



**M**vuu in a nutshell: Mvuu Lodge, operated by Central African Wilderness Safaris, offers a luxurious stay in a secluded wilderness setting in Malawi's Liwonde National Park. The Lodge overlooks a tranquil lagoon just off the Shire River, in an area, surrounded by lush vegetation and towering borassus palms. Mvuu means "hippo" in the local Chichewa language – testament to the large pods of hippo in the park.

Accommodation comprises eight tents, one of which is a romantic honeymoon suite. Each tent has en-suite bathroom facilities and a private deck overlooking the water. Lodge facilities include a dining room, lounge area, extensive wildlife library and swimming pool. Located a short distance away from the lodge, Mvuu's Star Beds overlook the floodplains and offer guests the opportunity to immerse themselves in nature and spend a memorable night under the stars.

**TRAVEL GREEN:** While visiting Mvuu Lodge and Camp, can opt to participate in CAWS' 'Tree with Every Trip' (TWET) initiative, by adding the amount of their choice to their travel bill to plant a batch of trees that will offset the carbon emissions from their journey. TWET is run in collaboration with not-for-profit Root to Fruit. Guests who are eager to learn more about how Mvuu runs according to strict eco-tourism and environmentally-friendly principles are welcome to participate in a 'back-of-house' tour.

## Experience the ultimate luxury SAFARI IN MALAWI

Whilst Mvuu Lodge provides an exclusive and luxurious safari experience, guests seeking a more affordable and family-friendly accommodation option in park can choose to stay at nearby Mvuu Camp.

Things to do whilst staying at Mvuu:

Guests visiting Mvuu Lodge, can opt to enjoy an array of wildlife activities, one of the most popular being boat safaris on the Shire River where for much of the year large herds of elephants can be seen feeding and drinking at the river's edge, huge crocodiles basking on the sandbanks, or birds such



**ABOUT LIWONDE:** Officially declared a National Park in 1973, Liwonde covers a total area of 548km<sup>2</sup> and is considered the most prolific wildlife area in Malawi. The Shire River – the country's largest river and Lake Malawi's only outlet – forms the Park's western boundary and harbours a dense population of hippo, crocodiles and large numbers of elephant. Antelope such as impala, waterbuck, reedbuck and bushbuck are plentiful along the banks. In the east, relatively dry mopane woodlands are interspersed with candelabra trees, an area favoured by buffalo, yellow baboon and Lichtenstein's hartebeest. Black Rhino were introduced from South Africa and can be found in the Sanctuary within the park. Predators include leopard, serval, side striped jackal and the recently introduced cheetah; lion are also occasionally seen. Nearly 400 bird species occur here, with specials such as Böhm's Bee-eater, Livingstone's Flycatcher, Pel's Fishing-Owl, Lilian's Lovebird and Brown-breasted Barbet.

Liwonde National Park is famed as one of the country's premier wildlife destinations, largely due to the fact that the Shire River makes it a magnet for wildlife. The River provides an essential lifeline to the flora and fauna that exists in Liwonde and is a focal point of safaris conducted within the park. Particularly in the drier months, it attracts large herds of elephant, antelope and an abundance of bird species. The 548km<sup>2</sup> park is named after Chief Liwonde who passionately championed its protection.



has a spectacular vantage point with stunning views of vast floodplains, riverine thicket, and the River. There is a bed under a mosquito net but open to the stars, a simple loo and shower and a dining table. A hand-held radio is also provided to contact the main Lodge team at any time. In the evenings, a turn-down service is completed by Lodge staff and all meals are served on the platform itself.

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS:**

500 Elephants on the move: After months of extensive planning and preparation, African Park (the organization which manages Liwonde National Park in partnership with the Government of Malawi) recently translocated 500 elephants from Liwonde National Park to Nkotakota Wildlife Reserve. Termed '500 Elephants', the initiative was the largest ever translocation of elephants to a single reserve and is one of the most significant translocation initiatives in conservation history. Central African Wilderness Safaris offered on-the-ground support to aid the teams working in the field where possible.



Safaris (CAWS) has been in Malawi since 1987, and was established by Chris and Pam Badger who have been involved with the travel industry for over 30 years. Between 1987 and 1992, they conducted over 60 safaris throughout Malawi and gained the knowledge and passion for the country which remains the foundation of the business today. Originally part of the well-known and highly respected Wilderness Safaris Group, in 2014, CAWS became an independent operator in Malawi owned solely by Chris and Pam. Now 23 years after Mvuu Lodge and Camp were set up, the company has signed a new lease to operate both properties in the park for the next 15 years.

**IMAGES CREDIT:** Juliet Lemon, CAWS, Dana Allen, Anthony Grote and Mike Dexter.

**FOR BOOKINGS**

**EMAIL:** [INFO@CAWSMW.COM](mailto:INFO@CAWSMW.COM)

**WWW:** [WWW.CAWSMW.COM](http://WWW.CAWSMW.COM)

**TELEPHONE:** + 265 1771 393/153



The return of cheetahs to Liwonde: In mid 2017, African Parks and the Endangered Wildlife Trust, also facilitated the translocation of four cheetahs from South Africa to Liwonde. This ground-breaking conservation initiative has proven to be a significant milestone in supporting the overall conservation efforts of this endangered species. It has also been a long-awaited opportunity for Malawi to revive its cheetah population. Over the last few months, guests at Mvuu Lodge and nearby Mvuu Camp have been able to enjoy regular sightings of cheetahs in the park.

The CAWS Story: Central African Wilderness

