

CAPTURED IN
AFRICA
EXCLUSIVE SAFARIS



CHITAKE SPRINGS

4 days | Chitake Springs | Mana Pools

Price from: \$1350 per person sharing



“NOT FOR THE FAINT-HEARTED”

Chitake Camp is for the lover of the wild places and who want a true ‘up close and personal’ wilderness experience.

Chitake Spring is a perennial water source and flows down the usually dry Chitake River bed. The spring provides the only source of water for a large concentration of game in this area and herds of buffalo, elephant, antelope and the predators depend on this water for survival. The area is also home to good concentrations of lion, leopard and painted hunting dog.

The rugged Zambezi escarpment is only eight kilometres away and provides a superb backdrop to the area. The mixed Mopane, Combretum and Acacia woodlands of the vast valley floor are home to many animals. As the dry season progresses the concentrations of wildlife increase, all searching for water.

Chitake can be an extremely intense experience for the avid bush lover and for someone who likes to feel the challenge and close proximity of the wild. When walking you have to concentrate particularly carefully on your surroundings and remain silent so we do not disturb the order of things. Sounds are amplified in the narrow riverbed and it is a very up-close-and-personal experience to sit quietly in the riverbed in front of camp at night and watch the drinking herds of elephant and buffalo and possibly see the resident lions wonder past.

For the avid birder there is no disappointment, as with the combination of dry and wet, woodland and open scrub, mountain and plain, there are well over 300 possible bird species to be seen. Bird lists are provided.

From camp we will conduct walks (long or short) and track the lions or find a vantage point along the riverbed to watch the action unfold. Our guests will dictate the length and pace of the wild walks and choose when to get back to the camp for refreshments and relaxing. Sundowners will be enjoyed at a variety of vantage points.

CHITAKE CAMP IS NOT FOR THE FEINT-HEARTED!!

CHITAKE CAMP | MANA POOLS

3 NIGHTS

Chitake Camp provides a true wilderness experience and leaves a minimal environmental ‘footprint’. This mobile camp is small & personalized and offer guests an unforgettable up close and personal experience of Africa’s wild places in magical Mana Pools.

Tents and facilities are walk-in mosquito-proofed tents, external ‘long-drop’ toilets, bucket showers, dining table, iced drinks, sumptuous bush-prepared meals and directors’ chairs at each tent.

Lions, leopards, spotted hyaena and cheetah are present in the area (although never guaranteed to be seen), they are the subject of those iconic adrenaline-filled images you see of Lions mock-charging walkers.



QUICK ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive into Mana Pools and be met on arrival at the Mana Pools airstrip and drive approximately 1.5 hours through Jesse Bush and Mopane habitats to Camp Chitake for lunch. A mobile tented camp will have been set up by the camp staff - walk-in mosquito-proofed tents, external 'long-drop' toilets, bucket showers, dining table, iced drinks, sumptuous bush-prepared meals and directors' chairs at each tent.

Enjoy the closeness of the wild in the evening with herds of elephant in close proximity. Listen out for the roars of the lions and rasping leopard in the vicinity.

DAY 1 TO 3

Begin your Chitake experience. Walking options include exploring the course of the Chitake River as it flows to the Ruckomechi River, or upstream towards the escarpment to explore this incredible region dotted with baobabs. Alternatively we may walk to the dinosaur remains, or to the hollow baobab which is the old lair of a leopard.

That is the beauty and excitement of walking - there is no hard and fast route or schedule.

Your next day you have the option of heading out immediately or have breakfast first then set out for a whole day of hiking. Alternatively, stay near the spring to sit and watch the action from a secure place. In the earlier and cooler parts of the year, i.e. May - end July we can do longer hikes from the camp. As it gets drier and hotter i.e. August - October it is more rewarding to stay in the vicinity of the spring and early morning and late afternoon walks are then advisable.

Long viewing "sits" can be extremely rewarding as one gets to see wildlife behaviours not possible when walking. It is fascinating to watch the wild animals going about their daily activities. To be able to observe the natural daily cycle of activity gives one a greater understanding and appreciation of nature.

Some of the wild residents you may likely encounter are impala, baboon, vervet monkey, kudu, eland, grysbok, elephant, buffalo, mongoose, variety of birds, bushbuck and, hopefully, the lions coming to drink or setting an ambush.

This third night will again be spent at the Chitake campsite with all the trimmings.

DAY 4

Ending your Chitake adventure as you transfer back to Mana Pools airstrip for your return home or onward journey with Captured In Africa.



INCLUDES:

- Tented accommodation
- Meals, brunch and drinks as stated as included
- All equipment for the supported camps: tents, bedding, towels, chairs and cooking equipment
- Cordials, wine with dinner, 1 crate of beers per day only, soda drinks are supplied
- Guide

EXCLUDES:

- International airfare to/from Zimbabwe
- Flights/transport to Mana Pools
- Any airport taxes and fees
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature and gratuities

Chitake is a season destination available from 1 April to 1 December
General Terms & Conditions apply

**THIS IS AFRICA STRIPPED BACK, RAW, POWERFUL AND THERE TO EXPLORE.
CHITAKE IS A STUNNING EXPERIENCE WHICH CAN BE COMBINED WITH OTHER MANA POOLS
AND ZIMBABWE AREAS.**