

TRACKS SAFARIS

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10 NIGHT NORTHERN MALAWI JOURNEY NKHOTAKOTA, NYIKA, LIKOMA ISLAND



Areas covered: Nkhotakota, Nyika National Park, Likoma Island, Lilongwe

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| Day 1: | Arrive at Lilongwe International Airport and fly to Tongole Wilderness Lodge |
| Day 2-3: | Explore Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve at leisure |
| Day 4: | Take an air transfer to Kaya Mawa |
| Day 5-6: | Explore Likoma Island and the pristine surrounding of the lodge |
| Day 7: | Fly to Chelinda Lodge in Nyika National Park |
| Day 8-9: | Discover the highlands of Nyika National Park |
| Day 10: | Travel to Lilongwe and spend the night at Heuglin's Lodge or similar accommodation |
| Day 11: | Depart from Lilongwe International Airport |

DAY ONE

After your flight arrives at Lilongwe International Airport, you will be met by Tracks Safaris representatives and assisted to board your light aircraft flight to Tongole Wilderness Lodge. The half-an-hour journey by air will take you through Malawi's central region. On arrival you will be met and transferred to the lodge for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

Area and location: The lodge is situated within Nkhosakota Wildlife Reserve which was recently the site of an iconic elephant translocation. As part of the 500 Elephants initiative by African Parks, a total of 250 elephants were transported to the reserve from Liwonde National Park. The reserve supports a rich diversity of flora and fauna. Elephants can be seen regularly at Tongole, as well as bushbuck, waterbuck, baboons and warthogs. Other game species that can be seen include buffalo, sable, kudu, waterbuck and impala.

Birdlife International has classified the reserve as an Important Bird Area (IBA); with over 280 species of birds already recorded, it is believed that further exploration of this largely uncharted area will likely increase this figure considerably.

Accommodation: Tongole Wilderness Lodge is a luxury eco-lodge set deep within the rugged and breathtakingly beautiful miombo woodland of the 1,800 sq km Nkhosakota Wildlife Reserve. Tongole has been expertly designed to incorporate the very best of local Malawian culture whilst blending in perfectly with its stunning natural setting. A mere 30 km west of Lake Malawi and hugging the forest-clad banks of the lovely Bua River, Tongole is the only luxury lodge of its kind in the region, drawing those who seek an exceptional wilderness experience in one of Africa's last truly unspoilt wildlife areas.



DAYS TWO AND THREE

You will spend the next two days enjoying various activities that are available at Nkhosakota Wildlife Reserve.

Activities: The reserve offers a variety of nature-based activities. On your first day of exploration, you can opt to start your day with a birding safari where you can stroll through the tranquil surroundings of the lodge in search of a spectacular variety of over 280 species of birds. You could also opt to explore the reserve on a guided safari on foot, on water or on a relaxing drive. Other activities which you can enjoy at leisure include guided excursions to meet the local community, camping under a star-lit sky, peaceful strolls through woodlands, more strenuous mountain hikes, as well as superb fly-fishing on the banks of the beautiful Bua River.

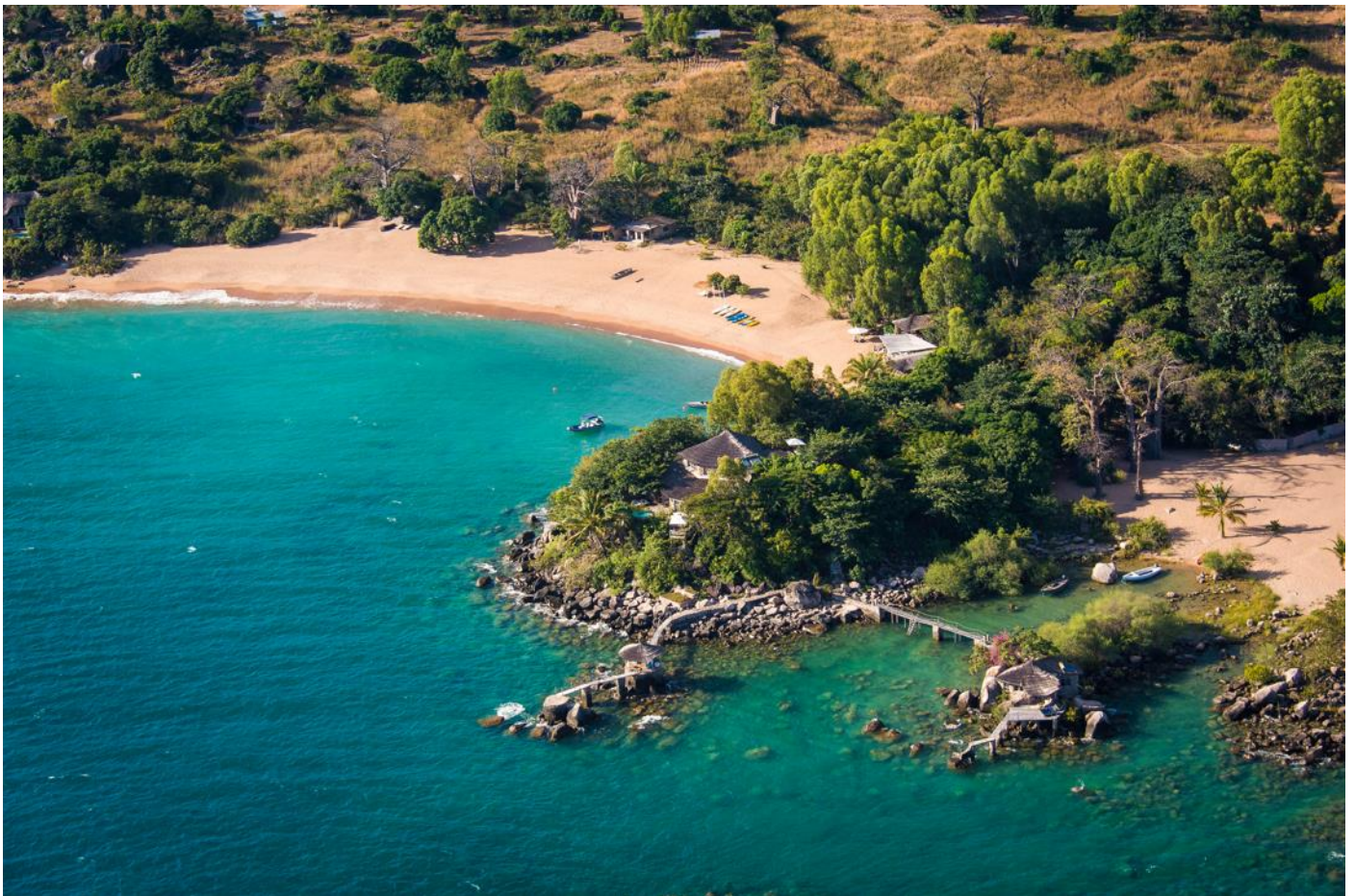
DAY FOUR

Today you will be transferred to Kaya Mawa Lodge situated on Likoma - a small tropical island which sits in Mozambican waters, via a 30-minute flight. On arrival you will be met and transferred to Kaya Mawa for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

Area and location: Likoma Island has a rich history. The island was retained by Malawi when Lake Malawi was divided politically following World War II and today it is home to bustling local communities. The island is also known for its striking cathedral which was built from 1903 onwards and features interesting stained glass and carved soapstone. It is also well-known for its beautiful beaches.

Accommodation: Kaya Mawa Lodge is located at the head of a crescent-shaped bay on Likoma Island, surrounded by mango trees and ancient baobabs. The lodge is designed to deliver a holiday of total relaxation and has been built using locally available resources in partnership with the local community.

Kaya Mawa consists of 10 stone and teak cottages tucked away on a granite headland. There are four standard options to choose from, as the chalets are located at the bottom of a rocky knoll with direct lake access and private decks. Each room is unique and has a different layout from the other. The lodge offers a range of standard, premium, house and family accommodation. Added indulgent features and facilities include a spa, bar, restaurant and beach area.



DAYS FIVE AND SIX

You will be able to spend the next two days enjoying the pristine surroundings of the lodge and can take your time to explore Likoma Island.

Activities: At Kaya Mawa, can choose to opt for a range of outdoor activities, including snorkelling, scuba diving, and sailing at the fully equipped water sports centre, or you can venture out on a mountain bike trail. Visits to local communities can be arranged, giving you the opportunity to experience Malawian culture and the various community projects that Kaya Mawa supports. Guided village and cathedral tours could also be arranged to further enrich your experience and offer a unique window into the country's past. Other activities available include windsurfing, kayaking, quadbiking, fishing, sailing, windsurfing, biking and fishing.



DAY SEVEN: After breakfast, you will be transferred to Chelinda Lodge in Nyika via a scenic 1-hour flight which will give you an opportunity to appreciate the beautiful landscapes of the north from a fresh new perspective. On arrival you will be met and transferred the short distance to the lodge for 3 nights on an all-inclusive basis.

Area and location: Chelinda Lodge is located against the magnificent backdrop of a pine forest and overlooks the vast montane grasslands of Nyika National Park. The park is one of Malawi's oldest and most iconic areas of wilderness. Game that can be spotted on the Nyika Plateau include Burchell's zebra, roan antelope, mountain reedbuck, eland, bushbuck, warthog, bush pig, leopard, spotted hyena, side-striped jackal and serval. Birdlife is prolific and the park is home to over 425 species of birds.

Accommodation: Chelinda Lodge overlooks rolling grasslands that are often dotted with large herds of zebra, eland and reedbuck. It consists of six double-storey log cabins, and one two roomed family unit. Each abode is furnished with a fireplace that warms up the cold highland nights. The ground floor features an open-plan bedroom and lounge, an ensuite bathroom and a veranda. A viewing area upstairs functions as

additional living space which is ideal for families with children. The main building has a convivial dining area around a fireplace, and a lounge that opens onto a deck that is ideal for sundowners.



DAYS EIGHT AND NINE

During your time at the lodge you will be able to enjoy a range of activities which will give you an opportunity to explore and discover the highlands of Nyika National Park.

Activities: On the first day of your stay on the plateau, you could explore the park via a game drive which will be conducted by our experienced guides. The evenings are considered the best time to spot leopards and many other nocturnal species are also easy to observe during the night game drive. You will also be able to enjoy breath-taking sundowners overlooking the plateau accompanied by light refreshments. In addition, Nyika is the ideal location for trekking and mountain biking and is also well suited for more conventional 4x4 excursions. For ardent birdwatchers, the park has an abundance of species on record, with many migrant birds visiting during the rainy season. The plateau is also a botanist's dream and hundreds of orchids and wild flowers are known to grow there.

DAY TEN

After breakfast, you will fly to Lilongwe and spend the night at Kumbali Lodge or similar accommodation.

Area and location: Kumbali Lodge is situated a few kms away from Lilongwe on the edge of a large miombo forest. Eight spacious wood and thatch chalets front onto a large lawn and swimming pool a real with great views of the surrounding countryside. The lodge is a half hour drive from Lilongwe International Airport.

DAY ELEVEN

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Lilongwe International Airport in time for your departure.

This tour includes: All flights to and from Lilongwe, all park fess and activities in Tongole and Chelinda, all non-motorized water-sports. Local wines, beers and soft drinks at Tongole.

This tour excludes: Motorized water-sports at Kaya Mawa, drinks except as listed above at Tongole, visa fees and a 1% tourism levy.



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