





72 NGONI PRIDE AND POWER INSIDE NCWALA 2025

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A veteran outdoorsman harbouring a love for nature and the open plains of Zambia.



COVER STORY:

Language is fluid, constantly adapting to its environment. Unlike other tangible aspects of identity, it has no fixed beginning or end, and therefore no ultimate authority. No language is superior; each plays a vital role in maintaining cultural equilibrium. But what happens when the balance that African languages offer is disrupted? Find out on page 58.

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REDISCOVERY

have been on a roll with my commitment to rediscovering my love for reading this year. My mother will proudly tell anyone who cares to listen that all three of her children were reading fluently (the King James Version of the Bible included) by the age of five. As the years passed, I transitioned from my parents' personal library, a wall five metres long with shelves warping beneath the weight of books from floor to ceiling and countless more books boxed in the garage, to the German colonial-era school libraries where the air hung heavy with the musty smell of damp books, and finally to the sterile, fluorescent-lit research libraries of university. Somewhere along this journey, reading transformed from a temporal travel device into a mere necessity. Before I knew it, I had traded my beloved books for ever-shrinking screens until I was holding them in my hands, mindlessly scrolling in dim blue light, the clandestine school nights of reading by flashlight long forgotten.

The alarm sounded after another failed attempt at undistracted reading: my brain had apparently devolved into a 1995 Pentium processor with the memory of a goldfish, no doubt conditioned by the quick, flashing 20-second storylines of my nighttime scrolls. Compounded by the realisation that my offspring had failed to meet the generational bar and could not read the King James Version for a song, I set out to right my wrongs. With my partner in tow, I returned to one of my favourite haunts, an old bookstore specialising in second-hand books and exchanges, because sustainability matters. There, I armed myself with enough literary ammunition to begin my re-evolution into an enlightened being. Of course, my companion's selections proved more refined than mine: a copy of Cervantes' *Don Quixote* and something titled *Babel* that I looked down my nose at for being published in 2022, too recent to be considered renaissance reading by the likes of me.

Despite my scepticism, I read *Babel*, and what a revelation it was, so profound that it inspired this edition's cover story. The novel transforms the field of translation into a mesmerising world of magic, history, language and colonialism. What fascinated me most was its exploration of meanings lost across translations and the critical importance of translating and re-translating to preserve original intent. This resonated deeply with our Zambian context, where language extends beyond the written and spoken word into verbal traditions and visual expressions. Many of our sacred customs exist only in song, oral traditions, and dance where no cross-linguistic alternatives that can fully capture their nuance and depth exist. The feature, *Lost in Translation* on page 58 engages with this reality head-on, dissecting the intersection between Zambian languages, culture and the human yearning for belonging.

This quest for belonging is powerfully expressed in a heartfelt tribute to the late Dora Moono Nyambe, a self-sacrificing heroine whose impact defies words. Driven by the illiteracy and vulnerability of children she witnesses in Mapapa, her story follows her selfless decision to exchange the city and a new future abroad, for this remote village. Using social media as her platform, she crowdfunded a safe haven and clinic while rescuing children from forced marriages and abuse. You can find out how to support her vital work on page 66.

As I place my screens aside more often now, rediscovering not just books but the slower, deeper thinking they demand, I'm reminded that some things, like culture, language and human connection, are worth shielding from the erosion of technology. Perhaps in an act as simple as rediscovering reading, we could also rediscover parts of ourselves.

Happy reading!

Shammah Phiri, Deputy Editor



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WELCOME TO LILAYI CITY

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Lilayi City is a brand-new development node; with 400 hectares of mixed-use residential, lifestyle, and light industrial development land for sale, situated in Lilayi - the centre of Lusaka's southern suburbs.



Commercial 65 hectares designated for commercial development, ideal for developers and owner-occupiers in Lilaşi City



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Light Industrial





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LAND

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Medical 5 hectares reserved for medical investment including a hospital and healthcare facilities.



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WELCOME ON BOARD PROFLIGHT

elcome on board, dear valued customers. We are thrilled to have you with us as we take you to your destination with comfort and care. In February, as part of our effort to bring a touch of warmth and hospitality to your journey, we celebrated Valentine's Day by serving heart-shaped cookies and presenting every passenger with a beautiful red rose. It was a small token to celebrate love and affection.

On International Women's Day, celebrated on 8 March, we honoured the remarkable women among our passengers by gifting each female traveller a rose, acknowledging their strength and contributions. Today, women are taking centre stage in all aspects of Proflight Zambia's operations. From the technical bay to the cockpit, they now lead in areas where they were once limited to cabin crew roles. At Proflight, we are helping change the norm on a continent where women make up just 2.79% of maintenance engineers and 5.21% of certified pilots. Currently, 38% of our 280 employees, including three pilots and twelve engineers, are female. With 96% of our workforce being Zambian, our commitment to local talent reflects our broader dedication to excellence and inclusivity.

We also recognise the importance of cultural events. This is why we added additional flights to ensure our esteemed passengers could take part in the vibrant Ncwala traditional ceremony. Celebrated by the Ngoni people of Zambia's Eastern Province, the Ncwala is steeped in rich culture and tradition. We were proud to help facilitate travel to such a meaningful and colourful event.

Our recent 'Chitenge Friday' competition also celebrated Zambia's vibrant culture. This heartwarming initiative saw four lucky winners walk away with free return tickets to any of our destinations. Participants simply had to wear the beautiful chitenge fabric every Friday and share their love for it. The chitenge has become a timeless symbol of Zambian and African identity.

Thank you for choosing Proflight Zambia and for your continued support.

Safe travels and best wishes.

Captain Josias Walubita, **Director Flight Operations**



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UP FRONT

22 PLAN

MAY | JUNE 2025

A round-up of events and entertainment festivals from around the region.



EXPERIENCE DULINI ANABEZI

Set in the Lower Zambezi, this exclusive destination offers luxury accommodation, breathtaking views, and unforgettable wildlife encounters. It provides an intimate and peaceful escape into nature.



DINE 7TH SENSE RESTAURANT

A return to 7th Sense as Chef Chintu unveils a new, innovative love letter to Zambia through a weekly tasting menu that blends tradition, memory, and flavour.

34 BACKYARD

THE INSIDE OUT CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Discover a dynamic cultural space dedicated to exploring the aesthetic, psychological, and sociopolitical complexities of the African continent through photography, installations, sculpture, drawing, painting, and film.

38 ESSENTIALS IISANGU

Explore a handmade shoe collection that fuses tradition with contemporary flair. Inspired by Luvale dance ornaments, these eco-conscious shoes combine recycled conveyor belt rubber with Zambian leather.





BRIEFING THE CARBON CREDIT REVOLUTION

What role is Zambia's carbon credit market playing in environmental sustainability, and what's behind its recent successes? TABLETALK SALAMATA BALL

Meet Salamata Ball, Managing Director of TotalEnergies Zambia, and learn how she's leveraging an international career, collaborative leadership, and a passion for innovation and community upliftment to transform Zambia's energy landscape and drive broad-based development.

54 HUMOUR SOCIAL ETIQUETTE

A monthly column of light-hearted musings, offering satirical takes on the modern world and everyday absurdities.



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NSIDE

58 LOST IN TRANSLATION

Explore how language adapts to its environment and the critical role African languages play in maintaining cultural balance. What happens when that equilibrium is disrupted?



WALKING IN HOPE

A heartfelt tribute to the late Dora Moono Nyambe, a selfless woman who adopted 15 children and fostered 500 more, rescuing them from abuse and forced marriages. Her legacy continues to inspire.



NGONI PRIDE AND POWER

Centuries ago, the Nguni tribe fought alongside the Zulu Kingdom until their leader was defeated by Shaka. The Ncwala ceremony commemorates the Ngoni's migration, their first harvest, and the northward extension of their kingdom.

86

BLUE TRAIN TO BOHEMIA

A unique adventure to Kalk Bay, a colourful gem on South Africa's coast. With its quirky vibe, rich history, and ocean views, it's the perfect offbeat getaway.

TAKE OFF



FLIGHT SCHEDULE MAY | JUNE 2025 Peruse the latest flight schedule.



CHITENGE FRIDAY

Proflight celebrates Zambian culture with staff donning colourful chitenge attire every Friday. The initiative fosters national pride, engages travellers, and rewards participants with prizes.



FAQ

Your pressing Proflight questions are answered.



PROHIBITED GOODS

A round-up of goods and items not permitted on Proflight aircraft.



Thank You, Zambia

MTN Zambia Celebrates 20 Years of Transforming Lives: A Big Thank You to All Zambians

Lusaka, Zambia – MTN Zambia is thrilled to announce the celebration of its 20th anniversary, marking two decades of connecting Zambians, driving digital transformation, and empowering progress across the nation. From the very beginning, MTN has championed a business strategy centered on providing leading digital solutions that propel Zambia's progress, enabling individuals, businesses, and communities to unlock their full potential in today's fast-paced digital world.

Reflecting on the journey, the Zambia of 20 years ago is vastly different from the Zambia we knowtoday. MTN's innovation has played a critical role in transforming lives, bridging gaps, and bringing loved ones closer—no matter the distance. MTN Zambia's core belief remains steadfast: everyone deserves to enjoy the benefits of a modern, connected life. This belief underpins the company's commitment to leveling the playing field and turning "can't" into "can" for every Zambian, wherever they live.

As part of the MTN@20 celebration, the company is also looking ahead with renewed dedication. MTN Zambia CEO, Abbad Reda said that, "Our core belief remains at the heart of everything we do: every person deserves to enjoy the benefits of a modern, connected life. While we have achieved so much together over the past 20 years, there is still so much more we are eager to accomplish. Connectivity is a necessity in today's world, linking us to endless possibilities and keeping us close to those we love.

We are incredibly grateful to our customers for their continued trust and support, and we promise to deliver even more to every corner of Zambia in the years to come."

And speaking during the campaign launch, Richard Acheampong, Chief Consumer Officer at MTN Zambia, said, "This brand campaign we have launched today is a testament to the 20 years of collaboration, partnership, and progress we have made together. MTN would not be what it is today without you, our loyal customers, who have stood with us through the years. While we've achieved so much, we are determined to do even more with you. We are committed to breaking down barriers that limit access to the digital world, such as the high cost of devices. That's why we continue to form strategic partnerships that enable us to launch the most competitively priced devices in the market."

Adding to this, Dalitso Miti, Brand & Communications Manager at MTN Zambia, shared: "This campaign is really about our customers. We want to take this opportunity to show our gratitude because we could not have reached this milestone without you. As we kick-start what will be a celebratory year, this campaign seeks to build nostalgia as we reflect on where we've come from but also inspire great hope for what lies ahead as we continue to innovate, support communities, and equip Zambians with the necessary tools to thrive. Over the course of the year, we will be announcing several exciting activities with you, the customer, as the central focus. So, do join in on these celebrations—they are truly for you."

While the General Manager - Corporate Services, Pamela Pio, emphasized the company's efforts to bridge the digital divide and said that, "At MTN, we believe everyone hould have access to the benefits of a modern, connected life. This is why we have focused on expanding rural coverage by installing sites across the country, enabling communities in remote areas to access our services. Initiatives like the Alola smartphone launch in 2024 have also made digital connectivity more accessible by providing affordable handsets for more Zambians. Additionally, we are proud to support inclusivity through our dedicated desks for people living with hearing impairments, ensuring that everyone can communicate and thrive in the digital age."

She further stated that, "for 17 years, MTN Zambia's *Y'ello* Care programs have transformed lives, empowering children, women, youth, refugees, people living with disabilities, and the elderly across urban and rural areas. These initiatives have addressed critical needs in climate action, economic recovery, job creation, entrepreneurship, and education—fostering sustainability and community development.

Through the MTN@20 campaign, MTN Zambia once again extends its gratitude to its customers and invites everyone to join the celebration by participating in the exciting activities planned throughout the year.

Here's to 20 years of progress, connectivity, and innovation—and to an even brighter, more connected future ahead!



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Every successful business starts with the right foundation, and at MTN Business, we provide SMEs with the tools to grow starting with the SME SIM. Designed for business owners who need reliable and affordable connectivity, the SME SIM keeps you connected to your customers, suppliers, and employees, ensuring smooth daily operations. As your business expands, so do your needs. Our **SME Combo Bundles** which include voice minutes, SMS, and data are valid for **30 days**, giving you an affordable way to stay in touch and keep your business running. For businesses with high data needs, our **SME Mega Bundles** offer pure data solutions ranging from **100GB to 1TB**, all valid for **60 days**, ensuring uninterrupted productivity.

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JP FRONT

22. PLAN • 26. EXPERIENCE • 30. DINE • 34. BACKYARD • 40. TABLETALK • 46. BRIEFING



Explore the architecture of the Inside Out Centre on page 34. The building draws inspiration from the Brutalist movement of the 1950s, featuring raw concrete surfaces and bold geometric design.

PLAN MAY I JUNE 2025



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 5-7 June 2025. Location: Mulungushi International Conference Centre. Tickets: TBC.

ZAMBIA TRAVEL EXPO (ZATEX)

Discover the best of Zambia at the Zambia Travel Expo (ZATEX)! This premier event, organised by the Zambia Tourism Agency, brings together tourism professionals, media, and buyers from around the world. Experience Zambia's rich culture, stunning nature-based attractions, and exciting tourism offerings. Don't miss this opportunity to network, explore new business opportunities, and promote Zambia as a must-visit destination.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 24 May 2025. Location: Global Platform, Lusaka. Tickets: TBD.

NERDIOTAKU BOOK FAIR

Get ready for a day where books come to life at the Bookish Affairs Book Fair! Connect with fellow readers and writers, participate in the book swap, and dive into exciting panels and activities. From open mic poetry to book-themed merchandise and more, it's the ultimate book lover's paradise. Come for the fun, stay for the inspiration.



WINTER MUSIC FEST

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 7 June 2025. Location: TBA. Tickets: K150. Winter Fest 2025 is here! With the theme "Frost and Fun", this year promises thrilling activities, live performances from Zambia's hottest artists, and the Best Kids' Park Ever, featuring exciting rides and interactive games. Whether you're with family, friends, or fellow music lovers, Winter Fest guarantees unforgettable moments. Don't miss out on the coolest vibes and the warmest memories!





TEQUILA MEXICAN FOOD FESTIVA

Get ready for an unforgettable fiesta at the Tequila Mexican Food Festival! Indulge in mouth-watering tacos, burritos, enchiladas, guacamole, and more. The highlight? An incredible selection of tequila to elevate your experience. Celebrate Mexican culture, food, and drink in style – and party like you're in Mexico!

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 24 May 2025. Location: Royal Elephant Hotel, Pretoria. Tickets: R300-R700.



SCHWEPPES RUSTENBURG GIN FESTIVAL

It's time for the official Schweppes Rustenburg Gin Festival! Discover amazing craft gin brands, enjoy delicious food from food trucks, and take part in sip-and-paint and mixology classes. With top South African artists performing, this event is set to be a celebration of flavour and fun. Enjoy a complimentary gin cocktail on arrival – don't miss it!

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 31 May 2025. Location: Rustenberg. Tickets: R280-R550.



COMRADES MARATHON 2025

Join the iconic Comrades Marathon 2025, a 90 km race that has been uniting runners since 1921. This legendary event, celebrated for its spirit of camaraderie, brings together athletes from around the world to challenge themselves and support one another. Whether you're running or cheering, feel the unforgettable energy and community of South Africa's most prestigious marathon.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 8 June 2025. Location: City Hall, Pietermaritzburg. Tickets: R1200-R4500.

THE ZAMBIA TRAVEL EXPO 2025 SHOWCASING ZAMBIA AS AFRICA'S NEXT PREMIER TRAVEL HUB





he Zambia Tourism Agency (ZTA) has announced the official dates for the highly anticipated Zambia Travel Expo (ZATEX), the nation's premier tourism trade and consumer show. Scheduled for 5 to 7 June 2025 at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre, Kenneth Kaunda Wing, in Lusaka, ZATEX serves as a dynamic platform for business-to-business (B2B) and businessto-consumer (B2C) engagement. It is designed to catalyse strategic partnerships and elevate Zambia's destination visibility across domestic, regional, and international markets.

ZATEX is the flagship marketing initiative of the Ministry of Tourism, ZTA, and the Tourism Council of Zambia. It is curated to reposition Zambia as a competitive and compelling global tourism destination. Anchored in the National Tourism Policy and aligned with the broader objectives of the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP), the Expo directly supports the Agency's strategic agenda to increase arrivals, grow tourism receipts, and strengthen Zambia's brand equity as an authentic, adventure-rich, and sustainable destination.

The 2025 edition of ZATEX comes at a pivotal moment, as Zambia accelerates the recovery and growth of its tourism sector post-pandemic. With growing interest from international source markets and increased investment in tourism product development, the Expo provides a unique opportunity for travel trade professionals, buyers, and media from the region and beyond to engage with Zambia's tourism suppliers. These range from lodge owners and tour operators to conservation partners and community enterprises.

Over the three-day event, ZATEX will facilitate high-impact networking through structured meetings, exhibitions, experiential showcases, and hosted buyer programmes. These engagements are strategically curated to unlock market access for Zambian tourism products while offering buyers immersive insights into the diversity and authenticity of the Zambian travel experience. The Expo will also feature technical sessions covering market trends, sustainability, investment opportunities, and digital transformation in tourism, all designed to inform decision-making and build sector capacity.

What distinguishes ZATEX is its hybrid appeal, balancing trade engagement with consumer access. While B2B activities will dominate the first two days, the final day is open to the public. This allows direct interaction between tourism brands and consumers. The format ensures that exhibitors gain exposure not only to international buyers but also to domestic travellers seeking unique experiences within Zambia's vast tourism landscape.

For stakeholders, ZATEX represents a cost-effective and targeted marketing opportunity to showcase their offerings to key decision-makers and potential partners. The hosted buyer programme invites selected international buyers and media influencers with a proven ability to sell Zambia and the wider Southern Africa region. By engaging with this curated audience, exhibitors are assured of relevant leads and meaningful conversations with real conversion potential.

ZATEX also complements regional integration efforts through platforms such as the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The Expo provides a critical interface for cross-border collaboration and destination bundling. It supports the development of multi-country itineraries that enhance Zambia's value proposition within regional circuits.

From a branding perspective, ZATEX plays a central role in reinforcing Zambia's tourism narrative — one grounded in authenticity, unspoilt nature, rich cultural heritage, and warm hospitality. Its promotional campaigns,



media engagement strategy, and content storytelling are aligned with Zambia's long-term marketing goals and contribute directly to increasing top-of-mind awareness in priority source markets.

Participation in ZATEX offers unparalleled visibility for tourism brands, both through the physical showcase and through the digital amplification surrounding the event. Exhibitors and sponsors benefit from year-round promotional mileage via ZTA's media platforms, global trade networks, and post-event engagement with hosted buyers and influencers. For small and medium tourism enterprises, ZATEX provides a vital springboard to access new markets, build brand presence, and learn from leading voices in the industry.

As Zambia charts a path toward a resilient and inclusive tourism sector, ZATEX stands as more than a trade show it is a strategic convening platform and a critical node in the tourism value chain. It connects destination marketing, product-market matchmaking, and investment facilitation. The 2025 edition is expected to attract over 1,500 participants, including buyers from Africa, Europe, Asia, and North America, as well as National Tourism Organisations (NTOs), development partners, and policymakers. This reinforces its growing status as a continental benchmark for tourism trade events.

ZTA invites all tourism operators, destination marketers, media practitioners, development partners, and investment facilitators to be part of ZATEX 2025. Together, we can build stronger linkages, amplify Destination Zambia, and ensure that tourism delivers on its promise of job creation, community empowerment, and sustainable economic growth.



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FINDING EDEN AT DULINI ANABEZI A LUXURIOUS SAFARI HAVEN IN THE LOWER ZAMBEZI

Words by Jaryd Povall, images courtesy of Dulini Anabezi



t's that moment just after dawn when the light turns everything golden. Our aircraft dips its wing towards the Zambezi River, and suddenly they're visible – elephants crossing between islands, their reflections perfect in still morning waters. Below us stretches the Lower Zambezi National Park, where the newest jewel in the Dulini collection awaits.

Dulini Anabezi's location matters profoundly. Eastern Lower Zambezi offers dramatically better game viewing than western sections, with less tourist traffic too. This particular stretch of wilderness, bordered by the Zambezi River and embraced by the hauntingly beautiful winterthorn forest, feels like a secret revealed only to the fortunate few.

Twelve tented suites spread along the riverfront and Kulefu Channel, each with a private deck, plunge pool, and Victorian bathtub positioned for wildlife viewing. Outdoor showers complete the experience. From your accommodation, you can watch buffalo graze on floodplains as you sip morning coffee nature's perfect start.

Those winterthorn trees. Known locally as "ana trees," they create a landscape unlike any I've encountered elsewhere in Africa. During winter, their bare branches stand against blue skies, creating patterns photographers dream about. Elephants adore the seed pods, often shaking entire trees to dislodge this delicacy.

Where to begin with activities? Game drives deliver exceptional sightings: lions, leopards, African painted dogs, buffalo, and numerous antelope species thrive here. But water-based adventures truly distinguish Lower Zambezi. Canoeing along channels where elephant herds cross and hippos surface cautiously offers perspectives impossible from land.



Walking safaris through the winterthorn forest feel almost sacred. Every sense heightens, the scent of herbs crushed underfoot, the texture of animal tracks in sand, and the awareness of being a participant rather than an observer.

The all-Zambian team, many from nearby Chiawa Game Management Area, brings authentic knowledge to every experience. Their insights create moments of genuine connection, from identifying plants to explaining animal behaviours only locals truly understand.

For relaxation, in-room spa treatments soothe safari-stiffened muscles. Meals focus on excellent ingredients prepared with skill, served in settings that maximise your wilderness experience.

Proflight Zambia makes accessing this paradise surprisingly straightforward, with convenient connections from Lusaka. This efficiency means more time immersed in the wilderness rather than navigating logistics.

Birdlife abounds, from fish eagles to kingfishers in the reed beds below. For enthusiasts, this destination offers exceptional rewards with minimal effort.

Each day at Dulini, Anabezi unfolds differently, yet always with that perfect blend of adventure and tranquillity. Morning light bathes the winterthorn forest in amber hues as elephants browse along the channel edge. Midday brings choices—perhaps a siesta on your private deck, watching life unfold along



the river, or maybe another game drive to discover what's stirring in the heat of the day.

Afternoons transition to evenings seamlessly. As the sun dips towards the escarpment, hippos grunt their evening chorus. The night sky above Anabezi defies description; a canopy of stars undimmed by artificial light, the Milky Way stretching from horizon to horizon. From your deck, listen to the night sounds: the distant roar of lions, perhaps a leopard's raspy call, and the constant backdrop of frogs and insects that forms Africa's nocturnal symphony.

What Dulini has created here feels both ephemeral and timeless. Ephemeral in perfect moments that cannot be replicated: a leopard's gaze meeting yours, elephants silhouetted against sunset. Timeless in its connection to something ancient that resonates deeply with anyone fortunate enough to experience it.

Some places leave their mark on you. Dulini Anabezi is undoubtedly one of them.

WHERE?

Perched on the banks of the Zambezi River, close to the majestic winterthorn forest, Dulini Anabezi is situated on the eastern side of the Lower Zambezi National Park.

WHAT TO EXPERIENCE

- Spoil yourself with sumptuous body treatments and massages on your private deck, overlooking the serene waters of the Zambezi.
- Venture out by night to experience a whole new world of the nocturnal bush. Expect exclusive sightings you would never experience by day on a night game drive.
- Unmatched photographic opportunities await in the winterthorn forest. Dulini Anabezi will modify game drives or provide private vehicles to ensure you get the best shots every time.
- Glide silently along the Zambezi, within arm's reach of silent elephants and hippos, on a canoe safari with experienced guides by your side.

BOOKING AND CONTACT DETAILS

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Proflight Zambia operates regular scheduled flights into Jeki and Royal Airstrip to/from Lusaka, connecting with Cape Town, Johannesburg, Kalumbila, Kasama, Livingstone, Mansa, Mfuwe, Ndola and Solwezi. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.



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FOR ZAMBIA, WITH LOVE CHEF CHINTU IS PLATING WITH LOVE AT 7TH SENSE RESTAURANT

Words by Tokozile N Ngwenya, images courtesy of 7th Sense Restaurant



asting menus celebrate creativity, a chef's personal artistic voice told through carefully crafted dishes. At The Quorum's 7th Sense Restaurant, Friday evenings bring something magical. From the private dining room above the lively streets of Kabulonga, street lights twinkling below, I experienced *Love of Zambia*, an eight-course journey crafted by newly appointed Executive Chef Chintu.

What struck me about this second offering in the restaurant's weekly tasting series was how it transcended mere flavour. The experience felt oddly personal. The traditional Zambian dishes I grew up with had been thoughtfully reimagined. Chef Chintu blended modern techniques with global influences while somehow preserving their authentic soul.

The evening began with Mopane Consommé, a refined broth from mopane worms served alongside delicate cassava crisps dusted with ground *kapenta*. The broth offered earthy, umami-rich flavours, bold yet subtle enough to open the palate. That familiar scent of mopane and *kapenta* hit me with unexpected nostalgia, yanking me straight back to childhood afternoons in my grandmother's kitchen. For the less adventurous, a velouté alternative provided silky, cream-based comfort that complemented the other elements beautifully.

Second came a crispy-seared Kariba Bream fillet resting on steamed cassava, garnished with edible flowers. Nearly too beautiful to disturb...nearly. The fish came with a velvety broth capturing the essence of traditional dried fish, slowly cooked to concentrate its smoky depth. Fresh *kalembula* (sweet potato leaves) added brightness and texture. Breaking through the crisp exterior revealed flaky, tender fish beneath, while the cassava tempered the intensity of the dry fish broth, anchoring everything in familiar territory with refined restraint.

That rich broth had me wishing for nshima to soak up every drop when the third course arrived: 6 Degrees of Maize. This clever tribute to our staple grain presented it in various forms, simultaneously familiar yet surprising. They'd transformed the nshima with parmesan and cream. I was sceptical at first, but it retained that familiar comfort while gaining a luxurious silkiness I never thought possible for our staple. Baby corn, samp, and sweet corn purée (reminiscent of childhood porridge) accompanied it, smooth and deeply satisfying. The standout? A nshima tuile mimicking that prized crispy crust found at the bottom of every properly cooked pot. One bite transported me back to childhood

A LA CARTE MENU

The new a la carte menu offers a local twist on diverse cuisines. Using fresh, local ingredients, it features classics like prime cut grills, curries, fusion dishes and vegetarian options.

BOOKING

Make a reservation by sending an inbox message via social media or an e-mail to: **7thsense@ thequorumzm. com** with the promo code *"Nkwazi Magazine*" and receive 10% off your next meal at The 7th Sense Restaurant.



> CONTACT DETAILS:

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- 7th Sense Restaurant



meals eaten by hand, sitting cross-legged on the floor, completely lost in the moment.

Fourth was *Leaves & Pulses*, a vegan creation proving that plant-based dishes can match their meaty counterparts in richness and satisfaction. Local vegetables got clever treatment: dried visashi (groundnut-pounded greens) transformed into a whisper-thin, intensely flavoured crisp. A light, airy foam of beans and spinach provided contrast, while traditionally prepared visashi grounded the dish in its Zambian heritage.

The fifth course spoke of dialogue between old and new: village chicken. Slow-cooked to develop deep flavour, then confited in duck fat. I found the meat impossibly tender, resting on a sweet potato base with bright microgreens. With each bite, I tasted our humble village chicken transformed yet somehow preserving its essential character.

For the sixth, Chef Chintu reinvented traditional beans and trotters as his answer to Thai Fish Cake: the Zambian Bean Cake. Breaking through the golden cassava-flour crust revealed a hearty filling of mashed Solwezi beans and succulent beef hooves, paired with buttery Dauphinoise potatoes. If asked to name a standout dish, this creation would claim the honour.

Seventh brought Kudu, the lean game meat reimagined as a gourmet slider. Inside it sat Japanese-inspired slaw dressed in soy and rice wine vinegar, with cassava crisps replacing conventional chips. The combination felt playful yet sophisticated, marrying burger classics with distinctly local character. Golden, crispy onion rings finished the plate perfectly.

The eighth and final course featured golden chitumbuwa (banana fritters) alongside sweeti mbalala (groundnut praline), house-made tamarind and baobab ice cream, and brownie pieces atop wild honeycomb. Every mouthful offered contrasts—warm against cold, crunchy meeting smooth, sweet playing with nutty. A shot of tangy *munkoyo* (fermented maize drink) punctuated the end of a dining experience that celebrates Zambia in ways I've never before witnessed.

As night wrapped around us, Chef Chintu's vision became clear: a celebration of Zambian food that honours its roots while fearlessly exploring new territory. The *Love of Zambia* Tasting Menu at 7th Sense Restaurant satisfies more than appetite; it nourishes cultural pride and hints at thrilling possibilities for Zambian cooking's future.



A LIFE BY DESIGN

Executive Chef Chintu's distinctive approach to food reflects his unique background. With over a decade of experience as an engineer, architect, and industrial designer, he brings this design thinking to the kitchen. Always passionate about food, he began as a catering assistant in kitchens, serving some of London's most prestigious dignitaries and officials. Through dedication, he rose through the ranks, eventually taking over as private chef from his predecessor.

> MADE WITH LOVE

The 7th Sense team thoughtfully adapts the menu to accommodate dietary needs while preserving the integrity of the tasting experience. The velouté proved so popular that it's earned a place in the next iteration of the menu!

FOR ZAMBIA, WITH LOVE

The tasting menu springs from Executive Chef Chintu's vision to elevate Zambian cuisine. "I asked myself why Zambian cuisine isn't globally recognised like West African food? In response, I was inspired to reimagine traditional dishes as contemporary plates using European and Chinese techniques, maintaining Zambia's essence while taking it to the next level-and *Love* of Zambia was born."

Proflight Zambia operates regular scheduled flights into Lusaka from Cape Town, Johannesburg, Kalumbila, Kasama, Livingstone, Mansa, Mfuwe, Ndola and Solwezi. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN ICT LIQUID INTELLIGENT TECHNOLOGIES' TRIBUTE ON WOMEN'S DAY





omen's Day continues to hold global significance as an annual celebration of the remarkable

achievements women have made over the past 3 decades since the Beijing Conference. Liquid Intelligent Technologies took this opportunity to honour women in the ICT industry, celebrating women who have made contributions across various fields and professions. Once considered a maledominated space, the ICT sector is now witnessing an increasing number of women taking on leadership roles.

Liquid Intelligent Technologies hosted a distinguished ladies' luncheon, attended by key figures from across the industry. Among the notable attendees was Patricia Moyo, a trailblazer in the mining sector and a woman in technology. Her inspiring journey serves as a testament to overcoming the odds, not only in a male-dominated industry but also in the challenging mining sector. The event also celebrated emerging female talent in technology from universities and colleges, providing a platform for seasoned professionals to mentor and support the next generation of women in tech. This gathering underscored the importance of nurturing and empowering women in technology, fostering a supportive community where experienced professionals can guide and inspire those at the beginning of their careers.

Set to be an annual event with periodical engagements complemented by periodic engagements throughout the year to maintain momentum, this gathering is set to be a game changer for women in the ICT space and those aspiring to be.

Women can confidently step into the ICT industry and transform perceptions, showcasing their expertise and leadership. Become part of this annual gathering and change how we see women in technology.



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INSIDE OUT CENTRE FOR THE ARTS INSIDE ROGER BALLEN'S PSYCHOLOGICAL PLAYGROUND

Words by Amanda Ballen, images courtesy of Inside Out Centre for the Arts




erched along the bustling thoroughfare of Jan Smuts Avenue, amid the leafy northern suburbs of Johannesburg, stands a striking concrete edifice—an architectural statement that immediately captivates the eye. Founded by the renowned South African artist Roger Ballen, the Inside Out Centre for the Arts has become a must-visit cultural landmark, offering a compelling space for artistic and intellectual engagement. Since opening to the public in mid-2022, the Centre has established itself as a dynamic hub for dialogue and creative inquiry in this city.

A non-profit institution, the Centre is dedicated to examining African-related issues through immersive, multimedia exhibitions and educational initiatives. It serves as the headquarters of the Inside Out Centre Trust, collaborating closely with the Swissbased Eiger Foundation. It is situated among Johannesburg's foremost cultural institutions, alongside the Johannesburg Contemporary Arts Foundation and the Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre.

Ballen, widely recognised for his psychologically charged and provocative aesthetic, has spent decades redefining the photographic medium. His approach moves beyond traditional documentary photography, transforming the camera into a tool for introspective and psychological exploration, where the subconscious, dreams, and primal instincts take precedence. The Inside Out Centre encapsulates this philosophy, its very name reflecting the desire to externalise the internal—to render visible the hidden recesses of the mind. This "inside-outness" pervades the Centre's curatorial approach, where exhibitions challenge conventional perspectives, disrupt entrenched ways of seeing, and embrace the unexpected. The works displayed here align with surrealism, art brut, and outsider art, resulting in a disorienting, dreamlike, and immersive experience.

Ballen's distinct artistic vision is also embedded in the architecture of the building, which draws inspiration from Brutalist and Industrial design, reminiscent of Johannesburg's inner city. The exterior appears as a monolithic structure, enclosed by an undulating fence that sparks curiosity. Concrete surfaces—both inside and out cultivate a sense of ambiguity, blurring the boundary between interior and exterior. "I sometimes think that the building looks as though it has been turned 'inside out,"" Ballen remarks, reflecting on the spatial dynamics he developed alongside architect Joe van Rooyen of JVR Architects.

A curving ramp leads visitors toward a discreet entrance, evoking a sense of intrigue and discovery. Once inside, the space reveals its layered complexity—a long ramp guides visitors inward, directing them into a cantilevered volume that seemingly floats above a sunken courtyard. The main

FAST FACTS & TIPS

- The Inside Out Centre is open by appointment from Monday to Friday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. It is closed on weekends and public holidays.
- Children under 14 are not allowed to enter the gallery as some of the subject matter may be frightening to younger patrons.
- The Centre charges a small entrance fee of R150 per person for unlimited viewing pleasure.
- The Centre also hosts talks, live music, and various events. Keep an eye on their socials to stay updated on the next one!

CONTACT DETAILS

- **O** +27 87 700 5998
- Info@insideoutcntr.com



@insideoutcentreInside Out Centre for the Arts exhibition space, dominated by a suspended barrel, elicits multiple associations—it recalls a grain silo, a futuristic pod, or, most fittingly, a canister of film, a subtle nod to Ballen's photographic practice.

Among the Centre's standout exhibitions is "End of the Game", an exploration of Africa's fraught relationship with wildlife and conservation. The exhibition examines the legacy of early twentieth-century hunting safaris, presenting a striking collection of historical objects, texts, and archival imagery. Visitors enter through a documentary section on the upper level, where taxidermy, vitrines filled with ammunition and ivory, and vintage movie posters set the stage for a narrative of conquest and exploitation. A reconstructed hunter's room showcases stark colonial-era photographs, including portraits of figures such as Winston Churchill and Theodore Roosevelt, proudly posed beside their trophies.

Descending into the innermost chamber of the building, visitors encounter a dreamscape—Ballen's large-scale installation. Visitors move from the realm of historical record upstairs into the disquieting subconscious below, where logic dissolves into delirium, mirage, dreams, and nightmares. This theatrical environment blends photographs, taxidermy, and assemblage, creating a haunting, immersive spectacle. Hybrid creatures, artificial and real animals, and human figures populate the scene: a man with detached feet aims a rifle at a bird, while a chained serval and a caged lion cub sit beside a bedridden hunter. Hyenas scramble up the walls, an aardvark and an anteater appear locked in silent dialogue, and a baboon, crouched inside a telephone booth, seems to be making a call.

The exhibition resonates deeply with those planning a safari, a quintessential experience for many travellers in South Africa, However, rather than reinforcing conventional notions of wildlife tourism, it compels visitors to reconsider humanity's relationship with the natural world. "A central challenge in my career has been to locate the animal in the human being and the human being in the animal," Ballen explains. "The rooms that I photograph represent the conflictual relationship between civilisation and nature, where opposites attract and break apart in a world built not on logic, but on irrationality."

Adjacent to the Inside Out Centre of the Arts, a new space is developing: the Roger Ballen Centre for Photography, set to open in September 2025. Unlike the semi-permanent End of the Game exhibition at the Inside Out Centre, the new venue will host shorter, more





frequent exhibitions, showcasing a diverse range of photographic and artistic practices by both emerging and established creatives.

Expanding on the Inside Out Centre's mission, the new centre will feature work across documentary, fashion, fine art, and experimental photography, as well as projects that integrate video, mixed media, and installation artprovided that photography remains central. By inviting photographers, artists, and curators to submit proposals, the Centre aims to support original, conceptually strong, and visually striking exhibitions. With a focus on curatorial experimentation and artistic dialogue, it will become a hub for contemporary photography, where new voices and established practitioners alike can engage with audiences in a fresh and evolving artistic environment.

Whether one is a seasoned art connoisseur or a first-time visitor, the Centre is a captivating destination within Johannesburg's cultural landscape. Whether drawn in by its architectural intrigue, thoughtprovoking exhibitions, or immersive installations, visitors are certain to leave hypnotised and haunted, with a new perspective on the intersection of art, history, and human experience.

Fly into Johannesburg with Proflight Zambia twice daily from Lusaka. Proflight Zambia also operates regular scheduled flights into Lusaka from Cape Town, Kalumbila, Kasama, Livingstone, Mansa, Mfuwe, Ndola and Solwezi. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.





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JISANGU A CELEBRATION OF RESILIENCE AND STYLE

Words by Andrew Chihungu, image by Justine Kunda for Nkwazi Magazine



he Jisangu collection by Chihu Ngu Designs redefines tradition with a contemporary flair, offering meaningful and stylish footwear. Inspired by jisangu—circular wooden ornaments worn on the shin during traditional Luvale dances—this collection celebrates cultural heritage while embracing modern design.

Each pair is crafted from premium Zambian leather sourced from Zamleather and features intricate circular leather-covered accents reminiscent of traditional *jisangu*. Though silent, these decorative elements tell a story of resilience and strength, reflecting the spirit of overcoming challenges and celebrating joy. Traditionally, *jisangu* added rhythm and vibrancy to Luvale dances, symbolising triumph and community.

The collection is more than footwear; it is wearable art bridging the gap between heritage and innovation. Sustainability is also at its core, with recycled rubber from used conveyor belts in the Copperbelt mines incorporated into the designs. This ecoconscious approach highlights the brand's commitment to reducing environmental impact while delivering exceptional craftsmanship.

Whether you're seeking a unique wardrobe addition or a piece that carries a meaningful story, the *Jisangu* collection is a testament to style, culture, and sustainability. Each step tells a story, making these shoes a perfect blend of tradition and modernity.

HOW MUCH? K2000.

ABOUT CHIHU NGU DESIGNS

Chihu Ngu Designs specialises in handmade bespoke footwear, blending traditional craftsmanship with modern design. Led by Andrew Chihungu, a certified artisan through ALLPI, the brand prioritises quality, sustainability, and individuality, featuring premium Zambian leather and eco-conscious materials,

LEATHER CARE

- Wipe your shoes with a soft, damp cloth after each wear and use a leather cleaner monthly.
- Apply a leather conditioner every few weeks to keep the leather supple.
- Store shoes in a cool, dry place with shoe trees to maintain their shape and avoid plastic bags that can trap humidity.

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SALAMATA BALL THE PAN-AFRICAN CEO

Words by Royd Kapesa, images by Dickson Kunyongana for Nkwazi Magazine





recently took a road trip with a foreign friend who remarked that Zambia had more filling station brands than he had expected. Intrigued, he began counting the stations dotted along the highway: 12, 13, 14, and so on. By our next stop, he had counted 22 different filling stations. He turned to me and asked, "How do you choose a filling station when there are so many offering the same product?" My answer: "There may be a lot of brands, but there are only two or three at the top. Most discerning Zambians choose from these because they're trusted for higher quality fuel."

TotalEnergies Zambia is among the top oil marketing companies in the country. For the last 75 years, TotalEnergies has powered Zambian motorists with quality fuel and has been a pioneer of valueadded services, including engine checks, on-the-spot window cleaning, and 24-hour support from the ever-reliable Bonjour convenience stores found at every service station. TotalEnergies has over 65 service stations and directly employs over 180 people in Zambia and over 1000 people across its network of service stations.

I sat down for lunch with Salamata Ball, the Managing Director of TotalEnergies

Zambia, at Tuyo Restaurant in Kabulonga. It is a fresh new spot offering authentic Latin flavours and a vibrant atmosphere. We began our conversation over pulled pork tacos and a colourful, refreshing Peruvian salad.

Salamata is, without doubt, a true pan-Africanist. She is Mauritanian, was born in Senegal, lived in Congo Brazzaville, and attended high school in Togo. She later moved to France, where she completed her undergraduate degree in Business at the renowned HEC Business School in Paris. Her career began in management consulting before pivoting into the finance sector with BNP Paribas. This was a departure from her childhood dream of becoming a doctor.

After her time at BNP, she entered the world of 'Big Oil', where she has spent the last 10 years with TotalEnergies. Her journey has been filled with opportunities for growth, culminating in her first Managing Director assignment at TotalEnergies Malawi. Her rise to MD was relatively swift, a testament to her grit and determination even in the face of personal challenges.

"The ambition and willingness to become MD was always at the back of my mind," she tells me reflectively. "I had been



BUILD YOUR SUPPORT SYSTEM BECAUSE IT'S CRITICAL. BE AUTHENTIC AND MAKE SURE YOU KNOW YOURSELF WELL. AND FINALLY, BE PRAGMATIC.

— Salamata Ball, Managing Director, TotalEnergies Zambia



in the company for four years, and I had just had my son. So I set an appointment with my supervisor and told him my goal was to become Managing Director. He told me I wasn't ready but guided me on how to prepare for the role. Then, he called me a week later and asked if I was ready to go to Malawi as MD." The rest, as they say, is history.

TotalEnergies' leadership in Zambia is rooted in values of safety, respect, unity, performance, and a pioneering spirit. The focus on safety, in particular, cannot be overstated given the environmental impact associated with the oil industry. The infamous BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico remains vivid in many people's minds, and the company has struggled to recover from its consequences.

In contrast, TotalEnergies invests in superior technology and high-quality materials at its service stations. "Our value proposition is about safety, quality, and sustainability. We all build service stations, but we pay attention to the technology we use. For example, we install double-walled underground tanks with secondary protection to prevent leaks," she explains. While most customers may not notice these added layers of safety, they ensure the long-term preservation of both vehicles and the environment.

Beyond providing quality lubricants and fuels, TotalEnergies also impacts the communities it serves. Salamata shares details about the "Young Dealer Programme", which supports entrepreneurial-minded TotalEnergies employees in their aspirations to run their own service stations. Zambia currently has 44 stations operated by these 'young dealers', who receive technical and financial training, team coaching, and operational capital to become fully-fledged business owners.

As one of the growing number of female leaders in Zambia, Salamata is helping shape corporate narratives around gender inclusivity. But she acknowledges that there is still work to be done. "Statistics show that women are 20 percent less likely to be promoted than men, which creates an imbalance," she explains. "For me, it's not about gender, but about delivering beyond expectations and maintaining discipline, focus, and ambition. Sometimes, as women, we are hesitant to express our ambitions and expect others to notice our good work. We need to be bold and ask for those promotions, knowing that inequality exists."

When asked how her team would describe her leadership style, she says, "I think they would call me a participative leader who consults and discusses issues. They would also say I am decisive, focused, and results-oriented." She practises situational leadership, which she applied when she arrived in Zambia during a period of fuel shortages and price increases following the removal of subsidies. "In such situations, you need a more pace-setting approach. The rhythm must be faster, and you need discipline to achieve results sooner."

Outside of work, Salamata finds balance in her family. She enjoys spending time with her husband and two children, who have

FROM THE TOP SHELF:

If Salamata could only read two books for the rest of her life, they would be *Amkoullel*, *the Fula Boy* by Malian author Amadou Hampâté Bâ and *The Promise of Dawn* by Romain Gary.

CHILD OF THE SOIL

Salamata's upbringing and career have taken her across the continent. She is Mauritanian, was born in Senegal lived in Congo Brazzaville, attended high school in Togo, and has worked in Senegal, Morocco, Malawi, and now Zambia.

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

She believes in building a strong support system. From family to work leadership, these are the people who help make success possible.



supported her transitions across Paris, Senegal, Malawi, and Zambia. Her mother, an accountant turned stay-at-home mum, has also been a pillar of support. On each move, her mother spent the first few months helping run the household so that Salamata could focus on settling into work. "If you don't invest in that support system, it is very difficult to succeed, especially as a woman," she says. She also credits her leaders at Total, who encouraged her to settle in before facing the pressure of performance.

Nearly two years into her role, Salamata is thriving. She credits the warmth of the Zambian people with easing her transition. Her upbringing in multiple African countries has sharpened her adaptability, which she sees as a key leadership trait. Food has also been part of her cultural adjustment, particularly





SOMETIMES, AS WOMEN, WE ARE HESITANT TO EXPRESS OUR AMBITIONS AND EXPECT OTHERS TO NOTICE OUR GOOD WORK. WE NEED TO BE BOLD AND ASK FOR THOSE PROMOTIONS.

— Salamata Ball, Managing Director, TotalEnergies Zambia

Zambia's staple, *nshima*. Laughing, she says, "The *nshima*, you mean? I knew about *nshima* before coming here because my parents lived in Zimbabwe. But my kids discovered it here, and now they love it more than rice. I always wonder how people manage to work after eating *nshima* because it's so filling!"

As our conversation comes to a close, I ask Salamata what advice she would give to young people aspiring to leadership. She offers three pieces: "Build your support system because it's critical. Be authentic and make sure you know yourself well. And finally, be pragmatic. Remove the idea of being perfect. You can have it all, just not at the same time."

> AN ADAPTIVE LEADER

Salamata practises a participative and situational leadership style. She balances consultation and collaboration with decisiveness when urgency demands it.

TUYO RESTAURANT

Tuyo has blossomed in the heart of Lusaka, a modern Latin American kitchen and cocktail bar where the lines between food, cocktails, art, and community blur into a vibrant gathering. The scent of freshly grown herbs and vegetables fills the air- from Tuyo's own garden, only steps away from the kitchen. The tables and chairs, sculpted from locally sourced wood, seem to tell stories of the land they come from. Surrounding diners is a gallery of bold, colorful works by local artists, their brushstrokes breathing life into the walls. At Tuyo, every gathering tells a story of cultures meeting, rooted in the soul of Lusaka.

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he early years of a child's life are a critical time for laying the foundation of lifelong learning. The experiences they encounter during these formative years shape not only their cognitive and social development, but also their emotional growth. At the American International School of Lusaka (AISL), the Early Learning Centre (ELC) stands as a beacon of holistic education, fostering an environment of curiosity, creativity, and collaboration.

Drawing inspiration from the Reggio Emilia philosophy and underpinned by the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP), AISL's approach to early childhood education creates a vibrant, nurturing space where young learners explore, inquire, and engage meaningfully with the world around them. Our goal is clear: to ensure that every child not only learns but thrives.

A Play-Based Approach to Learning and Inquiry

Our goal for our early learners is to help them find the space to learn and grow through a play-based approach. We encourage children to engage with their environment, investigate materials, and interact with their peers in hands-on, meaningful ways. This type of inquirybased learning fosters a deep sense of wonder, helping children develop critical thinking, creativity, and resilience – all key skills for lifelong learning.

A Holistic Approach to Child Development

It is our firm belief that as children play, they learn how to learn. This highlights the importance of play in nurturing the whole child. Each child is unique and brings a variety of strengths, interests, and learning preferences to the classroom. Our ELC programme, guided by the PYP framework, provides a balanced mix of structured learning



and open-ended exploration, supporting the development of social, emotional, cognitive, and physical skills.

The focus on social and emotional learning is a cornerstone of our approach. Through interactions with peers and educators, children develop essential skills such as empathy, selfregulation, and collaboration. These competencies not only promote healthy relationships but also lay the groundwork for future academic success.

In addition to core subjects, our ELC students participate in specialist lessons such as visual arts, performing arts, and physical education. Starting in August 2025, the introduction of a dedicated STEAM Lab will provide even more opportunities for inquiry-based learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. This space will nurture problem-solving skills and encourage children to think creatively and innovate. Our goal is to create an environment where children feel inspired to explore, experiment, and take intellectual risks.

STEAM learning aligns perfectly with the way young children naturally engage with the world, guiding them to discover and experiment through hands-on experiences.

A Community of Care and Connection

At AISL, we believe that learning is most effective when it occurs within a strong, supportive community. Our educators are trained to foster a warm, responsive



environment where children feel safe, seen, and valued. The relationships we build with students, families, and the wider AISL community are central to the success of our programme. Parents are encouraged to actively participate in their child's learning journey, reinforcing the belief that education is a shared experience. By working together, we ensure that every child receives the support and encouragement they need to flourish.



Shaping the Future of Early Childhood Learning at AISL

AISL's commitment to early childhood education is continuously evolving. The state-of-the-art STEAM space will further enhance the educational experience for our primary school students, providing them with the tools and opportunities to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills in a dynamic and collaborative environment.

By fostering curiosity, creativity, and collaboration, the Early Learning Centre at AISL is not only preparing young children for academic success but also nurturing a love for learning that will last a lifetime. With dedicated educators, a rich curriculum, and a strong sense of community, AISL is the perfect place for young learners to embark on their educational journey.

Experience the wonder of Early Childhood Education at AISL. Join our vibrant learning community and give your child the best possible foundation for lifelong success.

Joe Buscemi, Primary School Principal, American International School of Lusaka.

For more information:

- www.aislusaka.org
- o admissions@aislusaka.org

CARBON CREDITS ZAMBIA'S UNTAPPED GREEN FORTUNE

Words by Royd Kapesa, images by Nkwazi Magazine



et's face it, nearly everything we do leaves a mark on our planet. Some activities punch above their weight in this department: cruising around in petrol-guzzling SUVs, flicking on switches powered by coal-fired plants, cooking dinner on gas stoves, raising cattle for those weekend steaks, or jetting off on holiday. Each one pumps greenhouse gases (GHGs) into our atmosphere, that cocktail of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and synthetic chemicals we've become all too familiar with.

Sure, some choices tread more lightly. Walking to the corner shop rather than driving, pedalling to work on your bicycle, harnessing the sun or wind for electricity, or buying vegetables from the farmer down the road instead of produce that's circumnavigated the globe. But here's the kicker: absolutely nothing we do comes without some carbon cost attached. Nothing.

Carbon Dioxide: The Climate Villain

Carbon dioxide has become the poster child for climate villains, and with good reason. CO_2 dominates the greenhouse gas conversation partly because of its sheer volume, but more concerning is how its atmospheric concentration continues climbing despite all our climate talks. Think of carbon dioxide as Earth's unwanted winter duvet. It wraps around the planet, trapping heat that would normally escape to space and holding it close.

The consequence? Rising global temperatures. We've branded this as global warming, that persistent, troubling increase in Earth's thermometer readings. Anyone serious about addressing this challenge knows we must confront CO₂ emissions head-on. The clock's ticking.

Pointing Fingers Across the Globe Wondering who created this climate predicament? Trace the emissions trail, and you'll end up at the doorsteps of industrialised economies, predominantly in the Global North. The five biggest carbon producers, namely China, the USA, India, Russia, and Japan, generate an astonishing 60% of worldwide CO₂ output.

The United States holds the historical record, with cumulative emissions since 1750 surpassing 430 billion metric tons – a staggering ecological debt by any measure.

Across the ocean, Africa hosts approximately 17% of the world's population yet produces only 4% of global carbon emissions (as measured in September 2023). The contrast couldn't be starker. Yet here's the bitter truth: African communities bear the brunt of climate disruptions they barely helped create. This climatic unfairness worsens long-standing economic challenges throughout the continent.

Consider 2024's devastating evidence. Much of Sub-Saharan Africa, including Zambia, endured its most severe drought in a hundred years. Crops failed, food security crumbled, and hydroelectric dams — our power lifeline — ran dangerously low, triggering outages that further hampered development.

When Green Meets Money

So what's a developing nation like Zambia supposed to do? How can countries pursue legitimate economic growth while navigating climate catastrophes they didn't create? This is where carbon offsetting and carbon credits enter the picture.

Carbon offsetting operates on a simple premise: emissions from one place (typically wealthy, industrialised countries) can be "balanced out" by investing in projects that reduce carbon production somewhere else (often

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developing nations). Imagine balancing scales of justice for the planet. Pollute here, clean up there, hoping the ledger eventually balances out.

Businesses and wealthy individuals fund these environmental projects and, in return, receive carbon credits. Each credit stands for a metric ton of carbon dioxide (or equivalent gases) that's been cut, prevented, or extracted from our atmosphere.

Trading Thin Air

These credits don't just sit in a drawer somewhere. They're traded on a carbon market that functions much like a stock exchange. Each credit carries a price tag that varies based on the project type. Those that actually remove CO_2 from the atmosphere typically fetch more than those that merely prevent additional emissions.

The buyers? Primarily deep-pocketed companies and individuals from developed countries are scrambling to meet their net-zero promises without actually having to scale back their core operations. Convenient? Absolutely. But also potentially beneficial for countries on the receiving end of these investments.

Zambia's Green Success Stories Carbon projects aren't theoretical possibilities for Zambia — they're already happening on the ground. Various organisations, both homegrown and international, have successfully developed and marketed carbon credits.

Take BioCarbon Partners (BCP), a Zambian firm that's been blazing trails across the country.

Their Luangwa Community Forests Project isn't just any carbon initiative. It scooped up the Best Individual Offsetting Project at the 2023 Environmental Finance Voluntary Carbon Market Awards (think of it as the Oscars of climate finance). Not stopping there, they also nabbed Best Project Developer in the Biodiversity category. Zambian excellence on the global stage.

The project shields a massive 1.2 million hectares from chainsaw and fire — picture roughly 620 million trees standing tall — while transforming life for over 230,000 people living in 17 traditional chiefdoms throughout Luangwa Valley.

This isn't ordinary bush we're talking about. Luangwa stands as one of Africa's last great wilderness areas, where wild dogs still hunt in packs, elephant herds roam freely, and big cats — both leopards and lions — maintain healthy numbers. The valley cradles the Luangwa River, a rare major African waterway that flows uninterrupted by dams.

Yet, this Eden faces serious threats. Trees disappear daily, converted to charcoal or cleared for crops, putting the entire interconnected system at risk — from soil to antelope to apex predators to the communities who've lived there for generations.

Enter BCP's project. By supporting over 60 community scouts, registering more than 1,000 beekeeping farmers, and boosting household incomes by a whopping 220% since its launch, the initiative has transformed local livelihoods. These communities now have a stake in forest conservation because they directly benefit from keeping their forests intact.

Smaller but equally impactful is the Banki Community Forest Management Project under the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project (ZIFLP) in Kasenengwa District. Covering 25 villages and 195 hectares, this grassroots effort received an \$89,000 grant that kickstarted a beekeeping enterprise as an alternative livelihood. The investment included 1,000 beehives, processing equipment, and a solar-powered honey facility with water systems.

The result? A harvest of 845 kg of honey was sold to COMACO, which produces the well-known "*It's Wild*" brand.

To ease pressure on forest resources, the community has also been trained to build energy-efficient cookstoves that use twigs from the forest floor instead of cutting down mature trees. By 2021, nearly 100 households had mastered this skill, helping to preserve the forest cover surrounding their homes.

Zambia's Natural Advantage and Government Support

Our nation possesses what amounts to climate gold: massive forests covering 49 million hectares (bigger than entire European nations), worryingly high deforestation rates (which, strangely enough, make us perfect candidates for funded protection projects), and barely tapped renewable energy sources alongside smarter farming possibilities.

Zambian policymakers clearly see this potential. The 8th National Development Plan and our Green Economy and Climate Act place carbon initiatives front and centre as legitimate tools for generating the investment capital our economy desperately needs. They've even thrown in tax breaks and incentives to entice serious investors into this space.

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PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS BU77WORD OR BUSINESS SENSE?

Words by Kamiza Chikula, image by Chosa Mweemba for Nkwazi Magazine



f we took a random sampling of 100 individuals anywhere in Zambia (possibly on the continent) and gave them a word association test to say the first thing that comes to mind when they hear the term PPP, chances are that more than 80% of the sample would respond with an emphatic "Roads!"

Over the years, PPP (short for Public-Private Partnerships) has somehow become synonymous with road construction. It would appear, though, that this has done a severe disservice to this remarkable model, which is why we would like to venture into the very engine room of PPPs to unravel their inner workings.

What Are Public-Private Partnerships? Distilled to its simplest terms, a PPP is defined as a contractual arrangement between a public authority and a private entity to deliver a public infrastructure project or service. Typically, a significant portion of the financial risk associated with the project is absorbed by the private partner, along with technical, research, and operational risks. The public partner retains project oversight and safeguards overall public interest.

The defining features of PPPs revolve around the aspect of shared risk. The private partner handles financial, construction, and operational risks, while the public partner deals with regulatory and political risks.

Secondly, PPPs are often long-term agreements, generally ranging between 20 and 30 years. During this period, the private partner designs, builds, finances, operates, and maintains the asset. To safeguard the quality of the asset, payments to the private partner are often linked to specific performance standards, which the private partner must strictly adhere to. The relief on the public sector's fiscal burden typically comes in the form of the private partner shouldering a significant portion of the project's financing through private funding.

There are numerous PPP operating models, with no two models being exactly the same. The levels of partner involvement and the amount of risk they shoulder vary depending on the unique requirements of each project.

Types of Public-Private Partnerships

1. Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) The private partner builds and operates the asset for a stipulated period and then transfers ownership to the public sector. An example of this is the Lusaka-Ndola Dual Carriageway (LNDC) Project.

2. Design-Build-Finance-Operate (DBFO)

In this model, the private partner is responsible for the project's life cycle, from design to operation. The Kenneth Kaunda International Airport in Lusaka fits this model perfectly.

3. Concession Agreement (CA)

This model deals with concessions, where the private partner handles the operations of a public asset (such as a tolled road) and collects user fees for a defined period. This is the case in the Zambia Railways network concession, where a private partner manages and operates the network to improve service delivery and infrastructure.

Are Public-Private Partnerships a New Development?

Modern times certainly require modern solutions such as PPPs. Interestingly enough, PPPs are not new. While the current iterations of PPPs possess contemporary nuances, they (in some shape or form) have existed since Roman times.

It is well recorded that the Roman Empire often had private contractors build roads, aqueducts, and public buildings. Nobles and high-ranking officials, too, would fund public works in acts of magnanimity. A famous example is Erastus of Corinth (modern-day southcentral Greece), who funded a paved area northeast of the Theatre of Corinth at his own expense. An inscription dating back to the middle of the first century confirming this was discovered in the late 1920s and 1947.

These informal predecessors to modern PPPs continued through medieval Europe, where private entities operated toll roads and bridges under royal charters. This practice continued well into the 19th century when the construction of railroads and canals in Europe and the United States often involved private companies working under government concessions.

More recent references to PPPs are seen with the increased demand for modern infrastructure in the Global North. Examples include the construction of the Hoover Dam in the United States



in the 1930s, which was a collaborative effort between the federal government and private contractors. Across Europe, private companies were involved in urban infrastructure projects, such as water supply and electricity networks. Like the PPPs we see today, these projects were often ad hoc and lacked the structured risk-sharing mechanisms of modern PPPs.

Public-private partnerships expanded into various sectors in the 21st century, particularly in emerging economies like India, Brazil, and China, using innovative models to address infrastructure gaps. In the 2010s, PPPs evolved with a stronger emphasis on sustainability, cost efficiency, transparency, and social considerations. By the 2020s, they played a crucial role in responding to global challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting vaccine development and healthcare infrastructure.

Additionally, PPPs have been leveraged to finance renewable energy projects and climate-resilient infrastructure, with advancements in technology, such as blockchain and AI, enhancing transparency and efficiency in their implementation.

A Win-Win for Zambia With PPP models fully embraced and being implemented across numerous sectors in Zambia, we stand at the cusp of a great opportunity to better the lives of Zambian communities through collaboration.

Easy wins can be had — a mothers' shelter adjacent to a hospital children's ward, an expansion of a narrow road in a busy neighbourhood, the construction of a sturdy bridge on a seasonally flooded stream or river, or even a green space in the community for children to play safely. The options are limited only by our own imagination.

If the joint desire to make the country better continues to thrive, the public and private sectors hold the keys to making Zambia truly amazing. With governments increasingly turning to private players for financing options to offset fiscal limitations and budgetary constraints, we can safely say PPPs are here to stay.

The model has become globally accepted, and when executed correctly, PPPs can address numerous social challenges through a bona fide, adaptable, and replicable win-win approach. From the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport to community-based initiatives like the Kalingalinga Water Project, Zambia already has successful examples that signal the beginning of greater achievements ahead.

THE FUTURE IS NOW AT TRIDENT COLLEGE

In a quiet corner of Northwestern Province, one school is redefining what it means to be a global citizen in the age of artificial intelligence, whilst staying true to its cultural roots and principles of harmonious living together with nature...

Prepare your children, not for your world, but for the one they will inherit.' This simple mantra has guided the unique approach taken at Trident College Solwezi. While ensuring a holistic education focusing on the core human skills of the future, we have also integrated Artificial Intelligence tools in the classroom setting. Through the implementation of our Bring Your Own Device Policy, each child is encouraged to embrace digital literacy and harness the extraordinary power of All to supercharge their personal learning journey. The use of tools such as ChatGPT, together with focused teaching of its effective management and responsible use, has enabled pupils to utilise the world-famous A.I. engine as a personalised tutor, testing knowledge retention, supporting student-led inquiry, and formulating reading lists to develop core knowledge in their subject studies. Additionally, tools such as Magic School have revolutionised teachers' pedagogical approaches, freeing up more time for the individual interactions with their pupils that characterise quality learning environments.

Additionally, when paired with innovative approaches to curriculum-such as our Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) programme a first in Zambia and possibly Southern Africa. which allows pupils to hyper-personalise their learning in real-world contexts-and our evolving interdisciplinary units, which break down the silos of secondary education to encourage a more heuristic approach to knowledge acquisition, A.I. becomes an extraordinary vehicle for child-centred learning experiences, with the teacher as the mentor and facilitator. Such independent capacity for lifelong learning will be the benchmark of success in a rapidly changing job market.

Of course, as the world moves to an AL-driven economy, there are key skills humans possess that will become increasingly in demand. Critical thinking, empathy, communication, and literacy—and the ability to lead teams of people towards a common purpose—will become the primary skills sought by employers. At Trident College we believe that these soft skills can only be developed as part of a caring, supportive community of the type which embodies traditional Zambian values.

Our 'whole-child' pastoral support system, in which age/stage-specialised tutars monitor every aspect of your child's journey at Trident College, together with our teams of highly trained boarding staff, ensures that they are continually supported and motivated in their personal growth. A culture of service is embedded within the school, serving both the school and local communities, which teaches our pupils humility, a spirit of giving to others, and the understanding that their success is rooted in the societal and familial values that formed them. Every year group undertakes a carefully planned and purposeful camp experience, developing their leadership potential and readying them to be leaders in their chosen careers beyond Trident, driving towards the goals of the 8th Zambian National Development Plan (2022-2026). We do not want our alumni to simply survive when they leave the college-they must be ready to thrive as leaders of industry and global citizens, rooted in a strong sense of identity and community-minded achievement.

Though the world may seem inexorably drawn to technology, we believe balance is the key to healthy, happy lives. While we embrace the digital world within the classroom, we carefully balance our pupils' development with extraordinary experiences in the natural world beyond it. Set in expansive grounds on the edge of a 50-square- kilometre game reserve, our world-class sporting programme fosters elite athletes, and our outdoor education programme ensures that every child feels a deep connection with the natural world. From the 'Head's Hike' to 'Breakfast in the Bush'. from our mountain biking club to the Kansanshi marathon, your child will never be stuck behind a screen for too long. With over a quarter of the school now actively engaged in the world-renowned Duke of Edinburgh Awards, the number of pupils achieving the prestigious Gold Award year-on-year is ever increasing. and there are endless opportunities for them to engage with, celebrate, and fall in love with the unique ecology of Zambia over and over again.

When one thinks of the future and a world of A.I., it is only natural to fear change. But in the timeless words of Joe Vitale, 'You don't fear change—you fear the unknown. If you knew the future would be great, you'd welcome the change to get there. Well, the future IS great. Proceed.' At Trident College, the future is now, and we can't wait to share it with you.







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Yoram Sinyangwe (three A*)

Accepted to UPenn (Ivy League), U.S.A; dual dearee in Mathematics and Chemistry

What have you enjoyed most about your time at Trident? I enjoyed leading through charity and service and being able to start my own book club.



Mapalo Mulenga (two A* and two A)

Destination: Deciding between Princeton and M.I.T.

What have you enjoyed most about vour time at Trident? Trident has been a very supportive environment with both teachers and students helping to bring my ideas to life.

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SOCIAL ETIQUETTE

oney, religion and politics, so the saying goes, should never be discussed in polite company. Some add a fourth - sex - but I doubt most people discuss it, let alone do it, even when alone. This has the cumulative effect of polite company actually being quite boring, not to say unsexy. Especially in a climate where everything is contested; something as innocent as bobbing your head to a Taylor Swift song at your local overpriced café can now be interpreted as a manifestation of 'wokeness,' tangible evidence of the decline of Western civilisation. Her terribly catchy melodies are even 'worse' than the innumerable wars. famines, tit-for-tats, and general skulduggery of our brothers and sisters of the West over the past two hundred years.

Looking around your local expat hangout, it is difficult to see this decline in effect. Western civilisation seems to be all the rage: the distinct twang of Americana, the quaint muddling of English grammar by European tongues, wafts across the café in between Swiftian songs as folks spend a labourer's day wage on a cup of coffee alone. The obvious inequality between patron and staff is brushed over by smiles, generous tips, and sighs of a well-fed, portentous gut. In short, by good social etiquette.

On the global stage, there is a dearth of social etiquette. I have read one too many articles on how the rules of the global geopolitical 'game' have altered since the advent of Trump's second term. Or rather, that there are no rules any longer. A global order that, in the past, provided a sense of regularity to international affairs is now simply the rule of the mighty. And who benefits from this collapse of diplomatic norms and international law? Finally, schoolyard bullies are having their day after years of being pushed to the margins of society, persecuted because of their distinctive and natural leadership style.

I write this column too far in advance to predict what will happen next. In general, my prophecies are restricted to licking my right index finger, sticking my left hand into the air, and flipping a coin to see which way the wind is blowing — just like any other good political scientist. That I am right only 30% of the time is probably the result of some climate change conspiracy peddled by deep state actors who profit from wind turbines in the geopolitically vital nation of Zambia. I couldn't be wrong for any other reason.

On a more fundamental level, however, why should I care what happens next? What has seemed like a pretty uncertain — even ambivalent — existence thus far shows no signs of slowing down. Uncertainty is built into the system, as deranged as the next leader of the free world, almost as unhinged as your Aunt Tracy, who is always threatening to force you to join her Korean church and their cult-like Bible study groups. And so, maybe there's something to being boring. Unsexy has never been so sexy.

Ah, small talk. The oil of the social etiquette machine. The thorn of existence, forever poking you in your buttocks to make sure that you are still awake. Some people hate it so much that, ironically, that's all they talk about. "I just can't stand meaningless conversation," they insist, before launching into a 20-minute monologue about the weather. So, in the end, what is social etiquette if not a finely tuned game of pretending we care? A well-placed nod here, a half-hearted laugh there enough to convince ourselves that civilisation isn't unravelling at the seams.

But perhaps that's the true art of etiquette, Karen: saying you hate small talk and proceeding to tell me, with no particular depth and feeling, how your holiday to that over-subscribed tourist destination somewhere two flights away went, and tipping just enough to soothe your conscience without actually changing anything.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have other things to think about — real things, like: when last did that lazy waitress serve us? Ah, she's avoiding eye contact. Oh well, I'll show her — she'll get no tip. Forget it, I'll make a scene. After all, I need something new to tell Aunt Tracy at next week's Bible study.

ABOUT SEBASTIAN

Sebastian spends his days asking his neighbours to stop playing music so loud, scolding teenagers for wearing their pants below their waist, and watching cable news for at least 10 hours a day.





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NSID

 58. LOST IN
 66. WALKING
 72. NGONI PRIDE
 86. BLUE TRAIN

 TRANSLATION
 IN HOPE
 AND POWER
 TO BOHEMIA



In 1900, the Ncwala ceremony of the Ngoni people was banned under British colonial rule. For 80 years, it was nearly forgotten until its revival in 1980. Witness the spectacular ceremony on page 72.



LOST IN TRANSLATION

"And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." — Genesis 11:6-7.

Words by Mukandi Siame, illustrations by Tsungai Kaunda

loating on a cloud of hope and post-pandemic wanderlust, my most dear friends and I ventured on a girls' trip to Zanzibar. It was 2022, the airport smelt of hand sanitiser, and we kept our masks and vaccine certificates close as we navigated a new form of travel anxiety. From plane to bus to ferry to motorbike, we bartered English for Swahili in a strange land to get what we wanted most: adventure.

If you ask me now, I do not know how we did it. Somehow, we were audacious enough to trek to a strange tourist town, catching and trading words along the way. *Mambo. Habari. Elfi Ngapi. Nzuri. Asante. Baridi* because beer must be cold.

Language is kind to me, so I transposed pieces of KiSwahili I heard in songs to the bazaar as I bargained for trinkets and pieces of art to carry home, and to the night, when adventure called us out to the beach and to the small bars tucked inside the local markets. We wanted to see how residents of the coastal tourist town lived after the ever-smiling business hours.

One Kilimanjaro here, two Tuskers there, and we started to speak with more than words: we spoke with smiles and leaning compliments, offering a new loyalty that would expire at dawn when we retreated to our real lives. On a whim, the DJ, a sinewy man choking a microphone behind a laptop, dared, "Give us a song from Zambia." I froze for a second before I pieced together his meaning; he was not asking me to sing, he was requesting a song.

"Amarula by Roberto!" I shouted. YouTube whirled to life, and without buffering a second, the beat blared through the speakers, pouring its steady bass rhythm into the tiny tavern. Amarula, playing on a loop, lured patrons to sing Nyanja lyrics they could not speak. We left them staggering to the familiar thump when we slipped away into the salty night. I count that moment as my first act of diplomacy.

Language as Identity

It was a restless era; I packed my rucksack and budgeted on the go as I stole pieces of everyone I encountered. Maybe I was finding myself by escaping everything familiar, including language. As our official and global *lingua franca*, English does not command attention like it should. The answer to a greeting is a mechanical "fine", and every positive experience is described as "nice". Outside of English, there are new ways of greeting, new answers and descriptions that sparkle.

In Zambia, most people have the same congenial way of being, but every regional dialect brings something new to the table: "Good morning", when translated well, becomes "How have you risen" or "Did rest find you". It is more poetic and more definitive, and that is why I find that good translation is an art that can enrich English and further our understanding of who we are as indigenous Zambians.

While I explored Zambia, I discovered that our intercity roads have the rhythm of a beating heart, rising to peaks of activity with *bomas*, markets, and agro-dealers before they fall to bush, thickets and wide, quiet expanses of undeveloped land. In between are bright, captivating produce markets, and even when I have no plans to buy, I stop and listen to the eager women who swarm, buzzing in their lyrical pitches, claiming whatever they are selling is the best, sweetest, freshest.

Can I speak Lamba? No, but the women on the Great North Road around Mkushi bring it to me, and I carry it home with their sweet potatoes, mushrooms, *umumbu* and cassava. Back in Lusaka, the freshness disappears and is replaced by the sharp burnt scent of the city. Here, Lusaka combusts the poetry of language into commands. *Muli bwanji* (how are you?) becomes *Bwa* – its brief, quick, capitalist alternative.

In the Beginning was the Word

In the beginning, which for Zambia is 1964, Kenneth Kaunda had a dream, a dream that one day we would be One Zambia, One Nation. This sounds easy in theory, but Zambia is a landlocked nation living with her arms wide open, welcoming refugees and immigrants on the right and aid on the left. I was raised by civil servants and often heard my parents bend their tongues to meet their clients' points of need at the international curb of languages, Home Affairs, while outside, women sold fruit and vegetables in Bemba, Tonga, Chewa, Lozi and Kaonde.

Today, a conversation between my mother and I will often sound like — "Mama, *bushe muli na* gown *yangu ya* black? *Nali ii chefya* to attend a dinner" — it is a multilingual mashup, chasing competence and drama over tribal loyalty. Some words are comfort words, others are phonetically easier, while some are chosen because of family history and inside ways of being.

Zambia was KK's own Tower of Babel. He threaded citizens from every point of the country into the tapestry of one strong, united nation. While geography is the map of language, there are exceptions to the rule. On my travels, I met a man whose opening joke was that his name was HH, Herbert Haazembe. Herbert spoke seven languages and understood nine, Ndebele among them.

Herbert told me about his life around Rhodesia, sending and receiving telegrams through the post office. He laughed about how it would have been cheaper and easier to send "Cow is Dead" instead of the *Ing'ombe Ya Zimina* that his family would understand. He spoke of how Zambia's propensity for asylum and open borders brought Zimbabwean languages into his life through the people who carried them.

Through him, I saw that language could never really be separated from us. When we are angry, happy, in love, or in trouble, our true selves escape and echo through our words. Our thoughts are private, but abrupt triggers like road rage can expose the language of our minds.

The Language of Power

As an ambiguous-looking and sounding Zambian, I say nothing and observe which language people engage with me first. Geography is a reflexive guide for most people, but in a formal setting, English is the top shelf, accessible choice and even people who are not fluent reach for it. English has a religious history for us Zambians, arriving with the missionaries who set up posts and schools to bring us God, western healthcare and education.

Missionaries quickly understood that they needed to learn our mother tongues to be able to spread the good word, so they developed hybrid learning systems to teach Africans scripture. English-speaking settlers relied on the work of missionaries to provide the Africans who worked for them with basic reading, writing and numeracy skills. Under British rule, the few Zambians with a better grasp of the English language than their peers were rewarded with positions in civil service as *kalaiki, kapitano* and

THE IMBUSA RITE IS A TRADITIONAL BEMBA INITIATION CEREMONY FOR YOUNG WOMEN, MARKING THEIR TRANSITION TO WOMANHOOD.

kapaso – clerks, captains and messengers – thus handing them an elevated social status.

Post-independence, the government introduced the New Primary Approach (NPA), which was supposed to enhance English communication skills in learners by emphasising situations and contexts in teaching. This emphasised group work among learners rather than the teacher being at the centre of the lesson. It further proposed that this teaching approach promoted the 'Zambianisation' of English as learners developed their accents, often quite different from their (white) teachers. But in 1966, the Ministry of Education issued a policy document (Educating Our Future: National Policy on Education) which retained the use of English as the official language of classroom instruction. This still stands today, and it is no wonder that English is aspirational and remains viewed as the language of the enlightened.

Contextual Vulnerability

Orthographically, Zambian languages are very different. Bemba, for example, has many fused words and nasal pronunciations that are fundamentally different from how words are fused and pronounced in Tonga. To unite a nation and ensure literacy, it is clear to see how English was the practical choice at the time. Language is flexible, altering itself to its environment. This can be seen in the linguistic flexibility of the urban Nyanja of Lusaka Province and the urban Bemba of the Copperbelt.

When left to our own devices, we experiment and alter language as we seek out understanding. In the hum of a market in Lusaka, I am greeted with city Nyanja, and whenever I respond in English, I am labelled *Ba Some Of Us* and pay for it with higher prices and reluctant negotiation. Elders defer to whatever they assume my mother tongue is among the top seven — nobody has ever guessed that I am Namwanga, a smaller, less prominent tribe from the North. Few people speak it, and even I only have the chance to when I giggle into the phone to Nakamba, my grandmother.

If language had the resistance of brick and mortar, we would have built it in concrete and saved our meanings and intentions forever. The Egyptians tried, and even that didn't hold. Unlike other tangible parts of us, language has no measurable beginning





or end and, as a result, cannot have a determining expert. No human is above the other; similarly, no language is above the other, but each has a specific role it plays in service to the equilibrium of the whole.

Economics and mathematics both have finite ends and objective means of determining who is qualified to decide what is good and bad. Language is too intimate and vulnerable for this. A made-up word between lovers or the babbling of a baby is just as valid as a cliché written into a policy.

The Tower of Babel is a story from the Book of Genesis in the Bible that narrates how humanity, speaking a single language, had an ambition to build a tower to heaven and make a name for themselves. God interfered by planting new languages among them, scattering their own. It was not their national development plan that was wrong; their new inability to understand each other was the seed of their doom. God's strategy was genius.

Language is flexible by nature, and this is the source of its strength and fragility. When something is wrong in a written code, technology glitches and crashes, but language can resuscitate and remould itself even in its most broken form. Language can decay, but it is full of tangible intangibles that can make it live on. The wrong hand gesture can render an eloquent speech untrue, while a well-placed nod can foster trust and loyalty.

Through Bemba marriage rites, we are exposed to how Zambian languages are more than mere communication tools; they are vessels of culture, history, and identity. The *Cisungu* and *Imbusa* are rites of passage deeply rooted in oral traditions, with teachings imparted through dance, song, and storytelling. Each symbolic act is loaded with meaning, and the teachings are not merely academic; they are experiential, transmitted through shared language and context.

Their true meaning may carry connotations of violence or malevolence when translated because history, ancestry, spiritual

KK'S VISION WAS TO UNITE ZAMBIA'S DIVERSE LINGUISTIC GROUPS UNDER A COMMON IDENTITY. THROUGH POLICIES PROMOTING NATIONAL COHESION AND EDUCATION, KAUNDA SUCCESSFULLY FOSTERED UNITY AND STRENGTHENED NATIONAL IDENTITY. guidance and protection have different importance in indigenous languages. During *Ukusanshya Amafunde*, the bride and groom are encouraged to share what they have been taught, and there is no obscenity in the overt sexuality and intimacy of their teachings. Such lessons can lose their depth, and their meaning can be altered when translated. This demonstrates that at some point, we have to accept that some indigenous experiences have no English equivalent and vice versa.

Code Switching

"The most basic of all human needs is to understand and to be understood." — Dr Ralph G. Nichols

For hospitality, self-defence and personal enrichment, we adapt our language patterns to bridge with others and show that we have no intentions to harm or be harmed. We speak from what is available and accessible, and that is why some languages prevail over others. Exposure plays a huge role in the life cycle of a language. English, while widely used as a medium of instruction, does not always carry the full emotional range or cultural context found in indigenous Zambian languages. That is not a bad thing.

In an extensive Saturday morning conversation, Professor Serpell shared enlightening insights about the progression of language in a person's lifetime and how the words we use interact closely with who we are. We explored why some people are more comfortable delegating responsibility or expressing frustration in English than in their Zambian languages. This is not merely about competency; context, values and intention influence language as much as education does.

Informal means of expression have crept their way into academic papers with their translation based on intention rather than objective meaning. Saying that someone "is no longer with us" is softer and kinder than saying they are dead, and this is something that is reflected in both English and indigenous Zambian languages.

Language as Bridge

What I have come to understand through my journeys – across Zambia and foreign shores – is that language is both a barrier and a bridge. When Roberto's *Amarula* had Tanzanians singing Nyanja words they did not understand, something magical happened: a connection without literal comprehension. Similarly, when I carry home Lamba phrases with my sweet potatoes from Mkushi, I am transporting more than words – I am bringing back cultural context, human warmth, and a sense of belonging.

Our multilingual reality in Zambia is not a problem to be solved but a richness to be celebrated. The code-switching, the urban evolutions of traditional languages, the melding of English with indigenous expressions – these are not signs of linguistic degradation but of cultural vitality. Like Herbert Haazembe with his seven spoken languages, we navigate multiple worlds through our words, each offering a different facet of identity and understanding.

In the end, KK's Babel has succeeded, expanding horizontally, creating connections across landscapes, generations, and cultural boundaries. How we say things and when we say them can matter as much as how we squeeze out toothpaste, but whether we decide to let that unite or divide us is entirely up to us. We are in charge, after all, so let us talk.

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THE DORA NYAMBE MOONO LEGACY

Words by Precious Mwansa-Chisha, Images courtesy of Bich'ri Photography

My story begins on a bus ride from a city called Kapiri to a village... after being invited by my friend... who wanted to visit her parents in a remote village called Mapapa in Mkushi, Zambia.

The first thing she did as we got on the bus was give me a headwrap. I was very confused as to why I needed it, but I took it anyway and wrapped it around my head. Thirty minutes into the bus ride, I found out that the road was very uneven. It had potholes, protruding stones, and fallen trees that made driving very difficult. Dust would emerge from the bottom of the bus, causing everyone to look like they had just survived a sandstorm. Our bus sat 15 people, but the conductor kept adding more along the way. It reminded me of the saying: 'How many people can fit in a Zambian bus?' The answer is one more.

- Excerpt from Life with Dora, by Dora Moono Nyambe

he dirt road to Mapapa Village snakes 65 kilometres from the nearest highway, cutting through Zambia's Luano District like a forgotten path to nowhere. In this place, where power lines don't reach and modern comforts don't exist, a young woman showed up with just a teaching certificate and a crazy dream.

This is where Dora Moono Nyambe decided to make her stand.

If you've scrolled through TikTok lately, you probably know Dora from her contagious energy that somehow jumped right through your screen. She had this way of radiating pure joy despite standing in the most basic surroundings. Sure, her goofy dance moves and honest talks drew people in, but that was just the tip of something much bigger: a burning passion for helping vulnerable kids that ended up transforming hundreds of lives. I don't usually fall for social media stars, but the flood of grief somehow made it into my feed anyway. I guess I'm not alone in sadly discovering her incredible work only after she died at just 32, leaving me wondering how someone I never actually met could leave such a hole in my heart.

"Who was Dora?" I kept asking myself, "And why should we care about her story?"

It starts on the edges of the Chibombo District, where Dora grew up facing her own struggles. Even then, something special was brewing inside her. By 22, she'd already adopted her first child — an early sign of the road she'd take. Twelve more adoptions followed, each showing a conviction that couldn't be faked.

From early on, Dora showed this genuine love for nurturing young minds. Believing deep down she could make a difference, she decided to become a teacher. After finishing at



Immaculata Teaching College in Kabwe, Dora planned to process her visa and start fresh abroad with her kids. Instead, visiting Mapapa Village with a friend completely changed her course. Seeing children with no access to school, unable to read or write, trapped in abusive situations, she didn't just feel bad. She took action.

Her first classroom? The shade under a big tree. Her students wrote in the dirt and counted with sticks and stones. Her resources? Whatever savings she had, help from close family friends, and anything she could scrounge up for free. Her home? A mud hut without electricity that served as a classroom by day and a living space by night.

This wasn't your typical charity work. This was full immersion: a deliberate choice to live right alongside those she wanted to help, making their challenges her own.

What drove such dedication? Dora often talked about kindness she'd received in her childhood from missionaries, especially Timothy Keller and his family. Their generosity created a ripple that Dora turned into a wave, showing how one compassionate act can echo across generations.

Her work faced major hurdles. In rural Zambia, like many parts of Africa, child marriages aren't just traditions. They're economic survival tactics. Desperate families sometimes view early marriages as solutions to poverty, with bride prices providing immediate financial relief. Add dangerous myths, like the belief that sex with virgins can cure HIV/AIDS, and the challenge becomes even more overwhelming.

Dora tackled these deep-rooted practices by offering alternatives. She knew that education alone wasn't enough. These kids needed everything: shelter, food, healthcare, and most importantly, a sense that better things were possible.

Just as her mission grew beyond what one person could fund, Dora discovered TikTok through one of her daughters. They made dance videos together at first, but feeling a strong need to be Dora's first classroom was under a tree. When the rains came, she had to consider pausing classes, and her students risked missing both lessons and meals. authentic, Dora started sharing her daily village life: feeding children and rescuing girls from abuse and forced marriages. Her authenticity, not polished content, connected with viewers worldwide. Soon, four million followers were watching daily life in Mapapa, and many became invested in its transformation. Her first GoFundMe campaign helped install four water pumps for the village and two for the school. Crowdfunding later enabled her to build classrooms and safe houses for girls rescued from abuse.

By 2020, what began under that tree had evolved into Footprints of Hope, a boarding school created as a haven for vulnerable children. Through crowdfunding partnerships, including Beast Philanthropy (founded by YouTube creator Mr Beast), Dora secured funding for wells, safe houses, a clinic, playgrounds, and resources to In October 2019, Dora made the decision to move to Mapapa with her 12 children, foregoing her visa to start a new life abroad with her family.





feed, clothe, house, educate, provide healthcare and rescue child brides.

The numbers tell part of it: 500 children fostered or adopted, thousands more educated, an entire community lifted up. But statistics can't capture the fundamental shift in expectations. Dora's presence in Mapapa redefined what seemed possible.

When news of her death spread, people immediately asked: "What happens now?" The answer lies in the strength of what she built. Today, Dora's team at Footprints of Hope, her family, cofounder Ronald Sinkala, and the Ministry of Community Development continue to advance her vision. The recent formation of a board of directors should improve operations at Footprints of Hope as well. Donors have promised ongoing support, including teachers and a school bus. This is proof that the seeds Dora planted will keep growing. There's something distinctly Zambian about Dora's story. It embodies the *ubuntu* philosophy that recognises our shared humanity. Yet it crosses all borders, speaking to universal truths about purpose and potential.

If her story moves you, consider becoming part of its continuation. Support Footprints of Hope through donations, child sponsorship, or simply by sharing Dora's story. Every contribution extends the ripple effect she started, the same philosophy that guided her remarkable life.

In a world that often measures success by what we own, Dora offers a different yardstick: the lives we touch, the possibilities we create, and the hope we leave behind. By that measure, her 32 years were incredibly rich. So don't wait. Chase your purpose today.

And that's why her story matters to all of us.

As GoFundMe is not available in Zambia, Dora had to rely on friends and family abroad to open the accounts on her behalf, allowing her to crowdfund her organisation.



Support Dora's Legacy

Dora Moono Nyambe's work continues through Footprints of Hope. The children she dedicated her life to still need education, shelter, and care. To support this vital mission and help ensure Dora's vision lives on, kindly contact Ronald Sinkala (+2609778786890) or Natasha Barr (+27824682865). Or you can email info@fohz.org or ronald. corporateservices@gmail.com or follow @doramoono on TikTok for donation information. Every contribution helps maintain the ripple effect that Dora started in Mapapa Village.




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Every year, Ngoni boys look forward to their moment of transformation during the sacred uMkhosi weNcwala ceremony. This rite of passage marks their initiation into manhood, a vital part of Ngoni tradition, connecting them to their ancestors and their warrior heritage.

Zambia is home to the largest concentration of Ngoni people in Africa, followed by Malawi. The Zambian Ngonis were founded by Mphezeni I's first-born son, while the Ngonis of Malawi are a result of his brother's resettlement in the area.



t 05:00 on a wet morning, as Nthonga lay peacefully sleeping, a hand stole over his shoulder in the half-light and gently shook him awake. Stirring slowly, Nthonga rolled over to raise eyes still heavy with sleep to meet his father's. "Today is the day, my son, we see the king today." Nthonga smiled and sleepily nodded his head.

Every February, for five long years since he was born, he had watched his father drape the leopard pelt that represented power and the king of the forest across his shoulders, and sling the animal hide shield over his back, before heading to the arena to honour the king and thank the ancestors for the harvest during uMkhosi weNcwala, the sacred firstfruits ceremony. The name itself came from the spotted *iNxwala* fruit, whose ripening announced the season and formed a crucial part of the king's ritual preparations. Nthonga would hand him his metal-tipped spear, a reminder of who they were, at the door of the house where his mother would be waiting, beaming proudly at her husband as he knelt before her. She crowned him with the Ngoni headpiece, the mark of a great warrior.







Nthonga longed for the day when he too would become a warrior and show his loyalty to the king. Like all Ngoni boys in Zambia, home to Africa's largest Ngoni population, he had been learning the traditional dances since he could stand. Every day and every year since he could walk, his father would teach him the great Ngoni *ingoma* dance as he retold the story of where Nthonga came from.

"In 1819, over 200 years ago," his father would say, as the great fire roared before them, "your great ancestor Zwangendaba of the Nguni clan fought the king of Zululand, Shaka, who had grown too strong and was defeated. When Zwangendaba saw this, he decided to create his own kingdom, and with his followers, he left his ancestral home

uMkhosi weNcwala, the first fruit harvest, preceded records of Shaka Zulu's birth and the formation of the Ngoni nation. Although its practice has since ended elsewhere, Zambia and eSwatini are the only groups still performing the ceremony.









The Ngoni nation is an amalgamation of several tribes and sub-tribes absorbed into the kingdom during Zwangendaba's trek, including the Kalanga in Zimbabwe, Bishongwe in eSwatini, and the Tsonga of Mozambique. The Ngoni encompass southern Africa as far north as Burundi.

in Ndwandwe (present-day KwaZulu-Natal), where the great bull grunts and paws the ground. Zwangendaba took his wives and cattle and traversed the great land to the north. As he passed through modern-day eSwatini, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania, he absorbed tribes, marrying their women and drafting their men, building the great Ngoni nation as he went."

"When he came to the banks of the Great Zambezi where it met the Luangwa River, he parted the waters and crossed into our new homeland to this place we call Ngoniland. We lived peacefully, defending our lands against those who sought our cattle and people. In 1898, the settlers came and tried to take our lands and ban our culture. but we are the blood of warriors, and we rebelled. Every year since, we have continued to gather at the great river Zambezi and this year, we will cross over to remember when Zwangendaba led us into our new homeland, and we honour our Inkosi Yamakhosi and our ancestors for protecting us and giving us our harvest. If you practise hard and learn our culture, when you turn six years old, I will present you to our king, and you will become a warrior like your brothers."

What his father didn't tell him was that they were among the last guardians of this ancient tradition. Only here in Zambia and eSwatini did the Ngoni people still practise *uMkhosi weNcwala* in its traditional form, a ceremony whose roots stretched back even before







The *uMkhosi weNcwala* ceremony derives its name from the *iNxwala* fruit: a spotted melon-like fruit whose ripening marks the season and forms an important part of a potion that the king consumes during his three-day fast.

the birth of the legendary Shaka Zulu. Here, the ceremony had evolved into a unique celebration, blending three sacred rites: the boy's initiation into manhood, thanksgiving for the first harvest, and for the first time since 1835, the commemoration of their ancestors' historic crossing of the Zambezi.

Nthonga would listen, enthralled. Between school and his chores, he would re-enact his history with stomps, kicks, and leaps, beating the air with his club as he prepared for the day the king would finally see him. The king, *Inyandezulu Inkosi Yamakhosi* Mphezeni KaZwangendaba, Njengembaso Mphezeni IV, would travel from his palace in eKuphendukeni to eLaweni, where he would remain secluded for three days to rebirth and receive new power from the great Nkulukulu. During this sacred seclusion, the king would consume a potent mixture containing the ceremonial *iNxwala* fruit, connecting him to the ancient wisdom of his predecessors.

Here in eMutenguleni, the capital of Ngoniland, he would receive the other visiting Ngoni tribes and give thanks to the ancestors. Ngoni visitors would come from across southern Africa, some from as far as Malawi, where Mphezeni I's second son had established another Ngoni kingdom generations ago. As Nthonga stood silently in the arena alongside his brothers, he watched as his newly initiated brothers slaughtered the great bull, black without blemish, with their spears to show the king that they were now men prepared for battle. The bull kicked violently but soon stilled, and his father adeptly butchered it, allowing the blood to drain into a bowl and placing the choice pieces on the holy fire.

There was silence as the meat and blood were presented to the king. Once he accepted the offering, the thanksgiving would begin. Brothers and sisters from the Ngoni kingdoms of southern Africa, clad in all colours, beads, and spears, performed their rites before their kings and chiefs. They represented an amalgamation of peoples, once separate tribes like the Kalanga, Bishongwe, and Tsonga, now united under the Ngoni identity through Zwangendaba's great migration. Though originally known as Nguni in their southern homeland, they had become Ngoni through the natural evolution of language as they settled in new lands.

Nthonga watched, heart beating rapidly, awaiting his turn. Today, he would show all the united Ngoni of Africa his pride and his power and become a warrior in his king's army, just like his father, just like the great Zwangendaba. To keep tradition alive, the Ngoni require that boys learn their culture and traditional dances as soon as they can stand or walk. With regular practice, they eventually perform in the ceremony into manhood.



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BUE TRANS TO BOHENIA

Words by Shilika Chisoko, images courtesy of Inkbox Art Gallery and Olympia Cafe and Bakery

A Pilguimage to Kalk Bay

Kalk Bay's unique bohemian vibe has attracted a mix of artists, writers, and locals, creating a vibrant cultural scene. The town's history, blending indigenous, European, and South-East Asian influences, adds depth to its creative community. Iconic Blue Train Ride: The Blue Train, recently revived, offers a scenic route to Kalk Bay, passing through the picturesque Cape Peninsula. This rail journey, filled with history and charm, makes the town accessible in a unique and nostalgic way.

alk Bay is not the most popular Western Cape tourist destination, but I found myself planning a trip after watching a convincing number of TikTok videos. A bunch of students had discovered the Blue Train to Kalk Bay and were eager to explore. It was as if Capetonians had just struck gold, and I was keen for a slice of the excitement.

Aside from the frenzy, I had been drawn to this quaint hamlet along the False Bay side of the Cape Peninsula after hearing locals describe it as a place with a bohemian feel and rich cultural heritage. My research revealed a charming town that has attracted a mix of people since the 18th century: a true melting pot influenced by indigenous, South-East Asian, and European communities who have called Kalk Bay home over the last few centuries.

There are three ways to reach this coastal village: by car along the scenic peninsula drive, as part of an organised tour, or via the Blue Train from Cape Town. I opted for the train, wanting to experience the charm of the recently revived Blue Train. The route passes through industrial-looking Woodstock, then Rosebank and Rondebosch with their Victorian-style houses and abundant greenery, before reaching Muizenberg Station, where hordes of surfers dot the area close to the tracks.



Finally, the train pulled into the sleepy but lively Kalk Bay.

As I stepped onto the platform, I immediately recognised Dutch-style architecture, a familiar marker of the Western Cape. However, the energy in the town was unlike any I had encountered in the province. Kalk Bay has a calm yet chaotic atmosphere, with its sleepy energy met by an eclectic set of individuals. The historical roots of the town run deep. Evidence suggests the *Khoisan* had been living here for centuries before the first known record of Kalk Bay in November 1687, when an explorer named Simon van der Stel visited the False Bay area.

Walking along the main road, I struck up a conversation with a burly fisherman who explained how the town got its name. "The first colonists were lime workers," he told me. "They processed large quantities of seashells into lime - kalk in Dutch - and that's where



the name comes from." He gestured towards the sheltered bay, pointing out features that have attracted settlement for centuries: the relative wind shelter, warm north-facing slopes, the small inlet and beach, and, of course, the abundant seafood along the shoreline.

My morning explorations had drained my energy, and I started to crave sustenance. I headed to a local favourite: Olympia Café and Bakery. The cosy establishment opened in November 1997 after the owner, Kenneth McClarty, famously wanted a flat white but "couldn't find a cappuccino for love or money anywhere on the South Peninsula," as their website wryly claims. The café was born from an old fish-andbait shop and has become beloved by locals and tourists alike.

Inside, I was subsumed by the aroma of freshly baked goods. I ordered one of their famously buttery croissants and a flat white, watching a carousel of individuals wafting in and out of the café. As they came in and got their fill. I assigned them different characters. Some looked like writers and painters, others government workers and lawyers, each carrying a unique air of purpose. For my main course, I could not resist trying their renowned Linguine di Mare, which the waiter said was a crowd favourite. The pasta arrived steaming, laden with fresh seafood that had likely been swimming in False Bay just hours earlier.

The intensity of the sun greeted my scalp, letting me know it was midday. I was ready to explore more of what Kalk Bay had to offer. Following the cobblestone streets, I noticed artisanal stores and antique shops, each with its own quirky charm. Right next to Established as a fishing town, Kalk Bay's harbour remains a hub of activity, preserving its deep-rooted fishing heritage. The town is known for its colourful fishing boats and the bustling fish market, which still thrives today. Established as a fishing town, Kalk Bay's harbour remains a hub of activity, preserving its deeprooted fishing heritage. The town is known for its colourful fishing boats and the bustling fish market, which still thrives today.



Olympia Café, I discovered a steep flight of mosaiced stairs. I felt like I was discovering a long-forgotten secret society as I climbed. At the top was a gate adorned with an adorable cowbell. I rang the bell and stepped into a light and airy gallery filled with a marvellous mix of ceramics, jewellery, textiles, and contemporary South African art. This gallery was Kalk Bay Modern. Vibrant paintings by artists such as John Murray were complemented by rustic ceramics, neat sculptures, and colourful cushions housed in the gallery.

Late afternoon was setting in as I made my way to the photo-famous Dalebrook Tidal Pool, described by many as "one of the most beautiful pools in False Bay." Even though it was a weekday, the pool attracted a diverse crowd: elderly swimmers doing methodical laps alongside playing children and sunbathing adults. The east-facing pool made it an optimal spot to watch the sunrise, I was told. Luck was not on my side that day, as the mountains blocked much of the afternoon sun.

"If you want a less crowded alternative, try Wooley's Tidal Pool between here and Fish Hoek," suggested a woman who noticed me taking photos. "It's just as beautiful but not as well-known. The best times are early mornings and evenings for spectacular views. You might even encounter some small, harmless marine life."

I headed to the Chardonnay Deli at Kalk Bay for a late lunch, situated across from Dalebrook Tidal Pool. The seaside café's unassuming décor gave prominence to the food, exactly as a friend of mine had described it. I browsed their grab-andgo options before settling on one of their protein-rich salads featuring fresh seafood. Sitting at an outdoor table, I enjoyed my meal with a view of the pool I had just visited.

Still on a voyage to discover more art, I made my way to the electric Ink Box Art Gallery, tucked into an aptly named alleyway called Memory Lane, just off Main Road. The gallery's dynamic and thought-provoking exhibitions featured artists whose work was just as subversive as it was spectacular. This emphasis on eclectic beauty reflected the very essence of Kalk Bay's spirit.



The spirit of this place," he told me, "it never changed. Simple but energetic – you can still feel it today.

Evening was creeping up on me when I made my way to the harbour to witness the town's fishing heritage firsthand. Kalk Bay was established as a fishing town when different groups of people were united by their love of fishing, and this tradition continues today. At the harbour, I found Kalkys, a restaurant well-loved by residents of Kalk Bay. The menu hung on the wall, allowing customers to decide on their orders while queuing. Though tempted by their peri-peri prawns (a dish reflecting the town's multicultural background), I decided to save my appetite for dinner.

To round out my Kalk Bay experience, I treated myself to an upscale meal at Harbour House. This luxurious seaside restaurant specialises in seafood and boasts an extensive wine list filled with selections of MCCs, Pinotage, Shiraz, Rosés, and others, mostly sourced from the wine-rich Western Cape region. I splurged on grilled crayfish, paired with a silky chardonnay while watching the sunset paint the sky in spectacular hues.

My waiter shared that even during the height of apartheid, Kalk Bay remained a racially diverse and vibrant fishing town. "The spirit of this place," he told me, "it never changed. Simple but energetic — you can still feel it today."

I rushed to get the train back to Cape Town as night fell. I reflected on my day in this remarkable coastal village on my way back. Kalk Bay's charm and magic exist beyond the few places I had managed to visit. Though small, the town buzzes with life and creativity, a place where the past and present exist in harmonious balance.

For travellers looking to play, lounge, or do both, Kalk Bay offers something truly special: an authentic slice of Cape Town life that most tourists never experience. Whether taking a dip in the picturesque tidal pools, visiting the quirky museums and galleries, or feasting on irresistible local cuisine, this bohemian fishing village promises experiences that will linger in your memory long after you have left its cobblestone streets behind.

On your next Cape Town adventure, consider stepping off the welltrodden tourist path. In Kalk Bay, you will discover a community that has maintained its unique identity through centuries of change — a rare authenticity that no travel brochure could fully capture.

Fly direct into Cape Town with Proflight Zambia twice weekly from Lusaka and Livingstone. Proflight Zambia also operates regular scheduled flights into Lusaka from Cape Town, Kalumbila, Kasama, Livingstone, Mansa, Mfuwe, Ndola and Solwezi. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.



92. FLIGHT SCHEDULE • 94. NEWS • 99. ROUTE MAP • 101. FLEET • 102. FAQ • 103. PROHIBITED GOODS



Your place for all things Proflight, from news updates to fleet and customs information.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

LUSAKA - JOHANNESBURG

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 020 | 08:15 | 10:15 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 024 | 11:00 | 13:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

NDOLA - JOHANNESBURG (VIA LUSAKA)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|---------|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 311/020 | 06:30 | 10:15 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 303/024 | 09:00 | 13:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | |

LUSAKA - CAPE TOWN (VIA LIVINGSTONE STOPOVER)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 050 | 06:40 | 11:10 | | | | • | | | • |

LIVINGSTONE - CAPE TOWN

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 050 | 08:10 | 11:10 | | | | • | | | • | |

LUSAKA - LIVINGSTONE (MAY)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 700 | 06:55 | 08:05 | | • | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 704 | 10:35 | 11:45 | • | | • | • | • | • | • |

LUSAKA - LIVINGSTONE (JUN)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 700 | 06:55 | 08:05 | | • | | | • | | |
| 704 | 10:35 | 11:45 | • | | • | • | • | • | • |
| 708 | 16:35 | 17:45 | • | • | • | • | | • | • |

LUSAKA - SOLWEZI

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 930 | 06:30 | 07:30 | • | • | • | • | | • | |
| 910 | 06:50 | 08:00 | | | | | • | | • |
| 936 | 15:10 | 16:10 | | • | • | • | • | | • |
| 916 | 15:00 | 16:10 | | | | | | • | |
| 918 | 16:00 | 17:00 | • | | | | | | |

LUSAKA - NDOLA

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 310 | 05:15 | 06:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 302 | 07:50 | 08:35 | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| 334 | 10:15 | 11:00 | • | | • | | • | • | |
| 304 | 12:20 | 13:05 | | • | | • | | | • |
| 306 | 14:00 | 14:45 | | | | | • | | • |
| 308 | 17:00 | 17:45 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

JOHANNESBURG - LUSAKA

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 023 | 12:00 | 14:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 025 | 14:00 | 16:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

JOHANNESBURG - NDOLA (VIA LUSAKA)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | |
|---------|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 025/308 | 14:00 | 17:45 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | |

CAPE TOWN - LUSAKA (VIA LIVINGSTONE STOPOVER)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 051 | 12:00 | 16:20 | | | | • | | | • |

CAPE TOWN - LIVINGSTONE

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 051 | 12:00 | 14:50 | | | | • | | | • |

LIVINGSTONE - LUSAKA (MAY)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 701 | 08:40 | 09:50 | | • | | | | | |
| | | | - | | | - | - | _ | _ |
| 705 | 12:20 | 13:30 | • | | • | • | • | • | • |

LIVINGSTONE - LUSAKA (JUN)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 701 | 08:40 | 09:50 | | • | | | • | | |
| 705 | 12:20 | 13:30 | • | | • | • | • | • | • |
| 709 | 18:25 | 19:35 | • | • | • | • | | • | • |

SOLWEZI - LUSAKA

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 930 | 07:55 | 09:45 | • | • | • | • | | • | |
| 911 | 08:40 | 09:50 | | | | | • | | • |
| 936 | 16:35 | 18:25 | | • | • | • | • | | • |
| 917 | 16:50 | 18:00 | | | | | | • | |
| 919 | 17:30 | 18:30 | • | | | | | | |

NDOLA - LUSAKA

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 311 | 06:30 | 07:15 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 303 | 09:10 | 09:55 | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| 335 | 13:45 | 14:30 | • | | • | | • | • | |
| 305 | 13:40 | 14:25 | | • | | • | | | • |
| 307 | 15:15 | 16:00 | | | | | • | | • |
| 309 | 18:20 | 19:05 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

| # | DEP | ARR | М | т | W | Т | F | S | S | # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | т | F | S | |
|----------|------------|-------------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------|------------|--------------------|-----------|---|------|---|---|---|---|
| 800 | 06:55 | 08:05 | | | | | • | | | 801 | 08:40 | 09:50 | | | | | • | | |
| 804 | 10:35 | 11:45 | • | • | • | • | | • | • | 805 | 12:20 | 13:30 | • | • | • | • | | • | |
| 808 | 16:35 | 17:45 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 809 | 18:20 | 19:30 | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| USA | (A - JEKI, | /ROYAL (/ | MAY) | | | | | | | JEKI/F | ROYAL - I | | MAY) | | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | |
| 614 | 14:00 | 14:35/15:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 614 | 14:50/15:: | 5 15:50 | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| LUSAK | (A - JEKI | /ROYAL () | UN) | | | | | | | IEKI/F | ROYAL - I | | IUN) | | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | ,,: # | DEP | ARR | M | т | W | Т | F | S | |
| 620 | 07:20 0 | 07:55/08:20 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 621 | 12:30/12:5 | | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| 616 | 15:00 1 | 5:35/16:00 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | 616 | 15:50/16:2 | 5 16:50 | • | • | • | • | • | • | |
| | | | | | | | | | | MELIN | | /ROYAL (| | | | | | | |
| JENI/R | DEP | ARR | UN) M | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | MF0V # | DEP | | JUN) M | т | \A/- | т | F | c | |
| # 620 | 08:10/08:3 | | • | • | • | • | • | - | • | # 621 | | ARR 12:15/12:40 | | T | W | T | F | S | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | | |
| | (A - KAL | - | | | | | | | | | MBILA - | | | | | | | | _ |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | |
| 930 | 06:30 | 08:20 | • | • | • | • | | • | | 930 | 08:45 | 09:45 | • | • | • | • | | • | |
| 950 | 06:30 | 07:45 | | | | | • | | | 951 | 08:20 | 09:35 | | | | | • | | |
| 936 | 15:10 | 17:00 | | • | • | • | • | | • | 936 | 17:25 | 18:25 | | • | • | • | • | | |
| 956 | 15:40 | 16:55 | • | | | | | | | 957 | 17:30 | 18:45 | • | | | | | | |
| LUSA | (A - KAS | AMA | | | | | | | | KASA | MA - LU | SAKA | | | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | |
| 440 | 07:55 | 09:30 | | • | | • | | | • | 441 | 10:05 | 11:40 | | • | | • | | | |
| LUSA | (A - MAN | NSA | | | | | | | | MANS | SA - LUS | AKA | | | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | |
| 334 | 10:15 | 12:05 | • | | • | | • | • | | 335 | 12:40 | 14:30 | • | | • | | • | • | |
| NDOL | A - MAN | SA | | | | | | | | MANS | SA - NDC | DLA | | | | _ | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S | # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | |
| | 11:25 | 12:05 | • | | • | | • | • | | 335 | 12:40 | 13:20 | • | | • | | • | • | |

LUSAKA - MFUWE (MAY)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | т | F | S | S | |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 800 | 06:55 | 08:05 | | | | | • | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | _ |
| 804 | 10:35 | 11:45 | • | • | | | | • | • | |

LUSAKA - MFUWE (JUN)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S | S |
|-----|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 800 | 06:55 | 08:05 | | | | | • | | |
| 804 | 10:35 | 11:45 | • | • | • | • | | • | • |
| 808 | 16:35 | 17:45 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

Please check our website, www.flyzambia.com, for updated departure days and times.

MFUWE - LUSAKA (MAY)

| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S |
|---|--|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 801 | 08:40 | 09:50 | | | | | • | |
| 805 | 12:20 | 13:30 | • | • | | | | • |
| 809 | 18:20 | 19:30 | | | • | • | • | |
| MFU | NE - LUS | AKA (JUN) | | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S |
| 801 | 08:40 | 09:50 | | | | | • | |
| 805 | 12:20 | 13:30 | • | • | • | • | | • |
| 809 | 18:20 | 19:30 | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| JEKI/F | ROYAL - L | USAKA (| MAY) | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | T | W | Т | F | S |
| 614 | 14:50/15:1 | 5 15:50 | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| JEKI/F | ROYAL - L | .USAKA (| IUN) | | | | | |
| # | DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | S |
| 621 | 12:30/12:5 | 5 13:30 | • | • | • | • | • | |
| 616 | 15:50/16:1 | 5 16:50 | • | • | • | • | • | |
| # | NE - JEKI, DEP | ARR | М | Т | W | Т | F | |
| # 621 | DEP 10:45 | ARR 12:15/12:40 | | T | W • | T • | F | |
| # 621 | DEP | ARR 12:15/12:40 | М | | | | | |
| # 621 KALU | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA | M • | • | • | • | • | S |
| # 621 KALU # | DEP 10:45 MBILA - I DEP | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA ARR | M | • T | • W | • T | • | S |
| # 621 KALU # 930 | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - 1 DEP 08:45 | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA ARR 09:45 | M | • T | • W | • T | F | S |
| # 621 KALU # 930 951 | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA ARR 09:45 09:35 | M | T | • W | T | F | S |
| # 621 KALU # 930 951 936 957 | DEP 10:45 2 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 17:25 | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA ARR 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:25 18:45 | M M | T | • W | T | F | S |
| # 621 KALU # 930 951 936 957 | DEP 10:45 2 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA ARR 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:25 18:45 | M M | T | • W | T | F | S |
| # 621 KALU # 930 951 936 957 KASA | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 MA - LUS | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:45 5AKA | M • • | • T | • | • T | • F | S |
| # 621 KALU 930 951 957 KASA # 441 | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 MA - LUS DEP | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:25 18:45 SAKA ARR 11:40 | M • • | • T • | • | • T • T | • F | S |
| # 621 KALU 930 951 957 KASA # 441 | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 MA - LUS DEP 10:05 | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:25 18:45 SAKA ARR 11:40 | M • • | • T • | • | • T • T | • F | S |
| # 621 KALU # 930 951 936 957 KASA # 441 MANS | DEP 10:45 2 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 MA - LUS DEP 10:05 SA - LUS | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:45 18:45 5AKA ARR 11:40 | M M • | • • • T | • • • | • • • | • F | s |
| # 621 (KALU 930 951 936 957 (KASA # 441 (MAN) 441 (%) 4335 | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 MA - LUS DEP 10:05 SA - LUS DEP | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:25 18:45 5AKA ARR 11:40 | M M 0 M M | • • • T | • • • W | • • • | F F F | s |
| # 621 (KALU 930 951 936 957 (KASA # 441 (MAN) 441 (%) 4335 | DEP 10:45 1 MBILA - I DEP 08:45 08:20 17:25 17:30 MA - LUS DEP 10:05 SA - LUS DEP 12:40 | ARR 12:15/12:40 LUSAKA 09:45 09:35 18:25 18:25 18:45 5AKA ARR 11:40 | M M 0 M M | • • • T | • • • W | • • • | F F F | s s s s |

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Proflight Zambia reserves the right to change, suspend or amend this published schedule without prior notification. Every effort will be made to operate as per the planned schedule.

PROFLIGHT'S BOLD ASCENT FOR WOMEN IN AVIATION

PROFLIGHT HIGHLIGHTS ITS PROGRESSIVE VISION FOR WOMEN



roflight Zambia joined women in aviation globally as they prepared for the 36th Annual Women in Aviation Conference, scheduled for 27–29 March 2025 in Denver, Colorado. The airline was represented by two members of the Proflight Operations Control Centre: Sylvia Chanda and Piyanna Chani.

Part of the mission of Women in Aviation International, the host organisation, is "to encourage, empower, and educate all those whose interests, lives and work involve aviation and aerospace," with one of the key goals being to "inspire women and girls to pursue careers in aviation and aerospace."

This year's International Women's Day on 8 March also marked the 119th anniversary of the first woman's pilot's licence, issued in 1910. This came only seven years after the first flight, and just one year after the first pilot's licence was issued to a man. It was nearly 20 years later, in 1927, when the first aircraft engineer's licence was issued to a woman.

Historically, aviation roles for women were limited to cabin crew and office professionals. However, Proflight Zambia's progressive vision is helping to change that narrative, with women taking centre stage in every facet of the airline's operations, from the cockpit to the engineering department.

On a continent where only 5.21% of licensed pilots and just 2.79% of aircraft engineers are female, Proflight is rewriting the rules. Today, women make up 38% of its 280-strong workforce, including three pilots and twelve engineers. This strong commitment to local talent, with 96% of employees being Zambian nationals, reflects the airline's dedication to inclusivity and excellence.

"Women are represented at every level of our organisation, from upper management to flight crew and engineers," said Proflight Zambia Director of Flight Operations, Captain Josias Walubita. This sentiment is reflected in the airline's celebrated all-female crew flights, including a recent milestone — a CRJ200 flight between Lusaka and Cape Town, which highlighted both operational excellence and the company's commitment to gender inclusivity.

The airline's approach is not merely about numbers. Strategic partnerships with organisations that champion female participation provide essential educational opportunities, mentorship, and career guidance. These initiatives ensure that the next generation of female aviation professionals is wellequipped to soar.

Capt. Walubita notes: "We are seeing more skilled women come up in aviation engineering and pilot jobs than ever before, as they are encouraged to step into technical roles. This signals a seismic shift in career trajectories."

Outside of the technical disciplines, the airline's Ground Operations and Commercial Departments are predominantly women, and 30% of the organisation's Executive Directors are Women in Aviation.

As Proflight Zambia continues to expand its horizons, its efforts to create a level playing field for all are clear. With long-term goals aimed at balanced gender representation and a commitment to merit-based recruitment, the airline is not only propelling its growth but also inspiring the entire region.





BOLD PRINTS, BIG WINS!

Consistency secured return tickets for our first-ever #ChitengeFridayWithProflight winners! Congratulations to Rose, Mwiche, Daphine, & Mungule.

0

DOARDOL

PROFLIGHT'S UNSUNG HEROES

MEET THE COMMERCIAL TEAM BEHIND PROGLIGHT'S SOARING SUCCESS



or passengers boarding a Proflight Zambia aircraft, the journey is defined by efficiency, warmth, safety, and reliability. But behind every smooth take-off and hasslefree booking lies the meticulous work of the airline's Commercial Team, a dedicated group that ensures travellers' needs are met long before they reach the runway.

On a brisk Monday morning at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, a flurry of urgent calls broke the calm. A connecting flight had been cancelled at the last minute, leaving a passenger's crucial meeting hanging in the balance. In that moment of crisis, Proflight's Commercial Team sprang into action, turning panic into a seamless solution. This is the team that, day in and day out, ensures every journey is not only safe and punctual but also remarkably personalised.

At the heart of their success lies a firm commitment to world-class customer service. Precious Kapata, a Senior Consultant in the Commercial Department, recalls a day when a miscommunication about travel documentation nearly derailed a passenger's journey.

"What keeps me passionate about helping passengers is knowing that I've made a real impact, ensuring they travel safely and with confidence," she explains.

Her dedication is evident in the way she recounts coordinating last-minute changes. She even liaises with teams across borders

to pre-check passengers in Johannesburg and Cape Town. This hands-on approach is a crucial cog in the airline's well-oiled machine.

"With teamwork, we create a positive work environment, which allows us to deliver great customer service to our passengers," Precious adds.

Equally vital to the operation is the seamless work of the Reservations Team. Lindiwe Muyunda, the Reservations Manager with over seven years at Proflight, describes the rigour of their daily routine: "Our day begins at 06:00 and ends at 19:00. We handle calls, emails, and WhatsApp enquiries, ensuring smooth communication with the travelling public."

Her calm demeanour under pressure and emphasis on teamwork underscore the importance of maintaining efficiency, even during unexpected challenges.

"Passengers may not realise how much coordination happens behind the scenes. We monitor flights, manage last-minute changes, and work closely with operations to ensure a smooth journey for every traveller," says Lindiwe.

The team's impact extends beyond individual customer interactions. Chanda Amatende Mwambela, who has been with Proflight for 16 years, outlines how a typical day involves far more than routine ticketing.



"A typical day for the Commercial Team is about ensuring smooth operations and delivering excellent customer service," she says.

Her role in managing group travel arrangements and processing ticket refunds not only addresses immediate passenger needs but also contributes to the airline's financial sustainability. "What excites me the most is the opportunity to meet our customers' needs and ensure their satisfaction. We are a customer-focused team, always striving to provide the best possible service." Then there's Zanele Khuzwayo, a Senior Reservations Consultant with nearly 15 years at the airline. She recounts an occasion when a delayed connecting flight threatened a passenger's new job.

"A passenger missed their flight due to a delay on their previous connection with Proflight. They were visibly upset, as they had an important meeting scheduled to start a new job and couldn't afford to be late," Zanele recalls.

"Rather than simply rebooking them, I worked closely with our reservations team to find a faster route. We secured a seat on a different airline with a quicker layover that aligned with their original schedule. In the meantime, we ensured their comfort by providing accommodation and complimentary refreshments."

Her story illustrates how dynamic the job can be and the extra mile the team routinely goes, turning potential travel disasters into moments of exceptional care and customer delight. At its core, the Commercial Team meticulously manages every aspect of a passenger's journey, from booking and documentation to real-time crisis resolution, ensuring that each travel experience reinforces Proflight's reputation for friendly, safe, and reliable service.

In the end, it is this blend of individual passion and collective teamwork that makes the Commercial Team the unsung heroes behind the airline's soaring success. Their dedication not only cements Proflight's status as a leader in domestic and regional air travel but also transforms challenges into opportunities, ensuring that every passenger's journey is as smooth and rewarding as the flight itself.



CHITENGE FRIDAY AT PROFLIGHT

PROFLIGHT CELEBRATES ZAMBIAN CULTURE WITH COMPETITION



roflight's 'Chitenge Friday' celebrated Zambia's colourful culture through a competition that invited participants to share their love for the iconic fabric. Over six weeks, four lucky winners received free flight tickets to any of Proflight's regional destinations. All it took was dressing in their finest chitenge attire and sharing a photo that captured the spirit of tradition.

Every Friday, the initiative connected Proflight with its loyal customers and audience as participants dressed in their finest *chitenge* and posted photos on social media.

The *chitenge*, a staple of Zambian fashion, has over the years evolved from a common wrapper into a style statement, blending traditional nuances with modern flair. Each piece tells a story, with history woven into every thread and pattern.

Mungula Sepa, one of the winners, spoke about the fabric's intricacy. Designs can range from simple blocks to complex colours, patterns, and textures. She highlighted how current generations embrace it now: "The *chitenge* was perceived to be old-fashioned in some age groups, but now there are modern iterations. I have quite a few outfits and I enjoy wearing them."

The fabric also represents a cultural bond that unites Zambians. "We don't have a single designated national attire because of our diversity—over 70 ethnic groups—but *chitenge* connects us all. It signifies pride, and belonging," she said.

Winning the Proflight ticket was a delightful surprise for Mungula, who has set her sights on a trip to Cape Town. "I've never been there, but this opportunity from Proflight means I finally get to experience its beauty firsthand," she added.

Two-time Proflight competition winner Rose Nakazwe shared: "As a woman, wearing a *chitenge* symbolises respect and our culture. We need to showcase our heritage in Zambia and beyond our borders. 'Chitenge Friday' is a great way to do that."

In 2023 Rose won a Proflight ticket to Johannesburg and hoped to return this year. "When I saw the competition, I participated

every Friday for six weeks. The competition was tough, so I was thrilled to win again," she smiled.

Daphine Luhanga saw the competition as a chance to celebrate local culture and win a special trip. "My birthday is coming soon, and I want to visit my sister in Cape Town. I've been flying with Proflight since 2019 and love their flash fares," she shared.

Winner, Mwiche Chitembo, had a deeply personal motivation for entering. "My little boys are fascinated by big machines like aircraft, and since I can't afford to buy three tickets for us, I saw an opportunity.' The *chitenge* symbolises a cultured upbringing and good morals. I was thrilled by the contest! I love wearing *chitenge* because it makes me feel beautiful and connected to my roots."

For Mwiche, winning a Proflight ticket meant the chance to introduce her children to the wonders of their country. "I would love to fly to Livingstone so they can experience the Victoria Falls and the Big Five. This will be an educational experience for them."

As Zambia's leading airline, Proflight remains deeply connected to the nation's culture. The 'Chitenge Friday' campaign not only rewarded loyal customers but reaffirmed the airline's role in promoting and preserving Zambian traditions.

"Our culture must be passed on, otherwise with globalisation, future generations will drift towards other cultures. So, it's great when Zambian companies like Proflight strive to stay true to who we are Mwiche noted.

"Proflight is more than an airline; we are a bridge between people, places, and traditions. Our mission is to provide a friendly, reliable, and efficient travel experience that reflects the warmth of Zambia. As a proudly Zambian airline, we take pride in initiatives like 'Chitenge Friday' that honour our heritage while connecting our people to opportunities, both within the country and beyond," concluded Proflight Director Flight Operations, Captain Josias Walubita.









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FLIGHT

Key Features

- Shortest Travel Time Just 4.5 hours total, compared to 6+ hours via Johannesburg.
- Smooth Stopover in Livingstone Enjoy a refreshment on board including a cup of Zambian coffee while on ground for the 30 minute stopover.
- Relax Onboard Assorted snacks, drinks, a cold meal and Zambian coffee served on board.
- Hassle-Free Arrival Easy immigration at Cape Town International Airport.
- Earliest Arrival Land in Cape Town early enough to enjoy your afternoon.



Proflight Zambia - Your Smart way to Cape Town!

PROFLIGHT FLEET

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|----------|-------------|-----------------|--------|---------------|--------------|---------|------------------|
| FLEET | LENGTH | WING SPAN | HEIGHT | FUEL CAPACITY | MAX ALTITUDE | SPEED | MAX PASSENGERS |
| 4 | 26.77m | 21.21m | 20ft | 6400kg | 41000ft | 682km/h | 50 |
| BOMBAR | DIER CRJ100 | D PARCEL FREIGH | ITER | | | | and the second |
| FLEET | LENGTH | WING SPAN | HEIGHT | FUEL CAPACITY | MAX ALTITUDE | SPEED | MAX CARGO |
| 1 | 26.77m | 21.21m | 20ft | 6400kg | 41000ft | 682km/h | 6804kg |
| JETSTRE | AM 4100 | | | | | | 45 |
| FLEET | LENGTH | WING SPAN | HEIGHT | FUEL CAPACITY | MAX ALTITUDE | SPEED | MAX PASSENGERS |
| 4 | 19.25m | 18.29m | 5.75ft | 2600kg | 25000ft | 550km/h | 29 |
| JETSTRE/ | AM 3200 | | | | | | |
| FLEET | LENGTH | WING SPAN | HEIGHT | FUEL CAPACITY | MAX ALTITUDE | SPEED | MAX PASSENGERS |
| 1 | 14.37m | 15.85m | 5.37ft | 1474kg | 25000ft | 445km/h | 18 |

TRAVEL TIPS

FLYING COMFORTABLE

- Before you fly, get a good night's sleep. Rest and some light exercise will help you cope on your journey.
- Wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes that are not too restrictive.
- Eat a light, well-balanced meal before you travel and opt for a smaller helping than normal on the plane.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

• Please ensure that all electronic devices are turned off before taxiing and take off as they may interfere with the safe operation of the aircraft. These include cellphones, laptops, remote controlled games.

SAFETY

• A Proflight safety demonstration is always made before take off. A safety pamphlet is also provided at your seat. Please familiarise yourself with its important information and note the nearest emergency exit.

SMOKING

 Smoking on board is strictly prohibited. This includes any artificial device or e-cigarettes.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

- In addition to the carry on luggage allowance provided herein, each passenger may carry without additional charge, the following carry on items the weight of which shall not exceed 5kg. The carry on items are permitted for use during the flight and when retained in the passengers' custody as listed here below:
- A lady handbag, pocket book or purse, which is appropriate to normal traveling dress and is not being used as a container for the transportation of articles, which would otherwise be regarded as baggage.
- Laptop.
- An overcoat, wrap or blanket.
- A small camera and/or a pair of binoculars.
- Reading material.
- Infant's food for consumption in flight.
- Infant's carrying basket.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

BAGGAGE POLICY

We offer a complimentary 30kg checked allowance on our international flights for adults/children and 10kg for infants. On our domestic flights, our complimentary checked allowance is 23kg across all fare types. In addition, you are allowed one piece of 5kg carry-on baggage.

Excess checked baggage over your complimentary amount is charged at \$5/kg out of Zambia or R60/kg out of South Africa or K60/kg domestic within Zambia. Excess baggage can also be pre-purchased on our website at a discounted rate per 15kg excess bundle. The bundle is \$40/bundle out of Zambia or R600/bundle out of South Africa or K600/bundle domestic within Zambia.

Take note due to airport safety rules, no one piece of baggage can weigh more than 30 kg. All excess baggage is subject to space available on the aircraft and is non-refundable. Total weight limit only, no restriction on the number of pieces.

Toy guns or blunt objects such as tennis racquet or hockey stick are not permitted in carry-on baggage. Toy guns must be declared for carriage in checked baggage and you must check-in at least two hours prior to flight else the toy gun will not be permitted.

The following items are not permitted in checked or carry-on baggage, they must be sent as cargo: hoverboard, television set, microwave, computer and computer parts, car parts, stoves of any kind.

CHECK-IN COUNTER LOCATIONS

Our check-in counters are located as follows:

- Lusaka and Livingstone international flights: Terminal 2
- Lusaka and Livingstone domestic flights: Terminal 1
- All other domestic flights: Main terminal
- Joburg: Terminal B counters 64-66
- Cape Town: Main terminal, check airport monitors

Airport ticket sales in Joburg are located at Proflight office at back terminal wall past counters 64-66, in Cape Town are located at check-in counter.

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

We happily accept unaccompanied minors (5 years to 11 years) on the flight. There is no extra charge for unaccompanied minors and they still receive our 25% children discount. Please note we are limited to a certain number of unaccompanied minors per flight so book early.

INTERLINE PARTNERS

- Air Tanzania
- Cemair
- Emirates
- Ethiopian Airlines
- Fly Safair
- Hahn Air
- Kenya Airways
- Qatar Airways
- Rwandair
- South African Airways
- Turkish Airlines

TRANSFER IN JOBURG DETAILS

(Connecting to an international flight out of Joburg)

- Advise the Proflight check-in agent of your final destination and show necessary tickets.
- If you are on Emirates, Qatar or Cemair out of Joburg, you will receive your onward boarding card at time of first check-in with Proflight and your baggage will be tagged through to final destination.
- If you are on another airline out of Joburg, your baggage will be tagged as final destination.
- Upon arriving into Joburg airport from bus, do not enter South Africa through immigration, turn left before immigration queues.
- Follow the signs for International Transfers and go to the transfer check-in desk of your next airline.
- From your next airline, collect your onward boarding pass and receive new baggage tags (your baggage will be retagged for you by the next airline transfer check-in agent).

CARGO CONTACTS

- International Cargo Tel:+260 977 511690 or +260 964 900449 zegandlexport@zegaltd.co.zm | import@zegaltd.co.zm
- Domestic Cargo
 Tel:+260 772 686395
 cargo@proflight-zambia.com
- Johannesburg Tel: +27 11 230 4600 Email: mohalen@bidaircargo.co.za | dentont@bidaircargo.co.za
- Cape Town
 Tel: +27 21 935 6138
 Email: charlenek@bidaircargo.co.za

PROHIBITED GOODS

Banned, restricted and dangerous goods are articles or substances that are capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property or the environment.

If you wish to travel with any such goods or material, please be aware of the restrictions or steps you may have to take if wishing to travel on a Proflight Zambia service.

To ensure the safety of the aircraft and those on board, checked in or hand baggage must not contain articles or substances that could pose a danger during flights these include:

COMPRESSED GASES deeply refrigerated flammable non-flammable) such as butane, oxygen propane and aqualung cylinders.

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS & SOLIDS

such as lighter and heater fuels, paint. All safety matches and fire lighters.

CORROSIVES such as acids, alkali wet cell batteries and apparatus containing mercury.





MEDICAL AND TOILET ARTICLES MAY **BE CARRIED IN SMALL QUANTITIES.** SAFETY MATCHES wMAY BE CARRIED ON THE PERSON.

EXPLOSIVES such as fireworks, flares munitions, Ammunitions and

BRIEFCASES / ATTACHE





pistol caps.

CASES installed with alarm devices.

POISONS such as insecticides.weed killers, arsenic & cyanides.

RADIO ACTIVE MATERIALS







IF YOU ARE CARRYING ANY OF THESE ITEMS, YOU MUST INFORM THE AIRLINE.

MATERIALS & ORGANIC PEROXIDES such as bleaches and fibre glass repair kits.

OXIDISING

TOXIC SUBSTANCES such as bleaching powder and peroxide.

INFECTIOUS **SUBSTANCES** such as bacteria and live virus materials.





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