

Maramba River Lodge

Newsletter 4

July 2009

Staff Changes

We would like to welcome our new Food & Beverage Manager - **Barbara Bolton**.

Barbara is a great addition to our team and brings with her years of catering experience. As a Zambian, she has good local knowledge.

[For sample menu see over](#)

“In Africa, there are really only two places for you to see - the Pyramids in Egypt and the Victoria Falls in Zambia”

Errol Hickey, Zambia National Tourist Board Chairman

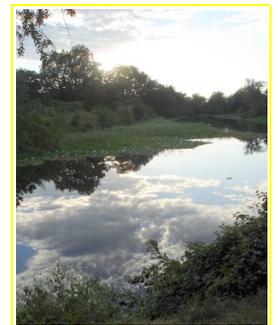
This comment will raise eyebrows in other parts of Africa but we, at Maramba River Lodge where we can hear the thunderous roar of the Falls at night in the high season, agree. We are only 4K away – the nearest Lodge to the Falls

Maramba Reflections

Below us just a few clumps of pea-green water cabbage remain, protected by the scrambling sharp-edged Vossia grass from the outer fringe of the handsome but overbearing hyacinth. Then come superb reflections of clouds,

and of fan palms, trees and reeds on the opposite bank. The placid river surface is disturbed only by an occasional and mysterious ripple from below. It is just before 'sun down' on the intimate river frontage at Maramba. A last fly past of homing egrets accompanies the rising chorus of frogs and cicadas. The tree lights come on and the fire pit crackles into life. Ice cold Mosi arrives and an 'instant' froglet appears by magic, as behind us, more guests roll up and members of staff are about their varied evening rounds. Tonight an Australian family, first timers in Africa and apparently forgotten by their local agent, are promptly reassured and relaxed by Russell (Maramba's Managing Director). He will sort matters first thing in the morning. We like it here. It is our 7th visit. So what's new since last time ? The restaurant and kitchen have moved to the function hall and its river frontage, there's a greatly expanded and well fitted lounge beside the bar, the camping area has been attractively extended and work is underway to provide en suite facilities for more of the permanent covered tents. It was also interesting to discover that away from the public areas, Maramba was playing host to a multi- agency field trial for the biological control of the water hyacinth. Introduced from South America, this plant with its spike of beautiful pale violet flowers, was briefly welcomed to Africa as a decorative aquatic. Now in many rivers and lakes it is regarded as an invasive and difficult to control weed.

As a post script, we would like to commend Pioneer Camp to travellers arriving or leaving Zambia via Lusaka. Twenty minutes from the airport it offers transfers for guests booked into its delightful safari-style lodge offering a bar, restaurant and thatched chalets set into 25 acres of miombo woodland. (www.pioneercampzambia.com or paul@pioneercampzambia.com)



Cloud reflections in Maramba river

Roland and Sue Bailey



The Lion Encounter – Walking with Lions

New to Zambia this year – but proving popular with tourists and featured on UK TV recently.

After an introductory video and talk at Thorntree Lodge, you are invited to walk with the young lions through the bush to the river..

There is some controversy about using lions in this way commercially but nevertheless the experience is magical.

Booking at Maramba. Cost \$125

Photo by Gill of The Livingstone Weekly



As of the 1st August Maramba River Lodge will have new en-suite Safari tents.



These tents are approximately 3.3m x 5.5m with en-suite shower and toilet, twin beds, individual bedside lamps and dressing table.

Rates (Valid till the 31st December 2009) are as follows – US\$50 per person twin sharing .US\$80 single occupancy

This includes complimentary juice on arrival, mid morning & afternoon teas and a full English breakfast at our Riverside Restaurant.

This is a new addition to the Lodge and enhances our reputation as the **best value for money lodge in Livingstone.**

The Zambezi river level should fall during this period though the weather has been unpredictable. The Victoria Falls are less full but the rock formations and path of the river are now easily visible. Check the dates of the full moon for the chance to see the world famous Lunar Rainbow.

WEATHER FOR THIS PERIOD

| | July | August | September |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| High temperature | 25.5C(77.9F) | 28.4C(83.1F) | 32.5C(90.5F) |
| Low temperature | 6.3C(43.3F) | 9.2C(48.6F) | 14.2C(42F) |
| Rainfall | 0.0cm | 0.0cm | 1.0cm |
| Humidity | 29% | 26% | 24% |



NEWS FLASH :- High water rafting has now recommenced and Livingstone Island has reopened.

Where is Maramba River Lodge?

4K from the Victoria Falls in the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park

Contact Details?

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Sample Menu at the Restaurant

Cardamom & potato soup

Char grilled sirloin steak with red wine & roasted mushrooms

Dessert of the day

Further menus each Newsletter

Exchange rates:- US\$= 5,117 KW,UK£=8,444

Euro= 7,135KW, ZAR=636KW

For a quick trip over to view the Falls from Zimbabwe, Visas are required.
British -US\$55, Canadians -US\$75, Others-US\$30

Answers to the questions
What are the following used for?

- A concoction of hyena droppings and acacia roots
To ward off other predators
- Flowers of the scrambled egg bush (Glaucous cassia)
an aphrodisiac