



Special Travel Notice for Zimbabwe

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In accordance with MS 220, 3.3.2, the Offices of Safety and Security and Global Operations have decided that **Volunteer travel to Zimbabwe *could* be permissible if the Volunteer has developed and discussed a travel safety plan with the Country Director (or designee).**

Due to increasing security concerns, travel within Zimbabwe is limited. **Volunteers are authorized to visit Victoria Falls area, travelling by air or overland from Zambia or Botswana (only). Harare travel could be authorized with a travel safety plan. No other overland travel is permitted in the country.**

For Volunteer travel to Zimbabwe, we ask that post staff consult with their RSA, PCSSO, or the Office of Safety and Security **prior to approving Volunteer leave** for further guidance on areas to avoid and how PCVs may be able to travel there safely. *Please take note that a Volunteer's leave approval could be rescinded should the security situation change in Zimbabwe prior to departure.*

The travel safety plan is for Volunteers to demonstrate how they will keep themselves safe when traveling in Zimbabwe. When a Country Director talks about a travel safety plan with a Volunteer, the following topics should be discussed in conjunction with the leave request form:

- Proposed itinerary
- Contact information for the duration of the trip, including hotels
- Names of persons with whom Volunteer/Trainee will travel
- Dates when the Volunteer/Trainee is to communicate with post to check-in (if deemed necessary)
- Acknowledgement that the Volunteer/Trainee has read the [State Department's Travel Information](#) on that country as well as any [Travel Advisories or Travel Warnings](#)
- If State Department guidance deems it necessary to specifically name a geographic area (using strong language such as "defer all non-essential travel", etc.), the Volunteer/Trainee understands that he/she must avoid travel to those specific areas.
- That the Volunteer/Trainee has been advised to register in [State's STEP program](#)
- The Volunteer/Trainee has had a conversation with the Country Director about the risks of travel and what steps the Volunteer/Trainee will take to maximize their security given the threats (this can include a specialized knowledge of the area).
- Resources that the Volunteer/Trainee can utilize to keep themselves safe
- Steps to take if the Volunteer/Trainee has a security issue while traveling
- Any other precautions deemed necessary by Peace Corps staff

When/if the Volunteer leave is approved, a Post staff member must then enter the following information into VIDA:

- Proposed itinerary
- Contact information for the duration of the trip, including hotels
- Names of persons with whom Volunteer/Trainee will travel
- Date of travel plan conversation

For additional information, please refer to the [Tool for Travel Safety Plans](#).

If you have any questions, please contact your RSA or the Office of Safety and Security.