

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOUR VISIT TO LUSAKA

Arrival at the Airport

Each school group will be met at Lusaka International Airport. Look for the *GIS Summit* signs.

Upon arrival at the airport you will be required to complete customs formalities as well as obtain a visa if necessary.

Visa Information

According to the Zambian Immigration website, www.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm, if you are coming to Zambia for business, then you may purchase your visa at the airport. In order to do this, you need a letter of invitation from the school. Upon receipt of your completed registration, we will send this letter as a PDF file. Print the letter on a color printer.

The website also has information as to which nationalities need to obtain visas and which don't (most do!) There are single entry, double entry and multiple entry visas which can be purchased, depending on your plans after the conference. Different passport countries also attract different Visa fees (and are subject to change at short notice) so please be sure to check the website for current fees. Visas must be paid for in cash in US dollars. Make sure that you have the correct amount in hand, as there may be a problem getting change.

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for international travelers. You will not be required to show this document when entering Zambia, but after visiting Zambia, your country of destination may ask to see this if they know you have come from Zambia. Yellow fever is not endemic to Zambia. It only occurs in the extreme Western Province.

Getting to your Hotel [If you opt for the Protea or Taj Pamodzi only]

If you are staying at the Protea or the Taj Pamodzi, they have a bus service to their hotel. We cannot assure transportation to and from the conference from these two hotels (20-30 minutes away) and so taxi cabs would be required.

Money

The unit of currency in Zambia is the Kwacha. The rate at the time of publication (Sept 2009) is Kw. 4,600 = US\$ 1. Money can be changed at the larger hotels or the bureau de change, and it is easier to change US\$ than other currencies. You can get a better exchange rate with US\$100 bills than small denominations. ATMs are also available.

There is no limit to the amount of local or foreign currency that can be taken in or out of

the country, though you may have to declare this at customs. Please note that although Kwacha is a convertible currency, it is not generally accepted in other countries, so avoid changing too much money.

Electricity

The electricity in Zambia is 220 volts, 50 cycle and outlets require the British style square pin plugs. There have been an increasing number of power cuts recently. However, most larger establishments do have their own back-up generators. The school also has power back up.

Climate / Dress

It is warm and still a part of the rainy season in late February. An umbrella or rain gear is recommended. Temperatures range from the mid-20s to 30 degrees C (70s- 86 degrees F). Appropriate school wear would be the norm. Revealing clothing is not recommended.

Malaria

Malaria is a common and serious tropical disease endemic in Zambia. All visitors to Zambia must take malaria prophylaxis. See your medical personnel for current medical recommendations.

Medications and Personal Items

If you are taking medication, or require specific personal items, be sure to bring an adequate supply in your hand luggage for your trip to Zambia.

Excursions within Zambia

Arcades Shopping Mall (Lusaka)

The mall has a “Spar” supermarket, a chemist, banks and a bureau de change. There is also a small range of shops, various restaurants and bars, and even a cinema, as well as a Sunday morning craft market.

Kabwata Cultural Village

Situated near Lusaka City Center, the village is primarily an outlet for locally-produced wooden carved items. There is even a “hut” that is run exclusively by women, for women.

Protea Lodge (Chisamba)

Approximately an hour and a half drive out of Lusaka, Protea Lodge offers lodging, dining, and game viewing. It also has a pool and Sunday Lunch Buffet.

Adventure City

Adventure City is a pool and waterslide complex, within walking distance from the school (approx 2km). Entrance is very inexpensive, and food and drinks are available for purchase.

Victoria Falls

Livingstone is around a 7 hour drive or 40 minute flight from Lusaka and has a considerable amount to do for those of an energetic nature. Aside from visiting the famous Victoria Falls, there are a wide range of activities such as, white water rafting, jet boating, bungi jumping and abseiling. There are many hotels and lodges available ranging from basic to luxury.

The Africa House (Shiwa N'gandu)

Shiwa N'gandu is a remote, stately home built in the 1920s by Stewart Gore-Browne, a British colonial who came to what was then Northern Rhodesia to fulfill a dream, and ended up playing a major role in the territory's peaceful transition to independence as the nation of Zambia. Shiwa N'gandu still stands today and is now owned by his eldest grandson, who has undertaken its restoration.

Game Parks

There are game parks and lodges throughout Zambia. South Luangwa National Park is probably the most well known. This is approximately 10 hours drive from Lusaka and 4 wheel drive vehicles are definitely needed. Flights to the Park are also available. Lower Zambezi and Kafue National Parks are closer and only a 3 hour drive from Lusaka. They are very popular destinations for those who wish to game view and/or fish on the rivers.

Zambia has a wide range of places to see and things to do. If you would like to spend a few extra days in Zambia, please contact Angela Banda at Voyagers Travel Agency on angela.banda@voyagerszambia.com, or Linda Bennett at Wilderness Safaris lindab@wilderness.co.zm. They will be happy to assist you in organizing your itinerary

More Information

For more general information about Zambia, please look at the following websites.

www.zambiatourism.com

www.lonelyplanet.com/zambia