



July 2016

Greetings from Africa!

The highly anticipated first [Hwange Walking Safari](#) was a huge success, here is what **Themba Sibanda** and his guests experienced:

The Exploration started with the guests arriving at Davison's Camp on 30 June 2016. I could tell the whole adventure with them would be an exciting one for them and me as the guide. On the drive from the airstrip to camp, we saw lion, buffalo and elephant to name a few.

First walk – to Scott's Pan

The following morning we started off from Davison's at 7am. We were all geared up with our back-packs, snacks, water, cameras and a lot of zeal. I wanted my guests to acclimatize to being on foot in the wild Hwange bush and so we initially concentrated on the smaller things like insects and bird calls that are normally ignored while driving. The highlight was finding the rhino beetle which is one of the small five. We had a lot of encounters with herds of elephant and we had a great opportunity safely approaching them for pictures. Mid-morning we called for the vehicle to come and pick us to take the camp for lunch.



We arrived at the camp site at Scott's Pan where everything looked perfectly set up, we had lunch and the elephants and other different species of animals came in numbers to drink at the pan. Our target that afternoon was to find a cheetah. Just before sunset we found a coalition of two cheetah. The safari was over for the day as we drove back to camp for our sunset drinks around the fire followed by stories and then dinner. After a night cap the comfortable camping beds called. Hyaenas and lions treated us at night with calls which made us change our plans in the morning.

Third day – Walk to Ngamo Plains

With hyaenas inviting us, we were up early in the morning and treated to a hearty breakfast before we left. We walked more than five kilometres tracking the hyaenas to no avail. Finally we were able to find their den. Everybody was happy to see the little pups nursing from their parents before hurriedly taking off to different directions and barrows.

We then set off for Ngamo Plains. We walked through teak woodland then into beautiful acacia trees. We spent time appreciating the beauty of spiders, insects and the melodious calls from birds. Wildebeest, zebra, ostrich, to name a few welcomed us to share their beautiful spot with them for the night. One of the highlights we enjoyed on this walk were the giraffe. We had a very productive afternoon game drive. We then had our sundowners at the camp site and while my guests were enjoying some local beer, lion started calling nearby. I convinced everybody to jump into the vehicle so that we could go and see them. We were treated to a sighting of two sub-adult male lions and other nocturnal animals. The lions came to the proximity of our camp site a night. What a beautiful way to sleep – with lions calling all night long!

Fourth day – Walk to Linkwasha camp

The morning started with a short drive around the Plains. Our aim was to find predators and a pack of nine wild dogs were spotted trotting in the open area and drinking at the pan next to our camping area. We were to proceed with our plan of walking after having quality time with the dogs. We walked into the comfort of Linkwasha after a five kilometre walk and the team welcomed us to their lovely camp in time for brunch.

For information on all Explorations departures [click here](#)

For information on our private guides [click here](#)

View our [availability report](#) for the remainder of 2016.

Until next time
The Wilderness Explorations Team

For more information on Explorations, you can also contact your journey specialist or email explorations@wilderness.co.za