



Aardvark Israel

ZAMBIA CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Orientation Seminar in Lusaka We will learn about Zambian culture and begin to understand the realities of life in the villages and how we can help. We will also learn about the effects of globalization and urban sprawl on the third world. In addition, we will tour some of the major sites in Lusaka, meet the Israeli Ambassador or other Embassy officials, celebrate Shabbat with Israeli volunteers in Zambia, and engage in learning through Jewish texts and other sources.

Volunteering in a Zambian Village We will travel to a remote village in the Zambian Countryside. The village is one of the poorest on earth and you will see the population trying to eke out any sort of existence. We will work alongside our hosts and other volunteers doing farming, building, teaching, cooking, or other useful tasks. Your living conditions during this portion of the trip are authentic and basic as you'll be "living like a local." Houses are made of mud bricks with earthen floors. Beds are simple wooden frames with thin mattresses and meals are simple. Squat toilets are located in small outhouses in the yard and there is no electricity, heating, or running water. The shower is either a cold bucket or a dip in the river. Although the conditions may be challenging for you, you will gain a deeper understanding of the realities of Zambia and an appreciation for the opportunities and advantages you have.

Livingston, Victoria Falls and a Safari At the end of our volunteering, we'll spend a couple of days in Livingston in Southern Zambia. Whilst here, we will explore the Jewish history of Livingston and how it influenced Jewish communities all over Africa. We'll visit the Jewish museum, cemetery and old Synagogue. We will also visit the spectacular Victoria Falls, which is the world's largest sheet of falling water and is almost double the height of Niagara Falls and half a kilometer wider. In the wet season, the spray from Victoria Falls can rise 400m above the falls and can be seen from up to 48km away. We will also take a sunset cruise along the Zambezi River, surrounded by crocodiles, hippos and other animals and birds. We will also spend some time doing a short safari.

Back in Israel and after You will participate in a closing seminar to debrief and summarize the experience abroad. During this seminar, you will be challenged to consider what steps you may take next to apply the lessons you learned in Zambia and to share your experiences with others.

