# voluntourism – experience in Malawi

Learn from the community of young people of Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malawi between safaris and villages

# 10 days with possibility of extension

The calculation of the days excludes flights

ALLYEAR!

# WHAT WE WILL DO

Voluntourism - experience in Malawi. This program was created following both requests and our desire to contribute to the development of the country through volunteering or as it is called, voluntourism. Starting from our base in Mulanje, where we will learn the basics of Malawi's culture through a short course of Chichewa organized by AROUND AWT, we will match the discovery of the culture of the country, to a volunteer experience in the heart of Africa. We will be guests, for about ten days, at one of the associations that we have supported regularly for years. Welcomed by young people of all ages from FOMO (Friends of Mulanje Orphans), who attend primary and secondary schools through 14 distribution centers in the area. They are protected and assisted with basic needs.

The help that a volunteer can give is to contribute positively to the creation of a solid foundation for a primary education, so that children should welcome the idea of overcoming the challenges for secondary education, constantly motivate them to continue their studies and to commit to their education.

On this volunteer trip you have the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with the children with whom we are in close contact, acquiring new skills through the exchange. Volunteers can contribute in different subject areas, English, mathematics, the arts, sport, food education, ecology, to raise awareness of issues of common interest.

End the experience with a few days of safari in Liwonde National Park, admiring the beauty of the river Shire and its elephants, crocodiles, hippos and then the Mua mission with its museum to know more about the country and contribute to the tourism industry. We then proceed to Lake Malawi to be in close touch with the simplicity of Malawian life of the fishing villages, fishermen and farmers.

MALAWI, <u>GALLERY</u>

& Photo Travel Tour Operator

Voluntourism

# INDEX

TRE TRAVEL 2

MEANS OF TRANSPORT & ACCOMMODATION 3

**VOLUNTOURISM 4** 

A SAFARI GUIDE 5

**TRAVEL PROGRAM 7** 

ATTENDANCE FEE 9

TRAVEL ADVICES 10

EQUIPMENT II

ECO-TOURISM12

TERMS AND CONDITIONS 13

# ARÔUND AWT <u>malawi tyurism</u>



ASSOCIATION bringing together the best of malawi tourism

MEMBER



DURATION: 18 days.



© Copyright AFRICAWILDTRUCK Ltd. ADVENTURE & PHOTO TRAVEL TOUR OPERATOR www.africawildtruck.com | info@africawildtruck.com I +265995941542 Voluntourism – experience in Malani Learn from the community of young people Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malani bety safaris and villages



# THETRAVEL

*Voluntourism* program is a powerful experience of giving and receiving. The days at our base in Mulanje, will be used to start learning the fundamentals of the Chewa language (Chi-Chewa) and some characteristic traits of Malawian culture, organized in collaboration with AROUND AWT.

The walks around the crop area of Mulanje tea will accompany these days of study and deeper understanding of the traditions. There will be the opportunity to spend time with some of our staff and teach some subject that can be useful and fun. This project can be achieved through sport and / or the construction of objects with the use of recycled materials such as plastic or even mini-cooking courses, to learn some recipes, motivating individuals to a positive professional growth, collaborating to develop AROUND AWT.

Later we will move at the facilities of the association Friends of Mulanje Orphans (FOMO), their significant presence has an aid for about 5,000 children in the area with 14 centers, where we will have the opportunity to teach one or more subjects and interact with teachers present, strengthening their capacities education and communication through the sharing of ideas. Drawing, painting, dance, sports, are some of the possibilities that we will have to motivate young people to participate, creating an even more positive and friendly environment.

Finally, get to know other realities and issues of the country and to contribute through economic growth in the tourism industry, we grant you a few days of relaxation and safari.

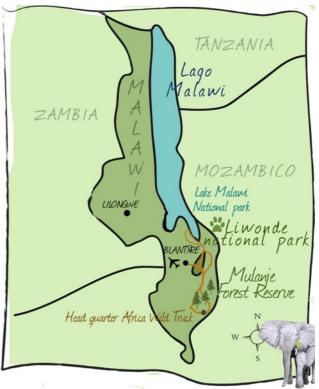
We visit the Liwonde National Park, the most famous park of Malawi. Along the Shire River, inhabiting many elephants and

antelopes such as Lichtenstein's hartebeest (Alcelaphus lichtensteini) and sable antelope (Hippotragus niger), buffalo, zebras, hyenas, warthogs, baboons, hippos and crocodiles; hundreds of species of birds inhabit the park which is a real ornithological paradise. The vegetation is very diverse, ranging from forests of mopane, the palm trees, the grassland, the acacias, while the hills dominate the forests of miombo. For this reason Liwonde is the only place in Malawi, where the inseparable Lilian Lovebird (Agapornis lilianae) nests. The park is also an IBA (Important Bird Area) recognized internationally with significant populations of rare or endangered species.

Legends and tales inhabit the imagination that describes the magic of Mount Mulanje Forest Reserve.

Then visit Mua Mission active since 1902. Since then, the White Fathers opened a cultural center dedicated to the art and the important KuNgoni Chamare ethnographic museum that preserves the rich heritage of Malawi; Here we can admire the collection of masks of Gule Wamkulu, secret ceremony of the ethnic Chewa, largest collection of masks in the world! We will move on the banks of the third largest lake in Africa, to the Lake Malawi National Park. This is a World Heritage Site and one of the world's largest water reserves. By the clear waters and golden beaches that cannot be compared to our Italian coast; it is estimated that the endemic fish that inhabit the waters, cichlids, are around 1000 species. The fishing villages add to the simplicity of Malawian life, with its rhythms from the lake. Here we will surely meet the fishermen of the lake with their fishing canoes who are dedicated to following old traditions. The drying of fish is a ritual and a procedure in which they are involved together with the old women of the village, while the children and the boys help the fishermen repairing nets. Malawi is a warm and welcoming country: its people have a warm and hospitable heart that in no other country in Africa we have ever heard.

# ALLYEAR!







## **STAFF**

The staff is composed by local guides. WHO WE ARE

## MEANS OF TRANSPORT

The distances will be covered with a half Land Cruiser off-road  $4 \times 4$  from 9 comfortable seats or other means that we deem suitable.

## ACCOMMODATION

At Mulanje accommodation at the base of Africa Wild Truck, in old colonial house, within a historic garden in the tea plantations. Subsequently, accommodation at one of the centers run by the Friends of Mulanje Orphans; a spirit of adaptation to lodging, in this



know the list of lodges, please write us for more details!

case, considering the particularity of the situation, must be a little higher. Subsequent nights are in a nice and simple lodge on Lake Malawi near the Lake Malawi National Park. In Liwonde national park overnight at amazing camp, equipped for camping and overlooking the river where the elephants come to drink. At Mua, spend the night in well-equipped bungalows, property, belonging to the Fathers or Missionaries. The rooms in the lodge / chalet / hotel, is intended, unless otherwise requested, in double or, in rare cases, triple; They could be replaced for technical-organizational problems without distorting the original plan. The facilities have been carefully chosen following an idea of land conservation and sustainability of travel, preferring positions in close contact with nature. If you want to

### PERIOD/SEASON

Temperatures depend largely on the season, from the latitudes and altitudes. On the right is a table indicative of average temperatures in the different seasons. The hottest month is November, the coolest month is June / July. The dry season is from April / May to November. The wet season runs from December to March / April, during this time you can see the parks in their green splendor; some babies of mammals are born in this period as well as many birds cross for the mating season, changing plumage and courting females. We recommend both seasons, both in fact have a special charm. <u>Contact us</u> for more information on the current season, they are not all the same each year!

ROADS We will travel about 1,000 km of paved trai

TEMPERATURE °C AVERAGE	FEBRUARY	JULY	NOVEMBER
Blantyre and highlands	min 18 - max 27	min 7 - max 23	min 20 max 32
Liwonde national park.	min 26 - max 39	min 22 max 32	min 28 max 43



voluntourism - experience in Malani Learn from the community of young Mulanje, share knowledge, know safaris and villages

# WHAT IS THE MEANING OF VOLUNTOURISM TO US

Volunteering or Voluntourism. We feel the desire to contribute to Malawi's development through volunteering or as it is called, Voluntourism.

peop

Ween

A Voluntourism program is a strong and intense experience of giving and receiving.

Through volunteering you can try to make a difference, even just for one person, for:

- give confidence and gain confidence in any project
- motivate the individual growth and, why not, find motivation yourself
- teaching and learning
- listen and share moments of dialogue
- deal with different cultures and learn about different lifestyles
- travel and discover the culture of the country

The volunteer's attitude is of respect for local customs and humility towards the work of people active and in the area, towards nature and aware that an experience of this kind does not make us heroes and masters, but rather teaches us.

The possibilities are endless.

If you have knowledge you want to share, then stepped forward and write us! If you have patience, flexibility, overall vision, adaptability, initiative, optimism, willingness to listen and a positive attitude then your experience will be unforgettable.

Our principles are inspired by respect, equality and equal dignity of every individual, the motivation that drives us to organize is the commitment to help a territory, children, teens and people in need in the broadest possible sense.

Voluntourism, in our opinion, should not miss the discovery of the environment and the country, to complete the experience and interpret reality in a comprehensive way through a few days of travel.







AFRICAW/LDTRUCK

voluntourism - experience in Malani Learn from the community of young Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malawi safaris and villages

## SAFARI GUIDE

The various game drives, (the excursion in  $4 \times 4$  organized for the sighting of animals), will take place in the daytime and at night with the jeep.

peop

Ween

It is not required to take particular preparation except the desire to get up at dawn and patience required in search of animals. Note that the game drives will be held during the coolest hours of the day (sunrise and sunset), when animals are easier to spot.

Being self-driven, however, we may decide to stop on a scene for as long as possible, always following the rules of the park. The safaris are conducted in open jeeps equipped for the safari.

The boat safari on the Shire River in Liwonde National Park is an exciting experience in the heart of Africa. Here the boat safari is not to be missed. Besides us, there will be a further professional guide who will accompany us for the duration of the safari to better enjoy the close contact with nature. The experience is very interesting especially for close point of view that you can enjoy boating; observing animals during their daily activity on the banks of the river is really a privilege for photography enthusiasts!

Photographers during the safari will always be permitted to bring their own camera equipment. The guides will aim first to position the vehicle in the best position, where safety and security allows. Inside the park the jeeps/vehicles will NOT communicate by radio with each other, to avoid the crowd on an animal and thus preserve the peace.

Then the jeeps/vehicles must be in the right place at the right time to see what you want; we prefer that a sanctuary of nature as Liwonde National Park preserve this spirit of adventure that so characterizes it.

Important information: in parks within the camping, lodging area will be asked to sign a disclaimer of responsibility required to access to the place.



AFRICAW/LDTRUCK





Voluntourism - experience in Malani Learn from the community of young people Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malani petu safaris and villages













## TRAVEL PHILOSOPHY

We call our trips, "expeditions", a word which seems to better encompass the spirit of adventure and discovery of wild places, the capacity of necessary adaptability and the desire of sharing this experience with others. Our programs are carefully prepared and are born from our personal experiences over the years of the places where we spend most of the year. This allows us to share the knowledge of the environment and local communities to whoever wishes to experience an adventure rather than an organized trip.

AFRICAW*ILD*TRUCK

During our expeditions, we like to improvise, a ballgame in a small out-of-the-way village or take a break to taste the local cuisine, or stop to meander through the colorful stands of fruits and vegetables in an outdoor marketplace.

We don't travel with air conditioning observing Africa through closed windows, but we live breathing in the smells and even getting a little dirty from the red earth without thinking all day about how much further we're going, when will there be roads of asphalt or what will we eat for dinner that night.

We experience Africa smelling the atmosphere, photocophing the colors, experiencing the local fruit and vegetable markets, being surrounded by children on the road without prejudice.

People who travel with us are not just thinking about reaching a destination but about enjoying the infinite moments during the trip to appreciate the spectacular sights of Africa even when we stop and there is nothing to do.

"Doing nothing" transforms your sense of hearing into listening and your sense of watching into seeing.

We prefer to "lose" time in order to better appreciate the wonders of Africa.

We don't appreciate those who always want to know "what can we do for fun", what activities or hobbies, when there really is nothing to do but wait for the sunset or for a lion to yawn: Africa has a different rhythm of life.

We don't appreciate those who travels with their entire house in their suitcase and who wants to find all the comforts of home on the road; stress must stay at the airport because it does not fit with this continent.

Who are appalled and shocked at a local food dish or who cry because there's no hot water need not apply; these are luxuries we give up in respect for the communities of a Continent that suffers poverty and underdevelopment.

We don't appreciate those who do not have respect for animals or nature, who waste water, energy and resources without environmental respect, who does not ask for help and does not give help and who does not take care of our equipment.

This is our philosophy: think like us and you will be rewarded.





# TRAVEL PROGRAM

### DAY I CHILEKA AIRPORT - MULANJE FOREST RESERVE, BASE AFRICAWILDTRUCK - 90 KM

Arrival in Blantyre, Malawi's second city. Do customs formalities. Meeting with the Africa Wild Truck staff. We will reach the massive Mulanje, the spectacle of the tea plantations and the base of Africa Wild Truck. The hills are like endless expanses and bright green leaves with only the red space of the labyrinthine routes through the plantation. Overnight in old colonial house, set in the plantations. Full board.

### DAY 2,3,4 MULANJE FOREST RESERVE, BASE AFRICAWILDTRUCK

We will dedicate three days to the deeper understanding of Malawi's culture through a short course organized by Chichewa AROUND AWT. Chichewa is the local language spoken throughout Malawi and beyond the borders. There will be the opportunity to spend time with some staff member AfricaWildtruck and teach some subject that can be useful and fun. This project can be achieved through sport and / or the construction of objects with the use of recycled materials such as plastic or even mini-cooking courses, to learn some recipes more, motivating individuals to a positive professional growth, collaborating to develop AROUND AWT. Overnight in old colonial house, set in the plantations. Full board.

### DAY 5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 BASE AFRICAWILDTRUCK - MULANJE 30 KM

We will move at one of the centers where we will be guests, for about ten days, at FOMO (Friends of Mulanje Orphans) association. The help that an international volunteer can give is to contribute positively to the creation of a solid foundation for primary education, so that children should welcome the idea of overcoming the challenges for secondary education, constantly motivating them to continue their studies and to commit themselves to their education. Volunteers can contribute in different subject areas, English, mathematics, the arts, sport, food education, ecology, to raise awareness of issues of common interest. The structure is simple, but complete and has a kitchen where chefs can help you cook the daily meals that are brought by the volunteers.

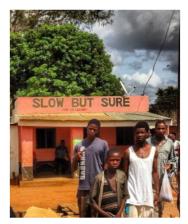
### DAY 13 MULANJE - MONKEY BAY - 300 KM

Traveling to Monkey Bay from Mulanje, to Mangochi and Lake Malawi, heading to a bay where we will find a relaxing afternoon of fishing eagles and fishing villagers with their cances plying on the waters of the third largest lake in Africa, one of the largest water reserves in the world. It is estimated that the endemic fish that inhabit the waters, cichlids, are around 1000 species. Overnight at the lodge on the lake. Dinner included.

### DAY 14, 15 GIORNO LAKE MALAWI, MONKEY BAY AREA

The fishing villagers are many, and in the morning it is easy to meet them in their canoes while returning from a night of fishing. Lake Malawi in this area is close to the Lake Malawi National Park: a real sea and provides livelihood to all villages settled on the banks of the lake. From here we can organize a boat trip to the island of Boadzulu, the lake Malawi National Park where we will be able to fully enjoy the wonder and the transparency of the lake. Women dry out the fish and preparing the stalls for sale. We will spend the day on Lake Malawi, in the villages and to devote to the knowledge of the business of the people. Overnight at the lodge at the lake. Full board













# TRAVEL PROGRAM

#### DAY 16 LAKE MALAWI - LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK 150 KM

In the morning wake up at sunrise and after breakfast we will reach the banks of the Shire River, where we will enter the Liwonde National Park and we will organize the famous boat safari to better spot and photograph the wildlife of the park: many elephants and crocodiles! The boats are motorized and will come accompanied by a guide who will maneuver the boat and, in addition to our presence, we will be adding a nature guide. The chances of sighting elephants are unique and often swim in front of us, across the river in search of food. In the afternoon, the second boat safari to increase the chances of more sightings. Accommodation in the middle of the park, in one of the most beautiful lodges / Malawi camps, overlooking the Shire River. Full board camping.

### DAY 17 LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK- MUA 250 KM

A few kilometers separate us from Mua, the oldest and original operational mission in Malawi.The centre was born with the support of the Ngoni tribe in 1903, at the request of two French White Fathers, an order which was born in Algeria. Father Boucher, anthropologist and missionary, started a center of culture and art called Kungoni ("meaning, Waterfall, because it sits near a waterfall") and the Museum of Chamare, named after Chapmartin, French father who founded the school of carpentry, still appreciated around the area. At Mua they preserve the rich cultural heritage of Malawi and have collected about 400 of the 10,000 (yes, we wrote well, ten thousand!) Masks of the Gule Wamkulu, secret ceremony of the majority ethnic Malawian group: the Chewa. Since a few years the Gule Wamkulu became a World Heritage Site, protected by UNESCO. Overnight in bungalows equipped at the mission. Full board.

### DAY 18 MUA - CHILEKA AIRPORT, BLANTYRE 300 KM

Return to Blantyre through the fertile highlands of the Rift Valley; Transfer to airport for international departure flight.

\* The current times are estimates calculated on flight plans provided by the airlines by the year 2016. If the route changes then these could be varied.

# EXTENSIONS

- LAKE MALAWI
- INDIAN OCEAN
- NTCHISI FOREST
- MULANJE, AWT BASE



## **TO KNOW**

the expedition may be modified on site and in any moment due to technical, organizational or safety reasons without upsetting the initial plan.







www.africawildtruck.com | info@africawildtruck.com I +265995941542

voluntourism - experience in Malawi Learn from the community of Mulanje, share knowledge, know safaris and villages



# **ATTENDANCE FEE: 1790 USD**

inclusive of VAT 16,5%, Tourism Levy 1%

PARTECIPANTS: MINIMUM 2

## **THE FEE INCLUDES**

- 18 days with Africa Wild Truck logistic and support

- English speaking guides authorized by Minister of Tourism Transfer from Chileka to Mulanje AWT base- 90 km 4 nights at Africa Wild Truck base, in *Full board* Basic Chichewa and local culture course (AROUND AWT) Transfer from Mulanje base to F.O.M.O.- 30 km
- 8 nights at F.O.M.O.

- Transfer from Mulanje to Malawi lake, Monkey bay 300 km 3 nights in lodge on lake Malawi in *Full board* Transfer from Malawi Lake to Liwonde national park 150 km 1 night at *Mvuu camp in camping*, in Liwonde national park in *full board* Transfer from Liwonde national park to Mua mission 250 km 1 night at Mua, *Kungoni Hostel* in *Full board* Transfer from Mua to Blanture pincent 200 km

- Transfer from Mua to Blantyre airport 300 km
- taxes and insurances
- national park entry fees
- 2 safari into Liwonde national park entry fee at Kungoni Museum
- all overnights as to program meals where indicated Full board
- 50 US dollars that AWT entirely donates to AROUND AWT (see page 11)
- VAT (16,5%), TOURISM LEVY (1%)

## THE FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Flights
- Malawi Visa (75US\$);
- Euroassistance/Globy or similar travel insurance (cancellation, luggage, health insurance highly advisable it is possible to stipulate it with the above cited agency or online – write to us, we will help you to find the best solution!)
- optional excursions not mentioned
- Drinks
- Meals not included any possible personal expense
- tips
- anything not expressely specified under "The fee includes"

## **ATTENDANCE MODE**

#### Attendance fee is of 1.790USD

BOOK

Attendance fee deposit is of 1000 €.

The rest of the fee can be paid in different modes that will be definied on the moment of registration, i.e.:

- Ι. With bank transfer. At the time of booking we will send you all details and the procedure to pay on Africa Wild Truck's account in Malawi.
- 2. With VISA credit card. Directly on your arrive in Malawi, at Africa Wild Truck's office.
- 3. With PAYPAL on AWT Paypal account.
- 4. With CASH, on your arrival in Malawi, at Africa Wild Truck's office, that has a regular license and governement authorization to accept any currency (€, US\$, £, Rand, etc..)

In case of travel quit, the amount paid will be refunded in case of participant replacement; in case it is not possible to replace the participant the amount paid will not be given back if travel insurance hasn't been stipulated; read our enclosed "Terms and



AFRICAW*ILD*TRUCK

Contact info@africawildtruck.com to book or to ask informations.



© Copyright AFRICAWILDTRUCK Ltd. ADVENTURE & PHOTO TRAVEL TOUR OPERATOR www.africawildtruck.com | info@africawildtruck.com | +265995941542

# **TRAVEL ADVICES**



### HEALTH

No obligation to vaccination. Write to us to have more information!

### We recommend these vaccines:

- tetanus
- typhoid fever
- hepatitis A and B

Concerning malaria, disease transmitted by the bite of the female Anopheles mosquito, its prevention is accomplished, first of all, with a mechanic prevention i.e. avoiding getting stung, following these rules:

- sleeping under mosquito tents
- using insecticide to get rid of possible mosquitos
- after sunset, when mosquitos are more active, avoiding leaving parts of the body uncovered, wearing light-colored long trousers and long-

sleeve shirts, because dark colors attract mosquitos and spraying parts of the body uncovered with Autan Extreme For the use of any possible antimalarial drugs we suggest that you consult your Public Health Service; health norms change very rapidly.

## **TRAVEL MEDICAL KIT**

We suggest that you take with you a small supply of these medicines:

- analgesics/fever reducers: acetylsalicylic acid and nimesulide
- antibiotics like ciproxin or amoxicillin or clavulanic acid
- antimalarials: anyway carry with you 2 packs of Lariam for emergency cases
- antidiarrheals: loperamide or kaolin in case of symptoms (to use only if really necessary!)
- rehydration salts: in case of fluid leaks
- against car or air sickness: a pack of pills or chewing-gums
- antihistamines: in case of allergic reactions
- scissors, tweezers and thermometer
- suntan cream
- insecticides (like Autan Extreme)

## LUGGAGE

Due to space and cohabitation reasons each person shall have just a big backpack (max 15 kg), with max. dimensions  $30\times40\times50$  cm (60 liters) besides a standard small bag with photopraphic equipment.

We recommend that you comply with the dimensions.

## **CLOTHES LAUNDRY**

It will be possible to wash your clothes where we will stop at least for 2 nights







Voluntourism - experience in Malani Learn from the community of young people Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malani petu safaris and villages

# EQUIPMENT

## Required documents and Visa

It is necessary to have a passport valid for at least 6 months after departure date with at least two free pages; for the entry in Malawi the Visa is obtainable under 75 Usd payment. <u>Write us</u> for more informations

## CLOTHING

comfortable walking shoes technical sandals easy to dry slippers for the shower windbreaker k-way sweatshirt/pile cotton/linen long trousers cotton/linen long sleeve shirts cotton T-shirts bathing suit panty belly pack for passport sunglasses cap

### **OTHER**

towel binoculars head torch-light penknife/water bottle camera/videocamera/spare batteries!! passport photocopy and 2 passport photos, just in case









Voluntourism - experience in Malani Learn from the community of young people Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malani bet safaris and villages

# We minimize the waste like electric energy and water using the truck's batteries to recharge the electric material and managing the reserves of water in an accurate way.

AFRICAW (LD TRUCK Adventure & Photo Travel Tour Operator

We recycle: nothing is thrown away in Africa! Where possible we deliver part of what we think is no longer useful, to those who need it. Besides we follow, where possible, this simple rule: what in Africa is harmful for the environment and cannot be recycled must be taken back home! Used batteries are a simple example.

We use small facilities that minimize negative impacts on the environment. We lean, where possible, on facilities built with local materials, as well as facilities that use renewable sources of energy like solar panels.

#### YOUR SUPPORT

Inform on your travel destination before leaving. Read books and consult tourism guides to collect information on culture, politics, geography, religion and traditions of the places you are going to visit. Learn a few basic words you'll need to communicate; sometimes a few words can make you get on touch more with the local culture. Inform on how to behave to respect customs and beliefs.

Dress in a respectful way. It's really easy to cause embarrassment or offend with an inappropriate clothing.

Buy local objects and use local services; this increases the local economy. But be careful what you buy: do not feed illegal trafficking or types of trade that are harmful to nature.

Pay a fair price for what you buy. Negotiating is always part of the local life; small sums of money mean big sums for a local family.

Ask permission before taking photographs and if you promise someone to send a photo, or a gift, please, keep your promise.

Avoid showing wealth and opulence especially in poor communities, where you are a guest.

Help local communities supporting development projects, rather than giving huge tips to individuals. Together we can develop new ideas. Take a look at the projects we support like <u>AROUND AWT</u>.

If you want to leave something, as for example giving material to a local school, or cloths to whom needs them, try to give them to an influential person. In this way the material will be divided as fairly as possible. Do not give money or medicines to individuals: we know projects to which we can give this type of material.

Never feed wild animals, especially within the parks: wild animals have not to depend on man for their subsistence.

Respect the environment: avoid leaving garbage around and if you smoke, please, do not leave your cigarette butts.

Once home think how you can help the development programs to help the country you've had the privilege to visit. Choose a Tour Operator that follows a travel philosophy that supports eco-tourism.

We support some social maintenance projects, through scientific popularization, writing guides and articles, photography, donations, our projects of <u>AROUND AWT</u>, visiting distant areas and so bringing economic development; if you know topics, groups, projects we don't know share them with us: we can support them and ensure that many people may be involved.



# **ECO TOURISM**

#### **AFRICA WILD TRUCK SUPPORT**

Africa Wild Truck travel philosophy has the aim to minimize the potential negative impacts that derive from tourism socially, economically and environmentally. We know that tourism has got a big potential of bring benefits in remote areas as economical growth, develop and conservation. Travel in a responsible way means follow a specific travel philosophy that we hope is useful to preserve the beauty and the culture of this marvelous Continent to future generations.

#### SOCIAL COMMITTMENT

We think that the contact with local people and cultures is one of the essential aspects of a travel. Comprehension, tolerance and mutual respect between different cultures often mean also simple rules to follow that will be exposed to the traveler before as well as during the travel. We encourage the traveler to have an open attitude and learn customs and traditions, as well as basic words in local language.

We live here and we give local people a job so that travelers, once more, may have the possibility to interact with African people and so that money is directed to the population.

We support some territorial and social maintenance projects, both directly, involving our travelers into donating to <u>AROUND AWT</u> and indirectly, visiting distant areas bringing economic development and suggesting to donate one's own contribution to projects as conservation or social projects

We are supporting associates and members of associations like <u>AITR</u>, Italian Association for Responsible Tourism and <u>TIES</u>, International Ecotourism Society.

We live here so we have the possibility to monitoring the political and social situation of our destinations, communicating, if possible, all relevant information to travelers before leaving.

#### ECONOMIC COMMITMENT

We lean on suppliers, products and services representing the option that is the most ethical available, even when it means paying a price reasonably higher compared to other options on the market.

We use accommodations which are chosen carefully, following an idea of conservation of the territory and sustainability of the travel, preferring positions in close contact with nature. Where possible we lean on small accommodations managed by local people that live on the territory, like us.

We don't lean on facilities or suppliers where we know there is exploitation of labor.

Where possible we stock up in the markets, buying fruit and vegetables directly from small producers, thereby supporting small economies.

We encourage travelers to buy local artifacts that do not harm the environment and that do not support illegal trafficking.

#### **ENVIROMENTAL COMMITTMENT**

• We use the Internet and e-mails as main means of communication; this minimizes the waste associated with the use of printed paper.

We use, where possible, recycled paper for all our printed releases. We support and donate part of our takings to organizations like <u>AROUND AWT</u> and other associations also through the programming of the travels/expeditions. We are members of the <u>TIES</u>, International Ecotourism Society and of <u>AITR</u>, Italian Association for Responsible Tourism.



Voluntourism - experience in Malani Learn from the community of young people Mulanje, share knowledge, know Malawi petu safaris and villages

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#### ноw то воок

- Having confirmed availability, a 20% DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED TO CONFIRM YOUR BOOKING. Once we receive proof of payment together with your completed *Booking Form*, your booking is confirmed and accepted by us.
- UNLESS PRIOR AND DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENTS, FINAL PAYMENT
  IS NORMALLY DUE 6 WEEKS BEFORE DATE OF DEPARTURE
- PAYMENT BY VISA AT OUR OFFICE ARE WELCOME (ONLY VISA, NO MASTERCARD OR OTHER CARDS). NOTE THAT OUR VISA IS CONNECTED WITH THE LOCAL ACCOUNT AND THE RATE OF EXCHANGE OF THE DAY IS FROM XE.COM. A 5% VISA CHARGE IS APPLICABLE WITHIN MALAWI
- If paying in Malawi Kwacha please note we use the HIGHER BUYING rate of commercial money bureaus.

#### **CANCELLATION/ REFUNDS**

 CANCELLATION MUST BE IN WRITING AND ARE ONLY EFFECTIVE ON RECEIPT OF WRITTEN NOTIFICATION. NOTE THAT you will be offered an alternative date of departure without penalty. IF THIS should not be possible, we FOLLOW OUR CANCELLATION POLICY

#### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

- IF NOTICE PRIOR TO 60 DAYS BEFORE DAY OF DEPARTURE 20%
  FORFEITED.
- FROM 59 DAYS TO 28 DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE LESS 40%
- FROM 27 TO 14 DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE LESS 60%
- 100% LESS THAN 14 DAYS NOTICE

#### INSURANCE

A Travel insurance covering cancellation, curtailment and all medical expenses including air evacuation is compulsory for all clients traveling with AFRICAWILDTRUCK. It is under traveller's responsibility to make sure that the insurance covers travel activities (planned or voluntary) and all traveler's needs. Some travel activities of a dangerous nature (eg, diving, horseback riding, biking, etc ...) bring with them the risks to the health of the traveler or even death. It is responsibility of the traveller to be familiar with these activities and accept the risks that may arise from their practice, as well as make sure your travel insurance policy covers the practice of these activities. The traveller is required to have read and to carry while traveling the insurance policy.

#### HEALTH

While being able to give guidance on the obligations of vaccinations, we are not doctors. It is responsibility of the traveler to make sure you have detailed advice from the medical side. AFRICAWILDTRUCK cannot be held responsible for any damages or problems arising from this failure. Travelers with health problems, pregnant women or those who have just returned from a trip in other countries need to carefully control the obligations and comply with the instructions of your doctor. Medical expenses incurred for any admissions or check-ups are the responsibility of the traveler.

#### **OBLIGATIONS OF TRAVELERS**

It is responsibility of each traveler be provided with an individual passport for all the countries visited, as well as tourist and transit visas and health certificates that may be required. They must also follow the rules of prudence and diligence, all the information supplied by the organizer, as well as regulations and administrative or legislative provisions relating to the country or countries visited. The participants are called upon to answer for all damages that the organizer may suffer as a result of their failure to fulfill obligations above. The traveler must provide the organizer with all the documents, information and evidence in its possession relevant to the exercise of the right of subrogation against third parties responsible for the damage and is responsible to the organizer of the injury caused to the right of subrogation. The traveler must notify the organizer in writing, at the time of booking, any possible special needs (eg vegetarian meals) that may be the subject of specific agreements on the travel arrangements provided that it is possible to implement.

AFRICAW (LD TRUCK Adventure & Photo Travel Tour Operator

#### BAGGAGE

WEEN

For reasons of space and coexistence, the traveler can have only one big backpack up to 15 kg with maximum dimensions of  $30 \times 40 \times 50$  cm beyond the classic handbag with camera equipment. We recommend that to respect the dimensions. In case of excess weight and size could be a fee of € 50 per kg.

#### RESPONSABILITY

Neither AFRICAWILDTRUCK (herein called "the company") nor any person acting for, through or on behalf of the company shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the foregoing shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in it's brochure / website or any other literature, late or non-confirmation or acceptance of bookings, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, injury or death, whether occasioned by negligence or not.

In addition the company shall have the right at any time at it's discretion to cancel any tour or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route or time should any cause in the opinion of the company make it necessary to do so, and shall not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from such cancellation or alteration.

#### DATES

Travel dates may be subject to minor changes at any time. The dates indicated on the website are subject to change <u>www.africawildtruck.com</u> that will be communicated as early as possible.

#### PICTURES

All the images collected during the trip from AFRICAWILDTRUCK in the form of photograph or video may be used by AFRICAWILDTRUCK marketing or promotional purposes for the company, including type material printed, video, or internet.

#### **TRAVEL PHILOSOPHY**

Before you book a trip with us, you must have read and accepted our *Travel philosophy*. During our expeditions there is a need to carry a good deal of flexibility. The routes may be changed on site without compromising the success of the trip, in fact, they should be considered as an indication of our intentions, rather than actual obligations of the contract. The weather conditions, as well as local events, may sometimes cause changes in itinerary, overnight stays, and transport. We accept your reservation knowing that you have understood the peculiarity of these trips, which may include the inconvenience and discomfort. Refunds will not be given for any unused services.

