



CATALOGUE

2017

LET'S GO CAMPING

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“We have always camped a lot in my family and used to buy all our equipment in South Africa from LA Sport.

In 2015 I finally took the step and opened up Mudpackers - a distributor of LA Sport in Zambia. We now help our customers get their own adventures. Overlanding and camping is amazing.

You get to experience Africa’s beauty and you can take off whenever you want. My own favorite places to go camping are Mozambique and Uganda.”

**TREVOR SMITH
OWNER**



Getting Lost in Liuwa Plain National Park

We had for long dreamt of going to Liuwa Plain National Park to experience remoteness, the open plains, and the world famous wildebeest migration. Everywhere, we read that a trip in Liuwa is tough, difficult to access, but a true African adventure. The park is ideal for self-catering and camping.

After a bit of research and talking to the park authorities, we headed off in October, 6 days, 5 people in 2 cars. The road from Lusaka to Mongu is easy driving, straight, and fast. We camped for the night in Mongu at the local mission near the town centre. Next morning we fueled up and shopped for the remaining items at the very well stocked Shoprite in town, before heading towards Kalabo.

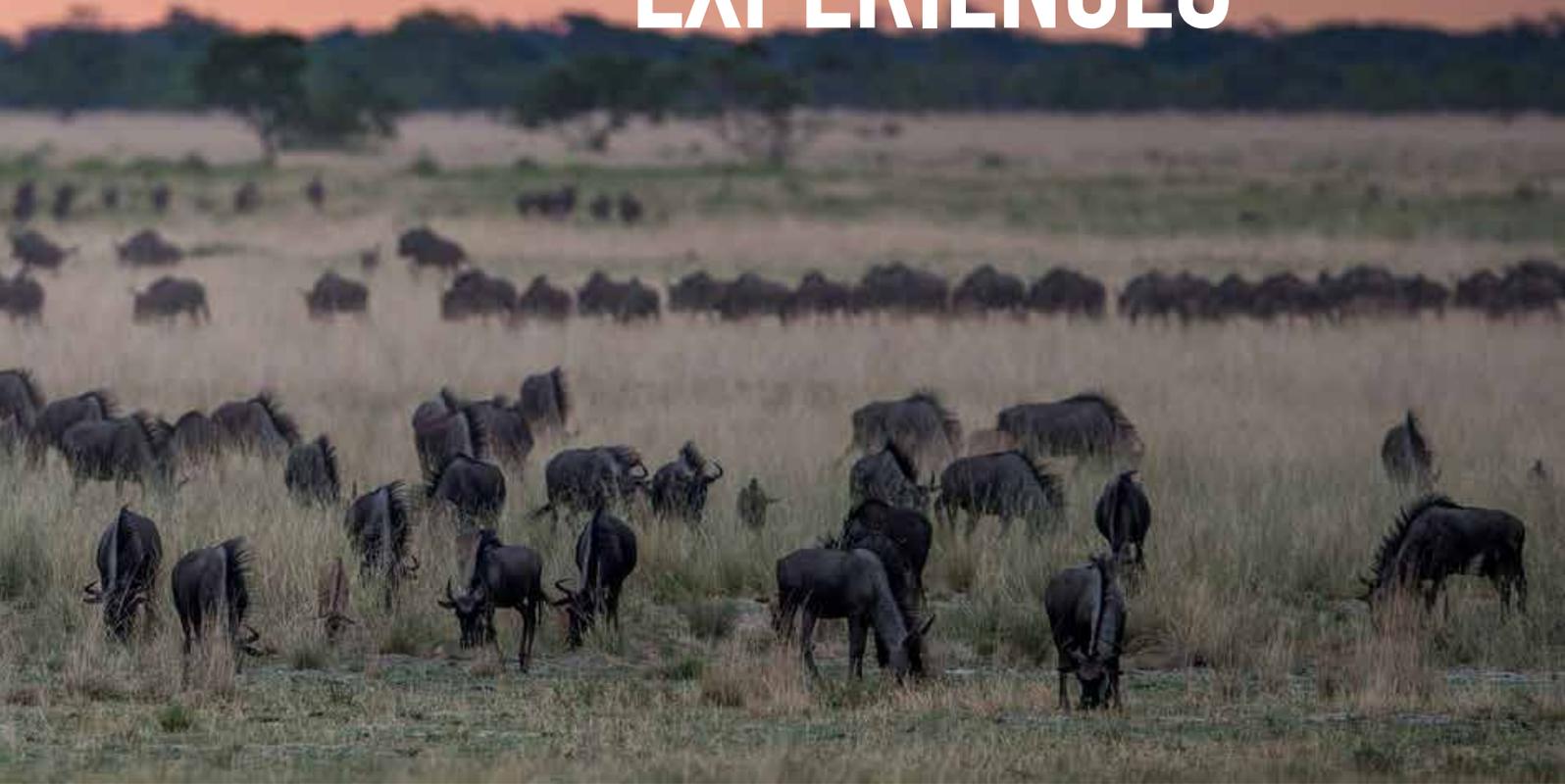
At Kalabo we checked in with the park authorities before pulling ourselves across the river on a very home made pontoon. We were finally out of range and into the wilderness.

10 meters in and the first car got stuck in the heavy sand... They weren't joking when they said bring winch and shovel. We quickly got the hang of how to drive – and never stop in the deep sand.

After staying the night at Katoyana Campsite, right next to a large hyena den, where we could hear them growling all night long, we headed out early in the morning to catch our first wildebeest sightings. The tales are true... There are wildebeest in just about any direction!

Soon enough, we had lost our track. Very few cars visit the park so the tracks are difficult to see. We now drove in the middle of the plains, navigating between shrubs and sand, using only our compass and an unsteady GPS to guide us. After a few hours, tensions started to

SAY YES TO EXPERIENCES



build up, but finally we found tracks and were on our way to the camp before nightfall. The Sikale Campsite is very remote and there is no running water or flushing toilets. However, it offers great views of the plains, beautiful shade trees and space to enjoy the company of your friends.

The next few days we drove around from one camp site to the other, making sure to get out of the cars, turn the engines off to enjoy the utter silence and sights of animals.

We crossed deep rivers, camped alone under the stars, skid around in the sand, told stories around the bonfire, and enjoyed the companionship of good friends, animals, and beautiful nature.

Don't expect to see cats or large mammals in the park. However, you will definitely see lots of antelope and if you're lucky the exceptional hyenas and wild dogs.

There are not many visitors in the park so you will enjoy space and remoteness. The campsites are all very basic, but the caretakers look well after you and bring firewood and water as you may need it. All the campsites, except for Sikale have showers.

Don't leave home without:

- Tow ropes or winch
- Shovel
- GPS, compass or very good sense of direction
- Extra fuel
- Lots of water

INFORMATION AND BOOKING

Contact the park authorities to book your entry and campsites and get more information on the park: liuwatourism@african-parks.org



GAME RANGERS INTERNATIONAL

Empowering Rangers and Local Communities to Preserve Nature

Zambia offers immense natural beauty and is home to some of the world's rarest and most coveted animals. About 30% of Zambia is reserved for wildlife in 20 national parks and 34 game management areas.

Zambia's protected areas do not only contain a diversity of wildlife, they are also important cultural resources that provide opportunities for tourism, conservation education, and research. They have a huge potential to contribute to the socio-economic well-being of the surrounding local communities and Zambia as a whole.

Poaching, deforestation, and exploitation of natural resources unfortunately pose serious threats to Zambia's natural wealth.

Mudpackers is proud to support Game Rangers International (GRI), a conservation organisation founded in 2008 to assist the wildlife authorities and communities in Kafue National Park to better protect the wildlife.

We sat down with GRI and got some insights on Kafue National Park.

What are some of the essential keys to conservation?

GRI believes in a holistic approach to conservation and through our experiences this includes focusing on five thematic areas:

Law Enforcement & Training

To secure protected areas by supporting front line rangers to combat poaching and illegal trafficking of wildlife.

Animal Welfare

This entails the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of all wildlife injured or displaced as a result of human activities.

Community Outreach & Education

Providing social development support to local communities living contiguous to protected areas, as well as fostering a greater awareness and appreciation amongst the younger generations of the importance and value of wildlife conservation.

Research & Policy

Supporting DNPW and emerging graduates with a platform from which a greater scientific understanding can be gained of the impact of the conservation effort. The results being used to influence and strengthen policies surrounding wildlife conservation.





Park Management & Infrastructure

Supporting protected areas to be managed efficiently and effectively toward ultimate sustainability. This includes improving park infrastructure to improve the tourist experience.

Right now in this day and age we live in, the two absolute essential components of successful conservation revolve around empowering rangers and local communities to conserve nature. If you fail to support the rangers and local communities you will be failing to conserve anything given the growing threat to protected areas (both socio-economic and pure crime/greed.)

What is unique about Kafue National Park?

It is one of the largest protected areas in the world. Despite only being 3 hours comfortable drive from Lusaka - its sheer size allows you to feel like you are the only person for literally hundreds of miles around - and in many cases, you are!

KNP is mostly untouched and although it is a recovering park it has so much potential to offer visitors sightings and experiences, which you can only read about in books from a bygone era.

KNP boasts of multiple eco-systems, all inter-linked into an unparalleled landscape, which seems to extend

forever. It is home to the most antelope species of any protected area in the world. Sightings of wildlife don't always come easy, but when they do, they are treasured!

The other exciting thing about KNP is that it is a park that is definitely on the 'up' in terms of investment and visitor numbers - year on year things are improving - it is definitely the next big thing in terms of tourism and bucket lists.

Why is GRI based in Kafue National Park?

GRI is based in KNP because of the Elephant Orphanage Project, which we run in partnership with DNPW. Kafue was chosen as a release site for all of Zambia's orphaned elephants, as it provided the greatest uninterrupted space inhabited by wild elephants, thereby maximizing the chances of the orphans being returned back into the wild where they belong.

Because of this intervention we have grown to love KNP dearly and are fully committed to helping support DNPW to secure the park toward long term sustainability. GRI is now supporting 125 front line rangers in KNP, but we need to be supporting at least 350, if we want the park to recover to its former abundance and glory and become sustainable.



Of course a big part of the work we do in the Kafue eco-system revolves around the local communities. We are currently providing awareness and appreciation to 26 schools around KNP. Our aim is to expand this to 100 schools in the future.

What are some of the biggest threats to Kafue National Park's nature and wildlife?

1. Bushmeat poaching - driven by demand from the Copperbelt, Lusaka, and Kaoma, as well as Livingstone.
 2. Ivory poaching is present, but the on-going commitment from DNPW rangers is helping to ensure that elephants are still producing faster than they are being poached. However, this could easily change and more support is required to get elephant poaching down to zero!
 3. Fire - more than 80% of KNP is devoured by unpre-scribed fires every year. Apart from creating a 'lunar landscape' which is not very pleasing to the tourist eye there is potentially massive, untold damage being done to the eco-system.
- GRI and TNC are supporting DNPW to strengthen fire management, including the establishment of a full-time Fire Fighting Team which has already responded to more than 50 fires this year! Ideally, we would be supporting at least 3 fire fighting teams to contend with the sheer size and scale of the problem.
4. Human pressure - some of the GMAs surrounding KNP have been encroached by illegal settlers. This is a politically sensitive topic, which can only be resolved by political will.
 5. Lack of value – ironically, one of the biggest threats to KNP is the lack of awareness and appreciation of the long term value wildlife and the environment can bring to Zambia and its people. When the wildlife and

the environment begin to put tangible benefits into local pockets, it will stay - simple as that.

What can individuals do to help promote conservation?

1. The easiest and cheapest thing for all of us to do, in order to help promote conservation is threefold: First - accept that we all have our part to play. Second - speak about it - especially to the younger generations, for they are the future! Third - visit the protected areas and enjoy them!
2. The other way in which individuals can promote conservation is by supporting it, either financially, or in-kind. Every little bit helps.

KAFUE NATIONAL PARK

Which parts of Kafue National Park can you recommend visiting?

Every single part of Kafue – each has its own special set of attributes, so it really depends on your budget, time availability, and your preferences:

For a quick or long weekend getaway that is not too expensive and in close proximity to Lusaka, we highly recommend:

- Mukambi Safari Lodge*
- Kaingu*
- Ila Lodge*
- Musekese Camp
- McBrides Camp*

If you want something a bit more rustic, which can include camping, we highly recommend:

- Nanzhila Lodge
- Mayukuyuku*
- Roys Camp at Hook Bridge*
- Kasabushi*
- Hippo Lodge*

If you want something quite special and unique then we highly recommend you visit the Busanga Plains, which easily rival the famous Serengeti:

- Lufupa Camp - Wilderness
- Busanga Bush Camp – Wilderness
- Shumba Camp – Wilderness
- Mukambi Plains Camp

If you want good fishing and good scenery and a place just to chill out and relax with a bit of self catering, then we highly recommend:

- Kafwala Camp – Busanga Trails
- WECSZ Kafwala Camp
- Mapunga Bush Camp

If you like to be on the water and enjoy idyllic sunsets, as well as a bit of fishing and game viewing then we highly recommend Konkamoya Lodge.

*Accessible during the rainy season. Always double check before you depart and always let someone know your estimated time of arrival.

When is the best time to visit Kafue National Park?

The great thing about KNP is there are now wonderful lodges and camps accessible throughout the year, which enable you to see the Park in all its splendor, across all the different seasons. However, if you want to see a lot of wildlife then the best time to visit is during the dry season from between May - mid November, with the absolute prime time being September - October into early November.

Do you have any tips for avoiding Tsetse fly attacks?

The first person to invent a repellent, which actually keeps Tsetse flies at bay will become a millionaire!

Keep your windows closed...but then you lose your proximity to nature and you cannot truly be absorbed in the moment.

Think positive thoughts....

Avoid wearing navy blue or black colours.

Tsetse flies are fearful of smoke - and the one most reliable way to keep the Tsetse fly at bay seems to be to hang a 5 litre tin/brazier filled with smouldering elephant dung, out the back of the vehicle.

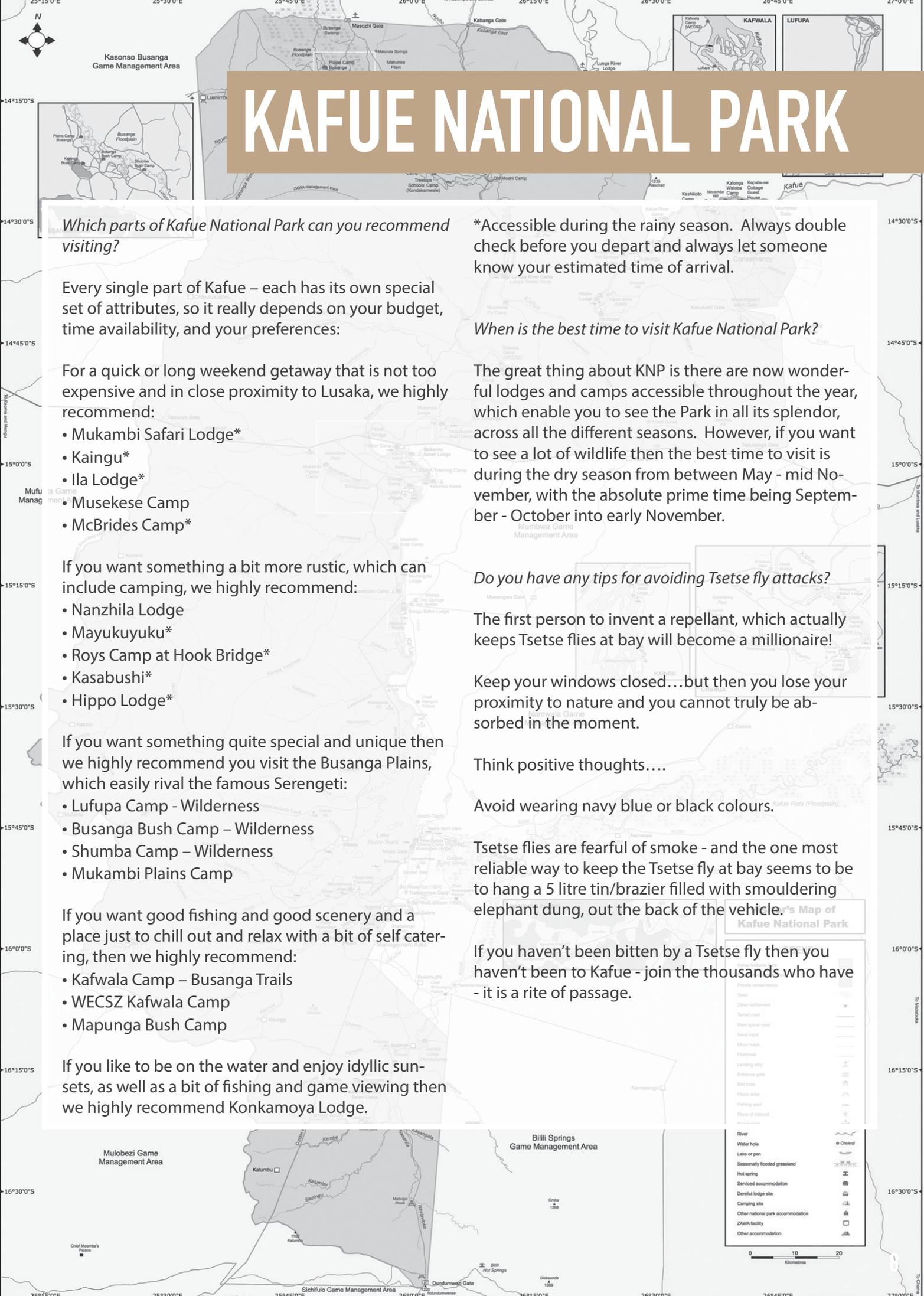
If you haven't been bitten by a Tsetse fly then you haven't been to Kafue - join the thousands who have - it is a rite of passage.

Map of Kafue National Park

Other settlement	●
Town	■
Other settlement	●
Tarmac road	—
Main gravel road	—
Sand track	—
Mud track	—
Footpath	—
Landing strip	—
Entrance gate	—
Wild hole	—
Private area	—
Parking spot	—
Place of interest	—
River	—
Water hole	●
Lake or pan	—
Seasonally flooded grassland	—
Hot spring	—
Service accommodation	—
Detached lodge site	—
Camping site	—
Other national park accommodation	—
ZAWA facility	—
Other accommodation	—

0 10 20 Kilometers

Copyright by Michael Best



**“Away is a place where
it’s not about
the money you spend.
It’s about the moments
you share.”**







SNORKELS

We sell LA Sport snorkels. Snorkels are not just needed for driving in water - they also help against dust.

Features:

- All snorkels are made from LLDPE (Linear Low-Density Polyethylene) ready for the harsh African sun and bush
- Increases wading depth
- Increases air filter lifespan with a higher intake
- A must for the serious overlander

TYRES

We sell and fit off-road tyres and rims from leading manufacturers such as:

- Mickey Thompson
- Cooper Tyres
- Dick Cepek

The tyres are made with strong sidewalls and angles that ensure less noise.



SUSPENSIONS

From LA Sport and EFS Suspension.

Designed and manufactured in South Africa and Australia for solutions that are tailored for real tough conditions with the typical off-roading, rough terrain and loading environments that four wheel drive and other commercial vehicles encounter within Africa.



BASH PLATES

Bash plates are available from

- LA Sport
- Front Runner
- Big Country

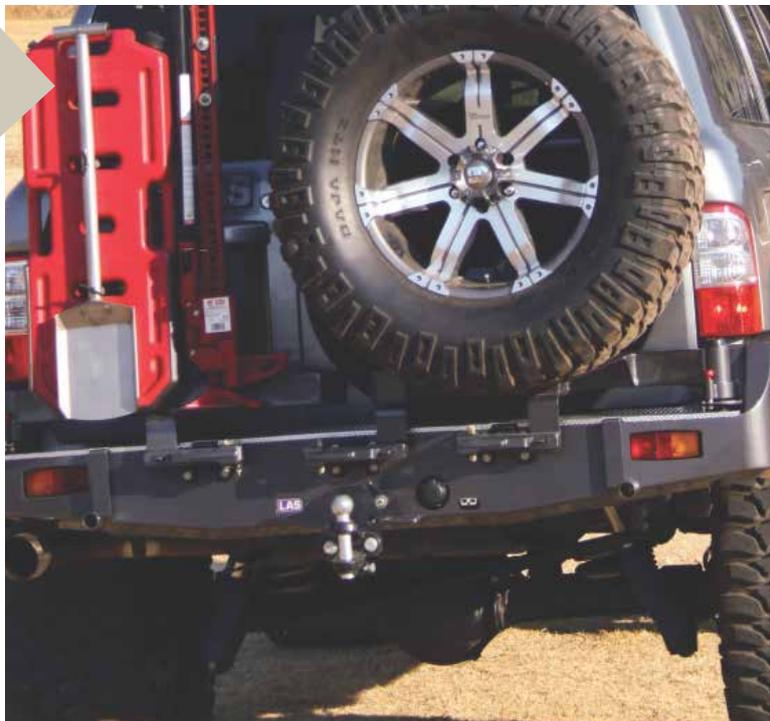
All bash plates are made from 4-6mm galvanised steel or aluminium. They have OEM Servicing holes and control arm protection.

REAR BUMPERS

LAS Manufacturing has released their newly designed rear bumper with wheel carrier and/or jerry can holders.

This rear bumper features jacking and recovery points with a detachable tow bar. It also accommodates a 12v 50amp grey plug with a recessed trailer plug. The rear bar is available with optional LHS or RHS wheel carriers.

We also have a plain eco-line bumper for the budget conscious adventurer.



BULL BARS

LA Sport bull bars for:

- Toyota Hilux and Cruiser
- Ford Ranger
- Isuzu

Opposite Lock bull bars for:

- Ford Ranger
- Isuzu
- Land Rover
- Mazda
- Mitsubishi
- Nissan
- Toyota



FULLY EQUIPPED TRAILERS

Trailer tents offer seriously comfortable and practical camping for you and your entire family.

Our trailers from Echo 4x4 come in varying sizes and models. They can be customised with an impressive list of optional extra equipment.

All the trailers are made for off-road travelling and are built to withstand harsh conditions.

Trailer top tents can be fitted on all models to sleep up to 6 people.

Pitching even the most fitted of the trailers doesn't take long - after which

you have a full camp with bed spaces, kitchen with stove and organised storage, solar panels powering the trailer, lights, running water, wash basin, a closet, fridge and much more.

With an off-road trailer you are able to travel anywhere and always have a comfortable and spacious place to stay.

They are an excellent choice for families and explorers who enjoy overlanding holidays.



TENTS & MORE

Practical, spacious, basic, or glamping, we have tents to suit any need.

At Mudpackers we carry a full range of tents and accessories from Tentco.

Bow Tents

Practical and economical varieties from 2-6 persons.

Rooftop Tents

Carry your tent with you everywhere you go. Our rooftop tents are super quick to pitch, allow you to sleep safely and comfortably on top of your car. Sizes vary from 2-4 persons. Let us help you find the right solution and mount it on your vehicle.

Shelters

Shelter tents or gazebos for your campsite are great in the African sun.

Frame Tents

Should you want something more spacious, we have frame tents for 4-6 persons.

Luxury Tents

Spacious accommodation for medium to long-term usage. Ideal for lodges or more permanent camps.

More

Additional equipment includes ground sheets, extensions and furniture.



OUTDOOR WEAR

If you love the outdoors you will love our collection of outdoor wear.

We carry Jonsson's Legendary Khakis made from 100% cotton. The collection includes long-sleeved shirts, short-sleeved shirts, shorts and trousers for both men and women. All available in a number of colours.

ACCESSORIES

We offer stylish and comfortable hats, caps, as well as shoes from the Rogue brand.

Our backpacks are from Tentco and come in different sizes depending on your needs.



CAMPING BEDS

Sleep well wherever you go.

We have a range of camping beds for your every need from the Tentco collection:

- Stretchers
- Self-inflatable mattresses
- Camping mattresses
- Sleeping bags



TOOLS

Certain tools are a must when going off-roading or camping.

Stock up tools such as:

- Axe
- Shovel
- Spade
- Puncture repair kit
- Jerry can spouts
- Jiggler syphon pipe
- Hi-lift jack, extension and plate

RECOVERY KITS

Our recovery kit from LA Sport includes:

- Tree trunk protector
- Kinetic snatch rope
- Kinetic snatch strap
- Winch extension strap (available in different lengths)
- Recovery bag
- Pull strap
- Shackles



CAR ACCESSORIES

All the bits and bobs, large and small that you could need for your car:

- Tyre fluid
- Spotlights and light bulbs
- Roof racks
- Jerry cans and holders
- Winches

CAMPING FRIDGES

High quality camping and automotive fridges in various sizes from National Luna and Indel B.

National Luna's fridges offer superior cooling power and run on 12, 24, or 230 volt.

From Indel B we carry compressor-operated travel coolers.



SOLAR PANELS

Flexopower's portable and foldable solar panels are perfect for bringing along to power up your camping trips.

You can hook them up to our National Luna battery pack or the batteries in your car.

We also offer fixed solar panels.



STORAGE

Keep your things organised with proper storage solutions from Front Runner or Big Country.

We offer various solutions such as drawers and canopies that are retrofitted per customers' requirements.



CADAC GAS PRODUCTS

We offer a great range of CADAC's gas and braai products such as:

- Gas cannisters
- Gas braais
- Braai tools
- Gas stoves
- Camping cookware for gas

We also fill your gas cannisters at Mudpackers - while you wait.

PORTABLE TOILETS & SHOWERS

Should you need a little extra luxury and convenience then consider buying a portable toilet or shower. Both are sourced from Tenco.

We also carry the chemicals needed for the toilets.

You can get shower tents and cubicles as well to ensure your privacy.



MORE ACCESSORIES

- Wash basins
- Laundry racks
- Cooler boxes
- Cooking ware
- Plastic and metal tableware
- LED lights
- Ammo boxes
- Stainless steel chairs and tables
- Water storage and pumps
- First aid kits
- Gas bottles and holders
- Storage bags

THE ROADS LESS TRAVELLED...



LAKE TANGANYIKA & KALAMBO FALLS

Why?

Because of the stunning beauty of the immense lake, the diving and snorkling activities and the magnificent Kalambo Falls.

How?

The drive is long, but smooth. Stop over by Lake Bangweulu and camp on the beach or in Kapishya Hot Springs.

Where?

Kalambo Falls Lodge: info@kalambolodge.com, tel: +260 977 430 894



KAFUE NATIONAL PARK – SOUTH

Why?

Because of the serene and boulder rich river bends and small natural pools where you can take a dip.

How?

Driving to Kafue National Park is easy and quick from Lusaka.

Where?

Kasabushi Camp for beautiful river-front campsites and excellent amenities: info@undiscoveredzambia.com



BUSANGA PLAINS (KAFUE)

Why?

Discover the peaceful solitude of the immense and lion rich plains, soar over wildlife in a hot air balloon flight and fish like a pro.

How?

Driving to Kafue National Park is easy and quick from Lusaka. Expect 6 hours if you are going to Busanga Plains in the North.

Where?

Mapunga Bush Camp for river-front campsites and great fishing tours: mapungabushcamp@gmail.com



LOWER ZAMBEZI – BACKROAD

Why?

Feel like a discoverer when you drive the exciting terrain on the back-road to Lower Zambezi National Park.

How?

Drive from Lusaka via Leopards Hill road. We don't recommend going in the rainy season as the conditions will be too harsh.

Where?

There are a handful of places that offer good camping: Mvuu Lodge, Kiambi and Wildtracks.



LUAPULALA PROVINCE

Why?

Visit some of Zambia's most magnificent waterfalls without the crowds of Victoria Falls. Don't miss the magnificent Lumangwe Falls.

How?

Drive from Mansa to Mukunsa via Kawambwa.

Where?

There's a nice camp site by Lumangwe Falls with good shower and ablution facilities.



LIUWA PLAIN

Why?

Experience the world's second largest wildebeest migration, enjoy solitude, remoteness and immense views of sandy plains.

How?

Head West and stay the night in Mongu in the Mission. Continue to Kalabo for park registration and then cross the river into the park.

Where?

The camp has a number of camp sites. Sikale is a very rustic and beautiful campsite: liuwatourism@african-parks.org

THE ELEPHANT CHARGE!

GETTING DOWN AND DIRTY

Every year adventure-seekers, petrol-heads, men and women gather to compete in the ultimate 4x4 bush driving competition - the Elephant Charge, to raise money for charities located all over Zambia.

This year Mudpackers sponsored team Mudhogs, who did an amazing job and came in 2nd. We spoke to one of the team members about his experiences through the years.

How many times have you participated in the Elephant Charge?

Well the Elephant Charge started in November 2008 on the day that I first landed in Zambia. I literally landed at 0630 on British Airways and was collected by my sister and taken straight to the bush to sit on a check point. My first actual competitive charge was in 2009.

What make of car do you prefer to drive for the Elephant Charge?

I am a Land Rover man through and through, but my team car is a Nissan Patrol.

Where do you buy your equipment from and where do you get the car fitted?

We have had a mix of suppliers over the years, but these days we use Mudpackers

What equipment is the most useful?

You have to use a lot of equipment when doing the charge. The top two would be the winch and your GPS unit. As a runner for our team I would have to say that my Camelbak is also fairly indispensable!!

How long do you spend preparing your car for the race?

I guess we would spend about 3 months preparing our car before the race. We have had years when we have left it to days before, but we have become a little more efficient as we grow as a team to get issues sorted.

What is your favorite experience from the Elephant Charge?

Would have to be the first time we won in 2010. Its an awesome feeling when

you find out you have won as you have absolutely no idea until they announce it. It was only our second charge and we managed to take the win.

What terrain is the most difficult to get through?

We encounter a lot of steep inclines with loose rock/soil. I would have to say that's the hardest terrain. One year saw early rains make the course almost impossible, but it's all just a part of the charge.

What is the biggest challenge for participants in the Elephant Charge?

Well aside from trying to drive the shortest distance, I would have to say that time management is pretty challenging. You're out in the bush with no idea how the other competitors are doing. You know you can always cut a straight line but you have only got 8 hours in which to get around, so you have to weigh the decision to see if you will actually have time to cut that straight line and still complete the course. It's a real balancing act.

Why would you recommend anyone to participate in the Elephant Charge?

I think it makes more sense to say, why wouldn't you do the charge!! Every year I have done it I have loved it. It's a real challenge that you get the most overwhelming sense of achievement when you have finished. Although you are competing against 20 other cars, everyone is excited about being there and so creates this awesome atmosphere of comradery.

Driving around beautiful untouched bush with your team mates and overcoming challenge after challenge. It's also sitting with a beer with the other teams afterwards and hearing their stories and challenges.

If you have enough energy, it's also the party in the evening. The whole experience is just a great event to be a part of. It's a lot of work to get there but well worth it in the end.

**RICHARD CHAPPLE
TEAM MUDHOGS**



ADVENTURE IS OUT THERE





4x4 RENTAL SERVICE

Mudpackers offers overland vehicles from Drive The Wild available to collect anywhere in Zambia. The vehicles are ruggedized specially for the terrain in which they get used.

The vehicles include the following fitments:

- Long range petrol tank
- State of the art auxiliary power supply
- Power socket
- A pull out drawer system with ample storage compartments
- On-board shower cubicle
- 60L fridge/freezer
- 90-degree awning
- A-state-of-the-art Stealth Eezi Awn roof-top tent
- A secondary ground tent for additional guests
- VHF radio for communication with the guides
- Full satellite tracking with 24-hour active tracking
- GPS system
- Full bedding linen packs

Camping gear inclusive of cutlery, table, chairs, ground sheet, stretchers, inflatable mattresses, and sleeping bags.



WORKSHOP & SERVICES

Mudpackers is your one-stop shop for off-road and camping adventures. We provide state-of-the-art equipment, so you can get down and dirty.

Our skilled team is ready to help you select the right products and fit your vehicle. We have been on many trips ourselves and will guide you through the process of selecting exactly the right equipment for whatever journey you are taking. We also provide practical advice on camp setups.

Our full workshop of professional mechanics provides all the services you might need including installation of equipment and accessories such as suspensions, tyre fitments, retrofitted storage solutions, and fitting of bull bars.

No job is too small or large for us.

JUST GO...



Visit our shop and showroom:
Leopards Hill Business Park
Leopards Hill Road
Lusaka
Zambia

www.facebook.com/lasportzambia
www.mudpackers.co.zm
www.lasport.co.za