

THE BEST OF MALAWI





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SAFARIS

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For decades, we've been opening the door to Africa's wildest and most beautiful places.

- Mankwato Lodge – tucked away in Majete, Malawi's official Big 5 wildlife reserve where conservation thrives.
- Kuthengo Camp – in the heart of Uluwale, beautiful landscapes and great game viewing.
- Panorama Lodge – a serene escape on Lake Malawi, where relaxation meets adventure.

Experience Malawi's wildlife, culture, landscape and lake with us.

THE BEST OF MALAWI

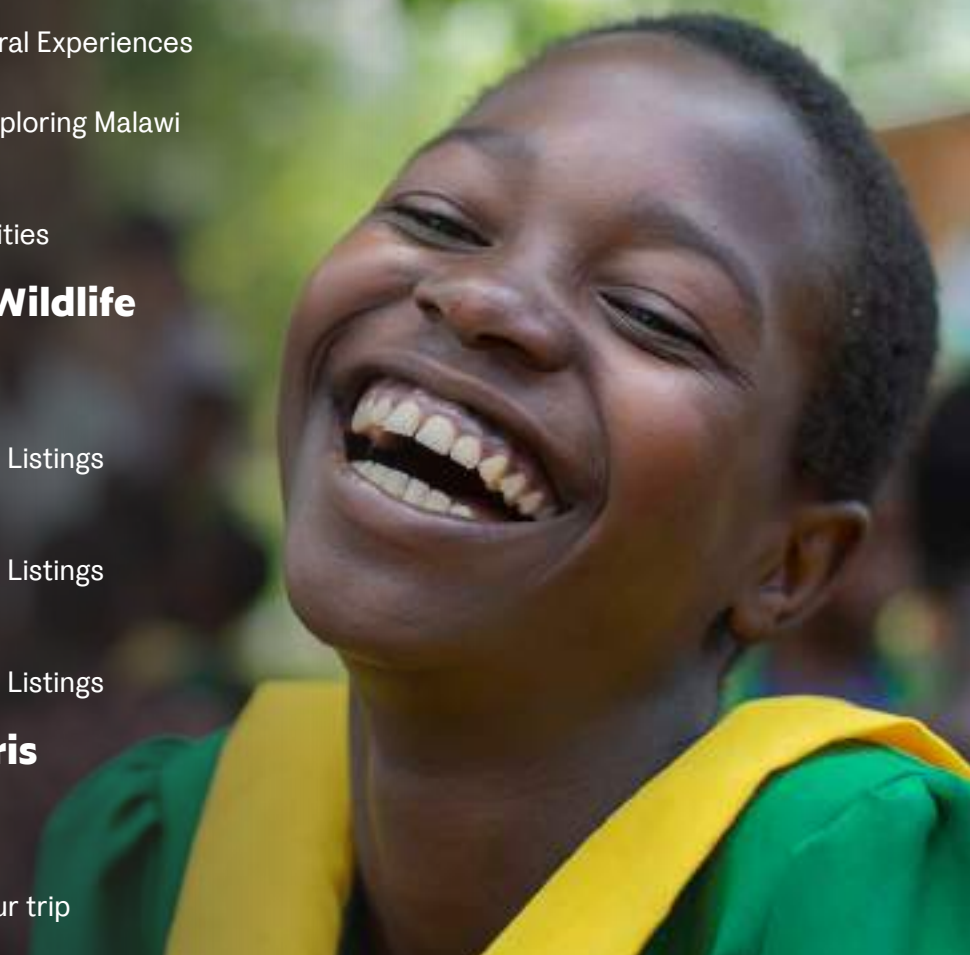
This brochure & directory is brought to you by the Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium.

The Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium comprises over 40 companies who offer the Best of Malawi. They cater for the needs of international visitors, providing high quality accommodation and services and ensuring that discerning travellers have trouble-free, memorable and highly enjoyable stays in what has become known as the Warm Heart of Africa.

Our Tourism Information Office is based in the UK but responds to worldwide enquiries, providing further information and advice on any aspect of travel to and within Malawi. Responses are prompt and we have the most up-to-date and accurate information available.

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RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

Ask most Malawi lodge owners if they have a 'Responsible Tourism Policy' and it's unlikely you'll find many such formal documents. But ask if they work closely with communities, provide good employment opportunities and actively initiate sustainable projects of conservation and development in their local area, and they will be incredulous that you even had to ask! For many, it's the very reason they are there.

Tourism has the potential to be a significant engine of economic growth for Malawi and already the vast majority of lodges are ensuring that it has a direct, positive effect on the country and on as many Malawians as possible, as well as being sustainable for future generations. One thing you can be sure of in Malawi is that your tourism Dollar, Euro or Pound (or Kwacha!) is one that is very well spent.



WELCOME TO MALAWI

Described as the ‘Warm Heart Of Africa’, this relatively little known gem has so much to offer: Wildlife, Culture, Landscape and, of course, Lake Malawi – the third largest in Africa. A year-round destination and relatively small, it is the combination of attractions and experiences Malawi has to offer in such a compact area that makes it so special, and one of Africa’s most complete destinations.

USING THIS BROCHURE

The first pages cover the country’s main attractions of Lake, Landscape, Wildlife and Culture; plus details of activities, and advice on touring Malawi. The sections on the three regions (North, Central and South) include location descriptions followed by a directory of accommodation for that region (listed North to South by location). The directories give descriptions of all the best lodges, hotels and camps, including symbols to show at a glance what each one offers (see key). These include activities/facilities available on site or nearby (see P.15 for more detail), a guide to property size and an indication of price. As a rough guide, the properties are split into 4 price bands, based on rates for B&B per person per night. \$ = <US\$60; \$\$ = US\$60–150; \$\$\$ = US\$150–300; \$\$\$\$ = US\$300+. (NB: at a number of properties, a B&B rate is not actually offered, but an approximation has been calculated for comparison purposes).

Next comes a directory of companies responsible for transport, tours & safaris who can organise all aspects of your visit to Malawi. At the back of the brochure is a general Travel Advisory and a full A to Z of contact details for all the members of the Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium whose products and services are included in the brochure.

Finally, you will find a useful map inside the fold of the back cover. This can be folded out to view no matter which page you are on, and identifies the locations of all the listed accommodation.

No. of Rooms/Units



No. of Beds/Capacity



Price Guide



Outdoor Activities



Cultural Experiences



Safaris



Watersports



Sports



Swimming Pool



The friendliness of the Malawians is renowned, which makes the cultural experiences second to none – opportunities to be warmly welcomed into real villages, interact with local people and discover what daily life is like in Africa.

Malawi has beautiful and varied scenery that seems to change round every bend. It is home to high mountains, vast high plateaux with limitless views, indigenous forests, rivers both energetic and serene, towering escarpments and wide open plains. Trekking, mountain biking and even horse riding are available for those wishing to explore these amazing landscapes.

For wildlife, the Big 5 are all to be found, and the excitement of safaris in Malawi comes from the thrill of discovering animals in unspoilt wilderness areas, with few other, if any, visitors alongside. Safaris by 4x4, by boat and on foot are all on offer.

Lake Malawi has vast, shimmering, crystal clear- waters fringed by beaches of golden sand. But this is also a real-life aquarium, teeming tropical fish and its shore dotted with fascinating fishing villages. From kayaking and sailing to snorkelling and scuba diving, there is a wide range of activities. Or, just relax on a deserted beach!

Malawi’s tourist infrastructure is good – lodges are mostly small scale and spread out and there is high quality accommodation wherever its needed. Malawi is exceptionally family-friendly with so much to keep everyone interested. It also benefits from a lovely climate of largely warm, sunny days with its range of altitudes offering variation when needed.

Despite having all that Africa has to offer in one compact, welcoming and easy to explore destination, remarkably, Malawi remains untouched and unspoilt by mass tourism. This is still real Africa where you will hardly see another visitor – allowing you to fully explore and enjoy all of its riches in Wildlife, Culture, Landscape and Lake.

Malawi’s tourism has seen unprecedented development in recent years. New lodges have opened and some existing hotels and lodges have been enlarged and upgraded. The tourist infrastructure remains small scale but what’s there is of a high standard. The country’s reserves are seeing the greatest changes. New public-private partnerships have safeguarded the future of the country’s wildlife through conservation initiatives and re-stocking programmes; at the same time improving the safari experiences beyond recognition. If Malawi’s wildlife was ever seen as a weakness, all that is changing! Investment has also been put into local infrastructure, making Malawi not just stunning, rewarding, and memorable, but also easy and safe. It is a destination simply waiting to be discovered!



DESTINATION MANAGEMENT CO.

Travel that Matters. Memories that Last.

Orbis creates journeys that inspire. From safaris and lake escapes to hands-on community experiences for school groups, corporate groups, families and independent travelers. Every itinerary blends adventure, leisure and impact.



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#BePartofSomething #TradeNotAid



THE WARM HEART OF AFRICA

In the past, Malawi tended to be neglected by travellers: little known, small and hidden in the Great East African Rift Valley. Even today, it remains unspoiled by the mass tourism that has been the fate of some other African countries. Approaching 45,000 square miles /120,000 square kilometres in area; the country epitomizes the saying 'small is beautiful'. Landlocked it may be but it has its own inland 'sea' – the stunningly beautiful Lake Malawi.

It is the unique combination of landscape, wildlife, lake and, of course, the people which makes Malawi one of Africa's most amazing countries. This is one of the safest and friendliest countries in the whole of Africa, offering the visitor a fascinating variety of sights and experiences. The diversity of landscapes, the huge lake and the national parks and reserves provide the foundation for the unrivalled choice of safaris, water sports and outdoor activities on offer.



CAPTIVATING CULTURE

The Warm Heart of Africa' is not just a marketing slogan, it's a reality. Malawians are the most friendly people you could wish to meet anywhere in the world. A warm, welcoming and safe nation, locals love to share their communities with visitors; and cultural interactions here are genuine and true to life.

Even in the context of Malawi's great natural riches and attractions, its people are its greatest asset: friendly and welcoming to a fault. Every visitor is met with a smile and the warmth of the welcome is genuine and long-lasting. With over 20 million people, Malawi is one of the more densely populated countries of this part of Africa. Most people live in traditional rural villages. But these villages give visitors a wonderful opportunity to have a glimpse of real Africa – daily life as it is today in the heart of the continent. These are not tourist creations, but a chance to interact with real people in real villages going about their lives.

Malawians are pleased to welcome in respectful visitors and proud to show them around. The majority of Malawi's tourist lodges across the country have strong links to their local communities and can easily arrange village visits.

Many of today's Malawians are descendants of the Bantu people who moved across Africa and into Malawi for hundreds of years up to the fifteenth century. There is now a rich cultural mix in Malawi with the Chewa being the most numerous tribe. Others include the Yao, the Nyanja and the Maravi. In the north the Tumbuka are prominent. Each tribe has contributed to modern Malawi, whether it be in dress, dance, language or thriving music scene. Masks are commonly used in various dances and ceremonies and these are usually tribe-specific. Traditional (African) doctors still attract many people and the two main 'modern' religions, Christianity and Islam, frequently exhibit a continuing adherence to traditional beliefs.

STUNNING LANDSCAPES

Malawi's natural scenery is stunningly beautiful. The diverse landscapes, including their cloaks of vegetation, are breathtaking and change around every bend in the road: untouched wilderness, high plateaux, mountain peaks, riverine lowlands, vast tracts of forest, grasslands, and plantations of sugar and tea.

The highest peaks in Malawi touch 10,000 ft / 3000 m while the lowlands are barely above sea level. These great contrasts help to make the landscape of Malawi one of the most varied in Africa, and all in a country smaller than England.

The Lake, its immediate shoreline and the valley of the Shire River which drains it, lie within the Great Rift Valley of eastern Africa. From the Lake, a series of escarpments climb to the Central African Plateau (1600 – 5000 ft / 500 – 1500 m). This is gently undulating land, punctuated by occasional hills and forests. Rising to even greater heights are Malawi's true mountains: the whaleback plateau of Nyika and the mountainous Vipha in the north, the Dowa Highlands in the centre and, in the south, the two great massifs of Zomba and, highest of all, Mulanje, Central Africa's grandest peak. Clothed in forests and broken by streams and waterfalls, these highlands provide a landscape not expected of Africa.

As well as viewing points from which to see across countless miles of varied and magnificent landscapes, the forest reserves and uplands offer activities from climbing to trekking, mountain biking to birdwatching, or simple cool tranquillity in surroundings of incredible natural beauty.

ZOMBA FOREST LODGE



Find Magic in the Forest

An eco-green experience for budding eco-warriors



Our home is your haven

We are Zomba Forest Lodge, a unique boutique, environmentally minded, off-grid guest house nestled on the slopes of the iconic Zomba Plateau.

Tucked away in lush gardens and sitting in 20 acres of mixed woodland, Zomba Forest Lodge provides the perfect place to unwind, recharge and reflect, and allows guests to take the time to absorb their travel experience.



Unique, boutique and perfectly formed



With only 5 en-suite bedrooms, the lodge has the intimacy of a home away from home. Guests come together each evening for a candlelit 3 course dinner to share their stories, experiences, and laughter.

www.zombaforestlodge.com ** zombaforestlodge@gmail.com
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We serve happiness on a plate



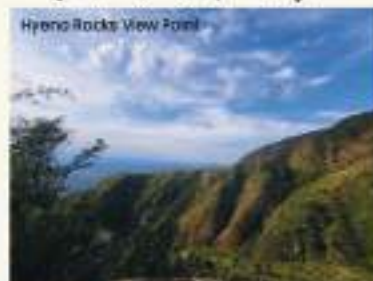
The view from our suitably scenic sunset spot



3.5km of paths await within Zomba Forest Lodge and myriad of trails lie outside for guests to enjoy, explore and immerse themselves in nature.



Spectacular scenery just a footstep away



Sustainability, Responsibility and making a difference

Sustainability and sensitivity to our surroundings led us to setting up TREEZ, our own conservation project (www.zombatreez.com) to help protect and naturally regenerate our environment's biodiversity on the outer slopes of Zomba Plateau, while economically empowering the local communities who represent some of the poorest people on Earth. We firmly believe in climate justice and putting our communities first to ensure that the conservation efforts last.



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KAYA MAWA

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& EXPERIENCE BLISSFUL, BAREFOOT LUXURY

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DAZZLING LAKE

The jewel in the crown of the country's tourist attractions is **Lake Malawi** – the Rift Valley's 'Lake of Stars'. Home to the world's first freshwater National Park and covering a third of the country, Lake Malawi is the third largest lake in Africa. Although a lake of crystal clear fresh water, its size and depth gives it a sea-like appearance, with one side rarely visible from the other, and a shoreline of idyllic golden sandy beaches lapped by gentle waves. The Lake is a real-life aquarium, home to up to 1000 species of brightly coloured tropical fish, many unique to the Lake. That's more species than all the lakes and rivers of Europe and North America put together! Far from hiding away, these fish will swim around you, come up close, and boast their magnificence right in front of your eyes.

This vast body of freshwater is not only a scenic wonderland but it provides a wide range of water sport opportunities for those looking for something beyond sun, sand and swimming. International-class accommodation is dotted along its length, mainly small friendly lodges, but to suit all budgets and interests. From luxury lodges to rustic camps on deserted islands, all have their own piece of paradise and offer plenty of activities to keep you occupied. Equally, they all offer a truly relaxing beach experience, often in complete seclusion.

Lake Malawi was "discovered" by the Scottish missionary and explorer David Livingstone just over 150 years ago and it now forms an integral part of Malawi's cultural heritage, bringing sustenance, livelihood, tourism and leisure to the country. Fishing villages are scattered along the shore and the traditional industry and practices are an attraction to visitors. Lake Malawi's approximate dimensions are 365 miles north to south and 52 miles broad, hence the nickname: "the calendar lake". The Lake, in the north, is quite extraordinarily deep at 2300 ft/700 m, plunging well below sea level. This reflects the enormity of the natural faulting of the Great Rift Valley, which is the origin of the Lake. Access to the Lake is possible along much of its length but it is usually necessary to take a short detour off the main roads in order to reach the beach (part of the magic!). There are long stretches of totally uninhabited golden sand lakeshore, lapped by crystal clear waters. Journeys on the Lake range from the famous 'lake ferry', the mv Ilala, to exploring on a kayak expedition.



WONDERFUL WILDLIFE

Malawi's nine National Parks and Wildlife Reserves offer game viewing and tracking as it should be... intimate and exclusive. Each park has a only two or three lodges, so you can view the Big 5 without the crowds.

It is the country's wildlife that is currently undergoing the greatest changes. Having established one of Africa's great conservation successes in Majete Wildlife Reserve, the African Parks organisation took over the management of two more of Malawi's protected areas – Liwonde and Nkhotakota. Majete has already been transformed from a neglected area with few animals into a thriving Big 5 reserve. Highlights of an on-going programme of animal translocations include Nkhotakota receiving the largest ever transfer of elephants whilst Liwonde and Majete have seen cheetahs, lions and, most recently, wild dog, arrive and thrive. With this massive investment in conservation and re-stocking, the future is very bright for Malawi's wildlife.

The Parks and Reserves cover a great variety of landscape and vegetation types, and include areas of genuine unspoilt wilderness.

In the north are the unique and beautiful highlands of the Nyika Plateau National Park, and the low lying Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve. Central Malawi has two vast game areas: Kasungu National Park in the west and Nkhotakota Reserve in the east which straddles the rugged and untouched wilderness of the Rift Valley Escarpment. In the south is Liwonde, the most established National Park in the country, offering the most prolific game viewing along the River Shire. There are also three game areas further south in the Lower Shire Valley: Lengwe National Park and the wildlife reserves of Mwabvi and the Big 5 Majete. Near the southern end of Lake Malawi is the world's first freshwater national park at Cape Maclear. This is one of Malawi's UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Smaller, privately run reserves are now also emerging, including Kuti, Chimwenya and Thangadzi River Conservancy.

A safari in Malawi is about memorable experiences, not just tick lists; plenty of game in beautiful surroundings but no convoys of vehicles characteristic of some African game parks. Visitors are relatively few in number, giving everyone the opportunity to experience all types of safari: in a 4x4, by boat, or on foot, and even wildlife viewing from your balcony, in peaceful privacy.

Malawi is also an ornithologist's paradise. Few countries in the whole of Africa can rival Malawi's range of bird species, coupled with the relative ease of birdwatching. Around 650 species have been identified with over ten percent not being seen in other parts of southern Africa. Best known is the fish eagle to be seen at the Lake and along the River Shire. But the greatest variety of animal species is to be found under water, with Lake Malawi home to around 1000 species of tropical fish – a number unsurpassed anywhere else in the world.





NATURE'S ULTIMATE GATEAWAY

Tongole Wilderness Retreat, a luxury eco-lodge located inside of Nkhosakota Wildlife Reserve Malawi. Activities include: bush walks, scenic drive, hiking, birdwatching and cultural visits. It's the perfect blend of adventure and relaxation, ideal for nature lovers seeking a serene escape.



reservations@tongole.com
+265 998 73 44 66
www.tongole.com



ACTIVITY & ADVENTURE

For a small country, Malawi has a quite remarkable array of activities to offer its visitors – on land and on (and in) water. The days of 'laze and gaze' seem to have gone, replaced by a wish to do something new and exciting. **A visit to Malawi is not generally about staying in one place – it's about touring, seeing new places and enjoying new experiences.** A useful table detailing what activities are on offer at the various lodges, camps and hotels can be found on P. 15.

THRILLING SAFARIS

With African Parks now managing three reserves, a massive conservation and restocking programme is underway and the country's safari experiences are being transformed.

Two of the great attractions of Malawi's national parks and wildlife reserves are their completely unspoilt wilderness and the absence of mass tourism. You really do feel you're looking at a scene recognisable from over 150 years ago. There's a real touch of the Garden of Eden about them. You discover the animals, they're not lined up as though in a theme park, and with only two or three lodges in any one reserve there's hardly ever another vehicle to be seen.

There's a wide choice of safari. You can use 4x4 vehicles (most are open-topped) for your game drives or you can really get to know the country and its wildlife on a walking safari. Or try a boat safari along the Shire River – a wonderful way to see the animals close-up. You can float close to the hundreds of hippos and watch the elephants drink just a few metres away.

It is difficult to find many countries that can approach Malawi as a destination for birdwatching. Few will get close to the range of species that can be seen and even fewer have such ease of viewing.



LIFE-CHANGING CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Malawi's people are its greatest asset – friendly, welcoming, colourful and vibrant. It is impossible to visit and not to become engaged with the people, but there are also opportunities to spend time in real villages (including staying overnight) for a first-hand experience of the cultures, traditions and daily life. These visits allow a genuine interaction with Malawians and are usually the highlight of any trip.

Malawi's festival and music scene is fast expanding, with events throughout the year and with some Malawian artists gaining international recognition. Events vary from choir festivals to seasons of dance. The event that is already on the world map is the Lake of Stars Festival. This is a high profile celebration of music from Malawi, Africa and around the world. The festival normally takes place late September / early October, and is held on the shores of the lake.

There's much to see of Malawi's history, including the pre-historic remains of the Karonga district and Stone Age rock paintings near Dedza (home to the famous Pottery). The Cultural & Museum Centre at Karonga is well worth a visit. Elsewhere, the colonial period is preserved in buildings from the David Livingstone era and the defeat of the Arab slave trade is well documented in the museums of of Blantyre. Among other museums around the country are a Lake Museum at Mangochi, a mission museum at Livingstonia and a postal services museum near Zomba. Mua Mission also deserves special mention – for both its wonderful cultural museum and the quite amazing wood carvings it produces.



ALL SORTS OF WATER SPORTS

Lake Malawi, an inland sea, provides the opportunity for almost any water sport you care to think of. The lake's size, its warm freshwater and its beautiful surrounding beaches make it a magnet for those seeking an all-year round location to swim, scuba dive, snorkel, water-ski, sail, kayak, parasail or simply potter about in boats. The salt-free water is a bonus.

The clarity of the water (especially between June and December) gives visibility at best down to 30 metres and the lake has the largest number of fish species of any in the world. Almost all the lodges and hotels along the lakeshore have equipment for water sports and there are dive schools offering PADI courses. Kayaking and sailing can range from an hour or so on the water to a full kayaking expedition over a few weeks. For a traditional experience of the lake, take a trip on the famous mv Ilala, the local water-bus.





Accommodation
Reservations



Big-Five
Game Viewing



Tailor-Made
Itineraries



Camping & SUV
Vehicle Hire



Family &
Group Travel



Specialized
Guided Tours



info@landlake.net - www.landlake.net

PARADISE FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Malawi's varied landscapes provide the perfect backdrop and environments for an ever-increasing range of outdoor activities.

From trekking up Mount Mulanje, looking out for miles from the top of Zomba Plateau, to exploring the rolling hills of Nyika, and hiking through the rugged wilderness of Nkhosakota - there is so much to discover simply on foot in Malawi's varied highlands, forests and plateaux. All levels and abilities can be catered for. The country has also become known as a great destination for cycling. Mountain biking is possible from a number of centres and the country's variety in a small area makes it ideal for touring by bike.

Horse riding remains popular and there are excellent stables on the Zomba Plateau, in Kuti Wildlife Reserve and on the Vipha Highlands. Specialist tours/activities include yoga holidays, tea factory tours, art safaris and pottery classes. Orchid lovers are also regular visitors to Malawi's unique displays.



EXPLORING MALAWI

Visitors should think in terms of a stay in the country of 10-14 days.

A longer period will allow you to make a more leisurely tour but if, on the other hand, you can't spare more than a week it may be best to focus on just one region. The beauty of Malawi's compact size and great variety is that no time is ever 'lost' to travel. Each destination is likely to be only a few hours from the next, and with a fascinating amount to see on the way. If you are thinking of making an excursion into the Luangwa National Park in Zambia or thinking of a flying visit to the Victoria Falls, add in another three to four days.

The most convenient way to divide Malawi is to use the capital Lilongwe, in the heart of the Central Region, as a dividing point between the north and the south. Whether heading north or south of Lilongwe, it's possible to follow an itinerary which samples the variety of landscape, wildlife, lake and cultural attractions that the country offers. If time allows, a combination of north and south is the ultimate Malawi Trip. Opening up the map folded into the back cover will help to identify the places detailed in the following guide:

Heading north from Lilongwe, Ntchisi and the Vipha Plateau offer an immediate escape to tranquil highland forests. In between the two is the rugged wilderness of the Nkhosakota Wildlife Reserve, now being re-stocked. Further on, into North Malawi, is the country's third most important town, Mzuzu, which leads, via Rumphu, to the wonderland of the Nyika Plateau National Park and to the Vwaza Marsh Wildlife Reserve. Both are good game-viewing locations and the Nyika Plateau is Malawi at its most scenic. Heading east, the famous Livingstonia Mission and the historic town of Karonga bring you to Lake Malawi.

Places to stay at its shore on the return south to Lilongwe include the bustling Nkhosakota Bay and the beautiful beaches of Chintcheche. Across the lake to the east there is the magical island of Likoma and the enchanting Mozambique shore. Once back into Central Malawi, the historic Nkhosakota and charming Senga Bay bring you within a short drive of Lilongwe.

Alternatively, heading south from Lilongwe, highlands are soon encountered at Dedza, which has the added attractions of its famous pottery and nearby Chongoni Rock Art, a World Heritage Site. Continuing into South Malawi, Blantyre is one of the country's two largest towns, with historical monuments and a variety of attractions close by. South of Blantyre, the Lower Shire Valley is home to three national parks and wildlife reserves - Lengwe, Mwabvi and Majete (a Big 5 Reserve), and the privately run Thangadzi River Conservancy. East of Blantyre, is the magnificent Mount Mulanje and the beautiful Thyolo tea estates it overlooks. Beginning the return north, the old capital town of Zomba and the famous views from Zomba Plateau are a short drive away. A little further on is Liwonde National Park, Malawi's most popular and best established game park. Lake Malawi is reached initially at a strip known as the 'Mangochi lakeshore' where you'll be spoilt for choice of accommodation. From there it's a short drive to Cape Maclear/Lake Malawi National Park and its range of attractions. Back in Central Malawi, Senga Bay and the Mareli Islands just off shore are reached after passing the interesting Mua Mission, and then it's a short return to Lilongwe.

With Blantyre now served by the international airlines, it's also possible to cover the southern part of the country by using Blantyre as a start and/or end point. Further details of the specific locations mentioned above can be found in the following pages on North Malawi, Central Malawi and South Malawi, with accommodation details following in the relevant Directory pages.

Your favourite Dutch travel specialists in Malawi

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Well organised, without losing the sense of adventure. Personal attention and eye for detail. Sustainable, but in no way boring. And most of all, a huge passion for the people and nature in Malawi.

That's probably what you wish for during your Dream Holiday in Africa. Together with our amazing team, we look forward to creating new memories with you!

Are you ready to fall in love with Malawi?



Find Us

- Africa House & Mitengo House in Lilongwe
- Horseback Adventures & Kuti Wildlife Reserve

Fisherman's Rest



Go Beyond The Ordinary

Explore the natural beauty and warm-hearted people of Malawi

Spend your days investing in young minds through our literacy projects, with a family learning how to build a local fuel-efficient stove, or sharing a cup of tea and learning what the meaning of life is in Malawi...

If you just want to relax, there is no better place than sitting by the pool on the tip of the Great Rift Valley, overlooking one of the most stunning views that Africa has to offer.

You can camp in the middle of Majete National park for an authentic African bush adventure.

Malawi, The Warm Heart of Africa

Perfect for groups and family travel. We provide a safe and friendly place to visit, where you can immerse yourself in Malawi, your home from home.

Fisherman's Rest is no ordinary holiday: it is the complete Malawian experience.

Book your trip: www.fishermansrest.net



ACTIVITY LISTINGS

NORTH MALAWI

	Safaris	Boat Safaris	Birdwatching	Walking & Trekking	Climbing & Abseiling	Mountain Biking	Horse Riding	Tea Tasting	Volunteer Projects	Village Visits	Market Visits	Historical Sites	Golf	Wellness / Spa	Snorkelling	Scuba Diving	Kayaking	Sailing	Boat Trips	Fishing
La Rondavelle (Chilumba)																				
Chelinda Lodge & Camp (Nyika)																				
Butterfly Space (Nkhaya Bay)																				
Makuzi Beach (Chintechi)																				
Ulisa Bay Lodge (Likoma Island)																				
Kaya Mawa (Likoma Island)																				
Nkwichi Lodge (Manda Wilderness)																				
Luwawa Forest Lodge (Viphya Plateau)																				

CENTRAL MALAWI

	Safaris	Boat Safaris	Birdwatching	Walking & Trekking	Climbing & Abseiling	Mountain Biking	Horse Riding	Tea Tasting	Volunteer Projects	Village Visits	Market Visits	Historical Sites	Golf	Wellness / Spa	Snorkelling	Scuba Diving	Kayaking	Sailing	Boat Trips	Fishing
Ngala Beach Lodge (Dwangwa)																				
Bua River Lodge (Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve)																				
Tongole Wilderness Retreat (Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve)																				
Kachenga Bush Camp (Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve)																				
Livezi Bush Camp (Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve)																				
Rafiki Safari Camp (Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve)																				
Kuti Camp (Kuti Wildlife Reserve)																				
Kumbali Lake Retreat (Senga Bay)																				
Blue Zebra Island Lodge (Nankoma Island)																				
Africa House Malawi (Lilongwe)																				
Heuglin's Lodge (Lilongwe)																				
Mitengo House (Lilongwe)																				
Kumbali Country Lodge (Lilongwe)																				
Kusewera (Lilongwe)																				
Dzalanyama Forest Lodge (Dzalanyama)																				

SOUTH MALAWI

	Safaris	Boat Safaris	Birdwatching	Walking & Trekking	Climbing & Abseiling	Mountain Biking	Horse Riding	Tea Tasting	Volunteer Projects	Village Visits	Market Visits	Historical Sites	Golf	Wellness / Spa	Snorkelling	Scuba Diving	Kayaking	Sailing	Boat Trips	Fishing
Mumbo & Domwe Camps (Lake Malawi NP)																				
Pumulani, Robin Pope Safaris (Lake Malawi NP)																				
Norman Carr Cottage (Monkey Bay)																				
The Makokola Retreat (Mangochi Lakeshore)																				
Kuthengo Camp, Robin Pope Safaris (Liwonde National Park)																				
Mvuu Lodge & Camp (Liwonde National Park)																				
Chimwala Bush Camp (Liwonde National Park)																				
Zomba Forest Lodge (Zomba Plateau)																				
Fisherman's Rest (Blantyre/Shire Valley)																				
Game Haven Lodge (Blantyre/Thyolo)																				
Huntingdon House (Thyolo)																				
Chawani Bungalow (Thyolo)																				
Mkulumadzi, Robin Pope Safaris (Majete Wildlife Reserve)																				
Thawale Lodge (Majete Wildlife Reserve)																				
Mwembezi Gorge Bush Camp (Majete Wildlife Reserve)																				
Majete Game Capture Camp (Majete Wildlife Reserve)																				
Ng'ona Lodge (Majete Wildlife Reserve)																				
Zua Safari Lodge (Majete Wildlife Reserve)																				
AfricaWildTruck Camp & Lodge (Mulanje)																				
Thangadzi Lodge (Thangadzi River Conservancy)																				

Key: ■ Available at Property □ Available Nearby

TRANSFORMING MALAWI'S WILDLIFE

A CONSERVATION SUCCESS STORY

Malawi used to be overshadowed by its larger neighbours when it came to discussions about safaris. However, in recent years, Malawi has emerged as a huge conservation success story, with a remarkable transformation of its wildlife. This transformation is not only benefiting the country's rich biodiversity but also its people and economy, as well as its visitors.

MALAWI'S TRANSFORMATION IN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION HAS YIELDED SEVERAL ENCOURAGING OUTCOMES:

■ **BIODIVERSITY RECOVERY:** The recovery of threatened species like the African elephant and the black rhinoceros is one of the most significant achievements. Their populations are stabilising, and the once-bleak prospects for these animals are now improving.

■ **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** Tourism, a key driver of the economy, has seen a huge boost. The return of charismatic megafauna, the improved quality of national parks and wildlife reserves, and the huge leap in the calibre of game viewing have attracted more visitors, increasing revenue for both the government and local communities.

■ **COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT:** By involving local communities in conservation efforts, Malawi has improved their living conditions. These programs provide employment opportunities and revenue-sharing mechanisms that benefit those who coexist with wildlife.

■ **INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION:** Malawi's remarkable transformation in wildlife conservation has garnered international recognition and support. This has led to increased funding and expertise to further enhance conservation efforts.

In the past, Malawi's wildlife faced numerous challenges. Poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict had taken a toll on the country's diverse ecosystems and animals were struggling to survive in fragmented habitats. The loss of biodiversity had severe consequences, including the degradation of ecosystem services, reduced tourism revenue, and negative impacts on local communities.

But the last 20 years have witnessed a complete turnaround.

African Parks, a non-governmental conservation organisation, began its work in Malawi in 2003, signing a mandate with the Malawi government to manage and transform Majete Wildlife Reserve. **At the time, Majete was a depleted reserve with virtually no wildlife left.** Only a few antelope remained, with not a single tourist visit in three years. Spending millions of dollars and bringing in thousands of animals, **African Parks worked tirelessly to transform the reserve into what it is today.**

They immediately initiated the development of essential infrastructure and forged collaborative ties with local communities. They embarked on a journey to reintroduce various species into Majete, including rhinos and elephants in 2006, lions in 2012, giraffes in 2018, cheetahs in 2019, and wild dogs in 2021. Thanks to these reintroductions, combined with effective park protection measures, **the wildlife population experienced explosive growth**, to the extent that it is now able to be the source of translocations to other parks.

In 2015, African Parks took over the management of Liwonde National Park and the adjacent Mangochi Forest Reserve with the intention of replicating their success in Majete; and they have done exactly that. From a much more advanced starting point than Majete, after ten years of intense conservation work, **Liwonde offers supreme wildlife interactions and safari experiences.**

African Parks extended their responsibility of Malawi's wild spaces and became guardians of Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve in 2015 too. **Within two years, the reserve was at the forefront of record-breaking translocations**, including the iconic 500 elephants campaign which saw the reserve **restocked with more than 520 elephants and 2,000 other animals** from Liwonde National Park and Majete Wildlife Reserve. This was one of the largest relocations of animals in human history.

With wildlife numbers growing fast in all three reserves, and safari experiences getting better and better, African Parks continue to prove that their passion and sound management is a model for success. **Malawi is proudly placed on a pedestal for all to admire.**

Recognising the undoubted success of this public-private partnership, the Malawi government has found similar partners for more of its protected areas. The once-great Kasungu National Park is now benefitting from the involvement of IFAW (and received 250+ elephants

courtesy of African Parks in 2022). And in 2023, the unique Nyika National Park and the adjacent Vwaza Marsh Game Reserve saw their future secured with the Malawi Government entering into a 20-year Co-Management Agreement (CMA) with the Peace Parks Foundation.

Malawi's transformation in wildlife conservation is a testament to what can be achieved when a country and its people commit to preserving their natural heritage. The combination of community involvement, expanded protected areas, anti-poaching measures, species reintroduction, and education and awareness campaigns has proven to be a winning formula. Malawi is no longer in the shadow of its neighbours when it comes to wildlife conservation and safaris. Instead, **it stands as a shining example of how a nation can turn the tide to protect its unique and diverse ecosystems for future generations** – and deliver superb game viewing and thrilling safari experiences to its visitors.

NORTH MALAWI

Less well known than the rest of the country, North Malawi has so much to offer the visitor. With a lower population density, it is a region for those who wish to experience Africa at its most unspoilt. It has a different character from the rest of the country, recognisable in its scenery and its people. Except for that part of the region which is occupied by Lake Malawi, the north is characterised by its great highlands and its quite astonishing beauty is the lasting memory of all who explore this unique area.

For accommodation details for North Malawi, see the Directory which follows these pages.

NYIKA NATIONAL PARK

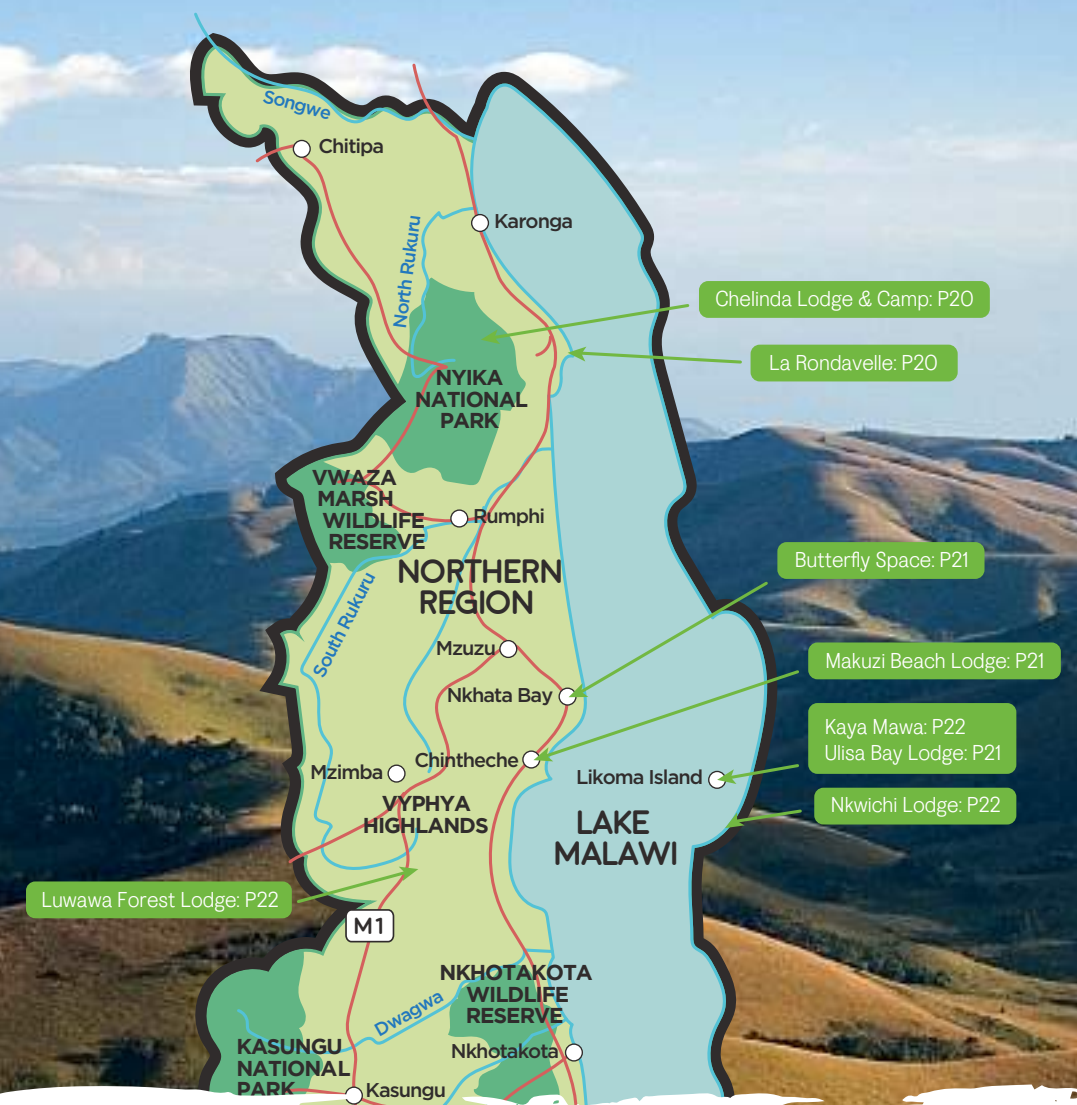
NYIKA NATIONAL PARK is Malawi's largest (1250 sq miles/3250 sq km) and longest established. It extends across the great Nyika Plateau, which is essentially a granitic dome rising to 8000 ft /2400 m with an environment like none other in Africa. The rolling landscapes of the central plateau are described as whalebacks and are rich in wildflowers. Over 200 types of orchid flower in the rainy season. Nyika is wonderful for trekking and mountain biking, and for conventional 4x4 safaris. The montane vegetation attracts large numbers of antelope from the diminutive duiker to roan and eland, the latter of which can occur in very large herds. Zebra are common and leopard, hyena and jackal also live on the plateau. The leopard population is one of the most dense in Africa and sightings are regular. Elephants and buffalo usually keep to the lower ground on the edges of the park. For the birdwatcher, the park has a great deal to offer, with over 400 species recorded, including the rare Denham's bustard, wattled crane and red-winged francolin. Other things to see in the vast park include waterfalls, a Neolithic rock shelter, trout pools and even a 'magic lake'. (Accommodation: Chelinda Lodge, Chelinda Camp)

LIVINGSTONIA MISSION is wonderfully sited between Nyika's eastern edge and the shore of Lake Malawi. From 3000 ft /1000 m there are views of incredible beauty across the lake to Tanzania. Livingstonia is a fascinating mission settlement dating from 1894, established by Robert Laws, a disciple of David Livingstone. The Old Stone House, the home of the Laws family, is now a rest-house and museum.

VWAZA MARSH WILDLIFE RESERVE is 400 sq miles/1000 sq km of marsh and plain, with a few rocky outcrops. The reserve has a wonderful mix of vegetation: forest and grassland, thin woodland and marsh. It is this rich habitat which attracts a splendid range of birdlife. Nearly 300 species of birds have been recorded including stork, heron and the white-faced tree duck. For safaris, Vwaza offers the more traditional 'bush game' experience – a perfect complement to Nyika's rolling grassland hills. Herds of thirty or forty elephants are regularly seen and there are large numbers of hippos – particularly found in Lake Kazuni, near the main entrance. Buffalo, various antelope, baboons and many smaller mammals are also to be seen. Lions are occasionally seen.

MZUZU the capital of the north, lies in a saddle in the highlands. It stands at the junction of the lakeshore road (M5) and Malawi's main north-south highway (M1). The town, which has grown rapidly in recent times, has an airport and a host of other facilities in the crowded town centre.

LIKOMA ISLAND is off the eastern shore of the Lake: a little piece of Malawian territory in Mozambican waters. Likoma's claim to fame is its 100 year old cathedral (the size of Winchester's). This vast building has some interesting features including stained glass and carved soapstone. The island also boasts some lovely beaches. Access to Likoma is by boat or aircraft. (Accommodation: Kaya Mawa, Ulisa Bay Lodge)



THE NORTHERN LAKESHORE is Lake Malawi at its most varied – everything from high cliffs dropping sheer into the lake, to secluded coves accessible only by boat.

- CHINTHECHE has a concentration of small Lakeshore resorts, making the most of some of the best beaches on the lake – long stretches of white sand. Nearby is an area of cultural interest, the Bandawe Mission site. (Accommodation: Makuzi Beach Lodge)

- NKHATA BAY is a vibrant port town in the North of Malawi often referred to as the gateway to the islands. It has a wonderful carving market and a bustling (almost Caribbean) feel to it. Just a 3 minutes drive away from the town is a beautiful sand beach where there are a number of lodges to choose from. With plenty of small shops and a bank / ATM as well as internet cafés, restaurants and bars, Nkhata Bay, despite its size, has a lot on offer. (Accommodation: Butterfly Space)

- THE FAR NORTH is the least visited stretch of Lakeshore. From Chiweta to the Tanzania border are a series of beautiful, unspoiled bays, including a vast arc of sand at Chilumba. Close to the border, Karonga has a fascinating museum telling something of the interesting history of the area back to prehistoric times. The skeletal remains of the *Malawisaurus* dinosaur have been unearthed nearby as have been the oldest human remains in the country. Karonga's 19th Century history is equally of interest. (Accommodation: La Rondavelle)

MANDA WILDERNESS is an ambitious project on the Mozambique mainland nearest to Likoma Island. This is a 120,000 hectare community reserve of unspoilt wilderness – brachystegia and riverine forest, savannah, swamps and streams, mountains and miles of beaches with crystal clear fresh water. It is an area known for its biodiversity and used to be one of the biggest game areas in the country. Conservation projects are now being run with the local communities in this genuine wilderness area. (Accommodation: Nkwichi Lodge)

THE VIPHYA HIGHLANDS are the forested spine of North Malawi, stretching up from Central Malawi all the way to Nyika. This is a wonderful area for those seeking a combination of stunning scenery and solitude. The undulating plateau rises to 6000 ft /1850m although some peaks stretch a further 1000 ft /300m higher. It is an ideal area in which to unwind but there are also opportunities for trekking, mountain biking and various other activities. Though not a safari destination, the birdwatching is excellent and there are small mammals and the occasional leopard to be seen in the forests. (Accommodation: Luwawa Forest Lodge)

Turn over for
Accommodation Listings



NORTH MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



LA RONDavelle
CHILUMBA

larondavelle.chilumba@gmail.com
www.la-rondavelle-malawi.com

Escape to the tranquil beauty of Luromo peninsula in Northern Malawi and experience La Rondavelle, an eco-lodge like no other. Nestled on the Luromo peninsula in Chilumba/Karonga (close of the Ilala terminal), La Rondavelle offers: 5 double comfort rooms, 1 four beds dormitory located in a large 6 rooms round building, 5 round double wooden chalets, a camping area (for tents, rooftop or overlander) and an already famous restaurant.

The restaurant is serving mouthwatering Belgian-French inspired cuisine made with locally sourced ingredients. Some of them are coming directly from the permaculture garden and the small animal farm. Build by a Belgian couple along with a dedicated team of local workers, La Rondavelle is more than just a place to stay. It's a part of a larger initiative promoting fair tourism and eco-friendly practices for sustainable development in the region. Offering an ideal sanctuary for relaxation and enjoying Lake Malawi, La Rondavelle serves also as the perfect base for exploring the wonders of Northern Malawi.

From La Rondavelle, embark on day trips to longer excursions to various tourist attractions, immersing yourself in the rich culture and natural beauty of this enchanting destination. Come experience La Rondavelle where adventure, comfort and conservation harmoniously coexist in harmony. Your journey to serenity begins here.



CHELINDA LODGE
NYIKA NATIONAL PARK

reservations@causmw.com
www.causmw.com

Nestled in the highlands of Nyika National Park, this is an exclusive 16-bedded lodge that lies against a magnificent backdrop of towering pine trees. Situated high on the plateau, the eight large chalets offer panoramic views of woodland patches, rolling plains and montane grasslands, which are often dotted with herds of antelope.

The cabin styled chalets are constructed of stone and pine, each with an en-suite bathroom, fireplace, and a viewing deck. Meals can be enjoyed in the spacious main lounge or on the grand outdoor deck that overlooks the grasslands. Nyika National Park is one of Malawi's most scenic and spectacular wilderness areas. It boasts an incredible mixture of scenery and landscapes - pristine brachystegia woodlands, mature mountain forest patches, crystal clear running streams and miles and miles of open rolling grasslands. Leopard sightings are fairly common on the plateau as well as sightings of Crayshaw's zebra, roan antelope, reedbuck, eland, bushbuck, warthog, bush pig, spotted hyena, side-striped jackal and serval. Birdlife is prolific with over 425 species inhabiting the plateau. Occasional sightings of lion have also been reported. Activities include day and night game drives, guided walks, mountain biking and fly fishing (which is available seasonally).

Guests can also opt to embark on the Livingstonia Trail or the Sangwala Trail, and can also visit the nearby local school.

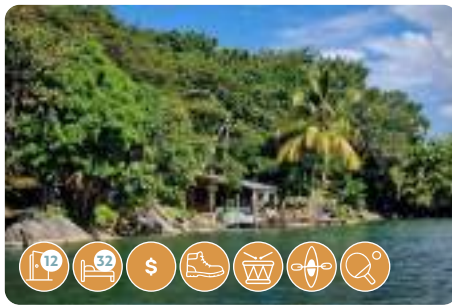


CHELINDA CAMP
NYIKA NATIONAL PARK

reservations@causmw.com
www.causmw.com

Chelinda Camp, situated in Nyika National Park, overlooks a freshwater dam and offers striking views of the montane grasslands that stretch across the Nyika Plateau. The park is often heralded as one of the country's most iconic areas of wilderness and its rolling plains are reminiscent of the Scottish Highlands.

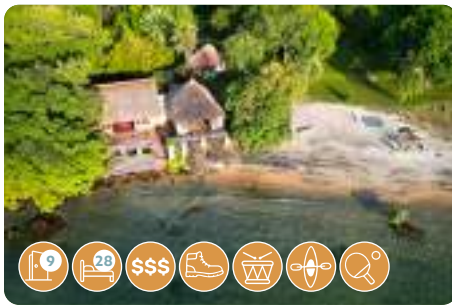
Accommodation at the camp comprises four chalets; each have two double bedrooms, a dining area, a small kitchen and a bathroom. The chalets also have a spacious lounge and large fireplace. The camp is ideal for private groups who are seeking an affordable and comfortable stay on the plateau. An additional five twin-bedded rooms are also available. Wholesome and rustic meals are served in a cosy dining area, and guests can also unwind in a comfortable lounge and bar, in the warmth of an inviting fireplace. Nyika is renowned for incredible leopard sightings and the park is also home to an abundance of flora and fauna. Common wildlife sightings include that of Crayshaw's zebra, roan antelope, reedbuck, eland, bushbuck, spotted hyena, side-striped jackal and serval. Over 425 species of bird can be found on the plateau along with nearly 200 species of orchid. Aside from enjoying traditional day and night game drives, mountain biking, fly fishing (which is available seasonally) and guided walks, guests can also opt to visit the nearby local school or can explore the plateau further by embarking on the Livingstonia Trail or the Sangwala Trail.



BUTTERFLY SPACE
NKHATA BAY

butterflyspace@outlook.com
www.butterflyspacemalawi.com

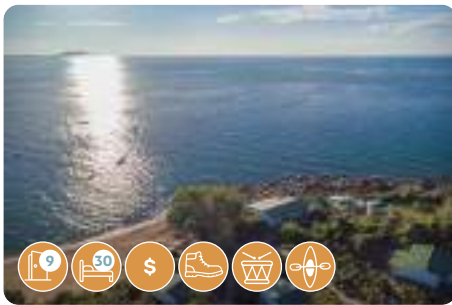
Butterfly Space is a unique non-profit eco-lodge located on the shores of Nkhata bay in Northern Malawi. The lodge supports a number of community projects and hosts both travelers and volunteers. The lodge overlooks the crystal-clear waters of Nkhata Bay and offers many activities including free paddleboards and snorkeling to guests, kayaking tours and expeditions, beautiful, guided hikes, massages from trained local women, visits to hidden waterfalls, cultural activities, cooking classes, peanut butter making workshops and more. They also run several sustainable community development projects in communities. Butterfly Space also operates volunteering and internship programs for visitors who wish to stay longer and get involved. The accommodation options offer affordable but beautifully designed bespoke, private chalets, from deluxe en-suite's, to budget friendly bamboo huts, all with private balconies facing out toward the lake, or nestled into the permaculture gardens. They also offer lakeside dormitories and secluded camping. The on-site restaurant offers a fresh and varied international and local menu which serves delicious meals & desserts at very reasonable prices. The beautifully situated bar sits over the water with views over the forested mountains on Nkhata Bay and distant views of Mozambique. You can lose days relaxing in a hammock, playing pool, or hiding away on our private beach enjoying cocktails or healthy home-made juices!



MAKUZI BEACH LODGE
CHINTHECHE

info@makuzibeachlodge.com
www.makuzibeachlodge.com

Situated on a private beach in Chintheche, Makuzi Beach Lodge is a family-run eco-lodge where comfort, sustainability, and authentic Malawian experiences meet. From a bare landscape, we've cultivated a thriving ecosystem of indigenous trees, fruit orchards, and organic gardens, complete with a detailed tree map, attracting incredible birdlife for nature lovers to enjoy. Our accommodations include four standard chalets, three superior chalets, and one family chalet and a self-catering chalet all en-suite and camping for off-grid adventures. The lodge is fully self-sufficient, and our restaurant serves fresh, "garden-to-plate" meals, with guests invited to join interactive spice farm tours and hands-on cooking experiences that transform homegrown spices into delicious dishes. Wellness experiences at Makuzi are available on selected dates and include cacao ceremonies, massages, therapeutic treatments, and yoga, providing a holistic retreat for body and mind. Guests can also enjoy snorkelling with Malawi cichlids, kayaking, fishing, or participating in community projects such as tree planting or supporting the local school. Ideal for families, couples, honeymooners, or off-grid travellers, Makuzi Beach Lodge combines top-end comfort with eco-conscious living. Every stay offers the chance to unwind, connect with nature, and immerse in Malawi's rich biodiversity and warm hospitality.



ULISA BAY LODGE
LIKOMA ISLAND

ulisabaylodge@gmail.com
www.ulisabaylodge.com

Situated on the West Side of Likoma Island, with spectacular sunsets, Ulisa Bay Lodge offers affordable island luxury with Deluxe, Superior & Standard Chalets all with lake views. For budget travellers there is a spacious dorm and a campsite.

The well stocked bar and the restaurant have a wooden deck open on three sides to catch the breezes off the lake. The extensive menu has a variety of fish, meat and vegetarian courses and the legendary cheese-cake is always available.

Ulisa Bay Lodge and Pottery provides a monthly sheet showing all current ways to get to Likoma. Email ulisabaylodge@gmail.com or WhatsApp to Annettie on +265881659678

The lodge has a beautiful sandy beach as well as a rocky shoreline - perfect for snorkelling to see thousands of brightly coloured fish. There are many places to visit; the most amazing being the Cathedral built by the missionaries 120 years ago.

Guests can spend time at Ulisa Bay Pottery making their own pots under expert supervision or can work with the only traditional potter on Likoma to make and fire their own traditional pots.





NORTH MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



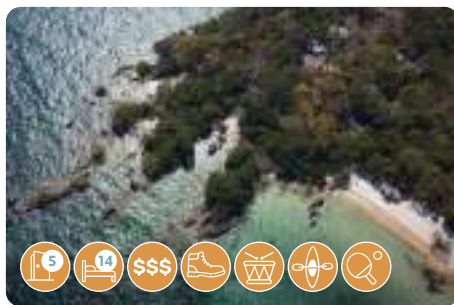
KAYA MAWA

LIKOMA ISLAND

reservations@greensafaris.com
www.greensafaris.com

Kaya Mawa is an intimate luxury lodge sprawled indulgently across the pristine white beaches of Likoma Island, separated from the rest of the world by miles of fresh, aquamarine waters. Malawi is known as the warm heart of Africa, making Kaya Mawa the prime location to watch the sun set over the crystal clear waters each evening. Proudly constructed by local artisans, Kaya Mawa is Malawi's first resort run solely on renewable energy and is grounded firmly on sustainability, community empowerment, and ethical tourism roots.

Kaya Mawa features eleven luxurious rooms and a private villa, each showcasing a distinct style that integrates smoothly with the bay's rocks and sand. Revel in hidden decks perfect for sun-soaked afternoons or intimate dinners, indulge in starlit showers, or take a moonlit plunge in your private pool. By day, choose from exhilarating adventures like paddle-boarding, snorkeling, diving, and mountain biking on electric bikes, or find tranquility in our spa tent, accessible only by a scenic wooden walkway over the water. Kaya Mawa invites honeymooners, families, and groups of friends to immerse in the ultimate lakeside retreat. Experience the allure of beachside leisure without the salty water, and embrace the barefoot elegance of lakeside living. With a name that translates to "Maybe Tomorrow" in Chichewa, it's little surprise that our guests find it hard to say goodbye, choosing instead to linger a little longer in this paradise.



NKWICHI LODGE

MANDA WILDERNESS

info@nkwichi.com
www.nkwichi.com

Escape to one of Africa's best-kept secrets at Nkwichi Lodge, where the crystal-clear Lake meets untouched wilderness. A scenic boat ride from Malawi's Likoma Island, this intimate retreat offers an unforgettable addition to your Malawi adventure.

Five individually designed chalets, crafted from local stone and timber, blend seamlessly into ancient baobab groves along a dazzling white sand beach. Wake to your private sunrise, then dive into waters so pure you can drink them – teeming with colorful cichlids perfect for snorkeling and swimming. Your days unfold at your own pace: paddle through hidden coves by kayak or SUP, trek wilderness paths to giant baobab, or simply relax in a hammock and watch the world go by. For the ultimate romantic experience, spend a night under infinite stars on our exclusive Lake of Stars Bed – a king-sized bed on your own private beach. Families particularly love the opportunity to disconnect and reconnect, with WiFi available only in the office for those essential moments. The lodge is well suited for groups seeking exclusive bookings. Whether you choose self-catering independence or the full-board service, you'll discover why this hidden gem represents unspoiled Africa at its finest. Nkwichi is located on the Mozambican shores of Lake Niassa and is accessed from Malawi via Likoma Island (with immigration at Cobue), or through Lichinga in Mozambique.



LUWAWA FOREST LODGE

VIPHYA HIGHLANDS

luwawalodge@yahoo.com
www.luwawalodge.com

Luwawa Forest Lodge is an International Eco-tourist Lodge and Outdoor Adventure Centre set in the scenic Luwawa Valley, overlooking Luwawa Dam. Located approximately 3.5 hours north of Lilongwe at an altitude of 1600m, it offers a malaria-free, fresh forest environment. The lodge is dedicated to maintaining the forest environment through comprehensive conservation programs. Guests can choose from various accommodation options, including en-suite chalets, self-catering cottages, a campsite, and a hostel bunk. Activities include mountain biking, hiking, canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling, orienteering, sauna and archery. Long-distance wilderness walks, visiting waterfalls, 3 or 4-day & 2 or 3-night walks to Lake Malawi, and birding walks around the garden and woodland tracks are also available. For those seeking relaxation, the lodge provides a tranquil garden setting with abundant birdlife viewable from the verandas. The lodge facilitates local and international school groups, corporate team-building courses, conferences, and group retreats. Committed to responsible tourism, the lodge supports many local community projects and won the Malawi Tourism Council's 2023 Green Tourism Award. In 2021, the Luwawa Environmental Trust opened "The Luwawa Centre for Environmental Education." The trust works with communities to protect biodiversity and conducts environmental awareness campaigns in schools and villages. Additionally, it focuses on creating income-generating activities (IGAs), such as teaching communities beekeeping farming, and sustainable tree planting, to support local livelihoods and promote conservation while supporting eco-tourism.



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CENTRAL MALAWI

Central Malawi is a region of special importance. It is the point of arrival for most international visitors and home to the country's capital, Lilongwe. Access to the rest of the country is easy and this is an interesting region in its own right. Most of the region is part of the Central African Plateau, gently undulating around 4000 ft/1200m before descending to the Lakeshore at the edge of the Rift Valley. The plateau is crossed by numerous rivers and, here and there, isolated hills known as inselbergs, punctuate the gentle landscapes. The scenery in Central Malawi is less dramatic than elsewhere in the country but it has the same attractive variety that makes Malawi a wonderful place to tour.

For accommodation details for Central Malawi, see the Directory which follows these pages.

LAKE MALAWI

NKHOTAKOTA WILDLIFE RESERVE is a vast 700 sq miles / 1800 sq km of rugged terrain crossed by a number of rivers that tumble down the edge of the escarpment as they make their ways to the Lake. Most of the reserve is miombo woodland with occasional grasses and rainforest. This is a wonderful example of true wilderness and a wide range of mammals inhabit the vast reserve. While access and viewing had been difficult in the past, there are exciting developments taking place. A few lodges are now well established and African Parks, who took over the management of the reserve in 2015, have begun to transform Nkhokotakota with conservation initiatives and a re-stocking programme that includes the largest translocation of elephants ever undertaken, and numerous other big game species. With the added attractions of prolific birdlife, this is destined to be a very popular safari destination. (Accommodation: Bua River Lodge; Tongole Wilderness Retreat; Kachenga Bush Camp, Rafiki Safari Camp, Livezi Bush Camp)

KASUNGU NATIONAL PARK is in the west of Central Malawi bordering Zambia. It's an 800 sq mile/2000 sq km area of natural woodland and bush with occasional open grassland. Kasungu used to be Malawi's premier game park but poaching has reduced animal numbers. However, there is still wildlife to be seen, including elephants recently translocated, and it is easy to drive to from Lilongwe.

KUTI WILDLIFE RESERVE is an enchanting destination in the heart of Malawi, dedicated to wildlife preservation. With no carnivorous animals and its ease of access, Kuti offers a unique opportunity to experience wildlife like zebras, baboons and giraffes up close. (Accommodation: Kuti Camp)

NTCHISI FOREST RESERVE contains some of southern Africa's last remaining rainforest and is famous for its orchids, birdlife and liana-swinging samango monkeys. The Reserve has excellent hiking, with breathtaking views from Ntchisi Mountain, while the surrounding villages offer a picturesque and untouched experience of the real Africa.

DZALANYAMA FOREST RESERVE is an extensive area of highlands cut by rivers and cloaked by woodland. Most is Brachystegia but there are significant areas of evergreen forest. There are animals to be seen though mammal populations are much reduced from days gone by. The forest does, though, provide some of the best birdwatching in the country – a veritable ornithologist's delight just an hour from the capital. (Accommodation: Dzalanyama Forest Lodge)

LILONGWE was made Malawi's capital by the country's first President, Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda. The Old Town is very different to, and distinct from the newer Capital City. The City's gleaming modern buildings, in their spacious garden-like settings, contrast with the hustle and bustle of Old Town. The craft market in Old Town is especially popular with visitors. The two parts of Lilongwe are separated by the Lilongwe Nature Sanctuary, part of which is now occupied by the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre (P. 44), a 70 hectare oasis of rich forest to be explored via trails and a boardwalk, that is home to a wide range of wildlife including over 200 bird species. A number of tour/safari companies have offices in Lilongwe and there's no shortage of good accommodation. Home to the country's main international airport, Lilongwe is the traditional starting point for Malawi tours and even for trips across to Zambia's South Luangwa National Park. (Accommodation: Africa House Malawi, Heuglin's Lodge, Mitengo House, Kumbali Country Lodge, Kusewera)

THE CENTRAL LAKESHORE does not have quite the variety of the Northern Lakeshore, nor the number of lodges found to the south, but there are still a number of places of scenic and historical interest.

- SENGABAY is the point on the Lakeshore closest to Lilongwe and is reached via Salima, a busy town at the junction of the M1 and M5. Senga Bay has a range of hotels from the luxurious to small lodges and campsites, each overlooking a lovely beach. It is also home to a breeding facility for Lake Malawi's colourful cichlid fish, and is backed by a forest reserve. (Accommodation: Kumbali Lake Retreat)

- NANKOMA ISLAND is one of the 3 Marelli Islands, all uninhabited and part of the Lake Malawi National Park, but located opposite Senga Bay. Due to the large array of habitats present, from rocky shorelines to small wild sandy beaches and from wooden hillsides to reedy lagoons, the islands are home to a wide range of animal species. The islands are exceptionally beautiful, with views across to the east and west shores of the lake, including the rift valley mountains. (Accommodation: Blue Zebra Island Lodge)

- NKHOTAKOTA is some 70 miles / 112 km north of Salima, along the Lakeshore. It is described as the largest traditional village in Africa, Nkhokotakota is rich in history. Visited by David Livingstone in 1863, it was then a centre for the slave trade. In 1960 Hastings Banda chose Nkhokotakota for his first political rally on his release from prison prior to Malawi gaining independence. South of Nkhokotakota is an interesting Pottery, the twin of that at Dedza.

- DWANGWA is split in two by the M5 road. This is very much a company town, influenced and determined by its giant sugar estate. (Accommodation: Ngala Beach Lodge)

DEDZA is a wonderful forest town south-east of Lilongwe, overlooked by the Dedza mountain and surrounded by hills. As well as the scenic beauty, it is home to the Dedza Pottery where craftsmen can be viewed in the workshops, producing a variety of items, often decorated with brightly coloured designs or local scenes. With a charming tea shop selling delicious cakes, this is a popular stop-off along the M1. Nearby is Chongoni Rock Art, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the densest cluster of rock art in central Africa. Across numerous natural shelters are paintings by BaTwa hunter-gatherers from the late Stone Age onwards, also showing the tradition of farmer rock art, which is very rarely found.

MUA MISSION was established by the White Fathers over 100 years ago. It is presently home to a thriving community, including an arts and crafts centre whose students create Malawi's finest wood carvings and who go on to make a living from their own handiwork throughout Malawi. Mua also works to preserve the local cultures and has the country's best cultural museum.

Turn over for
Accommodation Listings ➤





CENTRAL MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



NGALA BEACH LODGE

DWANGWA

info@ngalabeach.com
www.ngalabeach.com

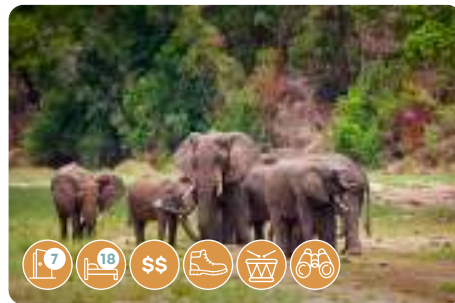
Ngala Beach Lodge is nestled within an oasis of lush green gardens with large shady trees flowing down to an expansive sandy beach.

The property offers awe inspiring views of both the lake and Vipya mountain range with spectacular sunrises and sunsets that never disappoint!

The property features 11 comfortable, clean and spacious rooms, an impressive large thatch building houses our restaurant, bar and lounge areas and the infinity swimming pool offers guests the ideal place for a refreshing dip!

Many activities can be arranged both on and off-site or you may simply choose to relax and unwind with a good book.

We look forward to welcoming you to Ngala Beach Lodge.



BUA RIVER LODGE

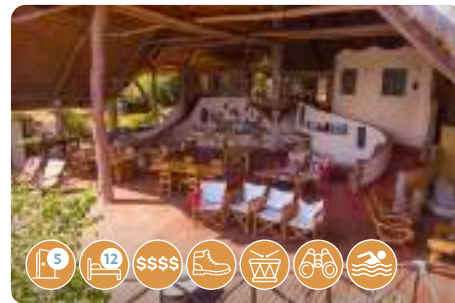
NKHOTAKOTA WILDLIFE RESERVE

buariverlodge@gmail.com
www.buariverlodge.com

Set discreetly within the vast Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve on the banks of the beautiful Bua River, this hidden gem awaits. Surrounded by miombo woodland in an African Parks-managed reserve, Bua River Lodge offers eco-friendly escapism and a deep immersion into the African wilderness. As the seasonal river ebbs and flows, crocodiles bask in the sun, fish eagles soar overhead, and elephants wander majestically by.

Chef Cephas and his team are true artists in the kitchen. Known for their creativity and passion, they transform simple, locally sourced ingredients into extraordinary dishes full of flavor and flair.

Each luxury tent has its own private deck, allowing you to experience nature in comfort. From the open thatched lodge, enjoy sweeping views of the ever-changing Namdinga Pools, a favourite spot for wildlife. Take a guided walk to discover the flora, fauna, and rich cultural history of the area. The team love sharing their knowledge—whether on the trails or gathered around the campfire. In addition to guided walks, you can take game drives to one of the hides, visit the local market, or explore historical sites. There is so much to see and do—or simply enjoy the gorgeous sunsets with a drink in hand as you relax by the fire. Bua River Lodge offers high-quality tented accommodation, delicious locally sourced food, a warm welcome, and a truly one-of-a-kind experience.



TONGOLE WILDERNESS RETREAT

NKHOTAKOTA W.R.

reservations@tongole.com
www.tongole.com

Tongole Wilderness Retreat, is a luxury eco-lodge situated deep within the Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve, under the protection and restoration of African Parks. Tongole is an idyllic and elevated setting from which to enjoy and explore the reserve's unspoilt wilderness, overlooking the beautiful Bua River. Guests enjoy a variety of activities with the highlight, time spent on the river spotting game and birds in the company of expert local guides. The bird watching is excellent, the reserve has over 200 species of birds. The nature walks are the best too. Relax by the poolside, watch the sun set as elephants come down the river bank or take a scenic drive to a breathtaking sundowner spot like the Muta falls. The 4 riverside suites feature mozzie-netted beds and both the shower and large hand-built sunken bath tub, is big enough for two. Wrap around, raised wooden decks have spectacular river views that afford a peaceful and private space to relax. There is 1 river suite (Family) has 2 bedrooms with a shared bathroom. The multi award-winning Tongole Wilderness Retreat has in 10 years, established an exceptional reputation, priding itself on personal yet unobtrusive service, comfortable river suites, generous dining and excellent guiding. Tongole is run with clear principles for the benefit of local communities and nature conservation. Tongole is the 2024 winner of Best family Safari Experience and Third Place Best Safari House voted by the Safari Awards the whole of Africa. The retreat is a scenic 4 hour drive, or only a 28 minute flight from Kamuzu [Lilongwe] International Airport. Discover Tongole on your next visit to the Warm Heart Africa.



KACHENGA BUSH CAMP

NKHOTAKOTA WILDLIFE RESERVE

enquiries@kachengabushcamp.mw
www.kachengabushcamp.mw

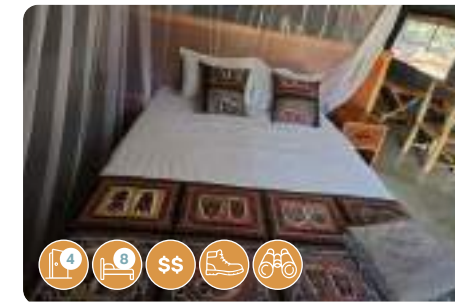
Kachenga Bush Camp consists of 3 rustic chalets and is centrally located in Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve, in a tranquil setting with views out to Kasukusuku mountain.

Each self-contained chalet has a similar layout, comprising 2 bedrooms, a communal lounge area, and bathroom (shower, toilet and wash basin).

The chalets sleep up to 4 guests comfortably and there is flexibility for additional beds for children, accommodating families of up to 8. Our rates are extremely good value for the standard of accommodation offered.

Accommodation may also be booked on a bed & breakfast, half board and full board basis, catered by our chefs in the kitchen.

Kachenga also has a separate camping area with shared ablutions (hot showers, flush toilets and washing up basins). There is a large braai (BBQ) area and fire-pit for guests to cook and socialise around a campfire, as well as a separate shaded seating area. Campers bring their own tents and choose their camping space around the camp site.



LIVEZI BUSH CAMP

NKHOTAKOTA WILDLIFE RESERVE

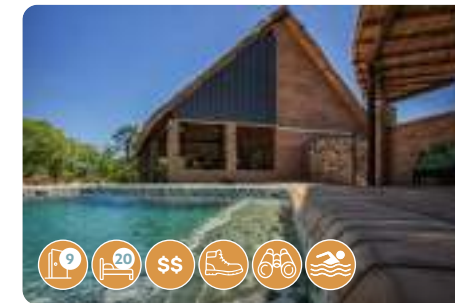
nkhotakota@africanparks.org
www.africanparks.org

Livezi Bush Camp is an exquisite family, group, individual retreat spot tucked in the quiet and cool banks of the Bua River tributary in the Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve.

It is a self-catering facility, offering a spacious kitchen, bar and dining space, all in one, a braai spot; an optional opportunity for guided bush walks and game drives.

Book yourself into Livezi Bush Camp and wake up to the chorus of a wide range of bird songs and the hissing sound of wind brushing with the lush miombo woodlands that characterise the Nkhotakota wilderness.

The thunderous roaring of the Bua River waters in the distance makes an exceptional blend of glamour, and your sleep a memorable experience. Catering services can be made available from our Mphatso Restaurant that provides a variety of foods prepared to your choice and taste. Book this service separately.



RAFIKI SAFARI CAMP

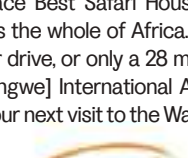
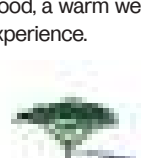
NKHOTAKOTA WILDLIFE RESERVE

info@rafikicamp.com
www.rafikicamp.com

Rafiki Safari Camp which lies adjacent to the Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve is the perfect tranquil safari getaway with three double/twin and two family luxury en-suite units with private verandah. There are five campsites with private barbecue stands and four campsite rooms comprising two singles and two twins available, with shared full hot/cold shower and flushing toilet facilities. Rafiki is eco friendly and powered 100% by solar energy inclusive of solar geysers and borehole water pump.

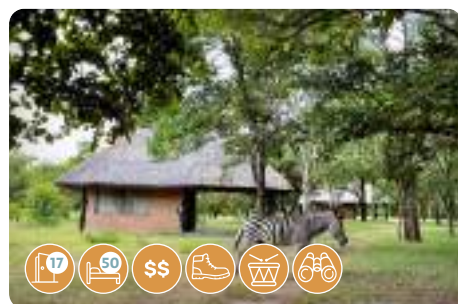
The Boma (Lodge) is the common area for the use of all guests with a self-service honesty bar, lounge, dining area, guest toilets, and plunge pool nestled in Miombo woodland. The fully equipped kitchen comes with experienced staff who will cater for all guest's dietary requirements using seasonal local produce. The home cooked meals are regularly endorsed by lodge guests in reviews.

Activities: Walks through the forest or by the waters edge of the Bua River on Rafiki's 84 acre property; Ranger guided game drives and walks in the Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve; guided cultural village tours; cultural village dance evening by arrangement and visit or volunteer assistance to the local kindergarten. Self drive day trips: to the lake, golf, scuba diving and Nkhotakota potteries.





CENTRAL MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



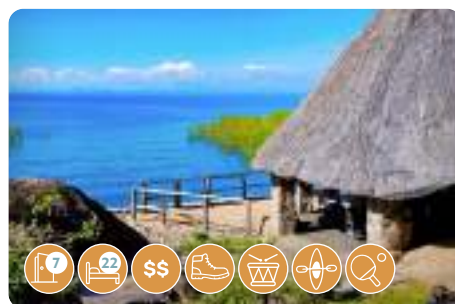
KUTI CAMP KUTI WILDLIFE RESERVE

info@kuti-wildlife.org
www.kuti-wildlife.org

Explore Malawi's safest Wildlife Reserve at only 1.5 hour from Lilongwe! The absence of dangerous species makes this your perfect family-friendly bush retreat. Come meet their famous giraffe and her friends the zebras, sables, wildebeests and many more, including over 200 bird species and Kuti's always smiling humans. Visit for a day or even better, spend a few nights!

There's a campsite, cosy chalets and private self-catering bush villas. All surrounded by nature for a memorable escape from town. Should you wish to stay even longer, then you're welcome to explore the different volunteering options at the Reserve. Whether you have special skills or not, the team is always looking for extra hands in conservation, research, tourism & hospitality, general management or sales & marketing. Kuti's open grasslands, miombo woodlands and dambo's and wetland area are waiting to be discovered on foot, mountain bike, drive and even on horseback.

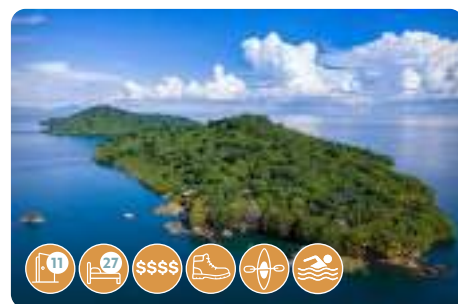
Did you know that this is the country's only place where you can enjoy a horseback safari? Whether you're a seasoned rider or it's your first time! The guides are passionate about their job and will surely make you fall in love with this place. By visiting, you not only give yourself an unforgettable experience, you also directly contribute to the protection of some of Malawi's iconic flora and fauna.



KUMBALI LAKE RETREAT SENGA BAY

kumbali@kumbali.com
www.kumbali.com

Kumbali Lake Retreat, situated on the picturesque Lake Malawi shoreline, is an environmentally conscious lodge. Operated by the same family that owns Kumbali Country Lodge in Lilongwe, this retreat offers the same comforting ambiance that feels like a home away from home, while emphasizing both comfort and the beauty of nature. The lodge is ingeniously integrated into the slopes of Lifuwu Hill, which serves as the habitat for the native Samango Monkey species. For an immersive wilderness experience, our three huts feature outdoor shower rooms and toilets. The huts have hot water shower, private khonde, walk-in mosquito nets, double or twin beds, ample storage, and Lake Malawi views. For more executive comfort, Chalet 5 is our executive lakeview option with a bathroom, spacious shower room, and beautiful lake views as the suite hovers over the lake, providing uninterrupted sunset and sunrise views. Additionally Chalet 4 offers modern comfort with an outdoor bathroom and lake views. Families and friends seeking nature retreats with lake views can opt for our rustic Hillview chalet, featuring two ensuite rooms, a lounge, and a mini kitchen, perfect for a Kumbali Lake Retreat experience. Kumbali Lake Retreat provides a perfect setting for sundown boat trips, fish eagle feeding, and enjoying the natural green surroundings. You can follow this with a drink of your choice while watching the sunset. The resort offers activities like boat trips to Bird or Mbenje Island, kayaking, and hikes up Lifuwu hill. Nearby attractions include a rice project, a crocodile farm, and a tropical fish farm, with the pontoon at Kumbali Lake adding to the experience.



BLUE ZEBRA ISLAND LODGE NANKOMA ISLAND

info@bluezebra.mw
www.bluezebra.mw

Blue Zebra Island Lodge is the perfect getaway for nature lovers looking for a combination of adventure and relaxation in a tranquil, private setting. Just a 2-hour journey from Lilongwe airport, followed by a 20-minute speed boat ride: easily accessible, yet wonderfully remote. This wild paradise is exclusively situated on Nankoma Island within Lake Malawi National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site: home to a vast array of freshwater fish (Cichlids), many of which are endemic to Lake Malawi.

The lodge was named after the Blue Zebra Cichlid species. The islands also support diverse flora and fauna and are a haven for bird watchers. Migratory African Pitta's have been nesting at the islands for years, typically from November – April.

This safari-style lodge has 9 en-suite tented chalets and 2 cottages. The secluded executive chalets boast stunning lake-views from private balconies, set in an unspoiled environment, immersed in nature. Explore the island by kayak, boat and nature trail. Snorkel trips, sunset cruises water-sports are popular pastimes. Facilities include a lakeview spa, infinity pool, cocktail bar, restaurant, games room, meetings room and curio shop. Popularly paired with Safaris in Malawi and Zambia, which can be arranged through Blue Zebra Safaris.



AFRICA HOUSE MALAWI LILONGWE

reservations@africahousemalawi.com
www.africahousemalawi.com

Africa House in the tranquil Area 43 is one of Lilongwe's top rated lodges. Tropical green gardens, a personal welcoming atmosphere and unique African decorations make this not just a lodge, but a destination. Whether you're travelling to Malawi for business or leisure, for a long or short stay, you'll feel right at home at Africa House.

This intimate lodge offers a range of different en-suite rooms, a studio and an executive apartment. The in-house restaurant provides a la carte lunch and dinner, as well as daily specials for lodge residents. This stylish and iconic lodge has been created from a unique blend of African designs, furniture, fabrics and personal collectables.

Each room is named after an African country, style or culture and decorated to reflect that. The accommodation offers air-conditioning, ceiling fans, large box-type mosquito nets, DSTV and free unlimited Wi-Fi. In the gardens you'll find a beautiful swimming pool, as well as a gym room for those who wish to be active during their stay.

Guests often refer to Africa House as a museum and a warm home in one. You'll be surprised to find this oasis at only half an hour from the airport and 15 minutes from Lilongwe's city centre!



HEUGLIN'S LODGE LILONGWE

reservations@causmw.com
www.causmw.com

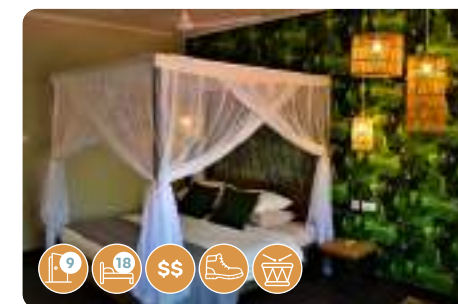
Heuglin's Lodge is situated in the leafy residential suburbs of Lilongwe, just minutes away from the city centre, and is named after the robin, which is often seen in its gardens.

The Lodge is an ideal base for a sightseeing tour of the capital city, or for a short stop-over before or after an intercontinental flight, and also provides a relaxing interlude before or after a safari and serves as a convenient waiting point for transfer guests.

Suitable for short-stay and business guests, it has nine spacious and tastefully furnished en-suite bedrooms. The Lodge is proud of its kitchen providing high quality meals.

The spacious garden features a large pool and several shady seating and relaxation areas, and the large, comfortable lounge houses a wildlife library and 'help yourself' bar. Starlink WiFi is available throughout the house and gardens.

Chauffeured transport is available for trips into and around town or for airport transfers if required.



MITENGO HOUSE LILONGWE

reservations@mitengohouse.com
www.mitengohouse.com

The modern Mitengo House is situated in arguably one the most beautiful areas of Lilongwe. This Boutique Hotel is ideal for a peaceful stay at less than 40 minutes driving from the airport and 15 minutes from City Centre.

A favourite for many travellers who regularly return to Malawi! There are nine uniquely designed and comfortable rooms. All of which are en-suite and feature A/C units, ceiling fans, DSTV and spacious mosquito nets. You can also enjoy a comfortable lounge, a swimming pool, an in-house restaurant, beautiful green gardens and a shady terrace. Safe and free parking is available in an enclosed area and there is 24 hours' security.

Mitengo House offers free unlimited internet for each overnight guest. Our Safari Bookings Office is conveniently situated inside the courtyard premises to assist with all your travel needs. In the restaurant, they use only the best fresh and local ingredients and also cater for a variety of special dietary requirements.

Mitengo House is ideal for business guests and those travellers wishing to explore Malawi's welcoming capital. Perfectly located for your first and last nights in the Warm Heart of Africa!





CENTRAL MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



KUMBALI COUNTRY LODGE LILONGWE

kumbali@kumbali.com
www.kumbali.com

Kumbali Country Lodge is a boutique retreat set on a 650-hectare estate, right next to the State House in Area 44. Just 10 minutes from Lilongwe's Capital City Centre and 31 kilometers from Kamuzu International Airport, it offers the perfect blend of accessibility and tranquility. The lodge features 16 charming thatched chalets, each spaciouly designed with en-suite facilities, private balconies, and modern comforts including complimentary internet, television, and in-room tea and coffee. Guests are warmly welcomed by attentive staff, delicious cuisine, and the serene ambiance of the Malawian countryside. At the heart of the lodge is our restaurant, serving a diverse menu crafted with farm-fresh organic produce grown on our estate. Beyond dining, guests can enjoy refreshing dips in the swimming pool or explore the grounds with nature walks, cycling, jogging, or birdwatching. Our newly established game farm adds an unforgettable touch to your stay, featuring family-friendly wildlife such as zebras, sable antelope, and other gentle species — a perfect outing for families and nature lovers alike. Kumbali is also home to an iconic castle-style events garden and a fully equipped conference centre, making it an exceptional destination for weddings, workshops, private dinners, cocktail parties, and large celebrations. For added convenience, we provide airport transfers, guided town tours, and car rental referrals, ensuring every aspect of your visit is seamlessly taken care of.



KUSEWERA LILONGWE

kusewera@gmail.com
www.kusewera.org

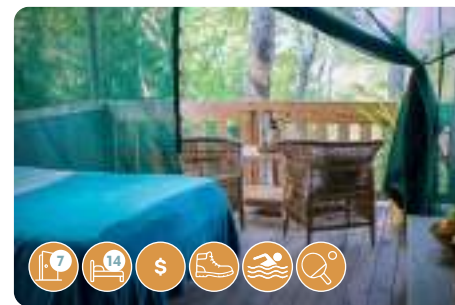
Kusewera is a charitable organisation in Lilongwe offering a community centre, volunteer projects and accommodation.

There are 3 types of accommodation for visitors. The Kusewera Guest house is a spacious home which can sleep up to 30 people and is great for a few individuals or a whole group. Each of the 4 bedrooms has their own en-suite bathroom.

It is situated on the beautiful grounds of the Kusewera Village Community Center in the Chitipi area of Lilongwe. As an alternative option, the Kusewera apartment is also available. This spacious unit, sleeps up to 7 people and is also with the grounds of Kusewera Village. The main bedroom now has an added twin if needed.

We have new hostels that sleep up to 14 people and are not ensuite, with private restroom and shower stalls just outside. This home has 24 hour security and is located in the separate housing area from the sporting amenities, miniature golf, playground and community center.

100% of proceeds from the rental of their accommodation goes to the kids programming at Kusewera.



DZALANYAMA FOREST LODGE DZALANYAMA F.R.

info@landlake.net
www.dzalanyama.net

Dzalanyama Forest Lodge is nestled within the brachystegia woodland of Dzalanyama Reserve. Just a 90-minute drive outside Lilongwe and situated in one of Malawi's best birding areas, Dzalanyama is an intimate, eco-friendly lodge with a choice of accommodation options.

Guests can choose to stay in the quaint bedrooms in the original timber house, which have either ensuite or one sharing bathroom, or they can opt for the large open-aired ensuite chalets raised into the trees and overlooking a stream. There is also a sprawling river-fronted campsite with eco-ablutions and hot showers, kitchenette, braai area and bench seating.

Dzalanyama Forest is home to exceptional miombo birdlife, including the Miombo Pied Barbet, the Boulder Chat, Olive-headed Weaver and Stierlings Woodpecker. The Lodge has a variety of hiking, walking and mountain biking trails to suit all ages and fitness levels through fields of proteas, past secret waterfalls and streams and up to some incredible viewpoints. Dzalanyama Forest Lodge allows self-catering stays with a fully equipped kitchen and help from the Lodge Manager and chef, or you can choose to be fully catered with fresh, home-cooked meals, afternoon teas and cakes and three-course dinners. Day visitors are welcome to come hiking, rent our bicycles for rides along the trails and to use the full campsite facilities. Welcome to Dzalanyama Forest Lodge!



KUMBALI



Accommodation

Kumbali Country Lodge offers fine dining, serene garden views, and a relaxing poolside escape.

Wildlife

Explore guided safaris with breathtaking landscapes, diverse wildlife, and over 200 bird species on the farm.



Kumbali Castle

A medieval-style venue for unforgettable weddings, events, and exclusive conferences.

Contact us

kumbali@kumbali.com
+265 9999 63 402
www.kumbali.com

SOUTH MALAWI

The most populated, developed and varied region of the country is its southern third. Much of South Malawi is dominated by the River Shire which snakes its way from the Lake while remaining within the Rift Valley. It crashes over falls and rapids and has leisurely stretches though broad plains. This is the region of Malawi's highest and lowest points – just 70 miles/110 km apart but 10,000 ft/3000 m difference in altitude. A mixture of highlands and plateaux, this is also the region with the most visited game parks and most popular stretch of lakeshore.

For accommodation details for South Malawi, see the Directory which follows these pages.

LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK

THE SOUTHERN LAKESHORE has Malawi's greatest concentration of lodges and hotels, as well as being home to the Lake Malawi National Park.

- MONKEY BAY is a Lake port with a sheltered harbour just around the headland from Cape Maclear and the Lake Malawi National Park. It is where the famous Ilala Lake ferry docks and starts off on its weekly circuit of the Lake, north to Chilumba and back. (Accommodation: Norman Carr Cottage)

- LAKE MALAWI NATIONAL PARK is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and was the world's first freshwater national park. As well as a section of the Lake waters, it includes a land area and a number of islands including Mumbo, Domwe and Thumbi. Here is a veritable aquarium of tropical fish providing a colourful kaleidoscopic display. The countless thousands of freshwater fish, the mbuna, are protected and are more abundant and varied here than anywhere else in the world. Boats are available for hire and the fish will feed directly from the hand. Kayaking, sailing, snorkelling and scuba diving are just some of the activities on offer, as well as relaxing on a beach. (Accommodation: Pumulani by Robin Pope Safaris, Mumbo Island Camp, Domwe Island Camp)

- THE MANGOCHI LAKESHORE at the southernmost end of the Lake from Mangochi town to Monkey Bay, has the greatest concentration of hotels and lodges. Along this stretch are a number of low rise hotels, some with adjacent camping sites. They vary from sophisticated properties with golf courses to more simple resorts. The splendid sandy beaches are uncrowded and a wide range of lake activities is available. (Accommodation: The Makokola Retreat)

LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK although only 210 sq miles / 310 sq km, is the most popular of all Malawi's game parks. It is about 100 miles / 160 km from Blantyre and about half that distance from the Lakeshore. Game viewing is enhanced because the River Shire flows along its western border. This allows boat safaris as well as the usual ones by 4x4 and on foot. Wildlife includes quite large numbers of elephants and the river attracts countless hippos and crocodiles. Antelope include kudu, sable and bushbuck. Birdlife is exceptionally varied. African Parks took over the park management in 2015 – safeguarding its future and allowing it to develop even further. Black rhino, lion, cheetah and wild dog have been re-introduced and the predators are now regularly seen on safari. (Accommodation: Mvuu Lodge, Mvuu Camp, Kuthengo Camp by Robin Pope Safaris, Chimwala Bush Camp)

THYOLO east of Blantyre has vast areas of Tea Estates. Tea has been grown here since 1908 and the primly trimmed bushes give the area the appearance of a neatly kept but vast garden. Looking up to Mulanje on one side and down into the Lower Shire Valley on the other, these estates have really stunning scenery. It is possible to stay at some of these plantations and see something of their daily work. The Thyolo Mountain Forest Reserve offers a haven for walkers and birdwatchers. (Accommodation: Huntingdon House, Chawani Bungalow, Game Haven)

MOUNT MULANJE east of Thyolo, is Central Africa's highest peak. This magnificent mountain is a large massif of basins and peaks, valleys and forests, streams and waterfalls, sheer faces and slopes of all gradients. It towers to almost 10 000 ft / 3000 m, dwarfing all that surrounds it. Everything from gentle walking to serious climbing is possible. Once on the mountain the vegetation changes with altitude and there are various small mammals and, of course, a variety of birds to be seen. (Accommodation: AfricaWildTruck Camp & Lodge)

BLANTYRE & LIMBE now form a continuous built-up area – the country's commercial capital and largest urban area. Blantyre has its origins with the Scottish missionaries and was named after David Livingstone's birthplace. Blantyre's centre is compact with most services and shops around a triangular core. Attractions include a major museum, a church with Livingstone connections, some interesting old colonial buildings and the shops and markets. There is an international airport just out of town. Many of the country's safari/tour companies have offices in Blantyre. (Accommodation: Game Haven, Fisherman's Rest)

THE LOWER SHIRE VALLEY south-west of Blantyre, is deep, broad and flat. Much is cultivated, including sugar estates, and the scenery greatly contrasts with that in any other part of Malawi.

- MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE is an area of pristine African wilderness, from beautiful grassy glades and riverine areas to wet Miombo woodland and Marula savannah. African Parks has ecologically restored and rehabilitated this into one of the best in Malawi, now a 'Big 5' reserve. It boasts an impressive array of wildlife from elephant, black rhino, sable antelope and giraffe to leopard, lion and wild dog. Open all year round, guests are able to enjoy the park in their own vehicles or join organised game drives. There is a visitors centre, restaurant and education centre. (Accommodation: Mkulumadzi by Robin Pope Safaris; Thawale Lodge, Mwembezi Gorge Bush Camp, Majete Game Capture Camp, Ng'ona Lodge, Zua Safari Lodge)

- THANGADZI RIVER CONSERVANCY is set amidst one of Malawi's last riparian forests, where the rhythm of nature still reigns. Expect to see buffalo, various antelope species, zebra, giraffe, civets, servals, jackals, and, if you're lucky, pangolins. The TRC lies adjacent to the captivating Elephant Marsh, an area home to over 350 bird species—all visible from the comfort of a private chalet veranda, viewing decks, or specialist boats. (Accommodation: Thangadzi Lodge)

- LENGWE NATIONAL PARK has easily driven and signposted tracks near the main gate and a number of hides from which to see game at waterholes. Game viewing is best in the dry season and there is an especially interesting variety of antelope including the beautiful nyala and buffalo herds.

- MWABVI WILDLIFE RESERVE is sadly currently little-visited. There are scenic rocky outcrops and impressive gorges, with vegetation from grassland to dense forest, but game sightings are getting fewer and fewer. Thankfully, a new management concession is on the cards with plans to return it to former glories.

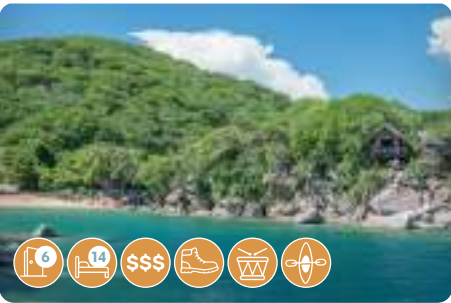
ZOMBA, former capital and seat of government of Malawi, is just 40 miles / 65 km north-east of Blantyre. In a beautiful setting below the plateau of the same name, this was the first settlement of the colonial administration. As well as being home to the University of Malawi, Zomba has some interesting buildings such as the old Gymkhana Club, the barracks of what were the King's African Rifles (now the Malawi Rifles), the old parliament, and one of the country's State Houses.

ZOMBA PLATEAU overlooks Zomba town and dominates the skyline for miles around. A great slab of a mountain rising to 6000 ft / 1800 m, it has vast tracts of cedar, pine and cypress but elsewhere the vegetation is wild and mixed. The plateau top is criss-crossed by streams and there are tumbling waterfalls and still lakes. There are drivable tracks right round the top from which are views that were described in colonial times as "the best in the British Empire". As well as forest walks, mountain biking, fishing and horse riding can be arranged. (Accommodation: Zomba Forest Lodge)

Turn over for
Accommodation Listings



SOUTH MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



MUMBO ISLAND CAMP

CAPE MACLEAR
letsgo@kayakafrica.com
www.mumboisland.com

Mumbo Island is a pristine and deserted tropical island and the undisputed jewel of the Lake Malawi National Park. It has never been inhabited and is still in a natural state, covered by a thick forest of miombo woodland and ancient baobab trees, and surrounded by the clear, clean waters of Lake Malawi. Key features of a visit to Mumbo Island include:

- Exclusive, small-capacity, island-style camp on a remote tropical island, with the option of a single party booking the whole camp for just themselves.
- Camp facilities are reed and thatch buildings combined with open-air, outdoors spaces. Choose between cool quality hammock time; or healthy outdoor fun in the sun including swimming, snorkelling, kayaking and walking the nature trails.
- The island is not about man-made grandeur and five-star service, but instead strives to offer peace and tranquillity in a beautiful setting where Mother Nature provides the "Wow!". The camp was founded by Kayak Africa in 1994. Our thirty years at the helm has taught us that when it comes to deserted tropical islands like Mumbo, less is often more.

Our reception overlooks Lake Malawi from the beach at Cape Maclear. Our central reservations in Cape Town can help you get to there.



DOMWE ISLAND CAMP

CAPE MACLEAR
letsgo@kayakafrica.com
www.kayakafrica.com

Domwe Island is the Lake Malawi National Park's wildest island. Its ancient forest supports several species of mammals and numerous birds, while the surrounding waters are home to over five hundred species of cichlid tropical fish.

Domwe Island has never been populated and is still in a pristine natural state. The island is ideal for active guests and those that love nature. There are extensive and challenging nature trails that weave around massive granite boulders and giant trees; sea kayaking along the 11km shoreline will delight those who enjoy exploring; and the clean and clear blue waters around the island are perfect for snorkelling, swimming and scuba diving.

The camp has capacity for only ten guests. It is basic yet exclusive and "castaway adventure" is the theme. Guests can stay on either a fully-catered or self-catered basis, and all gear hire is optional, thus making Domwe Island accessible to a wide range of budgets. Domwe Island is part of the Lake Malawi National Park and falls within Kayak Africa's exclusive concession area, guaranteeing privacy in paradise. Our reception overlooks Lake Malawi from the beach at Cape Maclear. Our central reservations in Cape Town can help you get to there.



PUMULANI, ROBIN POPE SAFARIS

CAPE MACLEAR
geno@robinpopesafaris.net
www.robinpopesafaris.net

Pumulani Lodge is situated on the west-side of Nankumba Peninsula at the southern end of Lake Malawi - romantically called the "Lake of Stars".

Overlooking the lake and exclusively nestled within the Lake Malawi National Park, Pumulani has total seclusion and privacy.

The nine villas are scattered among the boulders and trees on the hillside. Each is individual in shape and style, with clean curved lines and all have a spacious bedroom, bathroom and sitting area. The front sliding doors open onto the deck - elevated above the ground giving optimal views and privacy. One of the villas has two bedrooms for family groups and another is designed for honeymooners. The central dining and bar area is high above the lake with the most spectacular views.

With both a private beach with a swimming pool, and another swimming pool on the upper terrace, this is a perfect place simply to relax.

For the more active, a wide range of water-sport activities is offered from scuba diving to sunset cruises. Pumulani, the leading star of the lake, is the perfect place to relax.



NORMAN CARR COTTAGE

MONKEY BAY
taffy@africa-online.net
www.normancarrcottage.com

Awaken to the call of the African Fish Eagle for another glorious day at the charming Norman Carr Cottage situated alongside the sandy beaches on the southern shores of Lake Malawi - Once home to the legend Norman Carr, who was famed for his walking safaris in Zambia, this idyllic and romantic retreat was built by him in the early 1970's. This unique lodge nestles under a canopy of large indigenous trees and lush fauna and flora. The cottage, renowned for its cuisine, offers fully catered home cooked meals which are enjoyed in the open beach dining area overlooking the sparkling waters of Lake Malawi. Rooms have spacious en suite bathrooms, signature open air showers, king size beds and coffee/tea making facilities. Camping is available too at \$10 per person. Activities include canoeing as well as a morning snorkelling trip and feeding of the fish eagles from the cottage's launch, the "Bonnie Alfie". Bonnie Alfie was built for Sir Alfred Beit in 1952 for use on lake Nyasa. An evening cruise with a chilled glass of wine to watch the magical sun set over the lake marks the end of another enchanted Warm Heart of Africa Day! In 2015 Norman Carr Cottage opened up a sister property across the Lake, on the more remote eastern shore. Situated right on the beach and tucked away under a canopy of large indigenous trees, the lodge consists of 3 spacious, airy and luxurious en-suite rooms with king size beds and outdoor 'sky view' showers. Our renowned cuisine offers full catered home cooked meals that are enjoyed in the panoramic restaurant on the rock, overlooking the Lake. Travel on Bonnie Alfie for an overnight stay and back the next day.



THE MAKOKOLA RETREAT

MANGOCHI LAKESHORE
reservations@makokola.com
www.makokola.com

The Makokola Retreat is a stunning lakeside resort nestled on the southern shores of Lake Malawi in Mangochi. It's a true gem if you're looking for a blend of relaxation, luxury, and authentic African charm.

This showpiece property captures the essence of African design, culture and tradition. Fill every moment with a sense of natural connection and wonderful retreat.

Dining at the Retreat is an eclectic experience. Guests can savor fine Mediterranean cuisine, celebrate the tastes of Malawi or feast on Italian specialties in our casual restaurant and bar. Superbly rewarding leisure time. The Makokola Retreat includes temptations for any interest, all year-round. International cuisine served in a romantic, family-friendly setting.

Accommodation includes spacious beach villas and suites with lake or garden views. Options include family rooms, bridal suites, and interconnected rooms. Modern amenities like air conditioning, private balconies, and walk-in showers.

Other facilities include an Infinity pool, fitness center, tennis court, spa services, private beach access, private Airstrip and our very own golf course.



KUTHENGO CAMP, ROBIN POPE SAFARIS

LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK
geno@robinpopesafaris.net
www.robinpopesafaris.net

Located on a large open plain stretching towards the Shire River in Liwonde National Park, you will find Kuthengo Camp nestled among Fever trees and Baobabs. With resident fish eagles nesting in these Baobabs, you will be woken to 'Africa's voice' calling as you rise in this wild and natural paradise.

The camp's five spacious and modern safari tents are all en-suite, each with a bathtub and an outdoor shower. With all the usual comforts of a Robin Pope Safaris camp, Kuthengo maintains a rustic charm, complemented by stunning views which are best appreciated from your private deck with a cold sundowner in hand, admiring the herds of waterbuck that frequent the camp area, milling about in the evening glow.

The unspoiled Liwonde National Park promises an ultimate retreat where you can experience the activities on offer with complete privacy; from adventurous game drives to tranquil boat cruises along the grand Shire River, there is something for everyone.





SOUTH MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



MVUU LODGE
LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK
reservations@causmw.com
www.causmw.com

Mvuu Lodge, sheltering amongst the iconic palms and fever trees of the Shire Riverine, offers one of the most stunning Lodge settings in Africa.

Liwonde National Park is Malawi's premier wildlife area. The Lodge overlooks the Namagogo lagoon, which flows from the interior and is home to countless birds and a huge variety of wildlife.

Mvuu means "hippo" in Chichewa and the name of the Lodge was inspired by the large pods of hippos that inhabit the surrounding waters of the Shire.

Accommodation comprises eight chalets, 3 of which are honeymoon suites fitted with plunge pools. Each chalet has en-suite bathroom facilities and a private deck that overlooks the water's edge, indoor and outdoor shower, Starlink WiFi and an overhead fan. Lodge facilities include a dining room, lounge area and a swimming pool.

Activities include game drives, boat safaris, walking safaris and underground hide viewing. Back of house tours and community visits are also available.



MVUU CAMP
LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK
reservations@causmw.com
www.causmw.com

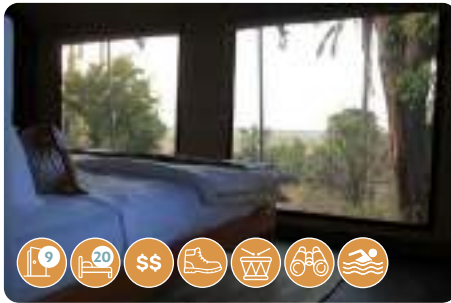
Mvuu Camp is located in the heart of Liwonde National Park, Malawi's premier wildlife destination.

The Camp offers affordable family friendly and group safaris with chalets overlooking the magnificent Shire River.

Liwonde is a 580 sq km reserve that harbours over 400 species of birds, a dense population of hippos, crocodiles, large numbers of elephants and a variety of antelope species. There are also regular sightings of lion, cheetah and serval as well as occasional sightings of black rhino.

Facilities include 11 stone and canvas chalets, a beautiful swimming pool, fireside boma and an impressive thatched dining and lounge area.

The Camp has 24/7 solar power and Wifi in the chalets and communal areas. Activities include boat safaris, game drives, walking safaris, back of house tours and community visits.



CHIMWALA BUSH CAMP
LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK
reservationsliwonde@africanparks.org
www.africanparks.org

Chimwala Bush Camp at Liwonde National Park is an excellent opportunity to experience the beauty of Malawi's Wildlife in a small and safe place. The Camp is located in the South of the National Park at the base of Chinguni Hill overlooking the Chikalongwe lagoon and floodplain.

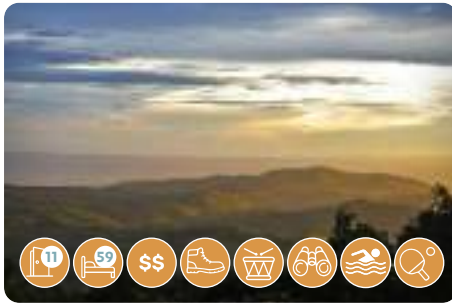
The camp is operated by African Parks who manage the National Park through a Public Private Partnership with the Government of Malawi. Tucked up against Chinguni hill and sheltered by a mixture of mopane and miombo trees, the camp is constructed from local rock & thatch. The main area's al fresco style brings the outside in, with high ceilings and a large garden for dining and leisure. The tents - while classic in style - have some modern features: oversized windows, lovely décor, private verandahs and open-air outdoor bathrooms. Enjoy a laze around the pool with its magnificent views across the floodplain. This is truly a treasure of a bush camp.

At the camp up to twelve guests can be accommodated in 8 comfortable and spacious en-suite safari tents, on full board service with morning game drive inclusive. Within the camp area there is an expansive thatched dining and lounge area for guests to socialise and relax. There is also a fully equipped family cottage which sleeps up to 5 in 2 en-suite bedrooms, and a plunge swimming pool. A nearby campsite has recently been opened with 10 sites, ablutions, viewing deck and braai stands.



ZOMBA FOREST LODGE
ZOMBA PLATEAU
zombaforestlodge@gmail.com
www.zombaforestlodge.com

Zomba Forest Lodge is a cosy and intimate guest house nestled in 20 acres of mixed woodland. A perfect forest retreat where relaxation is guaranteed. The house sits in stunning gardens and mixed woodland, varying from indigenous cloudforest in the valley by the stream, to pine on the slopes and giant eucalyptus trees overhanging the garden. There are 3.5km on nature trails within the property and many more outside, and a huge variety of birds, including the rare yellow-throated and white-winged apalis, Bertram's weaver and the double-coloured forest sunbird feeding from the flowers mere inches from the veranda, a real treat for the eyes. Completely off-grid and with no electricity, Zomba Forest Lodge is an ideal place to hide away, to take it slow, to sit back and relax... or you can step it up and go walking on one of the many trails around the lodge or on the Plateau taking in the amazing views. Visitors can take a tour of the historical city and walk around Zomba Market to sample the vibrant pulsing beat of the Warm Heart of Africa. However, Zomba Forest Lodge isn't all about relaxing and hiking, it is also about enjoying great food and great company. At ZFL, guests will feast on some of the best home-cooked food available in Malawi while sharing stories with their fellow guests. ZFL also has its own conservation project, TREEZ, which guests are very welcome to visit.



FISHERMAN'S REST LODGES BLANTYRE / SHIRE VALLEY
enquiries@fishermansrest.net
www.fishermansrest.net

Fisherman's Rest is surrounded by magnificent views and woodland above the Great Rift Valley. Our accommodation offers self-catering lodges and chalets. All accommodation is set in our private nature reserve inhabited by antelope and 500 acres of rare indigenous woodland. Meals are served at the cafe. Group bookings need to be made in advance.

Our tranquil atmosphere offers a wonderful, peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of life. From Fisherman's Rest there are pleasant scenic, woodland and escarpment walks. Guests can experience more of Malawi at Fisherman's Rest Community Centre and through the many community projects.

For a more relaxed afternoon there are two delightful swimming pools overlooking the Shire Valley, and enjoyable evenings under the African stars.

Fisherman's Rest is exceptionally well located for visitors wishing to do business in Blantyre. The venue is also a unique setting for workshops and board meetings. Majete, a wildlife haven with elephant and lion, managed by African Parks, is an easy 50-minute drive away.



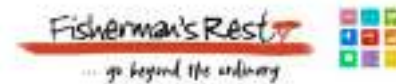
GAME HAVEN LODGE BLANTYRE / THYOLO
info@gamehavenmw.com
www.gamehavenmw.com

Nestled within 500 serene acres of indigenous forests and grasslands in the Shire Highlands of Southern Malawi, Chimwenya Game Park and Game Haven Lodge offers a tranquil escape just 20km from Blantyre.

Guests can enjoy exceptional wildlife viewing, including giraffe, zebra, eland, nyala, waterbuck, wildebeest, and impala, alongside prolific birdlife for birdwatchers.

Accommodation includes 28 rooms, featuring five luxurious en-suite cottages with fireplaces and verandahs, 10 spacious Nyala suites, 10 Sable family rooms, and three self-catering guest houses that accommodate up to six people each. Two conference halls, each seating 40 guests, provide ideal venues for team-building events and business meetings.

The lodge also features a golf course, offering a scenic yet challenging experience for golfers. Dining options include the Ambrosia restaurant, where guests can savor international and local cuisine. The lodge also boasts a picturesque swimming pool and offers fishing, barbecues and camping on the lawns of Lake Bvumbwe at Nswala Malo - Lounge Bar. For families, Mwana Park, a children's playground with qualified staff, ensures fun for the little ones. Game Haven Lodge offers something for everyone.





SOUTH MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



HUNTINGDON HOUSE
THYOLO

accommodation@satemwa.com
www.satemwalodges.com

Originally the family home built by Maclean Kay in the mid-30s, Huntingdon House exudes a colonial charm and unique character that cannot be recreated.

This magnificent house forms the heart of Satemwa Tea Estate and is surrounded by sprawling manicured gardens with secret patios and terraces waiting to be discovered. Owned and run by the Kay family since 1923, Satemwa Tea Estate is undoubtedly among the country's most respected and established tea and coffee producers.

Now under third generation management. The house has been tastefully refurbished to offer 5 unique suites, each individually decorated to reflect the quirks and character of this grand residence. Each area of the house has a story of its own from the original children's nursery to the resident priest's quarters and private Chapel.

Guests are able to discover the multitude of teas exported from the estate and learn all about the tea making process during a tea tasting session. Take a guided walk through the tea and coffee fields, explore the estate by mountain bike or watch the sunset from Thyolo Mountain, sipping one of their famous gin and teas. At Huntingdon you can do as little or as much as you like.



CHAWANI BUNGALOW
THYOLO

accommodation@satemwa.com
www.satemwalodges.com

Sited on the slopes of Thyolo Mountain, approximately 3 km from Huntingdon House this historic tea planters bungalow offers a relaxed, family friendly retreat surrounded by lush subtropical rainforest on Satemwa Estate. With beautiful manicured gardens, a private swimming pool and panoramic views.

Chawani has been sensitively refurbished to retain the rustic character and charm which has made this property enormously popular with visitors to the Shire Highlands for decades. As one of two properties available to guests on the Estate, Chawani Bungalow offers the perfect retreat for a family or a group of friends. It is self catering but our friendly staff are there to assist you with basic cooking and cleaning. Available as an exclusive rental the 4 bedrooms are all ensuite and provide comfortable accommodation for 8 guests. The estate provides great opportunities for walking and bird watching. The hike to the famous picnic spot is one not to be missed. Tea tasting, coffee tours, guided walks, and mountain bike hire can be arranged through Huntingdon House. There is also the opportunity to engage with the local community by meeting some of the small holders Satemwa work with and visiting the nearby orphanage and schools. Also, if you feel like a real treat, afternoon teas, lunch and dinner can be booked in advance at Huntingdon House.

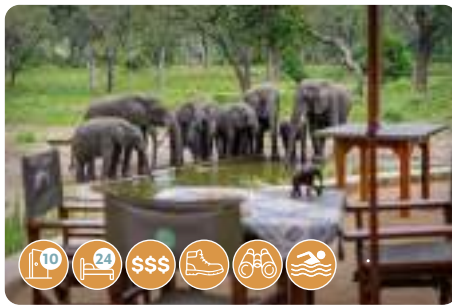


MKULUMADZI,
ROBIN POPE SAFARIS

MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE
geno@robinpopesafaris.net
www.robinpopesafaris.net

Mkulumadzi Lodge is located in Majete Wildlife Reserve, a Big 5 reserve in Malawi. The lodge offers guests a chic and contemporary retreat set amidst rugged and untouched bush land. The lodge, accessible by footbridge suspended over the Mkulumadzi River, comprises of eight spacious chalets, each with private viewing decks offering dramatic and unimpeded views the Shire River. The main lodge is open-fronted space, maximizing the beautiful river views and taking advantage of some cool shade on the forested banks. Mkulumadzi also has its very own 'star bed' with 360-degree views of Majete Wildlife Reserve.

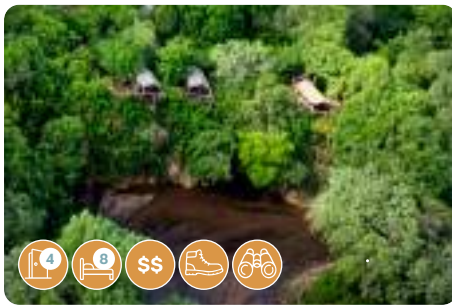
Activities range from swimming in the pool and dining under the stars, game-drives and nights under the stars. The wildlife includes rare black rhino, elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, Nyala, sable, eland, Lichtenstein's hartebeest and more. Numerous species of birds grace Majete, including Rock Prancole, Pels Fishing Owl and more. The Reserve is an impressive example of sustainable development and biodiversity, since 2003 the African Parks Network has worked tirelessly to reintroduce endangered species and protect and preserve Majete's flora and fauna. Mkulumadzi is owned and managed by Robin Pope Safaris, which was founded in 1986 and known for their special interest and walking safaris. Standards of accommodation, hospitality, guiding and catering are second to none.



THAWALE LODGE
MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE

majete@africanparks.org
www.visitmajete.org

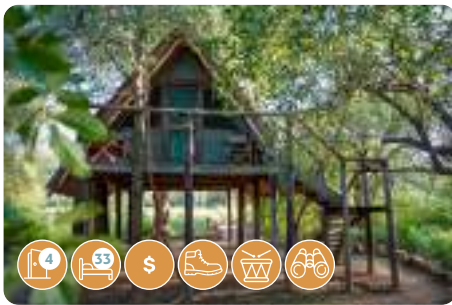
Thawale Lodge offers a truly immersive experience in the heart of nature, situated beside a lively waterhole frequented by a diverse array of wildlife, including lions, cheetahs, wild dogs, leopards, elands, buffalo, and herds of elephants. The lodge's unfenced design ensures guests can enjoy an authentic safari experience, surrounded by the sights and sounds of the wild. Accommodations include eight tented chalets—six of which are air-conditioned and offer direct views of the waterhole—plus two family chalets featuring two en-suite bedrooms, a lounge, and a veranda, perfect for families seeking comfort amidst wilderness. Guests can enjoy communal spaces such as a central dining area, an open-air bar, and a traditional lapa restaurant. For a refreshing activity, take a dip in the natural "bio-pool," where you can swim or snorkel among freshwater fish, including endemic cichlids native to Malawi's brackish waters. Wildlife viewing is exceptional, with guided game drives twice daily led by FGASA-qualified guides, providing in-depth exploration of the reserve's rich flora and fauna. Bird enthusiasts will delight in over 300 species observed at Majete, especially during the summer months. Thawale Lodge is family-friendly but does not accommodate children under three years old, making it suitable for families with older children seeking an authentic safari adventure.



MWEMBEZI GORGE BUSH
CAMP MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE

majete@africanparks.org
www.visitmajete.org

Mwembezi Gorge Bush Camp is a serene and charming retreat nestled in the heart of Majete Wildlife Reserve. Perched above the tranquil Mwembezi River, the camp offers a perfect combination of rustic appeal and modern amenities, allowing guests to fully connect with nature in comfort. The camp features four spacious en-suite tents, thoughtfully designed to provide a cozy yet functional stay. Each tent is equipped with hot and cold running water, flush toilets, and secure safes, ensuring convenience while maintaining the authentic wilderness experience. Emphasizing eco-consciousness, Mwembezi Gorge Bush Camp operates with minimal reliance on electricity, supporting conservation efforts and preserving the natural environment. Guests can relax in the cozy central lounge, prepare meals in the fully equipped self-catering kitchen, or gather around the outdoor firepit for evenings under the stars. The camp's peaceful setting and sustainable approach make it an ideal base for exploring Majete's rich biodiversity. Activities include guided morning and sundown game drives, available upon request for an additional fee, as well as self-drive options for those seeking independence. Birdwatchers will enjoy the variety of species that inhabit the area, making it a haven for avian enthusiasts. Whether embarking on an adventurous wildlife safari or enjoying quiet moments by the fire, Mwembezi Gorge Bush Camp promises an unforgettable connection with nature in a tranquil setting.



GAME CAPTURE CAMP
MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE

majete@africanparks.org
www.visitmajete.org

Located in the heart of the reserve, the Game Capture Campsite is set under a grove of trees, which provide perfect shade in the hot summer months. It is an excellent base from which to explore the reserve, guests are able to participate in game viewing activities with qualified guides or self-drive around the reserve. The campsite accommodates approximately 25 guests in designated tent sites, where visitors can set up their own tents, each with its own braai area. In addition to this, up to eight guests can be accommodated in serviced shelters, three of which are treetop A-frames. Tents and mattresses are also available to hire. A large dining lapa and kitchen facilities are placed at the centre of the campsite. Camp attendants light a central fire pit every evening, providing a space under the stars for visitors to share their game-viewing stories from the day. The campsite is equipped with shared ablutions, including hot showers. Guests are also welcome to enjoy meals at the Mwembezi Restaurant, located at the main entrance a short drive away. The restaurant offers breakfast and lunch menus, and takeaways can be arranged. Here visitors can cool off in the swimming pool and purchase basic amenities and curios in the park shop. The campsite operates under a profit-sharing agreement with communities through the Majete Wildlife Reserve Association.





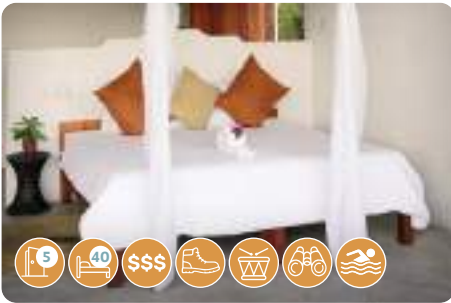
SOUTH MALAWI ACCOMMODATION



NG'ONA LODGE
MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE

ngonalodge@gmail.com
www.ngona-lodge.com

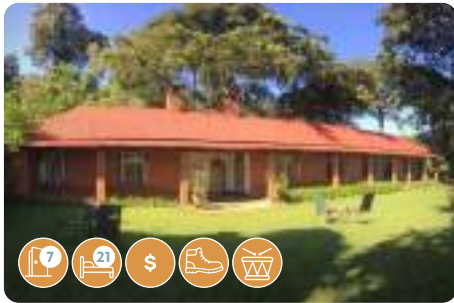
Ng'ona Lodge is an oasis in the African bush, in a tranquil environment on the banks of the Shire River, approximately 70 kilometres south-west of Blantyre. It is owned and managed by Monika Steidl and Ruari Maclean, Austrian and Scottish nationals respectively who are both long-term residents in Malawi. The lodge has 6 chalets accommodating 2-4 occupants per chalet. All chalets have a shower & toilet, tea & coffee facilities, fridge, mosquito nets and powerful rotating fans as standard. The 2 new double chalets, on the edge of the river also have air-conditioning. All have large shady verandas. There is also a camp site. Campers can make use of the built barbecue grills to prepare their own meals or can choose to eat in the restaurant. Most guests visit Majete Game Reserve, only 15km away, during their stay. The lodge can arrange game drives with African Parks, in open vehicles, or visitors can self-drive, subject to African Parks' regulations. Peace is the lodge's main attraction. Many visitors simply fill their days alternating between reading and cooling off in the pool. One can also spend time observing the abundant birds wading or fishing in, or soaring over, the mesmerising Shire River. For many, no other activities are required. However, an early morning walk shows the river at its most serene with the Shire Highlands as a background. What better way to start the day than with a walk and a swim before breakfast?



ZUA SAFARI LODGE
MAJETE WILDLIFE RESERVE

info.zuasafari@gmail.com
www.zuasafari.com

Zua Safari Lodge is a boutique eco safari lodge located just 3km from the entrance of Majete Wildlife Reserve, offering an intimate experience in the heart of Malawi's wilderness. Nestled within a 14-acre nature reserve along the scenic Shire River, the lodge blends modern comfort with an authentic connection to the African bush. Guests can choose from a range of accommodation options, including Private River View Chalets for a secluded and serene stay, as well as more adventurous Camping and Dormitories for budget-conscious travelers. Each option ensures a comfortable base for exploring the surrounding wildlife and breathtaking landscapes. Zua Safari Lodge is family-friendly with a playground, spa, and swim-up pool bar overlooking the river. Activities game drives, nature walks, fishing, cooking classes, and more. The lodge's proximity to Majete offers thrilling safari game drives with opportunities to spot the Big Five, while the abundance of birdlife and wildlife around the lodge provides endless fascination. Whether seeking adventure or relaxation, Zua Safari Lodge caters to all types of travelers, ensuring a memorable and enriching experience. With its combination of eco-friendly, nature, and family-friendly amenities, Zua Safari Lodge invites guests to create lasting memories and enjoy a truly unique safari experience in the heart of Malawi.



AFRICAWILDTRUCK
CAMP & LODGE MULANJE

info@afriawildtruck.com
www.afriawildtruck.com

AfricaWildTruck camp and lodge in Mulanje is an eco friendly lodge and camp in Malawi located at about one hours drive from Blantyre International Airport and on the road to Mozambique, just 6 km from the Muloza-Milange border. It offers a pause before, after or during a travel or a safari in Malawi. It is the perfect place to start your hiking journey on Mulanje Mountain and cross the mountain. There are 7 en suite rooms, an hostel and a camping area with restaurant and bar just for guests with an Italian taste: the ideal place to share travel experiences and an evening at the fireplace! Secular and giant trees, a secluded garden overlooking tea hills, on the background Mulanje Mountain: AfricaWildTruck camp and lodge rises in an old colonial red brick building dated back to 1912. Formerly used as a library, it has been renovated to impact as little as possible on the nature. It offers an atmosphere of tranquility, peace and relaxation. Respect for the environment, the communities that live there and therefore responsible tourism are the inspirational concepts of Africa Wild Truck.

AfricaWildTruck camp and lodge is the break you deserve in the nature of a tropical garden.



THANGADZI LODGE
THANGADZI RIVER CONSERVANCY

hello@shirevalleyconservation.com
www.shirevalleyconservation.com

Discover the untouched beauty of Malawi at Thangadzi Lodge, a hidden gem just 2 hours south of Blantyre in the stunning Lower Shire Valley. Nestled within the Thangadzi River Conservancy, this lodge is set amidst one of Malawi's last riparian forests, where the rhythm of nature still reigns. Expect to see buffalo, various antelope species, zebra, giraffe, civets, servals, jackals, and, if you're lucky, pangolins. Adjacent to the enchanting Elephant Marsh, the area is home to over 350 bird species—all visible from the comfort of your private chalet veranda, viewing decks, or specialist boats. Our five thatched chalets offer breathtaking views of the bush and nearby waterhole, creating the perfect backdrop for a tranquil getaway. With a refreshing pool, game drives, guided walks, and boat trips on the Elephant Marsh, Thangadzi Lodge provides endless ways to explore this remarkable environment. For those seeking a deeper connection with Malawi, our volunteer programme offers the chance to get involved in conservation efforts, from wildlife protection to community upliftment. This unique opportunity allows you to give back while gaining insight into the region's ecological and social challenges. Whether you're an adventurer or a nature enthusiast, Thangadzi Lodge promises an unforgettable experience, filled with opportunities to immerse yourself in nature while giving back to Malawi's vibrant communities and ecosystems. This is more than just a getaway—it's an invitation to experience, explore, and contribute.



TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS

TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS



THE TRAVEL CENTRE

BLANTYRE & LILONGWE

info@travelcentremw.com
www.travelcentremw.com

The The Travel Centre is an inbound tour operator and retail travel agency in Malawi. Established in 2012, the company boasts a team of highly experienced staff.

We specialize in providing personalized, cost-effective tour packages and travel arrangements in Malawi, catering for individuals, groups, and families.

We are known for our flexibility in tailoring itineraries to meet the specific needs of our clients. Committing to sustainable tourism practices, the company employs measures such as using reusable water bottles, avoiding littering, and actively supporting local communities.

Additionally, we collaborate with lodges and hotels that adhere to sustainable tourism activities. With offices situated in Lilongwe and Blantyre,

The Travel Centre is strategically positioned to serve its clientele efficiently and effectively.

Explore with the Travel Centre.



CENTRAL AFRICAN WILDERNESS SAFARIS

LILONGWE

reservations@caawmw.com
www.caawmw.com

With over 40 years of experience, Central African Wilderness Safaris has mastered the art of delivering exceptional safari experiences in Malawi's most revered natural landscapes. Established in 1987 by Chris and Pamela Badger, this family-run business is deeply rooted in the preservation and celebration of Malawi's wilderness. The company operates in two of the country's premier wildlife destinations. Chelinda Camp & Lodge in Nyika National Park offers panoramic views of the plateau, home to herds of eland, roan, and zebras. It is also one of the best places to see leopard in Malawi. In contrast, Mvuu Camp & Lodge in Liwonde National Park provides a tranquil setting along the Shire River and offers exceptional game viewing and unique wildlife experiences. From custom built safari boats to thoughtfully design 4x4 vehicles, Mvuu goes the extra mile to showcase the Liwonde. Renowned for its personalized approach, they offer tailored safaris that cater to various interests, from intimate wildlife encounters to family adventures and specialist photographic tours. Their expert guides and attentive staff ensure a seamless and enriching experience for every guest. Moreover, the company is committed to conservation and community initiatives, such as the CITW and "Root to Fruit" reforestation programs. These efforts underscore a dedication to preserving Malawi's natural beauty while supporting local communities. This blend of luxury, authenticity, and responsible tourism makes Central African Wilderness Safaris the ideal choice for those seeking an extraordinary and meaningful safari experience in Malawi.



CRAFTED AFRICA

LILONGWE

sales@craftedafrica.com
www.craftedafrica.com

Crafted Africa is a specialist DMC based in Malawi, offering safaris and adventures across beautiful Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, with extensions into South Africa and Botswana.

Since 2010, the company has built its reputation on trust, local knowledge and dependable service. With an experienced team based in Lilongwe, they design journeys that are seamless and tailored to each traveller, whether it is a classic safari, a lakeside retreat or a multi-country adventure.

Crafted Africa proudly promotes destinations where conservation is thriving, value is genuine and tourism numbers remain low. This gives travellers the chance to enjoy intimate wildlife encounters without queues and where possible, without having to share them at all.

For agents and operators, their dedicated Agent Portal is a "game-changer", offering live availability, current specials, media resources, transport schedules and planning information. Their website adds further support, with detailed lodge pages and destination insights that keep everything clear and transparent.

With a growing reservations team on the ground, Crafted Africa delivers service that meets international standards while staying rooted in Malawi. For travellers and trade partners alike, they remain a trusted choice for exploring this part of Africa.



Malawi is a destination that lends itself to touring. Most visitors will be travelling round the country to a greater or lesser degree rather than simply visiting one game park or a single resort. Travelling within the country is not difficult. There is a quite good bus service, especially between the main towns; the roads are generally better maintained than many other African countries and self-drive is straightforward. Car hire, with or without a driver, is available throughout the country. To save time, some visitors fly between their destinations and there are daily flights between the two main towns as well as regular ones connecting key attractions.

The easiest way to get your itinerary organised is to use a tour operator/agent in your home country or one of the many and highly experienced operators in Malawi. These companies, listed below in this Directory, will book your accommodation, organise your tour, set up your safari and even take you across the border into one of Malawi's neighbouring countries. You can select from their scheduled tours, ask them to suggest a trip to meet your preferences, or plan your own itinerary and ask them to book it all up for you. Remember to make any bookings with these companies in Malawi in good time before you expect to visit. The most popular periods, when accommodation and safaris may be limited, are the northern hemisphere summer and the period around Christmas and the New Year. To contact any of the companies shown in this part of the Directory (and generally in communicating with Malawi) it is often best to use email. All the email addresses are in this Directory and re-printed on the inside back cover in the Contacts A-Z.

TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS



LAND & LAKE SAFARIS

LILONGWE

info@landlake.net
www.landlake.net

Established in 1986 as Malawi's first tour operator, Land & Lake Safaris, is a family-run company based in the capital city, Lilongwe. A team of dedicated, knowledgeable and highly experienced individuals offer a wide range of travel and support services across Malawi, Zambia and beyond.

From car hire and self-drive tours in a fully kitted camping vehicle to professional guided expeditions across some of the regions most remote locations, Land & Lake Safaris caters to individuals, groups, families and couples and works within your budget to ensure you get the very best out of your travels.

A selection of pre-made packages, coupled with new scheduled tour dates and options gives you a wide scope of choices and ideas. With decades of experience behind them, the Land & Lake Safaris team also offer comprehensive travel advice as well as tailor-made tours and reservations across the region.

Land & Lake Safaris new scheduled itineraries offer all-female departures, designed and guided by women as well as familiar favourites such as Wild Zambia and their popular 16 Day Malawi and Zambia exploration. They have a range of vehicles suitable to cross rugged terrain, a fleet of bicycles and equipment to offer specialised travels and qualified diving buddies and guides dedicated to specific areas of interest such as birding, history, culture and remote travel.



ULENDO SAFARIS

LILONGWE

info@ulendo.net
www.ulendo.net

Established in 1998, ULENDO SAFARIS has enjoyed steady growth since its inception as a small marketing agent and inbound tour operator.

The superb support received from inbound leisure travel, on both regional and international fronts, has allowed ULENDO to adapt its operating model to meet the expectations of agents and guests by offering a comprehensive range of travel-related products in both Malawi and the wider region.

From international flight reservations to ground services and accommodation, Ulendo's team of experienced, professional travel specialists are on hand to share their knowledge and create wonderful experiences for visitors to Malawi.

Ulendo Safaris is owned by Rob and Lindsay McConaghy. We have been exalting the beauty of Malawi for over 20 years and successfully shown it to many guests in that time! Ulendo is small DMC with a big heart.



1 2 TRAVEL AFRICA

LILONGWE

bookings@12travelafrica.com
www.12travelafrica.com

There is no 'one size fits all' in travel. Every traveller is unique and so are their wishes. That's why the team at 1-2 Travel Africa puts in the effort to get to know you, before organising your bespoke Dream Holiday in Malawi. Come and experience the magical mix of down to earth Dutch and that famous Malawian hospitality!

As an on the ground tour operator, they believe that everyone can and should make a positive impact while exploring the world. They seek win-win-win situations by only offering sustainable tourism. A win for Malawi's people, a win for local nature and of course a win for the traveller, who goes home with countless new memories. Soul-based experiences in the Warm Heart of Africa! They offer itineraries with quality time at the Lake, spectacular safaris, breath-taking hikes, birding, homestay experiences, G&T sundowners and hours of storytelling around the campfire.

Besides creating those Dream Holidays, the team also operates the lodges Africa House and Mitengo House in Lilongwe, as well as Kuti Wildlife Reserve in Salima, where they've introduced the country's only game viewing on horseback.

Don't wait until that one day, because the best time to fall in love with Malawi is now!





TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS



LILONGWE WILDLIFE TRUST

LILONGWE

comms@lilongwewildlife.org
www.lilongwewildlife.org

Spanning 70 hectares of beautiful forest, Lilongwe Wildlife Centre is a unique nature reserve in the heart of the capital. It is run by the Lilongwe Wildlife Trust, Malawi's leading conservation NGO.

Visitors can enjoy walking or running along the 6km of beautiful nature trails. These wind along the Lingadzi River and through the forest, which is home to antelopes, crocodiles, monkeys, bush pigs and over 200 species of bird. Visitors can also enjoy an elevated boardwalk, wildlife sculptures, relax in the cafe and browse the gift shop. Nature and wellness events are hosted regularly, and schools and university groups are welcome at our environmental education centre.

Lilongwe Wildlife Centre is home to Malawi's only wildlife sanctuary. In order to give rescued animals the best possible chance of being released, we have to make sure they retain their wild behaviours and do not spend too much time around people. For this reason, the sanctuary is generally closed to the public. At Lilongwe Wildlife Centre, Lilongwe Wildlife Trust also runs an (inter)national placement programme which offers conservation experiences for students, researchers and the general public. Volunteers join programmes in sanctuary work or veterinary medicine at the wildlife sanctuary, a research placement at a field site in a national park, or a combination. Programmes run from 2 to 12 weeks.



BLUE ZEBRA SAFARIS

LILONGWE

info@bluezebra.mw
www.bluezebra.mw/safaris

Blue Zebra Safaris officially launched in April 2023, evolving from the well-established Blue Zebra Island Lodge in Malawi to offer bespoke tours. Initially, these tours combined the island experiences, with safaris to explore the stunning landscapes of Lake Malawi National Park, Liwonde National Park, and South Luangwa National Park. Since then, the company has expanded its dedicated, client-focused team and broadened its travel offerings to create customized itineraries across Malawi and Zambia. We offer a comprehensive range of services, including transfers, private flight charters within Malawi and Zambia, and booking accommodation to ensure a seamless travel experience.

Blue Zebra Safaris carefully selects lodges that align with its core values, prioritizing partnerships with suppliers that are committed to community and conservation efforts. With a personalized approach to itinerary development and exceptional in-country support, Blue Zebra Safaris collaborates with international tour operators entering the Malawi market. We provide assistance with web listings and content, and focus on building lasting relationships so that we ensure our guests have the best planned tour possible.



ORBIS DMC

BLANTYRE

info@orbis-dmc.com
www.orbis-dmc.com

Orbis Destination Management Company is a socially conscious DMC based in Blantyre, Malawi. We specialise in sustainable, educational, philanthropic and experiential group travel, creating journeys that inspire and give back. In partnership with our UK-based sister company, Orbis Expeditions, we design impact-focused trips that connect travellers with inspiring community projects. Whether a school group, university field trip, charity challenge or independent traveller, our itineraries blend learning, adventure and cultural exchange, ensuring each journey is both meaningful and memorable. Through tailored educational workshops and challenge events, we work in partnership with grassroots organisations offering immersive experiences for students, businesses and independent travellers to gain an insight into key global challenges facing rural communities in Malawi. For business and leisure guests, Orbis delivers tailored travel solutions from organising seamless meetings, incentives and corporate logistics to curating unforgettable experiences for holidaymakers. Leisure guests can enjoy wildlife safaris in Malawi's national parks, immerse themselves in vibrant local culture, cruise the sparkling waters of the Shire River and unwind in luxury lodges along the golden shores of Lake Malawi. At the heart of Orbis is #makingadifference. We are committed to reducing reliance on aid, supporting rural enterprises and ensuring tourism creates meaningful benefits for Malawians. Every journey with Orbis is designed to give back, creating memories for travellers while driving positive impact for communities.



TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS



FISHERMAN'S REST TRIPS & PROJECTS

BLANTYRE

enquiries@fishermansrest.net
www.fishermansrest.net

Fisherman's Rest is the ideal starting point for exploring Malawi, offering a genuine connection and a community experience. We have bookable trips directly on our website and tailor larger group holidays to suit requests and budgets.

Over the last 20 years, Fisherman's Rest has worked in local communities, meeting needs and offering support to local schools, entrepreneurs and community organisations. Guests are welcomed into villages, schools, churches, prisons, and clinics to engage with communities through education, conservation, reforestation and the construction of fuel-efficient stoves. Also in schools and the community centre, teaching English and literacy, repairing and monitoring water supplies, and assisting with school breakfast programs.

Malawi is a unique and beautiful country. In addition to participating in community projects, your adventure with Fisherman's Rest goes beyond Mbame area. We take you to Malawi's Wildlife parks, Mulanje Mountain and the tea regions, as well as offering relaxation in the tranquillity of Lake Malawi, creating a unique and unforgettable Malawian experience.



BUDGET SAFARI

NKHATA BAY

info@budget-safari.com
www.budget-safari.com

Budget Safari is based in Nkhata Bay and has been operating safaris within Malawi since 1995. The company offers safaris that are tailor-made to your taste. You can choose from recommended tours like the popular 4-day South Luangwa Safari, across the border in neighbouring Zambia, and from other safaris from 4 to 21 days which cover the northern as well as the southern part of Malawi and into Zambia. The two or three week safaris cover all the highlights of Malawi or combine Malawi with Zambia.

Tailor-made tours of any duration are available. Budget Safari will plan and organize the entire tour for you and an experienced guide will take you in their reliable comfortable vehicles on your tour. The Company offers tours for any budget. They ensure that you get value for money.

Quality is Budget Safari's main concern. The Company has reliable vehicles, a well-trained staff and the accommodation that you'll experience will be to your fullest satisfaction.

Budget Safari specialize in tours that highlight parks, nature, wildlife, birding, trekking and, of course, culture.



KAYAK AFRICA

CAPE MACLEAR / CAPE TOWN

letsgo@kayakafrica.com
www.kayakafrica.com

Kayak Africa are the founders and owners of the camps on Mumbo Island and Domwe Island in the Lake Malawi National Park, and manage the camps on a daily basis. The camps are run on sustainable green principles, and the islands are astounding in their natural beauty.

Key features of a visit to Mumbo and Domwe include:

- Exclusive, small-capacity, island-style camps on remote tropical islands, with the option of a single party booking the whole camp for just themselves.

- Camp facilities are reed and thatch buildings combined with open-air, outdoors spaces. Choose between cool quality hammock time; or healthy outdoor fun in the sun including swimming, snorkelling, kayaking and walking the nature trails.

- The islands are not about man-made grandeur and five-star service, but instead strive to offer peace and tranquillity in a beautiful setting where Mother Nature provides the "Wow!".

Thirty years at the helm has taught us that when it comes to deserted tropical islands like Mumbo and Domwe, less is often more. Our reception overlooks Lake Malawi from the beach at Cape Maclear. Our central reservations in Cape Town can help you get to the islands and anywhere else in this peaceful and authentic African country.





TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS



WARM HEART ADVENTURES CAPE MACLEAR

kay@warmheartadventures.com
www.warmheartadventurelodge.com

The Warm Heart Adventures is a locally owned and run adventure tour company based in Cape Maclear, Malawi. Specialising in bespoke travel experiences across the country, each tour is crafted individually to reflect the client's preferences and financial plan. Renowned for its warm hospitality, Malawi lives up to its nickname—the Warm Heart of Africa. The dramatic Great Rift Valley cuts through the country from top to bottom, forming Lake Malawi, Africa's third-largest freshwater lake. With its clear turquoise waters and a vibrant array of cichlid fish, the lake is ideal for snorkelling, scuba diving, swimming, sailing, or simply relaxing on quiet beaches or remote islands. Down south, the sweeping tea estates and towering peaks of Mount Mulanje offer unforgettable hiking. Up north, Nyika Plateau is home to protea blooms, Livingstonia mountain, untouched Ruarwe and Usisya, and the lively port of Nkhata Bay. Across Malawi, national parks are being revitalised, positioning the country as a rising star on Africa's safari map.

Warm Heart Adventures Ltd is proudly female-owned and operated. Founder Kay de Silva personally designs and leads every journey, ensuring that each trip reflects the unique interests, needs, and budget of the traveller. Her deep familiarity with Malawi's landscapes and culture allows her to create trips that are both immersive and meaningful. Her hands-on approach ensures every tour is a truly custom-made adventure.



AFRICA WILD TRUCK MULANJE

info@afriawildtruck.com
www.afriawildtruck.com

Africa Wild Truck is a local Tour Operator based in Malawi, born from a big passion for travelling and from our numerous African experiences. Experiences that, since 2005, we have decided to share with whoever would like to join us on one of our expeditions: we will be happy to accompany you on a voyage of discovery to this marvelous Continent.

Africa Wild Truck means adventure and responsible tourism on less travelled routes through Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Botswana and Kenya. To bring benefits to nature and local people through eco-tourism is our inspiration. We are involved in projects of nature conservancy and we donate part of our income to no profit organization like Around AWT.

Every expedition, every travel of Africa Wild Truck is a special adventure planned and designed in detail by us and with love by whom experiences Africa everyday. We would like to make you fall in love with those African peculiarities and specificities and of all those special places that we discovered in these years that have fed our passion.

As well as the classic expedition, we offer tailor made tours, small group tours, hiking on Mulanje Mountain and lots of activities including voluntourism.



TREK MULANJE MULANJE

trekmulanje@gmail.com
www.trekmulanje.com

Trek Mulanje Tours is a local trekking company based at the foot of Mulanje Mountain run by locals born and brought up near the foot of Mulanje Mountain.

Mulanje is the highest mountain in Central Africa, reaching 3002 meters above the sea level, with the highest point of the mountain called Sapiitwa. From Sapiitwa you can often see the Indian Ocean.

Trek Mulanje Tours has well trained tour guides and porters and chefs. We do not not claim to be number ones but we are the best.

We offer organized tours both full board package and Self catering package depending on clients budget.



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TRANSPORT, TOURS & SAFARIS



MALAWI AIRLINES

BLANTYRE / LILONGWE

reservations@malawian-airlines.com
www.malawian-airlines.com

Malawi Airlines, Malawi's flag carrier, is a competitive, market driven, customer focused, passenger and freight air transport service provider.

It provides reliable and easily accessible regional air connectivity for business, tourism and other purposes. The Airline operates to and from the domestic airports of Lilongwe, capital of Malawi and Blantyre, just a few km to the tea plantations of Thyolo and the famous Mulanje Mountain.

The airline connects the two airports to major cities of Southern Africa. Its destinations include Johannesburg, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Harare and Lusaka.

Further, plans are underway to introduce flights to Kigali in Rwanda, Nampula and Pemba in Mozambique and the gateway city of Entebbe in Uganda as part of the commitment to providing enhanced connectivity.

Due its partnership with Ethiopian Airlines, which has over 100 destinations, Malawi Airlines connects to the world providing an expedient and affordable air travel service



SS RENT A CAR

BLANTYRE / LILONGWE

info@ssrentacar.com
www.ssrentacar.com

Founded in 1978, SS Rent A Car is the largest and oldest car hire company Malawi has to offer. Family run, they boast the largest fleet countrywide.

Their fleet ranges from the small to executive, from the 4 wheel drive to utility, and trucks! They have both the 16 seat and 26 seat buses, oh and of course, motorbikes for the fun loving!!

A fully equipped garage ensures highest levels of service and maintenance of the fleet. The 24 hour back-up service is always on call to assist in ensuring minimal inconvenience is experienced.

The SS team is more than capable in dealing at a professional level with clients, having a broad knowledge in ALL areas of the industry, country, and even in cross-border travel.

Always able to cater for all needs, whether a business trip, tours, group holiday, conferences, or even weddings & funerals, you will be more than satisfied with the personalised service in store for you.



AMBASSADOR CAR HIRE

BLANTYRE / LILONGWE

sales@ambassadorcarhiremw.com
www.ambassadorcarhiremw.com

Ambassador Car Hire have been providing vehicles for over 40 years. Ambassador Car Hire is the ideal car hire solution for both international and domestic travelers looking for a friendly and personal service with transparent and easy to understand hire rates.

Our ever expanding fleet of vehicles offers something for every traveler. From 4 wheel drives, saloon cars, buses, motor bikes and even cross-border travel. We provide vehicle pickup and drop-off at any point/location throughout the country to tailor fit your journey.

A fully equipped garage ensures the highest levels of service and maintenance to the fleet. The 24 hour back-up service is always on call to assist in ensuring minimal inconvenience is experienced.

We also offer a range of roof top tents which can be mounted onto 4x4 vehicles for the adventurous traveler. Camping equipment can also be hired from our office.

We have recently purchased a range of vehicles to add to our fleet, including brand new models such as: Nissan Terra, Nissan Navara, Nissan X-Trail, Haval Jolion, Suzuki Jimny, Toyota Hiace (12-15 Seater)

Ambassador Car Hire has the right vehicle for your needs.



Malawi's Premier Car Hire Company



WHY CHOOSE AMBASSADOR CAR HIRE

Founded in 1978, we are the longest standing car hire company Malawi has to offer. Family run, we boast a large fleet countrywide.

Our fleet ranges from the small to executive, from the 4 wheel drive to 16 and 26 seaters minibuses and trucks.

Ambassador Car Hire has the right vehicle for your needs.



BRAND NEW MODELS ADDED THIS YEAR

Nissan X Terra | Nissan Navara | Haval Jolion
 Suzuki Jimny | Toyota Hiace (15 Seater)

ROOF TOP TENT VEHICLES & CAMPING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR HIRE



sales@ambassadorcarhiremw.com | www.ambassadorcarhiremw.com



SCAN ME



TRAVEL ADVISORY

GETTING TO MALAWI

For intercontinental flights from Europe, Ethiopian Airlines and Kenya Airways (also with KLM) offer good options to Lilongwe and Blantyre, with routes involving an aircraft change at their respective national hubs (Addis Ababa and Nairobi). South African Airways, Malawi Airlines and Airlink connect Malawi to Johannesburg, allowing links with all the international airlines that serve that busy intercontinental hub, especially Airlink's 30 international airline partners and Star Alliance members. Malawi Airlines also connects Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe and Malawi-based air charter companies can also link Malawi to its neighbours. There are road routes into Malawi from Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique. Assume that border posts will be closed from about 18.00hrs and reopen at 07.00hrs. Requirements for vehicle documentation should be checked before travelling.

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL

For most people the dry (winter) season is most attractive, when game viewing is at its best (i.e. April/May to October/November). However, some of the best birdwatching can be had from November to April and the orchids of Nyika are best seen from December to March/ April. In the hottest month (usually November) maximum temperatures will be above 30°C. In the coldest month (probably July) maximum temperatures will be in the low 20's. On the uplands (e.g. Zomba, Nyika and Viphya) it can be cold at night. The hottest area, all year, is the Lower Shire Valley.

PASSPORTS & VISAS

A full valid passport is required for entry into Malawi. A visa exemption was implemented in 2023 for 79 nationalities, including the UK & much of Europe, USA & Canada, China and Australia & New Zealand. Although Malawi introduced an e-visa system in 2019, most nationalities who still need a visa, can still obtain it on arrival. For up-to-date details, see the How to Get There page in the Travel Guide section of our website: www.malawitourism.com.

DUTY FREE

International travellers over the age of 18 may import, duty free: 200 cigarettes or 225g of tobacco; 1 litre of spirits; 1 litre of beer; 1 litre of wine; plus a 'reasonable' quantity of consumable goods to meet the traveller's immediate needs in Malawi.

CURRENCY

Malawi's unit of currency is the Kwacha (abbreviated to MK internationally; K locally). Banks in the towns are open weekdays from 0800 to 1500. Mobile banks operate along the lakeshore and in more remote areas (check days/times locally). Travellers Cheques or foreign (hard) currency notes (US\$ notes must be post-2016) are best exchanged when in the main towns as there are no exchange facilities in many tourist spots. There is no limit to the amount of foreign currency imported but it must be declared and accounted for on departure. Only MK3000 of local currency may be exported. There are 24-hour ATMs in Lilongwe, Blantyre and Mzuzu. Only local currency is dispensed and there are sometimes limits to the amounts that can be withdrawn.

HEALTH

Immunisation against polio, tetanus, typhoid and hepatitis A is recommended. Yellow fever immunisation may be required only by visitors entering from a yellow fever zone. There is a risk of contracting bilharzia if bathing in some parts of Lake Malawi. Chembe village is high risk, but the risk is low at most of the main beach hotels & lodges up and down the lakeshore. The infection is relatively easily treated once diagnosed and treatment is cheap and readily available across the country. Malawi is a high risk area for AIDS.

SAFETY

Malawi is considered a safe country for tourists and Malawians are rightfully known for their friendliness. However, the usual precautions should be taken as would be advised for tourists anywhere.

FOOD & DRINK

Excellent fish dishes are widely available but especially near Lake Malawi. Most hotels and safari camps serve "western" dishes with, perhaps, game and occasionally local foods such as maize meal porridge. Soft drinks are available everywhere. Bottled water should be used in preference to tap water. Beers (Carlsberg is the most common), spirits such as Malawi Gin and South African wines are reasonably priced and commonly available.

SHOPPING

Small supermarkets are found in towns and larger villages. Large supermarkets and European style shops are almost exclusively found in Blantyre and Lilongwe. Markets and roadside vendors are popular with travellers. Attractive souvenirs are the excellent wood carvings, widely available, and straw goods, together with work by local artists. The standard of craftwork varies but at its best is quite outstanding. In the markets, bargaining is expected. Traditional Chiefs' chairs are popular.

OPENING HOURS

Shops and offices open and close earlier in the day than is the custom in Europe or North America.

LAUNDRY

Laundry service is usually available at hotels and lodges or in the bigger safari camps. Dry cleaning is less easy to obtain and standards may vary.

LANGUAGE

While English is an official language, and is widely understood, a number of indigenous languages are also spoken. The most common is Chewa (or Chichewa – the language of the Chewa).

DRIVING

Car hire is possible from most centres and at the airports, but standards of vehicles vary and hiring may seem expensive. Most of the main roads are tarred but narrow. Potholes may be expected on any road and speeds should be kept low. However, the general quality of roads is good by African standards. Driving is on the left. Expect to find people and animals on any road. Driving at night is to be avoided. Breakdowns are traditionally indicated by placing bush or tree branches at the side of the road behind the vehicle, but red triangles are strictly needed. Petrol & diesel are widely available, though the country experiences shortages at times. Tanks should be filled whenever the opportunity occurs. An International Driving Licence is required for longer period of hire, but national driving licences are sufficient in most instances if a photograph is included. In recent times, regulations regarding speed limits and the use of safety belts have been more rigorously enforced. On-the-spot fines can be collected by uniformed police. Routine roadblocks may be encountered, especially near the borders, but should not entail a stop of more than a couple of minutes.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There is a good network of inexpensive public buses throughout Malawi. The Ilala ferry operates on Lake Malawi, linking key ports and islands. It is a scenic and affordable option, though schedules can be irregular and conditions sometimes crowded. The Ilala Ferry is bookable by contacting +265 881 13 46 35

DOMESTIC AIR TRAVEL

Malawi Airlines provides regular links between the main cities of Blantyre and Lilongwe. Local air charter companies serve the main tourist destinations in the country. If using light aircraft for domestic transport, there is likely to be a limit of 10-12 kg per person.

SAFARIS

There are five National Parks and four Wildlife Reserves, including one Freshwater National Park (at Cape Maclear). A growing number of privately-run reserves also offer safaris. All types of safari are available, not only 4x4 driving but also walking and by boat. Most game viewing is in small groups.

ACTIVITIES

Organised activities for travellers to Malawi include: climbing, hiking, cycling, birdwatching, angling, game viewing, horse riding, mountain biking, quad-biking, yoga, art safaris, pottery. On Lake Malawi: kayaking, scuba diving, sailboarding, parasailing, diving, snorkelling, water-skiing, sailing and cruises. Many of the larger hotels and main towns offer the usual range of sports from tennis to golf. There are now a few hotels/lodges with Spa facilities.

DRESS

Dress is generally informal. Swimwear and very skimpy clothing should be confined to the beach resorts. For safaris, 'natural' colours should be worn in preference to light/bright colours. In the uplands, especially in the winter (April-September), it can be cool in the evening and a second top layer may be needed. It can be very cold on morning or night safari drives, requiring a coat.

ELECTRICITY

Supply is based on the 220-/240 volts system, using Type G square bayonet three-pin plugs (same as UK).

TV & RADIO

There is a national TV station and a number of radio stations which broadcast in English. In addition, many hotels receive international satellite channels.

COMMUNICATIONS

The telephone system is fairly reliable. Sim cards for local mobile phone networks are widely available and relatively cheap and easy to use. Network coverage is good and even reaches some of the parks & reserves. Most hotels and offices are readily reached by email. The postal system tends to be slow.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Any camera equipment is best brought into the country and care should be taken to avoid its exposure to extremes of heat. Most Malawians will not mind being photographed but it is common courtesy to ask permission first.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

January 1, 15; March 3; May 1; July 6; 2nd Monday in October; December 25, 26. Also: Good Friday and Easter Sunday. If a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, then the next Monday becomes a holiday.

TIME

Malawi time is GMT+2, as with most of southern Africa.

RECOMMENDED READING

*Malawi published by Bradt Travel Guides (9th Edition, 2025 by Philip Briggs). £19.99

CONTACTS A - Z

COMPANY

TEL*

TEL(2)*

EMAIL

WEBSITE

PG.

1 2 Travel Africa	(0)99 395 2779		bookings@12travelafrica.com	12travelafrica.com	43
Africa House Malawi	(0)99 982 8687	(0)99 395 2779	reservations@africahousemalawi.com	africahousemalawi.com	29
Africa Wild Truck, Camp & Lodge	(0)99 594 1542		info@africawildtruck.com	africawildtruck.com	40/46
Ambassador Car Hire	(0)11 175 1078	(0)11 175 0112	sales@ambassadorcarhiremw.com	ambassadorcarhiremw.com	48
Blue Zebra Island Lodge & Safaris	(0)992 244 244		info@bluezebra.mw	bluezebra.mw	28/44
Bua River Lodge	(0)99 567 2173	(0)98 853 4704	buariverlodge@gmail.com	buariverlodge.com	26
Budget Safari	(0)99 927 8903	(0)99 926 8588	info@budget-safari.com	budget-safari.com	45
Butterfly Space	(0)99 915 6335	UK: +44 7771357034	butterflyspace@outlook.com	butterflyspacemalawi.com	21
Central African Wilderness Safaris	(0)888 822 398		reservations@caawsmw.com	caawsmw.com	42
Chawani Bungalow	(0)99 362 9877	(0)88 259 9717	accommodation@satemwa.com	satemwalodges.com	38
Chelinda Lodge & Camp	(0)888 822 398		reservations@caawsmw.com	caawsmw.com	20
Chimwala Bush Camp	(0)99 996 5034	(0)99 522 6041	reservationsliwonde@africanparks.org	africanparks.org	36
Crafted Africa	(0)99 772 5777		sales@craftedafrica.com	craftedafrica.com	42
Domwe Island Camp	SA: +27 (0)82 785 4294		letsgo@kayakafrica.com	kayakafrica.com	34
Dzalanyama Forest Lodge	(0)881 203 449	(0)88 075 7120	info@landlake.net	dzalanyama.net	30
Fisherman's Rest Lodges, Trips & Projects	(0)88 883 6753	(0)88 820 7753	enquiries@fishermansrest.net	fishermansrest.net	37/45
Game Capture Camp	(0)99 952 1741		majete@africanparks.org	visitmajete.org	39
Game Haven Lodge	(0)99 997 1286	(0)99 997 1287	info@gamehavenmw.com	gamehavenmw.com	37
Heuglin's Lodge	(0)88 882 2398		reservations@caawsmw.com	caawsmw.com	29
Huntingdon House	(0)99 362 9877	(0)88 259 9717	accommodation@satemwa.com	satemwalodges.com	38
Kachenga Bush Camp	(0)99 410 7506	(0)88 987 6027	enquiries@kachengabushcamp.mw	kachengabushcamp.mw	27
Kaya Mawa by Green Safaris	ZM: +260 979 312 766		reservations@greensafaris.com	greensafaris.com	22
Kayak Africa	SA: +27 (0)82 785 4294		letsgo@kayakafrica.com	kayakafrica.com	45
Kumbali Country Lodge	(0)99 996 3402	(0)99 791 8266	kumbali@kumbali.com	kumbali.com	30
Kumbali Lake Retreat	(0)99 996 3402	(0)99 997 5574	kumbali@kumbali.com	kumbali.com	28
Kusewera	(0)99 691 2950	US: +1 310 882 3042	kusewera@gmail.com	kusewera.org	30
Kuthengo Camp, Robin Pope Safaris	ZM: +260 957 090 441	(0)99 997 0003	geno@robinpopesafaris.net	robinpopesafaris.net	35
Kuti Camp	(0)99 346 4814	(0)99 395 2779	info@kuti-wildlife.org	kuti-wildlife.org	28
La Rondavelle	(0)99 472 0976	(0)99 233 0313	larondavelle.chilumba@gmail.com	la-rondavelle-malawi.com	20
Land & Lake Safaris	(0)881 203 449	(0)880 757 120	info@landlake.net	landlake.net	43
Lilongwe Wildlife Trust	(0)99 569 9956		elaine@lilongwewildlife.org	lilongwewildlife.org	44
Livezi Bush Camp	(0)98 429 3118	(0)99 996 5092	nkhotakota@africanparks.org	africanparks.org	27
Luwawa Forest Lodge	(0)99 951 2645	(0)99 627 6308	luwawalodge@yahoo.com	luwawalodge.com	22
The Makokola Retreat	(0)88 460 2424	(0)88 879 6424	reservations@makokola.com	makokola.com	35
Makuzi Beach Lodge	(0)99 928 3980	(0)99 985 2434	info@makuzibeachlodge.com	makuzibeachlodge.com	21
Malawi Airlines	(0)1 774 518	(0)88 738 6317	reservations@malawian-airlines.com	malawian-airlines.com	48
Mitengo House	(0)99 983 8485	(0)99 395 2779	reservations@mitengohouse.com	mitengohouse.com	29
Mkulumadzi, Robin Pope Safaris	ZM: +260 957 090 441	(0)99 997 0003	geno@robinpopesafaris.net	robinpopesafaris.net	38
Mumbo Island Camp	SA: +27 (0)82 785 4294		letsgo@kayakafrica.com	mumboisland.com	34
Mvuu Lodge & Camp	(0)888 822 398		reservations@caawsmw.com	caawsmw.com	36
Mwembezi Gorge Bush Camp	(0)99 952 1741		majete@africanparks.org	visitmajete.org	39
Ngala Beach Lodge	(0)99 907 5566	(0)99 934 0369	info@ngalabeach.com	ngalabeach.com	26
Ng'ona Lodge	(0)99 921 6398	(0)99 921 6399	ngonalodge@gmail.com	ngona-lodge.com	40
Nkwichi Lodge	MZ: +258 847 400 193	KE: +254 72 254 0733	info@nkwichi.com	nkwichi.com	22
Norman Carr Cottage	(0)99 920 7506		taffy@africa-online.net	normancarrcottage.com	35
Orbis DMC	(0)99 997 0407	(0)99 930 6631	info@orbis-dmc.com	orbis-dmc.com	44
Pumulani, Robin Pope Safaris	ZM: +260 957 090 441	(0)99 997 0003	geno@robinpopesafaris.net	robinpopesafaris.net	34
Rafiki Safari Camp	(0)99 997 8503	(0)99 997 8504	info@rafikicamp.com	rafikicamp.com	27
SS Rent A Car	(0)88 724 0000	(0)88 725 0000	info@ssrentacar.com	ssrentacar.com	48
Thangadzi Lodge	SA: +27(0)82 959 3739	(0)88 572 7873	hello@shirevalleyconservation.com	shirevalleyconservation.com	41
Thawale Lodge	(0)99 952 1741		majete@africanparks.org	visitmajete.org	39
The Travel Centre	(0)88 858 0155	(0)99 997 5782	info@travelcentremw.com	travelcentremw.com	42
Tongole Wilderness Retreat	(0)99 872 4466	(0)99 133 7681	reservations@tongole.com	tongole.com	26
Trek Mulanje	(0)88 858 4011	(0)88 413 0353	trekmulanje@gmail.com	trekmulanje.com	46
Ulendo Safaris	(0)99 997 0700	(0)88 820 7896	info@ulendo.net	ulendo.net	43
Ulisa Bay Lodge	(0)99 926 3325	(0)88 165 9678	ulisabaylodge@gmail.com	ulisabaylodge.com	21
Warm Heart Adventures	(0)99 991 3972		kay@warmheartadventures.com	warmheartadventurelodge.com	46
Zomba Forest Lodge	(0)88 857 3325	(0)88 490 1709	zombaforestlodge@gmail.com	zombaforestlodge.com	37
Zua Safari Lodge	(0)99 081 2944	(0)88 075 9516	info.zuasafari@gmail.com	zuasafari.com	40

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