



KAPHULIKA
HOUSE



Imagine waking to the gentle calls of wild birds, sunlight filtering through the branches of ancient baobabs, and the fresh, untamed beauty of the African bush surrounding you. This isn't a dream; it's your experience waiting at Kaphulika, a one-of-a-kind private lodge nestled within the heart of Thuma Forest Reserve.

Kaphulika isn't just a luxurious escape; it's a testament to conservation and a celebration of Malawi's rich culture. Built with love and a deep respect for the environment, the lodge offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in nature while directly contributing to its preservation.

Here, amidst the towering trees and the whispers of the wilderness, you'll find a haven designed with African elegance and a touch of Irish warmth. Imagine evenings spent on the veranda, savoring delicious meals and absorbing the tranquility of the bush.

At Kaphulika, every detail whispers a story of conservation and community. Locally crafted furniture and artisan accents blend seamlessly with thoughtfully curated antiques, showcasing the heart and soul of Malawi.

Your stay goes beyond relaxation; it becomes a vital contribution. The income generated by Kaphulika directly supports the tireless efforts of the Wildlife Action Group. Here, your presence becomes a powerful act for the protection of Thuma Forest Reserve's precious wildlife, including its magnificent elephant population.

Come, explore the untamed beauty of the African bush, experience the genuine warmth of Malawian hospitality, and know that your choice creates a lasting positive impact.

We invite you to Kaphulika, a refuge awaits. May you enjoy every moment.

Lynn Clifford



KAPHULIKA HOUSE

CONTACTS:

Thuma Forest Reserve
PO Box 84, Salima
E: kaphulika.wag@gmail.com
T: +265 995840187(whatsapp)

OFFICE HOURS

9AM TO 5PM (Malawi time)





KAPHULIKA HOUSE

FACT FILE

LOCATION

Africa, Malawi – Central region - The Thuma Forest reserve is one of Malawi's less known treasures, an untamed wilderness, of beautiful mountainous landscape protected and managed by Wildlife Action Group with an area of 197km². It is situated between Lilongwe and Lake Malawi on the escarpment of the Great Rift Valley.

We are 93km from the Capital city Lilongwe, and KIA International Airport, Thuma is one of the few forest reserves in Malawi which is still home to a small but important population of elephants, along with over 36 mammals.

It has over 168 trees species, and to date recorded over 210 bird species and 60+ orchids.

ACCOMODATION

Kaphulika house is a unique eco-built, exclusive rental property in the heart of the forest that has so much character in every corner.

This green build has been constructed using fallen trees and locally available materials and the house is run using solar energy.





KAPHULIKA HOUSE

FACT FILE

This African oasis is an ideal retreat with opportunities for the more physically fit to partake in guided hikes tailored to fit your needs. It is the ideal getaway for 2 or 4 adults, 2 families, or a group of close friends who will experience the peace and tranquility, surrounded by the sounds of an African forest.

The house has 2 large en-suite bedrooms, each with its own private khonde and a comfortable double bed made with crisp, linen sheets. The rooms can also be fitted with extra beds for children. The large en-suite bathrooms are open to the African sky and the huge baobab trees, with solar powered hot water showers.

The very large and beautiful thatched roof of the house, keeps you cool in the hotter months. There is a large sitting / dining area with shared khonde, bbq, swimming pool and small sun house with hammock to soak in the amazing views.

Our local staff live on site; Phillip our fantastic cook, along with Kennedy and Godfrey cook, clean and cater to your every need.

We also provide Free WIFI, enabling you to still stay in contact with loved ones (or your office).





DESCRIPTION

Kaphulika is the ultimate eco-lodge. A hidden gem. A family/friends getaway from the city. A place to recuperate from travel fatigue or a romantic weekend. This is a retreat where one will feel relaxed, comfortable and energized.

By day, one can swim, bird watch, read, watch the warthogs come feed on the beautiful lawn and, as night falls, one can star gaze sitting around the firepit, sipping wine or gin and tonics, listening to the hyena calling and if lucky hear the elephants eating close by. Your stay here will ensure that you give something back to this beautiful place.

WHAT SETS US APART

- 2 hours from the international airport
- 1.5 hours from Lake Malawi
- A house that is exclusively yours, intimate but open to nature
- A peaceful and charming place of tranquility and beauty set among towering baobab trees
- Guided bush walks tailored to your physical fitness
- Learn about conservation first hand from the park manager/ and or staff
- All income from your stay is directly supporting the protection of the forest and wildlife
- Friendly local staff to ensure you enjoy your stay
- Beautifully cooked food
- Organic community made soaps
- Star gazing around fire pit

ACTIVITIES

- Bush breakfasts, picnics and sundowners
- Swimming
- Bird watching
- Guided walks and hill hikes
- Curl up with a book
- Board games available
- Visit community projects supported by the park which must be prebooked
- Traditional dancing can be organised





NEED TO KNOW

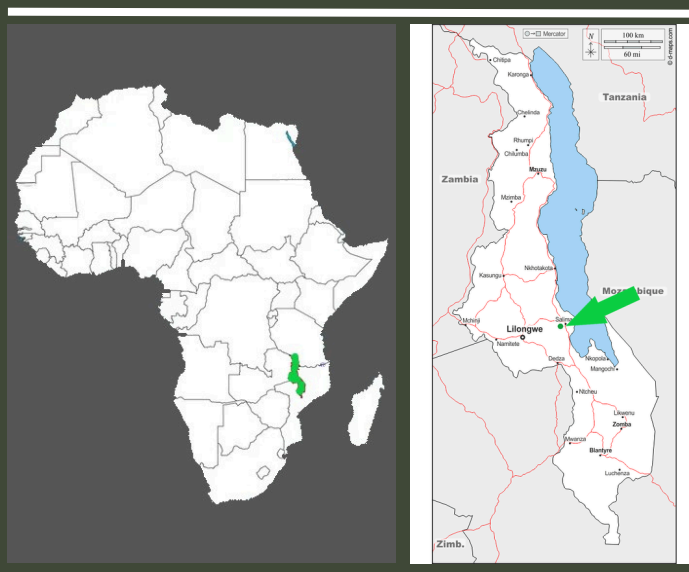
GETTING THERE

Use the A5 road From Lilongwe approx. 90k, take the first dirt road of the right after passing the new solar plant (escom on the left, theres a sign saying social Islamic development). From the tar mac it is another 9km to the gate and then a further 4kms inside the forest. Check out google Maps.

- No day visits allowed
- Must have a reservation in advance.

WHAT TO BRING

- Lightweight clothes, a hat, binoculars, sunglasses and mosquito repellent
- Loose trousers, long sleeves for the evenings, shorts, t-shirts, swimwear, shawl or fleece
- If hiking bring natural/green or khaki coloured clothing
- Sunscreen, medical kit and good head torch
- Comfortable walking shoes for the bush, flip flops/sandals for lazing around the house
- Camera and any books to help you identify the birds and fauna around the park.
- Universal plug adapters / converters.



DAILY MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

There are staff on site to cook and cater to your every need and to ensure your stay is enjoyable.

CLIMATE

- Weather: The days are generally hot and dry and nights cooler, depending on the season
- Rainfall: Rainy season in normally November/December to March/ April
- Sunrise, sunsets, full moons or the milky are always magnificent
- Altitude: 700 to 1560 mtrs above sea level.

LANGUAGE

- All staff speak English
- Chichewa is spoken amongst local staff.



NEED TO KNOW

MEALS AND FOOD

- The house is self-catering, bring your own food and drink and we will be delighted to cook and prepare everything for you
- Cooking oil, bread, butter etc.
- International visitors - we can arrange food for you.

WATER

- Clean, fresh safe bore hole water is available free of charge
- Ice is available
- Water is in all rooms over night
- Water is served with all meals.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Mobile phone network is Airtel and TNM, however network is sporadic
- We do have free WIFI for your use if so needed, please do ask our staff.

CURRENCY

- Bookings, activities, park entrance fees are quoted in USA however local currency Malawi kwacha is accepted using current day rate.

PAYMENTS

- All payment for accommodation, activities, entrance etc. should be arranged in advance and at time of booking confirmation.

VEHICLES

- High wheel drive vehicle is recommended
- There is vehicles and drivers available to drive guests for activities prearranged.

ELECTRICITY

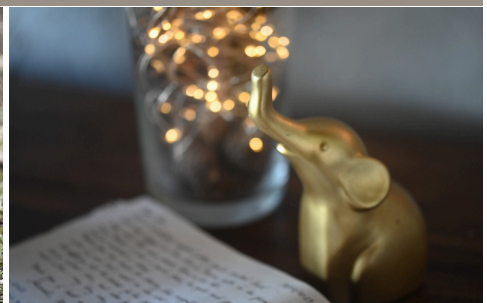
- There is solar power which supplies fridges, lights and any charging requirements
- You need to bring converters and universals plug adapters
- We kindly ask that you charge any electrical equipment during the hours of 10am to 4pm and turn off lights when you are not in the room
- Hot water is provided by solar geysers.

TIPPING

- Tipping staff is a custom in Malawi and very much appreciated. A lot of people you may not see are working hard to make your stay as enjoyable as possible. We operate a communal tipping system which is distributed to all staff at the end of the month.

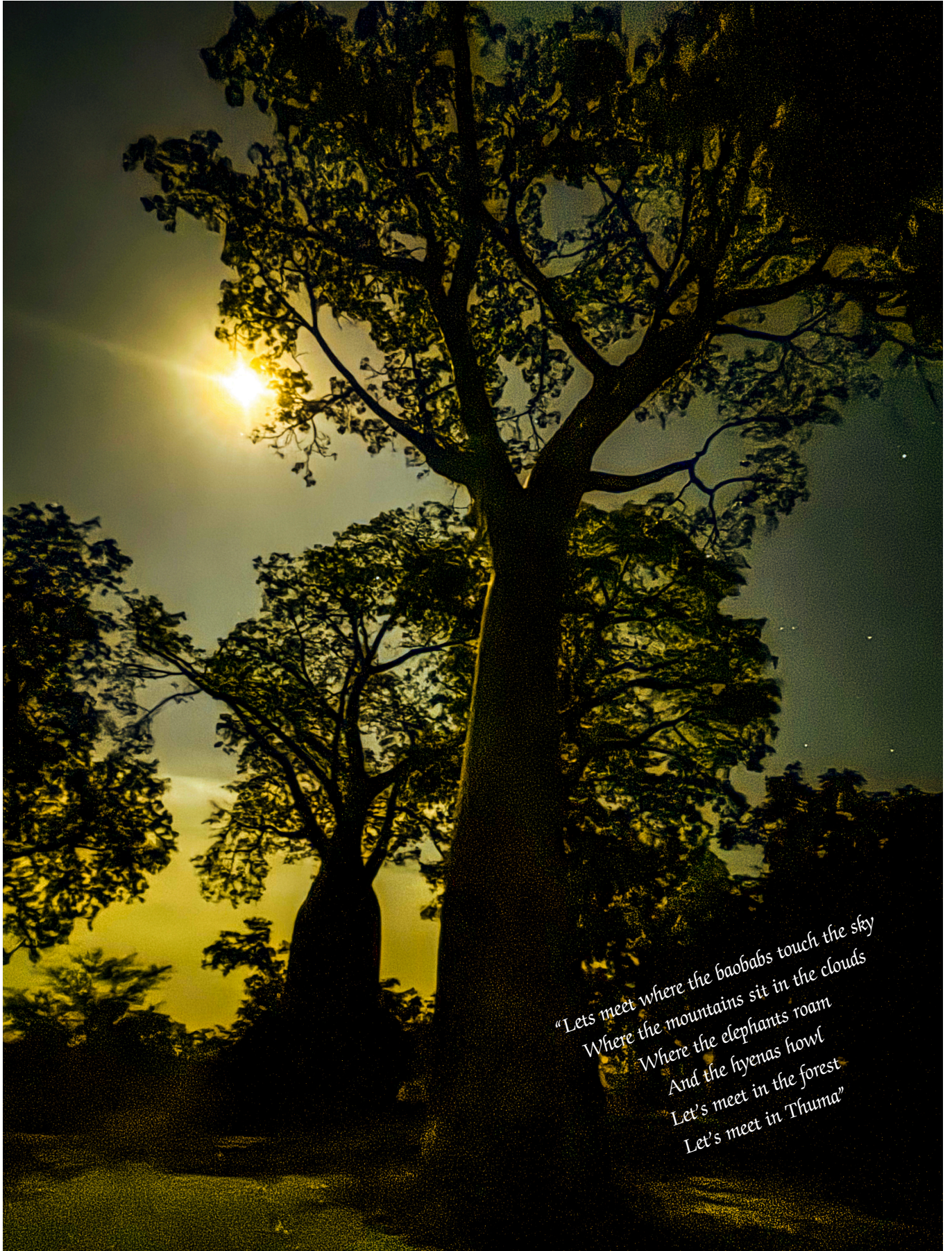
HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

- Full health and medical insurance
- Preventative malaria medication
- Yellow fever vaccination is required on entry to Malawi.





GUESTS COMMENTS



*"Let's meet where the baobabs touch the sky
Where the mountains sit in the clouds
Where the elephants roam
And the hyenas howl
Let's meet in the forest
Let's meet in Thuma"*



“Mother Nature and human nature at its very best! We’ll miss the beautiful rhythm of nature, the dawn and evening chorus, the sounds of the birds, insects and animals. Red sunrise and sunset. The most adventurous travel experience of our lives; entirely immersive.”

“Thuma is really awesome and tranquil! Loved all that you have done – it truly is a “Gem”! I look forward to coming back soon and enjoying the Baobabs and views!”

“We have had a truly amazing stay. What an unforgettable experience. The staff have been beyond spectacular and the setting second to none. It was fantastic speaking to Lynn about the reserve’s progression and we look forward to seeing it continue. Many thanks!”

“Thank you so much for such a brilliant experience. It was the perfect mix of relaxation and adventure. You’ve done such a beautiful job making the lodge and the surroundings so comfortable and the park is a paradise. The whole team work so well to make our time here unforgettable.”

“Wow!! What a hidden gem. Absolutely LOVED our stay here. A beautiful lodge and wonderful Forest Reserve. Congratulations on all you have achieved here. We’ll be back!”

“Many thanks for your fantastic hospitality and kindness. It was really appreciated. You have a magnificent complex here with superb facilities. Never seen anything like the lovely bathrooms. Keep up the great work that you are doing. Thanks again!”





GUEST COMMENTS

“What a place! It feels like home or should I say it feels like I could stay forever. Such an untouched and wild paradise. We’ll definitely come back. I guess places like yours are the reason why people fall in love with Africa. We’ll keep this place, its nature and wildlife in our heart.”

“An inspiring story, a cautionary tale, an elephant fairytale, a forest of possibility... Thank you for your courage and dedication. The planet thanks you. Our world needs you.”

“Paradise found! Thank you for a spectacular, entertaining weekend. Love what you have done with this place, stunning, well done! Great hike with Richard. Thanks to Kennedy and Godfrey for taking such good care of us and Lynn - the most amazing host. We will be back!”

“This is a very special place, on where the challenges of the diverse wildlife and needs of the growing community collide. We have learned so much during our stay here in this beautiful place, and for that we are forever grateful to Lynn and the wonderful WAG team. The work you all do, the risks you bravely face, and the sacrifices you make every day can only be justified by the great love you have for nature, and your desire to preserve and restore this gift for the benefit of all people. The fruits of your enormous efforts and your positive impact is abundantly evident in the forests and in the adjacent communities. Your success has been a real inspiration for us. Zikomo!

