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# Zambia: Get closer to nature (much closer) in the Zebra Plains of Africa

2:05 PM, Jul 13, 2012



Thornicroft Giraffes have adapted to reach the leaves in the tree tops.

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Written by  
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| McClatchy-Tribune  
News Service

MFUWE, Zambia - We're nodding off in our tent, pitched under a tree, when the crunching and gnashing begin.

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It's the hippos again, a half-dozen massive beasts climbing up from the Luangwa River for their nightly feed. During September, a hot, dry month here at Zebra Plains Camp, in northeast Zambia, the tree's foot-long fruit hang low, an irresistible meal for diners with gaping jaws and fist-size grinders.

Silence falls as the hippos lumber away. For a moment we doze - well wine and dined after a long day tramping through the bush, tracking wild game. Then the bushes rustle and the elephants ...

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