

AN ULTIMATE ZAMBEZI SAFARI ITINERARY
BY GRAHAM SIMMONDS



WILDERNESS

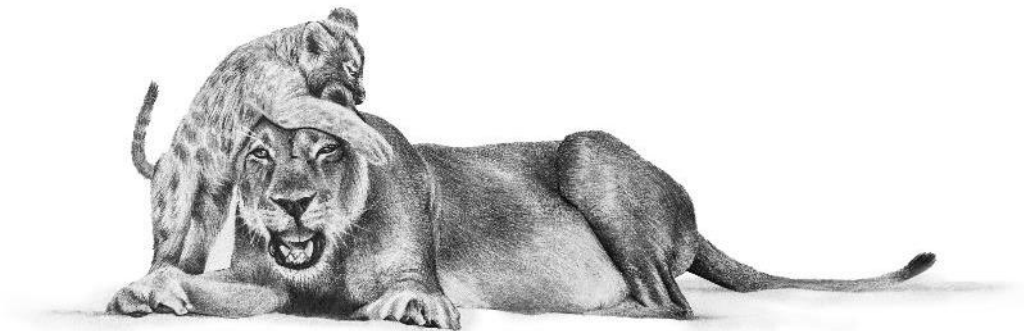
SPOTLIGHT ON OUR ZAMBEZI REGION





Graham has been a part of the Wilderness Family for 15 years. In 2022 he began his next dynamic chapter returning to operations, while continuing with sales and regional development. He is grateful to work alongside remarkable people, and positively impact local communities and the iconic wild areas where we operate.

A bookworm by nature, in the bush Graham found himself in a world of long hours and fixing lots of little, and big, things. However, his self-discipline and love for nature made it easy for him to quickly learn how to become a jack of all trades, giving his guests life-changing experiences while ensuring seamless operational support in the background.



WILDERNESS ITINERARY



WILDERNESS CAMPS

- 3 nights Shumba
- 3 nights Chikwenya
- 3 nights Linkwasha
- 2 nights Toka Leya

WILDERNESS OFFER

Book this itinerary and take advantage of a free night if you book six nights and more..

[Read more](#)



Wilderness Shumba



6 Tents
(1 family)



Star Bed



Log-pile hide



Game drives



Guided walks

Place: The vast mosaic of grassy seasonal floodplains extending to the horizon, mist rising at sunrise, epitomises the wild, remote Busanga Plains. Its diversity can be discovered on game drives as well as boating early in the season or hot air ballooning later on.

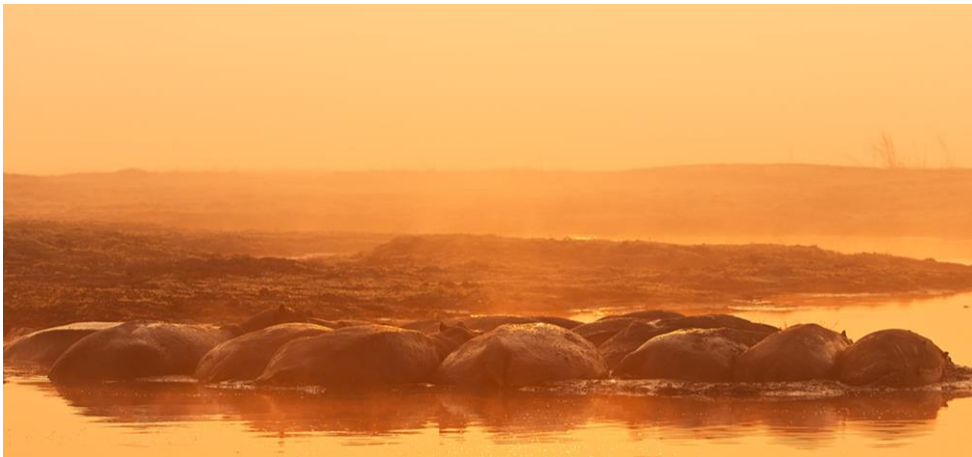
Accommodation: Elegant Shumba, named after the prides of lion seen in the area, is found on a wooded island in the centre of the Busanga Plains. The vast mosaic of grassy seasonal floodplains extending to the horizon, and mist rising at sunrise, epitomise the wild Busanga Plains. Its diversity can be discovered on game drives, as well as boating early in the season, or hot air ballooning later on. Home to hundreds of red lechwe, puku and other plains game and their predators, the remote floodplains seemingly go on forever.

WHY SHUMBA? GRAHAM SAYS...

- The ultimate remote safari: Open for just five months a year, Shumba offers one of the most remote, exclusive and wild safari experiences in Africa, before the seasonal rains transform the landscape.
- Biodiversity hotspot: Aptly named the ‘Plains of Plenty,’ the Busanga Plains host exceptional biodiversity that draws a remarkable variety of species.
- Dynamic seasonal changes: The influx of summer rains transforms the Busanga Plains, reducing traversing areas and creating islands of higher ground. While this dispersal impacts both ungulates and their predators, the renowned “swamp lions” skillfully hunt through the waters.
- Varied ecotones: The nine vegetation types within the floodplain system—including the dominant grassland—contribute to one of Africa’s highest antelope species counts, including specials like oribi, roan, and sable.
- Warm Zambian hospitality: There is comfort and connection to be found in this remote paradise, thanks to warm local hospitality.









 WILDERNESS SHUMBA- MAIN AREA



Wilderness Linkwasha



10 Tents
(2 family)



100% solar



Canoeing



Game drives
(day & night)



Guided nature
walks



Boating



Catch-and-
release fishing



Star Bed

Place: Linkwasha is situated in a private concession in the best location in Hwange. It is found near the famed Ngamo Plains, where wildlife gathers in numbers during summer – to add to the year-round excellent viewing from the camp itself; Linkwasha overlooks a pan that is a magnet for game seeking to quench its thirst.

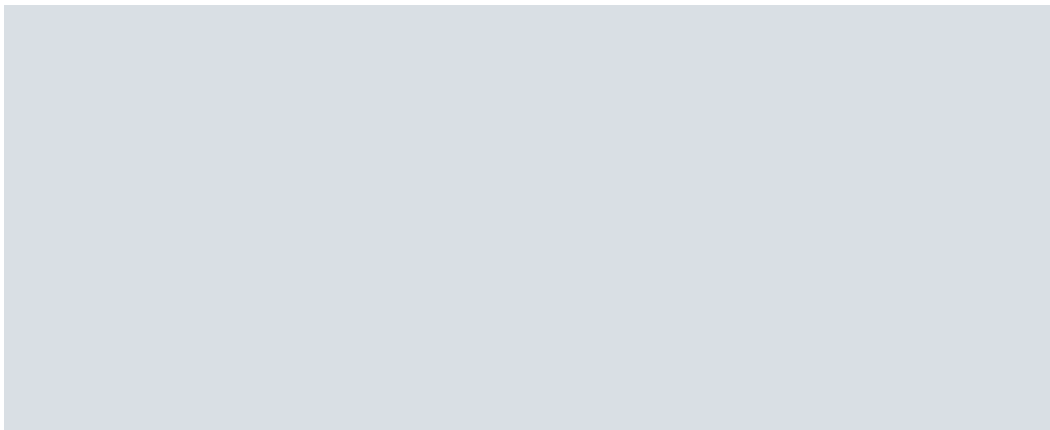
Accommodation: The camp is an eclectic mix of contemporary interiors and Ndebele culture, its nine luxurious tents (eight twin and one family) overlooking the scenic plain. The main area includes various multi-level decks, amongst them, a cosy library, fireplace, and shaded salas surrounding an inviting pool. Our nearby romantic Star Bed looks onto a productive waterhole.

WHY LINKWASHA? GRAHAM SAYS...

- **A wildlife magnet:** On the edge of the famed Ngamo Plains, Linkwasha offers unrivaled game viewing opportunities year-round. Large herds of plains game are frequently followed by their predators, including lions, cheetahs and wild dogs.
- **Winter wonders:** During the dry months, the waterholes—especially the one right in front of camp—transform into bustling hubs of activity, attracting elephants and buffalo.
- **Ecological diversity:** In Hwange’s south-eastern corner, vast open palm-fringed plains, grasslands, acacia woodlands, and teak forests converge. The region’s fertile ground and year-round access to water attracts wildlife, ensuring an abundance of species to observe.
- **Exclusive access:** With access to the adjacent Makalolo Private Wilderness Reserve, Wilderness guests enjoy exclusive exploration of 34,000 hectares (84,000 acres) of pristine land.
- **Community connections:** Cultural village visits often include guided tours of the schools we support, opportunities to meet the village headman, or involvement in community projects.

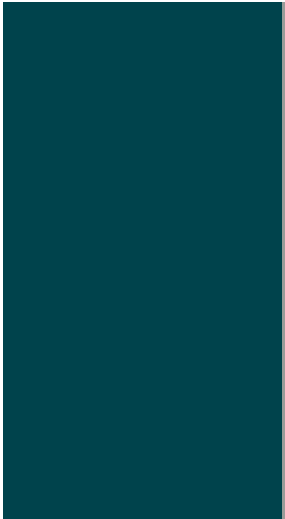















 WILDERNESS LINKWASHA- BEDROOM

Wilderness Chikwenya



7 tents
(2 family)



100% solar



Canoeing



Game drives
(day and
night)



Guided nature
walks



Boating



Catch-and-
release fishing

Place: Situated on the eastern boundary of Mana Pools National Park, Chikwenya is a photographer's paradise as it looks out over an open floodplain and the broad Zambezi River, with a backdrop provided by the mountains of the Rift Valley escarpment.

Accommodation: This seven-tented camp is surrounded by a dense forest of albida and Natal mahogany trees, which provide deep shade in the heat of the day. The tents perch on low wooden decks and pine walkways link them to the raised main area. The lounge, dining and bar area are places of hospitality and relaxation, and a pool, deck and fireplace offer alternate spaces to enjoy the scenery and passing wildlife.

WHY CHIKWENYA? GRAHAM SAYS...

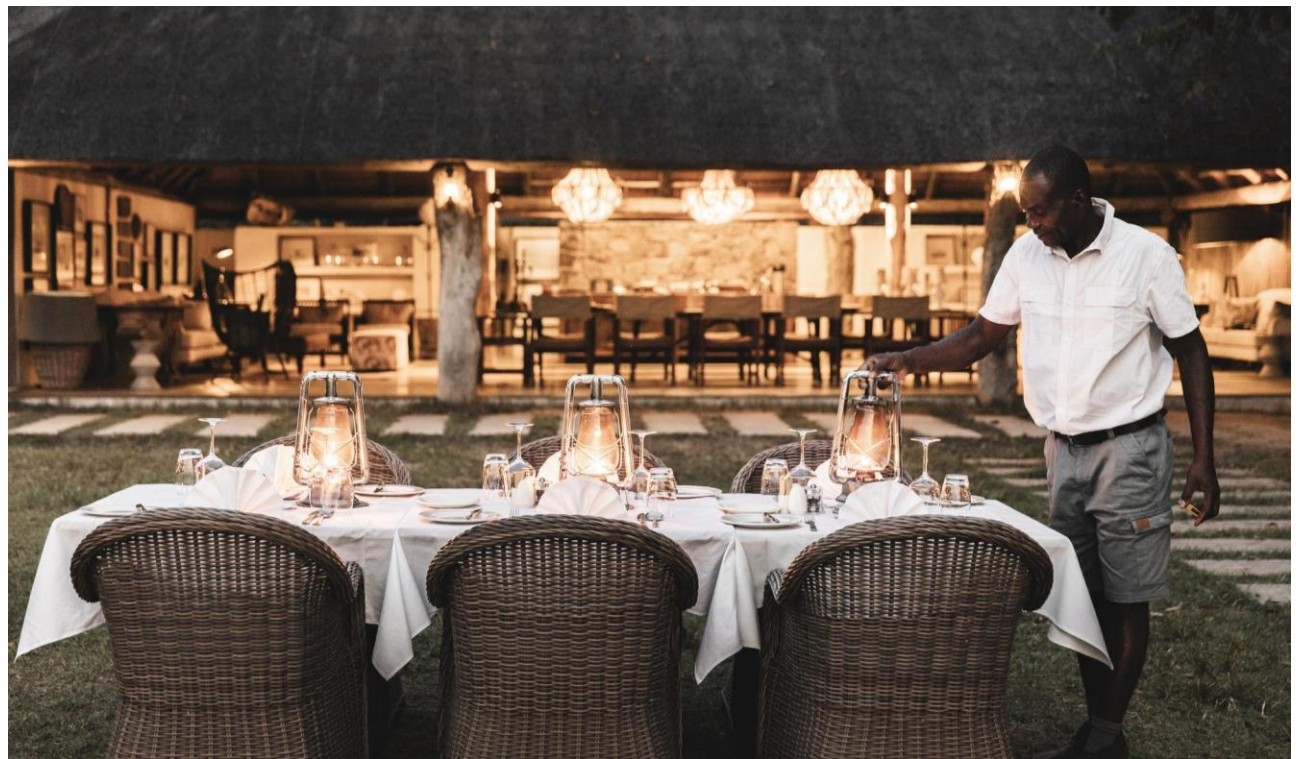
- **Exclusive location:** As a private-access area adjacent to Mana Pools National Park, Chikwenya plays a crucial role in protecting the unique wilderness that gives Mana its World Heritage status.
- **A seasonal spectacle:** As the dry season intensifies, wildlife concentrates around the river and floodplains. The albida trees around Chikwenya fruit from around September, attracting elephants and other species offering late-season visitors a truly exceptional wildlife experience and photographic opportunities.
- **Prime position:** At the confluence of the Sapi and Zambezi Rivers, guests are treated to frequent wildlife sightings from camp—elephants, plains game, and even predators—passing through the floodplains under the backdrop of the Rift Valley mountains.
- **Birding paradise:** With around 350 species, Chikwenya's specials include the western banded snake eagle, rufous-bellied heron, long-toed lapwing, and the elusive Pel's fishing-owl.











WILDERNESS CHIKWENYA – MAIN AREA



 WILDERNESS CHIKWENYA – BOMA & POOL



 WILDERNESS CHIKENYA - BEDROOM

Wilderness Toka Leya



8 tents
(1 family)



Spa
(extra cost)



Rhino tracking



Game drives



Guided nature
walks



Boating



Community
visits



Victoria Falls
tour

Place: Overlooking the Zambezi River and some of its islands, Toka Leya is the ideal combination of relaxation and adventure. Game drives and river cruises can be followed by a therapeutic treatment at our spa; tours of Victoria Falls a nearby rural village and Livingstone town add cultural and historical diversity. Fishing rhino tracking and plenty of adrenaline-filled activities add excitement to the experience.

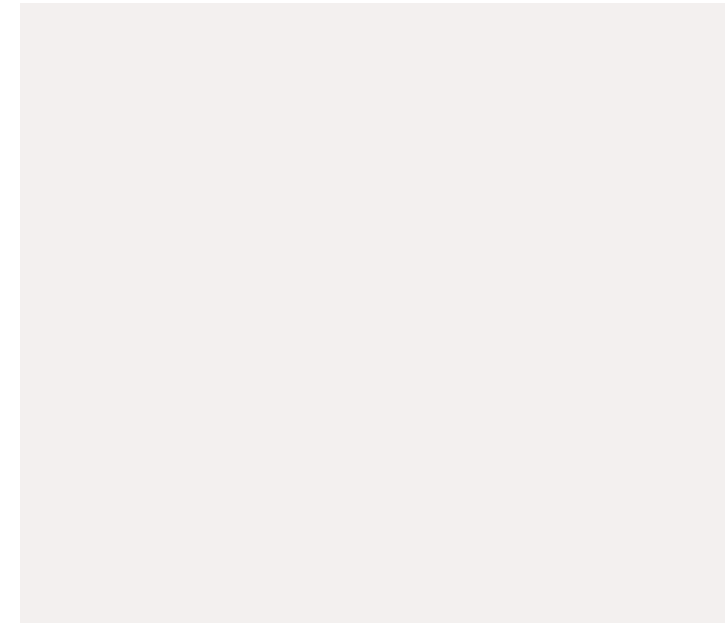
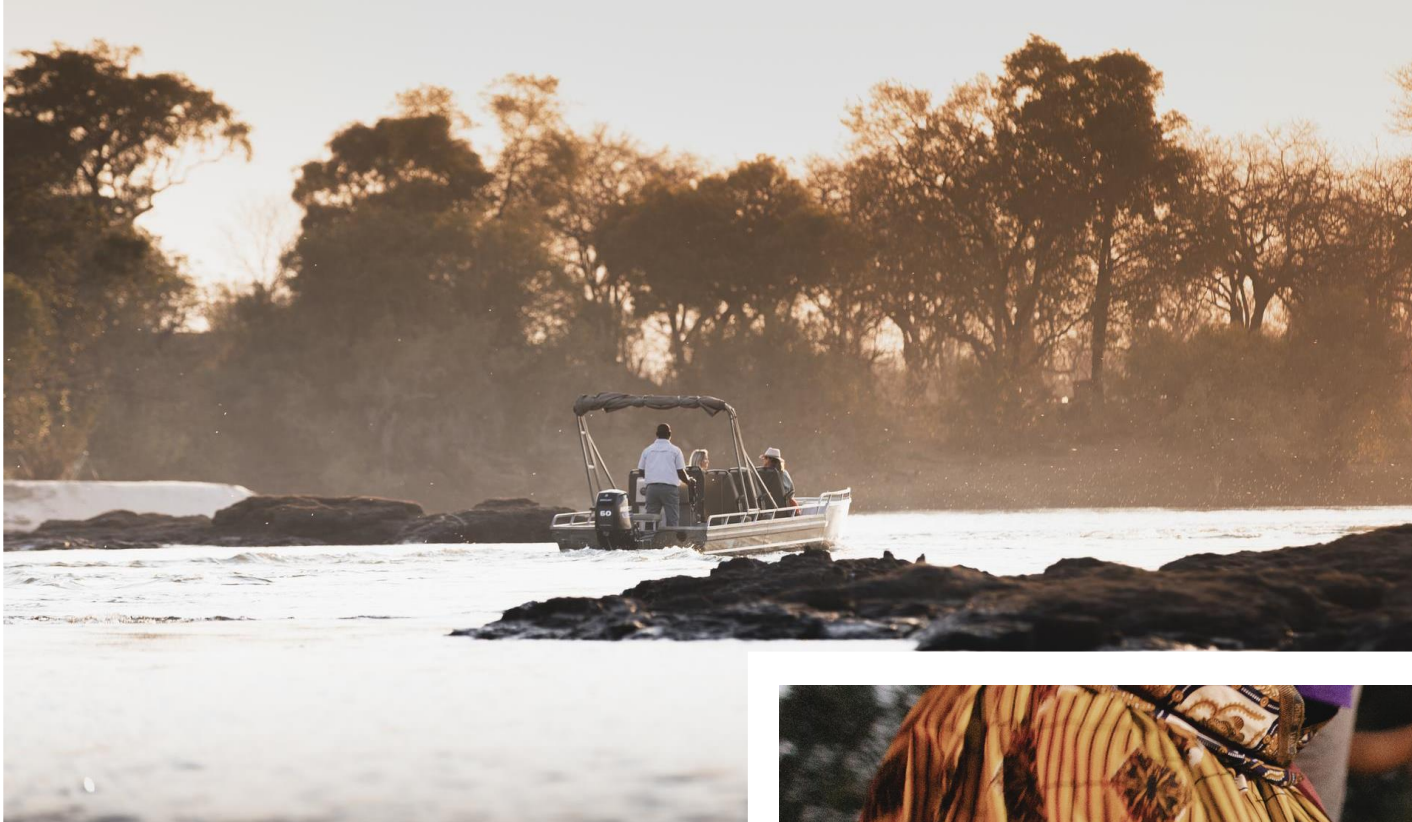
Accommodation: The camp's twelve spacious, en-suite safari-style tents with expansive decks offer dramatic views and glimpses of wildlife. Limiting our footprint on this pristine area, elevated wooden walkways weave between the guest tents and the main area, where an infinity pool, a sundeck for sumptuous meals and a convivial fire pit for night-time gatherings complement the dining, bar and lounge areas.

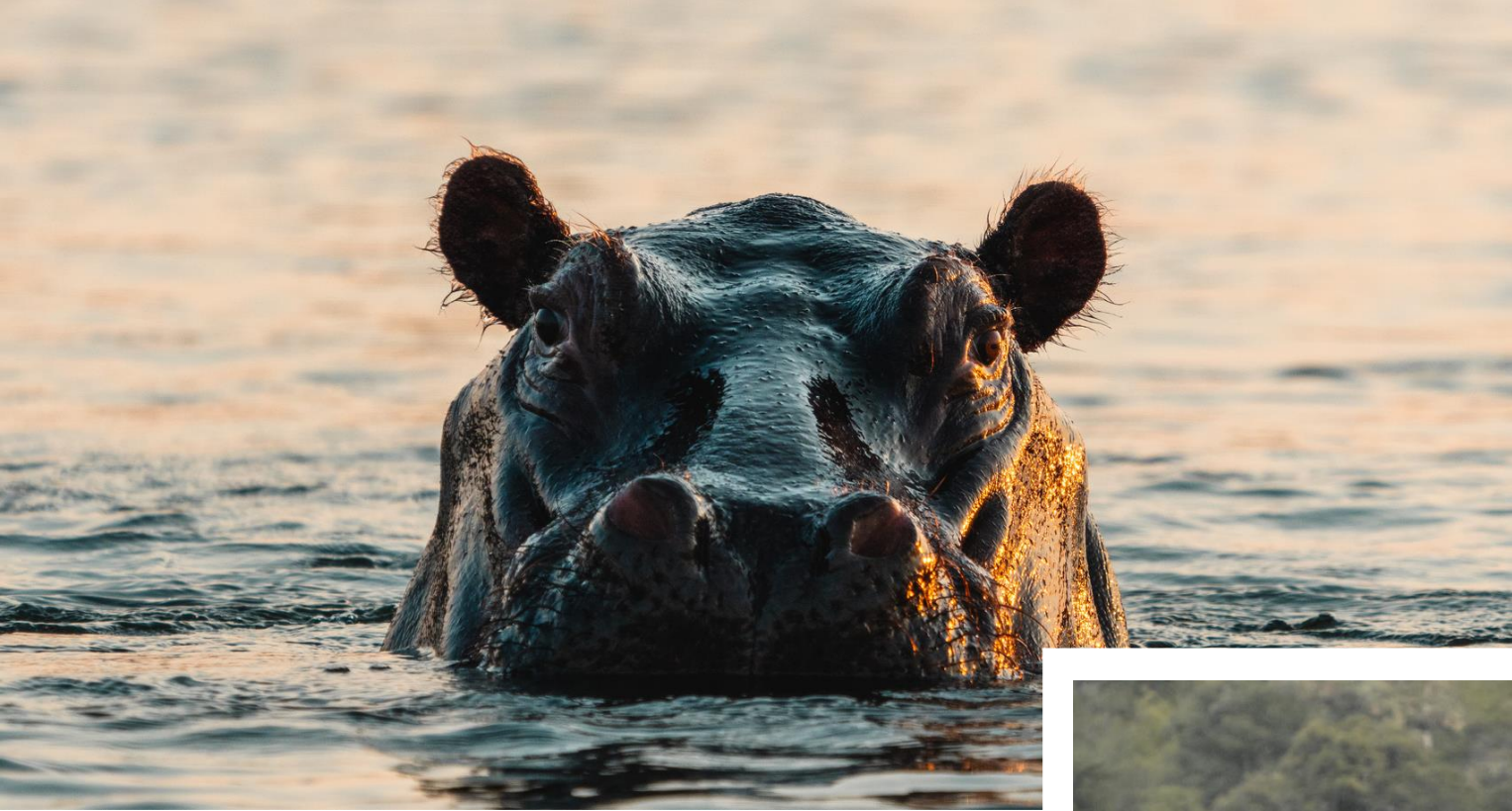
WHY TOKA LEYA? GRAHAM SAYS...

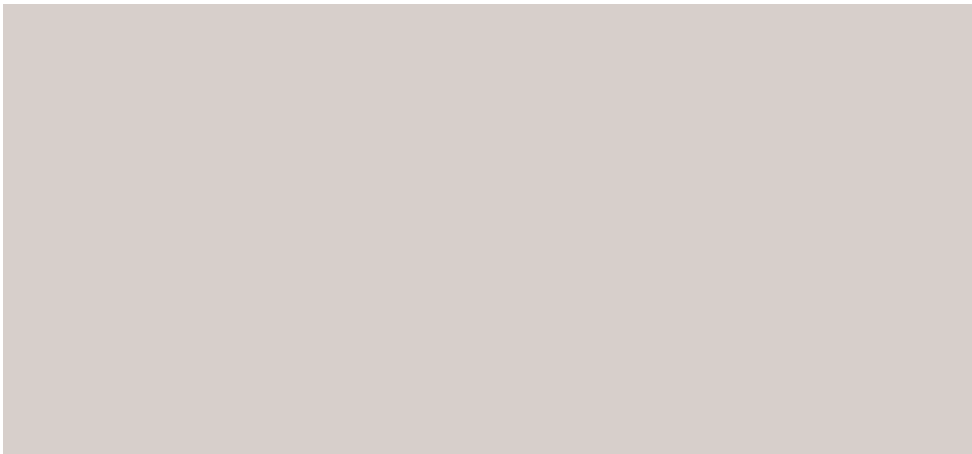
- Gateway to adventure: Situated in Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park on the banks of the mighty Zambezi River, Toka Leya serves as an ideal safari base with easy access to Victoria Falls and Livingstone's adventure scene.
- Riverine wildlife at your doorstep: Daily visitors include hippos, crocodiles, elephants, buffalos, and a stunning variety of birdlife, including elusive species like the African finfoot and seasonal delights such as the African skimmer.
- Sustainable luxury: Toka Leya's pioneering conservation efforts have transformed once-degraded land into a thriving riverine woodland. Our tree-planting project, supported by guests, continues revitalising the area, with many trees donated to other needy locations.
- Easily accessible: A twenty-minute drive from Livingstone, Toka Leya is the perfect start or end to a southern African safari itinerary.











 WILDERNESS TOKA LEYA – MAIN AREA



 WILDERNESS TOKA LEYA - BEDROOM

THANK YOU

Discover Earth's Ultimate, Untamed Places



WILDERNESS

www.wildernessdestinations.com