

## **ELEPHANT’S EYE, HWANGE – FACT SHEET**

### **LOCATION:**

Elephant’s Eye, Hwange is located on a private concession (2500 hectares), a mere 13 km from the entrance to Hwange National Park in the western area of Zimbabwe. The national park is fenceless, therefore wildlife from the park are free to roam and are often found in large numbers on our concession.

Hwange National Park is the largest National Park in Zimbabwe and is 275 km south east of Victoria Falls town.

The lodge is a 2 hour drive from Vic Falls. Directions – Please see separate document with directions.

### **GPS CO-ORDINATES:**

Elephant’s Eye, Hwange - S18 35.859 E26 57.955

### **CLIMATE:**

Summer months (Mid November to March) tend to be quite hot with cool nights and the highest rainfall of the year.

Green Season: 1 Jan – 31 March and 01 - 31 Dec

Mid Season: 01 Apr – 30 June and 01 – 30 Nov

High Season: 01 July – 31 Oct

Cooler months (April to early October) These months have warm days, clear skies but cooler nights, thus warm clothing is required.

### **ACCOMMODATION:**

Elephant’s Eye, Hwange has 8 tented thatch chalets all overlooking a waterhole. Each bedroom has a King size bed that can be split into twin beds and an en-suite bathroom (bath and double basin) as well as an outside shower. All the rooms are built on stilts. A built-in fireplace in each room ensures for warm and cozy nights during the winter.

### **CHILD POLICY:**

Children accepted from +7 years; Children under 7 years will be on a request basis.

\* Children aged 7 – 15 years (maximum 2 children) stay free of charge when sharing with 2 adults;  
Children aged +16 years pay full adult rate.

\* Children occupying their own chalet:

Children aged 7 – 15 years pay 50% of the adult rate; Children aged +16 years pay full adult rate.

### **THE MAIN AREA:**

The main communal area consists of an indoor and outdoor dining space, communal Boma area, bar, Curio shop, and spa. There is also a natural ozone eco swimming pool. WIFI is available in the main area.

**SOLAR POWER AND USE OF ENERGY:**

All geysers are solar powered and our solar lanterns (console jars) are not only decorative, but also serve to give extra lighting in the evenings.

As an eco-lodge, staff make a concerted effort to keep lights switched off where possible.

**ECO-FRIENDLY POOL:**

Our pool is a natural ozone pool, which is safe for any swimmer – killing bacteria, fungi, viruses, and reduces chloramine odours. This also makes for a tasty drink for the large herds of elephants.

**FOOD:**

We utilise the surrounding villages to supply fresh produce to the lodge where possible. This will facilitate empowering the local farmers and support the villages in a continuous and sustainable way. We take pride in our healthy but tasty philosophy. To this end we endeavour to produce fresh home made food wherever possible.

**GUEST AMENITIES:**

All guest amenities including shampoo, conditioner, hand and body lotion, foam bath, liquid gel and soaps are sourced from eco-friendly suppliers. These are endorsed by 'Beauty without Cruelty' and where possible, use organic ingredients which are biodegradable.

**WATER SUPPLY:**

Water is supplied from our underground borehole and all waste water is cleaned using a Biobox designed septic system. Once the water has been cleaned it is returned to the soil. We do not utilise any scarce surface water from the area and water taken from the earth by means of borehole is returned.

**ACTIVITIES OFFERED:****Game drives:**

Explore Hwange National Park and our private concession in an open safari vehicle. Our expert guides track the game and know exactly where to look, driving on the dusty roads with great skill. Guests observe the wildlife comfortably from the safety of their vehicle. Game drives are either half-day (in the morning or afternoon), full-day, or in the evening for nocturnal game viewing.

**Guided Walks:**

Exploring the bush on foot gives you an entirely unique experience of the wilderness and its wildlife. Our expert guides will accompany you as you track animals through the African bush, offering you the opportunity to see a vast array of smaller flora and fauna that are often overlooked whilst on a game drive. Walking safaris allow you to touch, breathe and truly immerse yourself in the beauty of what nature has to offer, as well as up close encounters with wildlife, becoming part of the African landscape.

**Horseback Safaris:**

Replace the hum of the safari vehicle with the clip-clop of hooves and occasional soft neighs of your horse. Observe game from a completely different vantage point and feel like you're part of the action, as the antelope will acknowledge you as one of their own, allowing you to get closer even than on foot. Stop to admire the landscape of grasslands, acacia trees, and waterholes teeming with wildlife. It's just you, your horse, and the surrounding bush.

**Waterhole Sundowners:**

The sunsets in Zimbabwe are warm and golden— no two are ever the same – and what better way to enjoy them than by having your own private sundowner at either the lodge's main watering hole or at one of the neighbouring waterholes situated in the heart of the open bush. As the light slowly fades, watch a wide variety of game come down to drink all whilst sipping on a refreshing cocktail until eventually, a blanket of stars lights up the sky above.

**Eco-Spa:**

Breathe a sigh of relaxation when embarking on a visit to our on-site spa; 'Jwapi', meaning 'Ground Hornbill'. Enjoy a variety of luxurious treatments in the natural tranquillity of Mother Nature. The spa's philosophy is about rejuvenating the mind, body, and soul through a unique combination of African and western massage techniques. Guests can soothe the tension of city life and leave feeling renewed.

**Bush Dinners:**

Our bush dinners set out under the stars are one of the main highlights of the Elephant's Eye, Hwange experience. Our focus is on fresh food, combining interesting flavours and textures with a contemporary yet informal approach. The experience is further enhanced by open fire cooking; traditional methods that are quintessentially African. The chef is also more than happy to provide you with plenty of choices for those with special dietary requirements.

**The Eye Starbed:**

Our sleep-out deck, affectionately called 'The Eye', allows guests the rare opportunity to fall asleep under a starlit sky. After dinner, guests are escorted to 'The Eye' to experience a private performance of African sights and sounds – the evening orchestrated by the creatures of the night. The experience is enchanting, the romance of being enveloped by stars with the thrill of wildlife moving beneath you, fully immersed in nature.

**Community Upliftment Experience:**

Guests are given a chance to interact with and learn more about the culture of local Dete residents through three different engaging and non-intrusive but enlightening experiences and projects. Dingani Primary is the local primary school close to our lodge. As a rural African school it might be quite different to what you are familiar with back home, a visit to the school an enlightening opportunity to see the inspiring hope, dedication, and resourcefulness of the staff and students. You will also visit the 'Vukani' project, a group of elderly and/or disabled men and women who use ordinary glossy (donated) magazines to make the most beautiful pieces of beaded jewellery. The third project is the 'Thandanani' sewing initiative; a self-sustaining business started by the local women. Their designs and fabrics are truly African in style and

beauty, the perfect gift for someone or simply just to add a touch of Africa to your home to remind you of your travels.

<b>Activities: Frequently Asked Questions</b>	
1. What type of activities are available?	Full day game drive Half day game drive Concession drive Evening concession drive Game walk on the concession Painted Dog Conservation Centre Cultural upliftment experience Horseback Safaris Bird watching Sundowners at the water hole Jwapi Spa treatments
2. How long are the Full Day and Half Day Game drives?	Full day game drive : 6:30 -17:30 Half day game drive : 3 - 4 hours
3. Is lunch provided on the game drives? Drinks/snacks?	Drinks and snacks are provided on game drives. Lunch is served on full days - at around 1pm at a picnic spot.
4. Are children allowed on Game activities? What is the age limit?	Yes, from 7yrs up for game drives & 16yrs up on game walks.
5. Is there a fence around the concession?	No, there is no fence between the concession and Hwange National Park.
6. Can I go for a walk on the concession without a guide?	No, guests are to be escorted on the concession by a guide. Guests can freely move around the lodge during the day.
7. What kind of animals can I expect to see?	Elephants, Leopard, Lion, Warthog, variety of birds, Buffalo, Painted Dog, Cheetah, Aardvark, Jackal, Giraffe, Hares, Hyena, Mongoose, Civet, Genets, Honey Badger, Monkey, Bat-eared fox, Zebra etc.
8. Cultural upliftment experience	Just outside the Elephant's Eye, Hwange concession in the Dete area. A guide accompanies guests for translation and introduction of families.
9. Painted Dog Centre	Just past Hwange Airstrip on the way to Elephant's Eye, Hwange. Guest will visit the visitors centre and rehab centre to see the dogs. A donation of \$5 per person is requested.

<b>Room Facilities: Frequently Asked Questions</b>	
1. How many chalets are there?	8 thatch roof and tented chalets.
2. Do rooms have electricity?	Yes
3. What view do they chalets have?	All the chalets have a view of the waterhole.
4. How many people can fit in 1 chalet?	Triple (3 Adults - Double + Single ) or 2 Adults + 2 children (1 Double + 1 Single)
5. Is there a family chalet for children?	No family chalet
6. Which chalet is closest to the Main Area? Recommended for old people?	Chalet 1 - 3 is the closest. Chalet 7 and 8 are the furthest.
7. Is there internet in the chalets?	No
8. What are the room facilities?	King size bed, mosquito net, en suite bathroom with bath and outside shower. Hot water bottle in winter. Fan. tea & coffee facilities, mosquito repellent, emergency air horn, fireplace, solar lamps.
9. Is there a safe in each room?	Yes
10. Is there a fridge in the room?	No
11. Are there laundry services available?	Yes
12. What time does rooms service clean?	When guests are on game drives.

<b>Main Area: Frequently Asked Questions</b>	
1. Is there a Spa?	Yes, a spa is available.
2. Is the dining area outside or inside?	Outside and inside, Boma dinner, as well as concession bush dinner. Private dinner can be arranged on the balcony of each room and at The Eye.
3. Does the lodge have a pool?	Natural Ozone Eco Swimming pool.
4. What time is breakfast/lunch/dinner served?	Discussed with guests.
5. Can I have a Boma dinner?	Yes
6. Is there a bar?	Yes
7. Is there a sleep out deck?	Yes, The Eye. Guests can sleep under the stars, it overlooks a waterhole. Mosquito net covers the bed.
8. Entertainment?	Elephants drinking from the pool.

<b>Other Info:</b>	
1. Where are the Elephant's Eye, Hwange transfers to/from?	Hwange Main Camp, Hwange Airport, other lodges in the Hwange area (Hwange Safari Lodge, Sable Sands etc.
2. How will we be transported? What type of vehicle?	Open Land Cruiser

3. Can I Self-Drive?	Yes – please give directions to guests self-driving.
4. What are the directions?	Separate page.
5. How far is Vic Falls from EE?	2 hour road transfer, 45 min by flight.
6. When is the best time to visit?	From July to the end of October.
7. What type of clothing do you recommend I pack?	Neutral coloured clothing, warm jacket in winter.
8. Can we charge phones?	Yes, electricity is provided in each chalet, adapter available.
9. Check-in & Check-out Times	Check in: after 2pm Check out: 10am Earlier check in or late check out can be arranged.
10. Mobility / Accessibility: are we geared for Disabilities (Wheelchairs etc.)	No, however older guests are placed in chalets 1-3 due to shortest walking distance.
11. Can guests walk to their rooms?	Guests are escorted to their rooms at night, by a guide.