

## Zimbabwe May 2012, Part 7



The lounge / dining / sleeping area on board. Great food (morning tea and snacks, lunch, afternoon tea and snacks, dinner and breakfast included) a cash bar and hot showers to keep everyone happy for the 23 hour trip across the lake. It leaves at 9am and sails all day and night and docks at Mlibizi at 8am the following morning.



At around 5 in the afternoon, while in the middle of the dam, far from any shore, they cut the engines to check oils, etc. and you are allowed to swim. I bit unnerving due to the stories of thousands of crocodiles but we were assured that none came this deep!



**Day Ten: Mlibizi - Dingavivi - Dete (Miombo Lodge) 113 km**

About to dock at Mlibizi. At the top of this driveway wait two Kariba Water Authority staff to extract US\$10 from each person for the use of the dam. The chap approaches Ronelle and me sitting on the bike and asks us, “how many are you?” After confirming that it was indeed just as he can see, just two on the bike, he moves on to my brother (sitting alone on his bike) and asks “how many are you?” Phew, must have been having a slow morning!

Today we only had a short but scenic mountainous route of 113 km (all tar) to travel from leaving the ferry to Miombo Lodge near Dete on the edge of the Hwange National Park. Miombo Lodge has just built these really great luxury tents in the bush around a small water hole.



After lunch we spent the afternoon relaxing and taking in the stillness of the bushveld. Early evening we started to hear the sounds of a herd of elephants as they ate their way slowly through the bush towards our camp. By night fall they were at the water hole

quenching their huge thirsts. With no flood lights or fences, etc. that one normally finds in the more commercial camps, it was hard to see them all, but so much more “wild” on one’s imagination!

