



Island Hopping Tour

Explore the 'Lake of Stars'

Malawi Island Hopping Tour - Exploring Malawi's Islands



We have worked with you to put together an itinerary that offers an incredible Lake Malawi experience for you. Malawi offers 5 remote, cozy and beautiful islands on Lake Malawi. Two of these islands are districts that are populated, but the other three have never been populated, offering you a great chance to unwind. Jump into that kayak, or pick up a snorkel to enjoy the colourful cichlids in Lake Malawi - whatever you choose to do will leave you deep in love with this slice of African paradise.

Travelling in Malawi



The Basics

- The main language in Malawi is Chichewa but English is taught at school and is widely spoken.
- Malawi has a good network of tarmac roads and journey times are usually between 1-4 hrs. We aim for you to arrive at your destination before dusk.
- Malawi has limited electricity supply (only 14% of the country is connected to mains electricity). Many hotels rely on back up generators and/or solar power.
- Malawi has good 4G connection across most of the country.
- Blantyre and Lilongwe are the country's main cities and both have good hospital facilities.

Emergency Support

- A dedicated team in Malawi available 24/7.
- A local guide will be with your group every step of the way. They will become an integral part of your team.
- We offer bi-annual guide training in first aid, advanced driving, basic mechanics & environmental awareness.
- Our guides take bi-annual exams to refresh their in country knowledge and emergency procedures.
- All Vehicles have seat belts and are fully insured with passenger liability insurance (buses).

The Lake of Stars



The Lake

- Fifth largest fresh water body in the world.
- Second deepest and third largest in Africa.
- Lake Malawi is home to more fish species than any other lake in the world.
- Lake Malawi is home to 700n species of cichlids.
- Lake Malawi is a meromictic lake - its water layers never mix.
- The lake cover 29,600 sq. kilometres.
- Known as the calendar lake (365 miles by 52 miles)

Activities

The lake offers a wide range of activities for travellers. Most of the activities are included in this package, except for a few that must be arranged separately:

- Jet skiing
- Snorkelling
- Kayaking
- Swimming
- Scuba diving
- Sunset cruises
- Sailing

Bilharzia

Swimming in Lake Malawi does carry the risk of contracting **Bilharzia**

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/schistosomiasis/Pages/Introduction.aspx>.

The three unpopulated Islands are tested annually and in recent years there have been no positive samples that show the parasite causing bilharzia is present in the waters surrounding the island. However, if you are concerned we can advise medications to take as prophylaxis.



Population: 19.89 million (World Bank 2021)

Size: 118,480 km

Average Annual Income
(per capita): \$579.7 per annum (IMF 2023)

Life Expectancy: 65.6 years (WHO 2019)

Religion:

Christian 82%, Muslim 13.9%, Other 1.9%, None 2.5%

Rated Africa's happiest country!

Overview

Malawi is Africa at its purest, offering unique and extraordinary travels. From its undulating mountains to the shores of its stunning lake, the fact that Malawi has traditionally been overlooked as a mainstream destination means that you will find hidden gems at every turn, Malawi supports a diversity of landscapes, ecosystems and cultures and is affectionately known as 'The Warm Heart of Africa'.

Family Travel

A peaceful, welcoming, warm hidden slice of Africa. Malawi is ideal for an off the beaten track family travel destination. Its peaceful history and good transport infrastructure make it easy and safe to get around and its raw culture and welcoming smiles are a highlight of the destination.

Expedition Outline



Day 1

Meet your Guide and transfer to the lake.
Evening acclimatising. (DBB)

Example only- each of our Island Hopping Expeditions are tailor made to your groups interests, budget and timeframe.

Day 2

After breakfast, get on a boat and travel on to Domwe Island (25 minutes). This unpopulated island off the shore of Cape Maclear will be your home for 2 nights, staying in tented chalets. (FB)

Day 3

Spend the day relaxing on the island. Activities (non-motorised) are all included. (FB)

Day 4

Mid morning transfer to Mumbo Island (a sister island to Domwe). Arrive mid afternoon in time for a sunset boat cruise. (FB)

Expedition Outline



Day 5

Day spent on Mumbo Island. Explore the many trails of the island, kick back and read a book or enjoy the water activities. (FB)

Day 6

Speed boat transfer to Blue Zebra Island Lodge (1 hour). Arrive in time for lunch. Overnight at Blue Zebra Island Lodge. (FB)

Day 7

Day spent on Blue Zebra Island Lodge. (FB)

Day 8

Boat transfer to the Sengabay jetty to catch a ferry going North. Night spent on the ferry in a private cabin. (Room only)

Day 9

Arrive on Likoma Island and check in to your accommodation. (BB)

*The MV Ilala Ferry

The ship has plied trade on Lake Malawi since 1951. She makes weekly voyages from South to North and back. The historic ship is a fun way to travel and interact with locals. It is basic, but fun!

Expedition Outline



Day 10

Day spent on Likoma Island. Explore the island or just get a massage on this beautiful piece of Malawi. (BB)

Day 11

Continue on with Likoma Island exploring.

Day 12

Get on a boat and cross onto Chizumulu Island right next to Likoma (20 minutes). Check in to your lodge and continue to enjoy the amazing activities offered. (BB).

Day 13

Day spent on Chizumulu Island

Day 14

Travel boat back to Likoma Island to catch a domestic flight to Lilongwe for your international flight

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Costings



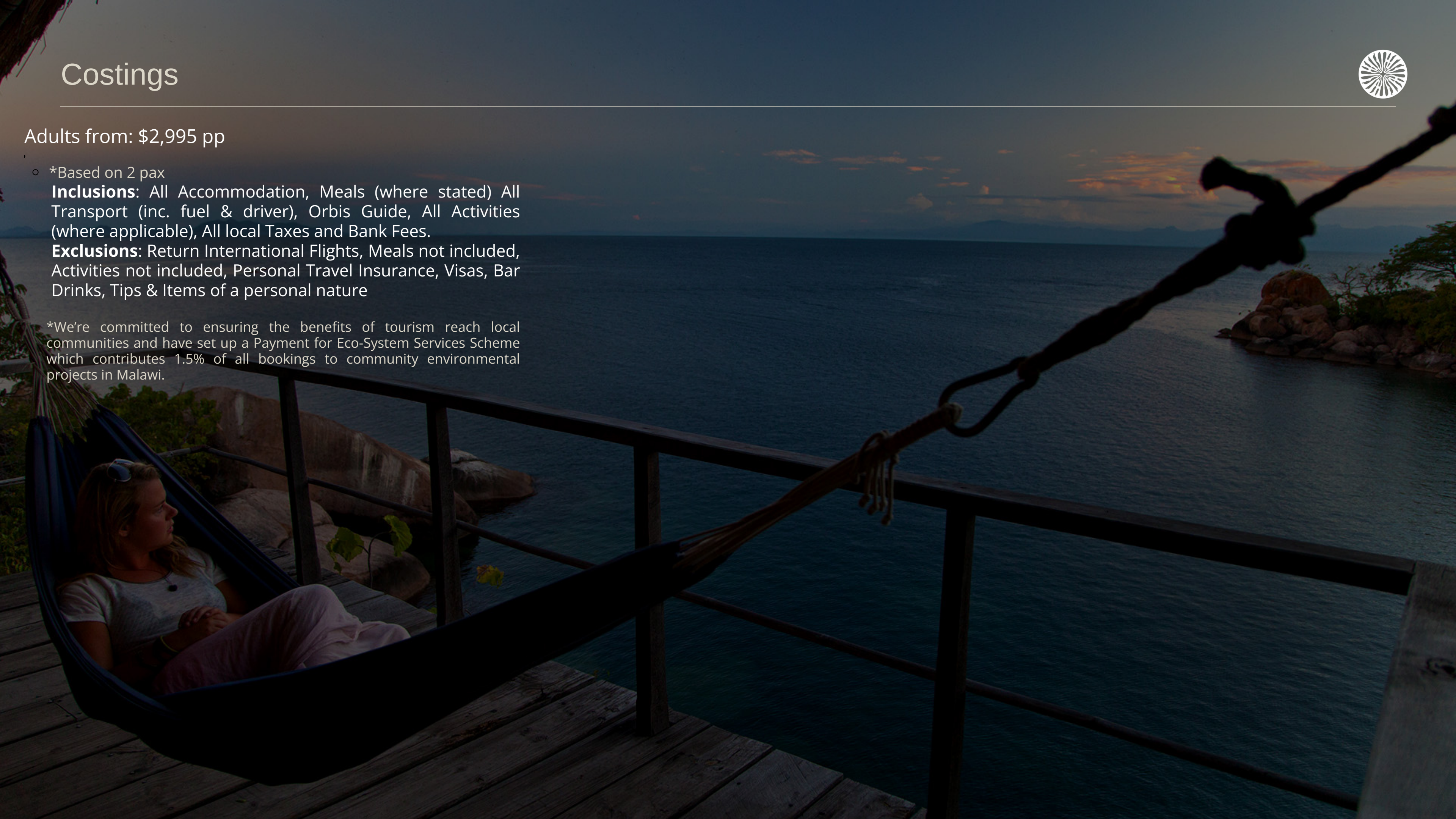
Adults from: \$2,995 pp

- *Based on 2 pax

Inclusions: All Accommodation, Meals (where stated) All Transport (inc. fuel & driver), Orbis Guide, All Activities (where applicable), All local Taxes and Bank Fees.

Exclusions: Return International Flights, Meals not included, Activities not included, Personal Travel Insurance, Visas, Bar Drinks, Tips & Items of a personal nature

*We're committed to ensuring the benefits of tourism reach local communities and have set up a Payment for Eco-System Services Scheme which contributes 1.5% of all bookings to community environmental projects in Malawi.





Who we are

Orbis DMC is a specialist expedition company working in Educational, Experiential & Philanthropic Travel to Malawi, Africa.

Operating exclusively in Malawi, we work with Schools, Universities, Charities, Businesses & Individuals creating highly personalised expeditions which connect people with the world as Global Citizens.

Owned and managed by Inno Kaliati and Dom Webb, the company has offices in both the UK (Devon) and Malawi (Blantyre) and has over 15 years experience within the industry.

Orbis Brand Manifesto

- We believe in the potential of Malawi's people and that empowering them via tourism offers a chance to develop out of the poverty cycle.
- We believe that when promoting a fragile destination the benefits need to reach the local communities.
- We are committed to building the local economy in Malawi. By employing local people and creating sustainable growth through social enterprise, we aim to reduce the dependence on the aid industry.
- We believe in balance. Our tailored, educational and culturally diverse experiences awaken minds and inspire future generations.
- We are committed to developing Global Citizenship.