

OWL Safaris - Tigerfish - Flyfishing Journey



Tigerfish - Flyfishing Journey

Upper Zambezi - Lower Zambezi

9 Days / 8 Nights

Group Size: | Single fly-fishers | Small Groups | Couples

Reference: OWL-TFFJ-001

Date of Issue: 02 March 2026



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

For the avid fly-fisherman seeking the ultimate Zambezi adventure, this carefully curated itinerary combines **eight nights of premier fishing experiences** across two of Zambia's most iconic river destinations.

Begin your journey at **Shackletons Tiger Fishing Lodge** on the Upper Zambezi, where crystal-clear channels, flooded banks, and expert guidance offer unrivaled opportunities for trophy tigerfish and other species.

After four nights immersed in the Upper Zambezi's wilderness, travel downstream to the **Lower Zambezi and Baines' River Camp**, where the river widens into a spectacular safari playground. Here, mornings and afternoons are spent pursuing tigerfish, exploring hidden backwaters, and enjoying optional river-based safaris, canoeing, or walking game drives. Alongside world-class fishing, both lodges provide luxurious accommodations, exquisite cuisine, and immersive encounters with the region's remarkable wildlife.

This itinerary delivers the perfect blend of **high-adrenaline angling, relaxation, and Zambezi riverfront adventure** for the discerning fly-fisherman.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Shackleton's Upper Zambezi Lodge	Upper Zambezi	FB+	4 Nights
Baines' River Camp	Lower Zambezi	FB+	4 Nights

Key

FB+: Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

Included

All regional flights
 Meals
 Accommodation on a twin basis
 Transfers
 Fully guided fly-fishing with expert guides
 2 fly anglers per boat
 National Park & Conservation Fees
 Wildlife Activities (Game drives & walking safaris specified)
 All drinks at Baines River Camp
 20L of fuel per boat per day

Excluded

International Flights
 Single room supplement
 Drinks at Shackleton's Fishing Lodge
 Travel & Medical Insurance
 Gratuities
 Extra fuel if the daily allowance is exceeded
 Single supplement for sole use of boat

Day 1-5: Shackleton's Upper Zambezi Lodge, Upper Zambezi

Upper Zambezi

From its source in the North-Western Province of Zambia, the Zambezi flows into Angola before re-entering Zambia and meandering down to the breathtaking spectacle of the world's largest waterfall, the Victoria Falls. This section of the river above the falls forms a natural border between Zimbabwe and Zambia, and it is here that the majority of water-based activities can be found. While the Zimbabwean banks are home to the Zambezi National Park, the Zambian banks are dotted with lodges blending into the natural landscape. The ideal way to appreciate the beauty of the Upper Zambezi is on a guided canoe trip, during which you can camp overnight on the river banks. Exhilarating wildlife encounters can be experienced as your canoe slips silently past a group of hippos, a crocodile lazing in the sun, or a herd of elephants drinking at the water's edge.

Day Itinerary

A day at Shackleton's Tiger Fishing Lodge begins with an early wake-up around 5:30 am, accompanied by coffee or tea and a light breakfast to prepare for the day ahead. Guests then depart by boat to the river for a morning fly-fishing session, casting for tigerfish and other challenging species in the pristine Upper Zambezi waters. By mid-morning, anglers return to the lodge for a short break before enjoying a fresh, satisfying lunch. The afternoon offers another fishing session from around 2:00 to 4:30 pm, allowing for more guided exploration of the river and its productive channels. After returning to the lodge, there's time for a short walk along the river or some birdwatching, followed by relaxing with sundowners on the veranda while watching the wildlife along the riverbanks. The day concludes with a carefully prepared dinner at the lodge and a restful night, ready to wake early and cast the next day again.

Expert Tips

OWL Safaris will supply fly-fishers with the best expert advice on tackle to bring, including the best flies for Tigerfish and other species found in the Zambezi. Tackle can be arranged on request.

Typical flies that work best for Tigerfish:- Streamers (bright, flashy patterns), Poppers (for surface strikes), Clouser Minnows, Deceiver patterns.

Best colours: orange, chartreuse, red, white, black

Important to bring:

Polarized sunglasses / Landing net with long handle and strong mesh / Forceps or pliers for hook removal / Protective gloves (optional, for handling tigerfish) / Fly box with organized patterns and spare hooks / Small towel or rag to dry hands

Additional Gear:

Hat, sunscreen, insect repellent / Waterproof dry bag for camera, phone, and small gear / Small first aid kit for minor cuts or hook injuries

Overnight: Shackleton's Upper Zambezi Lodge

Shackleton's Upper Zambezi Lodge is situated in south-western Zambia on the upper Zambezi River near the village of Mwandi (meaning a place of 'plenty fish'). Shackleton's provides access to 130km of the upper Zambezi River, called 'God's Highway' by David Livingstone. Shackleton's is open all year round, even when the Zambezi floods its banks each year to form the Zambezi floodplains.

The Lodge accommodates 12 people in thatched, en-suite chalets with private teak decks overlooking the Zambezi. The swimming pool, sun-downer deck, lounge, open dining area, and fire pit provide guests with unparalleled vistas of the upper Zambezi River. Shackleton's is a premier venue for spin, lure and fly anglers of all levels to fish for trophy Tigerfish, Bream, Tilapia and Catfish.



Activities

Fully Guided Fly-fishing Excursions

Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities
Tea and Coffee Included

Day 5-9: Baines' River Camp, Lower Zambezi

Lower Zambezi

Located on the Zimbabwean border in the southern reaches of Zambia, the Lower Zambezi region is best known as the home to the Lower Zambezi National Park which features exceptional, undeveloped wildlife areas. It is renowned for its abundant game - hippos, buffalo, crocodiles, fish eagles, and herds of elephants can be spotted, among other species. The landscape is characterised by rugged, unspoilt wilderness of vast floodplains, scattered with indigenous woodlands. Visitors can look forward to an array of wonderful activities along the Zambezi including game drives, walking safaris, canoe trips, and excellent tiger fishing.

Day Itinerary

A day at Baines' River Camp for a fly-fishing guest starts with an early wake-up, enjoying coffee or tea and a light breakfast before heading out to the Zambezi River for a morning fishing session guided by experienced staff. Anglers target tigerfish and other species, making the most of the river's clear channels and productive pools. Around midday, guests return to the lodge for lunch and a brief rest, preparing for the afternoon session, which may include more fishing or a combination of river safari, canoeing, or a guided walking game drive. In the late afternoon, guests return to the lodge to relax on their verandas, enjoy sundowners, and watch wildlife along the riverbanks. The day ends with a hearty dinner at the lodge and a peaceful night's rest, ready for another full day of fishing and river adventures.

Expert Tips

OWL Safaris provides fly-fishers at Baines' River Camp with expert guidance on the tackle to bring, including the most effective flies for tigerfish and other Zambezi species. If needed, tackle can also be arranged on request.

For tigerfish, the most productive flies include bright, flashy streamers, poppers for surface action, Clouser Minnows, and Deceiver patterns. The best colours to have in your fly box are orange, chartreuse, red, white, and black.

Essential gear to bring includes polarized sunglasses, a landing net with a long handle and strong mesh, forceps or pliers for safe hook removal, protective gloves if desired for handling tigerfish, a well-organized fly box with spare hooks, and a small towel or rag for drying hands.

Additional items to ensure comfort and safety on the river are a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, a waterproof dry bag for camera, phone, and small gear, and a small first aid kit for minor cuts or hook injuries.

Overnight: Baines' River Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Set under Jackalberry and Tamarind trees on the banks of the Zambezi River, you will find Baines' River Camp. Combining the tradition of an era gone by with modern world luxury, Baines' is the ultimate escape for the refined traveller.

Baines' River Camp can accommodate 20 people in 8 Explorer Suites and a Family Suite. Each luxurious, freestanding suite offers an atmosphere of elegance and privacy, boasting spectacular views over the Zambezi River. The suites are equipped with air-conditioning, ceiling fans, minibars, personal safes, king-size beds, and spacious bathrooms.

The camp location in the Lower Zambezi means guests are never far from exceptional wildlife and river experiences. Activities include game drives and walks in the Lower Zambezi National Park. Alternatively, explore the Zambezi River by motorboat and canoe or have a chance at catching a tigerfish.



Activities

Game Drive
River Cruises
Sunset cruises
Tiger Fishing

Canoe Safaris
Walking Safaris

Game Drive

Your best chance to see and photograph predators, large herds of buffalo etc. is on a game drive in an open viewing vehicle.

When possible, our guests enjoy the use of a private vehicle and a dedicated guide.

Best time to visit: June - November

River Cruises

River cruises make for relaxed game viewing, photography and bird watching. You will be entertained by baboons, hippo, elephant, crocodiles, waterbuck and the occasional buffalo on the riverbank and the Zambezi's various islands.

Best time to visit: 01 March – 30 November

Sunset cruises

Sunset cruises make for a spectacular end to a day in the bush. (01 March – 15 December)

Tiger Fishing

Anglers visit the Zambezi River especially to catch Tiger Fish, a fearsome game fish. Strict catch and release policy.

Canoe Safaris

Canoe safaris give a totally different perspective to the African wilderness. (01 June – 15 December)

Walking Safaris

Walking safaris are not for the faint-hearted and are best suited during the winter months. On a walking safari, the focus is mainly on tracks, vegetation, birds, butterflies etc.

Basis

Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

Tea and Coffee Included

Day 9: End of Itinerary

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
	Scheduled		Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport [LVI]		Royal Airstrip			
	Scheduled		Royal Airstrip		Livingstone Island			

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
		Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport [LVI]	Shackletons Upper Zambezi Lodge		Transfer
		Shackletons Upper Zambezi Lodge	Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport [LVI]		Transfer
		Royal Airstrip	Baines' River Camp		Transfer
		Baines' River Camp	Royal Airstrip		Transfer

Travel Information

Owl Safaris – Travel Quick Reference Guide

1. Travel Documents

- Passport valid **6+ months** beyond travel dates
- **2–3 blank pages** for visas and stamps
- Visas may be required depending on nationality – check before travel
- Carry **travel insurance info** and emergency contacts

2. Health & Vaccinations

- Consult your **local travel clinic** for the latest vaccine requirements
- Yellow fever certificate if arriving from endemic countries
- Malaria prophylaxis recommended in certain regions
- Bring medications & a basic first aid kit

3. Safety & Security

- Exercise usual caution in cities; avoid displaying valuables
- Follow ranger instructions and park rules in wildlife areas

- Stay informed about local conditions and political stability
- Use reputable transport operators

4. Money & Payments

- Major credit and debit cards are generally accepted in towns, lodges, and tourist areas
- Carry some cash for rural locations, markets, or smaller vendors where cards may not be accepted
- ATMs are widely available in towns and larger lodges, but may be limited in remote areas
- Check with your bank about international fees and notify them of your travel plans

5. Local Laws & Customs

- Respect local customs, dress codes, and religious sites
- Strict penalties for drugs or wildlife violations
- Environmental rules enforced – do not remove plants, animals, or coral

6. Transport & Driving

- Drive on the **left-hand side** of the road
- **International Driving Permit** recommended
- Rural roads may be unpaved; drive cautiously, especially at night
- Use reputable taxis, shuttles, or rideshare apps in cities

7. Communication

- Local SIM cards are inexpensive and widely available
- Internet is generally available in towns, lodges, and tourist areas
- Mobile coverage may be limited in remote areas

8. Climate & Packing

- Coastal areas: tropical; inland: arid; highlands: temperate
- Light clothing for daytime; warm layers for evenings/high altitude
- Comfortable walking shoes and safari-appropriate clothing
- Sun protection: sunscreen, hat, sunglasses

9. Wildlife & Nature

- Maintain a safe distance from animals; never feed wildlife
- Follow park rules and ranger guidance
- Binoculars and cameras recommended

10. Emergency Contacts

- **Contact Owl Safaris directly** for assistance or support during your trip
- Keep travel insurance provider contact info accessible

Tip: Travel prepared, respect local culture and wildlife, and enjoy an unforgettable adventure



This unique, peanut-shaped country, once known as Northern Rhodesia, offers visitors an authentic African experience complete with adrenalin pumping adventure sports, a variety of fascinating cultural activities, and an abundance of indigenous wildlife, which finds refuge in Zambia's vast national parks. Spend your evenings enjoying the spectacular site of the world's largest waterfall, the Victoria Falls, while sipping on sundowners after an exhilarating day of whitewater rafting down the rapids of the mighty Zambezi River. If that sounds a little too adventurous for your taste, take a houseboat cruise along the exquisite Lake Kariba while watching wild elephants drink at the riverbank as you try your hand at catching the elusive tiger fish. However you choose to spend your time in this unique country, you are bound to leave with a heavy heart and a desire to return again soon to this exceptionally beautiful Southern African country.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Local currency: Zambian Kwacha

Symbol: ZK

ISO code: ZMW

Subunit: Ngwee

Banknotes: 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 kwacha

Coins: 1, 5, 10, 50 ngwee, 1 kwacha

Banking

Card Transactions: Limited

ATMs: Yes

Mastercard: Yes

Visa: Yes

American Express: Limited acceptance

Diner's club: Limited acceptance

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Air:

Main airlines: Zambia Airways, Proflight, Airlink

International Airports: Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (LUN)

Domestic Airports: Yes

Road:

Driving on the: Left

Tar roads: Yes

Gravel roads: Yes

Valid International Driver's License needed: Yes

Car hire available: Yes

Taxis: Yes

E-hailing services: No

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Food and water safety:

Can you drink the tap water: No

Fresh fruit and veg: Yes

Ice: No

Meat: Yes

Street food: Yes

Local cuisine: Zambian cuisine features a variety of dishes, including Nshima (maize porridge), which is often served with meat, vegetables, or fish. Other popular dishes include Ifisashi (vegetables cooked in peanut sauce) and Biltong (dried meat).

Drinks: Mosquito (fermented maize), Chibwantu (traditional beer), and Munkoyo (fermented drink made from maize or millet).

Tipping: 10-15% is customary in restaurants if a service charge is not included.

Climate and Weather

Annual rainfall: Varies

Average temperature: 25°C

Summer:

Average highs: 30°C

Average lows: 20°C

Winter:

Average highs: 25°C

Average lows: 15°C

Best time to visit: The best time to visit Zambia is during the dry season from June to early November when wildlife viewing is at its best. However, the wet season from November to April offers lush landscapes and excellent birdwatching opportunities.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Spring and Summer

Cool, light, breathable and comfortable: Yes

Lightweight warm clothes: No

Winter and Autumn

Jerseys, cardigans, sweaters, jackets: Recommended

Heavyweight clothing and boots: No

General

Umbrella and raincoat: Yes

Warm gloves, hat and scarf: No

Swimming costume (bathing suit): Yes

Hat, sunglasses and sunblock: Yes

Walking shoes: Yes
 Casual: Yes
 Smart-casual attire: No

Internet Availability

Accommodation options: Yes

Electricity and Plug Standards

Plug Type: Type C, Type D, Type G

Voltage (V): 230

Frequency Hertz (Hz): 50

*Travel plug adapter and voltage converter might be necessary depending on your appliances.

Terms and Conditions

Owl Safaris Pty Ltd Terms and Conditions

1. INTRODUCTION

These Standard Terms & Conditions (“Terms”) govern all bookings made with Owl Safaris (“the Company”). By confirming a reservation and paying the required deposit, you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agreed to these Terms in full. These Terms may be supplemented or varied by conditions specific to your itinerary.

2. RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

2.1 Booking and Deposit

A booking will be considered provisional until the Company receives a **non-refundable deposit equal to 25%** of the total program cost. This deposit must be paid within **fourteen (14) days** of receiving your provisional confirmation. No binding contract will exist between you and the Company until the deposit has been received.

2.2 Failure to Pay Deposit

If the deposit is not received within the stated period, any held space may automatically revert to provisional status and may be released without further notice.

2.3 Final Payment

The final balance is due no later than **eight (8) weeks** prior to the start of travel. Failure to make the final payment may result in cancellation of your booking, with applicable cancellation fees charged.

2.4 Acceptance of Terms

By paying the deposit, you confirm that:

- You accept the itinerary and travel program as presented.
- You authorise the Company to make all bookings and arrangements on your behalf.
- You agree to be bound by these Terms.

3. CANCELLATIONS, AMENDMENTS & REFUNDS

3.1 Supplier Policies Take Precedence

All bookings are subject to the **cancellation, amendment, and refund policies of the individual service providers** (accommodation, transport, activity operators, etc.).

These supplier policies **supersede** the general guidelines below. Copies are available upon request.

3.2 General Cancellation Guidelines

Unless otherwise specified by a service provider, the following charges typically apply:

- **At booking:** 25% non-refundable deposit
- **8–4 weeks before travel:** Deposit + 25%
- **4–3 weeks before travel:** 50% of total cost
- **3–2 weeks before travel:** 60% of total cost
- **2–0 weeks before travel:** 100% of total cost

Some suppliers impose **100% cancellation fees within 45 days** of travel.

3.3 Cancellation Procedure

All cancellations must be submitted **in writing** and are effective from the date received by the Company.

3.4 Amendments

Requests to amend a confirmed booking will be accommodated where possible but may incur additional charges. Amendments are subject to availability and supplier approval.

3.5 No Refunds for Forces Beyond Control

No refunds will be given for unused services or itinerary changes resulting from circumstances beyond the Company's control, when changes are necessary to ensure safety or continuation of travel.

3.6 Travel Insurance

Clients are strongly advised to obtain comprehensive travel insurance inclusive of cancellation and curtailment cover.

4. ROLE OF THE COMPANY

The Company acts solely as an **agent** for hotels, lodges, airlines, charter operators, transport companies, boat operators, and all other independent service providers contracted for the client's itinerary.

These providers operate independently from the Company. As such:

- All travel services are supplied in accordance with the **terms and conditions** of the relevant provider.
- The Company assumes **no responsibility or liability** for loss, damage, injury, delays, or irregularities caused by any third-party provider or their employees.

Costs may be adjusted in the event of supplier increases or exchange-rate fluctuations.

5. ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Adventure and safari travel involve inherent risks, including but not limited to encounters with wildlife, challenging terrain, remote locations, and unpredictable weather.

Many service providers require participants to sign **indemnity forms or liability waivers**, which you agree to complete when requested.

You acknowledge and agree that:

- You are responsible for ensuring you are **medically fit** to travel.
- The Company shall not be held liable for illness, injury, or death except where directly caused by the **gross negligence** of the Company or its authorised representatives.

6. FORCE MAJEURE

“Force Majeure” refers to events beyond the reasonable control of the Company, including but not limited to natural disasters, severe weather, war, civil unrest, government actions, epidemics, border closures, or significant operational disruptions.

If a Force Majeure event affects your travel arrangements:

- The Company will notify you as soon as reasonably possible.
- The Company is not liable for delays, omissions, or failure to perform arising from such events.
- The Company may modify or cancel travel arrangements where necessary.

Any refundable amount will be determined at the **Company’s discretion**, subject to deductions for expenses incurred or commitments made on your behalf. Some suppliers may offer **travel credits** instead of refunds.

Where civil unrest occurs, if the Company assesses that travel can proceed safely and you choose not to travel, no refund will be payable.

7. LIABILITY OF THE CLIENT

The Company is not liable for injury, death, or loss arising from:

- Your own actions, omissions, or negligence
- Failure to comply with instructions
- Participation in activities undertaken at your own risk

You are responsible for safeguarding your personal property at all times.

8. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Company strongly recommends that all travellers obtain **comprehensive travel insurance** covering:

- Medical expenses
- Emergency evacuation
- Accidental death or disability
- Lost or stolen personal belongings
- Trip cancellation or curtailment
- Travel delays

You acknowledge that failure to obtain adequate insurance is at your own risk.

9. SURCHARGES & EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS

Prices are based on tariffs, taxes, levies, and exchange rates at the time of quotation. The Company reserves the right to adjust prices in response to significant currency movements or supplier-imposed surcharges.

10. TRANSPORT BY LAND, SEA & AIR

Transport services are provided in accordance with the **conditions of carriage** of the relevant airlines, charter companies, marine operators, and transport providers.

Operational decisions by carriers, pilots, captains, border authorities, and port officials may cause delays, route changes, or cancellations. The Company cannot accept liability for such events.

Your airline ticket or passenger contract constitutes the binding agreement between you and the carrier.

11. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

You are solely responsible for ensuring that you possess all required travel documents, including but not limited to:

- Valid passport
- Visas and entry permits
- Vaccination certificates
- International driving licences (where applicable)

Many African countries require passports to be valid for **at least six (6) months** beyond the travel period and to contain **two to three blank pages** for visas and immigration stamps.

Any additional costs incurred due to non-compliance with travel or health requirements are your responsibility.

12. SPECIAL REQUESTS

Please notify the Company of any special requirements—dietary restrictions, allergies, mobility concerns, room preferences, or other personal needs. While all reasonable efforts will be made to communicate these to suppliers, fulfilment of such requests cannot be guaranteed.

13. GOVERNING LAW

These Terms shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction in which the Company is registered. Any disputes arising under these Terms shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the appropriate courts.