



VICTORIA FALLS | LIVINGSTONE | ZAMBIA

Maramba River Lodge

Newsletter 13

www.maramba-zambia.com

October 2011

Staff News



Russell Young, The Director and Manager has been in African Tourism for 21 years.

Since 1999, he has seen the Lodge develop from almost nothing to the success it is today.

Previous to Maramba he was a Tour leader for an overlanding company, working on the shores of Lake Tanganyika and had a spell on the Lower Zambezi.

Married to Pippa, a nurse born in Tanzania, they have two girls, Kira and Nikita



Russell and Pippa with the girls

The Third Anniversary of our Newsletter

The first indication of The Lodge's presence is the attractive and imaginative sign on the Mosi-oa-Tunya road between Livingstone and the Falls. Elephants are often seen as you drive down the road to the gate. In fact, at this time of the year they walk through the Lodge to and from the Maramba river attracted by the lush vegetation and the tasty palms. Charlie Boorman, who noticed the Lodge sign last year and rode in with his crew of biking fanatics, returned again in September as promised.



Charlie, Russell and the staff and bikes

Postings on Charlie's Twitter page:-

'We are staying at a lovely river camp just along from the Victoria Falls'

'The elephants are working their way thru the bush along the riverside- right in line with the two massive crocs'

'22 elephants now by the Lodge'

'Thanks to Russell for looking after us at Maramba River Lodge'

The Victoria Falls

There are 3 different ways to measure a waterfall:- by height, by width and by volume. In terms of height, at 107m, the Victoria Falls does not feature in the top 800 waterfalls in the world, but it is the 10th largest by width and the 13th largest by volume. If you combine these factors there are 3 large waterfalls around the world: Niagara, Iguacu and Victoria Falls.

Niagara Falls is significantly smaller than the other two and although on paper Iguacu is larger, it is a multi-tiered waterfall that is broken into separate falls. It is a subjective opinion, but if you are looking for the highest, widest sheet of continually falling water, then the Main Fall of **the Victoria Falls is the largest waterfall in the world.** Information from interpretive boards at the Falls on the Zimbabwe side



Deborah Partridge wrote the following:-

Maramba River Lodge is a bush haven, close to the town of Livingstone with a range of accommodation: Luxury chalets, en suite canvas tents, safari tents and camping. It is not unusual to see crocodiles basking on the Maramba riverbank, watch pied kingfishers diving for dinner or dodge the huge bull elephants wandering through the grounds. Eat in the restaurant on-site, relax in the reading lounge, enjoy a Mosi beer at the bar or cool off in the swimming pool after a morning of activity in the Livingstone area. We stayed at Maramba in one of their very comfortable canvas tents so we could be close to the Lion Alert centre situated in the Mosi O Tunya National Park where we had volunteered for a couple of days. We became aware of the Lion Alert project after watching a TV programme and reading an article about it in the UK and were horrified to learn that lion numbers have dropped at an alarming rate from around 200,000 in 1975 to around 20,000 today. Their goal is to take captive born lion cubs, and in a 3 step programme to create a pride of lions that will bond together to hunt and fend for themselves in the wild. These cubs have claws and teeth and are ready to use them when they play, which is all part of their learning process so a safety talk before the walk starts is necessary so that us humans with soft skin are aware of how to behave around these wild cats. There is something very special walking behind two six-month old lion cubs, watching them run, play, climb over fallen trees, tentatively approach the river and stare with amusement at a two-metre crocodile basking on the opposite bank until exhaustion overtakes them and sleep comes. They curled up together and rested until energy renewed they were ready to go again.

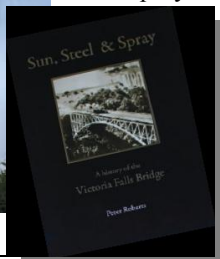


It would be a sad, sad day if the lion's roar could no longer be heard across the African wilderness. With this conservation programme and your financial assistance through participation in this activity we can all assist in the struggle to increase lion numbers in Africa.



Focus on The Victoria Falls Bridge

Peter Roberts, a freelance author and researcher has written the book 'Sun, Steel and Spray' telling the story of the bridge. Controversy reigned as it was being constructed in 1904 with opponents and proponents arguing their corners. Cecil Rhodes wanted it built 'where the trains, as they pass, will catch the spray of the Falls'. Nowadays the Bridge is a major touring attraction and visitors can now undertake a Historic Bridge Tour as well as Bungee jump. Bungee swing and travel on the Zip wire. Bookings for these can be made at the Lodge.



Weather for this period :-

	October	November	December
Max Temp	34 °C	33°C	30 °C
Min Temp	18 °C	19 °C	19 °C
Rainfall	2.5cm	7.0cm	16.9cm
Humidity	42%	55%	71%



Book with Bundu Adventures at the Lodge for a swim under the Falls. Clients accompanied by a qualified raft guide are taken by raft from the 'Boiling Pot' to beneath the Cascade. Crossing the rocks and boulders to get to the rock pools for a swim is a scramble, requiring physical agility and a good sense of balance. Available in October and November.

Good places to stay:-

Pioneer camp in Lusaka *All the comfort and tranquillity of a Safari Camp in the bush yet only a twenty five minute drive from Lusaka Airport and City. Excellent good value.*

Ivory Lodge near Hwange Game Park in Zimbabwe *Place of elephants with huts on stilts and a busy waterhole – wonderful place*

Ask at Reception for help with the booking



New LOGO for Zambia with the colours of the

National Flag, Sun for the constant sunshine and water for the waterfalls and rivers

★
Flights on Zambezi Airlines now between Cape town and Livingstone 3 times a week

★
Exchange rates
1\$=K5160, 1£=K7987
1Euro=K6066
1ZAR=K627

★
Zambezi River Festival
October 22nd-29th
One week packed with awesome races, competitions, prizes and parties
see www.thezambezi.com