



DRIVING DIRECTIONS MAWIMBI BUSH CAMP

DRY SEASON ONLY (May – November)

The vast majority of our guests fly into Chunga Airstrip via Charter plane (a 45min complimentary game drive to camp), or guests book an Transfer from Lusaka. If you are driving, road conditions vary – a 4x4 vehicle is recommended OR a high clearance 2 wheel drive in the dry season. Kafue National Park Gate closes at 18:00, and opens at 06:00 - be aware of the time.

Before you leave the Airport

- Use the ablutions and change money here (or ATMs in Mumbwa town off the M9)
- Buy a local sim card to avoid roaming charges.

Refuelling Options

Ideally refuel before you leave, as filling stations may not be able to dispense fuel due to power outages.

- 134kms from Lusaka International Airport at Nangoma Mission.
- 16kms before Mumbwa, turn right for 4kms to the Zambian Air Force base.
- If you're coming from Lusaka or the Copperbelt, there is Oil Bay filling station just before the turn-off to Mumbwa. If open, there's a stocked shop and you can buy snacks (credit cards if network available). Toilets are substandard.
- Go into the town of Mumbwa to refuel at the Total filling station (3kms from the M9 turn-off at the first traffic circle). Often cash only is required, so ideally have kwacha on you.
- If you're coming from Livingstone, there are filling stations in Kalomo, and it's highly recommended you refuel here before entering Kafue National Park, unless you're going on to Mumbwa.

From Lusaka International Airport to MAWIMBI Bush Camp (Allow 5-6 hrs)

1. Exit **Kenneth Kaunda International Airport** and get onto **Airport Road**.
2. Continue straight for about 9 km to reach **Great East Road (T4)**.
3. Join Great East Road (T4) heading toward Lusaka City Centre. Traffic can be very heavy so avoid rush hour if at all possible.
4. Stay on Great East Road, following **signs for Lumumba Road**.
5. Turn left onto **Lumumba Road**, then turn right onto **Mumbwa Road** (not signposted) which becomes the **Lusaka–Mongu Road (M9)** This is a good straight tar road with few potholes until you get to between Mumbwa and Nalusanga where you need to be cautious of worse potholes).

Along the way you will find police check-points on the M9 manned by uniformed police. The first is around 15kms from Lusaka at the Westwood Police Station, then about 65kms further along the M9 you will get to another Police check-point. (You may be stopped at other temporary points along your journey).

Consider refuelling if needed.

6. Continue on **M9 westbound** for 151 kms where you will see the turn off to Mumbwa.

Toll Checkpoint

The Mumbwa Toll Plaza is about 10kms before Mumbwa, the fee for vehicles is currently K20. Have Zambian kwacha in cash or card ready (amount subject to change without notice).

7. Continue on the **M9 westbound** and 38kms after Mumbwa you will reach **Nalusanga Gate** at the entrance of the Kafue National Park. This is a Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) check point and you may/may not be asked for your passport/travel documentation. Mention you are staying at MAWIMBI Bush Camp – you will not be required to pay park entrance fees here.

At Nalusanga there is a market and places to buy refreshments, but the toilets are absolutely terrible.

8. It's 86kms from the Nalusanga Gate to Hook Bridge.

You are now in the great **Kafue National Park** (22,400square kilometres) so be on the lookout for wildlife and adjust your speed accordingly as the park is unfenced. We saw a young leopard crossing the road on a return journey, so you may well be lucky too!

9. At the 240km mark since leaving Lusaka Airport, you will see the Itezhi Tezhi turnoff to your left (D769) Do not take this turnoff.
10. Continue for another 58 km to get to **Hook Bridge**. You will see the old Hook Bridge below and you will cross over the Kafue River.

Please don't follow Google Maps to MAWIMBI Bush Camp (it will take you to the wrong side of the river). You need to cross over the Kafue River using Hook Bridge.

11. Proceed another 6.5km **after Hook Bridge** to the second turnoff to Chunga (on left hand side) which is signposted as "**Chunga 21km**". MAWIMBI Bush Camp is signposted from the M9.

At the top of the 21k road is a Kafue National Park entrance gate.

- Gate opens at 06:00 and closes 18:00 (self-driving is allowed until 1 hour after sunset).
 - You can pay your DNPW Kafue National Park fees (US\$ or Zambian kwacha), **OR** explain that you are going to **MAWIMBI Bush Camp (34kms)** where your park fees, bed levy and boating fee (if applicable) will be paid at camp.
12. Once through the gate, you'll travel on a gravel road for **14km** to a major turnoff to what's known as the **Spinal Road** (There will be a large green sign marked "Spinal Road, Ngoma 166km, Musa Gate 170km").

Google Maps does not show the spinal road. Please make sure you come in via the 21k gate west of Hook Bridge on the western side of the Kafue River.

13. Turn right at this green **sign marked "Ngoma & Musa" AND MAWIMBI 19 ½ kms** and continue south deeper into Kafue National Park on the Spinal Road. (If you do not turn off you will reach Chunga and will need to turn back).
14. You will cross two bridges: the first is **Shishamba River** and the second is **Lwansanza River** (which is the boundary of MAWIMBI Bush Camp concession) Continue onwards and on your left hand side, you will see a sign to MAWIMBI Bush Camp.
15. Turn off Spinal Road and drive until you reach a fork in the road (Private Concession sign) – **continue with the right fork**, and after approximately 1,5 kms you will reach our camp lapa where our friendly warm-hearted MAWIMBI staff will welcome you to our bush camp. **You've arrived - let your MAWIMBI adventure begin.....**

From Livingstone to MAWIMBI Bush Camp (Allow 9.5 hours)

1. From Livingstone International Airport, head north east towards **Kaloma**, 129 kms away on the T1 Road.
2. Just after Kaloma, follow the sign for **Kafue National Park**. It's a gravel road and takes about one hour on a gravel road to the **Dundumwezi Gate**.

From the Kafue National Park gate there are two routes to get to Lake Itzhi-Tezhi

3. Drive the eastern boundary road in the GMA, it takes 2.5 hours. **OR** Turn onto the southern sector of the park and drive via Kelenje.
4. At Itzhi-Tezhi lake, go west around the lake shore using the Spinal Road. It will take about 3.5 - 4 hours to drive to MAWIMBI Bush Camp.

From the Copperbelt area to MAWIMBI Bush Camp (Allow 11-12 hrs)

1. From the **Lubambe Copper Mine** in the Copper Belt Province, head towards Kitwe and follow the T3 and T2 to **Chibombo**, 348kms.
2. At 377kms, Landless Corner, turn right onto the M20 towards **Malambanyama**.
3. South east of Mumbwa, turn left towards the M9.
4. Then turn a sharp right onto the Lusaka-Mongu Road (M9) to **Nalusanga** and follow the **above route from Lusaka**.

