



**NATURE
ENCOUNTERS**
TOURS & TRAVEL LTD.

The Magic of Zambia

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By Carol Petersen



Off to a land filled with safari history . . . the place where walking amongst the great game of Africa was pioneered! The South Luangwa Valley was the area to see at this time of the year. Even though it was considered the rainy season, the game was incredible! We were treated to the brightest zebra I have ever seen – they looked like they had just been painted! Elephant populations had been decimated years ago but with the help of conservationists like Mark and Delia Owens, these giants are plentiful and complete with many young. Cats came in many varieties of spots and solids . . . even very very young lion cubs (approximately 8

weeks old) were seen at close proximity. We watched for a while then witnessed mom swim across a small channel of water to join the rest of the pride and a bit of hunting. Her nose wrinkled and she sneered as she entered the water – hating every moment of getting wet! Of course all was well again when she joined her relatives and proceeded with classic cat greeting – all this before breakfast! We stayed in some lovely lodges, set in beautiful locations next to oxbow lagoons, the mighty Luangwa River and the amazing scenery of the south end of the park. Not having a group to take care of – I even indulged one day with a glass of wine, a hot bubble bath in a sunken tub in my very private luxury tent overlooking the wildlife filled plains – oh man it doesn't get much better than this! Zambia – magical and marvelous! **Join Carol and her expert tour leaders as they visit Mana Pools, the Luangwa Valley, East Africa, Gorillas and much more in 2005!**

