

Seasonal Changes at Royal Zambezi Lodge – www.royalzambezilodge.com

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Night temp. (°C)	24	23	22	18	15	10	10	15	19	24	26	26
Daytime temp. (°C)	34	32	30	29	28	25	25	28	30	36	36	35
Rainfall	Rainy season with many days dry and lighter rainfall towards April.				Clear blue skies and no rain or a very exceptional small shower.					First sporadic rains in November and then building up (we hope), characterised by thunderstorms and clear sunny intervals.		
Weather	Warm rainy season with very dramatic sky colours, sunrises and sunsets.				Getting slightly cooler.	Fresh cool early mornings and evenings. Warms up quickly as the sun rises.		Getting warmer and still dry.		Warmer as rainy season starts.		Warmer with more rain with striking thunderstorms.
Vegetation and Scenery	Still green and lush as the rains recede towards April. The scenery looks stunning with little or no dust. Amazing birding and ideal light for photography.				Rain has finished and the bush is getting drier. Wonderful clear skies for stargazing. The game gets even more visible as the grass dries off and leaves fall. The dry season starts.			Sunny and dry with vast open views and game congregating near water. The haze often adds to that sunset photo. The unforgettable smell of the first rain hitting the soil.			New leaves and shoots coming through and the bush starting to look green again.	
Game Viewing	Very good and lots of young animals to be seen.				Brilliant and even more visible as water holes dry up and game gets denser around water. More game in and around camp as food gets scarcer and the Winterthorn trees' pods mature. Elephants love them!					The "Emerald Season" starts in earnest.		
Malaria	It is a malaria area. Mosquitos tend to be more active in the warmer wetter part of the year. Care after dark - covering wrists and ankles, and using insecticide sprays and cream in the evening tend to keep it well under control. It is not considered a major risk at Royal.											
Fishing	The waters can be murky after heavy rain upriver but when it settles the fishing is great.				The fishing in the "winter" is a little slower but the big ones are still there and catchable.			Great fishing as the water temperature rises and the fish become more active.				
Birding	Brilliant with all the Palearctic and other migrants still around.		Very good with some intra-African migrants including the iconic Carmine Bee-eaters arriving in August.					Getting even better as palearctic and intra-African migrants start to arrive.			Birding is now at its best - African Pitta and Narina Trogon around.	