

First purpose-built spa to open in Victoria Falls

A purpose-built spa is set to open in Victoria Falls in September. The spa, being constructed by hospitality group Africa Albida Tourism, whose accommodation portfolio is made up of Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, Victoria Falls Safari Club, Victoria Falls Safari Suites and Lokuthula Lodges, will be named Victoria Falls Safari Spa.



Image Supplied.

As the largest and first purpose-built spa in Zimbabwe, the spa is set to put this top tourist attraction on the map as a wellness destination, tapping into the boom in wellness tourism.

It will include a 280m² central area and feature the following amenities:

- Manicure and pedicure stations
- Private relaxation rooms
- Restaurant
- Hair salon
- Change rooms

There will be three separate treatment rooms (one double and two singles) located in a tranquil bush setting.

"We want to create the leading spa and wellness offering in the region, and in doing so we believe travellers will be

encouraged to visit Victoria Falls to take advantage of the spa," says Ross Kennedy, Chief Executive at Africa Albida Tourism.

The spa, which is open to inhouse guests, guests from other hotels and local residents will be ideal for wellness weekends, mid-week breaks and couple's packages.

Develering an authentic experience

Away from the normal hustle and bustle of the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge estate, the spa will be located in a peaceful indigenous woodland rich in birdlife with the odd warthog and bushbuck passing by adding to a sense of calm and nature.

"Built under canvas, and using the natural landscape, with suspended rope bridges crossing gullies to the treatment rooms, the design of the spa will be sympathetic to the environment," added Kennedy.

The treatment rooms will have outdoor showers, while the central area will also feature a plunge pool, water features and the restaurant will serve healthy dishes which include, salads, wraps, juices, smoothies and coffees.

Victoria Falls Safari Spa manager Michele Vickery, who has 15 years' experience as a beauty therapist, said treatments will include manicures, pedicures, waxing, tinting, facials, body treatments and massages, as well as hairdressing services. The spa is expected to create eight jobs.

"We are determined to avoid creating a cookie-cutter spa experience. The design, décor and treatment menu will be linked to and represent Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, and the products used will be made in Africa, and contain African botanicals," says Michelle Vickery.

"We will offer a unique and authentic experience, built upon indigenous botanicals, seed oils and healing practices, ancient spiritual traditions, special minerals, local ingredients and culinary traditions, history and culture," added Vickery.

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