

VICTORIA FALLS CANYONING FACT SHEET

One of the world's fastest growing adventure sports, canyoning is nothing short of a thrill ride and in a few short decades, has become an adventure staple across the world.

Here's everything you need to know...

The sport gets outdoor enthusiasts out of their comfort zones as they explore rivers, gorges and other parts of nature normally deemed inaccessible. Whether it's jumping off a waterfall or ziplining or abseiling, there's something for everyone.

WHAT IS CANYONING?

Canyoning started as an exploration sport just like caving or mountaineering. It's still quite a new sport - it has been around for less than 20 years.

It's basically the descent of a river system or a gorge using various techniques and methods. We'll abseil or rappel down waterfalls, we also get to zipline across sections and traverse laterally along rock faces with the aid of secure hand hold and safety lines. There can also be a lot of swimming, walking and climbing. It's all that good stuff thrown together.

CAN ANYONE GO CANYONING?

"Yes! Canyoning should be for everybody. Some people do it for pure adventure and adrenaline and for other people it's about exploring beautiful places, and getting access to deep gorges that a lot of people don't get to see, often over coming personal challenges once thought impossible. With our Professional guides, meeting you at your own individual physical abilities can more often than not get you achieve more than your thought possible, and yet there is enough to test even the most experienced Canyoneer.



WHERE DO WE GO CANYONING?

The length of the Dibu Dibu gorge is about 1.8 km, in which the total vertical descent is about 200m.

Our gorge consists of a series of waterfalls, each with their own plunge pools. They vary in height from 6m-40m, and in profile from vertical drop to stepped over 40m. This allows us to enjoy testing a variety of canyoning techniques, from abseiling "The Generator" or "The Mother in law", to cliff jumping "The Skull" or "The Abyss"

THE EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Your trip will begin with a pick up at a designated point in Victoria Falls, and you will be driven out to the Dibu Dibu gorge about 20km out of the town.
- ✓ When you arrive, you will be issued equipment and given a short safety briefing.
- ✓ You will begin your descent by entering "The Abyss", which has a series of hand holds and can be climbed down without the use of equipment, there is also the opportunity to do some warm up cliff jumping in this spot, it descends about 45m total.
- ✓ Your next challenge is "Jones", which allows one to relive the best of the "Indiana Jones" movies - here you have a choice of a knotted rope or a ladder to climb down into his guts which is a ledge on the left side with a series of hand holds keeping you tight against the side. The plunge pool at "Jones" has a zipline, 40m, to get across. *This is where the mini package adventure would end.*
- ✓ "The Generator" is next, and now we get to test out your nerves with a short 18m abseil through a beautiful waterfall, but like so much in nature where there is beauty there is power!
- ✓ Having tested your abseiling, you will now be ready for "The Mother in-law", no matter how beautiful she is everyone fears her, she is a breath taking 25m high waterfall abseil. Once you reach the bottom you have the option to jump and swim or traverse along the cliff wall around the plunge pool.
- ✓ After bouldering for about 120m you will reach "The Skull", a perfect skull shaped rock about 12m high, this is the cliff diving one. An awesome range of ledges to jump from. At this point we will be in a narrow 10m wide, 150m deep crack in the earth, a mesmerising experience!



- ✓ After a few hours canyoning down the spectacular Batoka Gorge - it is now time to begin our return up the gorge. Using knotted ropes, ladder rungs, bouldering and ziplining to make our way up and out.
- ✓ On getting back to the top - our ice-cold cooler box and snack platter will be served. We can enjoy the spectacular view for a little while longer, reliving the stories of our epic adventure before returning back to Victoria Falls.

**Unfortunately dietary requirements cannot be catered for/ limited alcoholic beverages available*

MINI PACKAGE - \$80pp

Morning Session 9-11.30am

Afternoon session - 3-5.30pm

Min 3 pax - Max 6 pax

Min age limit 12 years and over.

FULL PACKAGE - \$160

Morning Session 7-11am

Afternoon session - 1-5pm

Min 3 pax - Max 6 pax

Min age limit 12 years and over.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO WE USE?

Our canyoning equipment includes:

- **Helmet:** Head protection is a no-brainer. A helmet will safeguard your head through the slips and falls of the canyon.
- **Gloves:** A sturdy pair of gloves can keep your hands safe and sound when cruising the rocks, though they aren't necessarily required. They can also assist in gripping the terrain on your way through the canyon.
- **Static Rope(s):** A static rope holds strong when placed under pressure, and works best for abseiling. These ropes are crucial to your canyoning experience.
- In contrast, **dynamic ropes** are used in - and associated with - climbing for securing falls and enhancing safety during ascents.
- **Rope Bag:** Keep hands focused on the task at hand by carrying ropes in a durable and convenient rope bag. This helps the canyoneer manage them more easily and effectively.
- **Water-Proof Bag:** A water-proof bag or pack will keep your possessions and equipment dry. It should automatically shed and release water as you traverse, and be fairly lightweight to avoid bogging down the descent.



- **Descender:** A belay system is crucial for a safe trip. Used as a friction brake, a descender manages and controls a canyoneer's descent, allowing a belayer to safely give and take rope.
- **Speed wheels:** These are used along the steel wire zip line stretch along the course
- **Harness:** The harness is a piece of safety gear worn by the canyoneer that attaches to a rope for abseiling and, if necessary, climbing.
- **Carabiner:** For any necessary securing and carrying in the canyon, a carabiner is a tool to connect the harness and the descender.
- **Sling:** A sling will hold anchors fast, including the climber, and is a safety precaution helpful as an additional measure in an exposed area.

WHAT YOU SHOULD BRING?

Canyoning Shoes: Because of the watery nature of a canyon, you will need comfortable, durable shoes with excellent grip, a decent pair of track shoes will work.

A change of clothes: We tend to get wet and to have a change of clothes at the end of the trip can improve comfort levels.

A sense of adventure.....

Guided by Andy Schultz

(A qualified guide/ commercial diver/offshore rigger and all round adventure enthusiast!)

CONTACT DETAILS

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