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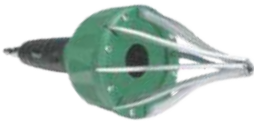
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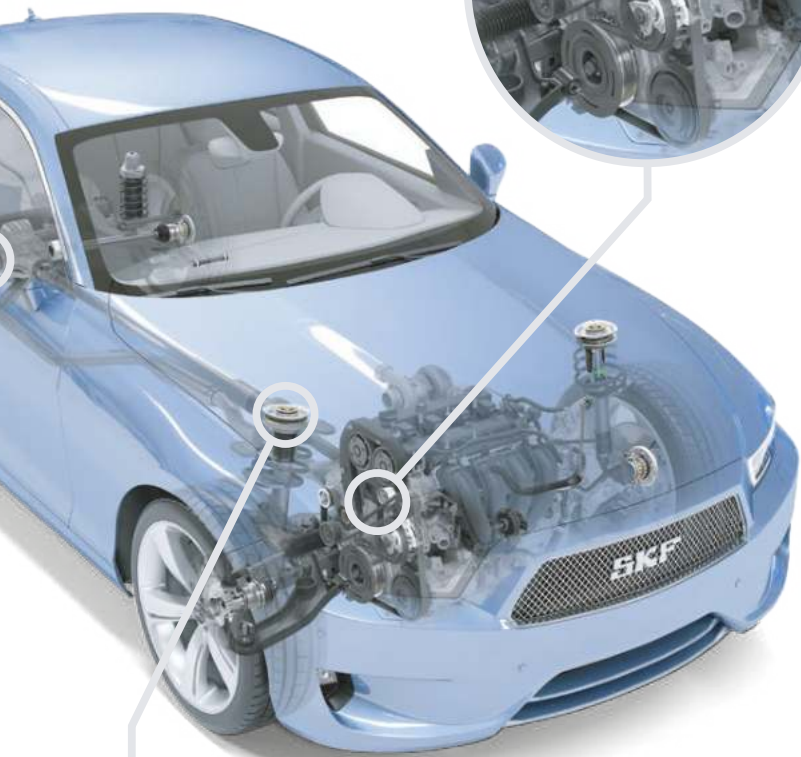
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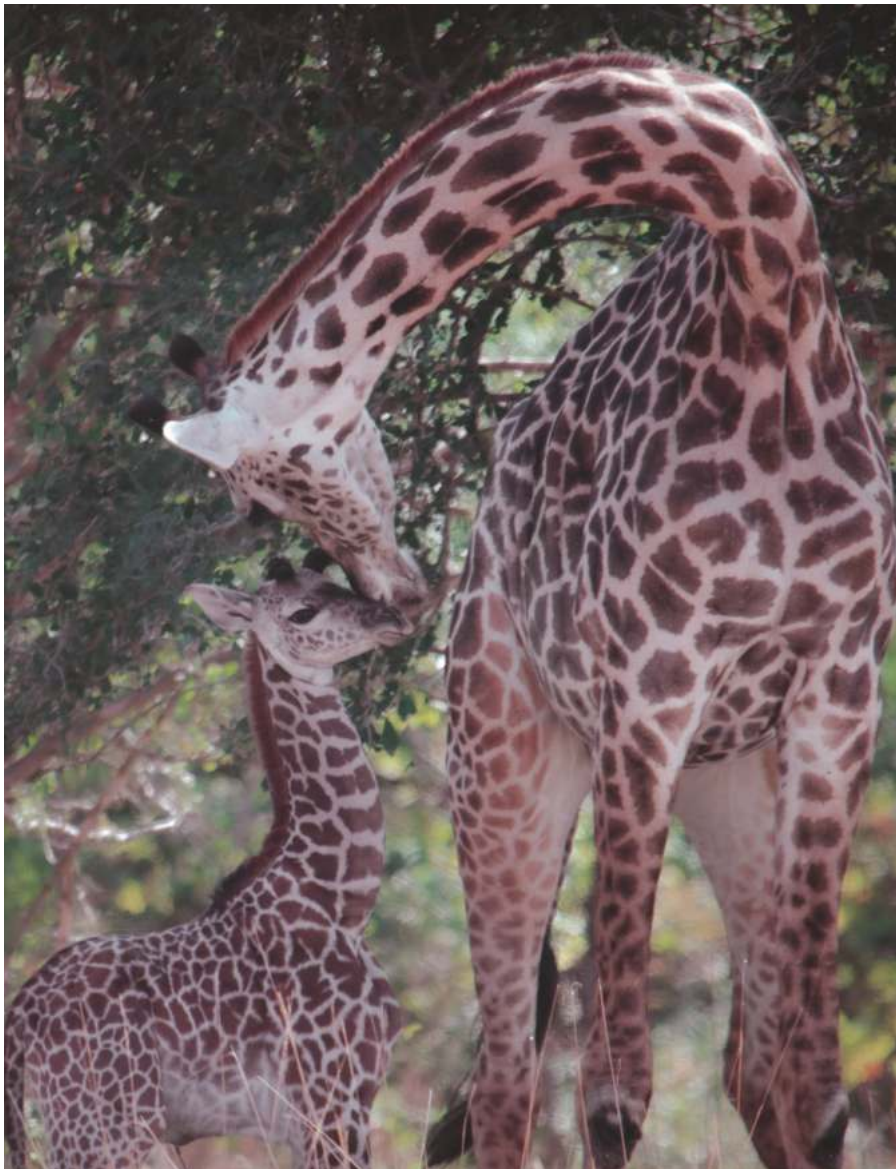
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COVER STORY:

South Luangwa National Park is one of Africa's greatest wildlife sanctuaries with a high concentration of wildlife and pristine landscapes. Our team visited this park to learn not only about what natural wonders it has but also visited the businesses and conservation organisations that work hard to protect this wildlife sanctuary.

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LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD

I'm a firm skeptic who doesn't believe in signs from above or destiny but when it rained several times recently on my birthday, during a time when it never rains, I chose to take it as a sign of blessings to come. Showers of blessings, as cringeworthy as it sounds. Perhaps I am getting soft with age.

If you're anything like me, you can't remember the last time you (actively) celebrated your birthday. You might eat some cake because somebody bought it and you're obliged to shovel it down, even though you swore you would cut down on refined carbs. You might have an existential crisis and wonder how you got so old (even though you know you're still young). You might reevaluate your life's goals and wonder where you keep going wrong. You will certainly hear from a bunch of (Facebook) friends who mostly (or only) reach out at this time of year. You might get taken to dinner or, heaven forbid, a trendy club or bar.






If you're also like me you will tell yourself that next year you will surely do something for your birthday. Despite somehow convincing myself that birthdays weren't that big of a deal, I didn't want to look back and wish I had made an effort to celebrate birthdays (and other milestones). This was one of those rare years when I did celebrate, "next year" finally came.

My recent birthday celebration included a mini road trip outside of Lusaka and a chance to take in the natural beauty in my proverbial backyard. The fact that I celebrated with an old friend from high school made me reflect on (and appreciate) the passage of time and all that has come with it.

By the end of the day, I concluded that I would continue this tradition and celebrate another year of life every year but not only that, I would make more of an effort to celebrate or at least acknowledge any other highlights throughout the year. Basically, I would cherish my time more and appreciate the small things. The nature in my proverbial or literal backyard, and the nature further afield should I get the opportunity to visit places like South Luangwa National Park (page 46), this edition's main local destination. Beyond that, I want to cherish the quiet everyday moments, too, like a moment to sit down with a good read and a cup of locally made Marika's Coffee (page 58).

As we enter the second half of 2022, I hope the year is shaping up well, with lots of moments, big and small, that you can look back on with joy. I also hope for more joy and lessons learned for the rest of the year ahead and beyond.

Jolezya Adeyemo,
Editor

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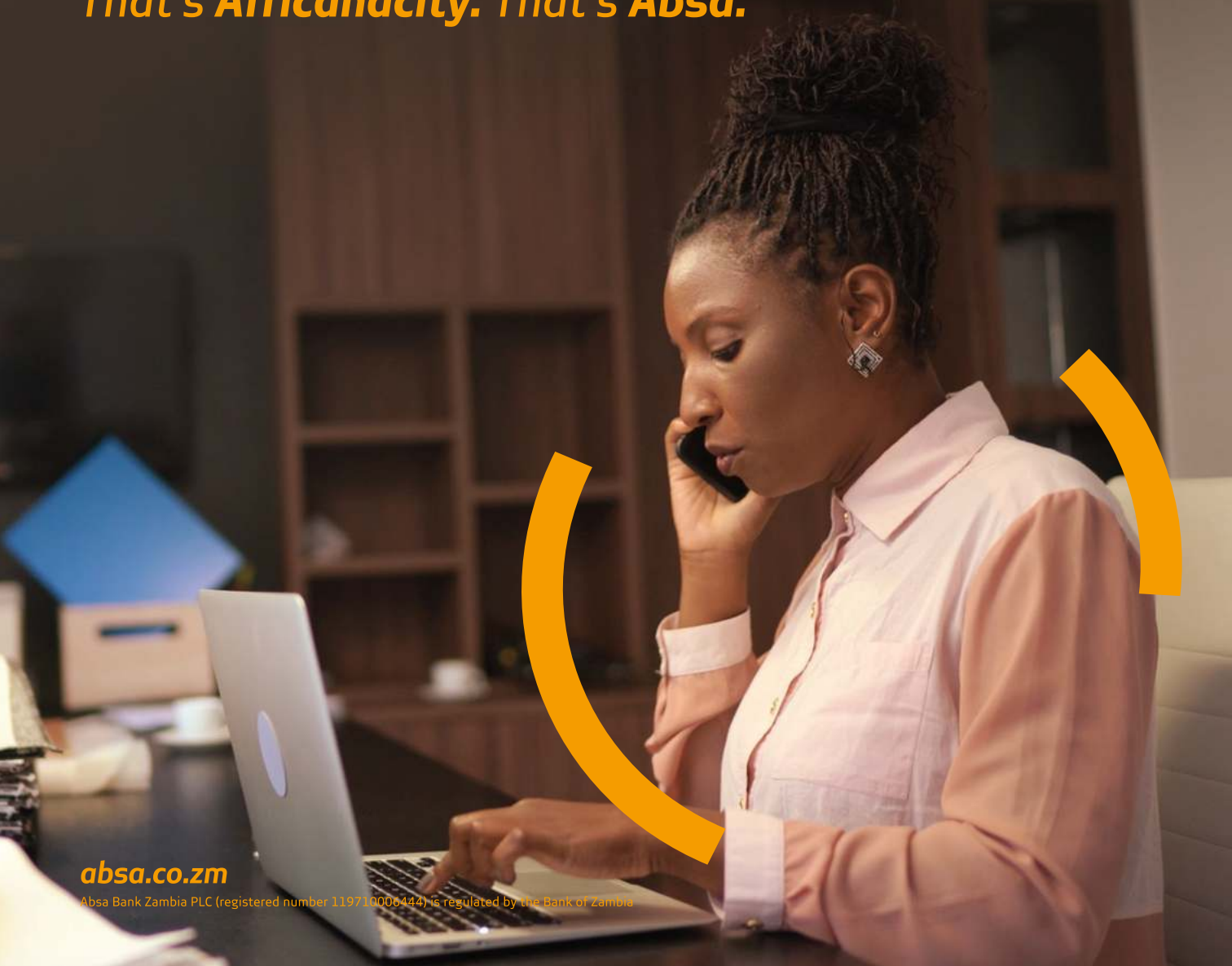
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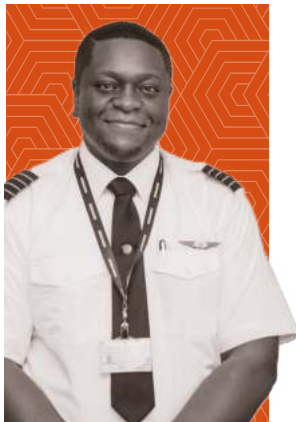
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WELCOME ON BOARD PROFLIGHT

Dear Respected Clients,

We are delighted to have you aboard. The past few months have been quite busy at Proflight, and I will share a few noteworthy developments with you. Our second CRJ is fully operating on our domestic and regional network, this is a really exciting development for us at Proflight. This innovation is in line with our efforts to expand and improve our route network. The restart of our direct route from Ndola to Johannesburg was another exciting milestone that will significantly impact commerce, industry and travel on the Copperbelt. As we now operate two CRJs, we have just added a second Lusaka-Johannesburg service. As we continue to link the people of Luapula Province to the rest of the country, we have recently increased the number of direct weekly flights between Ndola and Mansa to four. While we continue to build our domestic network, we anticipate the reopening of the Kasama airport and expect to resume direct flights between Ndola and Kasama on July 1, 2022. The reopening of the airport will require the use of the J41 aircraft, which is larger and faster than the Caravan that formerly operated this route. I am positive that the Kasama route will enhance the Northern Circuit's commercial and industrial growth.

The remainder of 2022 will hopefully continue to be a prosperous year for aviation in Zambia and the rest of Southern Africa. Nonetheless, the rise in global fuel costs presents us with a new obstacle, and as an airline, we must negotiate this scenario methodically and meticulously.

Proflight strives to maintain dependability as a fundamental value with safety and courteous service. We firmly believe that adaptability is the key to air superiority and we must stay committed to adjusting to your needs in order to better serve you.

On-Time Performance (OTP) is a generally acknowledged approach for analysing punctuality for several types of public transportation, including aircraft. Proflight has a strong OTP monitoring system and has set a high target of 90 percent. We achieved an overall OTP of 88 percent for the year 2021. This is crucial for us because, as the adage goes, 'time is money!'

We offer our sincere gratitude to you for choosing Proflight Zambia. We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to seeing you on one of our future trips.

I thank you.

Captain Josias Walubita
Director Flight Operations



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UP FRONT

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Mirrors are fast becoming popular décor items and statement pieces used to elevate a home. The makeenge mirror from AfriConté is a must-have for anyone wanting to style their living space using mirrors.

PLAN



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 6th August
Location: Nasdec Sports Complex,
Lusaka

MUSIC COLOUR FESTIVAL

This is the fifth edition of the Music Colour Festival that takes place in Lusaka every year. The outdoor event attracts scores of people from all walks of life who come together to enjoy good music, food, drinks, family-friendly entertainment, crafts, art and the main attraction; powdered colour. Over the years, attendance increased to over 6,500 people and 2022 will be massive.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 17 & 24 July
 Location: Musebe Ranch, Mkushi
 Tickets: Run Wild - \$30
 Ride Strong - \$20 - \$50

TANGILA TRAIL SERIES

This year's #tangilatrailservices is on track to be bigger, better, and more impactful than ever. Head over to www.tangilatrailservices.com to secure your spot in one of Zambia's premier trail running and MTB events, with all profits directed to wildlife conservation.



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Every last Wednesday of the month
 Location: The Quorum
 Tickets: k100

ENTREPRENEURS STARTUP GUIDE

Entrepreneurs Startup Guide brings young entrepreneurs together to share ideas, learn, network, get inspired, motivated & connect with like-minded entrepreneurs.

The monthly events feature successful local founders, innovators, educators and investors who share lessons learned on the road to building great companies.



THE AFRO-SOUL EXPERIENCE

Oasis Fest presents its most intimate project, The Afro-Soul Experience. We are doing it for and with Africa this time. Our eyes are open, and our minds ready to expand beyond the horizon.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 30th July
 Time: 17hrs
 Location: Polo Club Showgrounds, Lusaka
 Tickets: K250



JOHNNY CLEGG OFFICIAL TRIBUTE CONCERT

In a fitting tribute to one of the most iconic figures in South African music history, the Johnny Clegg Tribute Show will feature some of South Africa's top performers.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 16th July
 Location: Emmarentia Botanical Gardens, Johannesburg
 Tickets: R225 - R1600



SWAN LAKE

The Saint Petersburg Ballet Theatre is one of Russia's leading classical ballet companies. Experience exquisite dancers, spectacular scenery, and lavish costumes. Their full-length production of Swan Lake with a live orchestra cannot be missed.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 20th - 30th July
 Location: Teatro at Montecasino, Johannesburg
 Tickets: R250 to R690

TIME + TIDE CHINZOMBO

THE ULTIMATE FAMILY SAFARI DESTINATION

Words by Sarah Purchase
 Images courtesy of Time + Tide Safaris



Time + Tide Safaris offers more than just a safari but a raw, authentic and immersive experience in some of the most remote places on earth. The guides in each camp take extraordinary care to make sure everything they do helps guests reconnect with themselves, nature, and each other.

Time + Tide Safaris is known as a pioneer in the safari space, allowing guests to be modern-day explorers with an appetite for adventure and exploration. The style of Time + Tide Chinzombo works with the environment, not against it; connecting many elements of the environment, its

natural building materials and vintage accents blend modern style with the best of traditional bush safari camps.

Time + Tide Chinzombo has six spacious luxury tents, including a two-bedroom and bathroom tent, ideal for a family safari. The camp has evolved its family offering, ensuring that children have a wide range of family activities from beading to setting GoPro camera traps and helping prepare the afternoon tea treats in the camp kitchen.

A family safari is a wonderfully enriching and rewarding experience for children and adults. Unplugged from modern life,





you can unwind and immerse together into the rhythms of life in the bush.

Time + Tide Chinzombo is the perfect destination for a family safari. Here's why:

1. Zambia was ranked the safest country in the world for travel in 2018, based on the Global Peace Index.
2. We are immensely proud of our nation and love welcoming travellers from around the world with open arms.
3. Time + Tide Chinzombo's two-bed, two-bath family suites allow families to enjoy life's sights, sounds, and sensations in the bush together. Imagine falling asleep to a serenade of roaring lions and bellowing hippos.
4. Time + Tide offers a wide range of activities to keep kids engaged and excited. Together you can boat past elephants, track leopards on foot, go fishing for monster Nile perch or sleep out under the stars.
5. Time + Tide's award-winning guides love inspiring the next generation of travellers and conservationists. There are also options for private guides, so your family can enjoy their safari at their own pace.
6. Time + Tide's bush camps are unplugged so that you will enjoy quality time together, free from the distractions and screens of modern life.
7. We create delicious, healthy meals that can be tailored to you and your kids' needs and preferences.
8. Our Sleepout Under the Stars allows you to reconnect with nature and each other in a meaningful way.
9. At Time + Tide Chinzombo, you have options for cultural experiences and interactions, such as traditional dances and visits to the local schools. It is a beautiful way for your children to learn about different lifestyles and cultures other than their own.
10. You'll enjoy breakfast around the campfire instead of a granola bar in the car. Instead of running errands, you'll watch baby elephants splash in the river. And you'll go on game drives with lions instead of sitting in traffic.

What could be better than a Time + Tide Chinzombo family safari?

WHERE?

Time + Tide Chinzombo is just over an hour's flight from Lusaka in South Luangwa National Park, Zambia's premier wildlife destination.

WHAT TO EXPERIENCE:

Family safari activities
 Kid-friendly activities
 Day and night game drives
 Walking safaris
 Boating safaris (seasonal)
 Cultural experiences and interactions
 Sleep Out Under the Stars
 In-room spa treatments

BOOKING AND CONTACT DETAILS:

+27 60 642 4004
travel@timeandtideafrica.com



Proflight has daily flights to Mfuwe from Lusaka. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.

LUNCH AT CHUMA GRILL, RADISSON BLU

ADVENTURE ON A PLATE

Words by Tokozile N. Ngwenya
Images by Emmanuel Zulu



I felt daring when I headed to the Chuma Grill & Bar at Radisson Blu Hotel, Lusaka and decided that would be a perfect day to try something I rarely partake of, game meat. Luckily, Chuma Grill & Bar always has a wide selection on offer. I opted for the kudu medallion on a bed of mashed potatoes. It was accompanied by pickled beetroot, infused with a pleasant sour taste to balance the meal, grated parmesan and rocket for garnish.

Often when game meat is mentioned, the first thought that comes to mind is how tough the meat will be; however, this was not the case. The kudu was tender, juicy and pink in the middle, just like I prefer it. The medallion is flame-grilled and finished off in

the oven to seal its natural flavours.

The variety of game meat served at the Chuma Grill & Bar includes impala, kudu and puku. Head Chef Lawrence Mulenga shared, “everyone knows the impala, especially locals. Kudu is highly requested as it comes from the cow family; hence people are more comfortable ordering it.” He went on to add that “game meat is popular at the restaurant because of its unique natural taste that is free from chemicals as it’s reared in the wild.”

While I decided to try something out of the ordinary for my entrée, I couldn’t help tame my craving for an old favourite, something Italian. Before I delved into the wild side

THE CUISINE

Radisson Blu Hotel, Lusaka houses two restaurants which are both open to the public and residing guests. The Chuma Grill & Bar operates on a 24-hour basis, and the swimming pool restaurant serves from 10 am – 8 pm daily.

Chuma Grill & Bar serves snacks and light meals prepared to international standards but with a Zambian touch. It is also one of the best places in Lusaka for those seeking delicious, legally sourced game meat.

The well-stocked bar houses several high-end wines and Lusaka’s largest whisky selection.

TOP TIP

Check out the Chuma Grill & Bar menu online and order your meal before your visit.



with my entrée, I chose the smoked salmon bruschetta for my appetiser. The smoked salmon layered on fresh avocado, finely chopped tomato, and onion served on toasted bread slices seared with butter and fresh garlic. My plate was topped with fresh herbs - parsley and rocket, cherry tomatoes, thin carrots, lettuce, lemon slices and bell peppers. The presentation was excellent.

I couldn't hold back and cleared all my plates without an ounce of shame. Fortunately, I still had room for dessert; the premium Callebaut chocolate cake served with fresh strawberries.

Head Chef Mulenga shared that the chocolate cake is the Chuma Grill & Bar's best-selling dessert, and it was obvious why as soon as I bit into it. The texture was airy and smooth. My dessert tasted good, but the plating was also impeccable, with a great deal of attention given to the white chocolate exterior garnishing of the cake. The dessert provided a sweet and delightful end to an ideal dining experience.

WHERE?

Chuma Grill & Bar at Radisson Blu Hotel, Lusaka is situated along the Great East Road, 16 kilometres from Kenneth Kaunda International Airport. It is located in the safe residential area of Olympia Park, next to Mulungushi International Conference Centre, and is ranked among the top 10 restaurants in Lusaka on Tripadvisor.



Proflight operates regular flights into Lusaka from Johannesburg, Livingstone, Ndola, Mfuwe, Solwezi and Mansa. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.

PENSION FUNDS AND FINANCIAL LITERACY IN ZAMBIA

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA – Though financial inclusion in Zambia has demonstrated steady growth over the last few years, moving from 59 percent in 2015 to 69 percent in 2020, there are still significant gaps in the country's rate of financial literacy.

According to FinScope 2020, Zambia's rate of financial literacy stands at about 23.6% and is skewed towards the urban population at 31.9% while rural households stand at only 16.2%.

World-renowned Financial Wellness Facilitator and Emmy Award-winner Terry Turner notes that personal finance is a vital part of not only managing your day-to-day financial needs but also planning your financial future.

"The sooner you get a grip on personal finance, the better your long-term financial prospects will be for things like investing or planning for retirement," he explained in his May 18, 2022, paper on

personal finance.

"By understanding the elements of personal finance, you can better understand opportunities to improve your finances. This understanding can help you budget for current needs while planning for long-term financial goals," he added.

A 2021 report by the **Zambian Financial Sector Deepening Limited (FSD Zambia)** showed that behavioral change derived from financial education programming conducted by the organisation and its partners had been almost immediate in all communities that participated in the study.

This suggests that not only is there a genuine thirst for financial knowledge in the country, but there also exists a real potential for positive change in terms of the public's outlook on different investment options available to them.

The National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS) of 2017-2022 sought to improve financial inclusion in Zambia from 59% to 80% by 2022. As 2022 hits the halfway mark, it would appear the NFIS' key target will not be met.

Time for a new approach

For all the effort and strategies aimed at improving financial literacy, there is one facet of personal finance that is frequently overlooked: Pensions and/or retirement funds.

The lack of adequate education on post retirement financial security leaves many at the mercy of the social cash transfer initiative or payments from the national pension scheme which may not be enough to afford them a reasonable standard of living at the end of their career.

Saturnia Regna Pension Fund Board of Trustees chairman Collins Hamusonde noted that people generally had a poor culture of saving towards retirement because they did not view pensions as long-term investment options.

"Your average Zambian will not consider a pension scheme as a viable investment option when in reality it is one of the most important items you can have on your investment portfolio as it directly affects your financial security at the end of your career," he explained.

"Consequently, we have seen a lot of people shying away from investing in pension schemes in preference for more traditional forms of investments. While there is nothing wrong with this in and of itself, this strategy can have dire consequences down the road in the event the yields from the main investments do not turnout as they had hoped."

"A good pension fund is the financial key to a comfortable retirement in old age, and so more people – both employed and self-employed – need to start setting aside a little of their income now to plan



Collins M Hamusonde -Board Chairperson

ahead for their future.”

Mr Bryson Hamanzuka, Chief Executive Officer of Benefits Consulting Services Limited, the Saturnia Regna Pension Fund Administrator and Board Secretary added that: “The best part about pension funds is that they are a secure investment option because they have a lock and key system that helps people manage and secure their finances. They provide you with a platform where you can keep your money in a disciplined way, with difficulties in accessing it until the right time.”

Mr Hamanzuka further noted that there was a serious need for increased public sensitisation on the importance of retirement funds to not only help improve the rate of financial literacy but also give people the tools needed to better plan for a financially independent future when they can no longer draw a salary.

Incorporating Non-traditional investments

Local entrepreneur Lazarous Mbuyanda, who runs a butchery and a pre-school in Lusaka’s Chilenje area, noted that one of the biggest advantages private pension funds had over other investment options was that they acted as a buffer against unforeseen tragedies like a sudden loss of income .

“Pension schemes play a major role in catering for unforeseen eventualities. Let’s say something happened to me today, that money I invested in the scheme would continue sustaining my family long after I am gone. Even if I was to lose my job, I know that I would be able to get by using money from my pension scheme and my businesses,” he explained.

“I am confident about the future because I have planned for it adequately through the pension scheme I joined in the early years of my career. The best part is I am earning interest on my savings and when the time comes, I will receive my money tax-free.”

Mr Mbuyanda, who is a member of the Saturnia Regna Pension Fund, the country’s largest private pension scheme, added that it was vital for people to have a diversified investment portfolio as this helped minimise their risks.

“When I resigned from formal employment, I left my pension savings with Saturnia to continue investing it for me. The funds were growing handsomely during this time. However, there was a time when my businesses ran into financial difficulties. I was able to revive them by withdrawing part of my investment from Saturnia and pumping it into the butchery, and school’s operations,” he narrated.



“Private pension schemes work well when applied in tandem with the national pension scheme and other investments because this means that a downturn in one will not affect my financial future. If you have a diversified investment portfolio, you will be able to raise a lot of money because you do not rely on one source of income for your financial security. Suppose my butchery did not make enough in a month, I’d still rely on my school to give me something, and if that too failed, I still have my pension fund to fall back on,” he said.

The young entrepreneur noted that the government and sector players needed to do more to educate people on the different ways they could invest in their financial security post retirement.

He added that the lack of information on pension fund options was hindering people’s ability to properly plan for their future because they remained unaware of the existence of such platforms.

The Saturnia Regna Pension Fund earned its member a twenty-three point seven percent (23.7%) gross investment return last year, helping it retain its position as the nation’s largest private pension fund.

Net assets stood at K2.961 billion at the end of the year, with an extra nine new employers joining the fund during the year, bringing the total sponsorship to 200 members encompassing a combined 36,130 employees.

The fund also posted a twenty point four percent (20.4%) appreciable return for the year ended December 31, 2021 – one of the largest bonus declarations in recent years.

Though it may seem like a long way off, universal financial inclusion in Zambia is possible if stakeholders play their part to bring non-traditional investment options like pension funds to the fore.

ABOUT SATURNIA REGNA PENSION FUND

The Saturnia Regna Pension Fund is Zambia’s largest private pension fund, providing pension plans to employees in 195 corporates covering more than 36,100 employees as well as individual pension plans.

The fund manages K3.0 billion of net assets including shares in most of the companies listed on the Lusaka Securities Exchange (LuSE) and investments in Zambian Government securities.

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PROJECT LUANGWA: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH TOURISM

Words by Ian Macallan
Images courtesy of Project Luangwa



FAST FACTS

- The word 'Ufulu' means freedom in the Chewa language, as our Ufulu pads give women and girls the freedom to attend school and control their futures.
- Proceeds from the shop and café go back into the projects.
- Since 2010, Project Luangwa has built 14 schools and sponsored nearly 500 children throughout secondary school and about 100 to university or college.
- In 2021, Project Luangwa built 2,000 eco-stoves and planted 500 trees for local households.
- Project Luangwa directly supports 28 staff and several local artisans and craftspeople.

It is early morning, and the sounds of village life have already begun to stir close to Project Luangwa's craft shop and visitor centre located in the heart of Mfuwe, South Luangwa.

Unlike most places on earth, the sounds of daily life in Mfuwe compete against the wild bush. Being a mere five minutes away from the South Luangwa National Park entrance, it's as likely to hear a lion's throaty roar as the children playing in the yard.

Project Luangwa has two main goals, improving education and promoting an equal future for young girls and women. To achieve both, in 2010, Project Luangwa began making washable menstrual hygiene, or 'Ufulu' pads. Poor access to safe hygiene supplies was a significant barrier to girls attending school. It is estimated that when provided with pads, young girls can gain up to 50 school days per year.

Making pads necessitated teaching local men and women how to sew. Armed with these skills, the team started making other items for



sale, such as bags, clothing and other textiles. Simultaneously, local artisans also came forward, keen to use the project's platform to sell their creations.

Today, Project Luangwa has a team of 28 staff and several craftspeople and artisans contributing items for sale. Project Luangwa takes a 20% commission from contributing

FIND PROJECT LUANGWA

Project Luangwa, The Cropping, Mfuwe - Situated on the tar road, just next to the filling station junction.

www.projectluangwa.org

artisans to put back into the projects, while the remaining 80% goes directly to the artisan. This gives the artisans a sustainable wage and provides critical funding to Project Luangwa's work within schools and communities.

So, what are the other projects that the shop supports? In addition to improving hygiene for girls, Project Luangwa assists 25 schools in various ways such as building and infrastructure development, safe space meetings, clubs and education programmes using digital technology. It also sponsors hundreds of children through school and tertiary education and works to promote better health while preventing deforestation through its fuel-efficient eco-stove programme.

The Project Luangwa space is set on the main road between Mfuwe Airport and the National Park. It is a must-see for visitors to the valley. It has a bright, airy interior and a café that combines modern design with traditional values. In addition, guests can see the crafts team working hard behind the scenes, either

making 'Ufulu' pads or items for sale in the shop.

Custom items can also be made to order. The shop also sells beautiful local chitenge material, which can be transformed into bags, clothing, or anything else you like.

The café sells a selection of delicious sandwiches, salads, fresh tea and coffee, which can be enjoyed in-house or for takeaway. Early birds can also relax with a hot butter croissant while soaking in the sounds and sights of the Mfuwe life. Its convenient location makes it an easy stopover on the way back from a game drive.

Project Luangwa is supported by several safari operators, who also provide funding to help support local communities. These operators are Flatdogs Camp, Kafunta Safaris, Shenton Safaris, Shawa Luangwa River Camp, Puku Ridge and Njobvu Safaris. All proceeds from purchases go back to support education and girls in South Luangwa.



Proflight has daily flights to Mfuwe from Lusaka. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.





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PRUDENTIAL 

THE MAKENGE MIRROR BY AFRICONTÉ

Words by Mubiana Kabaghe



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- Keep away from water
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AfriConté is a homeware brand that works with talented local artisans in Zambia and Southern Africa to develop and curate modern African decor pieces for the contemporary home.

Working with the most talented artisans, they curate distinct home decor pieces that capture the culture and quality of handmade decor items that are a result of decades of craftsmanship in Zambia passed down to the next generation.

The makenge mirror adds an exotic feel to the traditional makenge basket that is commonly used for storing food in rural parts of Western Province.

It can take up to three days to complete the entire basket from harvesting the makenge roots to soaking and drying them. The makenge root is meticulously woven by artisans in Kalabo district of Western Province, Zambia. What makes it so unique is the artistry around the weave and its durability. Makenge baskets are known to last more than 20 years!

The makenge mirror is the perfect accent piece for the bathroom, foyer or even your living room. It is best placed in a collage or as a pair, this adds great texture to any space and enhances the ambiance in the space. The makenge mirror gives your space an afro chic aesthetic that reminds you of Zambian travel and culture in the most unique way.

TIPS FOR DECORATING WITH MIRRORS



1. Hang mirrors in corridors or entryways; as an added bonus, you can check your outfit and hair one last look before you head out.



2. Display mirrors like artwork, create a gallery of mirrors. These can be a great complement to your other decorative pieces.



3. Experiment with sizes, patterns and shapes. Different sizes and shapes help increase visual interest.

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DEFIANT

THE JITO KAYUMBA STORY

Words by Royd Kapesa
Images by Kalichi Pictures





There has never been a better time to be African. The continent is brimming with potential, and the years of hardship are gradually making way for prosperity. Africans everywhere are eager to participate in the change happening on the continent, both politically and economically. Particularly young Africans who have looked for inspiration in the West for years, they can now find all the motivation they need at home and, more importantly, from other fellow young Africans.

Zambia is also in this race for development. Since the August 2021 elections, a wave of optimism has swept the nation. People are eager to make the best of the next five years, and young Zambians are at the forefront of this progress.

Jito Kayumba is one of those young Zambians shaping the country's future. He is the Special Assistant for Economic and Development Affairs to the Seventh President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, a role that fits perfectly in his already accomplished career. Jito is best known for pioneering private equity in Zambia as a partner at Kukula Capital, a venture capital firm he led along with Danish partners for approximately ten years. His career is littered with achievements from board memberships, directorships and speaking

engagements in front of industry leaders.

I sat down with Jito on a Friday afternoon at The Quorum, Zambia's first premier private business and recreational members club, in the upscale Kabulonga area of Lusaka. Jito requested we meet at this venue for its serenity and ambiance. The Quorum offers a stylish arena for business and pleasure with outstanding conferencing facilities combined with exceptional dining experiences. We met at The 7th Sense Steakhouse, a fine dining restaurant where every touch point was considered, from the service, environment and food. When we made our way to our table, we found a handwritten note for Jito, a small sign of appreciation for choosing the location.

I was surprised to learn that Jito is a vegetarian, having given up meat three years ago to optimise his health. He ordered a vegetarian burger with chips and opted for water. I followed suit but shamelessly ordered a medium steak with mashed potato on the side. The stage was now set for a riveting conversation.

Jito will be the first to tell you that there are many misconceptions about him. Many believe that his achievements are due to his privileged background and not on merit. Born to a military father, Jito is no stranger to discipline. He learned the value of hard work early on, having spent much of his childhood in Ndola with his



I SAID TO MYSELF, ONE DAY I SHOULD BE PART OF THE PROCESS OF IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOODS OF OTHERS AND CREATING EQUITY. IT IS MY WAY OF ADDRESSING THE INJUSTICE AND THE GUILT I FELT IN THAT MOMENT.

- Jito Kayumba,
Special Assistant for Economic Affairs to
the Zambian President.

grandmother following his parents' divorce. He also credits his time in Ndola for teaching him empathy towards others, a quality that is central to his work and personal life today.

They say a single moment has the power to shape a lifetime. For Jito, this moment came while driving to school with his father one morning. He remembers seeing a boy about his age going to school barefoot and in a tattered uniform while he sat comfortably in his father's air-conditioned Land Rover. He remembers thinking, "How is it that I live in a world where I just had breakfast and going to a good school in a nice vehicle while someone my age is doing the same thing but in worse conditions. It made me feel guilty, but I started to understand that the world is not always fair. It made me recognise that there was nothing special about me."

This moment, etched in Jito's mind, was the catalyst for his academic and career choices. He went on to study political science in Canada in a quest to learn about how society functions. He explains this personal guiding purpose, "I said to myself, one day I should be part of the process of improving the livelihoods of others and creating equity. It is my way of addressing the injustice and the guilt I felt at that moment." He continues, "Even in private equity, I always thought about the job creation and social aspect of our investments. I call it conscious capitalism, and I see it as being aware of the plight of others, having empathy." Today, Jito is closer to the action than at Kuku-

la Capital. He sees the impact of his work in real-time on the livelihoods of everyday Zambians. As Special Assistant to the president, his job covers various social and economic aspects such as; addressing job creation, increasing foreign direct investment, fostering strong bilateral agreements and stimulating GDP growth. Jito and his team scored big at the 2022 Mining Indaba in Cape Town, where First Quantum Minerals (FQM) CEO Tristan Pascall announced a \$1.25 billion investment to expand the company's Kansanshi copper mine in Zambia. This was driven by "renewed confidence" in Zambia's investment climate. Jito is confident there is more to come.

One of the most striking things about Jito is his commitment to staying healthy. He is in excellent physical shape, thanks to 5 am gym sessions every weekday. He stays away from alcohol and, as stated earlier, maintains a vegetarian diet, decisions he made consciously to reach his highest potential in life and business. He also keeps his mind sharp by reading books and articles relevant to his work and personal development. He holds the firm belief that "one has to be willing to sacrifice to be successful."

Jito represents an entire generation of young Zambians who defied the odds and changed government in the August 2021 election. Defiant is more than a word to Jito; it is who he is. In 2019, he gave a TEDx Talk titled *Can a new generation of defiant leaders save Africa?*, which continues to garner views and reviews. In that



PIONEER

Jito Kayumba took on the role of Special Assistant for Economic Affairs to the seventh Zambian president in September 2021 but before this, he was well known for being a partner for Kukula Capital, which is Zambia's first venture capital firm.

Jito currently serves as board member for Zambian Breweries, Insizwe Group and Famous Brands. He previously served on the boards of several other companies including Airtel Zambia, iSchool Zambia and Betternow Finance.

FAMILY VALUES

Jito learned discipline from his military father and he learned the value of hard work from his grandmother, who played a pivotal role in raising him.

PRIORITISING FITNESS

Jito takes his health and fitness seriously; he has been a vegetarian for the past three years, avoids alcohol and has 5am gym sessions on weekdays.

CONSCIOUS CAPITALISM

Whether in the private sector or in public service, Jito has always aimed to contribute to job creation and to leave a positive mark on society, in line with what he calls this conscious capitalism.



I AM EXCITED ABOUT BEING PART OF A TEAM THAT IS TRANSFORMING THIS COUNTRY. WHEN WE LOOK BACK, THE SLEEPLESS NIGHTS AND WORK WE ARE DOING WITH THE TEAM WILL BE WORTH IT.

- Jito Kayumba,
Special Assistant for Economic Affairs to the
Zambian President.



talk, he posits that the key to Africa's progress is harnessing the unique resources on the continent. "There is so much value being created by corporations worldwide from what occurs naturally in our environment. What is missing is our involvement. That is why we need to be defiant. Because the status quo is completely unacceptable." Jito is putting his words into action daily by aiming to change the status quo on the front lines of public office.

It is difficult to sum up a story that is far from finished. In many ways, Jito's account coincides with the story of Zambia and, indeed, the story of Africa. He has achieved tremendous success thus far, but he is hungry for more. His mission to transform the lives of everyday Zambians is enduring and continues to push him every day. When asked what continues to excite him, he responds, "I am excited about being part of a team that is transforming this country. When we look back, the sleepless nights and work we are doing with the team will be worth it. We would have rebranded Zambia; it is truly a great country." These are the words of a man whose vision is clear, and as Zambians, we can only be proud.



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THE MEETINGS INDUSTRY IN ZAMBIA

Words by Mulemwa Moongwa

On the 12th of February 2022, Zambian Minister of Tourism, Hon. Rodney Sikumba MP led the Walk for the Love of Tourism. The Walk was a pan-African private sector-driven initiative that co-occurred on the continent to create awareness about the actual impact the COVID-19 pandemic had on the tourism ecosystem and to recognise the sector's economic impact on Zambia's people, businesses, communities and economy.

The Walk for Zambia didn't feature the traditional conversations about its natural sites. The Walk took place between the Mulungushi International

Conference Centre and the Addis Ababa Roundabout in Lusaka. The route was strategically selected to highlight the business tourism sector; both locations are local Heritage sites for the transition of the Organisation of African Unity to the African Union.

Zambia, an internationally recognised destination for leisure tourists and thrill-seekers, is blessed with a unique geographical landscape and many natural attractions that fascinate visitors from across the globe. Zambia had long focused on the growth and promotion of leisure tourism and often marginalised business tourism, an industry comprising of meetings, incentive travel, conventions and exhibitions (trade shows, festivals, sports and, in certain instances, weddings). The sector commonly referred to as MICE or the business events industry is a multi-billion-dollar industry that has dramatically evolved over the last decade, stimulating economic growth and job creation.

Over recent decades, the MICE industry has become essential to national economies. It is a significant and growing component of tourism and other related sectors, yet little reliable and consistent data exist in the region about its full impact. The lack of researched evidence of the effects of the business tourism and the events industry across most African countries, Zambia included, has presented significant challenges when engaging policymakers and other decision-makers in the quest to help the industry recover in the post-COVID era. With its many negatives, the COVID-19 pandemic has single-handedly provided a unique business case for why Zambia needs to urgently re-align the business tourism agenda with its national development agenda.

Until the pandemic, MICE activities and the business tourism arena, in general, went unnoticed. Zambia is now slowly inching toward becoming a significant MICE destination. In the past, Zambia and Lusaka, in particular, provided a safe haven for conversation among political opponents that led to significant strides in the future of many countries in the region. Today, Zambia has built an impressive track record as a destination of choice for many private and public regional and continental conversations.





The United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) General Assembly that Zambia and Zimbabwe co-hosted in 2013 was the first high-level meeting that Zambia competitively bid to host. This speaks volumes about the goodwill of the destination. However, research has shown that most previously held events were based on rotational membership hosting obligations.

Later this year, Zambia will be hosting the African Union meeting at its impressive newly built structure, the Mulungushi International Conference Centre (the recently completed Kenneth Kaunda International Conference Centre), to accommodate the high-level conversations among the heads of states in attendance. The new building is an excellent addition to Zambia's destination profile, allowing it to host more significant events than ever. Zambia now has the critical infrastructure to make it a contender of note in the region for MICE and business tourism. Owed to the recent development of new and

refurbished airports, improved road networks and increased meeting infrastructure in Lusaka, Livingstone, Kitwe and Ndola.

To understand the impact of MICE and the business tourism sector, we need first to understand its ecosystem that includes bed space, restaurants, agro-producers, caterers, transporters, printers, shopping, arts, crafts, entertainment, nightlife, connectivity providers, financial services providers, florists, and specialised services like audio-visual and professional conference organisers (PCOs). It is easy to see how a consistent growth-centric approach to attracting MICE events would positively impact the country's economy.

Zambia's peaceful reputation, environment, and world-famous natural sites, such as the Victoria Falls, is well-positioned to reap the benefits of the existing MICE infrastructure. However, it is time to invest in its most valuable resource, its people, who are needed to optimise its MICE industry.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mulemwa Moongwa is a certified meetings professional with 15 years of experience in high-level meetings. Mulemwa owns and manages a meetings management firm and serves as an industry advocate in Zambia and beyond. She is the chairperson of Emerging Markets at Meetings Professional International and a founding member and vice-chairperson of the Events Professionals Association of Zambia.

ESG INVESTING



Yande Mwenye - Managing partner

Crowe Zambia is a full service professional firm that combines deep industry and specialized expertise with innovation and is led by well-known resourceful personalities in Zambia. Crowe Zambia's Managing Partner Yande Mwenye, has over 21 years experience spanning three continents, Africa, Europe and Australia.

The effects of climate change can no longer be ignored and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards are becoming a notable consideration in today's investment world. One compelling reason for ESG investing is that it brings environmental and economic benefits to local communities wherever projects are implemented. And so, the common elements of ESG include these key actions:

1. The fight against deforestation
2. Use of clean renewable energy

3. Reducing GHG emissions

ESG refers to the three major criteria used to measure the sustainability of an investment in a business or project. This concept cares not only about profits, finances and governance but also considers the people and the environment to promote sustainability.

Responsible investors assess potential investments using the definition of ESG criteria which among other things takes into to consideration various risks and aids decision making.

THE GREEN INVESTOR - 'A New Dawn for Zambia's Mining Sector'

Confidence is high amongst investors that the New Dawn Administration is implementing the right policies to ensure macroeconomic stability and attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into mining and other industries.

President Hichilema has set out very

clearly the government's vision for a resilient and sustainable mining industry anchored on Environmental, Social, and Governance standards. Zambia aims to increase production to 3-million tonnes of copper a year and other minerals within 10 years. The country is well-positioned to capitalise on the global drive for the minerals critical to green transitions.

The mining indaba, which took place from 9th May to 12th May 2022, was held under the theme, 'Evolution of African Mining: Investing in the Energy Transition, ESG, and the Economies'. Mining investors revealed appetite for climate related investments.

One of the country's top copper producers, First Quantum Minerals (FQM) announced a new \$1.35 billion-dollar investment over 20 years into its Kansanshi Mine. In addition, FQM is also pioneering an ambitious solar and wind \$500 million energy project that it hopes will provide stable power for its Zambia operations on a long-term sustainable basis.

How can Crowe Zambia help You?

The big picture is that the President's vision for the mining industry, has set the stage to transform Zambia into a low carbon economy. In this regard, ESG investing aims to align climate goals with sustainable investments. Companies that don't report their ESG metrics may find it hard to attract investor's attention.

Crowe Zambia is committed to help companies, government, parastatals, municipals and many others to become more responsible and sustainable.

Our Advisory work includes advising on the following ESG metrics for integration in mining and other investment industries:

Environmental (E)	Social (S)	Governance (G)
Water and pollution management	Diversity and social inclusion	Tax strategy
Efficient use of energy	Healthy and safe working conditions	Corporate risk management
Value chain practices	Labour standards	Executive compensation
Greenhouse gas emissions	Conflict resolution	Board structure
Climate change	Local communities	Donations/political lobbying
		Corruption and bribery



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ZAMBIA'S UNTAPPED HONEY MARKET

Words by Nawa Mutumweno



Zambia abounds with a vast forest cover of about 60% of its total land area, dominated by miombo woodlands and major bee tree species, providing nectar and pollen for honey production.

Beekeeping is a largely rural-based occupation that provides viable economic potential, sustaining the livelihood of many communities within the country's frontiers.

Zambia's honey industry comprises an estimated 20,000 beekeepers with a marketable supply of about 2,500 tonnes of honey per annum, a tiny fraction of its production potential.

"Zambia's full potential is estimated to be 20,000 tonnes, potentially generating more than EUR 5 million in export reve-

nue. **Z**ambian organic honey maintains a niche market in Europe," SNV Netherlands Development Organisation has stated, which has been a major supporter of the sector over the years.

According to the Zambia Honey Partnership Platform (ZHPP), the country is one of the top honey exporters on the continent, exporting about 1,000 tonnes of quality honey per year.

"The price of bulk honey on the international export market ranges between \$1,500 to \$6,000 per tonne, making the potential earnings from honey a significant contributor to the Zambian economy. Much of the apiculture sector remains untapped," ZHPP states.

Several issues impede the sector's growth, affecting production and competitiveness on the international horizon.

ZHPP identifies these bottlenecks as, among other things, "unavailability of affordable finance for local honey exporters, lack of technical know-how on quality standards maintenance, high cost of organic certification and limited value addition, resulting in reduced export earnings from raw honey."

It is against this backdrop that the Zambia Honey Partnership (ZHP) – later to become the Zambia Honey Partnership Platform (ZHPP) – emerged in 1998 as a coordination framework to provide a rational approach by both public institutions and private sector actors involved in promoting social and economic growth of the honey sector. The Partnership has increasingly become recognised as a truly representative sector association, with the government and donors consistently channelling their sector interventions through the ZHPP.

A recent boost for the honey sector was the Trade and Institutional Capacity Building in the Apiculture Sector (TICBAS) project, supported by the African Development Bank (AfDB). Implemented by SNV Zambia, the \$428,000 initiative improved sanitary and phytosanitary standards for the beekeeping sector and provided training for participants in the value chain.

"The aim was to train people and start exploring the commercial opportunities for table honey. This objective was achieved with at least one business, Zambezi Gold Honey, exporting table honey to the South African market for the first time through the Checkers national retail chain," the bank said in its Project Completion Report.

The Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), through the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, identified various weaknesses in the sector, namely:

- Inappropriate production technology used
- Low productivity and poor quality of produce
- The weak organisation of beekeepers
- Lack of commercial orientation to beekeeping
- Lack of high-grade processing facilities

- Imports of cheap bee products
- Absence of market information
- Non-availability of appropriate financing mechanisms
- Lack of coordination of donor-funded interventions
- Lack of coherent sector strategy and follow up activities

The government has implemented various trade-related initiatives, which have also supported the apiculture sector as an export-oriented product. These interventions have included government-to-government negotiations to remove trade barriers on goods and services, including bee products within the sub-region.

Further, through the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA), the government has facilitated market linkages within the apiculture value chain by promoting many players to various forums and

trade fairs both within and outside the region aimed at export trade promotion.

The way forward

- Market access, trade and investment: There has been plenty of focus on producers, with little emphasis on corresponding linkages to markets, resulting in weak market access for producers. To add to this, unfavourable policies within the region and on the international horizon, such as trade and non-tariff barriers, hamper entry into specific markets and stifle competitiveness. There is an urgent need for organised and efficient marketing along the value chain, from production to the final consumer, if rural producers are thrust into the mainstream economy.
- Smallholder capacity-building for improved production and productivity: Extension services in beekeeping, which are highly limited

and almost non-existent, should be accelerated to keep beekeepers abreast with information on market availability, pricing, technology and hygiene requirements.

- Gender and Beekeeping: Traditionally, beekeeping has been primarily dominated by men due to its inherent physically demanding tasks - for instance, climbing trees and walking long distances, taking them away from their regular domestic duties. Consequently, women's full participation in the industry has been curtailed. Therefore, it is incumbent on players in the sector to ensure that the use of acceptable modern hives is enhanced.
- Quality and standards: Ensuring consistency of Zambian bee products is paramount to achieving a more significant market share globally.
- It is heartening to note that the demand for Zambian bee products continues to rise on the international market.

There is a growing demand worldwide for organic products, a market which Zambian honey producers can tap into. As such, there have been increased calls for more investment in the beekeeping sector and increased calls for honey producers to attain official organic certifications to increase production and farmers' incomes.

Future Prospects

According to a Total Transformation Agribusiness market study of the honey industry in Southern Africa, the region has vast potential, which remains under-exploited. Except for Zambia, all countries in the region are net bee product importers. The existence of regional economic communities (COMESA, SADC and EAC) presents a challenging environment to foster regional trade and provide thousands of small-scale bee farmers and other producers with access to better and broader markets.

There is immense scope for bee products in the European Union on the international front. Demand from the region is poised to increase in the medium to long-term due to lifestyle changes made by an increasingly health-conscious population. The global market also offers considerable opportunities for other bee products such as beeswax, propolis, pollen, royal jelly and bee venom.

Once sustainable trade structures and mechanisms have been energised, Zambia's sweet success in honey matters will be assured.





**CHOLA
CHISENGALUMBWE**
Humour Columnist

I THINK YOU'RE DOING LINKEDIN ALL WRONG?

As much as I despise social media with all my heart and soul, I'd be hard-pressed to argue that it doesn't offer a decent measurement of where human civilisation's at. Because where we're at isn't great, I'd probably be the one making the case. Without over-analysing your niece's recent foray into TikTok, or even yours, or how much time I consume watching other people's cats groom themselves, we're in a sorry state.

Too often, a person with half-decent internet access is an aggressor or harasser, and somewhere on the horizon, an outspoken billionaire is riding a rocket into all remaining propriety — so that said person can aggress and harass some more. I sometimes wonder what happened to all the good times, when good manners were a core feature on Twitter, when three or four people in this country had Facebook, and it was but a massive, shapeless void into which random internet ramblers went: "Hello? Is anyone actually *there*?" I missed when LinkedIn used to be a place you just went to look for a change of scenery.

And this is where you come in.

I logged into LinkedIn the other day — okay, I lie, it was five minutes ago — because that particular app is a tireless temptress. Constantly swearing it has something important to say when it turns out it's only you: informing everyone your life is amazing, that you are moving up in the world, or that it's such a blessing to happen upon such and such morsel of common sense. There are no good old days to remember on LinkedIn because it was always a poorly designed CV that you have now appropriated into a sophisticated selfie machine; where you can link your need to self-portray to an announcement of privilege; a promotion, a profit, a raise, that capitalism is *not* simultaneously gifting us all.

Can you imagine what it'd be like to sit around your social graph, just your LinkedIn one, at a dinner table? Gawd.

"Hey, I got my master's degree the other day! Look at my face!"

"Hey, I happened upon this amazing quote by Bill Gates/Jeff Bezos/Elon Musk/Tim Cook/An

Insanely Wealthy White Man that may or may not apply to your current work situation. Look at my face!"

"Hey, let's check if this thing that's trending on Facebook — eg. Will Smith assaulting Chris Rock at the Oscars — has any corporate or professional value here on LinkedIn. (Look at my face?)"

"Hey, I just landed this amazing job, and it's quite clear I'm landing an equally amazing promotion in no time at all. Look at my *faaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaace!*"

Let's get a few things clear:

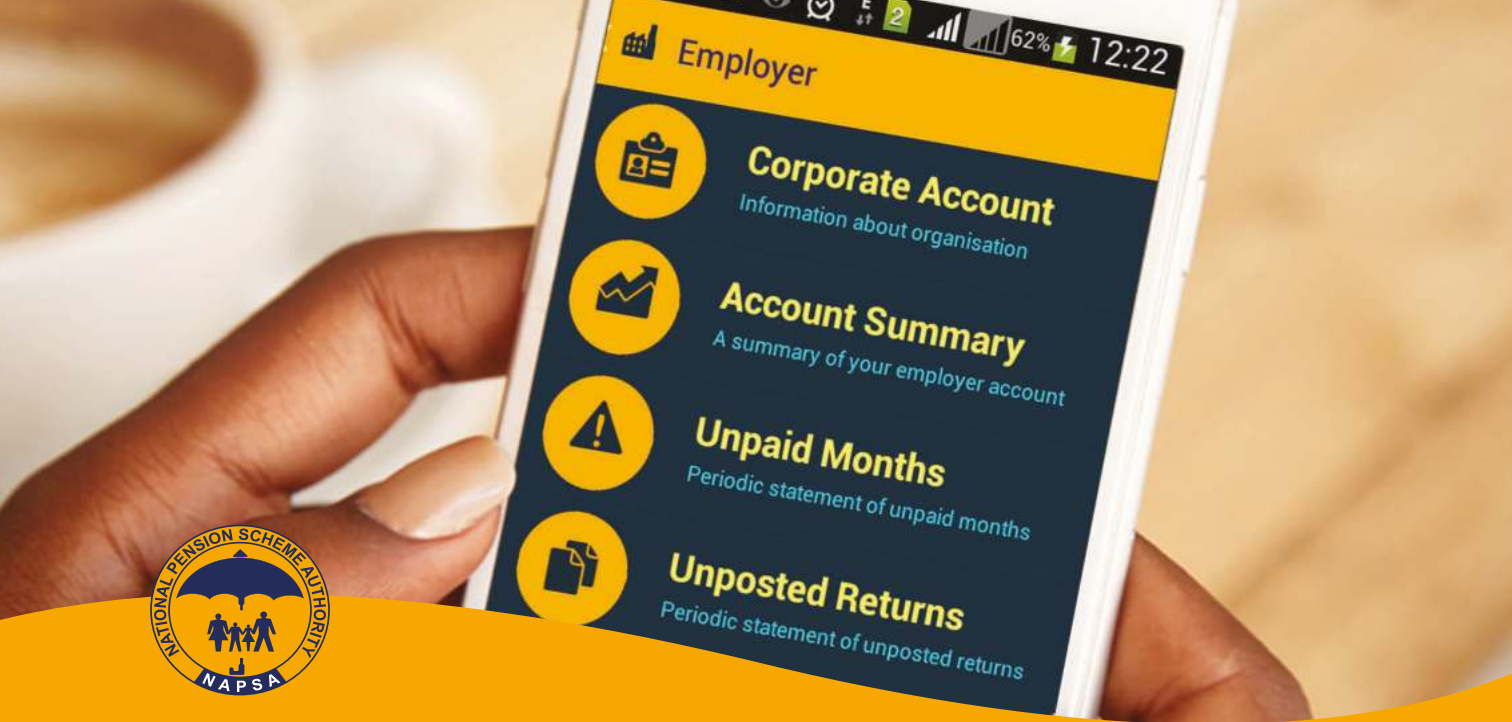
- If I actually wanted to read quotes from Insanely Wealthy White Men, I'd read their biographies, and there's a reason I haven't ordered those. I prefer books that contain witty people, talking foxes, and tycoons with real fangs.
- When you take a selfie that helps objectify your presence on a platform packaged as 'professional', it's not dissimilar to slipping into my DMs on a platform packaged as 'professional'.
- If you're going to share things anyway (memes with career advice that contain quotes by Insanely Wealthy White Men), could you at least make sure the pixelation's on point? Low-grade images and videos make my eyes tear up and prompt me to shake my phone — in an attempt to shift around the metadata, I guess, the way one might shift around the cells in a bottle of Minute Maid.
- Instead of taking another selfie or carefully orchestrated portrait, what if you slyly wrote a three-paragraph dig at your boss or one of your co-workers and disguised the whole thing as 'thought leadership'? Now *that* I'd read, even if there weren't any talking foxes.

Oh, and, um, Team LinkedIn: could you make it so that I don't have to go on treasure hunts for my 'Saved Items' when I save a groovy news item and could you maybe tell me how long this or that stranger stared vacantly at my profile for?

I'll see you all on the other side.

ABOUT CHOLA

Chola Chisengalumbwe is collecting one hundred, at www.thegrab.net



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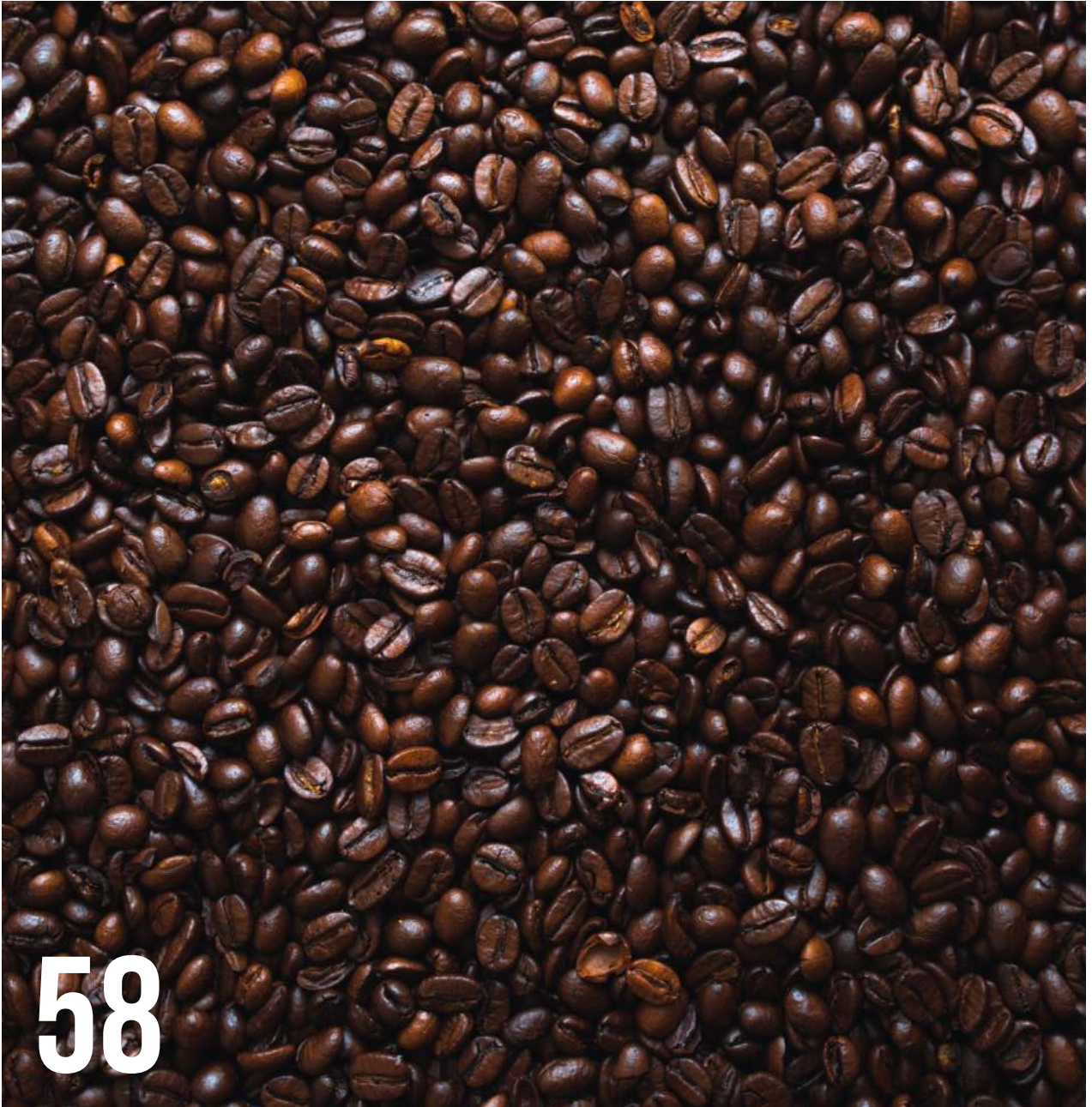


INSIDE

46. MAGICAL LUANGWA

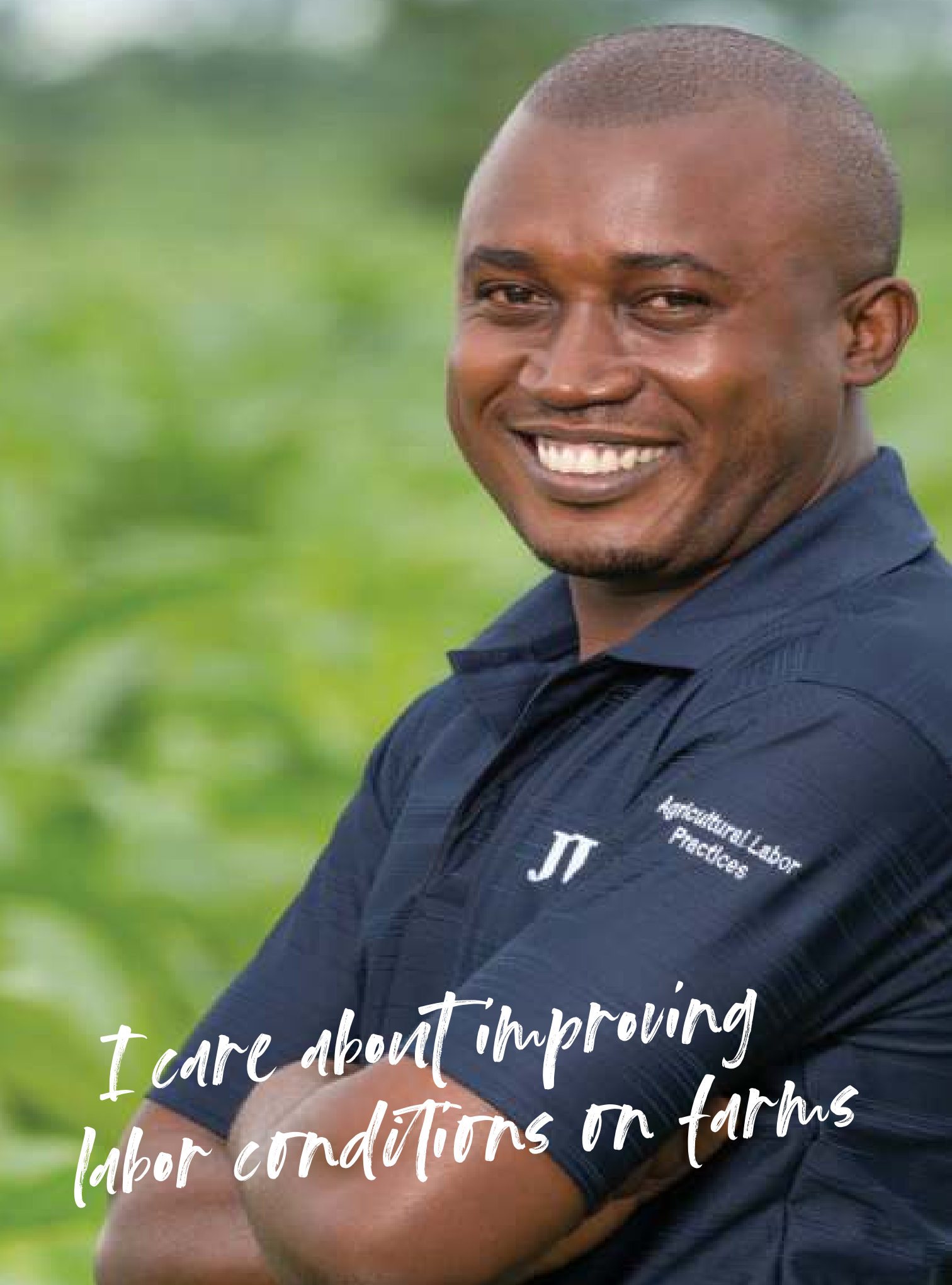
• 58. MARIKA'S COFFEE

• 64. 72 HOURS IN JOBURG



58

Established in 2007, Marika's Coffee started with the goal of roasting and packaging Zambia's best coffee. It has achieved this and much more, turn to page 58 for the full story.



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Magical Luangwa

Words by
Walid Nassar
Images by Karthik
Jayaprakash





I always feel a sense of euphoria before setting off on an adventure; my inner child awakens to the possibilities of what may lay ahead. Growing up, I regularly played *Indiana Jones* and tried to explore nearby seasonal water streams and the lush jungle which covered the mountain range that surrounded my town.

I was joined by my videographer friend, who insisted on documenting every aspect of our trip. Our mission was simple; show the readers what they are missing! A task that would prove a little more difficult in the end, for how could you summarise a place like the Luangwa Valley.

On the morning of our trip, our excitement was hard to control. Our 08:15 Proflight flight couldn't come sooner, a seamless check-in and morning coffee at the makeshift café in the Lusaka domestic airport to warm us up, and we were ready to start. The smooth flight took an hour and fifteen minutes to arrive at the charming Mfuwe Airport, where David, our designated guide for the trip, greeted us.

A short 45-minute ride through the quiet town of Mfuwe revealed surprising gems around the national park, each with their own unique story to tell, their very existence crucial to the Mfuwe community. An area we will explore later in this article.

We arrive at Kafunta River Safari Lodge in time for our breakfast, a quick introduction and a thorough safety briefing by Lisa, the lodge manager, before heading to our thatched chalet to unpack and prepare for the first of many game drives.

The Morning Game Drive

It is well-known that animal sightings during game drives are a pure game of chance; you are either in luck or out of it. The South



Luangwa National Park's uniqueness is its ability to increase your odds of sighting rare animals. Its raw and undisturbed nature makes it a premier destination for international film crews and wildlife documentary makers.

I often take trips to various national parks around Zambia, not solely enjoying the serenity of the beautiful nature but also feeding my passion for wildlife photography. Over the years, I have been lucky enough to witness some of the most unbelievable sightings while on game drives. And this trip would prove no different.

The morning drives almost felt choreographed. The sheer quality of animal sightings was nothing short of spectacular. Most animals congregated in and around water lagoons, which were remnants of the heavy rainy season. We witnessed pods of hippos lying in the water, enjoying the protection the water cabbage offered from the morning sun. Yellow-billed storks that masterfully picked off small fish, pied kingfishers artfully hovering above their unsuspecting prey, waiting for the right moment to make their move, and large

crocodiles were basking in the sun to raise their body temperatures.

In other drier locations surrounding the Luangwa River, we spotted a baby giraffe suckling from its mother and herds of elephants crossing the dried floodplains. We watched warthogs and notoriously naughty baboons working together to dig up edible plant roots, a pride of lions taking a morning nap after a long night of hunting. We were fortunate to have witnessed a brave lone hyena approaching a leopard to inspect whether the solitary cat had a kill it could steal.

There was never a dull moment. The sheer number of animals present at that time of day was purely astounding.



The afternoon/night game drive

The afternoon/night game drive was my absolute favourite; I prefer to witness the potential action that is usually prevalent at nighttime, after all, it's when the apex predators are generally active. Other advantages to doing game drives in the afternoon are the cooler temperatures and the jaw-dropping sunsets you get to witness on the banks of the Luangwa River, and of course, the cold sundowners offered by the lodges. With the sunset complete, our senses and expectations heightened, and the air grew thick with anticipation. Catching an apex predator going for a kill was the ultimate safari prize. Our spotter Robert,



scanned the surrounding area with his powerful spotlight, looking for reflective red eyes in the distance (most predators' eyes reflect red).

As we drove around, Robert spotted many other nocturnal animals such as genets, scrub hares, and bush babies grazing and foraging for food. We hit the jackpot when we spotted a stealthy leopard observing a herd of impalas grazing at night, who later disappeared into the gullies, no doubt bothered by the attention he was getting. The nighttime noises and darkness make the search for predators exponentially more exciting than the daytime.

We spent a few more hours driving around at night looking for action until it was eventually time to head back. On the way back and as we approached the lodge, our spotter using his powerful light, spots an animal in the distance, a shy aardvark crossing the trail into the thickets, a special treat indeed! Aardvarks are notoriously shy and rank amongst the most challenging animals to see. David, a guide of 30 years, was only seeing it for the third time. Sadly, I was unable to photograph the creature in time.

The following day, Izzy, the lodge's marketing manager, was in disbelief over our sighting of the aardvark. She later informed us that even the legendary Norman Carr, who had spent most of his life in the Luangwa Valley, had never seen one. Again, the adage "the valley never disappoints" stood true.





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The walking safari

The walking safaris in the Luangwa are a real treat and a wholly different and exhilarating experience. We embarked on ours under the watchful and experienced eyes of an armed DNPW ranger and David, who happened to be a fully licensed walking safari guide. We started our 6-kilometre walk in the early morning hours to increase our chances of capturing one of the big cats up close.

"You only need to remember three words – do not run!" said David. Standing firm seemed to be the trick to ward off any possible threats. Throughout our walk, David educated us on the numerous footprints and droppings the different animals left behind.

Perhaps the most exciting thing we learned was the ability to differentiate between the many antelope species based on the prints their hooves left in the soft sand. Another interesting trick was learning the ability to determine whether the prints were recent or not—an ability previously used by hunters in the area to help in estimating their prey's distance.

While we weren't lucky enough to capture any of the big cats we were hoping for, during our walk back, we happened to run into a small herd of elephants drinking water from a secluded watering hole, an unforgettable experience.



The Night Sky (A Special Request)

That same night, we had requested permission from the Lodge to be taken out to a dark site far away from the grasp of the lodge's faint lights, a consent they happily granted.

No bush experience is ever complete without an opportunity to spend an hour or two under nature's most spectacular light show. With the Milky Way at its zenith, it was hard not to seize the opportunity to take a few long exposure shots under the watchful eye of our guide. Seeing the night sky as our distant ancestors did is truly a privilege. It's hard to believe that the ever-present intricate night sky is seldomly ever seen in its full majesty.





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Around Mfuwe town

While the primary reason one would choose to visit the valley would be to experience the wildlife and excellent safari excursions, it is worth noting that this luxury exists because of the Luangwa Valley's community that constantly works together to make visiting it a reality.

The community, comprised of every individual and business that calls the Luangwa home, is truly admirable. Their dedication and ability keep all the wheels turning despite their many challenges. Their stories are even more remarkable.

The Bush Spa

No trip to the Luangwa valley is complete without visiting the Bush Spa. Set in the beauty of the indigenous Zambian bush, the Bush-Spa located in South Luangwa National Park creates a sanctuary of pure simplicity for those seeking tranquillity and rejuvenation of mind, body and soul.

Perched on a secluded wooden deck atop a lagoon overlooking the permanent hippo residents beneath it makes it a memorable experience. The constant grunts and gurgles of the hippos provide a unique soundtrack to your treatment.

The Bush Spa uses all-natural Zambian ingredients to make the oils/balms and products used in their therapies. I went for the Heart of Africa Energizing Balm Massage, simply Zen. Stella, the therapist, even managed to put me to sleep within minutes of starting



the treatment.

We had the privilege of meeting with Nathalie, who founded the Spa two decades ago; she explained that all therapists on duty originate from the community and are trained in-house.

The Bush Spa has received International Spa awards and numerous nominations; Nathalie was voted Best Spa Manager and Best Entrepreneur in Zambia.

Tribal Textiles

Located in Mfuwe town, about a 15 min drive from the national park gates, is Tribal Textiles, a home décor company. Tribal Textiles works to create sustainable impact through creativity and craftsmanship by going beyond fair wages, reinvesting in community-strengthening initiatives, and supporting local wildlife conservation.

The bright, colourful and unique hand-painted African textiles with traditional or contemporary African designs are inspired by the rich culture and wildlife of Zambia and Southern Africa: throw pillows, bedding, table linen, wall decor, bags and accessories and even kid's textiles. They have it all!

Visitors can also create their custom designs with the support of experienced craftsmen and women employed by Tribal Textiles. I took the opportunity to draw a custom design for a pillowcase under the guiding eye of the helpful staff, and my wife loved it. A portion of all proceeds is diverted towards conservation efforts in the valley.

Located within the Tribal Textile premises is Dorica's Café; Dorica is a phenomenal self-taught chef who serves delicious international cuisine, from samosas to bagels to iced coffees and flapjacks.

I had the vegetarian burger but can wholeheartedly attest to the chicken schnitzel based on my colleague's face. A spot not to be missed!

Project Luangwa

Founded and chaired by Jo Pope, Project Luangwa is a charitable organisation formed by several safari operators in the valley. The Project Luangwa store sells many artisanal products such as hand-sewn bags, wood crafts, traditional clothes, etc. The heart of Project Luangwa is the belief in empowering communities through the benefits of tourism.



On establishing Project Luangwa in 2010, some of the valley's tour operators realised the need to empower communities and show the incredible benefits that wildlife and an unspoiled habitat bring to the region. By using a portion of the proceeds from each visitor, Project Luangwa seeks to reaffirm the importance of tourism in action. Project Luangwa strongly believes in improving health and education standards, providing a platform to help raise rural areas out of poverty.

Mulberry Mongoose

Experience a unique shopping experience at Mulberry Mongoose. With an in-house open workshop where local craftswomen use snare wire recovered from poaching traps to create unique jewellery designs inspired by the African bush. Like many others, my wife has always been a fan of their work, a store not to be missed.

Kate and the team of ladies do a phenomenal job of converting what was meant to kill wildlife into artisanal and exquisite pieces of jewellery that people worldwide enjoy. Mulberry Mongoose uses part of the proceeds to give back to anti-poaching and wildlife efforts. It doesn't get more African and more unique than Mulberry Mongoose.





Top left: Benson Kanyembo
Bottom right: Steve & Anna Tolan

Meet Real Life Heroes

Benson Kanyembo: Rarely in life are you accorded the honour of meeting real-life heroes like Benson Kanyembo, whose immeasurable contributions to conservation are known globally. His passion and dedication to wildlife protection against all the odds during a career of nearly three decades is commendable.

Benson leads all Conservation South Luangwa anti-poaching law enforcement and wildlife operations. As the son of a policeman, it is no wonder he grew up with an appreciation for good law enforcement and took on the mantle himself.

In 2019 his commitment to conservation was recognised on the global stage when he was awarded the TUSK Wildlife Ranger Award in London by Tusk's Royal Patron HRH Prince William. He remains committed to training the next generation of Zambian scouts to protect Zambia's wildlife.

When we met at the CSL offices, Benson shared, "It is a difficult task that we are up to. It takes a lot of effort and perseverance, we have many factors against us, but if I were born again, I

would like to do what I do now. Zambia is a great nation with amazing natural resources and wildlife, and we have to ensure that we safeguard it, nurture it and watch it flourish so long after we are all gone. People are still mesmerised by all things natural."

Anna & Steve Tolan: Anna and Steve Tolan established the Chipembele Wildlife Education Centre on land given to them by late Chief Kakumbi. After arriving in Zambia in 1998, they opened the centre in May 2001, using their savings to bring this project to life. The project encompasses a range of conservation and community projects, including pupil sponsorship, school improvement, scientific research and wildlife rehabilitation.

Anna spoke about the young children whose interests in conservation were nurtured at Chipembele with a parent's pride. One of the children is Thandiwe Mweetwa, who never looked back after her first class at the centre many years ago. Thandiwe has become one of Zambia's most successful wildlife biologists and conservation educators, receiving global recognition as a 2016 National Geographic Emerging Explorer.

We also had the hilarious pleasure of meeting Trooper the Baboon. He



is notorious for stealing personal belongings only to exchange them for gifts. Trooper got a hold of one of our water bottles and only gave it back to us in exchange for two bananas and a tick search using my head.

The commitment of Anna and Steve to the more significant cause and the finer details is unparalleled. While strolling back to our car in a casual chat, Steve mentioned that the couple finds it almost impossible to take holidays together. They always have orphan animals and birds at Chipembele that need constant care. This world needs many more Annas

and Steves.

Kafunta River Lodge

While there are many options in the Luangwa Valley, our lodge of choice was Kafunta River Safari Lodge. Kafunta's name is derived from the seasonal river that runs beside it during the rainy season. The name Kafunta translates to "crazy" in the local Nyanja language. It was a nickname given to it because of the local chief's desire to ask his subjects to carry heavy stones from the river to his palace.

Kafunta, located on the edge of the

GMA, is well managed and boasts a breathtaking raised massive viewing deck overlooking a large floodplain and the Luangwa River. The floodplain is regularly frequented by herds of elephants, hippos and other mammals, including many bird life.

The large main deck boasts an infinity pool and the only natural hot tub in the valley fed by the natural geothermal spring below Kafunta's grounds. The hot tub maintains a constant therapeutic temperature of 37 degrees. Combined with the excellent open views of the floodplain, it is easy to see why Kafunta

was our primary lodge of choice. The Lodge also offers large luxury thatched chalets with fully stocked mini-bars. The rooms are beautifully decorated with locally sourced materials, and their ample space holds a comfortable lounge area. But, perhaps the most appealing part of the chalets is the private viewing decks that overlook the game-rich floodplain—the perfect spot to unwind with one of the many books available at the lodge.

Tucked away at the foot of the giant fig tree located on the southern side of the lodge is the Fig Tree Spa. The Spa offers a variety of massages and treatments designed to spoil you with moments of pure bliss and relaxation. Being on Safari can be a challenging physical experience, and the Spa is a genuine welcome relief.

One of the highlights of our stay in Kafunta was the dining experience. The private dinner table below the raised decking under the night sky is magical. Even more impressive was the food. I have specific dietary requirements and was blown away by the varied, flavorful and masterfully presented four-course meal.

I would wholeheartedly recommend Kafunta to anyone travelling to the Luangwa Valley because of the people who help make it memorable. Every team member was always ready to go that extra step to make you feel more comfortable. The very same level of community commitment that helps make and keep the Luangwa experience magical.



ROLE OF YELLOW CARD AS A DIGITAL FINANCIAL SERVICE PROVIDER



Introduction

Around the world today and most especially in less developed countries, financial transactions have become easier due to rapidly advancing financial technologies.

As financial services are consistently being improved, it has become a common practice to use mobile phones, credit cards, and online banking applications for transactions.

These transaction platforms are not only time-saving, and seamless, but they can also be accessed at any time.

Investment in new technologies is substantially increasing and the pace of innovation is fast growing.

This article will outline four key roles that Yellow Card plays as a digital financial service provider in over sixteen African countries.

Strengthening financial inclusion

To own and control finances is among the

most important desires of every human being. However, only banked citizens are able to access and have control of their finances with the traditional finance system due to their ability to affiliate with a banking institution and benefit from the services they offer such as loans and financial security.

But with the advent of digital financial services, Yellow Card stands as a bridge that connects unbanked citizens to financial services, thereby paving the way for them to be financially inclusive.

The possibility of sending and receiving money without necessarily being affiliated with a bank makes financial inclusion in Africa a reality.

Reduced cost of transactions

Internal and cross-border transactions have always been constrained because of the exorbitant charges one has to pay to carry out such transactions.

The continuous flow of formal remittances has been attributed to

the adoption of digital technology by migrant workers and their families due to the relatively cheaper charges that characterise them.

Both online and mobile transactions proved to be catalysts and enablers of remittance flows.

Secure and user-friendly services

Yellow Card offers crypto exchange services permitting customers to buy and sell Bitcoin, Ethereum, and USDT at best rates.

Unlike other financial service providers, crypto transactions use digital security that keeps your money safe at all times.

Moreover, you can conveniently carry out your transactions from anywhere provided you are connected to the internet.

Access to Affordable Financial Services

As a digital financial service provider, Yellow Card's offer is critical for poverty reduction and economic growth. This is because the circulation of money boosts revenue-generating activities that will otherwise not exist.

Therefore, access to financial services increases opportunities and resilience as countries with increased financial systems enjoy higher economic growth.

Conclusion

Using digital technology to access financial services has become part of our everyday life, and is set to be a factor that dictates how we spend, send and save money.

Life is easier with the widespread use of digital financial service providers without which, traveling long distances and queuing for long hours to access our finances would still be our bitter reality.

Finally, having access to other services like payment of electricity and water bills, transferring money, and accessing bank platforms from our homes or offices, with the use of either a computer or mobile phone puts us at the crossroads of digitalisation.





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**BUT FIRST,
A CUP OF
MARIKA'S
COFFEE.**

Words by Esnala Banda
Images courtesy of Teija Kuusela Lublinkhof



Marika's
ZAMBIAN COFFEE



250G

**"LIFE'S TOO SHORT FOR BAD COFFEE."
—GORD DOWNIE**

If you were having coffee with me, I would suggest (if you have the time) that you join me on a trip to Lusaka's light industrial area. Come with me to Malambo Road, where we shall find the home of Marika's Coffee nestled between warehouses.

Like Gord, Teija Kuusela Lublinkhof, founder of Marika's Coffee and Peaberry Coffee Roasters, believes everyone should have access to good coffee.

Starting Marika's Coffee with the ambition to roast the best Zambian coffee available for the local market, Teija and her team have worked hard to package it smartly in high-quality packaging to guarantee freshness for longer.

"It's best to drink coffee within a month of roasting. If you were a chef, you'd want to use fresh ingredients; it's the same with coffee. It's best when it's fresh."

Statistics show that around 30 to 40% of the world's population consumes coffee daily. Established in 2007, Marika's Coffee has developed into a well-known brand locally. "Marika's Coffee started small, roasting in Lusaka and supplying mostly to hotels and restaurants," Teija reveals. It has since expanded into international markets and has exported green coffee to Finland.

ZAMBIA, COFFEE TASTING AND WORLD COFFEE EVENTS

Teija, who is also an assistant instructor for the Coffee Quality Institute (one of only 49 instructors in the world), began her life in the coffee industry working for Munal Coffee. She helped develop the Munal Coffee brand, one of the brands now roasted under Marika's Coffee.

The Coffee Quality Institute (CQI) works to improve the quality of coffee and the lives of the people who produce it, including organising training and exams for coffee tasters.

"I worked for Munal Coffee when they started growing and producing coffee. That's when I really got interested in coffee. Awed by the many different blends of coffee, I trained as a coffee taster and took over quality control."

She explains that as she was already in Zambia, it felt like a natural decision to set up business here, expressing that the Zambian coffee industry was like an open field.





"In Finland, there is more competition even though more resources are available. This was a chance to create a coffee culture and do things that hadn't been previously done. We got great support from the Coffee Growers Association of Zambia and the Coffee Board of Zambia. It was, at the time, hard work, but looking back, it was a great opportunity to do something new and different."

Teija is a licensed Q grader (Coffee Quality Institute) and representative and head judge for World Coffee Events, which organises competitions such as World Barista Championships, she has judged World Barista Championships and other coffee competitions since 2009.

She is also involved in developing barista championships for the African continent and training the baristas in Zambia and other countries. She has been working with the Zambia Coffee Growers Association to develop the Zambian National Barista Championship since 2007.

Pre-COVID 19, Marika's Coffee was very active on the international scene participating in world coffee events and running the Zambian Barista Championship competition, where winning baristas won an opportunity to participate in the World Coffee Championships to represent Zambia.

Teija also established the Zambia Barista Committee (ZABAC) in 2009 and is currently chairing the Zambia Coffee Growers Association.


MARIKA'S COFFEE
STARTED SMALL,
ROASTING IN LUSAKA
AND SUPPLYING
MOSTLY TO HOTELS
AND RESTAURANTS


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PEABERRY COFFEE ROASTERY

"We offer so much more than just a café and amazing roasts. Peaberry Coffee also offers coffee training and equipment for anyone who wants to join the coffee industry. We're a one-stop-shop. We do everything coffee," Teija shares.

Peaberry Coffee Roasters, under which Marika's Coffee now operates, was established in 2016 and opened its first coffee shop in 2017. Teija got inspired to pair a roaster and café together after a trip to Australia.

"I thought [to myself] this is something we could do in Zambia. I noticed there was very little appreciation for coffee, coffee shops and local products. Zambia is now starting to have a culture around sitting down for a cup of coffee."

Peaberry Coffee Roasters has since partnered with the Pick n Pay franchise in Zambia to house two coffee shops within their stores.

"We want people to have a good cup of coffee at the supermarket, which is an international norm. We aim to make sure

good coffee is more widely available. Our coffee can be found at The Pantry in Lusaka, for example. We try to support local stores as much as possible. It's also available in the big supermarkets like Shoprite and Pick n Pay. Plus, lots of people also just come to the roaster to get coffee," she divulges.

Teija explains that Marika's Coffee, under Peaberry Coffee Roasters, does 90% of its production on-site, saying that she likes to focus on finding the best green coffee and telling the stories of the farmers and where the coffee comes from. She adds, "90% of our production is Zambian coffee, whole production is done on-site."

"Our goal is to roast the best available coffee for the Zambian market, and that's why we have a select blend of Zambian coffee. We normally have a medium roast coffee and espresso roast coffee. Medium roast for French press or filter, then espresso for espresso machines."

COFFEE CULTURE

Teija details that while Peaberry produces medium roasts and espresso roast coffee for export to Finland, there is a greater focus on very light filter coffee as there is a significant preference for that in the market.

Finland is ranked as one of three leading countries that "ruthlessly" drink coffee in huge quantities daily, next to the Netherlands and Sweden (with consumption reported to be about 9 to 10 kg of coffee per person annually).

She appreciates that different parts of the world have different cultures surrounding coffee.

"I drink my coffee mainly black. I have some espresso after lunch and a longer coffee in the morning. It's fascinating how different places have different coffee cultures. For example, Italians drink coffee with milk in the morning and espressos in the afternoon and Zambians predominantly like cappuccinos. I think this could be because Zambia is largely a tea-drinking country."

THE BEST WAY TO ENJOY COFFEE

"Sip coffee without the sugar first. So, you can taste the coffee as it is," Teija advises.

When asked what is best paired with Marika's Coffee, her ready answer is dark chocolate. As Zambian coffee tends to have a natural chocolate note, black coffee is best paired with 70% dark chocolate.





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ALLERGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS

Allergic conjunctivitis is inflammation of the conjunctiva, which is the tissue that covers the inside of eyelids, as well as the white part of the eyeball.

Causes

Allergic conjunctivitis is caused by allergens and irritants, such as pollen, dust and mold. Allergic conjunctivitis can be grouped into two types:

Seasonal allergic conjunctivitis: The seasonal form is associated with seasonal allergies that usually occur during the spring and summer months, and sometimes during the fall. Exposure to pollen, grass and other airborne allergens causes seasonal allergic conjunctivitis.

Perennial allergic conjunctivitis: The perennial form persists throughout the year, and is generally triggered by indoor allergens such as animal dander, dust and mold spores.

Symptoms

- Intense itching of eyes and urge to rub eyes.
- Red eyes.
- Watery or white, stringy mucus discharge.
- Swollen eyelids.

These symptoms may be accompanied by nasal symptoms such as a runny or itchy nose, or sneezing.

Treatment

Treatment for allergic conjunctivitis may include:

- Cold compress.
- Artificial tears.
- Anti-allergy eye drops or oral medications

Some additional measures may be helpful, such as:

- Avoiding allergens.
- Washing your face after exposure to environmental allergens such as dust or pollen.
- Frequent washing of clothes.
- Keeping contact lenses and cases clean and changing contact solution daily.

The author is a Senior Optometrist And Contact Lens Practitioner at Vision Care Opticians Cephas Kasanda Sicalwe.

Visit any of our stores for further treatment and eye care assistance



How to Spend a Perfect 72 Hours in Joburg

Words by Noxolo Kapela

Johannesburg is the commercial hub of sub-Saharan Africa, a cosmopolitan city also brimming with history, a Mecca for the arts, fashion

and street culture. A city where dreams turn into reality.

This fast-paced city hosts a unique mix of cultures, music, art and design that recalls its turbulent past and celebrates its vibrant present. Many captivated by its beauty decided to make it their home and have since been telling both the joyful and heart-wrenching stories of living in this buzzing city.

Let's dive in and see what you can experience in 72 hours in this city that never sleeps.

Day 1: An introduction to the iconic City of Gold

What better way to start this journey than delving into Johannesburg's history by spending a day exploring the economic powerhouse of Africa in the safety and comfort of the Hop-On, Hop-Off bus tour. Learn about the history of gold mining, the jacaranda trees first planted in the 1800s dotted across the city, the first communities that existed, hear stories of apartheid history, and understand the triumph of modern Johannesburg by listening to the on-board audio commentary, available in 15 languages.

Get lost in this roller coaster ride of emotions as it takes you through tumultuous and triumphant times. The major highlight of the tour is the Constitution Hill, which houses an old female prison and the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

For an even better understanding, deep dive into the ultimate township tour.

South African history is incomplete without a visit to Soweto, the biggest township in Africa. On this tour (as cliché as it may sound), you'll immerse yourself in local highlights and top sites such as the Apartheid Museum, the Mandela House, Sisulu House, and Freedom Square, as you learn about South African history and culture.

This tour is better experienced by bike as you get to cover a lot of sites while enjoying the ride. On arrival, head to Lebo's Backpackers and hire one of their knowledgeable guides to take you through this fascinating township.

Have your dinner in one of the oldest restaurants in the iconic Vilakazi Street, the only street in the world to have been home to two Nobel Prize winners. Sakhumzi Restaurant is where you indulge in South African dishes with their buffet or a-la-carte menu. While there, don't forget to sample local

24Hrs



Apartheid Museum



beverages. South Africa is known for its vast selection of locally produced beers (including craft beers), wines and spirits.

But don't go in too deep; tomorrow is another day.

Day 2: Experience the inner city's hidden gems and more

Feel the city's pulse by living and experiencing it through its most important characteristic - the people. Once you start exploring, you will quickly learn that Johannesburg's story is still being written. Many new developments can be witnessed across this metropolis, such as the establishment of the Jewel City; this precinct is a melting pot of nationalities and cultures and creative local businesses.

Jewel City is an extension of the existing Maboneng Precinct located in Johannesburg CBD. These two precincts boast artsy

accommodation, edgy businesses and creative spaces used by people from all walks of life. All creatives should visit these precincts in their lifetime, Fox Street being the name to remember as this is where all the action is. Fox Street houses the famed Arts on Main, one of Johannesburg's creative hubs.

Hallmark House Hotel, with unique design and décor, which is best described as industrial meets chic, is the best place to stay in Maboneng and possibly all of Johannesburg; it is ideal for both business and leisure travellers. The hotel offers a range of curated shared spaces, including extensive recreational and business facilities serving guests and residents. These include Johannesburg's finest jazz bar, the Marabi Club, which boasts fine dining, slick service and the immersive sounds of African rhythms.

If work beckons during your trip (even if it doesn't), check out Thorn, Hallmark House's popular inner-city remote workspace and restaurant, with its cool, modern, relaxed club ambience. Another

restaurant at Hallmark House is The Rooftop; go to this restaurant not just for the fantastic food but also for the unrivalled 360-degree views over the city.

For more of Johannesburg's culinary scene, book a seat at the Yeoville Dinner Club, where you can sample dishes from South Africa and other African countries. However, for the ultimate food experience, local markets are always the perfect destination. Arts on Main and Fourways Farmers Market are the two that come to mind; they boast more than 30 stalls and mini restaurants, selling different types of food for all budgets.

For great nightlife, head back to Hallmark House Hotel, pop in at the Jazz Club and Restaurant, and groove to the soundtrack of bygone eras of early Johannesburg's jazz scene. Experience a magical blur of the finest food, the friendliest staff and live music.

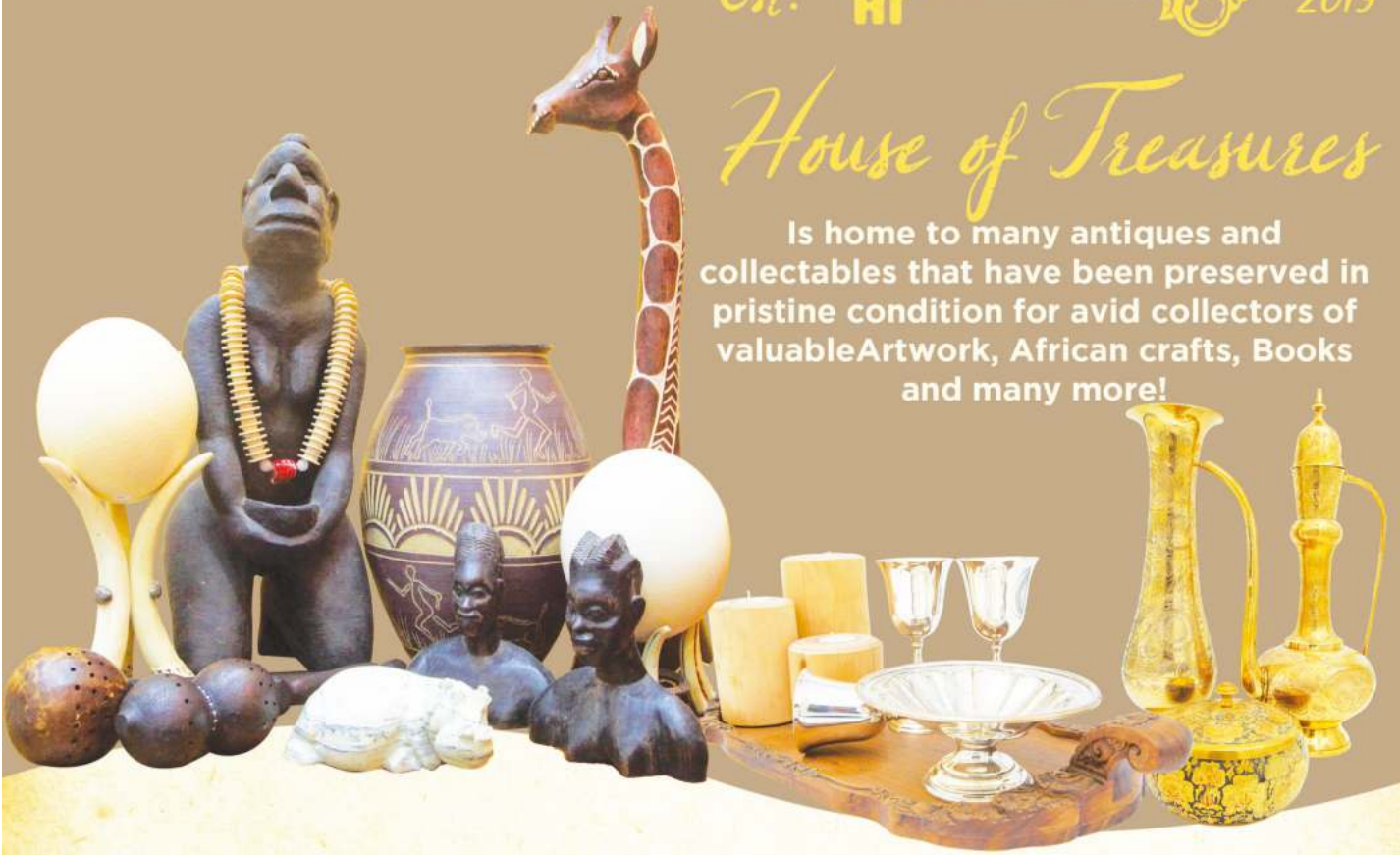
If you are into hard-core clubbing, leave your rental at the hotel and request an

48Hrs

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Uber ride to Konka in Soweto or Taboo in Sandton, this is where local hip and happening DJs can be found. Break a leg!

Day 3: Go beyond the city - Adventure awaits

72Hrs

- Take in aerial views of the
- Magaliesburg and the Cradle of
- Humankind on an early morning
- hot air balloon safari. A majestic
- formation of enchanting mountains
- characterises Magaliesburg, and
- seeing it from the top will give
- you the most scenic perspective
- of the area. Spend the hour-long
- flight sipping champagne and
- enjoying the high-altitude breeze,
- snapping photos and listening
- to commentary from your guide
- before landing for a scrumptious
- breakfast before proceeding to The
- Cradle of Mankind that you would

have seen from the air.

Thousands of fossils and artefacts have been discovered in the world-renowned Sterkfontein Caves, which helped shed light and piece together the complex story of evolution. To date, there has been no other place that tells this story better than Maropeng. Therefore, visiting the Cradle of Mankind is a must-do before returning to the city.

While slowly making your way back to the city, stop at the Harties Boat Company for a sunset cruise in Hartbeespoort Dam. It is one of the easiest ways for mostly Joburgers to unwind and escape the hustle and bustle of the city. If you are a person that thrives in a big group, then the party cruise is your best bet; alternately, book a speed boat for you and a couple of your friends. The trick is to book these well in advance as slots fill up quickly, especially

in summer.

On your way out, as you drive back to Johannesburg, make time for a cultural emersion at Lesedi Cultural Village dedicated to showcasing and explaining the culture, art, music, and history of the various South African Tribes. Time permitting, try to visit every homestead. This is the best way to understand the different tribes and how they come together to form this Rainbow Nation of South Africa.

Unfortunately, all great adventures come to an end. However, at the end of this fun-packed 3-day escapade, you will be a walking encyclopaedia of many things Johannesburg-related, and you will be armed with beautiful memories of life in the city of Johannesburg. As you return home, I hope you convey a message of love, peace and fulfilment.



Magaliesburg Mountains



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72. FLIGHT SCHEDULE • 73. ROUTE MAP • 75. NEWS • 78. FLEET • 79. PROHIBITED GOODS



Your place for all things Proflight, from news updates to fleet and customs information.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

JULY | AUGUST 2022

+ SIDE NOTE

Proflight Zambia reserves the right to change, suspend or amend this published schedule without prior notification. Every effort will be made to operate as per the planned schedule.

LOWER ZAMBEZI

Proflight Zambia flies daily between Lusaka and Mfuwe to/from the Royal and Jeki airstrips in the Lower Zambezi National Park in Zambia.

Please check our website www.flyzambia.com for updated departure days and times.

LUSAKA - JOHANNESBURG

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
020	08:00	10:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
026	15:00	17:00				●	●	●	●

NDOLA - JOHANNESBURG

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
040	08:10	10:40	●		●		●		
301/020	06:15	10:00		●		●			
305/026	12:40	17:00				●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - LIVINGSTONE

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
704	10:30	11:40	●		●				●
708	16:10	17:20		●		●	●	●	

LUSAKA - SOLWEZI

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
910	07:10	08:20					●		
912	10:30	11:40						●	
914	15:00	16:10	●		●				

LUSAKA - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
300	06:30	07:15	●	●	●	●	●		
302	07:50	08:35							●
332	09:00	09:45		●	●	●	●		
304	11:15	12:00						●	●
306	16:00	16:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
308	18:45	19:30				●			●

LUSAKA - MFUWE

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
800	7:10	8:20							●
804	10:30	11:40		●		●	●	●	
808	16:10	17:20	●		●		●	●	●

LUSAKA - MANSA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
332	09:00	11:00		●	●	●	●		

NDOLA - MANSA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
332	10:15	11:00		●	●	●	●		

JOHANNESBURG - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
023	12:00	14:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
027	18:20	20:20				●	●	●	●

JOHANNESBURG - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
041	12:30	15:00	●		●		●		
023/306	12:00	16:45		●		●		●	●

LIVINGSTONE - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
705	12:20	13:30	●		●				●
709	17:50	19:00		●		●	●	●	

SOLWEZI - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
911	08:50	10:00					●		
913	12:10	13:20						●	
915	16:50	18:00	●		●				

NDOLA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
301	06:15	07:00		●		●			
301	07:00	07:45	●				●	●	
303	09:15	10:00	●						●
305	12:40	13:25		●	●	●	●	●	●
307	16:00	16:45	●		●		●		
309	17:30	18:15		●		●		●	●

MFUWE - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
801	09:00	10:10							●
805	12:20	13:30		●		●	●	●	
809	17:50	19:00	●		●		●	●	●

MANSA - LUSAKA


#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
333	11:20	13:25		●	●	●	●		

MANSA - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
333	11:20	12:05		●	●	●	●		

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PROFLIGHT AND TRAVELPORT HOLD FIRST POST-COVID FACE-TO-FACE ENGAGEMENT WITH AGENTS



LUSAKA, ZAMBIA – Proflight Zambia and digital booking platform Travelport have held their first face-to-face meetings with travel agents in Lusaka and Ndola since the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

The move heralded the start of a return to a new normal for the travel industry and renewed optimism for future growth of the sector.

“To have survived what I would consider the worst of times shows our determination and sheer will to weather whatever storms are to come. With what travel restriction had come to, the rise in domestic tourism was the best way forward to grow our revenue. It is also safe to say that we are a much stronger organisation,” said Proflight Sales and Marketing Manager Barbara Namwila.

She noted that COVID-19 had resulted in a major shift in the aviation and tourism industries and thanked the travel agents for their input, urging them to continue engaging with the airline.

“Proflight believes in being adaptable. Change is required by our agents for the betterment of the service to our customers,” she said, adding that the airline recognised the importance of provincial routes, recently doubling flights on its Ndola - Mansa direct route to four times a week from June 13.

The resurgence in investor confidence in Zambia’s economy has also given a boost to the sector, with the resumption of direct passenger flights between Ndola and Johannesburg by Proflight in an addition to the 13 weekly flights from Lusaka to Johannesburg with connections to/from Ndola using the airline’s two 50-seat CRJ jets, she said.

Ms Namwila emphasised the importance of such routes, not only for trade to boost the economy but also to meet the travel demands of their customers.

Proflight was also particularly excited to now have two 50-seat CRJ jets in operation, she added.

PROFLIGHT RIDES INVESTOR BOOM WITH RESUMPTION OF COPPERBELT-JO'BURG FLIGHTS

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA – The resurgence in investor confidence in Zambia's economy has been given an added boost with the resumption of direct passenger flights between Ndola and Johannesburg by Proflight Zambia.

The restarting of the service from May 18, 2022, is an addition to the 13 weekly flights from Lusaka to Johannesburg with connections to/from Ndola.

Flights from Ndola will operate on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, departing at 08:10hrs and arriving in Joburg at 10:40hrs. Flights from Johannesburg depart on the same days at 12:30hrs, arriving in Ndola at 15:00hrs. Two additional flights on Sundays and Mondays depart from Johannesburg at 14:30hrs and arrive in Ndola at 17:00hrs.

The route is being operated using Proflight's two CRJ-100 and 200 50-seat jet aircraft, with onward connections onto the Cemair and FlySafair networks to other South African destinations.

Speaking during the relaunch of the route, Proflight Director of flight operations Captain Josias Walubita said the relaunch of the five-times-a-week flights was a recognition of the route's importance, especially for business travellers from the region.

"We are excited to relaunch this route and provide more options to the people of the Copperbelt. This couldn't have come at a more opportune time as the Copperbelt is a prime destination for business travel. This is in line with our

commitment to fostering growth in the economy by offering connections between more local destinations and beyond," said Captain Walubita.

Captain Walubita noted that opening the route would facilitate trade, especially as the world readjusts to a new normal and endeavours to spur on the economy in the wake of COVID-19.

He said the aircraft is the ideal aircraft for this route as it provides speed, comfort, and reliability," he said. The 50 seat jet aircraft is also be deployed on domestic routes: Ndola, Livingstone, Mfuwe and Solwezi where demand requires.

The new Ndola/ Johannesburg direct flight offers a morning flight option to South Africa enabling same-day onward connections to passengers' final destinations domestically, and offers a later departure out of Johannesburg allowing same-day connections from other cities in South Africa.

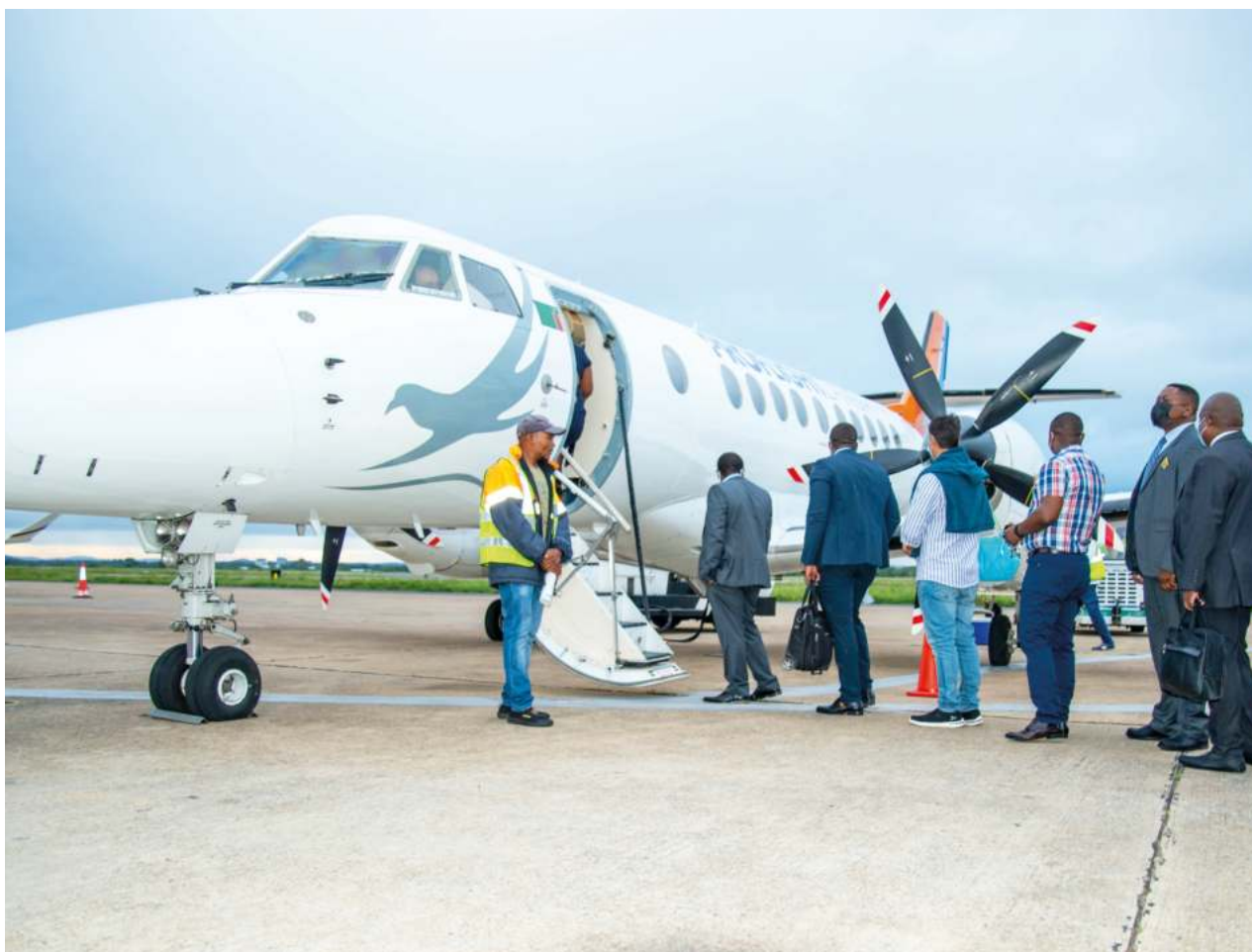
Proflight will also maintain its convenient connections via Lusaka on all other days giving travellers the option of up to eleven weekly flights between the Copperbelt and Johannesburg. Proflight Zambia is offering a free checked baggage allowance on the Ndola/ Joburg route of 40kgs.

Proflight's first 9J-PZA jet started operations around Independence Day 2014, hence being called the 'Jubilee Jet', and was subsequently named 'Chembe' in a competition run amongst our passengers. 9J-PZA is owned by Proflight, while the new CRJ 9J-PFZ is leased by the airline.



PROFLIGHT DOUBLES FLIGHTS TO MANSA

ZAMBIA'S LONGEST SERVING AIRLINE INCREASES NDOLA-MANSA FREQUENCY



LUSAKA, ZAMBIA – Increasing demand for flights to Mansa has prompted Proflight Zambia to double the frequency of its direct service from Ndola to the Luapula capital.

The airline has added flights on Wednesdays and Fridays from June 13, supplementing its existing flights on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Flights leave Ndola at 10:15hrs, arriving in Mansa at 11:00hrs, with the return flight leaving Mansa at 11:20hrs and arriving in Ndola at 12:05hrs.

The service is timed for smooth connections from Lusaka to Ndola, with flights leaving Lusaka at 09:00hrs and arriving in Ndola at 11:00hrs, then departing Ndola at 12:40hrs to arrive

in Lusaka at 13:25hrs.

Addressing travel agents in Lusaka and the Copperbelt this week, Proflight Sales and Marketing Manager, Barbara Namwila said: “Due to popular demand, we are increasing frequency to the Ndola/ Mansa direct flights with connection to and from Lusaka. The additional flights reflect growth in domestic tourism to Luapula, and renewed interest in business travel as concerns over COVID-19 recede.”

Ms Namwila thanked travel agents and added that due to Proflight’s strong roots in the Copperbelt with its first Lusaka/ Ndola service commencing in 2005 with the Jetstream 32 aircraft, Proflight would continue to build new routes, offer direct flights and provide a high level of service to their customers.

PROFLIGHT FLEET



BOMBARDIER CRJ100

FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
1	26.51m	21.03m	20ft	2159kg	41000ft	682km/h	50



JETSTREAM 4100

FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
3	19.25m	18.29m	5.75m	2600kg	25000ft	550km/h	29

TRAVEL TIPS

FLYING COMFORTABLE

- Before you fly, get a good night's sleep. Rest and some light exercise will help you cope on your journey.
- Wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes that are not too restrictive.
- Eat a light, well-balanced meal before you travel and opt for a smaller helping than normal on the plane.

SAFETY

- A Preflight safety demonstration is always made before take off. A safety pamphlet is also provided at your seat. Please familiarize yourself with its important information and note the nearest emergency exit.

SMOKING

- Smoking on board is strictly prohibited. This includes any artificial device or e-cigarettes.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Please ensure that all electronic devices are turned off before taxiing and take off as they may interfere with the safe operation of the aircraft. These include cellphones, laptops, remote controlled games,

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

- In addition to the carry on luggage allowance provided herein, each passenger may carry without additional charge, the following carry on items the weight of which shall not exceed 5kg. The carry on items are permitted for use during the flight and when retained in the passengers' custody as listed here below:
- A lady handbag, pocket book or purse, which is appropriate to normal traveling dress and is not being used as a container for the transportation of articles, which would otherwise be regarded as baggage.
- Laptop
- An overcoat, wrap or blanket
- A small camera and/or a pair of binoculars
- Reading material
- Infant's food for consumption in flight.
- Infant's carrying basket

PROHIBITED GOODS

Banned, restricted and dangerous goods are articles or substances that are capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property or the environment.

If you wish to travel with any such goods or material, please be aware of the restrictions or steps you may have to take if wishing to travel on a Proflight Zambia service.

To ensure the safety of the aircraft and those on board, checked in or hand baggage must not contain articles or substances that could pose a danger during flights these include:

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flammable non-flammable)
such as butane, oxygen
propane and aqualung
cylinders

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS & SOLIDS
such as lighter and heater
fuels, paint. All safety
matches and fire lighters

CORROSIVES
such as acids, alkali wet
cell batteries and apparatus
containing mercury



MEDICAL AND TOILET ARTICLES MAY
BE CARRIED IN SMALL QUANTITIES.
SAFETY MATCHES MAY BE CARRIED ON
THE PERSON.

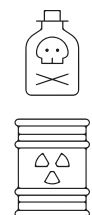
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such as fireworks, flares
munitions, Ammunitions and
pistol caps

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glass repair kits

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killers, arsenic & cyanides



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