



Malawi

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Best Places to Eat

- » Latitude 13° (p116)
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- » Casa Mia (p147)
- » Kaya Mawa (p132)

Best Places to Stay

- » Kaya Mawa (p132)
- » Mumbo Camp (p138)
- » Mkulumadzi Lodge (p154)
- » Latitude 13° (p116)

Why Go?

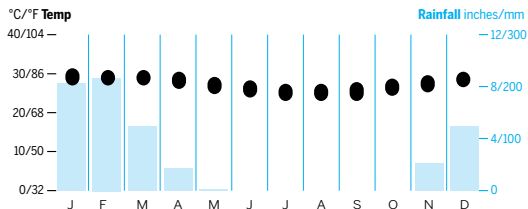
Malawi has been previously overlooked as a mere snack at the table of epic safari destinations. That is until Majete Wildlife Reserve, debilitated by underfunding and poaching, was thoroughly restocked and a lion reintroduction program began in 2012. The country now has its Big Five again and travel editors are salivating with excitement. Add to this some new world-class boutique hotels and luxury safari lodges, and you can see why Malawi may just be Africa's next big destination.

Unforgettable landscapes also await. Slicing through the landscape in a trough formed by the Great Rift Valley is Lake Malawi – Africa's third largest – a glittering vision swarming with colourful cichlid fish, and ideal for diving, snorkelling, kayaking or chilling on its desert islands.

Suspended in the clouds in the deep south are the dramatic peaks of Mt Mulanje and Zomba Plateau; both a trekker's dream with mist-cowled forests. Head further north and you'll witness the otherworldly beauty of Nyika Plateau, its grasslands reminiscent of the Scottish Highlands.

When to Go

Lilongwe



May–mid-Nov

The dry season is the best time to visit.

May–Jul

National parks like Nyika are a blaze of wild flowers.

Oct–Nov

Wildlife viewing is at its peak though temperatures can be hot.

Malawi Highlights

- 1 Soaking up the sun in the private coves of **Lake Malawi** (p159), gliding over glassy waters by kayak, or heading beneath the surface and discovering a world of brilliantly coloured fish
- 2 Visiting the first of Malawi's reintroduced lions and staying at gorgeous Mkulumadzi Lodge in **Majete Wildlife Reserve** (p153)
- 3 Scrambling up twisted peaks, sleeping in mountain huts and soaking up the astounding views of **Mt Mulanje** (p151)
- 4 Spotting hippos, crocs and kingfishers on the Shire River, or getting up close to elephants on foot in **Liwonde National Park** (p141)
- 5 Escaping to dreamy beaches and exploring traditional villages, panoramic walks and the magnificent cathedral on **Likoma Island** (p131)

