

# Grand Voyage Mathilde et Antoine

28/10/15, Newsletter 18

## IN A NUTSHELL :

Date: October 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 (549<sup>th</sup> day)

Location: Livingstone, Zambia

Driven km up to date: 54 500.



PHOTOS



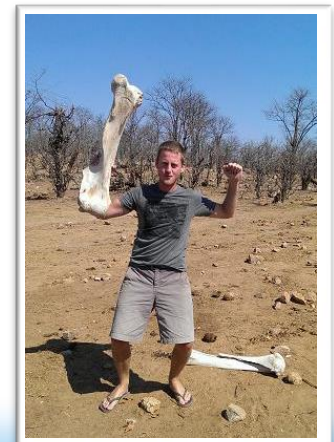
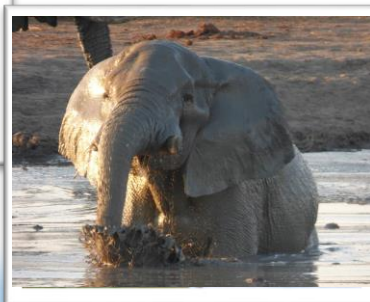
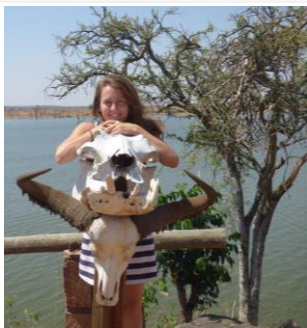
VIDEO

## NEWS

After a 5-day stop resting at Steve, George, James and Lisy's horse and game farm, we headed towards the **Caprivi**. Visiting Botswana and Zimbabwe has been competing our panorama of Southern Africa. If **Botswana** is considered as the regional exception (among the fastest growth rates in the world), **Zimbabwe** is on the contrary in a fast descending economic slope. The first is politically stable and has exploited its rich diamond mines to develop infrastructure, education and health, although at the expense of the San nomadic communities. Zimbabwe has had a bad image in the international press, mainly due to its President Mugabe. Despite this, we found in Zimbabwe lovely people, who have decided to live with what they have rather than engage into a civil war.

In **Botswana**, we loved our canoe trip (**mokoro**) in the **Okavango Delta**. The proximity with the wild animals in this country is unbelievable. Bush campsites in the **Chobe and Moremi parks** are visited daily by hyenas, elephants, lions... Our week with our "sponsors" Janet and Paul in their 4WD allowed us to visit inaccessible areas for Pavan (sand). In **Maun**, the kindness of Kevin and Nic was moving. In **Zimbabwe**, we enjoyed **Matopos**: huge scenic rocks interspersed among nicely decorated huts. **Bulawayo** is a pleasant and green city. The **Hwange National Park** impressed us: elephants, lions, leopard. We thank David and Nadine for their welcoming in their exclusive campsites. Pavan was nearly stuck in a riverbed but we managed to get it out, that was close! Finally, **rafting on the Zambezi was legendary, and so were the magnificent Victoria Falls.**

## FUNNY PICTURE



# Grand Voyage Mathilde et Antoine



## INTENSIVE MOMENTS :

- Intimate conversation with an elephant coming for a surprise visit at breakfast (scary!) ;
- Stuck in a dry riverbed with disturbing surrounding sounds: lion rattle ;
- Nights in bush camps in national parks with many visitors near the tent ;
- Mokoro trip in the Okavango Delta ;
- Rafting on the Zambezi river down the Vic Falls.



**CURRENT MOOD :** The “road” condition will sometimes put us in difficult situations : we will take our time and accept to be unable to visit everything. We were lazy to prepare the newsletter this month since it gets harder to find wifi spots ... ! ;-)



**COUNTRIES VISITED :** Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam, South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, France, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia.

**COMING :** Malawi, Mozambique?, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, Egypt, Israël?, Jorda?, Europe.



## MAP - ITINERARY :

since the last newsletter

✦ Departure

✦ Arrival



1. Seronga – Okavango delta (BO)
2. Moremi park (BO)
3. Chobe park (BO)
4. Bulawayo (ZI)
5. Matobos park (ZI)
6. Hwange (ZI)
7. Rafting Zambezi (ZI)
8. Vic falls (ZI)

