

Mkulumadzi, Majete Wildlife Reserve

Mkulumadzi is on the banks of the Shire River just a few kilometres from where it plunges into the Kapichira Falls. Our eight stunning chalets, each with their own roomy bedroom and lounge and en-suite bathroom, have private viewing decks where you can relax, sit back and fall under the spell of the sights and sounds of the river. You may be far from the outside world, but we have everything you need; from a pool, viewing deck and terrace, to indoor and outdoor dining, a cosy bar and even a lapa for evening campfires.

The Lodge

Accommodation

Safari lodge, eight chalets (three double, two twins, one honeymoon and two family chalets).

Facilities

En-suite bathrooms with double basins and both shower & bath.

Each chalet has tea/coffee making facilities as well as a stocked minibar fridge.

Activities

Game-drives, boating safaris (subject to water levels), bush walks, cultural tours, birding trips on the Shire River and to nearby Elephant Marsh and game-viewing from a hide.

Meals & Drinks

The rate is inclusive of all local drinks & meals. We also offer a connoisseurs wine & spirits list at an extra cost.

Electricity & Water

The lodge is run on solar power with a backup generator for cloudy days.

Tap water is from a borehole and is safe for drinking; bottled water is also provided at the lodge free of charge.

'Evening breeze' air conditioning

Evening Breeze air conditioning units have been installed in all rooms. It is designed to cool the air within your mosquito net and not the entire room.

Children's Policy

Children of all ages are welcome.

Payment for extras

All extras can be paid in cash (local currency, US\$, Euro or British Pounds) only.

Tipping

Is not expected but always enthusiastically received if you are happy with the service. Please always give tips for the staff to the management to be shared out and kindly tip your guide individually.

Open

Open all year round.

Travel information

International flights

South African Airways, Ethiopian Airways and Kenya Airways fly into Blantyre, Malawi.

South African Airways, Ethiopian Airways and Kenya Airways fly into Lilongwe, Malawi.

South African Airways, Kenya Airways and Emirates fly into Lusaka, Zambia.

Getting to the lodge

It is a 2 hour scenic road transfer from Blantyre to the lodge.

From Lilongwe guests are advised to take a 1 hour and 15 minutes flight in a small aircraft to the Majete Airstrip airstrip*. Road transfer from the airstrip to the lodge is approximately 20 minutes.

It is also possible to do a 5 hour road transfer from Lilongwe.

*During the rainy season the Nchalo airstrip is used (45 minute drive to the lodge) and in the event of bad weather conditions only Chileka Airport in Blantyre is operational. It is a 1 hour 45 minute drive to the lodge from here.

Guests coming from South Luangwa in Zambia should take a 2 hour charter flight to Blantyre where they will clear customs and continue on a 2 hour scenic road transfer to the lodge.

Please note that entrance to the park is restricted to the hours 7am – 6pm. Special arrangements need to be made in advance for arrivals outside of these times.

Meet and greet

In Lusaka, Lilongwe, Blantyre and Mfuwe you will be met by a RPS representative who will assist you with immigration formalities. If you have any problem, please call Robin Pope Safaris on +265 (0) 1795483 / 4491 for further assistance.

Visas

All travellers must be in possession of a valid passport when entering and leaving the country.

Visa fees are applicable to visitors from any country which requires Malawian Citizens to acquire visas to visit their country of citizenship. These countries include but not limited to the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Schengen member states, Australia, New Zealand. Most Middle East countries will also be required to pay visa fees. A comprehensive list of countries required to pay the fee is still being compiled. Exempt from this visa fees are countries belonging to SADC and COMESA; with the exception of those countries that charge visa fees to Malawian nationals.

Transit (valid for 7 days) - US\$50

Single entry (valid for 3 months) - US\$75

Multiple entry (valid for 6 months) - US\$150

Multiple entry (valid for 12 months) - US\$250

Airport Tax

An international departure tax of US\$35 per person has to be paid at Lilongwe / Blantyre airports – but included in all international flights, so may apply only to charter flights.

A domestic departure tax of approximately 3000 Malawi Kwacha (approximately US\$7) per person has to be paid at Lilongwe / Blantyre airports.

Health

All visitors should be medically insured. We recommend that visitors to Malawi take malaria prophylactics.

Tetanus, polio, typhoid and the hepatitis vaccinations are recommended. Yellow fever immunisation is required only by visitors entering Malawi from a yellow fever zone.

It is advisable to know your blood group type in case of an emergency.

Please do ask for up to date health advice in your home country.

Insurance

We highly recommend full Trip Cancellation Insurance – as we do need to charge cancellation fees as stipulated. Robin Pope Safaris bears no responsibility for any delays, cancellation of flights or change of itinerary and retains the right to alter or cancel an activity with just reason.

Cancellation Policy

Confirmation to 91 days 20% of accommodation only, then full invoice (excluding park fees) 90 – 61 days 25%, 60 – 31 days 50%, 30 – 0 days 100%. Cancellation fees will be applied and so we highly recommend that you ensure full “Trip Cancellation Insurance” is bought at time of confirmation.

Additional information

Photography

Please be sensitive when photographing local people and their villages. Ask the guide or the villagers first. Be careful when photographing public buildings and persons in uniform - again, ask first.

What to bring

You should always travel with soft bags not hard suitcases (not only for the smaller aircraft but also to fit into vehicles).

Proflight baggage allowance (for most routes) – limit of 15 kg for hold luggage and 5 kg for hand luggage.

Please visit <http://proflight-zambia.com/content/beforeyoufly/baggageallowances/> for full information.

Bush & Lake Aviation baggage allowance - limit of 12 kg for hold luggage and 3 kg for hand luggage (so this is 15 kg max per person ONLY if total weight falls within weight and balance graph of aircraft for the specific flight; body weights are taken into consideration).

Important items to bring: hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, torch, binoculars and film/photo camera.

Climate

Depending on which time of year you visit, you may need waterproofs, a warm jacket or sunscreen. The dry months are from April till October and the wet months November till March. Temperatures range throughout the year from between 11-40 C.