

Zimbabwe
1990

- Get a Student Permit. It gives you temporary resident status and HUGE discounts on travel/sightseeing costs
- There is an excellent, extremely up-to-date guide book on Zimbabwe called *Zimbabwe and Botswana: The Rough Guide* by McCrea and Pinchuk (ISBN 0-7471-0084-5) published by Harrap-Columbus. I never saw it in bookstores in the states but it is probably available by special order. The British students here all have it and it is so useful that I copied large parts of it for myself.
- For the time spent in Harare it is a more worthwhile experience to attach oneself to a firm (to join a ward team) rather than to only attend bedside teaching rounds. If one only does teaching rounds, there is no hands-on experience or patient responsibility. Although the elective secretary here will tell you that you need to be in Harare for 4 weeks to get "attached" in practice, due students have done so far for 2 or 3 weeks only
- Photographic film and camera repair are utterly unavailable in Zimbabwe. In addition it is very difficult to have film mailed from the states as it gets delayed in customs. Bring much more than you think you could possibly need. Students should also think about bringing an extra camera in case theirs breaks.
- Sunscreen is also unavailable for the most part. I have been searching for a week after losing mine overboard while whitewater rafting!