ZAMBIA

Cycle To Victoria Falls







Duration: 10 days

Zambia is a wonderfully diverse country with spectacular natural beauty and a friendly culture. Source of the mighty Zambezi River, Zambia's most famous and spectacular feature is the magnificent Victoria Falls, one of the largest waterfalls in the world, named in 1855 by Dr Livingstone for Queen Victoria and abbreviated affectionately to Vic Falls.

Our adventurous cycle challenge takes us on- and off-road through the friendly towns and villages of rural southern Zambia, passing farmland and sugar cane plantations, spotting wildlife, and enjoying the everyday scenes of untouched Zambian village life.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart UK

Day 2: Arrive Lusaka

Transfer to our shady campground on a private game park near Lusaka. This is a wonderful introduction to Zambia, with curious zebra and giraffe wandering around the campground, which is set in native bush and has great facilities including a pool. We have time for a bike fitting before dinner – often a traditional BBQ or braai – and a trip briefing. Night camp.

Drive approx. 1 hour

Day 3: Rural Village outside of Kafue – Mazabuka

An early drive takes us from the meeting accommodation in Lusaka to a rural village east of Kafue, the start point of our adventurous cycle challenge. Our first day gives us a great introduction to this beautiful country. We ride on a mix of tar roads and good dirt roads, passing local villages and baobab trees before reaching fields and fields of sugar-cane plantations and the attractive tree-lined town of Mazabuka. Night camp.

Drive approx. 1.5 hours; cycle approx. 45-50km

Day 4: Mazabuka – Monze

A challenging but fantastic day of cycling through real rural Africa! The first 20km provide a great warm-up on tarred road, then we head into more adventurous terrain by taking to off-road tracks that wind between friendly Zambian villages. From good dirt roads to sandy tracks, it's challenging cycling but a very rewarding day which allows us to witness countless scenes of life in the subsistence farming villages we pass. The area is known for its agriculture, especially maize. We camp overnight on private farmland near the small town of Monze. Night camp.

Cycle approx. 70-105km

Day 5: Monze – Choma

Back on tarmac roads again, this is a longer day but on less challenging terrain! We head towards Choma, a friendly market town lying more than halfway along the main road to Livingstone. We pass more small villages many selling arts and crafts, and cross the railway line into Choma. Night camp.

Cycle approx. 75-110km

Day 6: Choma – Lake Kariba

A fabulous day's cycling awaits! After an undulating 25km ride on dirt tracks, we embark upon the wonderful road to Lake Kariba, an exhilarating downhill that's not to be missed! Most of our ride is on tarmac, with the last 25km on flatter dirt tracks, taking us to the edge of the lake. We can enjoy wonderful views of the rolling hills, and the surrounding islands on the lake. We spend the night beside the lake. Night camp.

Cycle approx. 70-95km

Day 7: Choma – Kalomo

An early start gives us time to transfer back up to Choma, where another fantastic day of off-road cycling awaits us. We pass through rural communities untouched by tourism – a rare insight into rural life here in southern Zambia and a real highlight of our African adventure. Many people rely on bicycles for transport, and we will generate lots of friendly interest! Our dirt roads are generally good, though there are some sandy sections which are more challenging and at times easier to walk through. Night guesthouse.

Drive approx. 2 hours; cycle approx. 50-60km

Day 8: Kalomo – Livingstone/Vic Falls

Our last day, and the thought of the incredible Victoria Falls spurs us on! We start with a short transfer, then cycle on well-surfaced tarred roads, passing small communities and enjoying the scenery and the camaraderie of our last day's biking in Africa. It's a long day, but we eventually come to Livingstone and cycle through it – and on to the Zambezi, and Victoria Falls. Around 2km wide and plunging down over 100m, the Falls – known as 'the smoke that thunders' – are truly spectacular. We stop at a wonderful viewing spot on the banks of the Zambezi approximately 1km before the boarder. We then either return to Livingstone or take a vehicle transfer to Vic Falls. A wonderful sunset cruise on the Zambezi then sets the scene for our evening of celebrations. Night lodge.

Cycle approx 40-60km

Day 9: Flight departs

Depending on flight schedules, there may be some free time before transferring to the airport for our return flight.

(Lunch not included if not in-flight)

Day 10: Arrive UK

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All transport from London to Lusaka / Livingstone return
- All meals except where specified, accommodation and camping equipment
- Discover Adventure leaders/mechanics; doctor with a group of 15 or more participants; local guides, drivers and cooks
- Vehicle support and backup equipment on the trip
- 21-speed mountain bike (Trek/Giant or equivalent)
- Entrance to Victoria Falls and any other sites visited as part of the itinerary

WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- Any meals specified 'not included' in the itinerary
- Travel insurance
- Cycle helmet (compulsory) and 2 water bottles
- Sleeping bag and sleeping mat
- Personal spending money, souvenirs and drinks, entrance fees to optional sites or attractions
- Zambia/Zimbabwe combined entry visa
- Tips for local support crew
- International airport departure tax
- Airline taxes: we cap these so £250.00 is the maximum you will pay
- Any applicable surcharges as per Terms and Conditions

GRADE | ORANGE

Trips are graded Yellow, Orange or Red, in increasing level of challenge. This trip lies within the **ORANGE** range.



The grade is determined by factors such as terrain, distance, climate, altitude, etc. Each colour grade has a **spectrum** which reflects the difficulty of these factors; trip duration, accommodation and living conditions (see icon) are also taken into account.

Trip grading explained

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Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.

Please note: This document was downloaded on 29 Mar 2024, and the challenge is subject to change.