

MHARA RIVER CAMP, MANA POOLS – FACT SHEET

LOCATION:

The position of Mhara River Camp is located in the South-eastern side of Zimbabwe's Mana Pools National Park, on a 33-square kilometer concession, offering guests complete privacy and an intimate safari experience.

Mhara River Camp is inside Mana Pools National Park and is easy to fly into from Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport. A charter flight to Ruckomechi Airstrip takes approximately one hour and twenty minutes, followed by a game drive transfer to Camp. Alternatively, it is possible to drive to Mhara River Camp from Harare, which takes approximately six hours.

GPS CO-ORDINATES:

Mhara River Camp, Mana Pools - 16°14011852 S, 29°5689118 E

WHEN TO TRAVEL:

The position of our lodge in Mana Pools National Park, Zimbabwe ensures you have a virtual all-year safari destination in Southern Africa.

Aim for the cooler, dry season between July and October for an optimum safari experience as waterholes attract a great variety of animals and the bush thins out well to ensure great wildlife viewing. Daytime temperatures are in the mid 20's but drop considerably at night to below 10 degrees Celsius.

For those with a special interest in birds, the best time to book a stay at Mhara River Camp is between November and April when the wet summer months attract a host of migratory species, including the rare African Pitta. Just be aware that temperatures can exceed 30 degrees Celsius, so protection against the sun is a must.

ACCOMMODATION:

The camp has 6 tented en-suite tents. Each of our spacious canvas tents offers large gauze windows, wooden doors for security, en-suite bathrooms, private verandah, tea and coffee facilities and careful siting to ensure views and privacy. Every tent is supplied with solar powered electricity, with multiple plugs for charging any devices.

THE MAIN AREA:

The main communal area consists of an option of covered seating and dining areas. Our seating areas overlook the Chitake River and offer a comfortable place to relax between activities. Complimentary WIFI is available in the main area.

SOLAR POWER AND USE OF ENERGY:

The camp relies on solar energy, and runs on energy generated through solar panels. During the day electricity is from solar whilst at night it is from batteries. All lights are LED low energy usage. As an eco-lodge, staff make a concerted effort to keep lights switched off whenever possible.

FOOD:

We utilize the surrounding villages to supply fresh produce to the lodge whenever possible. This facilitates the economic empowerment of the local farmers and supports the villages in a continuous and sustainable way.

GUEST AMENITIES:

All guest amenities including shampoo, conditioner, hand and body lotion, liquid gel and soaps are sourced from eco-friendly suppliers. These are endorsed by 'Beauty without Cruelty,' and where possible, use organic and biodegradable ingredients.

WATER SUPPLY:

Water is supplied from our underground borehole and wastewater is cleaned using a specially designed septic system. Once the water has been cleaned it is returned to the soil.

ACTIVITIES OFFERED:**Game drives:**

Search for wildlife in an open-air safari vehicle in Mana Pools National Park. Professional guides embark with our guests in search of wildlife during day and night-game drives. Guests are escorted through the Mana Pools region in an open game drive vehicle that safely transports them to all the wildlife hotspots. Your guide is an expert in his field and will share his niche knowledge with you while also tailoring your journey to what you are most interested in.

Game drives are either half-day (in the morning or afternoon), or in the evening for nocturnal game viewing.

Guided Walks:

A variety of walks are possible and can be tailored to suit each clients fitness level. Highlights include walking through the Chitake Gorge, walking through riverine forests along the Chitake and Mhara Rivers, and the Baobab walk.

Sundowners and Bush Dinners:

Every day at the camp ends in a sundowner viewing the African sunset, always hosted at a new and different location from the previous day. A bush dinner is a unique experience offered to guests, dining under the stars in the Chitake River Bed.

Birding

Birding enthusiasts will find a paradise at Mhara River Camp, where diverse habitats attract a wide range of bird species. From the riverine forests along the Chitake and Mhara rivers to ancient baobabs, the varied landscapes provide ideal settings for spotting rare birds like the African Pitta, Narina Trogon, and Pel's Fishing Owl. Guided birding walks with knowledgeable guides offer insights into the behaviors and habitats of these birds.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Tent Facilities:	
1. How many tents are there?	6 Twin Tents.
2. What view do the tents have?	View of the Chitake River Escarpment.
3. How many people can occupy 1 tent?	2 adults or 2 children.
4. Is there a family tent for children?	No family tent (Additional bed can be added for children up to 11 years).
5. Do tents have electricity?	Yes.
6. Is there internet in the tents?	No.
7. What are the tent facilities?	Twin size beds, mosquito net, en-suite bathroom with open air shower, fan, tea and coffee facilities, safe.
8. Is there a fridge in the tent?	No.
9. Are there laundry services available?	Yes.
10. What time does room service clean?	When guests are out on activities.

Main Area:	
11. Is the dining area outside or inside?	Outside.
12. Does the camp have a pool?	No.
13. Is there a bar?	Yes.

Activities:	
14. What activities are available?	Game drive (half day and night drives) Guided walk Bird watching Sundowners Bush Dinner
15. How long are the game drives?	Half day game drive: 3 - 4 hours Night drive: +- 2 hours
16. Are lunch and drinks provided on game drives?	Drinks and snacks are provided on game drives.
17. Are children allowed on game activities and what is the age limit?	Yes, from +7 years for game drives and +12 years for game walks.
18. What kind of animals can I expect to see?	Elephant, Leopard, Lion, Warthog, variety of birds, Buffalo, Painted Dog, Aardvark, Jackal, Giraffe, Hare, Hyena, Mongoose, Civets, Genets, Honey Badger, Monkey, Bat-eared fox, Zebra.

Other Info:	
19. Can I Self-Drive to the lodge?	Yes.
20. When is the best time to visit?	From July to the end of October. For birding, November to February.
21. What type of clothing do you recommend I pack?	Neutral colored clothing, warm jacket in winter. Comfortable walking shoes.
22. Can we charge phones?	Yes, electricity is provided in each tent, multi socket adapter available.
23. Check-in & Check-out Times	Check in: From 2pm / Check out: By 10am Earlier check in or late check out must be pre-arranged.
24. Mobility/Accessibility: Are we geared for Disabilities (Wheelchairs etc.)	No, however guests are placed in the closest tent to the main area.
25. Can guest walk to their tents alone?	No, guests are escorted to their tents at night by a guide.
26. Is there a fence around the lodge?	No.
27. Is there a spa?	No.