carnivore Restaurant:**

Address : 8B Landela Complex, Livingstone Way, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.928058,25.8394150000000

Contact No : +263 13 42994

Open / Close Time : Daily: 09:00hrs-21:00hrs

- **Nam Took:**

Address : 1st Floor, Elephant Walk, 273 Adam Stander Road, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.924644,25.8407268999999

Contact No : +263 13 46709

Website : <http://www.namtook.co.zw/>

Open / Close Time : Daily: 12:00hrs-21:00hrs

- **In-Da-Belly:**

Address : Parkway Drive, West Drive, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Location : -17.9245945,25.8384383999999

Contact No : +263 13 40509

Website : <http://www.vicfallsrestcamp.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily: 07:00hrs-22:30hrs



Index**18. Average meal cost**

Economical meal: 3,800 ZWD Mid-segment restaurant: 12,000 ZWD Luxury dining: 20,000 ZWD



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19. Shopping

The Victoria Falls bestowed a significant opportunity to shop for its visitors. Behind the post office, you'll be able to locate the curio markets which has dozens of tourist shops where you can buy wood and stone carvings, t-shirts, jewelry, books, curios, postcards, artwork etc.



Index**20. Tourist benefits**

The provision for VAT refund services to a tourist in Zimbabwe in foreign currency is zero rated if supplied by:

- The operator of a tourist facility designated as such in terms of Statutory Instrument 106 of 1996.
- The operator of a hunting safari
- The owner of any place (other than a place wherein the owner ordinarily resides) where persons are provided on payment of a charge with residential accommodation, whether with or without meals.



Index**21. Essential local apps**

To notify your Facebook friends if something goes wrong, download Yalahwy and your friends will mobilize to come at your rescue.



22. Driving

One of the best ways to explore Zimbabwe is self-driving. The roads in the country are better than in many other African countries. Nonetheless vigilance is a must for speeding vehicles and animals crossing. The scenery around the country and the sheer stretches of sun-kissed bushes make a perfect backdrop to your unforgettable road trip. First time visitors are advised to avoid driving through the Beitbridge border from South Africa as the delays and paperwork can be time-consuming. Traffic lights are non-operational most of the times and the country has deep potholes in the roads which results in accidents as a common sight on the roads of Zimbabwe. It's recommended to drive carefully on inter-city roads, lock car doors, always wear seatbelts and carry a comprehensive medical kit whilst traveling in Zimbabwe. Anyone possessing a driving license in English language and a photograph on it can drive in Zimbabwe for up to 90 days. For non-English language licenses, it's mandatory to apply for an International Driving Permit from your local AA.

Index**23. Travel essentials**

The power sockets in Zimbabwe are of type D and G. The voltage throughout the country is 220-240 volts AC 50 Hz. So, ensure packing a travel adaptor or portable charger when traveling to Zimbabwe. To relish some game viewing, pack a good pair of binoculars.



Index**24. Essential clothes**

The power sockets in Zimbabwe are of type D and G. The voltage throughout the country is 220-240 volts AC 50 Hz. So, ensure packing a travel adaptor or portable charger when traveling to Zimbabwe. To relish some game viewing, pack a good pair of binoculars.



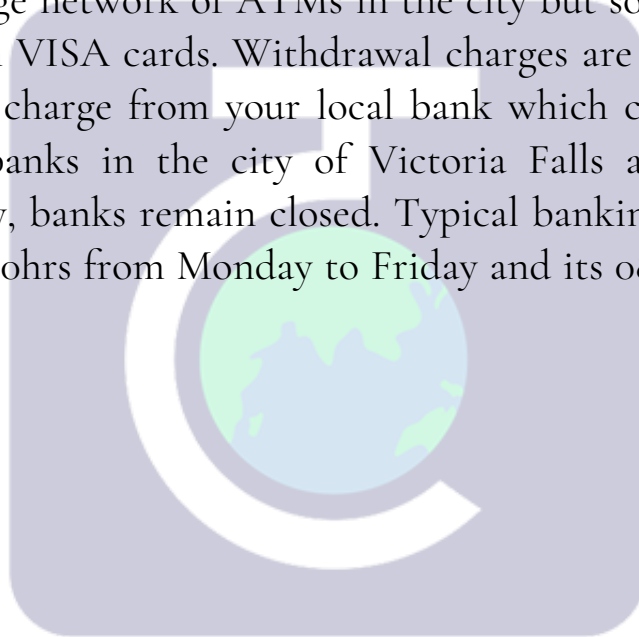
Index**25. Local currency**

Zimbabwean Dollar is the official currency of Zimbabwe. It is denoted as ZWD. 1 USD = 360 ZWD



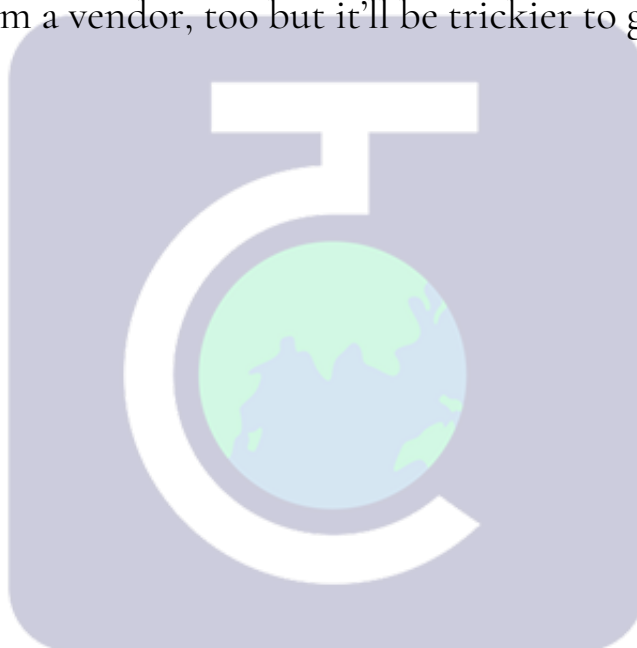
Index**26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

Authorized banks and Bureau de Change remain the best source of exchanging currency. Nonetheless, one can change currency at hotels too. Also, for convenience, private exchange agencies are located in the city. No commission is charged for currency exchange in the adrenaline city of Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls. ATMs are ubiquitous in the city of Victoria Falls. Barclays and Standard Chartered have a large network of ATMs in the city but some other local banks will also take foreign VISA cards. Withdrawal charges are 450 ZWD (\$1.25) per transaction plus the charge from your local bank which can be up to 2 to 3%. Working days for banks in the city of Victoria Falls are from Monday to Saturday. On Sunday, banks remain closed. Typical banking hours of banks are from 08:00hrs to 15:00hrs from Monday to Friday and its 08:00hrs to 11:30hrs on Saturdays.



27. Staying connected

Econet and Net One are two of the best networks in Zimbabwe. It's super easy to buy a sim card in Victoria Falls. And the cherry on the cake is it's cheap, too. A sim card ranging from 360 ZWD (\$1) to 1800 ZWD (\$5) can be bought from any of the shops and vendors of Econet and Net One. All you need is a copy of your passport. Visit any of the shops, they'll register you and activate the sim on the spot. You can buy from a vendor, too but it'll be trickier to get yourself registered with a vendor.



28. Time Zone

Zimbabwe Time Zone: UTC+02:00



Index**29. Languages**

There are 16 official languages spoken in Zimbabwe. English, Ndebele and Shona are the most widely spoken languages in the country. Seventy percent of the population speaks Shona as their first language. Around twenty percent of the population speaks Ndebele as their first language.



Index**30. Political Scenario**

The African country, Zimbabwe is a legislative democracy regulated by a president. The president is elected by direct vote and he/she holds the office for six years. The legislative power is conferred in both the government and parliament.



Index**31. Economic Scenario**

After 2000, the economic condition of the country shrank resulting in widespread poverty and a 95% unemployment rate. The country has reserves of metallurgical-grade chromite and other commercial minerals are copper, coal, asbestos, nickel, gold, iron ore and platinum which are helping in rebuilding the economy of the city. But unemployment and poverty are at its peak at the moment.



Index**32. Religious belief**

Christianity (of many different denominations, including Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Dutch Reformed Churches and Presbyterian) is practiced widely across the country. But till date many people hold on the traditional beliefs in their ancestors as well as in prophecy and divination, where divine inspiration is sought through communication with the spirits.



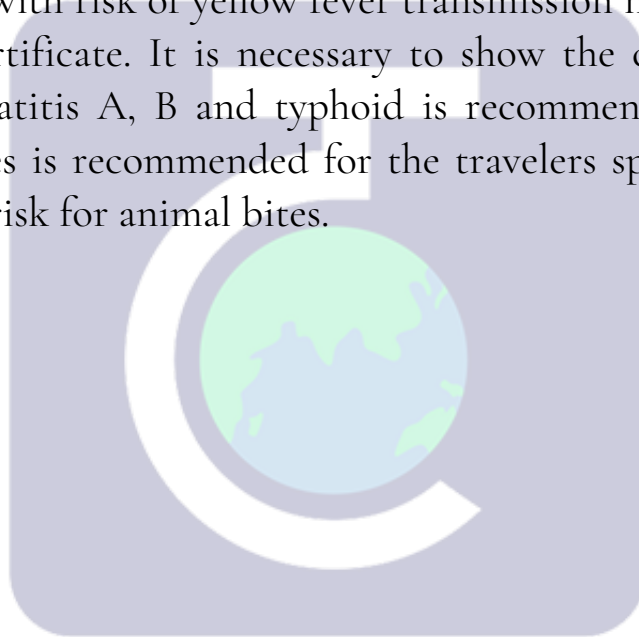
Index**33. Visa requirements**

Australian, British, Canadian, Other EU and USA nationals need a passport valid for at least six months beyond the date of departure, a return ticket and a VISA to explore Zimbabwe. Nationals of Cyprus and Malta don't require a VISA. All other nationals may buy a VISA on arrival except the nationals of Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania. These nationals need to buy a VISA in advance. VISA issued on arrival is valid for up to 90 days. It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application.



Index**34. Essential vaccination**

Every traveler should be up-to-date on routine vaccinations before every trip. These vaccinations include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine and your yearly flu shot. Also, travelers arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and travelers who have transited more than 12 hours through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission need to possess yellow fever vaccination certificate. It is necessary to show the certificate on arrival. Inoculation for Hepatitis A, B and typhoid is recommended for all travelers. Inoculation for rabies is recommended for the travelers spending a lot of time outdoors, or at high risk for animal bites.



Index**35. Theft and Safety**

Moderate level of crime including pick pocketing, mugging and jewelry theft prevails in the city of Victoria Falls. Due to poor street lighting, extra vigilance is required especially after dark. Don't carry valuables and large amounts of cash whilst exploring the city. Ensure safety of your accommodation at all the times.



Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

To know more about foreign embassy consulates in Zimbabwe, click here
<http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/zimbabwe>



Index**37. Accessibility**

The city of Victoria Falls is not ‘differently-abled’ friendly. Seemingly it needs a lot of improvement with respect to infrastructure to ensure easy accessibility for disabled. Majority of the tourist attractions in the city are not accessible by “differently-abled”. Also, cobblestones and potholes are common throughout the city due to poor and old infrastructure. Manual wheelchair is a better option to explore this area. Also, there are very limited wheelchair accessible restrooms in the city of Victoria Falls.



Index**38. Emergencies**

- Dial 995 to reach out to police in Zimbabwe.
- Dial 994 for any medical help and call an ambulance in Zimbabwe.
- Dial 993 to call a fire brigade in Zimbabwe.

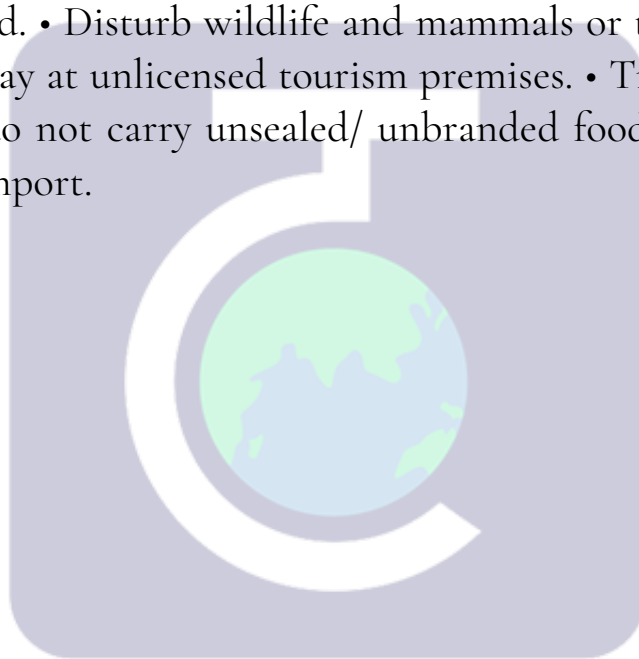


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39. Do's and Don'ts

Dos • Greet everyone and shake hands with the people you meet in the city of Victoria Falls. • Carry minimum cash and valuable items whilst exploring the city. • Always keep an eye on your luggage when moving places. • Apply sunscreen before getting sun tanned. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance.

Don'ts • Litter around. • Disturb wildlife and mammals or their nesting grounds by feeding them. • Stay at unlicensed tourism premises. • Travel alone at night. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import.



Index**40.Tipping basics**

There is no tipping culture in the city of Victoria Falls. But 10-15% of tipping is standard in restaurants.

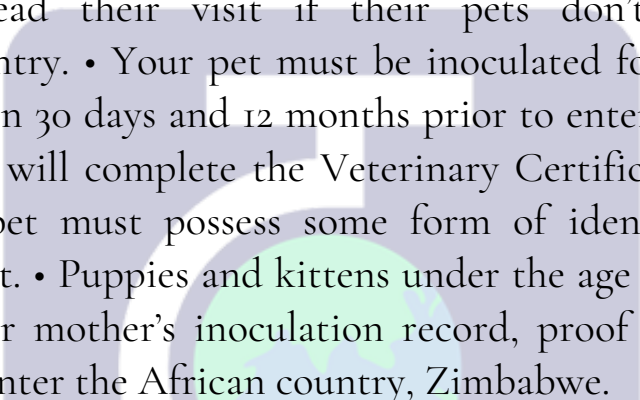


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41.Pet info

Healthy pets meeting the following requirements are not quarantined in Zimbabwe:

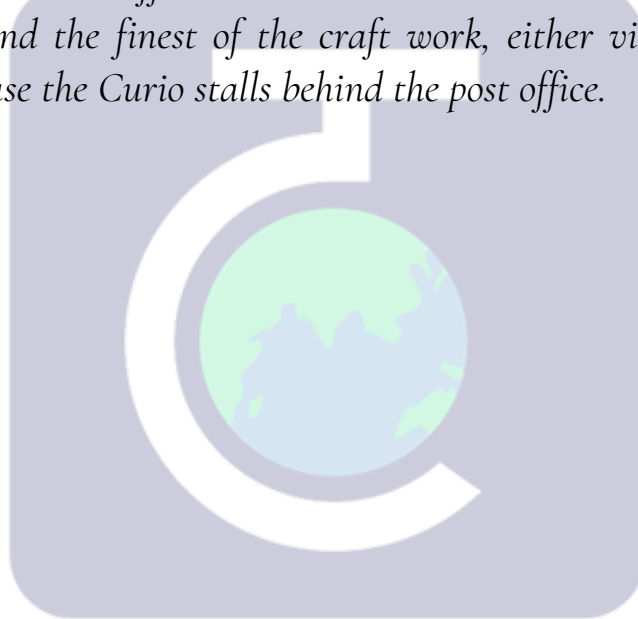
- An import for entry is a must for the dogs and cats who are not from another SADC member (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Republic of Congo, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland). It is highly recommended to the visitors to apply for the permit of their pets well ahead their visit if their pets don't belong from the abovementioned country.
- Your pet must be inoculated for rabies and various other diseases between 30 days and 12 months prior to entering the country.
- A licensed veterinarian will complete the Veterinary Certificate for Zimbabwe.
- The owner of the pet must possess some form of identification indicating ownership of your pet.
- Puppies and kittens under the age of 3 months must be accompanied by their mother's inoculation record, proof of parvovirus and a health certificate to enter the African country, Zimbabwe.



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Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Victoria Falls is aptly known as the “adrenaline city” of Zimbabwe. The city has so much to offer that the time spent here is never enough. Undoubtedly you’ll be amazed at the beauty of the city and, a wide range of activities offered by the city simply leads to a gush of adrenaline blood. Most of the visits here are into the national parks and the but obvious, Victoria Falls. Apart from Victoria Falls, the city is known widely for its fine craft work. You simply cannot afford to miss out on the Shona soft stone carvings in the city. To get the best and the finest of the craft work, either visit the Elephant’s walk shopping village or peruse the Curio stalls behind the post office.



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