

THE BUSHCAMP COMPANY

SOUTH LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK ZAMBIA



GUIDE PROFILES

Kuyenda – Suzyo Zimba



Suzyo (Masuzyo) was born in Chingola in the Copper Belt and raised in Chipata. In 1996, at age 8, he joined the Chongololo (Millipede) Club, run by the Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia. The following year, his chapter won a tree-planting competition, and the prize was 3 nights in South Luangwa at Wildlife Camp. This was the beginning of his interest in becoming a guide. Suzyo finished his schooling and joined the Society, working his way toward a career in wildlife, and eventually working at the same camp he'd visited at age 9! He worked first as a barman and then as a cook. He passed his Grade 2 (driving) exam in 2010 while still a cook, and then his Grade 1 (walking) exam in 2012. As Suzyo puts it, "from that day my life has never been the same – I enjoy every day I am out in the bush. The highlights are all walks and drives, because you don't know what to expect; every day is different!"

Chamilandu – James Duncan-Anderson



James started at a very young age working on private game farms in South Africa helping with game capture and relocation of wildlife. After working with rehabilitating animals such as two baby white rhinos in the Northwest province, he arrived in the South Luangwa Valley in 2010, managing Chindeni and later Zungulila Bushcamps for four seasons. James is now a fully-qualified Level 1 walking guide and FAGASA Level 1 and is awaiting qualifications for higher levels for FAGASA in South Africa.

Chindeni – Peter Milanzi



Peter's love for wildlife began at an early age. He moved to Mfuwe, with his father and twin brother, Misheck - who is also a guide for The Bushcamp Company - in 1994, but completed his schooling in Lusaka, where he enjoyed Maths and science. Upon graduating he worked as a bartender at several safari camps in the Luangwa Valley. Inspired by his father and spurred on by his twin brother, he became a guide in 2003 and passed his grade 1 walking exam in 2006. Peter mainly guides at Chindeni, which he describes as being "great for aquatic birds and brilliant for leopard!" Having travelled to the UK in 2009 Peter would love to further his knowledge and explore some of Africa's other parks. Peter is married to Diana, who is a teacher, and they have two daughters, Chimwemwe and Orient, 8 and 5 years respectively.

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Bilimungwe – Manda Chisanga



Manda spent his formative years following his construction-worker grandfather as he travelled round Zambia. This fuelled Manda's interest in his own country and, after a brief spell working in a bank and as a veterinary assistant, he became a safari guide. Manda mainly guides at Bilimungwe Bushcamp and has spent most of his guiding career in the southern area of South Luangwa National Park. Although he currently lives with his wife in Mfuwe, he has lived in all Zambian provinces and his compassionate nature means he is not afraid to address sensitive issues such as HIV/AIDS and is as comfortable discussing world politics as he is sharing amusing anecdotes about his time as a guide. His knowledge, respect and compassion earned him Wanderlust magazine's inaugural Paul Morrison Guide Award in 2006; Manda used the bursary money he received from the award to set up the Mfuwe Solar Cooker Project.

Kapamba – Fannuel Banda



Fannuel Banda was brought up in Mfuwe by his grandparents. His passion for wildlife developed early in life and he was encouraged to pursue his interest by none other than Phil Berry, amongst others. Fannuel gained experience in the safari industry by working for several other safari companies in the area – he even appeared on the BBC programme "No Going Back" when working as a foreman for a lodge that was being built. Fannuel started working as a transfer driver, but soon passed his guide's exam and the following year qualified as a walking guide. Currently he mainly guides at Kapamba and Zungulila, but you may well find him at any of our camps. He lives with his wife and two young sons in Mfuwe.

Zungulila – Mishek Milanzi



Mishek Milanzi grew up in Lochinvar National Park, near Livingstone, and having lived in all the game parks in Zambia, he naturally developed an interest in wildlife. He moved to Mfuwe with his parents and twin brother, Peter - who is also a guide for The Bushcamp Company - in 1994, and completed his schooling in Chipata, where he enjoyed maths and biology. Before becoming a guide, he worked as a voluntary teacher. Mishek became a guide in 2002, later passing his Grade 1 walking exam in 2005. Mishek usually guides at Zungulila Bushcamp, but his most memorable walk was at Kuyenda Bushcamp one morning when he and the guests saw two prides of lions, a leopard, and a huge herd of buffalo! In 2008 Mishek visited the UK and was shocked by how well it preserves its art and culture. He lives in Mfuwe with his wife Alice and their young daughter, Grace.

