

ROBIN POPE SAFARIS EXCLUSIVE

- **Itinerary** Nkwali + Nsefu Camps 4 nights, Mkulumadzi 3 nights & Pumulani 3 nights
- **Includes** Transfers starting Lusaka, Zambia and ending Lilongwe, Malawi; accommodation, full board, all local drinks, all activities (except motorized water sports), laundry
- **Excludes** Gratuities, visa fees where applicable + international flights
- **Valid** March to 6 Jan

The safari covers the premier park in Zambia, The South Luangwa plus Majete Wildlife Reserve, Malawi's only Big 5 reserve and among the largest protected areas, ending off at the pristine shores of Lake Malawi.

South Luangwa National Park marks the end of the Great Rift Valley, is one of the last unspoilt wilderness areas and possibly the finest wildlife sanctuary in Africa, through which the meandering Luangwa River runs. The ox bow lagoons, woodland and plains of the valley host huge concentrations of game - including elephant, buffalo, leopard, lion, giraffe, hippo - and over 400 species of birds.

Pumulani on Nankumba Peninsula recognized as one of the most beautiful shores of the Lake and borders Lake Malawi National Park. This Park was established in order to protect the cichlid fish unique to the area. In 1984 the park was designated a World Heritage Site.

Majete Wildlife Reserve is one of Malawi's largest protected areas and covers an area of over 70,000ha and only the only Big 5 reserve. Majete is located within the Miombo woodland eco region and much of the higher lying areas in the west of the park are dominated by Miombo/Brachystegia woodland. Mixed Combretum woodlands and mosaics of riparian forest can be found in the East of Majete.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 On arrival at Mfuwe International Airport a guide from Robin Pope Safaris will meet you. The drive to Nkwali Camp is 1 hour through colorful local scenes of villages, agriculture as well as bush. Nkwali has a wide view of the Luangwa River. On private land and overlooking the South Luangwa National Park, Nkwali is ideally situated for the start of your safari. The six rooms all look out over the river and have open air bathrooms. Depending on your arrival time in the day you will enjoy an alfresco lunch or if in the afternoon for tea and the afternoon and night game drive. **NKWALI CAMP**

Day 2 At dawn breakfast is served around the campfire. The porridge heated on the fire and toast cooked by the coals. The morning walk or drive will leave soon after, entering the park by boat from the camp or by the nearby pontoon. The game in the area is excellent - and includes many family herds of elephants and the endemic species of giraffe, the Thornicroft Giraffe. A mid-morning break of tea, coffee and cake will be taken at a scenic spot and back for lunch around mid-day. After lunch you can cool off in the pool or siesta. Afternoon game drive following tea

continuing into the early night giving the chance to see the nocturnal world, returning to camp about 20.00 hrs with dinner generally at 20.30. **NKWALI CAMP**



Day 3 After an early breakfast, a transfer game drive through the park takes you to a crossing point on the Luangwa River. The Nsefu staff will meet the party, who will cross the river by boat or car, and then enjoy a 45 minute drive to camp, game viewing on route. Nsefu was the first game camp in Zambia and dates back to the early fifties. The Nsefu Sector was recognized then as a phenomenal area and it still is. Robin Pope Safaris owns the only two camps in this sector of the Park. There are six round rondavels, each room has a clear view of the sweeping bend of the Luangwa River through large windows and from the wooden verandahs.

On arrival you will be shown to your rondavel and then lunch will be served followed by a well deserved siesta before the afternoon and evening game drive. (Note: option of booking Tena Tena for the 2 nights). **NSEFU CAMP**

Day 4 After breakfast around the camp fire, your safari will continue with another relaxing day at Nsefu, with morning and evening game activities and the possibility of visiting Kawaza village. This community tourism initiative is a great opportunity to meet local people and experience life in a real non-tourist village. If you wish to visit, then it is best to mention this when booking your holiday or with Robin Pope Safaris on arrival.

Today is also chance to drive or walk through the ebony groves. Or you may decide this is an ideal day, depending on the heat and time of year, to explore the Nsefu Sector of the National Park possibly with an all day picnic drive to the salt pans that will cover different habitats and is an exceptional day's safari. **NSEFU CAMP**



Day 5 After an early breakfast transfer to Mfuwe Airport (1.5 hours) for the flight to Blantyre, Malawi. From there you continue on a 2 hour scenic road transfer to Mkulumadzi lodge, Majete. Regularly viewed mammals in the park include elephant, black rhino, buffalo, eland, zebra, sable, nyala, bushbuck, kudu, Lichtensteins hartebeest, waterbuck, impala, suni, grysbok, klipspringer, yellow baboon, vervet monkey, thick-tailed bushbaby, bushpig, warthog, dwarf mongoose, porcupine and others. Predators include spotted hyena, leopard, lion, serval, genet and civet.



Birding is typical of the Miombo woodland with 250 species recorded. Notable specials include: rock pratincole (known nesting sites), Pels fishing owl, Lappet-faced vulture, arnott's chat, boulder chat, racket-tailed roller, pale-billed hornbill, African skimmer and nearby nesting colonies of carmine and white-fronted bee-eaters to name a few. **MKULUMADZI**

Day 6-7 The luxurious lodge in a stunning location and activities include game-drives, boating safaris, bush walks, hiking Majete Hill, cultural tours, birding trips on the Shire River and to nearby Elephant Marsh and game-viewing from a hide.

Guests are free to be as energetic or idle as they please although at least one activity per day is encouraged to best enjoy Majete. **MKULUMADZI**



Day 8 After breakfast and farewells, you have a drive through this wonderful country - with its dramatic scenery and colorful towns. This is a journey of about 300 km (5 hours). You will reach the Nankumba Peninsula, recognized as one of the most beautiful shores of the Lake and borders Lake Malawi National Park. This Park was established in order to protect the cichlid fish unique to the area. In 1984 the park was designated a World Heritage Site. Pumulani is exclusively situated here.

The ten villas are scattered around the hillside and are individual in shape and style but all have a spacious bedroom, bathroom and extensive sitting area. The front sliding doors open onto the deck - elevated above the ground giving optimal views. **PUMULANI**



Day 9 & 10 Lake Malawi is the world's most ecologically diverse lake. Its crystal clear waters are home to more than a thousand species of fish, including hundreds of species of colourful cichlids. We offer special diving courses at the best diving spots near one of the islands, or cool down and take a dive in the swimming pool, there is an infinity pool near the central dining area with grand views over the lake, as well as another infinity pool on beach level. For those interested in the real Malawian village life we offer guided walks through one of the local villages. You can also simply relax in the beautiful and tranquil scenery or can enjoy the many other activities. **PUMULANI**



Day 11 On the final day you will be transferred to Lilongwe in time for your connecting onwards flight. **END OF SAFARI**