

Remote Africa Safaris – Responsible Tourism statement

Remote Africa Safaris operates four camps providing high quality safaris in North and South Luangwa Valley, Zambia, attracting visitors from around the globe. Renowned for our experienced wildlife guides and excellent game viewing; there is an understated yet very important further aspect to a visit to the Tafika, Chikoko Trails and Mwaleshi camps – the positive support for education within the local community.

Through the **Tafika Fund**, created by Remote Africa Safaris to coordinate donations from guests and other partners, we are committed to supporting the nearby government operated school, Mkasanga, by providing stationery and text books, desks, teachers' salaries, school renovations and maintenance. The Fund also provides pupils' scholarships, skills training and sewing classes for women with the view to support local industries producing safari clothing and school uniforms.

The people of Mkasanga Village, the local health authority and the Tafika Fund combined efforts to build an outpatient clinic in Mkasanga. Funds for medicines are provided, as well as wages for an assistant to the medical officer throughout the year. We have plans to extend the facilities to include inpatient services and a maternity wing when further funds become available. The opening of this health facility has been of tremendous benefit to all of us in the area.

The Remote Africa camps are situated in a wilderness area far north of the Mfuwe hub and the support provided through the Tafika Fund to the local communities in our area is vital. Remote Africa Safaris provide direct employment in our camps for the local people, as well as seasonal employment to many others, as each of our camps is completely re-built each year using entirely local materials.

The Chikoko Trails bushcamps are situated in an exclusive walking only area where there are no roads and the environmental impact is thus greatly reduced. Accommodating a maximum of only six guests in each camp, our staff are mindful of the need to preserve this wilderness and keep any impact as temporary as possible. At Mwaleshi in the North Luangwa, the emphasis again is on walking safaris. All these bushcamp areas revert to pure wilderness for half of the year during the rainy season.

Waste disposal is carefully managed at all of our camps to leave no trace of our presence. Waste from the Chikoko Trails bushcamps is portaged back to Tafika for sorting – all non-biodegradable waste is packaged and sent back to Lusaka for proper disposal. Paper is distributed to the boilers for hot water at the camps; and bio-degradable waste is used to make compost for the vegetable garden at Tafika.

Remote Africa Safaris actively support the anti-poaching work of the North Luangwa Conservation Project. We financed the installation of radios at the Chibindi Scout Camp and also provided a boat near Chibindi Camp to enable the anti-poaching patrols to safely cross swollen rivers during the rains. John Coppinger has flown hundreds of microlight hours on anti-poaching surveillance.

The 2010 season saw the introduction of the Luangwa Conservation and Community Fund charge to all bookings. This amount of US\$10 per person per night is split equally between the Tafika Fund and conservation projects in both North and South Luangwa.