TEMBO PLAINS CAMP

SAPI PRIVATE RESERVE | GREATER MANA POOLS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE







“Tembo” meaning Elephant and reflects more than just a place and a name honouring the animals on these plains. It speaks to long and unique relationships we have with elephants. We draw on their pace and their essence for the atmosphere in camp.

The camp is built into the thick riverine forest located on the Zambezi River’s edge, in the private Sapi Private Reserve east of Zimbabwe’s Mana Pools National Park. Tembo Plains Camp fits into our highest level brand, the Réserve Collection of camps alongside our other camps like Zarafa Camp, Selinda Camp, Duba Plains and Sitatunga Private Island in Botswana; Mara Nyika Camp, Mara Plains Camp, Mara Toto Tree Camp and ol Donyo Lodge in Kenya. It is also a proud member of Relais & Châteaux – the only camp in the whole of Zimbabwe given this honour.

Tembo Plains has four suites plus a beautiful 2-bedroomed Zanji Suite at Tembo Plains Camp, ideal for two couples, a family or a couple looking for the ultimate private safari. “When I designed Tembo Plains Camp it was with a view to reference the famous Zimbabwe Ruins but not lose sight of our love of canvas and exploring. So, we ended up with a unique combination of canvas and stone walls. The semi-circular walls inside each tent isolate the bath and shower from the bedroom, and indoor lounge areas bringing that architectural reference inside as well. Outside this pack-stone wall design continues along the back of the guest bedroom, and that really gives you a greater sense of privacy, often an issue in tents. Still, I didn’t want a completely ‘built room’, so the front has these uninterrupted views of Zambezi river flowing just meters away from the canvas ‘tented’ suite.” - Dereck Joubert, Great Plains CEO

Painted dogs (wild dogs), lions and leopards are seen around Tembo Plains Camp whilst buffalo, and of course, elephants, are often seen up and down the river, sometimes swimming the river itself.

The Sapi Private Reserve, established by Great Plains Conservation as part of our mission to convert vast tracts of Africa into pure conservation land, is now a beautiful private photographic reserve that borders the Mana Pools National Park. It is recognised as one of the finest wildlife destinations in Africa today. This fantastic wildlife sanctuary and the Mana Pools National Park that we can access if we want to, offer prime, protected wilderness for our guests. It is a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site and a core area of the middle-Zambezi biosphere reserve.

T: +27 (0) 87 354 6591 | AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY: +27 (0) 79 284 5945
WWW.GREATPLAINSCONSERVATION.COM / RESERVATIONS@GREATPLAINSCONSERVATION.COM

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CAMP FEATURES:

Tembo Plains Camp can accommodate a maximum of 12 adult guests.

Total Number of Bedrooms:

4 double or twin configuration suites,
1 x 2-bedroom The Zanji Suite at Tembo Plains,
1 guide tent with 2 three-quarter beds and a shared en-suite bathroom.

Type of Lodge:

Réserve Collection Safari Camp

Lodge Season & Opening:

April to November

CAMP CO-ORDINATES

15°39'17.6"S 29°41'05.3"E

ACCESS DIRECTIONS

- Light aircraft transfers from Harare International Airport (1 hour 35 mins);
- Victoria Falls International Airport (3 hours 50 mins);
- Private Air charters are available;
- Transfer time from a Sapi Private Reserve airstrip to camp is approximately 45 mins with wildlife viewing opportunities en-route;
- Please note that to fly from Sapi to Victoria Falls or Harare and then connect to some same-day international departure flights, guests may be required to book a private charter. We can confirm this at the time of enquiry.

ACTIVITIES

Wildlife viewing

Wildlife viewing activities at Tembo Plains Camp are focused on exploration and adventure. Many activities involve early morning and late afternoon/early evening safari drives. Guided walking opportunities and excellent boating activities on the Zambezi River are also highlights.

We choose to accommodate four guests (or two couples) on a safari vehicle; however, if a family or group travels together, we would easily accommodate up to six guests.

Each custom-built, open Toyota Land Cruiser is specially designed for the conditions and photography, including fold-down windscreens, raised roofs, photographic bars, and multi-plug inverters. The safari vehicles are fully stocked with reference books, drinks, and snacks.

Guests can experience up-close encounters with elephants, lions, leopards, hyenas, wild dogs, buffalo, eland, zebra, and other ungulate species. This is a prime bird-watching country, and opportunities abound for guests to spot resident and migrant species, especially in the early morning and late afternoon.

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Our schedule is flexible, and guests are encouraged to create their own itinerary according to their interests with guidance and recommendations from our professional guides.

Enjoy wildlife viewing from this property on our online HD hide-cam 24 hours a day. Visit greatplainsconservation.com/live-african-wildlife-webcam/#tembo-plains for more information.

Photography

Each suite comes complete with a professional camera and lenses, plus high-quality binoculars for guests to use whilst they are with us in Sapi. Photos will be shared with guests via a private online gallery, allowing easy access and download after departure.

Fishing

Enjoy the thrill of heading out on the Zambezi River with your guide to try your hand at catch and release fishing.

Private vehicle option

Available at an extra charge.

Private Guides

Private guides are encouraged and welcomed.

CENTRAL FACILITIES

- Tented safari main area which includes lounge, dining, interactive kitchen, library and wine cellar;
- Coffee/tea station;
- Fire pit with seating;
- Great Plains Safari Boutique selling locally and regionally produced crafts, many of which support local communities. The Boutique also stocks the d&b clothing line: Dereck and Beverly Joubert have inspired this bespoke range of clothing they typically wear, and which is perfect and cool while on safari yet elegant when in the city. All materials are responsibly sourced.
  Visit dbexplorercollection.com

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

- Our world-class meals are Relais & Châteaux recognised;
- All meals included and prepared by our Executive Chefs and their teams;
- All drinks and beverages are included, including imported spirits and champagnes;
- We are incredibly flexible on timings;
- Picnic breakfasts or lunch (or both) are the norms due to wildlife viewing activities;
- Group or individual dining;
- Outdoor and/or under canvas dining locations;
- All dietary requirements are catered for from regular to vegan to children, prior notice required.

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ACCOMMODATION DETAILS
BEDROOM FEATURES

- Four large canvas suites with outdoor sitting area;
- One large 2-bedroomed family suite with common outdoor sitting area; Each bedroom features its own en-suite bathroom;
- Canvas is light sand coloured, with netted windows;
- Private plunge pool and wrap around decking;
- Bar fridge with drinks of choice;
- Tea/Coffee station;
- Each bed has a mosquito net and suites have netted windows;
- Solar powered Air Conditioning (heating and cooling) facility located over the guest's bed in each suite;
- Standing Fans;
- Charging facilities in each suite;
- Suites are ideally appointed for honeymooners;
- Either twin or double bed configuration.

Bathroom features

- Each suite has an en-suite bathroom with a bath, an inside and outdoor shower, flush loo, and a basin.
- Soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, low voltage hairdryers provided.

ACCOMMODATING CHILDREN AND SHARING ACCOMMODATION

- Children are accommodated from a minimum age of 6 years;
- Triple accommodation in a standard suite for families travelling with children (aged 6 - 15 years) may be arranged upon request, at an additional cost;
- The Zanji Suite at Tembo Plains is an exclusive-use two-bedroom suite that can accommodate 4 adults sharing or a family of 5 guests with children (aged 6 - 15 years), sharing in two separate en-suite bedrooms;
- Families will be combined with other guests on all activities unless a private vehicle has been booked and paid for;
- Children of 6 years and older are welcome to participate in all scheduled camp activities;
- Young children must be supervised by their parents as the camp is open with high predator densities in and around camp and there is water surrounding camp; Pools are not covered. No babysitting services are available;
- Great Plains Young Explorers program – thoughtfully designed to explore a range of experiences and topics from birding to cooking to art to tracking wildlife.

SPA

A quiet, serene area for one to come and relax whilst your therapist pampers you with a range of treatments. Spa treatments are excluded from the nightly rate.

FITNESS

Each suite has an exercise bike on a wide veranda as well as small weights and yoga mats.

LAUNDRY

- Included in nightly tariff - next day service, weather permitting;
- Due to cultural sensitivities, our staff would prefer not to wash guests' underwear. Washing powder is provided if you would like to wash your own.

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POWER AND COMMUNICATION

Power

- The camp is run by a Tesla solar plant with generator back-up;
- The system produces 220V, 24-hour electricity.

Internet & Mobile

Wi-Fi available. No mobile signal.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health

- Medium risk – Malaria prophylaxis is recommended;
- Tsetse flies are found in the area - it is advisable to avoid wearing dark blue and black clothing which can attract them. We recommend bringing along antihistamine tablets and creams;
- Guests must hold comprehensive medical insurance and emergency evacuation insurance;
- Senior staff all have first aid training;
- Nearest decent medical facility is in Harare or Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and then Johannesburg in South Africa.

Possibility of Disabled Access

The camp layout and experiences are not conducive to guests who use wheelchairs due to the terrain.

SAFETY

- This is a remotely located camp and is unfenced to wild animals that do move through the property especially at night;
- Night Watchmen for wildlife;
- Fire extinguishers in the main camp areas and every suite.

MONEY MATTERS

Safes

Safes are provided in the guest suites.

Accepted Payment on Location

- Staff gratuities can be paid in US Dollars (2024 bills or later only), Euro and GB Pounds - preferably in cash - to the staff member concerned who has truly exceeded expectations in terms of hospitality, service, and experience;
- Visa and MasterCard credit cards are accepted (No Amex or Diners).

The Team
Lodge Owners
Great Plains Conservation







FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Sapi Restoration

In Zimbabwe, Great Plains is securing the Sapi Reserve, an expansive and fragile landscape that forms the heart of a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Middle-Zambezi Biosphere Reserve. The goal of the Sapi Restoration Initiative is to restore this depleted landscape through a combination of strategic protections, a comprehensive conservation plan, species reintroduction and conservation tourism.

Our landscape restoration efforts in Zimbabwe's Sapi Reserve follow in the footsteps of our nearly 15-years managing and protecting the Selinda Reserve in Botswana. In late 2016 Great Plains Conservation was awarded the 290,000-acre Sapi Reserve to conserve and manage. Hunted since 1957, this important area of Zimbabwe is set on the Zambezi River and borders Mana Pools National Park. Working with teams of world-renowned experts, the Great Plains strategy for the Sapi Restoration Initiative includes developing basic infrastructure, roads and communications systems, a strategic wildlife management plan, wildlife monitoring teams (including female rangers), support for ZimParks, species reintroduction, on-going flora and fauna surveys, and photographic tourism; all with a single goal in mind: to restore and protect this essential ecosystem.

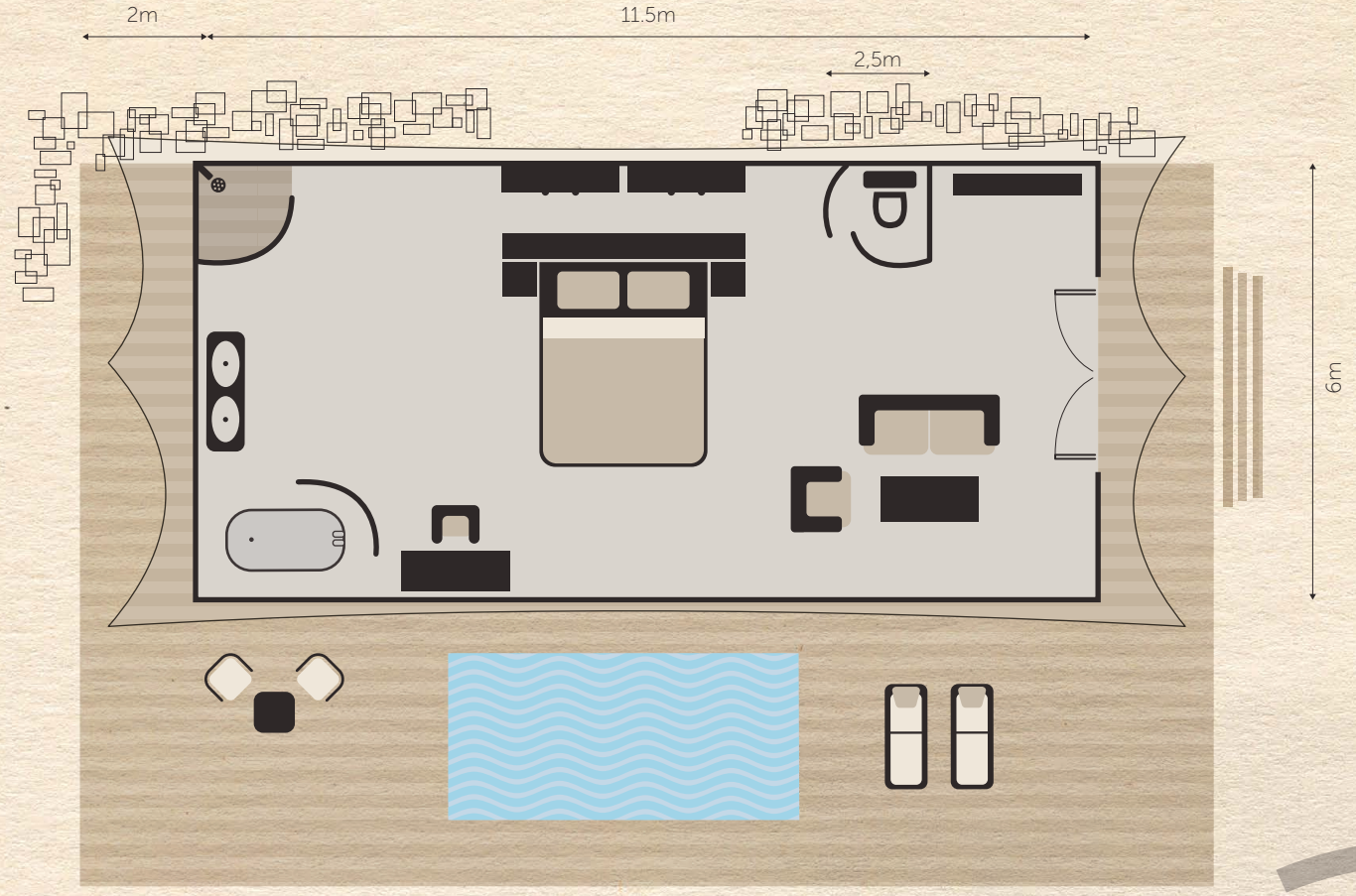
The Sapi Restoration Initiative represents large landscape conservation at its best, combining best practices in land management and sound business principals through the tourism. Learn more at www.greatplainsfoundation.com

In addition to our own programs Great Plains Foundation keeps a list of school needs in the countries where we work. Needed items can be hand-carried by travelers or we can help purchase them locally. To learn more or to help support students and educators as part of your trip please reach out info@greatplainsfoundation.com

GREAT PLAINS

TEMBO PLAINS CAMP

GUEST SUITE

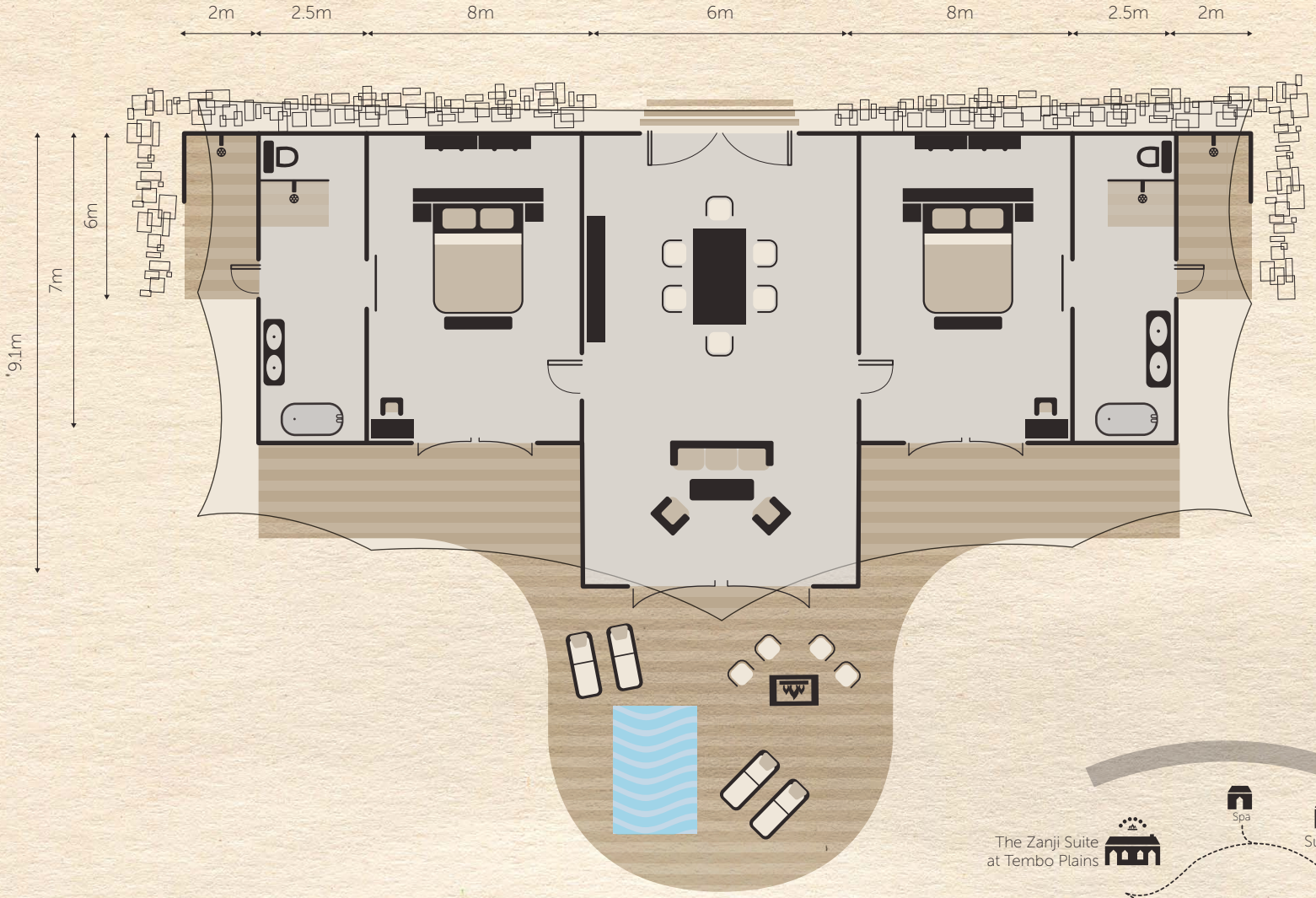


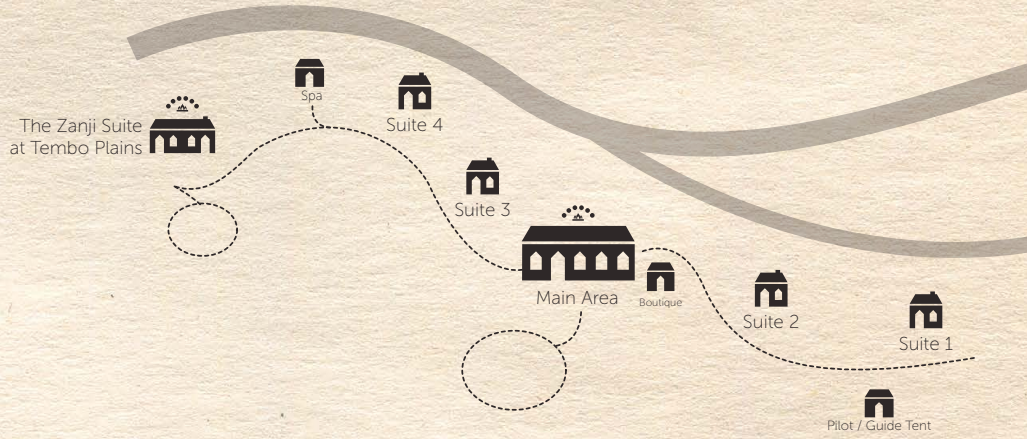


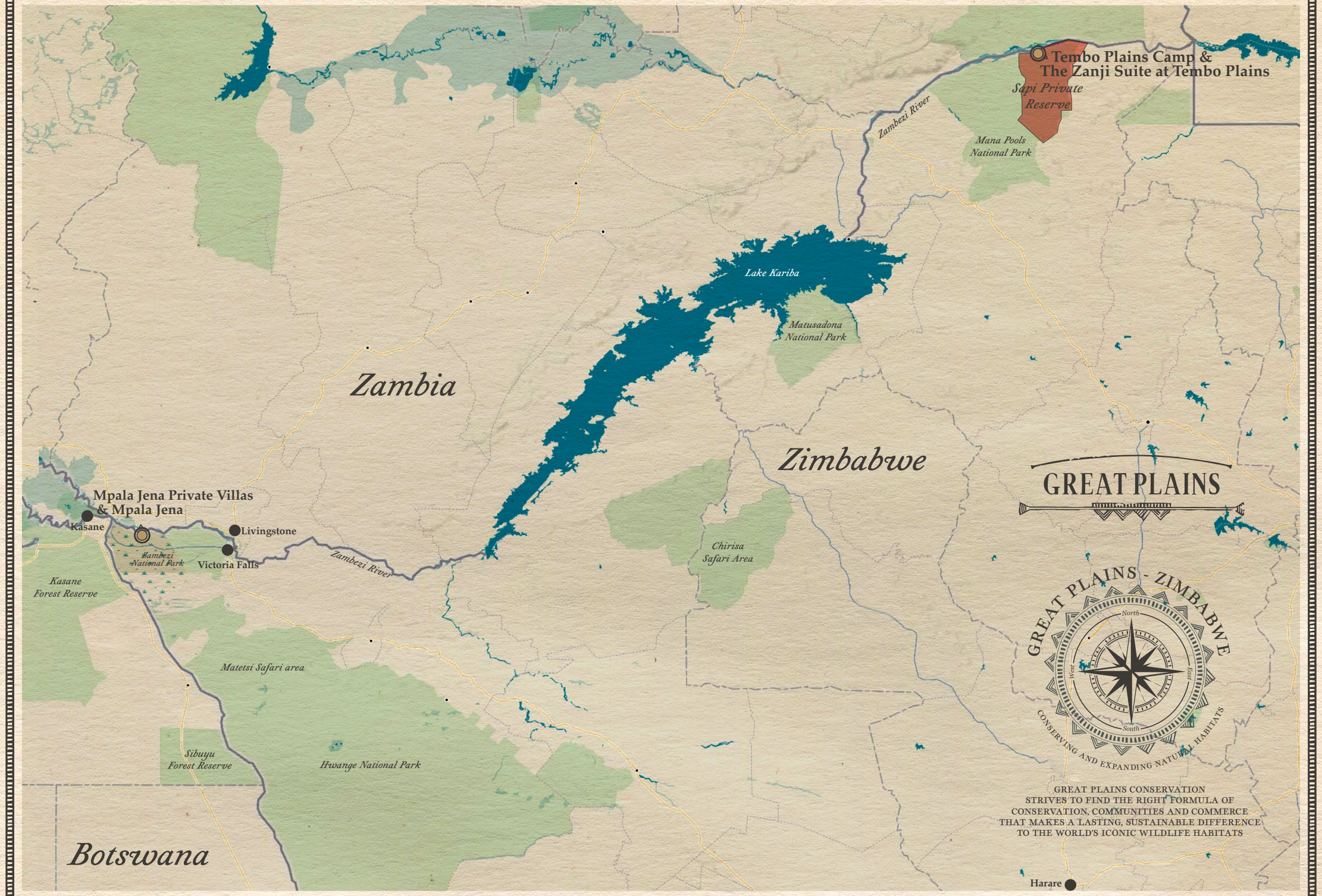
GREAT PLAINS

THE ZANJI SUITE AT TEMBO PLAINS

SUITE






Tembo Plains Camp &
The Zanji Suite at Tembo Plains
Sapi Private Reserve
Zambezi River
Mana Pools National Park
Lake Kariba
Matusadona National Park
Zambia
Zimbabwe
Mpala Jena Private Villas & Mpala Jena
Kasane
Livingstone
Victoria Falls
Zambezi National Park
Zambezi River
Kasane Forest Reserve
Chirisa Safari Area
Matetsi Safari area
Sibuyu Forest Reserve
Hwange National Park
Botswana
GREAT PLAINS
GREAT PLAINS - ZIMBABWE
North
West
East
South
CONSERVING AND EXPANDING NATURAL HABITATS
GREAT PLAINS CONSERVATION
STRIVES TO FIND THE RIGHT FORMULA OF
CONSERVATION, COMMUNITIES AND COMMERCE
THAT MAKES A LASTING, SUSTAINABLE DIFFERENCE
TO THE WORLD'S ICONIC WILDLIFE HABITATS
Harare

ZIMBABWE CAMPS

ACTIVITY	TEMBO PLAINS CAMP & THE ZANJI SUITE AT TEMBO PLAINS	MPALA JENA	MPALA JENA PRIVATE VILLAS
Camp Classification	Réserve Collection	Preferred Partner of Great Plains Conservation	Preferred Partner of Great Plains Conservation
Location	Private Sapi Reserve	Zambezi National Park	Zambezi National Park
Traversing	Private Sapi Reserve & Mana Pools National Park	Zambezi National Park	Zambezi National Park
Number of Suites	4 Suites	4 Suites	n/a
Family Accommodation	One 2-bedroom suite	2 Family Suites	2 Private 3-bedroom Villas
Children can be accommodated from:	6 Years	6 Years	6 Years
Safari Drives	Yes	Yes	Yes
Private Vehicle (at an additional charge)	Yes (Included with The Zanji Suite at Tembo Plains)	Yes	Yes (included)
Guided Walks	Yes	Yes	Yes
Boating	Yes	Yes (water level dependent)	Yes (water level dependent)
Fishing (Seasonal)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Main Swimming Pool and/or Private Plunge Pools	Private plunge pools	Main swimming pool	Private Swimming Pool
Shower	Indoor & Outdoor	Indoor & Outdoor	Indoor & Outdoor
Bath	Indoor	Outdoor	Indoor
Hairdryers (low-voltage)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mosquito Nets	Yes	Yes	Yes
Air Conditioning	Yes - Eco air-conditioner over bed	Yes	Yes
Fan	Yes (Standing)	Yes (Overhead)	Yes (Overhead)
Wi-Fi – in-room (complimentary)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Safe - In-room	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spa treatments (at an additional charge)	Yes	Yes (In-room only)	Yes (In-room only)
Fitness	In-room equipment	Yoga mats in each room	Yoga mats in each room
Boutique on site	Yes	Yes	Yes