

Cocktails

Bee-Eater

K175

Story

In the Mwinilunga district, the source of the Zambezi is surrounded by a lush Miombo forest and is an important bird area, being home to nearly 200 bird species. The name for this cocktail derives from a group of colourful birds found across Zambia.

This cocktail aims to be vibrant and exotic with a bouquet of tropical fruit notes. Rooibos is a herb native to South Africa which when brewed as a tea can offer an array of floral and herbal notes that go excellently with sweet, fruity flavours.

Ingredients

Cape Brandy, Apricot Liqueur, Campari, Rooibos Tea
Honey, Fresh Lime Juice, Pineapple Juice

Kuomboka

K175

Story

Kuomboka - 'to get out of water' - refers to a traditional ceremony at the end of the rain season, when the upper Zambezi River floods the plains of the Western Province. The festival celebrates the move of the Litunga, king of the Lozi people, to higher ground. The Litunga's royal boat is painted in stripes of black and white, like Zambia's coat of arms. This cocktail is inspired by this ceremony, layering black and white next to each other. To mix the drink together at the table, a guest is presented with a stirrer, or paddle.

The cocktail is decadent, with nutty and coffee flavours.

Ingredients

Brandy or Rum, Coffee Liqueur, Fresh Espresso //
Amarula Cream Liqueur, Frangelico Hazelnut Liqueur,
Cream

Livingstone Gimlet

K175

Story

Dr David Livingstone was a Scottish physician, missionary, and explorer. Known for his exploration of Africa and most famously, for being the first European to ever see Mosioa-Tunya. On an island at the edge of the world's largest waterfall, he delivered the famous line: "It has never been seen before by European eyes, but scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight." Now known as Livingstone island, that same spot can be visited still.

This cocktail is inspired by a "Livingstone" martini, named for Dr. Livingstone and aims to be refreshing and invigorating.

Ingredients

Inverroche Gin, Dry Vermouth, Citrus-Honeydew Cordial,
Fresh Lime Juice, NHD Cape Gooseberry Bitters

Mosi-oa-Tunya

K175

Story

Translating to "The Smoke that Thunders" and later given the additional name Victoria Falls after the English Queen Victoria by Dr. Livingstone, it is now regarded as the world's largest waterfall due to its combined width and height (1708m and 108m respectively). The spray from the falls typically rises to a height of 400m and sometimes twice that high. The distance the spray covers has created a unique, tropical "rainforest" ecosystem.

Mezcal imparts a smoky flavour to this cocktail, which is supported by tart citrus, tropical fruit, and ginger spice.

Ingredients

Mezcal, Reposado Tequila, Fresh Lime Juice, Tamarind
Agave, Mango Juice, Ginger Ale
spray from the falls has

Cocktails

Lunar Phenomena

K175

Story

One of the few places in the world where a person can observe this remarkable phenomenon: a rainbow by moonlight. Due to the lowered intensity of light, most will see the colours appear fainter and some may even see a pale bow of white light appear across the sky.

A silky texture and sweet, dessert-like flavours of coconut and chocolate. The citrus and foaming agent provides a “Sour-Style” cocktail structure to create a creamy texture. The vermouth acts to balance the cocktail and provide added depth.

Ingredients

NHD Maroela Gin, Coconut Rum, Cacao Blanc, Blanc Vermouth, Fresh Lemon Juice, Egg White or Aquafaba

Big Tree

K175

Story

The Big Tree at Victoria Falls is a large baobab, and though actually 2km away from the Zambezi, this tree is a popular visit for tourists and is famous for being possibly the oldest and biggest baobab in Zambia. It is thought to be about 2000 years old based on girth and ring data collected from other trees, but some speculate that it might actually be three trees wound around each other.

Playing on this rumour, we think the perfect drink to symbolise this tree is a Negroni riff - iconically made from 3 equal parts.

Ingredients

Mundambi Gin, Campari, Sweet Vermouth, NHD Baobab Bitters. (Infused with blackberries).

Unlikely Flora

K175

Story

The Victoria Falls Rainforest is not a typical African rainforest and technically is not even a rainforest at all! However, the continuous spray from the falls has resulted in the development of a unique ecosystem that would be otherwise impossible. The forest is filled with figs, palms, and waterbooms. From the ground, flowers such as the ground orchid, flame lily and wild gentian grow. The diverse flora in turn supports a variety of insects, amphibians, birds, and mammals.

This cocktail is delicate and floral, with a base of berry fruits.

Ingredients

Vodka, Suze Gentian Liqueur, Strawberry Liqueur, Hibiscus Cordial, Fresh Lemon Juice, Cold Brew Jasmine Tea, NHD Grapefruit Bitters

Nyami Nyami

K175

Story

The Nyami Nyami is the Zambezi River God, described as having the body of a snake and the head of a fish, a whirlpool, or a river dragon, and that where he swims, the water turns red. It's told that in building the Kariba Dam, the Nyami Nyami was separated from his wife in the Kariba Gorge.

Mysteriously, a hurricane swept the valley during survey work, and unprecedented floods were seen throughout the construction years, causing deaths and injuries. Tropical and bright, with inspiration coming from a classic Hurricane and Queen's Park Swizzle.

Ingredients

Gold Rum, Lemongrass Falernum, Passionfruit Cordial, Apple, Fresh Lime Juice, Mint Leaves, Soda, Peychaud's Bitters Float.

Bark & Paddle

K175

Story

As you drift along the lower Zambezi, you'll pass a landscape adorned with ebonies, mahonganies, acacias, baobab and fig trees. The dark woods parallel the deep, dark mirror of the water surface well. Amongst these, the African Painted Dog can be sighted travelling the savannah in their packs.

A rich, old-fashioned-style cocktail made using amaro and fig to add sweet fruit, vanilla, spice and bitterness to the flavour profile.

Ingredients

Bourbon Whisky, Amaro, NHD Burnt Cassia & Fig Liqueur, Angostura & Orange Bitters.

Crocodile Drift

K175

Story

The Lower Zambezi's Mana Pools National Park has the largest concentration of crocodiles in the country, they can be seen basking on the grassy embankments or drifting below the surface of the river. The ferocious predator cannot chew despite it's incredibly powerful bite and so they use the infamous “death roll” to rip and tear apart their prey.

In the cocktail world, a “smash” is a classic cocktail variety to quickly break apart fresh herbs and fruit to impart their flavour into a drink. Here we use it to make a drink that is herbaceous and refreshing, with aromatic and grassy notes.

Ingredients

Blanco Tequila, Yellow Chartreuse, Fresh Basil, Fresh Lemon Juice, NHD Sage, Rosemary & Cardamom Cordial, Pink Grapefruit Tonic.