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Nkwazi

ISSUE 65 | SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2023

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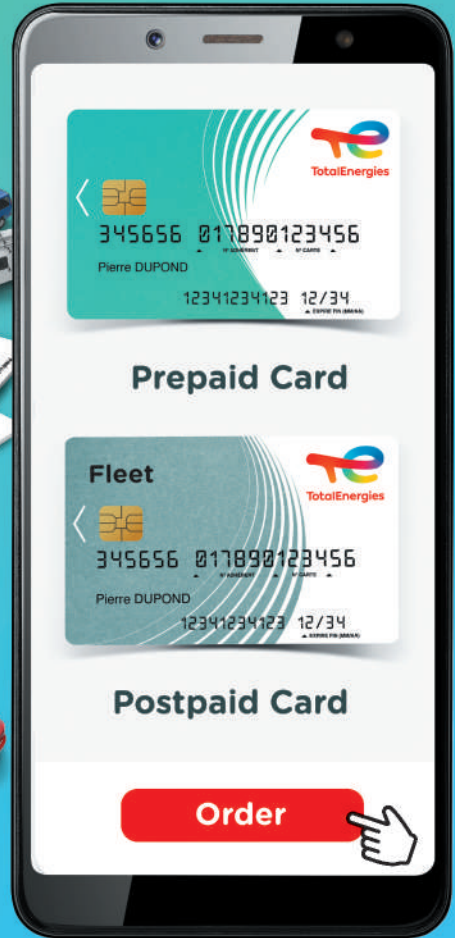
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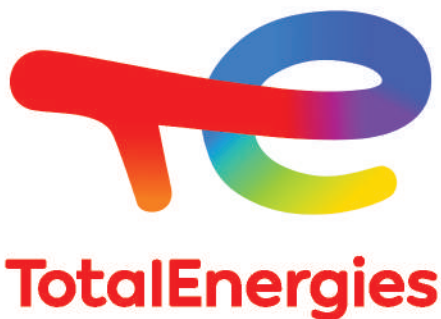
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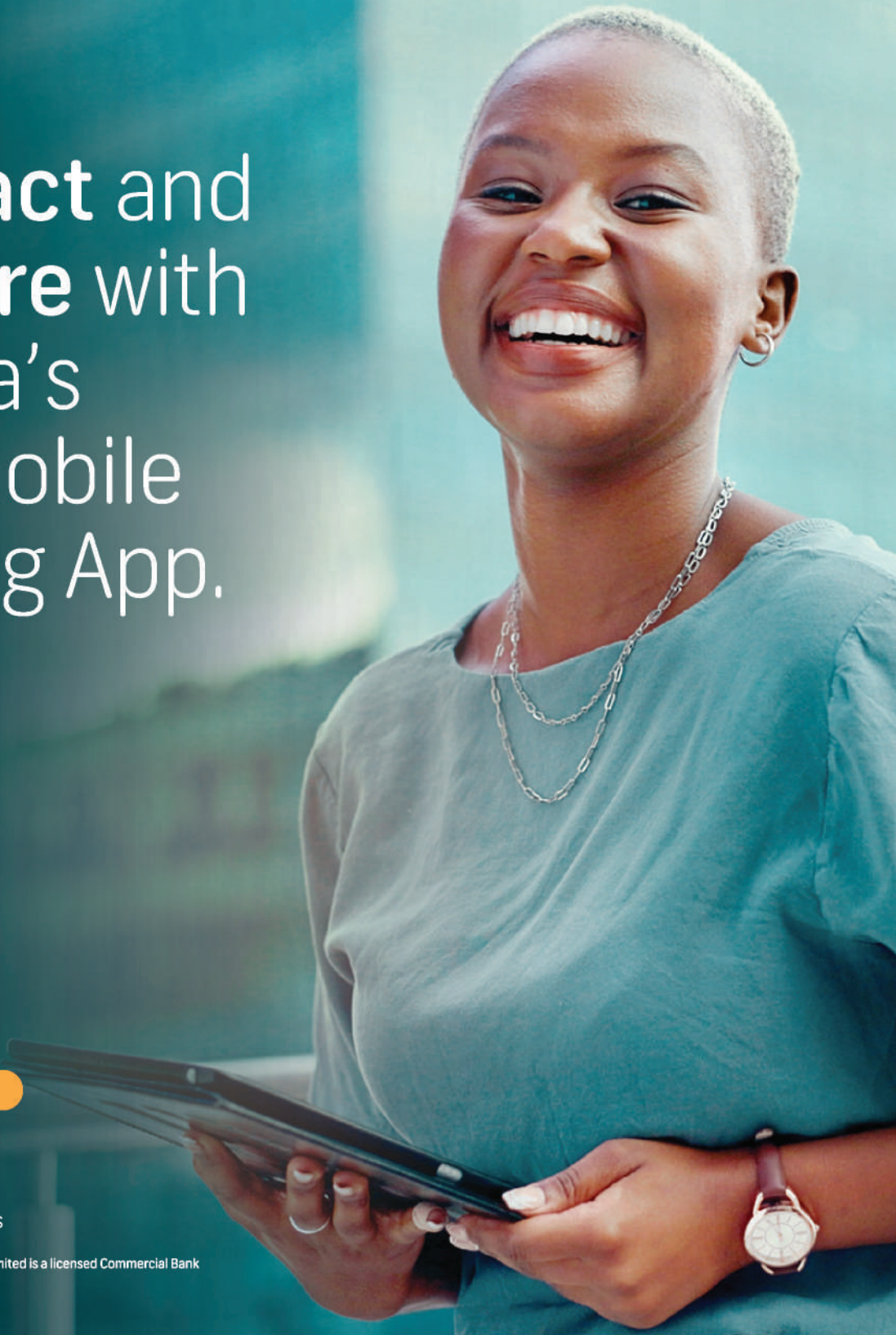


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COVER STORY:

On 24th October 1964, the crowd stood at attention to witness history as the Zambian national anthem, "Stand and Sing of Zambia, Proud and Free", was played for the first time at the Independence Stadium in Lusaka. Since then, Zambia has been soaring high, recording multiple achievements and taking challenges in its stride. Take a walk down memory lane and explore the nation's milestones on page 76.

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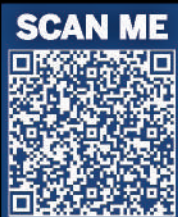


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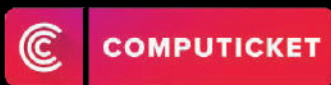
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PRESERVING A LEGACY

Welcome, dear reader. If you are a regular to *Nkwazi*, you might notice a new face on this page, signalling a change at *Nkwazi* magazine after over five years. They say change can be a powerful force for growth and progress, but change often carries in its wake unfamiliarity and, sometimes, fear. As we cross the threshold into the third quarter of a year of significant change, I reflect on the impact I hope to make on *Nkwazi* Magazine and the enduring legacy I wish to leave behind.






Nkwazi has earned a reputation and crafted a legacy synonymous with excellence, thanks in part to the skilful guidance of my predecessor. Stepping into this role, I inherit the weighty responsibility of upholding and furthering this legacy, and this has left me pondering how I can forge a unique path and leave an indelible mark on *Nkwazi*. To find this answer, I use passion as my compass and conviction as my magnetic north.

Throughout my life, I have been driven by a passion that fuels my pursuits, believing that I can achieve anything I set my mind to, even in the face of challenges. Like my forefathers, I want future generations to enjoy the fruits of my passions and convictions. That includes preserving *Nkwazi's* philosophy and bringing you, dear reader, captivating visuals, remarkable stories, and destinations fuelling your wanderlust. I hope these pages will not only entertain you but also kindle new passions within you.

Zambia stands as a testament to the power of conviction. This we see through the tireless efforts of the men and women who fought for the change they believed in, followed their convictions to stand up for the country they loved, and led us to the freedom we enjoy today (page 76). Despite unfamiliarity and uncertainty, they persisted in the face of opposition, leaving a legacy that lives on in all Zambians today. This legacy expands beyond the heroic feats of our ancestors. It is reflected in the historic monuments (page 88) across the country that stand as living testaments of our rich history, preserving the heritage and wisdom of those who came before us.

As we embrace change and chart the course of Zambia's future, let us move forward with passion and conviction, inspiring future generations along the way, just like those who came before us.

Shammah Phiri,
Editor

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On a final note, in your hands is Proflight Zambia's in-flight magazine, *Nkwazi*, which was initially published in January 2013 and is a full-colour magazine that features an eclectic mix of stories about Zambian culture, arts, travel, and entertainment. It is available free of charge on board for your reading pleasure.

Thank you for choosing Proflight Zambia as your carrier of choice. Your continued support is appreciated. We hope to see you on board again soon.

*Captain Josias Walubita,
Director Flight Operations*



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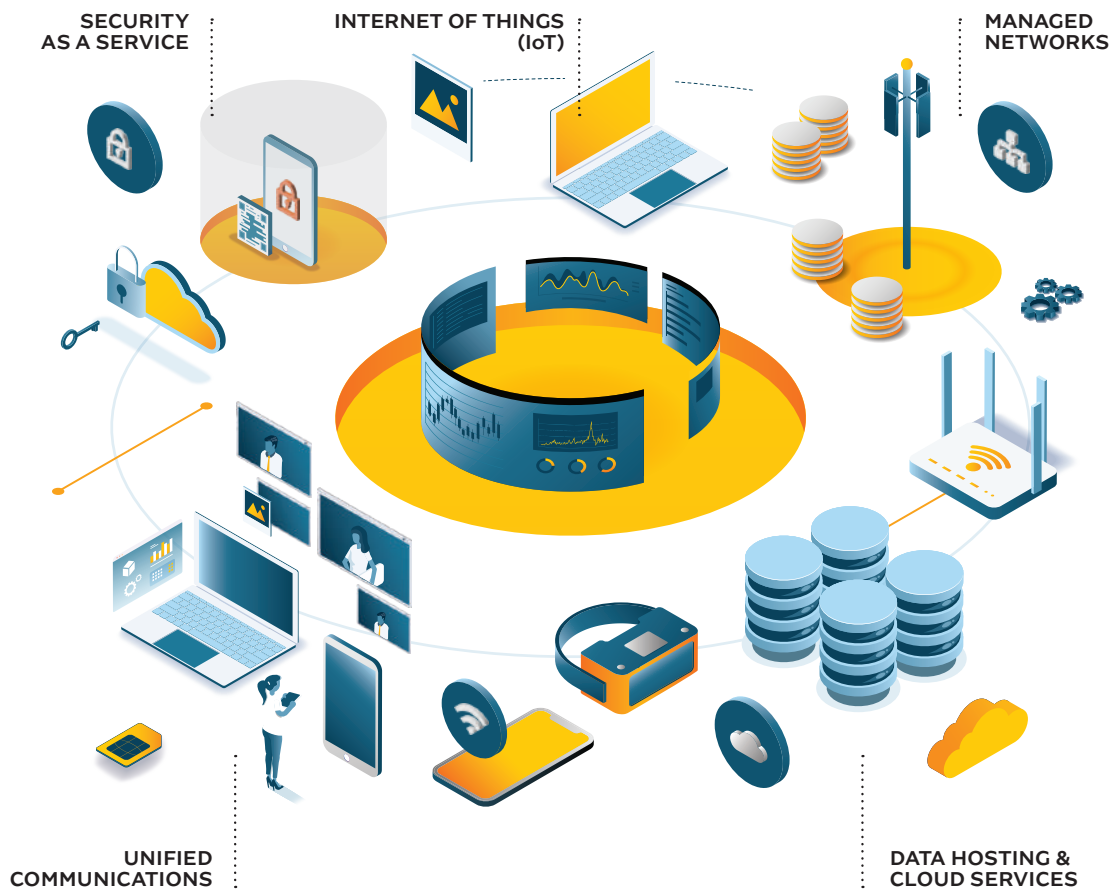
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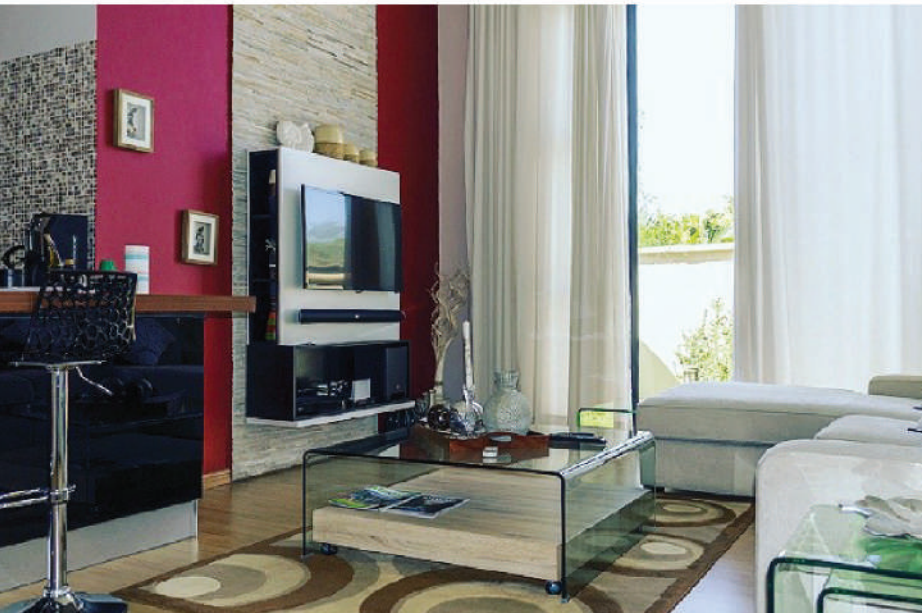
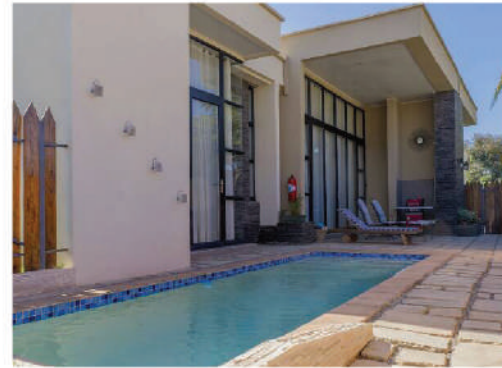
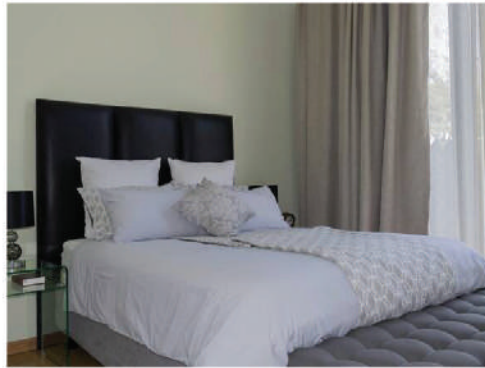
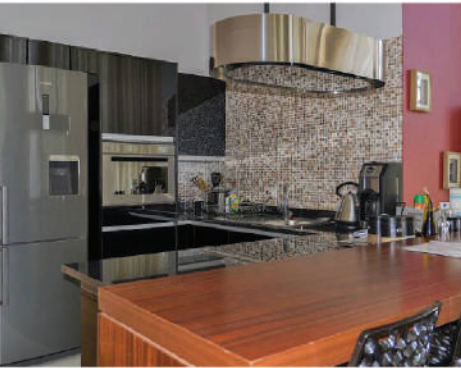




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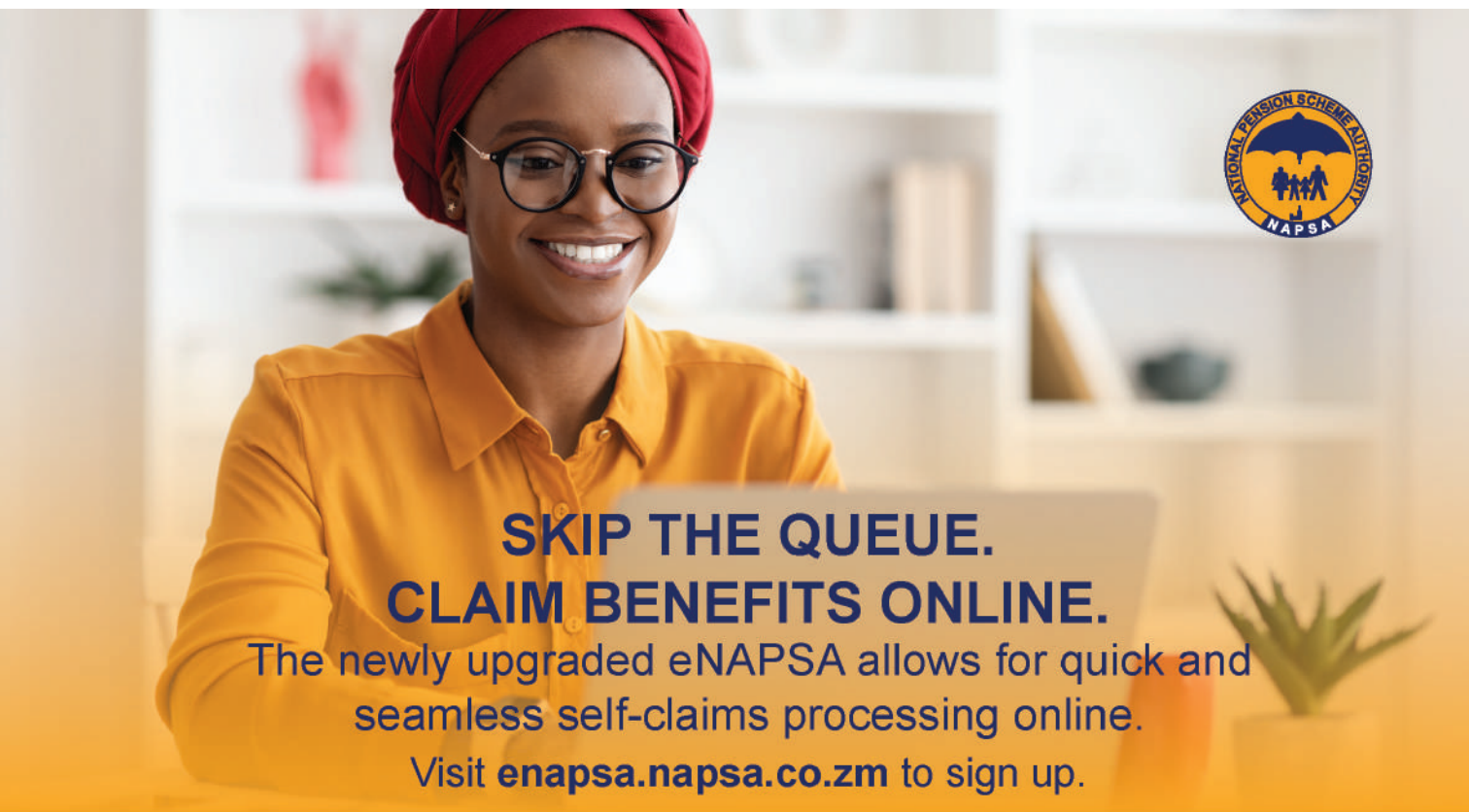
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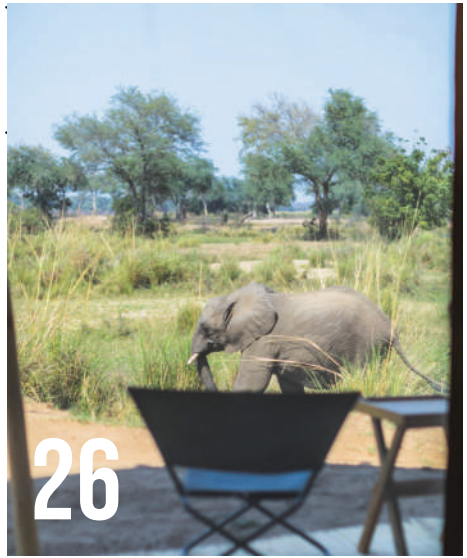
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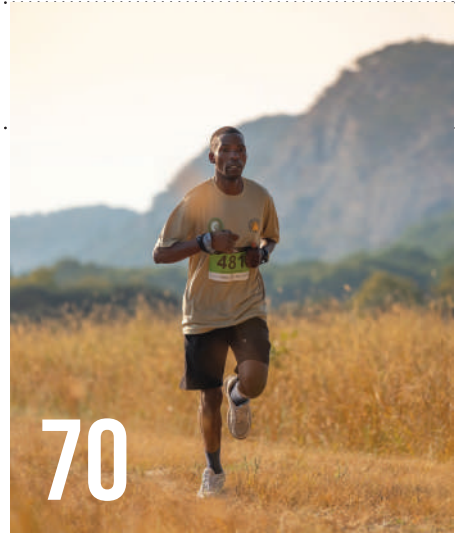
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Experience raw creativity at the Bonanza Farmer's Market at the Barnyard. A perfect weekend getaway on the outskirts of Lusaka. Learn more about this exciting experience on page 32.

PLAN

SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER 2023



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 13 - 14 October 2023.
Location: Lusaka Polo Club.
Tickets: K600 Standard | K2000 VIP |
K3000 Golden Circle.

STANBIC MUSIC FESTIVAL

Stanbic Music Festival is the highlight of the summer. This year's line-up is headlined by the sensational R&B artist, Ne-Yo. Let him serenade you all weekend long, alongside Sampa the Great (Friday), Mlindo the Vocalist (Saturday) and Zambian supporting artists. Dance the night away at the most anticipated music event of the year.



Chef Ray invites you to his take on Modern
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18h00 to 21h30 Tuesday to Sunday

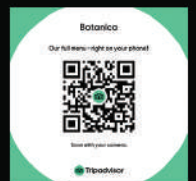
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EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 7 October 2023.
 Location: R&G Arena.
 Tickets: K150 pre-sale, K200 at the gate | VIP tickets: K500 pre-sale, K700 at the gate.
 Tickets available at Computicket.

R&G OKTOBERFEST X

Prepare yourself for the event of the year; Edition X of Lusaka's most loved music festival is bringing you all the summer vibes you've been waiting for! With a hot line-up of Zambia's top artists and DJs alongside South African legend Master KG across two stages, you can't afford to miss out as R&G celebrates ten years of Oktoberfest.



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 8 - 9 September 2023.
 Location: The Piazza, East Park.
 Tickets: K250 pre-sale | K300 at the gate.

AFRICAN FOOD FESTIVAL

The African Food Festival Zambia is the biggest cultural exchange festival in Southern Africa. The two-day event is dubbed the ultimate African experience, with more than 34 countries showcasing indigenous foods, arts and culture. It is the epitome of food tourism. Be part of the 5th festival with international artists such as Sho Madjozi representing South Africa and Hilary Moretz from Zanzibar; this is the place to be! So mark your calendars!



SOUTH AFRICA CHEESE FESTIVAL

The 20th edition of the South African Cheese Festival is finally here! Join us for a sensational culinary journey. Experience the finest cheeses from across the country, indulge in live demonstrations and interactive workshops, and explore a lively marketplace filled with wine, gourmet food, and more!

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 23 - 25 September 2023.
 Location: Sandringham Estate, Stellenbosch.
 Tickets: Kids: R50 | Adults: R250 | 3 Day Pass: R550.



ELEPHANT CHARGE 2023

Zambia's biggest conservation fundraiser is back! Get ready to experience adrenaline and adventure as 35 teams on motorbike and vehicle battle it out in the Zambian wilderness. Witness the true spirit of community as family, friends and supporters camp out over the weekend.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 30 September 2023.
 Location: Lusaka Outskirts.
 Tickets: K100 at the gate.



ROCKING THE DAISIES

JWxRTD is the most anticipated South African festival of the year! It attracts thousands of music and lifestyle lovers from across the globe. This year's diverse line-up will include the likes of hip-hop goat J.I.D, singer Ayra Starr, UK artist Stormzy, and British pop band The Vamps. Don't miss out on the biggest music event of the year!

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 6 - 8 October 2023.
 Location: Cloof Wine Estate, Cape Town | SuperSport Park, Johannesburg.
 Tickets: From R1,295.

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REDISCOVERING THE WILD AT CHULA CAMP

ZAMBIA'S BACK-TO-ROOTS SAFARI

Words by Luke Evans

Images courtesy of Classic Zambia Safaris



Tucked away on the secluded Katengahumba Island, Classic Zambia's Chula Camp - a gem among Zambia's safaris - offers a journey back to the raw essence of Africa's wilderness. From the distant horizon traced by the serpentine Zambezi River to the whispering natal mahogany trees guarding its perimeters, the camp marries tranquility with the adrenaline of raw adventure, embodying the spirit of an authentic African safari.

As you arrive via a brief flight from Lusaka, the journey is just the preamble to the adventure that Chula offers. Your

landing at the Jeki Airstrip is followed by a wild drive and a serene boat ride, making your entrance into Chula a safari experience in itself. You're instantly immersed in a world that brims with life, while exuding an unruffled serenity. Here, wildlife doesn't just mean the majestic big game; it is a medley of experiences, from observing the tiniest insects to watching colossal elephants grazing at dawn.

Accommodations at Chula forgo extravagance and focus on the elemental. Guest tents embody simplicity and functionality with netted walls that

offer a panoramic view of the African landscape, whether under a glaring sun or a starlit sky. They capture the spirit of the camp: immersive, authentic, and wild. While maintaining the eco-conscious ethos that drives Chula, the resort ensures that a touch of comfort is not forgotten. Each accommodation is equipped with en-suite bathrooms featuring flushing toilets and traditional bucket showers.

Communal spaces serve as forums for camaraderie, encouraging guests to share safari tales over a hearty meal. Every meal at Chula is an event,



picture breakfasts by the fire, dinners under a glittering sky, and packed lunches to fuel your explorations.

As day breaks, a multitude of experiences await, driven by the passionate guides whose love for the wilderness matches their expertise. You might join a morning walking safari, tracing paths in the dust where just moments ago a lion padded silently, or spend a calm afternoon canoeing, gliding through the 'Discovery' channel and catching glimpses of hippos and crocodiles. Fishing enthusiasts can reel in the famous Tigerfish, with the setting sun illuminating the Zambezi in hues of red and gold, and as night descends, nocturnal creatures make their debut during thrilling night game drives.

Chula is more than a safari camp; it's an invitation to experience Africa as it was meant to be. It takes you back to the roots, while sustaining a pledge of environmental responsibility. There are no digital distractions, just the hum of the wild and the thrill of

discovery. In Chula, there is a rare promise of true connection – with nature, with fellow adventurers, and with oneself.

As a well-known travel expert put it, "Chula is one of the most exciting properties anywhere on the continent." So for the wild-at-heart seeking an authentic safari experience, Chula awaits. You won't just walk away with memories; you will leave with stories of adventure, connection, and of the raw, beautiful wilderness of Classic Zambia's Chula Camp.



WHERE?

Tucked within the wild heart of the Lower Zambezi National Park, Chula Island Camp is accessible via Jeki Airstrip—your gateway to the wild—with daily flights from the urban pulse of Lusaka.

WHAT TO EXPERIENCE

- Experience an early morning safari walk while the air is still crisp and the soft morning light lingers just below the tree tops. Discover fresh animal tracks as you amble through the bush in the early hours of the day.
- Glide silently across the Discovery channel in a canoe as your expert guide steers you alongside a variety of game, large and small.
- No Zambian safari is complete without a night-time game drive. Sight nocturnal wildlife in their natural habitat, an exhilarating experience unlike any daytime safari.
- Cast your line wide as you try your luck at tiger fishing alongside hippos and elephants. The Zambezi is home to some of the finest freshwater fish and the tigerfish is no exception!

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A CULINARY JOURNEY AT BOTANICA WITH CHEF RAY

AN AFRO-FRENCH COLLABORATION

Words by Tokozile N. Ngwenya

Images courtesy of Courtesy of Ciëla Resort, Botanica and Linda Rorybe



As I walked into the familiar and intimate dining room at Botanica, I was filled with nostalgia, as delectable memories of my last culinary adventure there flooded my mind. The restaurant had recently welcomed Chef Ray, a culinary virtuoso, as its new Executive Chef. Right from the moment we arrived, our waiter greeted us with a radiant smile, exuding genuine warmth.

Chef Ray, whose full name is Ray Tatenda Juru, discovered his passion for cooking at a tender age. Growing up in Zimbabwe, he found solace in his mother's kitchen, captivated by the enticing aromas that wafted through the air. Attending food and nutrition classes in high school felt like second nature to him. He recalls, "I was always drawn to the kitchen, unable to resist the alluring scents that beckoned me."

Taking a leap of faith, Chef Ray made a pivotal decision, shifting his focus from technical graphics to food and nutrition. Being the only male student in the class initially felt peculiar,

but when his grades soared during the second term, he realised that his love for cooking had found its calling. With 14 years of culinary experience and training at the prestigious Christina Martin Culinary International Hotel School, where he honed his skills in classic French techniques, Chef Ray brings a wealth of knowledge and inspiration to Botanica.

The new menu at Botanica, masterfully crafted by Chef Ray, draws inspiration from the timeless French classics. He confidently states, "French classics are an impeccable foundation, and with my experience and creativity, the possibilities are limitless." Having dined at Botanica in the past, I was elated to discover that the menu was now à la carte, granting diners the freedom to explore various options. As Gabriel, our attentive waiter for the evening gracefully draped a napkin on my lap, I couldn't help but feel a surge of excitement as the unveiling of the new menu commenced.

I indulged in the bread symphony, a trio of bread offerings. The charcoal bread,

MORE ABOUT CHEF RAY

Chef Ray is an alumnus of the prestigious Christina Martin Culinary International Hotel School, where he trained in the classic techniques of French cooking.

FARM TO TABLE

Botanica prides itself on its farm-to-table concept, ensuring fresh, locally sourced ingredients are used. The restaurant's commitment to sustainability is evident as soon as you enter, with shelves adorned with lush herbs. The menu itself is a harmonious fusion of fresh produce and culinary artistry.

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infused with sultanas, the cape malay bread with curry and semolina, and a selection of flavoured clarified butters took my taste buds on a compelling journey. The green-hued butter, infused with molten salt, chives, and parsley, added a vibrant touch. The combination of flavours from the cape malay bread transported me to an aromatic oasis, evoking a warm, cosy feeling akin to snuggling under a fluffy blanket during the winter.

As an aperitif, I was presented with a visually stunning amuse-bouche in delicate, translucent mini-glass cups. At first glance, it appeared to be a coffee-based concoction crowned with microfoam. However, upon closer inspection, I discovered a symphony of braised pulled duck, butternut, and cappuccino infused with five-spice. The unexpected marriage of flavours lent a delightful sweetness with earthy undertones, presenting a remarkable twist on familiar ingredients.

Botanica's ambience effortlessly blends the serenity of a botanical garden with the charm of antique-style decor, creating a haven of relaxation between courses.

For the main course, I delighted in the kandolo steak tartare—a luscious, melt-in-your-mouth medley of rich, tender beef sprinkled with biltong powder and accompanied by layers of mustard, curried

apricot, and French bread. The succulent, buttery texture of the steak blended harmoniously with the mustard's creamy sweetness and the apricot's savoury hints. Each bite showcased the impeccable quality of locally sourced ingredients, leaving an indelible impression.

The dessert presentation featured a captivating blend of dried marigold meringue and blackberry textures. A mosaic of white chocolate, Cointreau chocolate cremeux sable, and blackberry sorbet delighted the senses. The vivid purple hue of the frozen fruit purée, slightly tart and refreshingly acidic, artfully cleansed the palate, juxtaposing the sweetness of the white and dark chocolate components.

The culinary creations from Botanica's kitchen, guided by Chef Ray's unique flair for combining flavours and aesthetics, deliver an extraordinary gastronomic experience. From the moment the appetisers grace the table to the last crumbs of dessert, the quality of the food and service remains unparalleled. As someone who has experienced Botanica's wonders before, I can confidently say that each visit is a marvellous experience, with consistently superb cuisine.



ECO-CONSCIOUS PHILOSOPHY

Nestled within the eco-friendly Ciêla Resort, the establishment goes above and beyond to minimise its environmental impact.

- The hotel demonstrates an eco-conscious approach by efficiently recycling green distilled water generated through osmosis, within its premises.
- The utilisation of heat-absorbing windows across the estate enhances indoor comfort, reflecting a thoughtful and sophisticated design choice.
- Within the estate, a remarkable assortment of over 1000 trees forms a man-made grove, adding to its allure and ecological significance.

BOOKINGS

Renowned for its fine dining, Botanica requires reservations to accommodate guests' dietary restrictions and preferences.



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

260 BRANDS LAUNCHES PLANT-BASED MILK



In 2022, 260 Brands' Nutramilk was awarded Product of the Year for Large Enterprises at the Zambia Association of Manufacturers 2022 Gala Awards and was recently recognised alongside Seba's Thobwa as New Products of the Year at the African Food Awards held in Nairobi, Kenya in June 2023.

A First for Zambia

Introducing Zambia's first plant-based milk product, Nutramilk – the ideal choice for those who want to live a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle. This protein-rich dairy alternative is a game-changer for the local beverage industry. With its delicious taste, impressive nutritional benefits, and environmentally friendly production process, it is no wonder it is quickly becoming the go-to choice for the health-conscious.

Zambia is taking bold and active steps towards promoting environmental sustainability, and the private sector is taking the initiative and rising to the

challenge. 260 Brands have recently added Nutramilk, Zambia's first soy milk, to their product portfolio. Nutramilk is made from non-GMO soybeans, contains no preservatives, and is cholesterol-free.

Nutramilk is a protein-rich dairy alternative fortified with essential vitamins (A, B9, B12, D2), calcium, iron and zinc. It is a prime example of the innovative solutions being developed



to reduce the inevitable environmental impact of industrialisation in the country. Nutramilk's primary input, soya beans, is locally sourced through farmers managed directly by an out-grower scheme within the country, truly making this a proudly Zambian product.

What Makes Nutramilk So Unique?

Firstly, 9g of protein per serving provides a convenient and delicious way to get the protein you need to support your active lifestyle. Another exciting benefit of Nutramilk is that it is cholesterol-free, making it an ideal choice for those concerned about their heart health. This is particularly important in Zambia, where heart disease is a growing concern, and high cholesterol is a major contributor to the development of this condition.

In Nutramilk, lactose-intolerant individuals have an affordable yet delicious nutritional drink without the uncomfortable symptoms associated with lactose intolerance.

Nutramilk is processed through UHT (ultra-high temperature) processing, giving it a longer shelf-life and making it easily accessible to everyone without the hassle of storing it in refrigerators. Nutramilk is widely available at supermarkets and convenience stores countrywide and comes in various

flavours and sizes, namely Sweetened, Unsweetened, Chocolate, and Strawberry flavours. Each flavour is available in 200ml or 500ml sachets, and a Barista and Organic certified variant is available in one-litre cartons. Its smooth, creamy texture makes it perfect for drinking alone or in your favourite recipes.

Seba's Instant Thobwa We Love

In a world where innovation constantly reshapes our daily lives, sometimes we yearn for the nostalgia of decades past. 260 Brands' ready-to-drink Thobwa addresses heritage and convenience, making its much-loved nutritional and cultural characteristics readily accessible to Zambians. By honouring the past while embracing the future, it has carved a unique niche in the hearts of those who seek authenticity and novelty in a single sip.

Thobwa is a traditional Zambian maize-based beverage that Zambians have enjoyed for generations. Seba's Thobwa is a modern innovation to an age-old tradition. Seba's Thobwa incorporates non-GMO maize and soybeans sourced from their vast network of farmers and traders across Zambia, and blends them to perfection in a ready-to-drink format. Seba's Thobwa contains soya milk extracted from locally sourced soybeans, maize flour, salt, and sugar,



making this a nutritious meal on the go. It is processed using UHT technology and aseptically packed in stringent conditions. UHT technology allows Seba's Thobwa to have an extended shelf life in ambient temperatures, making it the first traditional beverage of its kind in Southern Africa. It is free from cholesterol and has a sustainable impact across the value chain, supporting the smallholder farmers who provide the soybeans and maize used in Seba's Thobwa.

Seba's Thobwa is the perfect option for a wholesome and affordable beverage for consumers. Its unique nutritional profile and affordable pricing make it stand out from similar products in the marketplace. We are excited to offer this product to consumers and contribute to their overall health and well-being.

So, the next time you are hit with a wave of nostalgia, reach for the ready-to-drink version of Seba's Thobwa.

Enjoy the wonders of tradition that have found their way into the convenience of today, as every sip has a story to tell. This exceptional fusion serves as a gentle reminder that some legacies are best preserved through adaptation, ensuring that future generations can savour the taste of history in every drop.

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THE BARNYARD AT BONANZA

UNPLUGGED CREATIVITY AT THE BONANZA FARMERS MARKET

Words and Images by Bongani B. Kumar



In 2017, the Bonanza Estate emerged as a prominent destination in Lusaka, captivating golf enthusiasts with its 18-hole well-manicured golf course. Over time, the Estate expanded its allure, incorporating the esteemed Ciêla Resort and Spa, the Lusaka International Convention Centre, and a Craft Beer Brewery into its landscape. These four properties have come to epitomise a contemporary era in Zambian architecture and social offerings. However, it is the Estate's latest addition that truly caught my attention, as it artfully curates a distinctive retail experience catering to Bonanza's local and international patrons.

In response to the growing demand for a gathering place where local businesses could unite, infuse vibrancy, and enhance existing services, Bonanza introduced the charming Barnyard in 2022. This thoughtfully crafted space is a hub for four unique enterprises: African Butterfly, Local, Wright House, and Chena Art Gallery. Here, these businesses come together, fostering a sense of community while adding value to the area and enriching the overall experience for visitors.

At the African Butterfly, you'll find a delightful array of fresh, organic farm produce, delicious preserves and wholesome homemade treats. For an exceptional shopping experience, stop by Local, the charming gift shop that proudly features an exquisite selection of handmade artisanal goods sourced from several talented local vendors. Among their offerings are artisan

bags, jewellery, pottery, cards, woven goods, and various household items.

If you're searching for home decor and bespoke furniture, look no further than the Wright House. Their showroom is a treasure trove filled with character and unique pieces that tempt you to browse a little longer. Meanwhile, the vibrant Chena Art Gallery showcases the finest work of different local and international artists, ranging from paintings and photography to ceramics and sculptures. It's a haven for those seeking to immerse themselves in creativity and artistic excellence.

Whether you're dropping by for a delicious bite to eat, looking for the perfect gift, or simply wishing to immerse yourself in a world of creativity, the Barnyard has something to offer everyone. This charming space brings together a diverse collection of businesses contributing to its vibrant and welcoming atmosphere.


Unbeknownst to me, the Barnyard held more than just a collection of shops. When I learned that they also host a Farmers Market once every month, I decided to venture into the suburbs of Ngwerere to experience it firsthand. The journey to the Barnyard was a breeze as I coasted down a tranquil open tarred road, passing several picturesque farms while the vast sky stretched endlessly above me.

What immediately struck me when I arrived was the intimate and cosy ambience the setting at the Barnyard exuded. The flagship stores were thoughtfully arranged around a



FAST FACTS:

- The Bonanza Farmer's Market is free and takes place every second Saturday of the month from 10am to 3pm.
- Vendors are welcome to exhibit and can contact the Estate via their website to book a stall.
- The Barnyard is situated opposite The Brewery at the Bonanza Estate.
- Children's entertainment such as jumping castle, face-painting and wagon rides are available at every farmers market.

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



towering, majestic tree at the courtyard's centre. The vendor's stalls weaved between the buildings and encircled the tree, creating a scene that evoked the warm spirit of communal gathering spaces. It felt like stepping into a tranquil oasis where the blend of nature and commerce harmonised beautifully.

The Banyard vendors offered everything from thrift clothing, stationary, textiles and sustainably-made furniture for children to dried farm produce, baked goods, freshly squeezed fruit juice and artisan cheese. The presence of these new vendors was a refreshing addition, perfectly complementing the flagship spaces. Observing their creative processes and learning more about their unique offerings was fascinating. As the day unfolded, the gentle breeze blowing past the African Butterfly carried the comforting aromas of simmering chicken stew and freshly cut veggies, which transported me back to my grandmother's kitchen, where she masterfully prepared delicious meals. The scent was enchanting, and it only intensified my appetite. Unfortunately, amid the tempting selection of appetisers and desserts, my sweet tooth succumbed to the irresistible treats, causing me to miss out on sampling the mouthwatering chicken stew and freshly

cut veggies. Nonetheless, the experience at the Barnyard was a delightful journey through a tapestry of sights, scents, and flavours, leaving me with a lingering sense of satisfaction and a desire to return for more culinary adventures.

Surprisingly, the Farmers Market was delightfully less crowded than I had anticipated. It embraced the essence of what a perfect Saturday should feel like - a chance to unplug from a week of hard work. Maison Studio hosted a captivating candle-making class, while Ethnix provided an engaging mosaic art workshop. These unique experiences added an extra layer of charm to the Market, beautifully complementing the diverse offerings from other vendors. Coupled with the sounds of a local musician gently serenading us as we collectively engaged in retail and culinary therapy, the experience definitely provided a good change in pace for this busy bee.

As I bid farewell to the Market, I realised that perhaps, the experience wasn't merely about buying fresh farm produce, like a traditional farmers market, but rather, a curated effort to support artists from diverse disciplines, encompassing food, art and music, to create a sense of community and showcase an unplugged,

unique retail experience that showcased the true essence of what Zambia has to offer.

If you are not already a regular, I wholeheartedly encourage you to schedule a weekend getaway. Pack a book, embark on a serene drive out of town, and immerse yourself in the relaxing experience the Market offers. The quiet drive and enriching experience are well worth it.





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PRUDENTIAL

THE CHISUWO PLATE

BY AFRIKOLOR

Words by Josephine Chisuwu Murru
Image by Ryno Media



Meet the Chisuwu Plate, the crowning jewel of Afrikolor's pottery venture that honours the rich heritage of owner Josephine Chisuwu Murru.

Afrikolor's story began in the early nineties when Josephine, an experienced tailor, ventured into experimental batik-making due to the lack of quality fabrics in Lusaka. Her fabrics gained popularity, and soon Afrikolor started exporting to the United States, Germany, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe.

Despite facing challenges from fabric shortages caused by local textile closures, Afrikolor continued to provide memorable service to its clients. To sustain growth, they explored other creative avenues, leading to their flourishing pottery venture.

Today, Afrikolor offers a diverse range of handmade household products, with the Chisuwu Plate taking the spotlight. Named after the owner, "chisuwu" means basket in the Tonga language, representing her heritage. The Tonga basket is a cherished tradition in Tonga households, providing income for vulnerable women in villages.

These unique, dishwasher-safe plates come in a variety of colours and designs, perfect for everyday household use. Travellers can even take them home professionally packed for hassle-free transportation.

From humble beginnings to becoming synonymous with handmade pottery, Afrikolor's journey exemplifies creativity, quality, and a celebration of Zambian heritage through the Chisuwu Plate.

HOW MUCH?

ZMW 400 per plate.

CUSTOM DESIGNS

Afrikolor handcrafts bespoke made-to-order plates, serving dishes, coil burners, candle holders, mugs and various household products. You can visit them for a design consultation.

GET INVOLVED

Afrikolor also organises pottery classes, where adults and children have the opportunity of making their own items.

FIND AFRIKOLOR:

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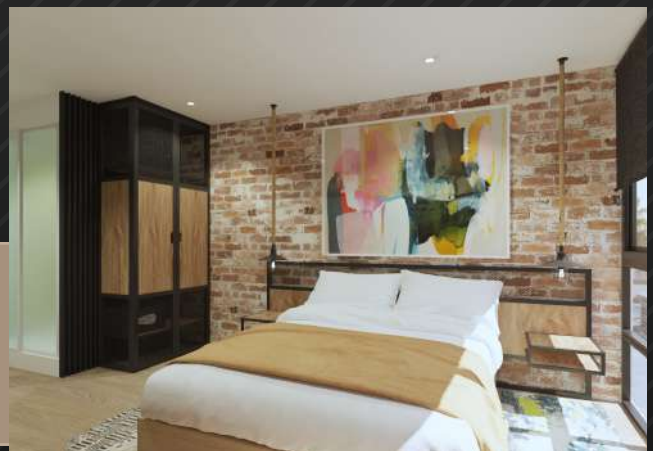
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MICHAEL KROUPNIK

WEAVING DIVERSITY INTO SUCCESS

Words by Royd Kapesa
Images by Teddy Mweemba

Over the last three decades, Micmar has stood as a beacon of Zambian entrepreneurship, showcasing its true potential. Since 1991, this enterprise has flourished into a leading retailer with seven stores nationwide, including investments in diverse industries. Micmar is etched into Zambia's fabric, and many have relied on Micmar for their building and home maintenance supplies. Many Zambians born in the 90s can recollect their father heading out to Micmar on a Saturday morning to buy supplies to fix a leaky tap or even build an entire family abode.

Today, the reins of the family business have been passed down to Michael Kroupnik, an ambitious and driven entrepreneur who is forging his own path while carrying forward the vision started by his father 32 years ago. We had the pleasure of sitting with Michael at Siesta by Mint, a charming, delightful restaurant nestled in Bishops Office Park in Kabulonga.

Siesta is part of the Mint family of restaurants that offer the perfect setting to enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner. The restaurant offers various delicious meals and drinks in an industrial, architectural aesthetic surrounded by pan-brick and lush greenery. This harmonious blend culminates in creating a warm, inviting and friendly ambience where customers

can sit back, relax, and enjoy quality food and excellent service. Michael's infectious energy and optimism set the perfect tone as we readied ourselves for an exciting conversation about business, life and everything in between.

Michael credits his dynamic and diverse cultural upbringing for his entrepreneurial acumen. He was born to a Russian-Iranian father and a Greek mother. He spent most of his childhood in Zambia and completed his higher education in the UK. This blend of influences crafted an individual with a distinctive worldview. Reflecting on his youth, he says, "I grew up in a multicultural household speaking multiple languages, which has fostered adaptability within me. I've developed empathy and a profound understanding of various cultures, qualities that prove indispensable in the fast-paced and demanding business world."

Trading has been in the Kroupnik family for three-quarters of a century dating back to Michael's grandfather, who owned a hardware store in Iran during the 1950s. In 1985, Michael's father, Roman Kroupnik, came to Zambia and in 1991 he started a small trading business that today has expanded into property development and manufacturing. At the core of the business is the desire to serve customers with quality products and a deep commitment to giving back to the country that has given the family so much.



I GREW UP IN A MULTICULTURAL HOUSEHOLD SPEAKING MULTIPLE LANGUAGES, WHICH HAS FOSTERED ADAPTABILITY WITHIN ME.

- Michael Kroupnik, Micmar CEO.





Michael was not always destined to join the family business. After graduating from university in the UK, he moved to Greece, where he completed his military service and began a career as a shipbroker in one of Greece's most prominent firms. As a shipbroker, Michael assumed the crucial role of an intermediary, facilitating the intricate shipping process. His responsibilities encompassed negotiating deals between shipowners and charterers, coordinating the transportation of goods and products, and facilitating transactions between buyers and sellers of ships.

He enjoyed early success in this role and began climbing up the ladder. As his career began to take shape, he had to decide whether to double down and grow his career as a shipbroker or join the family business. He chose the latter; today, he is one of Zambia's leading business minds.

Apart from operating Micmar, Michael is also a property developer and is the man behind Pangaea Office Park, Trinity Park (which he sold to ZCCM-IH) and most recently, Agora Village in Mass Media. He tells us how he started in property development, "I decided to expand into real estate because I saw the opportunity to create value in the Zambian market. We can tell accurately, through the Micmar sales, how well the construction industry is doing and when I decided to build Trinity Park, the industry was booming. We have a competitive advantage in sourcing building materials, so all we needed to do was build a local team to execute the vision. Since then, we have developed commercial and retail properties and, more recently, a unique mixed-use property in Lusaka called Agora Village." Africa needs visionary entrepreneurs like Michael, who possess the ingenuity to devise solutions that uplift the region rather than

exacerbate existing challenges. Michael always has his eyes open to find homegrown solutions that can further the development of Zambia and its people. In 2016, he joined forces with like-minded partners to establish Inde Credit, a microfinance company with a profound mission—to unlock the potential of Zambian SMEs by offering them flexible and tailor-made financial solutions. As of 2023, Inde Credit has disbursed over K1 billion to more than 450 Zambian SMEs, creating more than 3,000 jobs.

In line with his vision for progress, Michael has established Kroup Mining & Processing as another venture aimed at challenging the existing norms and elevating the involvement of Zambian enterprises in the mining value chain. The Solwezi-based company currently focuses on processing copper ore into cathodes for the export market and plans to add significant value to Zambian copper to achieve vertical integration. "We believe the time is right for this with all the emphasis on green energy and EVs, a vision we are happy to share with the Government of Zambia. We want to be one of the few local businesses manufacturing high-end finished copper products at home. Zambian businesses must add value to our natural resources, and we look forward to carrying the flag for years to come."

Albeit with the many challenges of running a business in Zambia - such as the high cost of business, lack of infrastructure and an unpredictable local environment - Michael is still actively pursuing new avenues of growth. Micmar recently opened a new store in Kasumbalesa, hoping to access the Congolese market across the border. The business has also launched the Micmar Academy. This personal development course aims to upgrade the skills of Micmar employees while building their morale and making them ready to take on other opportunities outside work.

FOSTERING A LEGACY

Michael's philosophy is to never allow himself to look back and ask "what if?"; but to 'go for it' or push himself until he feels satisfied or uncomfortable, a philosophy he fondly shares with his children, "if you believe in it, then just go for it".

EMPATHY IN ACTION

In addition to several CSR programs, Michael praises his children as his most exciting project outside work. He is also exploring a new project on carbon credits and its impact on conservation in Zambia.

UNWAVERING ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Inde Credit is one of Michael's passion projects because he is familiar with the rigidity of commercial banks when it comes to business loans, from personal experience. Inde Credit supports hundreds of SMEs by providing simple and effective lending products focusing on their basic needs and building solid relationships based on trust.

SHARPENING THE SWORD

In the pursuit of his goals, Michael firmly believes in the significance of time investment. He engages in extensive reading and regularly immerses himself in an abundance of knowledge which includes travel and networking with fellow entrepreneurs and individuals of interest. Additionally, he ensures to allocate time for regular exercise to clear his mind.



I FIND PROFOUND INSPIRATION IN THE ZAMBIAN PEOPLE, WHO DESERVE NOTHING LESS THAN THE BEST THIS WORLD CAN OFFER

- Michael Kroupnik, Micmar CEO.



Apart from his professional endeavours, Michael serves as the Honorary Consul General of Greece to Zambia, an office that aims to maintain the already warm relations between the two nations and explore further trade, investment and cultural opportunities. He is also a family man with three children and a wife, Sara, whom he credits as his support system. He is actively involved in CSR projects with Micmar and personally spends time investing in people and projects.



When asked who inspires him, Michael pauses, saying, "Many people inspire me. My father for his entrepreneurial resilience, my mother for her strength and compassion and my sisters for their love. My wife for her unreserved passion for life, love and loyalty to our family and her independent character, and my kids for their innocence and energy for life. I keep my close friends very close, and each one inspires me differently, and I hope they find something inspiring in me. Above all, I find profound inspiration in the Zambian people, who deserve nothing less than the best this world can offer."



SIESTA BY MINT

Siesta by Mint is another twist on the Mint brand of restaurants. It is located in Kabulonga, Lusaka at 4 on Bishops Office Park and is the perfect place to eat, drink and chill. They serve up a variety of delicious cocktails and their menu covers a range of different cuisines. The industrial aesthetic creates a warm, welcoming ambience for guests to kick back and relax.

SCALE AND CONTINUITY IN ZAMBIAN BUSINESSES

CAN ZAMBIAN BUSINESSES SPAN GENERATIONS?

Words by Esther Phiri



Zambia, located in south-central Africa, has an estimated population of 18.4 million people. Within this population, the working age group (15 years or older) was approximately 10 million in 2021. The International Labour Organization reports that a significant portion of the Zambian population, 88.7 per cent to be exact, is engaged in informal work. Of these individuals, 87.6 per cent are informal workers employed in the informal sector, while the remaining 11.3 per cent are employed in the formal sector. These statistics highlight the substantial

presence of the informal sector and the entrepreneurial spirit prevalent among the Zambian population. Furthermore, they underscore the significance of businesses in supporting the livelihoods of the Zambian people, as formal employment is not the primary source of income for most households.

While it is commonly believed internationally that most businesses fail within the first five years, local research has yet to be conducted to examine the longevity of Zambian businesses. However, there is a thriving informal sector within our communities, where

the formal sector accounts for only 20 per cent of the total employment rate. Consequently, most individuals are self-employed, involved in small-scale agriculture, or running small businesses. This raises an important question: why aren't Zambian businesses growing to span multiple generations and contributing to the expansion of the formal sector? What measures can be taken to increase the growth rate?

When analysing the factors that need to be considered to facilitate growth in Zambian businesses, it is essential to focus on two major categories:

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environmental and individual factors.

Environmental Factors:

1. Access to loanable funds at competitive interest rates: Businesses require a favourable environment to thrive. One key factor is access to loanable funds at competitive interest rates. A survey of major banks in the private sector revealed that the lending rate in Zambia was around 25.25 per cent per annum as of February 2023. In comparison, large industrial economies like China and the United States have significantly lower interest rates of 3.55 and 5 per cent per annum, respectively. The high cost of capital in Zambia puts local businesses at a disadvantage, as foreign investors from countries with lower interest rates have more favourable conditions. This hinders the competitiveness of Zambian enterprises, as companies with lower costs can sell products at lower prices, making it difficult for local companies to compete. Lowering the cost of capital and providing access to affordable loanable funds are essential for creating an enabling environment for business growth.
2. Making agriculture profitable through appropriate farming methods, technological advancements, and agricultural mechanisation: Agriculture plays a crucial role in the Zambian business landscape, employing 71 per cent of the total workforce. Within these statistics, 90 per cent of farmers are engaged in small-scale farming activities. Although the government has made efforts to subsidise subsistence farmers through initiatives like the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP), over 90 per cent of Zambians are still involved in subsistence farming. While FISP has maintained productivity to some extent, it has yet to effectively facilitate the transition from small-scale to large-scale agriculture. Farmers have become dependent on the program rather than growing their businesses. Improving the success of initiatives like FISP requires the timely delivery of

inputs and effective monitoring and evaluation. Additionally, mechanisation is essential for the growth of agriculture as it improves efficiency, saves time and costs, and guarantees output.

Individual Factors:

1. Focus on education: There are common misconceptions about not needing education to succeed in business. These myths often arise from the success stories of college dropouts who build multimillion-dollar corporations. However, it is essential to recognise that these individuals represent exceptions rather than the norm. Moreover, a closer examination of the management structures within these companies reveals that while the owners may lack formal education, they employ teams of accountants, engineers, and business analysts, many of whom hold university degrees. Education is vital in understanding best business practices, financial literacy, and productivity, which are essential for running successful businesses. The government of the Republic of Zambia has recently reintroduced free education from grade 1 to grade 12. This initiative will have far-reaching benefits, positively impacting the economy and the wider community.
2. Knowledge transfer to the younger generation: Most of Zambia's population is under 35. Ensuring continuity in business requires actively involving the younger generation in entrepreneurship



activities and providing mentorship opportunities. Additionally, it is crucial to focus on fostering the growth and empowerment of the youth, considering they make up a significant proportion of the population. Initiatives such as zero-interest loans like 'Busulu' and entrepreneurship training, implemented by the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC), aim to address this need.

The future of the Zambian business landscape holds abundant opportunities for growth and development. However, just like plants, these opportunities must land in the right environment for growth to flourish. By addressing environmental factors like access to affordable funds and making agriculture profitable through appropriate methods and mechanisation, combined with a focus on education and knowledge transfer to the younger generation, Zambia can create a conducive environment for business growth.



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IMPACTS OF NAPSA'S 20% PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL

Words by Mbuyoti Silimina



The National Pension Scheme Amendment Bill 2023 replaces the previous National Pension Scheme Act of 1996, allowing members to access a pre-retirement benefit. As of June 2023, NAPSA has disbursed K7.5 billion to over 316,000 members, with a total allocation of approximately K11 billion to cover 600,000 eligible authority members, as reported by the pension authority.

Notably, this development has prompted many workers to queue at various offices across the country, while others are utilising online channels to verify their details and check their accumulated savings. Many contributors have expressed their intentions to invest in small-scale businesses or complete their building projects, among other plans.

With withdrawal amounts ranging from a minimum of K5,000 to a maximum of K160,000 per contributor, Lawson Chama, a civil servant, enthusiastically described the partial withdrawal as a game-changer that revived his real estate business. Chama shared his experience, stating, "After receiving my partial withdrawal, I invested the funds in constructing a boarding house due to the high demand for student accommodation. I anticipate a threefold return on my initial investment of K100,000. I plan to reinvest my earnings into building a block of flats."

Nelia Banda, an employee at a Chinese clinic in Lusaka since 2002, expressed optimism about the 20 per cent withdrawal threshold, believing it will lead to significant socioeconomic transformation among the working class. Banda shared her aspirations: "I have always wanted to start a poultry business. Once I withdraw my 20 per cent pre-retirement funds from NAPSA, I plan to build a poultry house, purchase day-old chicks, and buy feed to kick-start poultry production. The 20 per cent partial withdrawal is an excellent opportunity for many to venture into entrepreneurship and contribute to the economy's growth."

This marks the first time in Zambia's

The current economic challenges and global uncertainties, including the impact of climate change, the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and the high cost of commodities in Zambia have had long-term consequences on the livelihoods of many Zambians. Recognising the urgent need for accessible cash to cope with the high cost of living, President Hakainde Hichilema recently enacted the National Pension Scheme Amendment Bill 2023. This amendment allows NAPSA members

who have contributed to the scheme for at least five years or made 60 contributions to withdraw 20 per cent of their pre-retirement pension benefits.

President Hichilema emphasised the significance of this amendment, stating, "We have signed into law the National Pension Scheme Amendment Bill 2023, which aligns with our commitment to the Zambian people. This new law empowers citizens to reinvest their funds into various ventures and assets of their choice."

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pension industry history that employees have been granted access to a portion of their retirement benefits before retirement age.

Economic analysts anticipate that this measure will stimulate economic development, reduce poverty, and boost trade and commerce. The increased spending resulting from the higher disposable income of recipients will benefit both the private sector and the national economy. The Pensions and Insurance Authority (PIA) has advised employees to invest their partial withdrawal in ventures that offer a return, emphasising the importance of avoiding excessive consumption.

Considering the long-term outcomes of this legislation, Zambian employees should refocus their efforts and plan for a better future through strategic savings that tap into the underutilised potential of the informal sector.

Kelvin Chisanga, a financial analyst based in Lusaka, believes that as contributors access their partial benefits, the country will witness increased trade and commerce, leading to higher government revenue. This revenue can be utilised for service delivery and the development of other sectors. Chisanga remarked, "The K11 billion injected into the economy by NAPSA will create aggregate demand, particularly by augmenting liquidity challenges that the economy has been facing. For those with a business mindset, this money serves as a seed to recapitalise their operations."

Given the socioeconomic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, which resulted in job losses, the timely availability of NAPSA's pre-retirement package is expected to revive individuals' economic prospects.

ActionAid Zambia also supports the belief that the 20 per cent partial withdrawal of pension benefits will increase liquidity in the economy, benefiting small-scale entrepreneurs and improving the well-being of senior citizens. This increased liquidity will also enhance access to public services, such as healthcare, improving retirees' quality of life.

However, considering the challenges associated with accessing funds before reaching retirement age and

the potential negative effects of this policy shift, stakeholders have urged the government to engage various parties and implement comprehensive financial literacy capacity-building initiatives. These initiatives will enable NAPSA beneficiaries to benefit from their funds by engaging in productive investment opportunities.

While the lack of a robust social security system remains a concern for Zambians, the most pressing issue is the daily struggle for shelter, food, and hope. While some NAPSA beneficiaries leverage their 20 per cent partial withdrawal to establish thriving businesses and grow their investment portfolios, others opt to invest in low-risk instruments such as government bonds or treasury bills. These investments contribute to individual wealth accumulation and national development.

Amos Kunda, a mine worker from the North-Western province, shared his decision, stating, "I chose to invest my 20 per cent in government bonds. Once they mature, I will use the interest to support my children's education and reinvest in my agribusiness."

The National Pension Scheme Amendment Bill 2023 has introduced a significant change in the pension landscape of Zambia. By enabling partial withdrawals, it allows individuals to invest in various ventures, thereby promoting socioeconomic development, reducing poverty, and stimulating economic growth. The government, financial experts, and stakeholders emphasise the importance of strategic investments to maximise the long-term benefits of these partial withdrawals and encourage the beneficiaries to contribute positively to the nation's progress.



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SEBASTIAN MORONELL

Humour Columnist

GROWN MAN SPORT

I hate this time of the year. It is full of uncertainty and persistent, nagging questions.

The Christmas holidays are coming up, and with it, the usual series of existential threats – how many sick days do I have left for the year, and how many doctors' notes can I forge in a six-week period before my boss catches on? Or, for the more honest amongst us, when will the next pandemic break out so that your cursory hangover cough on a Monday morning Zoom call gets you the week off? (At the height of the pandemic, I became an expert in discerning real coughs from fake ones, which worked well until I got a cough, and wondered if it was real or fake).

But other, less fraudulent uncertainties abound, too – like the passing of seasons. I love the northern hemisphere's summer months because of the sporting fixtures that suddenly avail themselves. Tennis grand slams emerge abruptly and then just as suddenly disappear, as frivolous and fickle as the cream on strawberries at a Wimbledon final. Summers are also when cricket, my first and most enduring love, is played out in five-day-long test matches. If for a moment one is blind to the politics slowly suffocating the sport, on long summer days where time (or anything else) rarely matters, I can almost touch its majesty. But now, I have to contend with other sports, chief among them being football, which I used to enjoy in primary school. Back then, schoolyard squabbles about who the best football player of this generation is seemed fun; now, they remind me of a bad superhero film – the hype and spectacle masks its utter irrelevance.

So, like an aimless swallow, I find myself stuck between the seasons every year. This is fitting for other sorts of existential questions – for this mid-season pirouette also lands quite uncomfortably on Independence Day, bringing into sharp focus my (possible lack of) independence. Not in some do-I-have-free-will way, but rather in a should-I-have-free-will way, with all its associated decisions – like what to cook for dinner, is three hours on the play-station really that long, and what the hell do I need clean clothes for anyway? So, like any great man of my generation stuck in a rut,

I went online. Or rather, I found myself online for a few hours after innocently watching one YouTube video (how to operate a washing machine, if you wish to know). Indeed, if Alice were a 21st-century teenager, her rabbit hole would be the internet. Which would make Donald Trump the Queen of Hearts, and errr, me the rabbit? I'm not sure; analogies confuse me – but back to the point.

After a few hours of deep-fake Trump videos and vignettes of cute rabbits playing innocently with puppies, I came across the song Grown Man Sport by Pete Rock & InI. Because rap lyrics usually perplex me, and I spend most of my energy trying to choreograph my head-bobbing in the hippest manner possible, I often don't gain much content from rap songs. This one was no different, but I liked my head-bobbing particularly well with Grown Man Sport, so I did further (internet-based) research. According to one expert Reddit user, the song urges "men to take responsibility for their lives and work hard to overcome the challenges they face" – making life a grown man sport.

This puts me in a bit of a predicament – I love sports, but life? That's a bit of a stretch. However, I gave it some thought – what if there were sports only for grown men? Does golf qualify? Surely that isn't actually a sport but just a way for overweight men to network in the absence of strip clubs. Or what about bowls? Surely that's for geriatrics or (again) overweight men. And so, soon, I was out of options, my nagging, creeping doubts once again filling up a wandering mind. But then I understood it perfectly – a grown man sport isn't actually about sport. It's about the appearance of knowing about sport. That would explain why 50-year-old men still follow football religiously or why people watch golf on television (akin to watching paint dry). Indeed, this realisation gave me an arsenal of tools to understand The Modern Man properly. Why does he spend his salary on betting? Because he claims to know about the sport. Why does he wear Adidas apparel? Because he claims to know about sports. Why does he write this column? Because he claims to know about sports.

ABOUT SEBASTIAN

Sebastian can usually be found eating strawberries and cream at your nearest tennis club.



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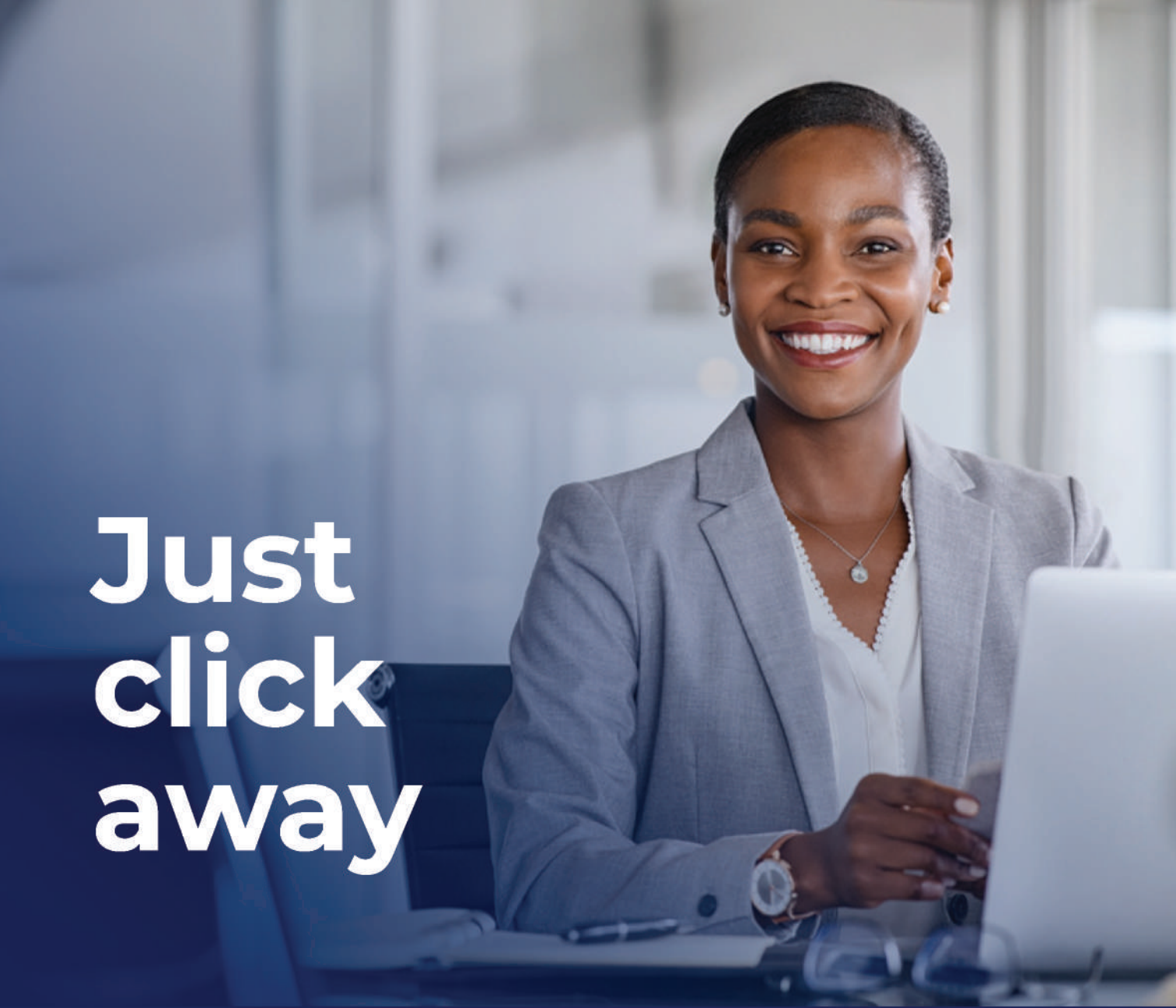
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INSIDE

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In the 1960s, Zambia's post-independence four-year development plan was underway. At the top of the list was the establishment of a new railway line. Take a walk down memory lane into Zambia's achievements since independence on page 76.



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GUARDIAN OF THE **WILD**

Words by: Jolezya Adeyemo

Images courtesy of: Game Rangers International



From a near-fatal buffalo attack during his scout training, to becoming an award-winning conservationist, Neddy Mulimo's unwavering dedication embodies the heart of conservation, fueled by passion and purpose.

African buffalos are notorious for being the most dangerous of the Big Five game animals. They're massive, incredibly strong, remarkably fast, foul-tempered, aggressive (especially when injured), fiercely protective of their herds and hold grudges (they've been known to attack hunters that have wounded them, even years later). During his scout training in 1985, Neddy Mulimo learned of the buffalo's fierce reputation the hard way. Two months into his training at Nyamaluma Wildlife Training College in Mfuwe, he was ambushed by an injured buffalo and only narrowly escaped with his life. Neddy was so distraught by the incident that he nearly quit his training, but ultimately, he recommitted himself to wildlife protection. He laughed about the buffalo encounter months later during his graduation, with renewed vigour for continuing his work as a dedicated conservationist. 36 years later, in 2022, he was named the Tusk Wildlife Ranger of the Year and travelled to London to receive the prestigious award presented to him by Prince William. It was a world away from where he works today and where he grew up.

As a young boy growing up in Lusaka's Matero township, Neddy Mulimo dreamed of becoming a truck driver. He craved the freedom of the open road and opportunities to travel within and outside Zambia, and he thought truck driving would give him that. While in the 5th grade at Matero Boys School, Neddy joined the Chongololo Club, where he learned about the natural environment and wild animals, big and small, which changed his life's trajectory. Through the club, in the midst of an urban jungle, he uncovered an enduring love and passion for the natural world that never left him.

In secondary school, Neddy went on a school trip to Treetops School Camp in Kafue National Park. For Neddy, the city boy who loved nature, this was his first time in the bush and the first time he got to see wildlife up close, and he knew this was where he belonged. To this day, he prefers a quiet life in the bush to city life, choosing birdsong, the grunting of hippos and the bellowing of elephants over the racket of disorderly Lusaka traffic. Neddy's story underscores the importance of education, both in the classroom and in the untamed wild, in advancing the conservation agenda. Club sessions in a classroom and a school trip to the bush ignited an unceasing love for nature and a decades-long career in conservation, which has touched countless lives. "I learned the importance of animals. I learned why trees are there and what they provide for us, and I developed my passion for nature," Neddy shared about his experience.



"I'm here to help communities affected by human-animal conflict and protect wildlife"

Neddy became a driver, but not in the way he had initially envisaged. He was, however, on the path toward his true calling. After high school, he worked as a driver for an education NGO, the Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia (WECSZ). He delivered educational material around Lusaka and Kabwe, including magazines produced by the club that sparked his love for



nature and conservation, the Chongololo Club. After five years on the job, he was sent to Nyamaluma to train as a tour guide in 1980. Following his training, he was transferred to another place that had already profoundly impacted his life, Treetops School Camp. There, he empowered school children from all over Zambia with knowledge, "showing them the beauty of wildlife and why they should all be rangers in their own way."

During his time at Treetops, he met many influential people at the Department of National Parks and Wildlife, and it was them who encouraged him to train to become a scout. After qualifying as a scout, he worked in Kabwe, Mumbwa and later for 14 years in Blue Lagoon National Park. While working in Blue Lagoon, Neddy rose through the ranks and became a wildlife police officer and was in charge of operations at the park. There is a wistfulness in his voice when he speaks about Blue Lagoon, where he worked the longest. It's no surprise when he says, "It became like my home and it's the park I love most."

After almost a decade and a half in Blue Lagoon, Neddy was transferred to Mumbwa and worked in the regional head office for four years before retiring. He retired in May 2012, bringing an illustrious career to an end, or so he thought. It was to be a short-lived retirement; the world of conservation still needed Neddy. He was called back to duty after reports of poaching along the Lunga River in Kafue National Park. A team of young rangers required specialised training to tackle the

reported poaching. Everyone agreed that Neddy was the best person to train them, so he was called back to work in July 2012 and dutifully obliged. Three months later, he began working with the local conservation NGO Game Rangers International (GRI). Neddy is currently based in Kafue National Park and still works for GRI today, heading their Special Anti-Poaching Unit (SAPU), which he helped establish. Some of SAPU's successes include arresting over 700 poachers and traffickers, seizing 372 kilos of ivory and confiscating over 360 firearms.

Neddy's experience, expertise and dedication have undoubtedly been pivotal to SAPU's success. His work, however, involves protecting wildlife, supporting his fellow rangers, and looking out for the communities in and around the areas he works in. He says, "I ensure the rangers under the Special Unit are looked after very well. As someone who has already done the work younger rangers are doing, I know what they experience and what they need to thrive and do a good job. I have also worked with communities and dealt with human-animal conflict. I'm here to help communities affected by human-animal conflict and protect wildlife."

His vast, dedicated experience in wildlife protection, his experience as an educator and a trainer, the work he has done towards developing policies that look out for rangers and his work with communities carried out over nearly 40 years sums up why Neddy was named Tusk Wildlife Ranger of the year.



Neddy hopes his win will encourage other rangers and anyone who wants to contribute to conservation efforts in Zambia to persevere. While he is proud of his achievements, he quickly emphasises that being a ranger is challenging and rife with danger. "It requires dedication, self-sacrifice and a great passion for nature. The dangers are many. When I started this vocation, we used hunters' rifles and faced poachers with military-grade weapons. Also,

though most people in the community support us, there are those few who are against us because we stop them from hunting game meat. Then there is the danger posed by wild animals." At this point, we discuss the wounded buffalo that attacked him two weeks into his scout training. Though he came close to quitting at the time, he chose to see the experience as a teaching moment. He told himself, "These are the animals we have come here to look after. Now

that I have survived, I've learned a lesson and should continue. The animals I had vowed to protect can pose a danger to me but that shouldn't be a reason not to protect them. These animals cannot distinguish between me, a poacher, or anyone who intends to harm them."

Neddy is the third Zambian to be named Tusk Wildlife Ranger of the Year, the first and second being the late Solomon Chidunuka (2017) and Benson Kanyembo (2019). He is immensely proud of the country's legacy of conservation and efforts made to safeguard its natural heritage. Reflecting on this legacy, he shares, "Zambia has come a long way in terms of conservation. Even the founding father, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, was a man who loved nature. Whenever he took a holiday, he spent it in Mfuwe to be closer to animals and nature. In fact, the budget for my intake as a trainee scout came from State House, following direct orders from KK. Our group was known as the KK 40."

There is no doubt that Neddy Mulimo has cemented his place in Zambia's conservation history and has paved the way for legions of others to follow in his footsteps. Whether or not he enters a second retirement, he promises to continue doing the wildlife conservation job "until I am completely useless."



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Words by: Noxolo Kapela

Images courtesy of: La Bri Wine Estate, Babylonstoren Wine Estate, Le Lude Estate, and Jordan Wine Estate

4 AMAZING WAYS TO EXPERIENCE THE CAPE WINELANDS



Nestled within South Africa's Western Cape province lies the captivating Cape Winelands region, renowned for its illustrious and outstanding winemaking heritage and the emergence of its globally acclaimed wines. Beyond its wine-producing legacy, the enchanting area is known for its mesmerising and breathtaking scenery, exquisite gastronomic delights, and charming architectural wonders, captivating all who venture there. Unsurprisingly, the region is among South Africa's most prominent and sought-after destination cherished by travellers worldwide. Whether you're a wine lover or an admirer of nature, the following tours offer a delightful and unforgettable escape to the Western Cape Winelands, effortlessly reachable from Cape Town. From group tours and family-friendly excursions to private, romantic wine-centred experiences for couples, we have it all covered!

1

Franschhoek Wine Tram Tours

Embark on an enchanting journey through the scenic wonders of the picturesque and captivating vineyards of the Franschhoek Valley. Trundle along in an authentic open-air vintage tram and immerse yourself in the breathtaking panoramic views of the stunning valley while savouring the chilled wine poured on board. This interactive tram adventure allows you to hop on and off at various stops to explore participating wine estates at your leisurely pace.

Revered and widely celebrated as one of Franschhoek Valley's main attractions, the Franschhoek Wine Tram Tour attracts multitudes of visitors each year, captivating them with picturesque landscapes, unparalleled wine estates and the delightful charm of its authentic vintage tram. Ideal for groups, this tour is a perfect option for those

travelling with family or friends. However, private tours can also be arranged upon request. Be prepared to be whisked away on an adventure that includes visits to a curated selection of Franschhoek's finest wine estates. Each estate boasts exceptional wines, stunning vineyards and incredible views. The tour typically lasts from morning to late afternoon, allowing you ample time to explore multiple wine estates and savour an exceptional meal at one of the exquisite vineyards.

Cost: It ranges between **R650 – R1,200**.

Why go? The Franschhoek Wine Tram Tour offers a delightful and educational experience for wine enthusiasts, providing the opportunity to indulge in wine tastings, meander through scenic vineyards, and gain valuable insights into the art of winemaking.





Stellenbosch and Franschhoek Tour

Experience the essence of Stellenbosch and Franschhoek in an unforgettable full-day excursion, where you'll be whisked away to four enchanting vineyards carefully selected from these renowned regions. Each vineyard possesses a unique charm, unmatched vistas, and a diverse tasting experience. Delve into the heart of wine country as you embark on this immersive journey through Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, both celebrated for their exceptional world-renowned wines. Wine Flies Tours and Explore Sideways are two of the best tour operators to help you uncover the wonders of the Cape Winelands.

Midday brings a delightful culinary interlude, inviting you to indulge your palate in vibrant flavours and clink glasses with fellow

wine enthusiasts during an optional lunch thoughtfully arranged at one of the vineyards. Amidst the awe-inspiring landscapes, relish in a delectable meal thoughtfully paired with the finest local wines.

Cost: The price varies between R1,500 – R1,700.

Why go? This tour offers a splendid opportunity to savour the very best of Cape wine country while providing a comprehensive, curated experience of two of South Africa's most iconic wine regions. It's an exceptional journey for anyone seeking to immerse themselves in the rich tapestry of South African winemaking and breathtaking landscapes.

2

African Story Wine Tours

Are you still thirsty for more wine experiences? You may be more than just a wine enthusiast and are more of a bona fide wine connoisseur looking for something more comprehensive.

African Story Wine Tours offers an extensive full-day wine tour that promises to indulge the true wine adventurer. This tour covers four wine estates across three towns, Stellenbosch, Franschhoek and Paarl.

At each estate, you'll savour an exquisite selection of wines, venturing beyond the traditional red, white, and rosé varieties.

This experience can include sparkling wines and port tastings, allowing you to discover a symphony of new notes and flavours. The tour can also include an exciting cheese or food pairing experience to complement the wines. Discover the perfect pairings and elevate your

overall tasting experience with an array of cheeses, biltong or chocolate.

Amidst rolling green slopes, take pleasure in an a la carte lunch, where your backdrop is as captivating as the meal itself. Expertly wine-paired to complement your chosen dishes perfectly, this unforgettable dining experience promises to be a culinary delight.

Cost: This exceptional experience comes at a price range of approximately **R3,600 – R5,000**.

Why go? This tour is highly recommended for those with limited time in the Cape Winelands but an insatiable desire to explore the region's finest offerings. Immerse yourself in a comprehensive journey that combines the best of three charming towns and four exceptional wine estates, leaving you with an enriched appreciation for South Africa's wine culture.

3





4

Picnics at Jordan

Jordan Wine Estates boasts idyllic, tranquil picnic areas with stunning views of Stellenbosch Kloof Valley and Stellenbosch Mountains. Embrace pure relaxation and style as you indulge in a thoughtfully prepared picnic basket amidst the estate's secluded spots.

For added comfort and relaxation during your picnic, many estates offer cosy picnic blankets, umbrellas and plush cushions. Every pre-packed picnic basket is brimming with an assortment of delectable treats, fresh, local produce and artisanal delights. Relish in the pleasure of artisanal pieces of bread, cold meats, fruit, and speciality foods. To cater to every palate, the baskets can be tailored to suit your dietary preferences, including delightful vegan and vegetarian options upon request. For a family-friendly excursion, the estate may have a designated children's play area and even offer a kiddies picnic basket, specially curated with child-friendly snacks, ensuring that even the youngest visitors have a wonderful experience. While this experience is excellent for groups, we especially recommend it for couples seeking quality time amidst the beauty of nature.

Cost: For kids, prices range from **R150-R170**, and for couples, the range is between **R350-R900**.

Why go? These picturesque picnics beckon to slow travellers and couples seeking to embrace more than just the estate's wines. Beyond the superb wines, many wineries showcase beautiful landscapes, historical buildings, and captivating art exhibitions, making it an enriching and memorable outing for all.



To book the tours, we recommend contacting these tour companies directly. Please note that the cost will vary depending on the tour operator, inclusions, extras, package and group size. Fly into Cape Town, South Africa, with Proflight Zambia from Lusaka. Proflight also operates regular flights into Lusaka from Johannesburg, Durban, Livingstone, Ndola, Mfuwe, Solwezi, Kalumbila and Mansa. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.



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TAW



Words by: Lori Manthey

A photograph of a forest path with large yellow text overlaid. The text reads "GILA TRAIL" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. The background shows several tree trunks in the foreground and a blurred path leading into a wooded area. The ground is covered with dry pine needles and some green grass.

GILA TRAIL

Images by: Bich'ri Photo and Gareth Bentley



Tangila Trail Series has gone from humble beginnings to a highly anticipated, exhilarating event in Zambia in just a few short years. "At our first event in 2016, the series had about 50 runners, and the entire race was able to be organised in two weeks. Today, the event attracts over 600 participants and sells out a month in advance," recalls Jon Stacey, founder of Tangila Trail Series.

The rapid growth of Tangila Trail Series comes as no surprise. Held on Masebe Ranch, a scenic private game ranch in Mkushi, Tangila has come to be known as Zambia's premier trail running event and attracts participants from all corners of the country and beyond. The event has evolved significantly since 2016 and has included mountain bike and open water swimming races in the past, but recently re-focused on what it has come to be famous for - stunning yet challenging trail runs.

The 2023 event featured three new courses: a tame 11 kilometres for beginners, a hilly 22 kilometres for more ambitious runners, and a demanding 33 kilometres with a strict four-hour cut-off for seasoned athletes. The winners



across multiple age categories included youngsters from Chengelo School, veteran members of local running clubs, sponsored employees from nearby commercial farms and scouts working in Zambia's national parks, as well as participants from far and wide seeking time in nature and happy to do their part for conservation.

With its rapid rise in popularity and profile over the years, Tangila Trail Series has leveraged its brand to raise money to protect Zambia's fragile wildlife and wild spaces, a cause close to the heart of the Stacey family. Since it first broke even a few years ago, all profits from the event have been directed to The Elephant Charge (www.elephantcharge.org), Zambia's largest platform for raising and distributing funds for wildlife conservation.

Deepening its connection to the conservation community, Tangila Trail Series also began hosting the annual Solomon Chidunuka Memorial Challenge in 2021. This fierce competition brings together all major Zambian conservation organisations to tackle the 22 kilometres trail in honour of a late legend of local conservation. Teams of six from each organisation must include at least three women and no more than three professional scouts, ensuring that



support staff also have a chance to get the full Tangila experience. For the third year in a row, this year's trophy was raised by the impressive team from North Luangwa Conservation Programme, with the team from Nsumbu Tanganyika Conservation Programme hot on their heels.

Spectators at this year's Tangila Trail Series were thrilled to check out the Buffalo Soldier Challenge. A non-technical short race for local farm staff who ride single-speed bicycles (commonly referred to as Buffalo bikes), this competition was recently added to allow a wider spectrum of the Mkushi farming community to experience the unique blend of competition and camaraderie that defines Tangila. Buffalo Bicycles, a local subsidiary of World Bicycle Relief, also got on board as an official sponsor this year.

In addition to Buffalo Bicycles, Tangila Trail Series is supported by an extensive network of local sponsors, ranging from multinational corporates to small family

businesses. Stanbic Bank Zambia has been the loyal lead sponsor of the event since 2017 and arrived this year with over 20 participants, including their CEO and several executive team members. This year's generous Gold Sponsors, North Swaka Trust and Mushingashi Conservancy, were also strongly represented on the trails. Both are privately-funded organisations working with local communities to protect vast areas of Zambia from poaching and deforestation.

"At its heart, Tangila Trail Series is all about gratitude," says Stacey, "Zambia has been very good to my family, and we feel fortunate to call it home. My grandparents started farming in Mkushi in 1965, and my parents started their adventure on a nearby property in 1978. For over 40 years, they have diligently developed Masebe Ranch into the beautiful place I feel lucky to call home. What better way to acknowledge our good fortune than to share it with others while raising awareness and funds for a cause we care about deeply."



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ZAMBIA THROUGH



Words by: Precious Mwansa-Chisha

Images courtesy of: National Archives of Zambia, ZANIS, Kalichi Pictures, Barun Chatterjee, Vincent Moll and Gio Arlotta

In 1964, Zambia witnessed a triumphant flag raising, marking its independence from British rule and the start of a journey to national prosperity. Today, that journey continues, tracing Zambia's footsteps of progress, resilience, and unlimited potential.

THE AGES





1964 Flag Raised and Independence Declared - A Wind of Change in Mother Zambia

Most people who were old enough to comprehend the significance of this moment speak of it like it was yesterday. At 23:56 on 23rd October 1963, Zambians rose in reverence of the Union Jack, the de facto national flag of the United Kingdom, for the last time as it lowered, signifying the end of British rule in Zambia. At precisely 00:01 on 24th October 1964, a hush fell over the stadium as the national flag of a newly independent Zambia was hoisted for the first time. A thunderous jubilation filled the stadium as fireworks exploded overhead, glittering across the night sky. At long last, like a bird set free, Zambia spread her wings.





1966 Zambia's First University is Opened - An Act of Patriotism and the Start of a Bright Future Ahead

The eyes of the world were on Zambia as it embarked on a four-year development plan. As a former protectorate, it now required Zambians to fill professional roles. The Zambian people rallied to build the country's first university, pooling resources to aid its construction. Zambians in the diaspora sent what they could. Those who could not donate money donated crops and animals. The poorest even volunteered their labour.

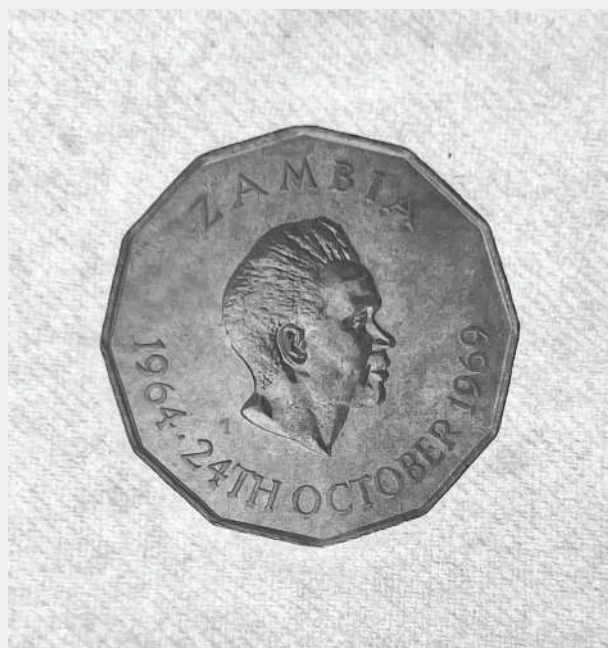
At the grand opening, President Kaunda stated, "Let this self-sacrifice on the part of the poor people never be forgotten for generations to come. Let it remain an inspiration to all so that every good that shall come out of this building be to the greater glory of people".

1966

1969

1969 Zambia's First Currency is Unveiled

After independence, Zambia employed Zambian Pounds as its first currency and shillings to denote smaller denominations, but by 1968 a new, truly Zambian currency was in the works and in 1969, the first Zambian Kwachas and Ngwees entered into circulation. The first 50 Ngwee coin depicted a maize cob, the slogan, "Grow more Food for Mankind", and Dr Kaunda's profile on the reverse.





1970 Zambia - Tanzania Railway Constructed - Central and Southern African States Connect

Despite being independent, Zambia was economically tied to Southern Rhodesia as copper was still dependent on Rhodesian Railways via the Victoria Falls Bridge to Mozambique. Determined to prove that Zambia was capable of self-management, President Kaunda lobbied for a railway to connect Zambia to the Tanzanian port.

The Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority was established in 1968, and by 26th October 1970, track laying had commenced from Dar es Salaam. The railway line is a tribute to exceptional engineering skill, specifically in mountainous terrains where many Tanzanian, Zambian and Chinese workers tragically lost their lives. The railway reached the Zambian border of Tunduma in August 1973 and connected to the Zambian Railways line at Kapiri Mposhi in June 1975.



1970

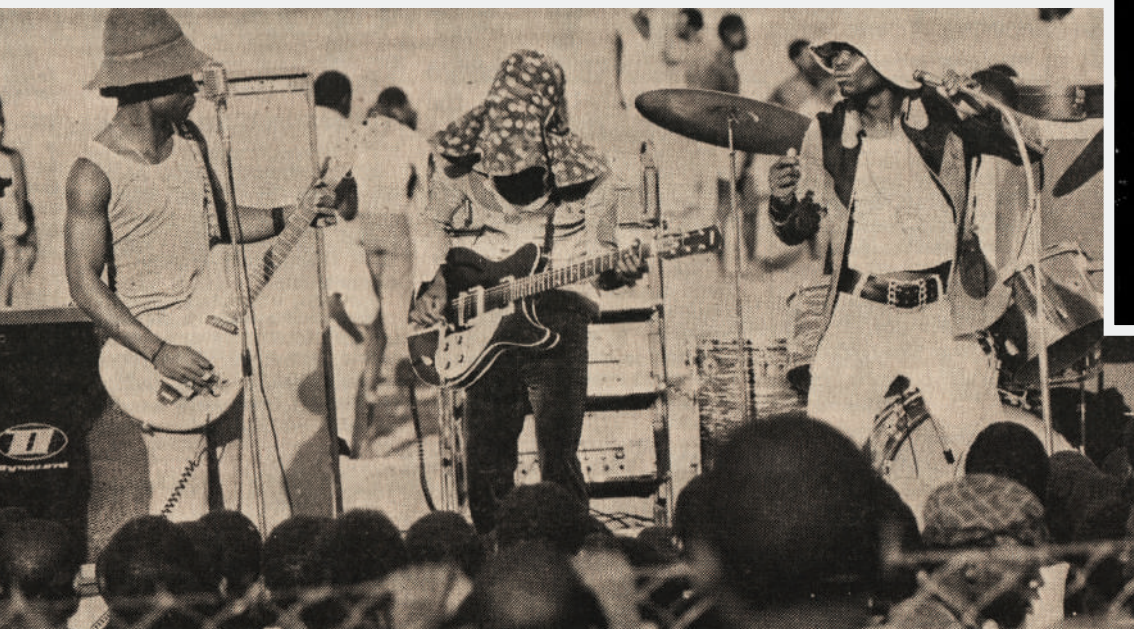




1972 Birth of Zamrock and the Rise of The Zambian Sound

When President Kaunda declared that radios must play 90 per cent Zambian music, this ignited the creativity of local artists who covered popular songs and tapped into their culture and heritage to produce unique Zambian music.

By the early 70s, Zamrock, a fusion of traditional African music and various genres of rock music, blues, and funk, had burst onto the scene. Picture this, the raspy growl of a bass guitar solo accompanied by thunderous chants, "We will, we will ZAMROCK you", like the famous Queen anthem. Bands and artists such as The Witch, Ngozi Family, Dr Footswitch and jazz musicians like Cephas "Mr Summertime" Maseko inspired many other artists to join the musical movement.





1980 The Copperbelt, Southern Africa's El Dorado

By the late 70s, Zambia's copper and mining industry had reached worldwide acclaim, with Zambia producing and controlling 12 per cent of the global copper market. As a result, labourers began flocking to the Copperbelt in search of work in the mines. In response to the region's growing population, community development training centres were established to educate miners and community members.



1980

1988

1988 Kalusha Bwalya Named Footballer of The Year - Zambia Ku Chalo (Zambia to the World)

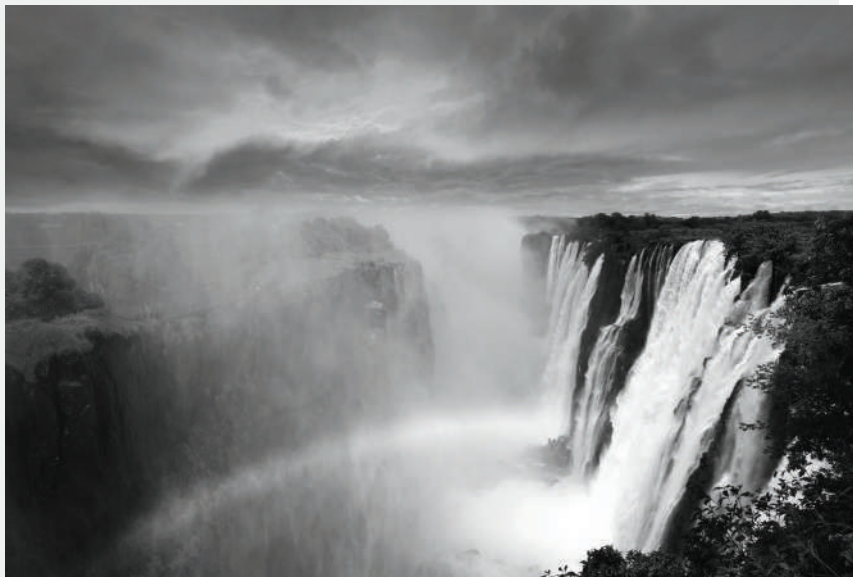
Kalusha Bwalya's remarkable career came to a head when he scored the famous hat-trick, which led to Italy's humiliating 4-0 loss. The eyes of the world turned to Kalusha as he was named African Footballer of the Year in 1988 by France Football magazine. Shortly afterwards, he played for the European team PSV, where he spent the next six seasons, winning three championships.

Kalusha went on to appear in 87 international matches, scoring 39 goals. Though captain during the qualification for the 1994 World Cup, he was not on the ill-fated flight that tragically claimed the entire team's lives off the coast of Gabon. He continues to participate in Zambian football actively and fuelling the fire of Zambia's aspiring football stars.



1989 Victoria Falls Declared a World Heritage Site - The Glorious Smoke that Thunders "Gets its Flowers"

Victoria Falls, or Mosi-oa-Tunya (the smoke that thunders), is one of the world's most awe-inspiring natural wonders, with its majestic beauty and sheer grandeur. The breathtaking curtain of falling water draws visitors from across the globe. Here, the Zambezi River's thundering force plunges into a ravine over 915 metres deep. The resulting spray can be seen from 30km away. In 1989, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee considered the natural phenomenon and inscribed it as a World Heritage Site.



1989



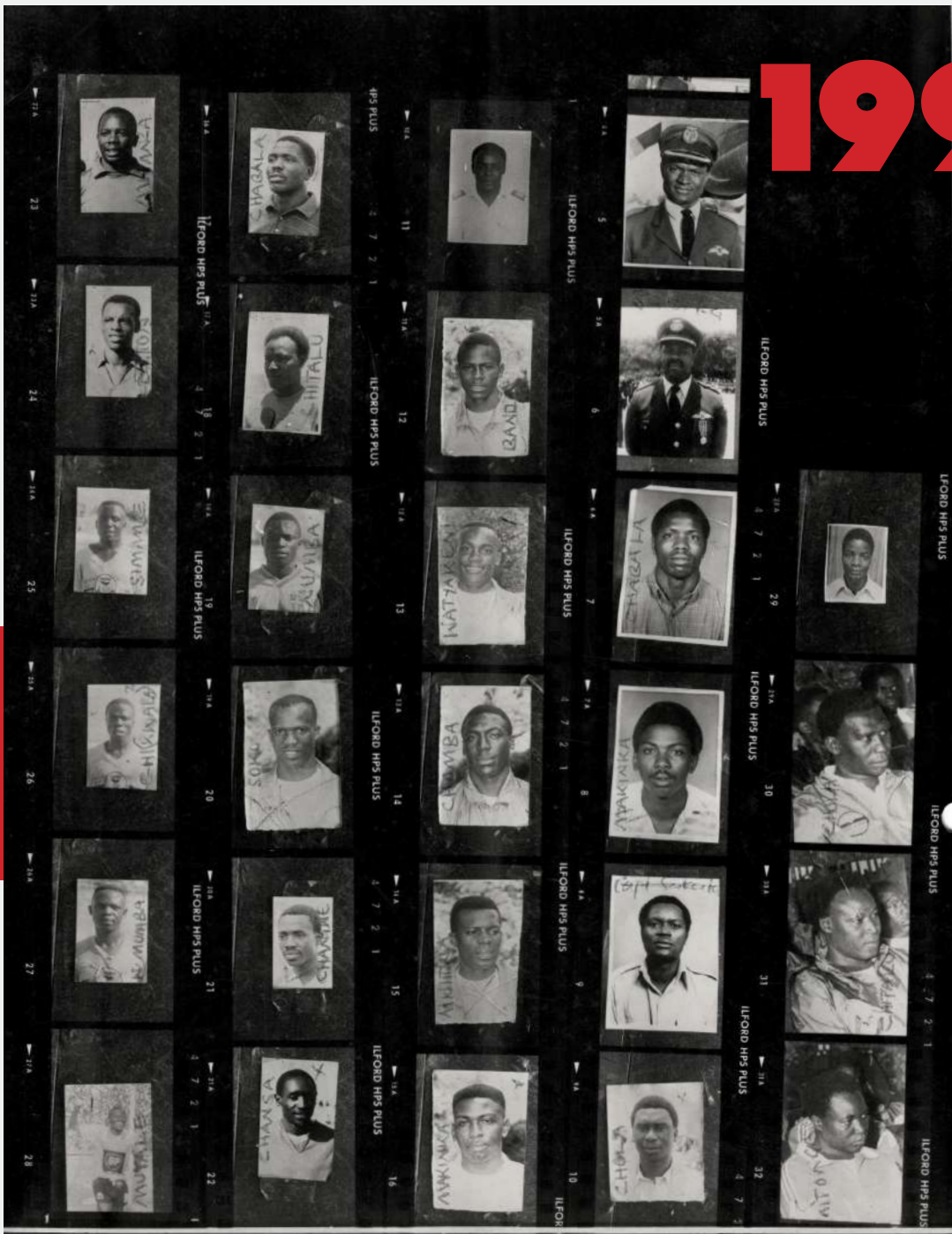
1991

1991 Zambia moves From One Party to Multi-Party Political System - A New Dawn For Democracy

Before 1991, Zambia was a one-party state led by the United National Independence Party (UNIP) government. There was growing opposition to UNIP's monopoly on power, and this led to the formation of the Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMD) in July 1991. Zambian opposition supporters took to the streets touting placards with the ominous slogan, "The hour has come".

Under mounting pressure, President Kaunda repealed the one-party act and made Zambia a multi-party state. The Zambian people turned out in droves to cast their vote, some districts even erecting makeshift polling stations beneath trees where there was no infrastructure. UNIP lost the elections, and thus, democracy in Zambia was reborn.

1993



1993 Zambia's World Cup Contending Team Dies in Plane Crash - Gone but Not Forgotten

On 27th April 1993, a flight carrying one of Zambia's most promising national teams and their management to a FIFA World Cup Qualifier against Senegal in Dakar crashed into the Atlantic Ocean about 500 metres offshore from Libreville, Gabon, after a refuelling stop.

The tragedy sent shockwaves through the country, and the fallen heroes were buried at a state funeral. 19 years later, in 2012, Kalusha Bwalya, a member of the original team and a new Zambian team, raised the AFCON cup in the country where his former teammates perished in the disaster. Thirty years on, Zambia still commemorates the team to this day.



2012 Zambia Wins AFCON Cup - A Jubilation Like No Other

In February 2012, Africans gathered at the Stade d'Angondjé in Libreville, Gabon, to witness the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) final between Zambia and Ivory Coast. Underestimated and seemingly inexperienced, Zambia became the underdog, defeating the third-time finalists in a tense penalty shootout, leading to Zambia's first continental title. The win was dedicated to the fallen heroes of the 1993 Gabon plane crash, a full circle moment.

2012

2015



2015 Zambia's First Female Vice President - A Progressive Decision

On 26th January 2015, 51 years after independence, Inonge Wina was appointed Vice President of Zambia, becoming the first woman to be elected Vice President. As president of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Mrs Wina promoted various women's human rights agendas in Zambia. Previously married to the late freedom fighter Arthur Wina, Mrs Wina upheld the vision she shared with her husband and instrumented great change in her way.



2023



2023 A Booming Hub for Art, Music, Tourism and SMEs - An Unstoppable Zambia

Today, Zambia is a sought-after tourism destination, and technological innovation is all around. Artists like Sampa the Great have put Zambia on the map and are reviving Zamrock for future generations. Zambia also made its first FIFA Women's World Cup appearance in 2023. The window into the future of Mother Zambia is looking promising. Indeed, Zambia wakulekafye (there is no stopping us).



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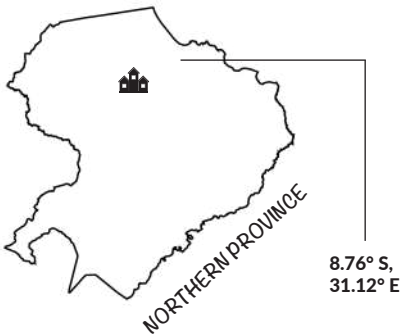
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STANDING the TEST of TIME

Zambia's Historical Sites

With the sun shining and temperatures rising, it's clear that summer has begun in Zambia, setting the stage for exciting adventures. This country is full of contrasts, making it the perfect destination for wildlife enthusiasts and thrill-seekers alike. But don't forget the abundance of heritage tourism sites waiting to be explored. As you travel throughout the country, whether for pleasure or work, keep an eye out for these historical landmarks - you might be surprised at how close they are to you.

I have a lot of experience with long road trips, but this particular journey promised to be unlike any other. Suppose, like me, you're embarking on a trek from the southernmost point of the country all the way up to the northernmost tip (with some interesting detours along the way). In that case, I highly recommend starting in Livingstone - Zambia's renowned tourism capital.





When in Livingstone, stop by the Livingstone Railway Museum to see the various trains and passenger cabins used by Rhodesia Railway (RR) and Zambezi Sawmills Railway (ZSR) in Zambia's early industrial years. The museum showcases the locomotives used to transport people and timber, from different parts of the country to other regions beyond Rhodesia's borders.

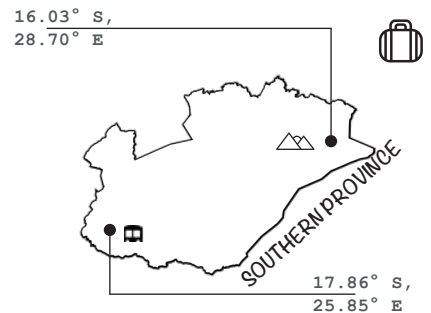
During my visit, my knowledgeable guide excitedly informed me of the history of the railway operation in this region and provided insight into Cecil J Rhodes' dream of a Cape to Cairo railway. He guided me to the site of the oldest locomotive in Zambia, No. 955, which was built in the late 1800s and acquired by the Zambezi Sawmills Railway in 1966. I left the museum brimming with knowledge, and I highly recommend the stop when in Livingstone.

As you head to Lusaka from Livingstone, consider taking a detour at the Chikankata turnoff and visit the Chirundu Fossil Forest located within the Zambezi Valley of the Lusaka province, a short distance from the Siavonga turnoff along the road to Chirundu, one of Zambia and Zimbabwe's mutual border towns.

With a history dating back 150 million years, the fossil forest is an extraordinary paleontological treasure. It hosts a remarkable collection of fossilised coniferous trees, which, over time,

transformed into stone. The fossils are scattered on either side of the road, accessible via unmarked footpaths, a five to ten-minute stroll from the road. Keep an eye out for the monument site marker along the road, for the kind locals often come to the aid of curious visitors lingering nearby. Their assistance proved invaluable as they guided us to these extraordinary sites, where I marvelled at the tree remnants, now seamlessly integrated into the stony landscape.

The drive back to Lusaka is dotted with captivating vistas and noteworthy landmarks. Amidst these well-known sights, there exists a gem so deeply woven into the city's essence that it quietly blends into the background. One such landmark is Freedom House, located within the central business



district of Lusaka at the corner of Freedom Way and Chiparamba Road. Largely concealed by retail shops and posters, one could easily overlook the historical significance of this unassuming



HISTORICAL SITES

location. Yet, it holds great importance as the former headquarters of the United National Independence Party (UNIP) during the campaign for Zambia's freedom.

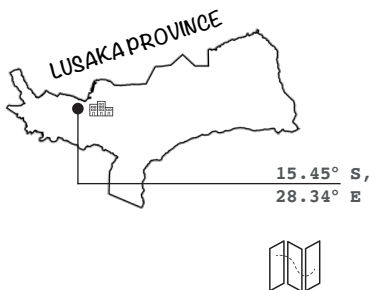
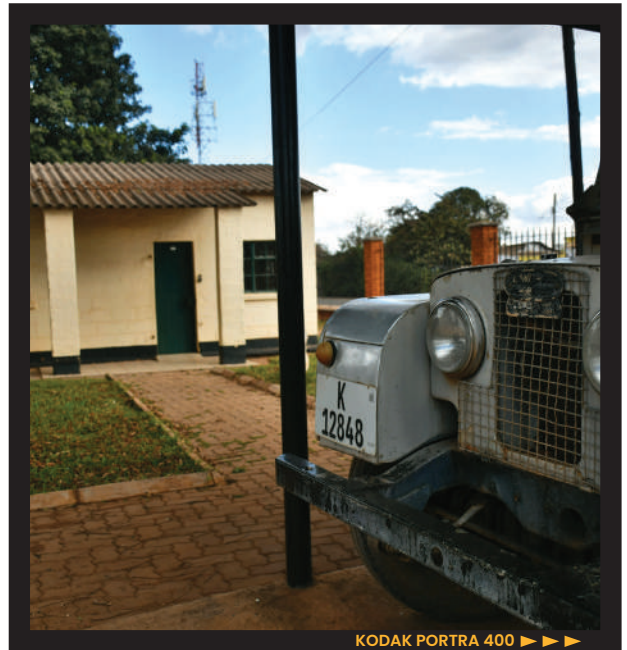
It also served as a crucial base for the freedom fighters and activists who passionately advocated for the independence of other Southern African countries. Today, the exterior of the

building still bears the branding of UNIP, as the party still has a presence in this building.

Take a short drive from Freedom House to Lusaka's Kamwala area to visit the Freedom Statue before the Government Complex. It was erected in 1974 and unveiled during Zambia's 10th independence anniversary. The monument immortalises the

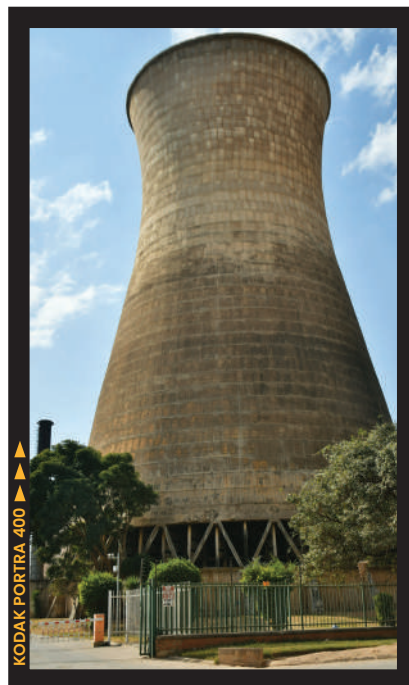
defiance and strength of Zanco Mpundu Mutembo, who was arrested and held in chains for protesting during the height of the struggle. Zanco was ordered to break free from his chains or be shot, and in that defining moment, he mustered all his strength and broke free of his shackles.

This single feat of strength has been etched into Zambia's history and is



depicted on all its national currency notes. While the statue is the monument's highlight, the base of the statue contains several art installations which depict moments of protest, leaders at Chisokone market and jubilation of the people. The heritage site is the focal point of Zambia's independence celebrations on October 24th and Africa Day, which falls on May 25th, and you can access it for free year round.

It would be a glaring oversight to mention the Freedom House without mentioning Dr Kenneth Kaunda, the



country's founding father. Nestled in the heart of Chilenje lies House 394. While the entire area of Chilenje was home to several freedom financiers and freedom fighters, House 394 is where Dr Kenneth Kaunda lived from January 1960 to December 1962 and served as a base for directing the collective efforts towards Zambia's independence.

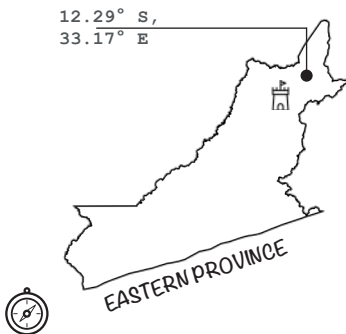
The museum site was commissioned as a national monument on the advent of Zambia's fourth independence anniversary in 1968, and in 2011 a copper statue of Dr Kaunda was unveiled to commemorate his 87th birthday. The museum-cum-monument beautifully depicts the family life of Dr Kaunda, showcasing original furniture and personal effects of the Kaunda family.

One particularly noteworthy item among these personal effects is the Land Rover vehicle gifted to Dr Kaunda during the struggle, by a missionary named Marvin Temple. As you step into the courtyard on the premises, this iconic vehicle

immediately catches your eye. This site is accessible most days of the week for a meagre entry fee, so a visit here is a no-brainer.

As you gallivant around the capital, consider a short stop to see the cooling tower that has graced Lusaka's skyline since the 1930s. The structure is a remnant of the thermal power plant established to provide coal-fired electricity to the then-growing city of Lusaka. Situated conveniently near the railway line, the plant received a steady flow of raw materials essential for generating electricity, thus playing a vital role in the city's industrialisation.

While the plant's operations were decommissioned in the 1970s, the cooling tower has remained one of Zambia's historical landmarks and is worth learning about. Although the cooling tower is no longer accessible to visitors, you can get a close-up view from the Levy Shopping Mall.



Traverse north, exploring Zambia's numerous waterfalls along the way as you venture toward the apex of the Northern Province to dip in the crystal blue waters of Lake Tanganyika. While there, take a leisurely stroll around Zambia's oldest surviving stone church. The Niamkolo Church was built by missionaries who journeyed to present-day Mpulungu. Initially used by the missionaries as a place of worship until 1908, it was abandoned when they moved the mission post inland to avoid the sleeping sickness carried by tsetse flies near Lake Tanganyika.

Though the church now stands in ruins, the remnants still evoke a sense of wonder as it has withstood the test of time for over 120 years. While visitors cannot access the central part of the church, the exterior view provides a gratifying glimpse into its rich and storied past.

As your journey comes to a close, consider one last detour through the breathtaking South Luangwa National Park before heading back to Lusaka. Head east to visit the 'Rumpelstiltskin House' in Lundazi, on the northern end of the province near Malawi.

The fascinating tale of Lundazi Castle Hotel begins between 1948 and 1952 when Mr Errol Button, the British District Commissioner, constructed a rest house. The purpose was to offer accommodation to visitors arriving in the valley and plateau surrounding the present-day town of Lundazi. As the

legend goes, Mr Button sketched a rough outline of the building he envisioned on a humble cigarette box. This unique design was inspired by the pointed-arch Norman castles of Scotland, which were the height of fashion in the early 1900s.

During my visit to the hotel, I had the privilege of exploring the room that once hosted notable figures such as Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Queen Elizabeth during their visits to Lundazi. The room stands as a testament to history, adorned with photographs capturing the presence of these two influential leaders in their respective eras.

Today, while Lundazi Castle Hotel may evoke the aura of a haunted house, it remains fully operational, offering 13 guest rooms to welcome visitors. If you dare to embrace the intrigue, spending a night within its storied walls would undoubtedly make for an unforgettable tale to share.

Countless heritage sites scattered throughout the country provide captivating glimpses into life from bygone decades, stitching together a narrative that illuminates our past and the forces that have shaped us into who we are today. The opportunity to explore these historical treasures awaits, urging you to embark on an enriching journey. So, what are you waiting for? Pack your bags and start planning your trip today. Uncover the untold stories and rediscover the roots that connect us to our collective heritage.



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CELEBRITY CHEF [REDACTED]

ANDREW ZIMMERN



Words by: Abigail Seiler

FINDS REMEDIES FOR HUNGER IN RURAL ZAMBIA



Images by: World Food Programme

Andrew Zimmern—award-winning American chef, television host, and United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) Goodwill Ambassador—has travelled to more than 100 countries throughout his bizarre foods career and extensively throughout Africa. But his first visit to Zambia between March and April of 2023 left a lasting impression on him.

"This is my first mission trip as a Goodwill Ambassador for WFP, and it's my first time to Zambia, and I'm forever changed by it. You can't come into a country like this that is lifting itself up and not be incredibly moved, especially if you're someone who's been to so many African countries as I have," said Zimmern.

He chronicles his trip to the Southern Province in a five-episode YouTube series, *Paving the Way to Zero Hunger*, out now on Zimmern's YouTube channel. The series spotlights how climate change drives hunger in Zambia and the WFP resilience programs that enable small-scale farmers to adapt to climate change by adopting climate-smart agriculture, diversifying crops and their income streams and strengthening their overall food security.

In introducing the viewer to the series, Zimmern highlights an innovative, pupil-managed hydroponics garden at Gwembe Primary School, where students learn and grow fresh, diverse vegetables



to enhance their school meals. This is one of 72 hydroponic gardens that WFP has helped establish across Zambia. Not only does the garden help teach science and provide balanced meals for its 1,300 pupils, but the excess vegetables are shared with the local community. The goal is to provide a model of how any community or household can supplement their diet through these low-cost and limited-water techniques. Many Gwembe students are teaching their parents sack farming and hydroponic techniques, transforming how their parents, many of whom are farmers, grow food.

Zimmern then meets with Monze farmer Emeldah who is part of a WFP-supported financial literacy group called Savings for Change. These innovative savings groups function like a savings and loan mechanism, supporting and educating farmers, many of them women, in saving, investing, and growing their income streams. Over time, as the participants' financial literacy grows, WFP is able to link these groups to private financial institutions for even greater lending opportunities.

In the last episode, we meet Gwembe farmer Priscilla. She has worked with WFP to implement climate-smart, conservation agricultural methods that allow her to diversify her crops and conserve water during the dry season. Despite a failed rainy season and un-harvestable cowpea crop this year, Priscilla can rely on her alternative crops of sorghum, sunflower, groundnuts, and maize to feed her family and sell at the market. With conservation farming, she's increased her yield from 40 to 60 bags and has been trained to use air-tight storage bags to avoid post-harvest loss.

Since 1967, WFP has been a strategic partner to the Zambian government in an effort to build government capacity and work toward food security for all. WFP's programs in Zambia include food assistance and nutrition services, skills training and support to smallholder farmers as well as supporting the implementation of homegrown school



**THIS IS MY FIRST MISSION TRIP AS A GOODWILL
AMBASSADOR FOR WFP AND IT'S MY FIRST TIME
TO ZAMBIA AND I'M FOREVER CHANGED BY IT.**

meal programs. WFP prioritises its support for women farmers, whom they view as crucial drivers of change. 90 per cent of the country's food is produced by smallholder farmers, of which 50.4 per cent are women, who often have less access than men to agricultural inputs.

Zimmern was deeply inspired by the solutions he saw that are helping families and creating real change for local communities. "The work that WFP is doing here is absolutely staggering. Taking small programs, small gestures, like the grain aggregators, like the nutrition programs in schools, like the hydroponic gardens, like the Savings for Change programs that we saw...all those things are small gestures that can then be scaled up and literally change the face of a country in just a handful of years. And if it can work in Zambia, it can also work in other countries," said Zimmern.

In his role as WFP Goodwill Ambassador, Zimmern leverages his platform to raise awareness of WFP's mission to end global hunger and to galvanise American support and funding for the organisation. Inspired by his experience in Zambia, he also supports further American investment in Zambia.

"When you wonder why invest in a country like Zambia, well, it's kind of obvious to me. The people are eager, have an incredible amount of pride, and see the opportunities for economic development and to be the breadbasket for the eight nations surrounding them. And as importantly, the incredible families, women, and students that we met all want to implement these programs in their communities and homes and spread the gospel of change far and wide because it's working for them," said Zimmern.





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024	11:00	13:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
026	15:00	17:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

NDOLA - JOHANNESBURG

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
301/020	06:30	10:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
303/024	09:00	13:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - CAPE TOWN

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
050	08:00	11:30		●					●

LUSAKA - DURBAN

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
032	09:00	11:30				●			●

LUSAKA - LIVINGSTONE

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
704	10:30	11:40	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
708	16:35	17:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - SOLWEZI

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
930	06:25	07:35	●	●					
910	07:00	08:10			●	●	●	●	●
914	15:00	16:10	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
302	07:45	08:30	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
332	10:30	11:15	●	●	●	●	●	●	
304	14:00	14:45	●		●		●		●
306	17:00	17:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
308	18:45	19:30	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - MFUWE

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
800	07:00	08:10	●		●		●		
802	09:20	10:30		●		●			
804	10:30	11:40	●		●		●	●	●
806	13:00	14:10		●		●			
808	16:35	17:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - MANSZA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
332	10:30	12:20	●	●	●	●	●	●	

LUSAKA - KALUMBILA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
930	06:25	08:25	●	●					
956	15:55	17:15	●			●	●		●

NDOLA - MANSZA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
332	11:40	12:20	●	●	●	●	●	●	

JOHANNESBURG - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
023	12:00	14:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
025	14:00	16:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
027	18:20	20:20	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

JOHANNESBURG - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
025/306	14:00	17:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

CAPE TOWN - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
051	12:15	15:35		●					●

DURBAN - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
033	12:30	15:00				●			●

LIVINGSTONE - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
705	12:20	13:30	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
709	18:15	19:25	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

SOLWEZI - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
930	08:05	10:00	●	●					
911	08:50	10:00			●	●	●	●	●
915	16:50	18:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

NDOLA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
301	06:30	07:15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
303	09:00	09:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
333	13:50	14:35	●	●	●	●	●	●	
307	15:15	16:00	●		●		●		●
309	18:05	18:50	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

MFUWE - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
801	08:50	10:00	●		●		●		
803	11:10	12:20		●		●			
805	12:20	13:30	●		●		●	●	●
807	14:50	16:00		●		●			
809	18:15	19:25	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

MANSZA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
333	12:45	14:35	●	●	●	●	●	●	

KALUMBILA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
930	08:45	10:00	●	●					
951	08:00	09:20					●	●	
957	17:35	18:50	●						●

MANSZA - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
333	12:45	13:25	●	●	●	●	●	●	

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KUMBULULUKA KWA BAFANA: GIVING FLIGHT TO HOPE



On a brisk morning on the 10th of June, around 500 children gathered at the Zambia Air Force Base at Kenneth Kaunda Airport (KKIA) to participate in the remarkable flying initiative known as Kumbululuka Kwa Bafana, which directly translates to "the flight of children". Founded by renowned pilot Felix Goshier, the initiative aims to bring joy through the transformative experience of flight to underprivileged children in Southern Africa.

Proflight and its partners are honoured to be part of the Kumbululuka Kwa Bafana event once again. By giving these young hearts the gift of flight, the initiative hopes to instil hope, motivation, and a belief in their own potential to soar.

Now in its second year, Proflight Zambia and its partners worked tirelessly to make the year's highly anticipated event a roaring success. This year's event featured exhilarating flights around Lusaka aboard Proflight's Boeing 737-500 aircraft, including an array of fun-filled activities and entertainment for both children and adults, as well as a captivating aero acrobatics display. The 2023 Kumbululuka Kwa Bafana event has expanded to include the public; families, aviation enthusiasts, and supporters all attended to watch the magic unfold.

Last year, Proflight proudly participated in the event by providing an extraordinary experience for the children by sponsoring two circuits aboard a 50-seat CRJ aircraft. This year, the airline has elevated its support by availing the spacious Boeing 737-500 on a circuit, granting 105 children the opportunity to soar through the skies, fuelling their imagination and inspiring limitless possibilities. Furthermore, it sponsored several return flights and the carriage of the required cargo from Johannesburg.

Proflight expressed its heartfelt gratitude to its partners who ensured the events and activities ran smoothly in their various capacities; Total Energy Zambia pledged to fuel the 737-500 aircraft for the circuit that used an estimated 1000 litres for the flight, while the Zambia Airports Corporation agreed to waive all fees associated with civilian aircraft pledged to fly the children around the airport.

Other partners included the Zambia Air Force, ARC Insurance, and Africa Charter Airlines.

The commitment of Proflight and its partners in the aviation industry has made Kumbululuka Kwa Bafana possible and has impacted the lives of countless children from underprivileged backgrounds.

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PROFLIGHT ZAMBIA MAKES HISTORY WITH DIRECT FLIGHTS CONNECTING LUSAKA AND CAPE TOWN



Zambia's premier airline, Proflight Zambia, has achieved a remarkable milestone in its journey by launching the first-ever direct flights between Lusaka and Cape Town. This groundbreaking development represents a historic moment for Zambian aviation and is set to strengthen connections between the two countries further.

With this new route, Proflight Zambia has set a significant benchmark in the nation's aviation history, directly linking the vibrant Lusaka and the captivating coastal beauty of Cape Town, South Africa. Travellers can now embark on seamless journeys, enjoying the convenience and affordability of direct flights.

By establishing regular flights between Zambia and South Africa's most popular destinations, Proflight reflects its dedication to intra-African connectivity through affordable air travel, further promoting harmonious regional relations.

Cape Town, the second-largest city in South Africa, holds a special place in the hearts of travellers worldwide. Renowned for its beautiful infrastructure and awe-inspiring natural wonders, such as the iconic Table Mountain, Cape Town has long been a sought-after destination for tourists from across the globe.

To meet the growing demand for travel between Zambia and South Africa, Proflight Zambia will initially operate two weekly flights on Tuesdays and Saturdays. This increased accessibility will enhance passengers' convenience and flexibility, enabling them to experience both nations' rich cultural tapestry and natural splendour.

Passenger safety, reliability, and comfort are paramount to Proflight Zambia. The airline prides itself on providing a friendly service that offers passengers the freedom and flexibility to explore this vibrant region.

Proflight aims to provide convenient travel options for both business and leisure passengers as they continue to fulfil the airline's vision and expand their network, connecting more cities and providing unmatched travel experiences while serving passengers with excellence.

Proflight is dedicated to reconnecting people, contributing to business opportunities, strengthening tourism ties, and fostering Zambia's and the region's growth. Launching direct flights between Lusaka and Cape Town sets the stage for a prosperous future, redefining travel possibilities and ushering in a new era in the African aviation landscape.

EXPLORING THE VIBRANT WONDERS OF DURBAN: JOURNEY INTO GLAMOUR, ADVENTURE AND CULTURAL DELIGHTS



Durban, South Africa's vibrant destination and warmest city beckons with an array of unforgettable experiences. Thanks to Proflight Zambia's convenient 2-hour flight service, exploring Durban's rich heritage has become more accessible than ever before.

From its sun-kissed golden beaches and sprawling shopping malls to its lively restaurants and pulsating nightclubs, Durban has something to entice every visitor. Recognising the allure Durban holds, Durban Tourism extended a special invitation to a team from Zambia, led by Petronella Chanda, Proflight Zambia's esteemed Customer Service Representative, alongside prominent travel agencies Blueberry, Satguru, Voyagers Zambia, and media personnel. The opportunity to immerse themselves in the city's charm and partake in the esteemed Durban July event allowed them to craft enhanced travel packages for clients seeking to explore this captivating city.

Upon arrival in Durban, a myriad of exhilarating activities awaits. Adventure seekers can indulge in heart-pounding quad bike rides, zip-lining, archery, and other outdoor pursuits at Highstakes KZN, just a short drive from the city centre. Mojos Carwash & Shisanyama, Tiger's Milk at Oceans Mall, Umojo, and Dakkah Restaurant and Bar are must-visit venues for those seeking vibrant nightlife. Shopaholics will find their retail paradise at Musgrave Centre, Gateway, or Oceans Shopping Mall, while food enthusiasts can savour delectable dishes at Oscars Restaurant in Hillcrest or California Dreams.

Durban offers an abundance of luxurious accommodations, with the renowned Southern Sun - Elangeni Hotel offering breathtaking beachfront views and a warm ambience. The city's architectural landscape blends old-world charm with modern structures, adding to its allure and cultural heritage. To explore Durban's rich history and vibrant culture, guided bus tours organised by Durban Tourism provide valuable insights into its people and their fascinating stories.

A highlight of the Durban calendar is the prestigious Hollywood Bets Durban July, an enchanting affair drawing over 60,000 attendees from across Africa and beyond. Adorned in stunning ensembles according to the event's theme, visitors experience a fusion of glamour and unity. The increasing number of participants in the Durban July event signifies the enthusiasm shared by South Africans and people from across the African continent. Durban Tourism plays a pivotal role in fostering this sense of community by bringing together local travel agencies, media representatives, and international guests to revel in the splendour of the Durban July.

Durban, known as Africa's playground, beckons visitors with its warm and welcoming atmosphere, diverse activities, and vibrant culture. Whether seeking thrilling adventures, moments of relaxation, or an immersive cultural experience, Durban promises an unforgettable journey. So, book a flight with Proflight Zambia, pack your bags, and set your sights on the warmest place to be—Durban, South Africa.

PROFLIGHT FLEET

BOEING 737-500



FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
1	31m	29m	36ft	20100kg	37000ft	876km/h	126

BOMBARDIER CRJ100 / CRJ200



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

JETSTREAM 3200



FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
1	14.37m	15.85m	5.37ft	1474kg	25000ft	445km/h	18

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.

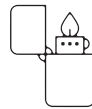
To ensure the safety of the aircraft and those on board, checked in or hand baggage must not contain articles or substances that could pose a danger during flights these include:

COMPRESSED GASES

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

CORROSIVES

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



FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS & SOLIDS

such as lighter and heater
fuels, paint. All safety
matches and fire lighters

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

EXPLOSIVES

such as fireworks, flares
munitions, Ammunitions and
pistol caps

BRIEFCASES / ATTACHE CASES

installed with alarm devices



OXIDISING MATERIALS & ORGANIC PEROXIDES

such as bleaches and fibre
glass repair kits

POISONS

such as insecticides, weed
killers, arsenic & cyanides



TOXIC SUBSTANCES

such as bleaching powder
and peroxide

RADIO ACTIVE MATERIALS



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