

RHODESIA'S

Parks & Wild Life Estate



RHODESIA has set aside 44 688 square kilometres, or over 11 per cent of its land, as a Parks and Wild Life Estate. Within this estate are found national parks, botanical reserves and gardens, sanctuaries, safari areas and recreational areas — all fulfilling a vitally necessary place in the holiday plans of all Rhodesians and visitors to the country.

Inherent in the Parks & Wild Life Act, under which these vast areas are administered, is a recognition of the unique value of our natural heritage. It also recognises the need for mankind to have access to what are some of the world's few remaining extensive tracts of unspoiled wilderness, to witness the interdependence of large and varied wild-life communities, and to contemplate the richness of indigenous flora.

The Parks and Wild Life Estate includes areas from the cool mountains of the Eastern Highlands to the sun-washed grasslands of Wankie National Park; from hot mopani forest to the shores of Lake Kariba. It is this variety of scenery and setting, as much as the abundant wild life to be seen, that draws the visitor to Rhodesia.

Within the estate, holiday accommodation in keeping with the natural surroundings has been created. This accommodation is not intended to provide a type of service which hotels offer, for the visitor is expected to participate himself in creating the atmosphere of his holiday.

On the following pages a brief guide to the principal tourist areas within the Parks and Wildlife Estate is given, with details of accommodation, facilities and situation. In each of these the visitor will find something of great interest. For the motorist good roads connect all these areas, and the national airline, Air Rhodesia, provides daily scheduled services to areas of major tourist interest.

■ More detailed information on individual areas is available from the Department of National Parks and Wild Life Management, P.O. Box 8151, Causeway, Rhodesia. General holiday information on Rhodesia is available from the Rhodesia National Tourist Board, P.O. Box 8052, Causeway, Rhodesia.



Below: The Chimanimani Mountains offer a superb challenge for the experienced climber, but there are also opportunities for extended mountain walks in the valleys between the 2 400-metre-high peaks. This upland area is also rich in interest for the botanist.

BANGALA Recreational Park

A 28-square-kilometre park created around the Bangala Dam. There are no facilities for visitors and the area's attractions are boating, fishing and unspoiled natural surroundings.

■ 103 km from Chiredzi (last 24 km on a gravel road).

CHARARA Safari Area

This 1 700-square-kilometre area borders the north-east shore of Lake Kariba, extending from the outskirts of the township of Kariba itself. A network of gravel roads provides an opportunity for good game-viewing as animals move from their feeding grounds to the lake shore to drink. Game viewing on foot is permitted. In addition, the lake scenery and angling, particularly for tigerfish and tilapia, are attractions.

■ P. Bag 2002, Kariba. Tel. 265, Kariba. Nyanyana Camp on mouth of



Rhodesia's PARKS & WILD LIFE ESTATE

Scale

0 50 100 150 200 km



Nyanyanya River, 28 km from Kariba, of which the last 5.5 km is on a gravel road. Caravan and camping site, within 100 m of lake shore (\$1.50 per site per night). Firewood available at 50c per bag. Launching slipway.

CHIMANIMANI National Park

This 171-square-kilometre park includes almost all of the superb Chimanimani Mountain Range that lies within Rhodesia, an area of rugged grandeur with peaks rising to over 2 400 metres. This is a place for the ardent hiker and climber, for access is by foot only, and food must be carried in by the visitor. The mountains should be treated with respect, as the region is subject to sudden storms and mists. Fishing for trout in the Bundi River is permitted from October 1 to April 21, and licences are available from National Parks staff.

■ P. Bag 2063, Melsetter. Tel. 0-3322 Melsetter. Mutekeswane Camp, at foot of mountains, 31 km from Melsetter on gravel road: camping site (\$1.50 per

site per night). Mountain chaler, situated in mountains three hours' hard walk from Mutekeswane Camp: male and female dormitories with bunk-beds and sleeping bags with linen. Limited quantities of tin mugs, plates, pots and pans are also provided. Cold showers and toilet. Tariff: \$1 per adult nightly, children 3-15, 50c nightly. Accommodation cannot be booked in advance. Camping (free) is permitted anywhere in the park other than at Mutekeswane Camp, at own

FIREARMS

Visitors entering any area under the control of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management must declare any firearms in their possession. If they wish to take these with them into the area, an officer will seal the weapons and levy a fee of \$3 per seal. This does not prevent the weapons from being fired, but an attempt to do so will break the seal.

risk, but prior permission must be obtained.

CHIRINDA FOREST Botanical Reserve

This is one of the last remaining areas of primeval forest within Rhodesia. 949 hectares of forest has been protected, including Rhodesia's tallest indigenous tree — a red mahogany (*Khaya nyasica*) over 60 metres high.

Besides its lofty trees, this area is noted for many unique types of flora.

■ 35 km south of Chipinga. The last few kilometres are on a gravel road.

CHIZARIRA National Park

This remote 1 910-square-kilometre park is bordered to the north by the steep Zambezi escarpment.

A wide variety of wild life may be seen, including the relatively rare black rhino; but due to the well-wooded and broken country,



Above: A display of aloes at Ewanrigg Botanical Garden near Salisbury. This is a world famous collection of what is predominantly an African flora. The peak of the flowering season occurs from late June to early August.

game viewing is difficult and will satisfy only the real enthusiast. Game viewing is permitted on foot. Along the escarpment, where perennial streams occur, there are many spectacular gorges.

■ P. Bag DT. 5779, Dett. Tel. 310, T.A.: "Parklife", Victoria Falls, 50 km south-east of Binga. Exclusive camp for up to 10 persons (\$80 for 6 nights). Roads suitable for 4-wheel-drive vehicles only. Permission to enter must be obtained, in writing. Entry fee: adults \$3; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

DARWENDALE Recreational Park

This is a newly created park, embracing the recently created 81-square-kilometre Darwendale Dam on the Hunyani River, 30 kilometres downstream from the Robert Melliwaine Recreational Park. No development has taken place, and the park's principal interest lies in fishing, boating and the restful natural surroundings.

■ P. Bag 2004, Darwendale. Tel. 0-3503, Darwendale. 85 km from Salisbury, off the Bulawayo road.

EWANRIGG Botanical Garden

This 283-hectare garden has an international reputation for its extensive displays of aloes and cypads, growing along the sides and crest of a small ridge dominating the other collections of plants in their setting of green lawns and indigenous woodland. The peak of the flowering season for the aloes is late June to early August. Another particularly colourful time is September-October, when the Barberton daisies, fuchsias and begonias are blooming. The park also has a wide selection of cacti and stapeliaceae.

■ P.O. Box 8119, Causeway, Salisbury. Tel. 02030 Arcurus. T.A.: "Parklife", Arcurus, 40 km from Salisbury on road to Shamva. No accommodation. Picnic sites. Daily entrance fee: adults 20c; children 3-15, 10c.

GONAREZHOU National Park

This 4 964-square-kilometre park has been open to the public for a relatively short time only. The public are therefore advised to behave with

discretion, particularly when close to elephant, buffalo or rhino. The rare nyala and black rhino may be seen here. Game-viewing on foot is allowed. Fishing is permitted on the Lundi River only, and good catches of bream and tiger-fish can be expected. There is attractive scenery along the Nuanetsi River, and overlooking the Lundi River are the magnificent red-sandstone Chilojo Cliffs. Only 4-wheel drive vehicles are permitted to use roads within the reserve.

■ The reserve is divided into two sections, the Chipinda Pools and Mababuta areas, between which there is no road link. Entrance fee: adults \$3; children 3-15, 50c. (any number of visits within 7 days). Open April 15 to October 31.

CHIPINDA POOLS AREA. P. Bag 7003, Chiredzi, T.A.: "Parklife", Chiredzi. Nearest petrol Chiredzi. *Chipinda Pools Camp*, 59 km from Chiredzi on gravel road; caravan and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). *Chinguli Camp*, 30 km from Chipinda Pools camp; camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). *Chilojo Camp*, 30 km from Chipinda Pools camp; camping site (\$1,50 per site per night).

MABALAUTA AREA. P. Bag 7017, Chiredzi, T.A.: "Parklife", Bulawayo. *Swimuwini Camp*, 116 km from Nuanetsi on gravel road; 2-bedroom chalets (\$5 per night), caravan and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). Regular petrol available. Game trails on foot operated by National Parks. Nearest store Chikombedzi, 40 km from camp. Prior permission, in writing, must be obtained to enter this park.

KAZUMA PAN National Park

This 312-square-kilometre park is set within the Matetsi Safari Area north of Wankie National Park. A series of natural pans here are flooded seasonally, and while full provide an ideal habitat for a wide selection of waterfowl.

The west of the area is open grassland, while the east is more wooded and well-watered and, therefore, supports a larger game population. Among species to be seen here are gemsbok, oribi and cheetah. Game-viewing on foot is permitted.

■ P. Bag 5920, Victoria Falls. Tel. 310

HUNTING

There are limited opportunities for hunting within safari areas, and detailed information is available from the Department of National Parks & Wild Life Management's head office in Salisbury. (P.O. Box 8365, Causeway, Salisbury).

T.A.: "Parklife", Victoria Falls.

There are no facilities within this park and, due to its remote nature, prior permission to enter must be obtained from the regional warden at Victoria Falls or the warden in charge of the Matetsi area.

KYLE Recreational Park

This park includes within its 169 square kilometres Lake Kyle, an artificial lake constructed to provide water for the vast irrigation schemes of the Lowveld. On the lake's northern bank is a 76 square kilometre game park, within which are situated the park headquarters and the national park accommodation. 64 km of game-viewing roads enable the visitor to see a number of antelope species, in addition to white rhino, buffalo and giraffe. Game-viewing on foot is permitted in special areas, and pony-trails are operated within the game area. There are no supplies of any kind within the game park, the nearest food being available at Fort Victoria, 35 km to the west. Petrol and diesel fuel is available within the game park. Good fishing for black bass is available in the lake, and licences must be obtained from National Parks staff, prior to fishing.

On the southern shore of the lake are commercial resorts offering accommodation and boats for hire.

■ P. Bag 9136, Fort Victoria. Tel. 2913. T.A.: "Parklife", Fort Victoria. 32 km east of Fort Victoria. 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 per night) and 1-bedroom lodges (\$5,50 per night), camping and caravan site (\$1,50 per site per night). Entrance fee: adults \$1; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

MANA POOLS National Park

Mana Pools is one of the most beautiful national parks in the country, occupying 2 196 square kilometres of well-treed land along the shores of the Zambezi River. The animal population



Above: Game-viewing on the shoreline of the Matsadona National Park at Lake Kariba.

is varied and numerous, from hippo in the river to elephant, rhino, buffalo and many types of antelope on the shore. Game-viewing on foot is permitted. The bird life, both along the river and in the bush, is particularly prolific. Good fishing for tiger-fish, bream and the giant vundu is available. No licence is required, but great care should be taken — crocodiles are numerous. Permission to enter must be obtained in writing.

■ P. Bag 2062, Karoi. In the Zambezi

RESTRICTIONS ON DOGS

Dogs are not allowed in any accommodation area, caravan park or camping site, without the prior permission of the warden having been obtained. Such permission will be granted only in exceptional cases, such as a lead dog for a blind person. Under no circumstances will a dog be allowed in any game area. Where dogs are permitted, they must be under the effective control of their owners at all times.

Valley, 101 km from Makuti. Open May 1 to October 31. Petrol available. Msangu and Muchichiri lodges: 6-bed lodges near Mana Tree Lodge and warden's office (\$17 per night). Nyamepi Camp: caravan and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). Vundu Camp: 2 sleeping huts, dining hut and toilet (accommodation for 6, \$50 per 6 nights). There are also isolated fishing camps along the river with minimal facilities (camping only). Entrance fee: adults \$3; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

Regular petrol available.

MANJIRENJI Recreational Park

Encompassing Lake Manjirenji (formerly Lake McDougall), this 35-square-kilometre park's attractions are boating, fishing and unspoiled scenic surroundings. There are no facilities for visitors.

■ 65 km from Chiredzi (62 km on a gravel road).

MATUSADONA National Park

The park covers 1 370 square kilometres, one-third of which is provided with bush roads. Elephant, buffalo, impala, kudu and waterbuck are plentiful, especially along the shoreline, while rhino, eland, sable, roan, and lion are frequently seen. Game-viewing on foot is permitted. Tiger-fish, bream and vundu may be caught in the lake or inlets and no fishing licence is required — but beware of crocodiles.

Petrol (regular grade only) is available, but no other supplies can be provided. Some camping equipment may be hired, but this should be booked well in advance of any visit.

■ P. Bag 2003, Kariba. Situated on

Below: White rhino within the Kyle Recreational Park, near Fort Victoria. Both species of rhino, white and black, occur within Rhodesia's principal game areas.



southern shore of Lake Kariba. (By boat: 13 km from Bumi Hills, 48 km from Kariba. By road: 268 km from Karoi on gravel/earth road, unsuitable for saloon cars for last 82 km). Exclusive camp for 10 persons (\$80 for six nights). Camping site at Tashinga on lakeshore (\$1,50 per site per night). Camping site with limited ablution facilities at Changachirere (\$1,50 per site per night). The camping grounds are open and entry by boat allowed all year. Entry by road restricted to May 1 to October 31. Entry fee: adults \$3; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days). Where day visitors land by boat at Tashinga or Changachirere and use the picnic site facilities only and do not proceed more than 200 metres into the park from the shoreline, the charge is 25c each. Day visitors landing on the shoreline and staying within 200 metres of the water are not charged an entry fee. Firewood, 50c per half bag.

MELSETTER Eland Sanctuary

This is a 12-square-kilometre area adjacent to the small town of Melsetter, which has been created to protect the resident herd of eland, Rhodesia's largest antelope species.

There are no national park facilities here but there is an hotel and a caravan and camping site at Melsetter.

MUSHANDIKE Sanctuary

64 km of good gravel roads, laid out in scenic drives, enable the visitor to see sable, kudu, waterbuck, klipspringer, grysbok, and duiker in this 129-square-kilometre area centred on Mushandike Dam. The birdlife here is also of great interest. Game-viewing on foot is permitted. Within the area,

BOTANICAL RESERVES

Within the Parks and Wild Life Estate, botanical reserves to protect rare or endangered indigenous plants, or representative plant communities growing naturally in the wild, have been established. These reserves exist in their own right or within other areas of the estate. They are too numerous to list or include in the map.

Visitors who have a greater-than-average interest in botany may obtain details of these reserves from the Department of National Parks & Wild Life headquarters in Salisbury.



Above: An aerial view of Mare Dam, within the Rhodes Inyanga National Park. This is one of three artificial lakes within this park which have been stocked with trout and where lodge accommodation has been created along the banks.

conservation courses for Rhodesia's schoolchildren are held throughout the year. There is good fishing for black bass in the dam, but licences must be obtained from National Parks staff prior to fishing.

No supplies are available, the nearest petrol being at Mashaba (22 km).

■ P. Bag 9036, Fort Victoria. Tel. 312-25 Mashaba. T.A.: "Park-mush", Fort Victoria. 40 km from Fort Victoria. Caravan and camping sites (\$1,50 per site per night). Entry fee: adults \$1; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

NGEZI Recreational Park

This quiet spot is ideal for a relaxing weekend. Its 6326 ha include the Ngezi Dam which offers reasonable fishing. Game viewing on foot here can be very rewarding. No supplies are available. Regular petrol is available at Warden's office.

■ P. Bag 207, Featherstone. Tel. Umniati 426. Featherstone 63 km. Battlefields 67 km, Que Que 88 km. 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 per night), caravan and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). Entry fee: adults \$1; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

RHODES INYANGA & MTARAZI FALLS National Parks

Most of the Inyanga area lies at an altitude of between 2000 and 2300 metres, rising to 2592 metres at the summit of the country's highest mountain, Inyangani. This upland area, rich in pine forests, sparkling streams, tumbling waterfalls and rolling downs, has long been a favourite holiday area with Rhodesians. Many of the rivers have been dammed to form small lakes. These, and the rivers, have been stocked with trout, providing a challenge for the holiday fly-fisherman. Cecil Rhodes loved Inyanga, and his personal estate, bequeathed to the nation, forms much of the park area. Earlier people also found Inyanga a pleasant and safe place in which to live, for stone ruins and terraces cover hundreds of square kilometres of countryside.

There is a nine-hole golf course within the park, and three others a short distance away. Tennis courts may also be hired, and boats are available on the Mare Dam. The area is well served by hotels, and petrol and other supplies are available at Inyanga village and Juliusdale, both 8 km from the Warden's office.

■ P. Bag T.7901, Umtali. Tel. 0-1450 Inyanga. T.A.: "Parklife", Juliassdale. **Mare Dam:** 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 per night) and 1-bedroom lodges (\$5,50 per night). **Nyamziwa Falls:** Special camp for four persons (\$25 for six nights). **Pungwe Drift:** Special camp for six persons (\$50 for six nights). **Rhodes Dam:** 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 per night) and 1-bedroom lodges (\$5,50 per night). **Udu Camp:** 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 and \$8 per night). **Mare Caravan Park:** large well-treed site (\$1,50 per site per night). **Inyangombe Camping and Caravan Site:** large well-treed site (\$1,50 per site per night).

RHODES MATOPOS National Park

43 700 hectares of the Matobo Hills — an area of bare granite masses often topped by balancing rock-formations, and thickly wooded valleys — forms the Rhodes Matopos National Park. Within this area dams have been constructed and 2 600 hectares set aside as a game park, where white rhino, buffalo, giraffe, eland and many other types of antelope may be seen.

In addition to its unusual beauty, the Matopos is rich in historical associations — the Bushmen decorated many of the caves with wonderful paintings — the Matabele revered the area as a place of spirits and sought refuge here during the 1896 Rebellion — Cecil Rhodes achieved his greatest triumph here when he brought the Matabele Rebellion to an end, and he lies buried on the summit of a hill he had christened "View of the World".

Petrol and supplies are available 8 km from the main park office. Fishing



Above: Boating is permitted on most estate waters and is a particular attraction at recreational parks created around large bodies of water. Visitors to Rhodesia do not require boat licences.

is permitted in the dams, and licences must be obtained prior to fishing, from the park office. Boating is also allowed, but details should be obtained from the Warden.

■ P. Bag K.5142, Bulawayo. Tel. Matopos 0-1913. T.A.: "Parklife", Bulawayo. **Maleme Dam** is 54 km from Bulawayo, while **Mtshielele**, **Mpopoma** and **Toghwana** are further within the park. **Maleme Camp:** 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 and \$6,50 per night), 2-bedroom chalets (\$4 per night), 1-bedroom chalets (\$3 per night), caravan and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). **Mpopoma Dam:**

caravan and camping site (boil drinking water) (\$1,50 per site per night). **Mtshielele Dam:** caravan and camping site (boil drinking water) (\$1,50 per site per night). **Toghwana Dam:** caravan and camping site (boil drinking water) (\$1,50 per site per night). **Arboretum:** caravan and camping site (boil drinking water) (\$1,50 per site per night). Entrance fee to game park: adults \$1; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

ROBERT McILWAINE Recreational Park

On the southern shore of the 16-km-long Lake McIlwaine, around which the 61-square-kilometre park is situated, is a game park of 1 600 hectares. Game-viewing on foot within a specified area is permitted. Most of

Below: Massive wind-sculptured rock formations are the principal feature of the Rhodes Matopos National Park, but within this large area is Rhodes's grave, a game park and ancient rock paintings.



REMAIN IN YOUR CAR

Visitors to game areas are not permitted to leave their cars while on game-viewing drives. This requirement is to protect the visitor, who often does not appreciate how dangerous a wild animal can be. Visitors who break the rule may be required to leave the park, in addition to paying a fine — a step staff are most reluctant to take.

In certain areas, exceptions to this rule are made, and these are detailed under the individual areas.

the National Parks accommodation, together with swimming pools and play areas for children, can be found here. Along the northern bank are boating club sites, a hotel, tea garden, boat station and caravan and camping sites.

Fishing in the lake is good for tiger-fish and bream, and licences must be obtained prior to fishing, from National Parks staff or lakeshore establishments. Care should be taken as there are crocodiles in the lake. For the ornithologist the park provides an opportunity to see a wide range of Rhodesian birds and migrants, up to 200 species having been recorded in a single weekend by local enthusiasts.

Petrol is available on the north bank, and the nearest store is at Norton 24 km from the park.

■ P. Bag 962, Norton. Tel. 229 Norton. T.A.: "Parklife", Norton. 40 km west of Salisbury on the Bulawayo road. **Game Park**, on southern shore of lake: 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 per night), 2-bedroom chalets (\$4 per night), 1-bedroom chalets (\$3 per night), caravan and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). Entrance fee: adults \$3, children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days). **North Bank:** caravan park and camping site (\$1,50 per site per night). Firewood must be provided by caravanners and campers.

Below: The Sleeping Pool at the Sinoia Caves Recreational Park.



Above: The 1,5-kilometre-wide Victoria Falls forms the centre of a national park which includes a large game area.

RUSITU FOREST Botanical Reserve

A 150-hectare area of low-altitude dense forest. There are no facilities for visitors and the area is primarily only of interest to botanists.

■ 50 km south of Melssetter. The final access to the forest is on a poor gravel road.

SEBAKWÉ Recreational Park

The main attraction of this small, 27-square-kilometre park is its coarse fishing, which is open all year round, although limited game-viewing (on foot if desired) is available. Like its neighbour national park, Ngezi, this is a pleasant place in which to relax for a short period.

No supplies are available, and the nearest petrol station is at Que Que (51 km).

■ P.O. Box 636, Que Que. Tel. 2476-29 Que Que. 54 km from Que Que on Umvuma road. 2-bedroom lodges (\$6,50 per night), camping and caravan sites (\$1,50 per site per night). Entry fee: adults \$3; children 2-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days).

SINOIA CAVES Recreational Park

The outstanding feature of this recreational park is a 30-metre-

BOATING

Rhodesian holidaymakers are reminded that power and sailing boats used on estate waters require to be licensed. Boats owned by visitors to Rhodesia are not required to be licensed, nor are canoes and rowing boats owned by private individuals required to be licensed.

Licences are valid from July 1 in one year to June 30 the following year and are obtainable from the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management head office, 3rd Street/Jameson Avenue, Salisbury.

Temporary licences, valid for one month, are available.

wide by 45-metre-deep shaft in the limestone rock, at the foot of which lies a large pool of clear water over 90 metres deep. The reflection of the sky in the water, when seen from a sloping passage which gives the visitor access to the level of the pool, gives the impression of a vivid, blue light. Other passages and caves provide alternative viewpoints of this natural wonder.

There is a petrol station and motel at the park, and full shopping facilities are provided at the town of Sinoia (8 km).

■ P. Bag 193, Sinoia. Tel. 2550. 8 km north of Sinoia. Caravan and camping site. (\$1,50 per site per night). Entry fee: adults \$1; children 3-15, 50c.

UMZINGWANE Recreational Park

Including Umzingwane Dam, this 12-square-kilometre park has no facilities and its attractions are boating, fishing and unspoiled scenic surroundings.

■ 55 km south of Bulawayo off the Beitbridge road. The last few kilometres are on a gravel road.

VICTORIA FALLS National Park

Rhodesia's greatest tourist attraction, the Victoria Falls, is part of a 573-square-kilometre national park which includes a game reserve and 40 km of drives along the Zambezi River.



Above: The stately sable antelope may be seen in particularly large numbers within the Victoria Falls National Park.

This premier holiday area provides the visitor with an opportunity to view the Falls (which Livingstone discovered in 1855), visit an African Craft Village, enjoy air trips over the Falls and surrounding country, gamble at the

Casino, visit a crocodile ranch, and travel up-river on an afternoon cruise. The game reserve has some of the largest herds of sable to be seen in Rhodesia, in addition to other animals.

Fishing in the Zambezi River for tiger-fish, bream and vundu is good, and a licence is not required.

■ P. Bag 5920, Victoria Falls. Tel. 310. T.A.: "Parklife", Victoria Falls. Zambezi Camp, 6.5 km upstream from Falls: 2-bedroom lodges (\$8,50 per night). Entrance fee to game reserve (Chamabonda Vlei area only): adults \$1; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days). Reserve open May 1 to October 31.

VUMBA botanical garden, and BUNGA FOREST botanical reserve

These two areas, situated in the Vumba Mountains, illustrate the range of flora which Rhodesian upland conditions permit. The 39 hectare Bunga Forest Botanical Reserve is an area of dense, indigenous trees lying on both sides of the Vumba road 27 km from Umtali. A network of footpaths allows the visitor to wander through this completely unspoiled and natural woodland. The Vumba Botanical

Below: A colourful corner of the Vumba Botanical Garden in the Eastern Highlands, where massive displays of indigenous and exotic flora may be seen.



NATURE TRAILS

A unique opportunity to experience life in the wild is offered on nature trails, where parties of up to six people are taken on a three-day walking safari through wildlife areas, accompanied by a ranger and game-keepers.

Visitors wishing to take part should ensure they are fit enough to walk long distances through the bush, and are not of a nervous disposition. Game-viewing on foot does not offer, obviously, the security of that from a vehicle.

The trail costs \$120 for six people, or less, and all tents and camp equipment are provided. Visitors must provide their own food, but assistance in compiling a list of essentials is given by the staff. While the tents and other heavy equipment is carried by pack donkeys, visitors will find they are required to carry a certain amount of their personal effects in their own haversacks.

The cost of the trail includes accommodation at the camp from which the trail sets out, two nights under canvas on the trail, and one night at the camp on return.

Enquiries should be made at the Department of National Parks & Wild Life Management's Central Booking Office in Salisbury.

woodland. The Vumba Botanical Garden, by contrast, is a landscaped garden created around a series of small streams. Here flowering plants from many parts of the world flourish, and the annual displays of hydrangeas and azaleas alone command a reputation for colour and beauty. Within the 159 hectare area there are also stretches of natural woodland provided with paths. From the garden there are extensive views over the Mozambique plain, 1 000 metres

below.

There is a swimming pool in the Vumba Botanical Garden and petrol is available at a nearby hotel. There is a small store nearby.

■ P. Bag V. 7472, Umtali. Tel. 272-22 Umtali. T.A.: "Park-vumba", Umtali. 32 km from Umtali on steep, winding road. Caravan and camping site in Vumba Botanical Garden (\$1.50 per site per night). Daily entrance fee to gardens: adults 20c, children 3-15, 10c.



Above: A herd of buffalo in the Wankie National Park.

WANKIE National Park

This is Rhodesia's greatest national park, both in size (14 620 square kilometres) and in the range and number of animals which may be seen. From the three camps, networks of game-viewing roads guide the visitors through areas inhabited by good concentrations of animals and to waterholes where in the evenings great numbers of species congregate. At some waterholes platforms have been erected, where one can view game closely in safety. Wankie is one of the greatest elephant sanctuaries in Africa, and herds of up to 100 animals may be seen at the waterholes, particularly at the end of the dry season.

■ P. Bag DT.5776, Dett. Tel. 64 Dett. T.A.: "Parklife", Dett. Entrance fee: adults \$3; children 3-15, 50c (any number of visits within 7 days). Children under 3 free. Cars entering the park towing caravans or trailers may only use those roads which offer the shortest route from the park entrances to the caravan sites, and are prohibited from towing on all other park roads. Main Camp: 2-bedroom lodges (\$8.50 per night), 1-bedroom

Below: The three camps within the Wankie National Park each have liquor-licensed restaurants, food stores and curio shops.





Above: At certain waterholes within Wankie National Park game-viewing platforms have been built, and these provide the visitor with an opportunity for safe, close-up viewing of a wide variety of animals.

lodges (\$5.50 per night), 1-bedroom cottages (\$4.50 per night), 2-bedroom chalets (\$5.00 per night), 1-bedroom chalets (\$3.50 per night), caravan park and camping site (\$1.50 per site per night). Licensed restaurant, store, petrol. *Sinamatella Camp*: 2-bedroom cottages (\$6.75 per night), 1-bedroom cottages (\$4.50 per night), caravan and camping site (\$1.50 per site per night). Licensed restaurant, store, petrol. *Robins Camp*: 2-bedroom chalets (\$4.00 per night), 1-bedroom chalets (\$3.50 per night), caravan and camping site (\$1.50 per site per night). Licensed restaurant, store, petrol. *Nantwich*: 11 km from Robins Camp. 2-bedroom lodges (\$8.50 per night). Main Camp and Sinamatella are open all year

round, Robins and Nantwich from May 1 to October 31. There are also two exclusive camps within the park, Deka and Bumboosi, both with accommodation for 10 persons (\$80 for six nights).

ZIMBABWE RUINS

The area around the Zimbabwe Ruins is no longer a national park and the lodges and caravan and camping site are now under the control of the National Museums & Historical Monuments administration. Enquiries and bookings for this accommodation should be made to the Director, Great Zimbabwe National Monument, Private Bag 9158, Fort Victoria.

A HERITAGE THAT BELONGS TO EVERYONE

It is offensive in the extreme to see in a national park (or any other area of the Parks and Wild Life Estate), evidence of thoughtlessness in the shape of discarded beer or soft-drink bottles and plastic bags, scars created by the carving of initials on trees, burn marks caused by unauthorised fires, and holes where plants have been removed.

A national park is a delicate place, already out of balance due to the construction of roads and accommodation, but not so far that ugliness has taken the place of the beauty visitors have travelled so far to see. With care this beauty will be enjoyed by thousands after your visit — without care there will be nothing for the next generation to be stirred or inspired by.

Every person who visits a national park has the potential to conserve or destroy. A thousand feet pounding the grasses in the Rain Forest at the Victoria Falls instead of keeping to the proper pathways, start an irrevocable degeneration of the soil cover, leading to erosion. This is just one example of the damage the increasing numbers of visitors can inflict — in one single day during a peak holiday period!

If you treat these fragile areas with care and consideration you will earn the thanks of those who follow you — please take care of this priceless heritage.

NATIONAL PARKS ACCOMMODATION

There are over 250 chalets, cottages and lodges in Rhodesia's Parks and Wild Life Estate, providing accommodation for over 1 000 visitors nightly. All are equipped with basic furniture, including refrigerators and bedding, and have paraffin pressure-lamps, gas or electric lighting. Firewood must be purchased from park authorities. There are also caravan and camping facilities in almost every area. These are usually situated in picturesque surroundings, with ablution blocks and braai sites.

Some accommodation is located within game areas, which only open seasonally. The opening and closing times indicated are liable to variation depending upon road conditions. If no times are given, the area is open all year.

Charges for the various types of accommodation are given under each

area. It should be noted that entrance fees to any area, where applicable, are in addition to any accommodation charge.

Chalets: One- or two-bedroom units, with cooking utensils, but with external cooking facilities and communal ablution blocks (baths, showers, basins, all with hot and cold water, and toilets). Guests must supply own cutlery and crockery.

Cottages: One- or two-bedroom units with refrigerator and bathroom and toilet. Guests must supply their own cutlery and crockery.

Lodges: One- or two-bedrooms, lounge/dining-room, kitchen with stove, internal bathroom and toilet, bedding for two/four persons, cooking utensils, cutlery and crockery, and the services of an attendant.

Caravan Parks and Camping Sites: All caravan parks and camping sites,



Above: There are over 600 species of birds on the Rhodesian checklist, from the world's largest, the ostrich, to diminutive colourful sunbirds.

have communal ablution blocks (unless stated otherwise), braai sites, and occasionally electric lighting.

Exclusive camps: These are units of permanent accommodation for ten persons. The services of an attendant are provided, but visitors must provide and cook their own food. These camps are set within the Chizarira, Matusadona and Wankie national parks, and carry with them the privilege of the exclusive use of an area within 5 km of the accommodation. Within this area visitors may game-view on foot.

HEALTH SAFEGUARDS

Most game areas are situated in low-lying country where certain insect-borne and other diseases are endemic. Reasonable safeguards can be taken to avoid sickness, and the following advice should be noted.

Malaria: A disease contracted by the bite of a type of mosquito. This is easily avoidable by the use of prophylactics available at any chemist in Rhodesia. The dosage must commence before entering any low-veld area.

Trypanosomiasis: This is more dramatically known as 'sleeping sickness', contracted from the bite of the tsetse fly which is present in many game areas. The disease is extremely rare, but if any symptoms of sickness are evident after visiting a game area, a doctor should be contacted and informed of the possible cause.

Bilharzia: This is a disease caused by minute parasites present in all rivers, dams and lakes below 2 000 metres. It can be very unpleasant and long-lasting if not treated. Once detected the cure is usually effected by a single injection. No advance protection against bilharzia can be ensured. To avoid the disease — avoid contact with water, particularly along the banks of rivers or lakes where the host for the parasite, a small snail, lives and breeds. Of course, water from taps supplied from municipal sources, and water in swimming pools is completely safe.



Above: Lodges at Udu Camp within the Rhodes Inyanga National Park. These are completely equipped and serviced accommodation units and all the visitor is required to provide is his own food.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE AT CENTRAL OFFICE

Visitors are advised to book well in advance for any accommodation. Advance bookings may be made up to 12 months ahead (e.g. on 1st January one may book for the succeeding months up to and including the following December).

Advance bookings should be addressed to the Central Booking Office. Street address: Africa House Stanley Avenue, Salisbury, Rhodesia. Postal address: P.O. Box 8151, Causeway, Salisbury. Phone 706077. Telegraphic address: "Parklife", Salisbury. Advance bookings may not be made at local park offices.

Visitors are reminded that they must report to the park office at destination on arrival and departure, even if a booking has been made and confirmed with the Central Booking Office.

Below: Most areas provide attractive caravan parks and camping sites conveniently near to areas of scenic or tourist interest.

