



# **Zakouma National Park: Chad**

# 10-19 April 2019

# 9 night/10 day private safari

Located in south eastern Chad, you'll find **Zakouma National Park**, a true wildlife treasure. Uncover 350 000 hectares of raw, wild Africa. Here, lions roam open plains in search of vast buffalo herds, and red-billed queleas flock in their thousands. Roan, tiang, amazing birding, local villages and cultures complete this very special picture.

A park once ravaged by civil conflict and poaching, Zakouma is one of African Parks real turnaround success stories. Evidence of their conservation efforts being rewarded include:

- A buffalo population that has grown from 200 in 1986, to over 10,000 in 2016.
- A thriving elephant population which was brought back from the brink of extinction
- Zakouma is home to 50% of Africa's Kordofan Giraffe population

In April 2019, Wild Frontier's will be heading to Zakouma on a 10 day expedition led by director John Addison. Best known as that bare footed guy always on the quest for Africa's next best kept secret, John is a seventh generation South African who has guided and travelled in most parts of Africa for over 35 years.

A trip with John is guaranteed to be a treat, as his vast knowledge and boundless enthusiasm for all things wild and natural is spelling binding. If hot, untamed and untouched is the way you like it, this is one safari you cannot miss.

# **Quick Reference Itinerary**

Day 1	Arrive in N'djaména and transfer to Hilton	
(Wednesday, 10 April)	Hotel	
Day 2	Transfer to airport for charter flight to	Breakfast
(Thursday, 11 April)	Zakouma National Park. Transfer from	Lunch
(Thursday, 11 April)		
	airstrip to Tinga Camp. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Dinner
Day 3	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Friday, 12 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 4	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Saturday, 13 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 5	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Sunday, 14 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 6	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Monday, 15 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 7	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Tuesday, 16 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 8	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Wednesday, 17 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 9	Explore Zakouma National Park at your	Breakfast
(Thursday, 18 April)	leisure. Overnight stay at Tinga Camp.	Lunch
		Dinner
Day 10	Return charter flight to N'Djaména for	Breakfast
(Friday, 19 April)	flight out same day, or for additional hotel	
	accommodation at own expense	

# **Detailed Itinerary**

# DAY 1: Wednesday, 10 April

Arrive in the capital of Chad, N'djaména, and transfer to **Hilton Hotel**.

The capital and the largest city of Chad, N'djeména is a port city on the Chari River. It is a hub for agricultural production in Chad, including a regional market for many food products.

Overnight stay at Hilton Hotel in preparation for charter flight to Zakouma National Park.

### DAY 2: Thursday, 11 April

Transfer from Hilton Hotel to airport for charter flight to Zakouma National Park. From the airstrip in Zakouma National Park, you will be transferred to **Tinga Camp** (15 minute drive). This camp is idyllically located on the Tinga River. There are six chalets at Tinga, recently refurbished. There is a fully equipped restaurant and bar. The camp is very rustic, but comfortable.

We will have our own private vehicle for enjoying game drives. Walking safaris are also available along the banks of the Tinga River, close to camp.



### DAYS 3 - 9: Friday, 12 April - Thursday, 18 April

For the next 7 days, explore the many treasures of Zakouma.

## DAY 10: Friday, 19 April

Charter flight from Zakouma National Park to N'djaména to connect with your international flight back home.

#### THE STORY BEHIND ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK

Neglected for extended periods during times of civil conflict, new life and energy is being injected into one of the last remnants of the Sudo-Sahelian ecosystems. Declared a national park in 1963, the park was thriving with wildlife and potential to be one of Africa's premier wildlife destinations.

As the park thrived, so did poachers in the region. When animal populations rose, this was a temptation for poachers to take advantage. Add to this the regional conflicts, this exacerbated poaching in the park – elephant populations dropped from 4,000 in 2002 to 450 in 2010.

#### **AFRICA PARKS TAKES OVER**

African Parks have subsequently become custodians of the park. Since taking over the park, there have been massive improvements:

- Within two years of taking over management, African parks halted elephant poaching entirely within the extended elephant range.
- Today the elephant population of Zakouma is on the increase, with new-born calves being observed from mid-2013 onwards.
- Other species in the park are also increasing in numbers, including giraffe, roan antelope and Lelwel's hartebeest.
- By extending the park's communication network to villages, the flow of information has been improved so that communities can notify park authorities of any suspicious activity or threats.

#### **FUTURE PLANS...**

Plans are in the pipeline to improve education and expand on the four elephant schools that address the challenge of a dispersed population. There are further plans to reintroduce black rhino and the creation of an elephant corridor beyond the park.

#### WILDLIFE

As an important source of water, in a harsh environment, for animal species in the region, Zakouma attracts amazing wildlife. The dry season is particularly good for game viewing because this attracts wildlife that migrates out of the park during the wet season. Some of the wildlife you can encounter:

**Predators** – Lion, leopard, cheetah, spotted hyena and wild dog. Other smaller species include, civet, serval, caracal, jackal,...

*Herbivores* – Elephant, Kordofan giraffe, Central African Savannah buffalo, Western greater kudu, tiang, roan antelope,...

Threatened Species – Elephants, black crowned crane, black breasted barbet

**Bird Species** – Zakouma is a valuable stop-over and breeding ground for birds. A total of 388 bird species reside in the park

# Package will be confirmed with minimum 6, maximum 8 guests.

#### **PACKAGE COST:**

USD 5830.00 per person sharing

USD 6 540.00 per single person

Note: We have based this package cost on estimated charter costs. Final charter prices will only be confirmed by supplier by October 2018. Costs are there subject to change due to increases beyond our control, including fuel levies/adjustments.

Payment terms: A 50% non refundable deposit is required to secure your seat on this trip.

Full payment is due 3 months prior to travel: 10 January 2019

#### **PACKAGE PRICE INCLUDES:**

- Transfer airport/ hotel/ airport
- 1 night accommodation at Hilton Hotel on arrival in N'djaména including breakfast
- Charter flights N'djaména → Zakouma and Zakouma → N'djaména
- Park guides and park entry fees
- 8 nights accommodation at Tinga Camp, in en suite refurbished rooms, all meals included
- Services of John Addison as host, private game drive vehicle

#### **PACKAGE PRICE EXCLUDES:**

- International flights and taxes
- Meals not stated
- Drinks
- Tips, laundry, items not specified and services not specified
- Visas, travel insurance and health requirements etc.

#### **TRAVEL INSURANCE:**

It is compulsory for all guests travelling with Wild Frontiers to have travel insurance.

#### **VISA INFORMATION:**

A visa is required for most travellers to Chad. Visa applications, costs and relevant documentation are the responsibility of the traveller (please refer to <a href="https://chad.travisa.com/">https://chad.travisa.com/</a> for more information). An invitation letter will be provided by Zakouma National Park once your booking is confirmed and we have received the passport information of each traveller.

#### **HEALTH INFORMATION:**

A yellow fever certificate is required to enter Chad and you will be asked to present it on arrival. Zakouma is a malaria area and all visitors are advised to take the appropriate prophylaxis prescribed by their doctor. It is difficult to bring aerosol insect repellents into Chad, so we suggest guests bring an insect repellant in cream form. Make sure you cover up with long sleeve shirts, trousers and closed shoes in the evenings. Tsetse flies can be a problem along certain parts of the heavily wooded Salamat River and in the south of the park. While they have a nasty bite, they are generally harmless.

## **WEATHER/ CLIMATE:**

Although climate varies from north to south, the climate is predominantly hot and dry. In the region of Zakouma National Park the late, hot, dry season is March, April and May. Average minimum temperature range for the month of April is from  $21-24^{\circ}$ C. Average maximum temperature range for April is  $34^{\circ}$ C  $-38^{\circ}$ C, but temperatures can climb to  $40^{\circ}$ C and above. It's advised to take precautions and come prepared for the warm climate so that you enjoy your stay.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY:**

Photography is not allowed in public places in Chad and particularly in the airport. The police are on the lookout for cameras so please keep all camera equipment & phones in your bags when travelling through the airport. Special permission has been given in Zakouma National Park. However we advise all guests to respect the law and local communities by not taking photos when visiting a village or market while in N'Djamena or around Zakouma.

## **ADDITIONAL LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

African Parks, Zakouma National Park - https://www.african-parks.org/the-parks/zakouma

Visa Details - https://chad.travisa.com/

Weather information - http://www.climatestotravel.com/climate/chad

Additional wildlife photos <u>- http://magazine.africageographic.com/weekly/issue-150/zakouma-national-park-raw-africa/ag-mag-gallery/image/zakouma-chad-cover-may/</u>

