



Peru, Cusco Province

Welcome



Travel has been my life for 20 years. St Augustine's famous quote remains as true to me today as it was when I first set up 2by2 Holidays – "the world is a book and those who do not travel, read only one page".

My first love was Africa, the place of my birth. Its remarkable wildlife and cultures continue to captivate me today. A recent visit to the gorillas of Uganda has starkly reminded me just how fragile the survival of so many endangered species remains. And reinforced my belief that travel must always have conservation at its heart.

In recent years I have discovered the joys of travel in the Indian subcontinent and Latin America. The iconic sites and cultures here are no less enthralling. And everywhere wildlife adapts and survives, from harsh barren deserts to cool mountain cloud forests and tropical wetlands.

My enthusiasm burns as brightly as ever and I continue to be as involved in every aspect of the business as I always have been, backed up by our superb travel team. I'm particularly thrilled that so many of our customers return time after time.

I do hope you find our latest brochure inspiring and we all look forward to hearing from you.

Hambe Kahle – Travel Safely

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Lake Malawi

Malawi

Defined by crystal clear Lake Malawi, this long and thin land-locked country offers visitors an outstanding freshwater beach experience, the ideal complement to a safari in either neighbouring Zambia or in its own vastly improved wildlife reserves.

Originally named Lake Nyasa by David Livingstone, Lake Malawi is the third largest lake in Africa and laps the shores of Mozambique to the east and Tanzania to the north. Visiting this huge inland sea of over 11,000 square miles is a magical experience.

Dubbed the “lake of the stars” by Livingstone, due to the many fishermen’s lanterns seen at night, Lake Malawi is the journey’s end for most visitors to the country. It holds more variety of aquarium

fish species than any other body of water on earth, and is dotted with tiny islands and pristine beaches.

Visitors to Lake Malawi have a choice of a selection of castaway boutique accommodation, from eco-lodges with hot water bucket showers to luxury villa-style properties with infinity pools and superb dining options. Most properties have wonderful lake views and guests can enjoy many water-based activities, typically including snorkelling, diving,

kayaking, sailing, fishing and sunset cruises. Some of the best freshwater diving and snorkelling are found at Mumbo Island towards the southwest of the lake.

In Mozambican waters, but belonging to Malawi, Likoma Island is the largest of Lake Malawi’s inhabited islands and here you can visit the surprisingly grand Anglican St Peter’s Cathedral, built by missionaries following in the footsteps of David Livingstone.

Seasoned travellers are increasingly extending their visit beyond Lake Malawi to include the verdant tea estates of Mount Mulanje in the south and the scenic national parks of Liwonde and Majete.

An exclusive beach lodge is also located on the northeastern Mozambican shore of the lake and is easier to reach from Malawi. Ideal for those seeking the ultimate in luxurious seclusion, the lakeside setting here is exquisite, with stunning white sandy beaches and virgin wilderness backdrop. There is also a sleep out option here.

Malawi’s most popular reserve, Liwonde National Park, is located on the east bank of the upper reaches of the Shire River, between Lake Malawi and the commercial hub of Blantyre. The Shire Valley forms the southern end of Africa’s Great Rift Valley and game activities here centre on the river, where visitors should get good sightings of impala, kudu, waterbuck and other species of antelope, as well as elephant, buffalo and hippo. Bird watching is also outstanding, and as there are no lions in Liwonde, visitors can opt for a walking safari, bike ride or canoe trip along the river.

About four hours drive south of Liwonde, Majete Wildlife Reserve is a virtually undiscovered game reserve in the Lower Shire Valley. Majete is one of Africa’s huge conservation success stories, as large mammals have been successfully re-introduced in recent years. Here you can hope to see elephant, Black rhino, leopard, buffalo, zebra, sable, hartebeest, suni and eland, as well as many other smaller species. Lion have also recently been re-introduced to Majete, making it a Big Five reserve once again.

The tea estates of the fertile Thyolo region in the far south of the country are found in the foothills of Mount Mulanje, Malawi’s highest mountain peak, and provide an interesting stop on an in-depth tour of the country. This area is a scenic wonderland of rivers, rolling hills, woodlands and forests.

The diversity and accessibility of different habitats, including residual montane rainforest in the south, makes Malawi a paradise for birdwatchers with around 650 recorded species. Notable species in Liwonde and the Shire Valley include Mottled spinetail, Livingstone’s flycatcher and Bohm’s bee-eater. The endangered chat, Thyolo alethe, can be spotted in the Mount Mulanje and Thyolo regions.

It is just a short hop by small aircraft from Zambia’s South Luangwa to Lake Malawi and this safari and beach combination has long been popular. Also consider adding a visit to the Victoria Falls for a truly special trip.



Monkey Bay



Bohm's bee eater



Discover Malawi

- DAY 1** Arrive in Blantyre & drive to the tea region of Thyolo, in the foothills of Mount Mulanje
- DAY 2** Tour of tea estate, with tea tasting
- DAYS 3/5** Explore Liwonde National Park on the Upper Shire River, with morning & afternoon game viewing by boat & on land. View hippo, crocodile, elephant & buffalo
- DAYS 6/9** Relax on the sparkling shores of freshwater Lake Malawi, where you can snorkel among aquarium fish & enjoy watersports such as canoeing & sailing
- DAY 10** Depart from Lilongwe

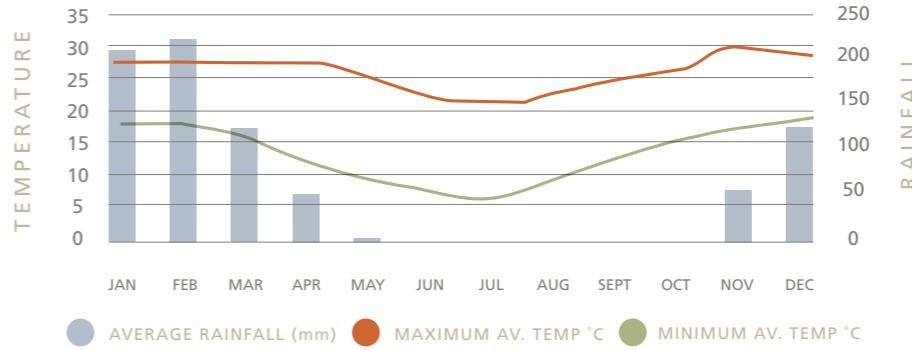
From £3,995 per person sharing including flights, mid season



This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices please call us on **01582 766 122** or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

When to go

Malawi has a hot subtropical climate. The best time to visit is during the mild winter (May to October), when the bushveld is dry and animals seek out the waterholes. Lake Malawi is at its clearest during the warm summer months (November to April), which are also best for bird watching. The rainy season runs from December to March.





Book with confidence

We have ATOL certification and membership of the Association of Tour Operators (AITO).

Booking your holiday

When you are ready to book, we will guide you through the process. In all our dealings we aim to be transparent and encourage you to read our terms and conditions thoroughly. These are on our website at www.2by2holidays.co.uk. Please do contact us if anything is unclear.

Financial Protection

Through our membership of ATOL (9025) and our Tour Operator Insurance, your holiday is fully financially protected wherever in the world you live, regardless of whether you book land-only arrangements or a complete holiday package with flights.

AITO Quality Charter

AITO is the Association for independent and specialist holiday companies. Our member companies, usually owner-managed, strive to create overseas holidays with high levels of professionalism and a shared concern for quality and personal service. The Association encourages the highest standards in all aspects of tour operating.

Exclusive Membership

AITO sets criteria regarding ownership, finance and quality which must be satisfied before new companies are admitted to membership. All members are required to adhere to a Code of Business Practice which encourages high operational standards and conduct.

Financial Security

An AITO member is required to arrange financial protection for all holidays and other arrangements (including accommodation only) booked by customers with the member under the AITO logo. This financial protection applies to customers who are resident in the UK at the time of booking and to most overseas customers who have booked directly with the member. In doing so, the member must comply with UK Government regulations. Members are required to submit details of their financial protection arrangements to AITO on a regular basis.

Accurate brochures and websites

All members do their utmost to ensure that all their brochures and other publications, print or electronic, clearly and accurately describe the holidays and services offered.

Professional service and continual improvements

All members are committed to high standards of service and believe in regular and thorough training of employees. Members continually seek to review and improve their holidays. They listen to their customers and always welcome suggestions for improving standards.

Monitoring standards

AITO endeavours to monitor quality standards regularly. All customers should receive a post-holiday questionnaire from their tour operator, the results of which are scrutinised by the Association.

Sustainable tourism

Our members acknowledge the importance of AITOs Sustainable Tourism ethos, which recognises the social, economic and environmental responsibilities of tour operating.

Customer relations

All members endeavour to deal swiftly and fairly with any issues their customers may raise. In the unlikely event that a dispute between an AITO member and a customer cannot be settled amicably, either party can call on an arbitration service to bring the matter to a speedy and acceptable conclusion.

To contact AITO call 020 8744 9280 or visit their website www.aito.com

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