



NEWSLETTER

May 2009

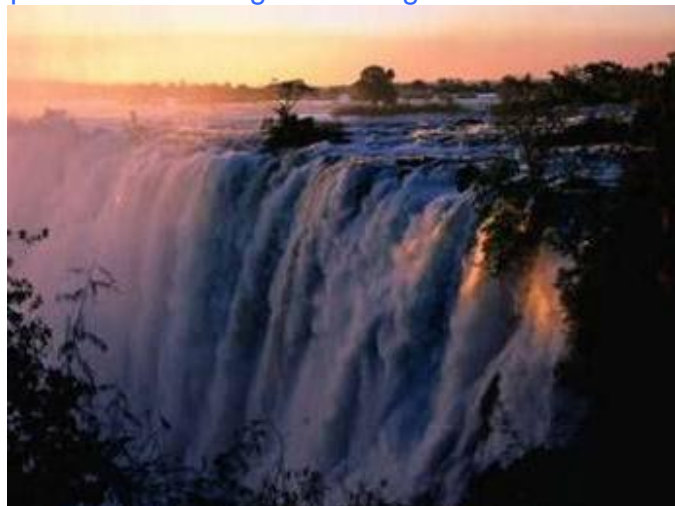
High Water levels of the Mighty Zambezi River

As we're sure most of you are aware the Upper Zambezi River experienced extremely high water levels this year (some say it's the highest its been in 50 years!). Unfortunately we had to close Islands of Siankaba on 22nd March due to the unusual rise – however as we were fore warned of the high levels, we managed to dismantle our bridges. Thankfully, we experienced minimal damage as only our patio and bridge areas were flooded. As our rooms are elevated they were quite safe. The water levels are now normalizing and we have put the bridges back in place and tidying up the silt left behind.

We are happy to announce that we will be re-opening and ready to start welcoming our first guests of the season on 15th May 2009.

Even though we have experienced extremely high water levels – it was so amazing to see such a huge amount of water and what beauty it brought with it. As you can imagine the Falls is certainly providing spectacular views.

Here is a sneak peak of what our guests will get to see:



The Ukuchina Boma

We are proud to announce the opening of The Ukuchina Boma, which is our treatment suite offering a selection of Massage and Facial treatments.

Our fully qualified therapist will offer you a chance to experience some traditional Zambian pampering treatments in combination with some more conventional facials and massages. Since its opening, these treatments are quickly becoming one of our most popular in-house activities.

It gives one the chance to experience a true Zambian tradition using the traditional active ingredients which moisturizes the skin leaving your skin energized and revitalized. A great post-safari and air-travel cure for dehydrated skin.



A very popular facial is the Majestic Zambezi Facial. This is a chance to experience a true Zambian tradition using ant-hill mud which gently exfoliates before using coarse

Mielie Meal (traditional maize meal) offering a deep cleanse, followed by the use of rice which softens and moisturizes, leaving your skin energized and revitalized. (Ant hill mud has been chosen for its smooth and rich properties, having been brought up by the ants from deep underground.)

Massages can either be taken in the air-conditioned Ukuchina Boma set amongst the lush vegetation of the island, or they can be arranged in the privacy of your own room overlooking the Majestic Zambezi River. Simply described as heaven on earth!

Upgrade to our Room's Interiors

During the time of our closure, we took the opportunity to upgrade our Chalet's interiors which certainly lightens and brings more colour to our rooms. Here's a sneak peak...



Staff

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new **Lodge Manager: Jean-Claude Niclas**. Jean-Claude joined us from South Africa, and previously London where he worked in Guest Liaison for well known International hotel brands. He has vast experience and knowledge in Food and Beverage as well as Guest Liaison.

Since J-C joined us, he has introduced the most amazing 5-course dinner menu which certainly leaves your palate savoring. (He also makes the most delicious and very decorative birthday cakes!)

Some examples of the mouth-watering dishes are:

Crocodile Tail cooked in Mango and Coriander served on a bed of Rocket salad with Balsamic glaze.

*Braised Pork in a Apricot & Fig Sauce
Lime and Basil Sorbet*

We don't want to tell you too much as we have to leave something to the imagination!

Jean-Claude has also completely changed our Breakfast menu which is now a 3-course menu with a selection of choices rather than an open buffet. Here's a taster:

*Selection of Fresh Fruit Juices
Herbal teas & fresh ground coffee*

Course 1
Crunchy Homemade Muesli layered with Fruit Yoghurt
Or
Platter of fresh sliced seasonal fruit

Course 2
Freshly Baked Muffins and Pastries of the day
Served with a selection of cheeses & jam

Course 3
Today's Breakfast Special
Or
Any breakfast cooked to your requirements



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

[The U Foundation working with Siankaba Trust](#)

Following 3 years of participating in the Paris Cycle Challenge to raise money to build a brick structure for the Siankaba Nursery School together with a play area, ablutions and a kitchen area enabling us to provide the children with a least one nutritious meal each day – we are now FINALLY starting on the building project! The building contractors have just moved on site which is very exciting for all involved. So watch this space and hopefully on our next newsletter we'll have a building to show you!!

If you would like to make a donation to this project, please contact Sarah on sarah@theufoundation.org or Sonja on islands@zamnet.zm for more information or please visit www.theufoundation.org.

Here are some guys clearing the site:



Mandia School

Work on the Mandia school teacher's housing project has been on-going however a little slow due to funds. However we are very pleased to show you photo's taken last year and early this year:

November 2008:

March 2009:



We have only had funds to complete 1 house out of 4 houses in the block and 1 toilet block to accompany the house, so we are continuing to look for sponsorship in order to continue with the building project. If you would like to make a donation or for further information, please kindly email: Sonja on islands@zamnet.zm or Jayne on jayne123reeves123@hotmail.com.

We have recently got a new member to help us on the maintenance of the current classrooms concentrating on the upkeep of them.

We would also like to thank many donators like Liz Dawe for donating towards the Teaching Aids that we have purchased, Austin Quier, Martin & Karen, Sarah & Stephen Leach, Dr Rodriguez & Dr Pacheco for general donations which have been put towards maintenance, purchasing of equipment, and towards our building projects. Thank you all.

Sponsorship - 2009 saw Mandia School sending off 11 students to Zimba High School – all of whom have new sponsors. We would like to thank those sponsors for providing the students with the opportunity of furthering their education. All students were so excited at the news of the sponsorship and are most grateful.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please can all agents kindly advise their clients that we do not accept American Express credit cards at the lodge; however, Visa, Master Card's and Travelers Cheques are acceptable.

SiankabaEmail Address

Please be reminded we have a new Reservations email address: info@siankaba.net

Our Zamnet address will be discontinued shortly, so please kindly update your address books.