

MALAWI

HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS

**Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++265**

Malawi Department of Tourism: PO Box 302 Downs House Blantyre Tel: 620300 Fax: 620947 E-mail: enquiries@malawi-tourism.com Website: malawitourism.com

Capital: Lilongwe Time: GMT + 2

Background: Established in 1891, the British protectorate of Nyasaland became the independent nation of Malawi in 1964. After three decades of one-party rule, the country held multiparty elections in 1994 under a provisional constitution, which took full effect the following year.

Location: Southern Africa, east of Zambia

Map References: Africa

Area: total: 118,480 sq km land: 94,080 sq km water: 24,400 sq km

Climate: sub-tropical; rainy season (November to May); dry season (May to November)

Terrain: narrow elongated plateau with rolling plains, rounded hills, some mountains

Natural Resources: limestone, arable land, hydropower, unexploited deposits of uranium, coal, and bauxite

Population: 10,385,849

Nationality: noun: Malawian(s) adjective: Malawian

Ethnic Groups: Chewa, Nyanja, Tumbuko, Yao, Lomwe, Sena, Tonga, Ngoni, Ngonde, Asian, European

Religions: Protestant 55%, Roman Catholic 20%, Muslim 20%, indigenous beliefs

Languages: English (official), Chichewa (official), other languages important regionally

Economy: Landlocked Malawi ranks among the world's least developed countries. The economy is predominately agricultural, with about 90% of the population living in rural areas. Agriculture accounts for 37% of GDP and 85% of export revenues. The economy depends on substantial inflows of economic assistance from the IMF, the World Bank, and individual donor nations. The government faces strong challenges, e.g., to spur exports, to improve educational and health facilities, to face up to environmental problems of deforestation and erosion, and to deal with the rapidly growing problem of HIV/AIDS.

Industries: tobacco, tea, sugar, sawmill products, cement, consumer goods

Currency: 1 Malawian kwacha (MK) = 100 tambala

Railways: total: 789 km narrow gauge: 789 km 1.067-m gauge

Highways: total: 28,400 km paved: 5,254 km unpaved: 23,146 km (1996 est.)

Waterways: Lake Nyasa (Lake Malawi); Shire River, 144 km

Ports and Harbors: Chipoka, Monkey Bay, Nkhata Bay, Nkhotakota, Chilumba

Airports: 44 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 5 over 3,047 m: 1 1,524 to 2,437 m: 1 914 to 1,523 m: 3 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 39 1,524 to 2,437 m: 1 914 to 1,523 m: 15 under 914 m: 23 (1999 est.)

Visa: required by all except nationals of the Commonwealth

Duty Free: goods permitted: 200 cigarettes or 250g of tobacco, 1 litre of spirits, 1 litre of beer, and 1 litre of wine

Health: a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travelers over one year of age arriving from infected areas. malaria, bilharzias, and rabies risk. All water should be regarded as potentially contaminated

BLANTYRE

SUNBIRD HOTEL, P.O. Box 376, Blantyre, Malawi, Tel: (265) 1 820 588, Fax: (265) 1 820 124, E-mail: info@sunbirdmalawi.com, www.sunbirdmalawi.com

PROTEA HOTEL RYALLS, 2 Hannover Avenue, Blantyre, P O Box 21, Blantyre, Malawi, +265 (1) 820 955, +265 (1) 827 000, ryalls@proteamalawi.com, www.proteahotels.com

LILONGWE

CAPITAL HOTEL - Lilongwe, Lilongwe, Malawi, Phone: +265 78-3388

KALIKUTI HOTEL, P.O Box 703, Lilongwe, Tel: +265 1 725998 /392 /+265 1 726350, Fax: +265 1 726172, E-mail: info@kalikutihotel.com, Reservations@kalikutihotel.com, www.kalikutihotel.com

LINGADZI INN, Chilambula Rd, Lilongwe, Phone: +265 (0) 7 20644

KIBOKO CAMP & SAFARIS, Private Bag 295, Lilongwe, Malawi, E-mail: enquiries@kiboko-safaris.com / kiboko@malawi.net, www.kibokohotel.com

WENDELS GUEST HOUSE, P.O. 31037, Lilongwe, Malawi, Telephone: (265) 1 770237, Telephone/Fax: (265) 1 771 771, E-mail: wendels@africa-online.net, www.wendelslodge.com

**AIRLINES/HELICOPTERS/AIRPORTS**

AIR MALAWI, Region: Africa, Address: Robins Road PO Box 84, Blantyre, Tel: 00265 62 08 11, Fax: 00265 62 00 42, Web site: www.airmalawi.net, Main Base: Blantyre

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