

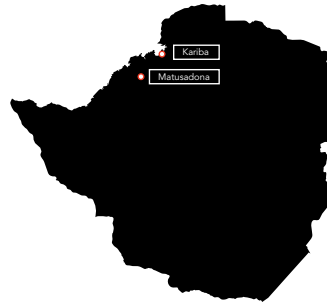
Issue 6 | 2020

# NZiRA

Travel Zimbabwe







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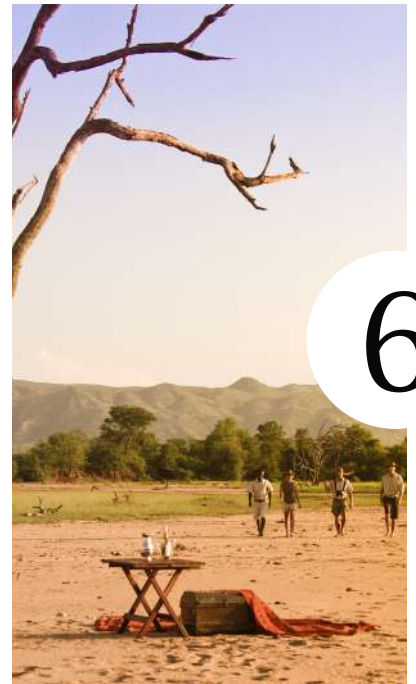
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# Print Magazine

## Coming Soon

We are pleased to announce our upcoming NZiRA Travel Magazine Issue 16. After having taken a long break and with the tourism industry finding its feet again we are excited to print once more!

We invite you to be part of this issue through advertising or contributing. Whatever your story let us help you tell it!

With you in travel,

*The Nzira Team*

## Status



Restaurants



Domestic travel



Domestic Flights



International Travel

[The Government has scrapped Value Added Tax \(VAT\) on the tourism industry as it moves to drum up support for the recently launched domestic tourism campaign meant to encourage locals to visit tourist attractions in the country.](#)

[- Sunday News](#)

### Publisher

**Mike Garden**

mikeg@softrite.co.zw  
+263 (0) 772 209 162

### Editor (Newsletter)

**Nomsa Nyoni**

travel@bindu.co.zw  
Tel: 024 2782720

### Design and Layout

**Tamuka Nyoni**

content@nzira.co.zw  
+263 (0) 775 363 706

### Advertising

**Rudo Nhamoinesu**

sales@softrite.co.zw  
Tel: 024 2782720

### Editor (Magazine)

**Adam Garden**

editor@nzira.co.zw  
Tel: 024 2782720

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nziramagazine

Nzira Cover Photo  
**Changa Safari Camp**



### Upcoming Event

The 59th edition of the Kariba Invitation Tiger Fish Tournament will run from the 18th to the 20th of November 2020 at Lake Kariba, Zimbabwe.  
[www.kitft.co.zw](http://www.kitft.co.zw)







# Warthogs Safari Camp

Article **Melissa Katunga & Juliet Mashiri**

Images **Warthogs Safari Camp & Melissa Katunga**

With most of us still reeling from the uncertainty surrounding us, and the world as a whole, something to consider may be a road trip to your preferred destination for some well-deserved rest and recreation. The NZIRA Team with trusty sanitiser and disinfecting wipes in hand recently set off towards Kariba over a weekend for just that reason.

We arrived at our destination Warthogs Safari Camp in the late afternoon on a Friday and were greeted at the entrance by Daniel who dutifully checked our temperatures and noted them down. Warthogs, aptly named after Foxtrot and Oscar, two warthogs that used to live on the property, amongst many other facilities ran as a quarantine centre during the onset of the pandemic, therefore the staff underwent the proper testing and training procedures which they continue to administer to ensure the safety of all their guests.

Our gracious host, Louisa led us to our weekend homes, the newly completed deluxe tents. The tents are ensuite and can fit up to four and three respectively, with a water boiler outside that is heated by fire on request for a hot shower if need be, however during the afternoon a cold shower is a welcome relief in the Kariba heat. Following a quick rundown from Louisa, we settled in, greeted with two Zebra sauntering across the floodplains in view from our tents. Warthogs is situated among Mopane trees on the shores of Lake Kariba.

Following some mandatory sundowners after a long drive, we headed to the restaurant for some sustenance, having placed our orders earlier with Chef Lloyd our bellies were eager to sample what Warthogs had to offer. We opted for the ribs, chicken and fish options from the menu and we were not disappointed. Following a delicious dinner, we tucked into bed for the night with nature's grunting hippo lullaby in the distance.

The following morning, taking advantage of our brief getaway, we decided to spend part of the day exploring some of the go-to spots in Kariba. We began with a detour for fuel at Marineland, from the station, we could not resist getting a closer look at the view; baboons included we had to make sure all car windows were closed as they do have a reputation for taking what does not belong to them. To our left, was Lake Kariba in all its majesty with the water lightly lapping on the pebbles that were strewn on the waterfront.

From there, we made our journey down to the Kariba dam where we each had to have our national identification cards for entrance. Due to COVID -19 rules, cars were not allowed to drive down to the dam wall and visitors had to walk. We were unprepared for the midday heat that enveloped us, the only thing that made it bearable was our trusty water bottles and the hope that our SPF 50 had provided enough coverage to avoid too much sunburn. On the brighter side, we were burning up calories from the pile of snacks always patiently waiting in the car to be feasted on from point A to B.

We could see the beautiful panoramic views of both the Zimbabwean and Zambian sides of the dam. Something we found fascinating from our tour, was the story of Operation Noah, a 5-year wildlife rescue operation, which successfully relocated over 6,000 animals, mostly to the Matusadona National Park, whilst Lake Kariba was filling up after the completion of the dam wall.

Back at Warthogs, we decided to take a quick dip in the pool or waterhole as it's been affectionately named, due to the elephants that come up for a cool drink of water. Conveniently situated on a game corridor Warthogs has some of the best wildlife passing right through the front of its camp and we could not resist a walk down to the floodplains to watch the hippos play and splash around in the water just before the sunset.

## TRAVEL TIPS

Some advice for all before travelling would be, to make sure you have a printed booking confirmation with you to show at roadblocks to prove your end destination and reason for travel to avoid any delays. Make sure all is in order with your vehicle, spare tyres and tools! Stock up the cooler box with plenty of water to stay hydrated, a groovy playlist is always a must – car karaoke helps pass the time whilst taking in the sights.

One more thing, make sure your air conditioning is functional, if not consider getting it re-gassed.

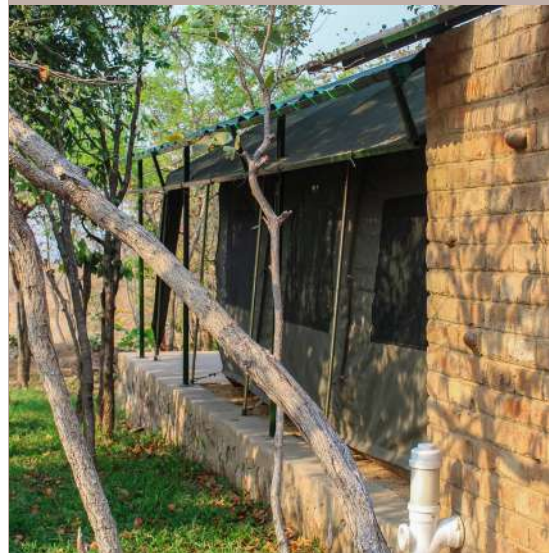
## ABOUT WARTHOGS

Warthogs' plans include sustainable energy, extending their tourism season and expanding their accommodation facilities with self-catering options coming in the not so distant future. The safari camp can be found on most online booking services including Airbnb, Expedia, TripAdvisor. Warthogs is a great affordable option when staying in Kariba with cheerful and attentive staff readily available to assist at all times.

For more details

Contact: **Louisa Harvey,**

0715 950 900 / 0775 068 406





**Kariba Animal Welfare Fund Trust**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH ZIMBABWE PARKS & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

# WELFARE OF WILD ANIMALS

Kariba Animal Welfare Fund Trust (KAWFT) was formed in July, 2010 by a few Kariba residents to raise awareness and funds for treating injured and distressed wildlife in the Kariba area mainly injured from poaching.

The Trust works closely with Zimparks as well as ZRP Minerals and the Flora and Fauna Unit. Assisting where able, in follow-ups on poaching, human-wildlife conflict, moving of Authority patrols on land/ water and many other areas where assistance is required.

KAWFT's main work consists of doing daily patrols for the removal of wire snares; with 2 teams of KAWFT personnel and Zimparks rangers going out 5 days a week in different areas of Kariba to remove the snares.

When these snare patrols started in 2011, the team was collecting up to 70 snares per day, but this figure went down significantly to an average of 178 per month. However, the year 2020 has experienced an increase in snares being set.

## ATTENDING TO ANIMALS WOUNDED BY ILLEGAL POACHING, ROAD KILL

Initial funds raised, have enabled KAWFT to procure a dart gun, backup equipment and send residents on a darting course. The purchase of these items has significantly reduced the cost and time spent to tend to these wild animals in need of attention.

Since inception, the KAWFT has worked with the Authorities in Kariba, Mana Pools, Marongora, Chirundu and Matusadona (Hyena, Elephant, Lion, Buffalo, Zebra, Fish Eagles, Wild Pig, Waterbuck, Pangolin, Python, Mongoose, etc.) by saving and treating many animals through darting, removing snares, administering medication and euthanasia where there is simply no choice. The Trust has also managed to move predators when there has been human-wildlife conflict.

The exercise of darting, searching and undertaking daily snare patrols is costly and the Trust is completely reliant on donations by well-wishers and fundraisers.

KAWFT creates awareness with regular emails, Facebook updates, images and WhatsApp updates regarding human-wildlife conflict and encouraging respect for wildlife and the environment. A good thing has come out of this; the attitude of people has changed as respect and concern for our wildlife and the environment has grown.

**For more information on how you can contribute towards this sustainable initiative, get in touch with KAWFT on the following: E-mail – [kawf2011@gmail.com](mailto:kawf2011@gmail.com)**



### CALLS

Debbie Ottman - **0773 996 487**  
Sonya McMaster - **0772 874 352**



### WHATSAPP

Sonya McMaster - **0778 733 784**  
Debbie Ottman - **0784 512 921**



### SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/KaribaAnimalWelfareFundTrustKariba](https://www.facebook.com/KaribaAnimalWelfareFundTrustKariba)  
Website – [www.kawft.org](http://www.kawft.org)







# Matusadona

## A Watery Wilderness

Article **Stephen Cunliffe**

Images **Changa Safari Camp**

Matusadona National Park takes its evocative name from the undulating Matusadona hills. However, it is Zambezi-fed Lake Kariba that dominates this iconic African safari destination. In a predominantly dry landscape, Matusadona is a watery wilderness. It is bound by sprawling Lake Kariba to the north, and two perennial rivers, the Sanyati and Ume, to the east and west. The park is fringed by a lush, grassy flood plain. This gives way to a diversity of habitats as you retreat south toward the Mopane and Brachystegia woodlands in the hills. Matusadona provides both a productive and jaw-droppingly beautiful setting for an African safari.

## 5 reasons you should visit Matusadona

### SAFARI BY BOAT ON LAKE KARIBA

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The majority of African safari-goers spend their days on safari being bounced, shaken and rattled over rough tracks in search of Africa's famed wildlife. So, there is something decidedly civilized and undeniably enjoyable about viewing your wildlife from the comfort of a boat. As you putter along the lakeshore you never know what lies around the next corner.

More than once we've entered a bay and found a big pride of lions quenching their thirst or guzzling a buffalo just meters from the water's edge. The more adventurous safari aficionados might prefer to trade in their boat for a canoe and the ultimate immersive safari experience. Drifting quietly past a herd of playful elephants cooling off and cavorting in the lake is one of the ultimate safari experiences.

### HOOKING INTO A BIG TIGER OR CATCHING DINNER

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Lake Kariba provides some world-class fishing opportunities in the warmer summer months when the fish are biting. You could be an avid sports fisherman in search of a big tiger or simply determined to catch your dinner. Fighting a wild tiger fish is an experience you won't forget in a hurry, with the drag screaming as these fish jump and fight. If catch-and-release, sport fishing is not for you, then baiting a book and going in search of a decent size Kariba Bream might be more your style. Caught and cooked fresh, this is unquestionably one of the tastiest freshwater fish on the planet!



## THE SUNDOWNER CAPITAL OF AFRICA

The flooding of Lake Kariba in the late 1950s created a water wilderness punctuated by drowned forests of ancient-looking trees that claw the sky. As the day slowly turns to night and a fiery-red-sun-ball sinks towards the horizon, these skeletal tree silhouettes make a sundowner setting like no other. Bird calls abound as there are over 240 bird species recorded in the park. You can listen to the ubiquitous fish eagle calling distinctively from its treetop perch before diving down in search of dinner. Hippos and crocodiles patrol the waters below. There can be a few better sundowner settings in which to sip your Gin and Tonic!

## TAKING A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

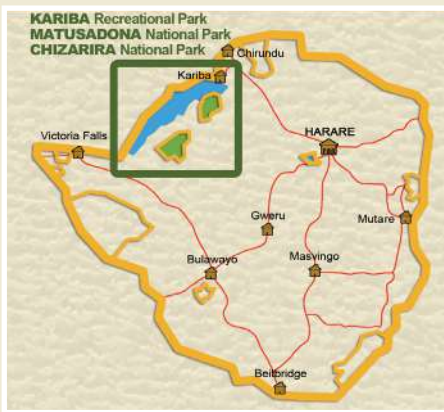
Zimbabwe is home to some of the very best nature guides on the continent. Matusadona caters to safari lovers of all appetites and denominations. You can take in the beauty of nature for a couple of hours on a bushwalk with a knowledgeable safari guide, or get off-the-beaten-track on a multi-day walking safari.

## CONTRIBUTING TO CONSERVATION

As amazing as Matusadona is today, it's a pale shadow of the wilderness it was when proclaimed a national park in the mid-1970s. In recent decades, the park has suffered from a lack of resources and manpower, and lost many rhino and elephants to poaching. However, on 1 November 2019, African Parks signed a 20-year management agreement with Zimparks to take over the running and rehabilitation of this protected area. The arrival of African Parks, one of Africa's leading conservation non-profits, heralds an exciting new chapter in the revival and restoration of Matusadona to its former glory. Being a part of that turnaround and contributing to a conservation success story will give your safari a powerful added dimension of purpose and meaning. There is a diverse range of activities available: bush walks, canoe safaris, boat cruises, fishing, birding and game drives. Very few safari destinations offer an experience of all these activities in one diverse and scenically spectacular wildlife area.

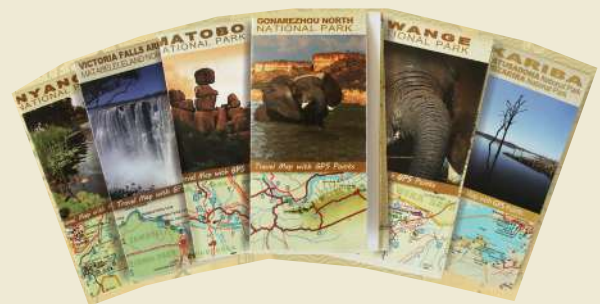






Are you exploring Zimbabwe?  
We have just the map for you!

Our maps have useful details such  
as GPS coordinates



Visit our offices at  
37 Victoria Drive, Newlands,  
Harare

Or call us on  
0242 782 720

**BambaZonke**







# Your Guide to Kariba

[www.zimparks.org.zw](http://www.zimparks.org.zw)

## ACTIVITIES

- 1** Guided Walking Safaris
- 2** Canoeing
- 3** Boat Cruises
- 4** Dam Wall Tour
- 5** Fishing
- 6** Sailing
- 7** Highlight Tours
- 8** Game Drives
- 9** Boat Transfers
- 10** Santa Barbara Church
- 11** Crocodile Farm Tour
- 12** Swimming
- 13** Picnics

## ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

- 1** Hotels
- 2** Lodges
- 3** Guest Houses
- 4** Self-catering Chalets
- 5** Houseboats
- 6** Tented Campsites
- 7** Bush Camps
- 8** Ordinary Campsites