Malawi Travel Facts



US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in Malawi due to crime.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html



For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the US State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html



US Embassy/Consulate

(+265) (0) 177 3166; US Embassy in Lilongwe, 16 Jomo Kenyatta Road, Lilongwe 3, Malawi; https://mw.usembassy.gov/

LGBTQIA+, Women, and Special Needs Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US State Department's International Travel page. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html

Telephone Code

265

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 998; Fire: 999; Police: 997

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Malawi: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, cholera, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, influenza, COVID-19.

https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list

Climate

Sub-tropical; rainy season (November to May); dry season (May to November)

Currency (Code)

Malawian kwachas (MWK)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): G



Type G

Major Languages

English, Chichewa (common), Chinyanja, Chiyao, Chitumbuka, Chilomwe, Chinkhonde, Chingoni, Chisena, Chitonga, Chinyakyusa, Chilambya

Major Religions

Protestant, Roman Catholic, other Christian, Muslim, traditionalist

Time Difference

UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Left



Tourist Destinations

Lake Malawi; Mulanje Mountain Forest Reserve; Likoma Island; Liwonde National Park; Zomba Plateau; Chongoni Rock-Art

Major Sports

Soccer, rugby, track and field, basketball, tennis

Cultural Practices

Making a circle with the thumb and index finger can be taken as an insult.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping is completely voluntary and dependent on the quality of the service you receive. Group guides and general hotel staff should receive \$5-10 (USD) per day.

Souvenirs

Carved wooden masks, statues, and toys; tribal jewelry; handwoven baskets and twig rugs; Batik wall hangings, clothing, and bags; wood/cane/raffia furniture and decorative items; soapstone carvings; ceramics/pottery

Traditional Cuisine

Chambo (fish) with nshima/nsima (a thick porridge made from cassava, corn, or other starchy flour)





