

SCENIC VIEWS OF ZIMBABWE

Issued 18th July, 1996

(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 1996)²

Zimbabwe is a land made up of constantly changing scenery that satisfies many interests. The Lake Kariba sunsets, the green hills of the Eastern districts and on to the watering holes of the Hwange plains are all unique. The seasonal changes enhance the feeling that one is viewing for the first time.



45c: Matusadona National Park View

A sunset scene taken across Lake Kariba from the campsite at Tashinga. This Game Park is accessible by boat across the water from the town of Kariba or by four-wheel drive transportation across land. It is bordered by the Sanyati and Ume rivers and the Lake Kariba shoreline to the north. Many of the animals rescued during Operation Noah when the dam was filling were placed in this protected area. It is a treasure of Mammal and Bird life and has a rich fish population living in amongst the skeletons of trees drowned during the formation of the lake.

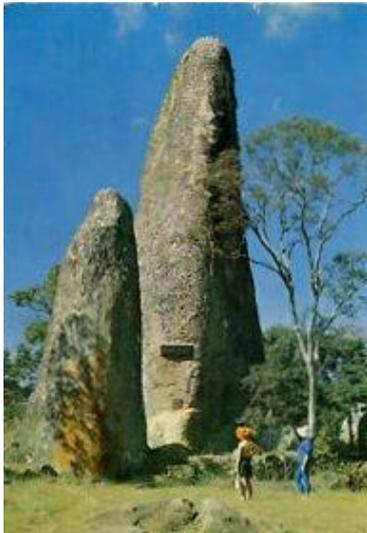
\$1.50: Juliasdale Rocky Outcrops



The highway from Rusape to Nyanga in the Eastern Highlands winds through breathtaking countryside dominated by towering rocky outcrops and umbrella shaped trees. Juliasdale is located before the boundaries of the Nyanga National Park. This is an area of orchards and fruit production, forestry and fish farming. Nyanga is rich in historical sites, ruins and ancient terracing. The lakes and rivers are famous for trout fishing, scenic golf courses and views from holiday cottages and hotels. This is a region unspoilt by modern development.

\$2.20 Honde Valley Panorama

A panoramic view across the Honde Valley showing the rich vegetation and intensive cultivation. The Honde River flows northeasterly into Mozambique from its source 30km north of the town of Mutare in the eastern districts of Zimbabwe. The river course drops from 1 400m to 850m above sea level within 20km. The valley floor widens out into a vast area with high temperatures and heavy rainfall. The conditions are ideal for extensive tea, coffee and tropical fruits plantations and is a region of great economic importance.



\$3.30: Finger Rocks at Morgenster Mission

This little known phenomena consists of two natural monoliths that guard the entrance to the Morgenster Mission six kilometres from Great Zimbabwe. There is the incredible Morgenster Panoramic View from the cliff face of bare rock that drops precipitously down the mountain side. The Mission was founded in 1891 and has become a large centre for the education of teachers, pastors, medical and homecrafts. The printing press is famous for supplying thousands of books and Bibles throughout the country. It was here that the English Bible was first translated into Shona. (Photo. Innocent Ali)

First Day Cover:

Milton Avenue Harare - Jacaranda Trees

This scene is typical of the streets of Harare City in September when the jacaranda trees (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) come out in full bloom. The fallen flowers form a mauve carpet on the roads and verges and the mauve bedecked branches arch overhead, often forming a solid canopy above the road. The trees were planted by the City forefathers and are now old. In some parts of town they are sadly having to be cut down and may not be a feature of the city in the future.



The Stamps



Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC ¹	Value	Description
928	356	45c	Matusadonha National Park
929	357	\$1.50	Juliasdale Rocky Outcrop
930	358	\$2.20	Honde Valley
931	359	\$3.00	Finger Rocks at Morgenster

Technical details

Stamp size:	All values	42 x 28 mm
Sheet Size:	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet	
Artist:	Paula Ware with photos by Hans Christen (45c, \$1.50 & FDC) and Innocent Ali (\$2.20 & \$3.00)	
Paper:	ZSC paper type F - Although still officially described as HS8, the paper properties changed in 1996. This is fluorescent front but non-fluorescent back and the gum is whitish PVA.	
Print colours:	Black, magenta, cyan & yellow	
Perforations:	SG 14½, ZSC 14¼	
	Top margin:	Perforated through.
	Other margins:	Imperforate
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe	
Printer's Imprint:	Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3. Imprint printed in black	

Cylinder numbers: Top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

Colour register: Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

Sheet Value: Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black.

Sheet Number: Type SN 4a with ‘PTC’ prefix, right margin opposite R1/5, reading down

Print numbers:	45c	2,000,000	\$1.50	190,000
	\$2.20	190,000	\$3.00	190,000

Issue date: 18th July 1996

Withdrawal from sale:

Demonetisation: 21st April 2000

Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been noted

Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds. No varieties have been reported

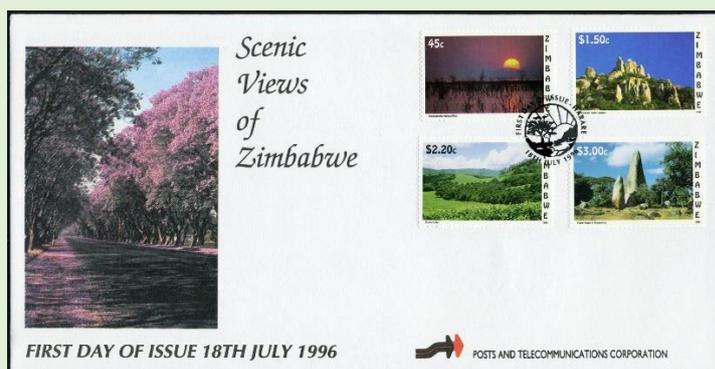
First Day Cover

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



ZW068.1 (PTC)



220 x 110 mm

Bibliography:

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear
2. PTC Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 3 of 1996.