

Kaya Mawa & Likoma Island

One of the most isolated and beautiful destinations in Malawi is Likoma Island, the larger of two islands in the northern region of the lake.

With breathtaking views of the mountains and wilderness of Mozambique, Likoma remains almost untouched since its discovery by Scottish missionaries at the end of the nineteenth century. It became the base for the UMCA Anglican Mission to Nyasa, and the Cathedral of St. Peter was erected on the island in 1903.

Beyond the Baobab Plains, at the Southern tip of the island, lies a crescent shape beach of fine golden sand surrounded by Mango Trees, this is Kaya Mawa Lodge. Translated from Chewa, the local dialect, Kaya Mawa mean "maybe tomorrow".

The Kaya Mawa philosophy epitomises 'eco-friendly' tourism. Built by hand, in partnership with the local community the lodge imaginatively incorporates luxury and simplicity without intruding on the natural beauty of its surroundings. The Lodge consists of seven exclusive cottages hewn out of the granite headland, together with a honeymoon suite located on its own private island.

Each hideaway boasts a giant, four-poster bed, a private terrace with water access, a sunken stone tub for bathing and en-suite loo with a view. Construction using a combination of Teak, Mahogany and local materials has ensured that every cottage is unique, and all are a tribute to the skill and ingenuity of the local craftsmen.

The restaurant, situated high up in the breeze, allows guests to enjoy a magnificent 360-degree view. During the day, the Mango Bar serves fresh juices and iced drinks for the convenience of those on the beach, where guests can relax in the shady comfort of a mango tree hammock. The bar on Kaya Mawa stocks both local and imported beverages. With its warm, crystal clear waters and constantly good climate, Likoma Island is an excellent base for boat safaris and water sports of every kind. Whilst ensuring that the peace and tranquillity of the lake remain undisturbed, Kaya Mawa provides excellent facilities for guests who wish to sail, windsurf and water ski.

The enormous number and variety of fish in the lake allows unrivalled fresh water snorkelling and scuba diving, with instruction available to suit any standard. The lodge runs day and night boat safaris to Mozambique and the surrounding uninhabited islands which are within easy reach, and the carefree island provides a perfect environment for guests to stroll into villages, en-route to the famous Anglican Cathedral.

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