

ZAKOUMA EXPEDITION
CHAD

10th to 18th February 2019



A specialist expedition to Zakouma National Park, Chad, in February 2019.

9 days / 8 nights: **N'Djamena** (1 night), **Zakouma National Park** (7 nights)

Summary:

10th February – N'DJAMENA, CHAD

Assistance on arrival at N'Djamena International Airport
Transfer to and overnight at the Hilton Hotel

11th February - N'DJAMENA to ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK

Transfer to N'Djamena International Airport
Charter flight to Zakouma National Park

11th to 18th February - ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK

Explore Zakouma National Park and surrounds
Overnight at Camp Nomade and mobile fly-camp

18th February - ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK to N'DJAMENA

Charter flight to N'Djamena International Airport
International departure flight



Zakouma National Park

Considered to be one of the last strongholds of plains game in the Sudano-Sahelian zone, Zakouma National Park in south-eastern Chad is 3000 km² of untamed African Wilderness.

Due to its close proximity to the centre of the Chadian Basin, the terrain of the park is almost exclusively flat with the exception of the beautiful granite inselbergs found in the south-west near Ibir. As one of three national parks in Chad, Zakouma forms an integral part of the conservation of flora and fauna in the region. The Chadian government has been committed to protecting this natural heritage even through many years of conflict. Today Zakouma is one of the most important protected areas in Central and West Africa.

ZAKOUMA EXPEDITION CHAD

10th to 18th February 2019



African Parks

African Parks is a non-profit organisation that takes on direct responsibility for the rehabilitation and long-term management of national parks, in partnership with governments and local communities. By adopting a business approach to conservation, supported by donor funding, African Parks aims to make each park sustainable in the long term, thereby contributing to economic development and poverty alleviation. African Parks has been instrumental in rejuvenating Zakouma National Park and their work on the ground is a model on which much of Africa's conservation efforts could (and should) be based in future.



Seasons

Zakouma is an area of contrasts and, like many parts of Africa, the ecosystem has two very distinct seasons, the wet season and the dry season. There are however very few areas where the contrasts between the two seasons are so dramatic; affecting fauna, flora and terrain alike. Between June and November Zakouma receives an average of 850mm of rain resulting in the majority of the park becoming completely inundated with water. It is during this time that the park sees a strong seasonal outward migration of many species; mainly the elephant and tiang and to a lesser extent roan antelope and hartebeest, to the drier areas further north. The dry season in comparison, lures the wildlife back to the heart of Zakouma, where pans surrounded by fertile floodplains and pools in the main river systems (Bahr's Salamat, Korom and Dikere) provide drinking water and grazing throughout the dry months. Large herds of animals as well as thousands of birds congregate at these pools from February to June making for some of the most reliable and awe-inspiring game viewing in Africa.



ZAKOUMA EXPEDITION CHAD

10th to 18th February 2019



Mammals

Zakouma is a sanctuary for West and Central African biodiversity. Notable mammals include the Kordofan giraffe, red-fronted gazelle, Lelwel's hartebeest, tiang, patas monkey and pale fox.

Herds of orange tinted buffalo (a mix of the forest and Cape buffalo) are often seen together with cattle egrets on the edges of the pans and swamps. A healthy population of roan antelope means that herds of over 50 can be seen grazing alongside tiang and Lelwel's hartebeest. Seeing the elephant herd is a highlight and the numbers have now recovered to over 400.

Night drives in Zakouma reveal an abundance of Africa's smaller predators and one is almost guaranteed of regularly seeing serval, pale fox, civet and African wild cat during ones stay. This said, all the main predators are found in the park with lion common and leopard seen occasionally, as well as striped hyena and aardwolf.



Birds

The birdlife in Zakouma is by far one of the highlights of any trip to the park. Species that one is accustomed to seeing in pairs are found here in flocks of well over 500. The northern crowned crane is even seen in groups of over 2000. These raucous birds roost in the east of the park and early morning and late evening the air is full of their cries as they gracefully head to and from their roosts. Pelicans move in lines through fish infested pools herding fish to the edge for an easier scoop, while marabou storks lurk on the side, hoping for a cheeky steal. Abyssinian ground hornbills are often seen patrolling the plains with their vibrant blue and red heads, perfectly contrasted with the dry habitat. The bush in and around Tinga camp is home to beautiful red-throated bee-eaters and black-headed gonoleks, which are seen daily. A northern carmine bee-eater colony can be found a couple hundred metres upstream from the camp and is an excellent place to sit with a cold Gala beer and appreciate dusk in the bush. Notable species seen on previous expeditions to Zakouma include Black-breasted barbet, Pel's fishing owl, Bat Hawk and Greater Spotted Eagle.



ZAKOUMA EXPEDITION CHAD

10th to 18th February 2019



Culture

The nomadic pastoralists who live throughout the Sahelian belt are said to be of Arab descent and still live a completely nomadic lifestyle. Families move in colourful trains, with oxen, camels and horses decorated in red and green wool, leather tassels, brass bells and thousands of cowrie shells.

With the women clad in neon yellow, magenta and emerald green, the procession is nothing short of breath-taking. The periphery of the park is the perfect place to explore both the culture of the residents and the nomads of the region.



Camp Nomade

Camp Nomade is an exciting new tented camp in Zakouma National Park. Camp Nomade is a high-end tented safari camp designed to capture the romance of the nomadic culture that is an integral part of Chadian/Sahelian culture. It is a truly authentic and intimate safari experience. The tented camp is light enough to move throughout the season as the game congregates around the rapidly drying pans.

Fly camping infrastructure and a support team is available for our guests in order to experience different locations within Zakouma during the 7 night stay.

A decision will be made once at Zakouma how, when and where, the mobile fly camp will be utilised. Generally after a few nights in Camp Nomade, enjoying the Regueik Pan area, we would explore the southern reaches of Zakouma, possibly camping for a night on the Salamat river or on one of the pans in the south of the Park. These decisions will be made based upon the game movements and local conditions at Zakouma during the time of the expedition.



ZAKOUMA EXPEDITION
CHAD

10th to 18th February 2019



Expedition detail:

10th February – N'DJAMENA, CHAD

On arrival in N'Djamena you will be met by your expedition guide, Richard Anderson, and your ground team, and road transferred to the Hilton Hotel for the night. Dependent on arrival time you may want to relax in the hotel, experience the N'Djamena horseracing or enjoy relaxing sundowners overlooking the Chari river and Cameroon.

11th February - N'DJAMENA to ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK

After an early breakfast you'll be road transferred back to the airport for the charter flight to Zakouma National Park. The charter aircraft is a Cessna Caravan 208 and the flight will take about 2.5 hours. On arrival in Zakouma you will meet your ground team and game drive to Camp Nomade.

11th to 18th February - ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK

These 7 days will be spent exploring Zakouma National Park and the parks perimeter using Camp Nomade and the mobile fly-camp as nightly bases.

Typically days start very early with coffee/tea and biscuits before heading out of camp around sunrise. Depending on the plan for the day you may return to camp for a late breakfast or take a packed breakfast and return to camp for lunch. Days can be made up of game drives, walking, sitting at action-packed pans watching wildlife and birds or any adventurous endeavor which is a good idea at the time! Camp Nomade and Zakouma provides a safari environment offering complete flexibility in the manner you explore this incredible park, and you and your guide will take full advantage of this adaptability which is possible in only very few parts of Africa. You'll generally return to camp after dark for a well-earned dinner. Depending on energy levels and animal activity in the vicinity of the camp you'll embark on night drives after dinner in search of the parks nocturnal creatures.

18th February - ZAKOUMA NATIONAL PARK to N'DJAMENA

A final morning in Zakouma before your charter flight departs for N'Djamena. On arrival at N'Djamena airport you'll be assisted with your connecting international departure flight.

END OF ARRANGEMENTS



ZAKOUMA EXPEDITION
CHAD

10th to 18th February 2019



Overview

Cost Includes:

- Two Anderson Expeditions specialist safari leaders for the duration of the expedition
- All accommodation as per the itinerary
- Hilton Hotel N'Djamena – breakfast only
- Camp Nomade – breakfast, lunch, dinner, soft drinks, bottled water, wine, beer, spirits, tea/coffee, laundry
- Scheduled safari activities and Park fees
- Charter flights N'Djamena – Zakouma – N'Djamena
- Airport transfers in N'Djamena
- Emergency Evacuation plan

Cost Does Not Include:

- International flights
- Hotels and meals not listed in the itinerary (lunch/dinner in N'Djamena)
- Activities or arrangements in N'Djamena
- Premium drinks
- Personal expenses
- Staff gratuities
- International airport taxes
- Travel Insurance (full comprehensive travel/medical insurance mandatory)
- Visa fees

**Please note that this is a preliminary quotation subject to availability. Anderson Expeditions will make every effort to hold provisional bookings as per the itinerary but bookings can only be confirmed on receipt of deposit payment.*

The Anderson Expeditions Terms and Conditions must be read and accepted on all bookings.