

# Arrival & Directions



## KAINGU SAFARI LODGE:

15°17'49.8" SOUTH, 025°58'39.8" EAST (all GPS coordinates in degrees, minutes, seconds)

**DO NOT FOLLOW ROUTE SUGGESTED BY GOOGLE MAPS  
or Tracks4Africa!**

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## By Air:

Fly to Chunga Airstrip in the Kafue National Park. Transfer to Lodge via the Spinal road and boat across the Kafue River. This is a spectacular way to start your experience at Kaingu.

Flight time from Lusaka/Livingstone: 50-70 minutes

Transfer time: 1 hour game drive from airfield to Kaingu harbour, then a 10 minute boat ride across the Kafue River minutes. Total travelling time about 2 ½ hours (indication of cost: ±\$40 per person)

Chunga Airstrip: S15°03'15.1" E025°59'08.1" (Chunga airstrip is the preferred option as it is an all-weather strip and the transfer to the lodge is through the National Park. Enquire about flights with us or your travel agent.)

## By Road - Transfer:

Transfers by car from Lusaka or Livingstone to the lodge can be organized by KaingU. Please see rates on our Rate sheet or enquire.

- a) Arranged transfers by car: Pick up from any location in Lusaka or Livingstone to our carpark in the Kafue National Park, boat across the Kafue River.

Transfer time by car from Lusaka to the Kafue National Park entrance gate is 2 hours and onward to KaingU carpark 2½ hours, then a spectacular 10 minute boat ride across the Kafue River.

Total travelling time about 4 ¾ hours (indication of cost: ±\$390 per vehicle)

Recommended departure time from Lusaka is no later than 12:00; later departures will take route on the eastern side of the river and not boat across the river as park entrance gates close at 18:00; departures later than 14:00 are not recommended (travelling in the dark on main roads can be dangerous with unpredictable human, car & animal crossings).

Transfer time by car from Livingstone to KaingU carpark: 7-8 hours, then a spectacular 10 minute boat ride across the Kafue River.

Total travelling time about ±8 hours (indication of cost: ±\$700 per vehicle)

- b) Transfers by Intercity-bus: at the Lusaka Intercity bus terminus, book a coach e.g. 'Shalom' or 'Mazhandu Family Bus Service' on the previous day of departure, book the earliest departure time available, around 8 am, direction Mongu. Ask the bus driver to exit at Hook Bridge, here pick up and transfer by KaingU via the Spinal road through the KNP and boat across Kafue River. Transfer time coach from Lusaka to Hook Bridge: 3 hours, then game drive transfer from Hook Bridge to KaingU carpark: 1 ½ hours, then a ten minute boat ride across the Kafue River. Total travelling time about 4 ¾ hours (indication of cost: ±\$30 per person).
- Please note:** *While this is an affordable option, it is not for the light-hearted, buses are comfortable but have no facilities and mostly overspeed. It is not our recommended way of arrival.*

## By Road – Self Drive

The Lodge can be accessed in the dry season with a 2 WD vehicle but the vehicle must have a high ground clearance. The use of sedan cars is not recommended but can be done with care.

**Do NOT follow Google Maps!**

### A) Directions from Lusaka via the Spinal Road:

Travelling time: about 4 ½ hours.

**Attention:** *You will arrive about 500 meter north and on the **opposite** side of the river to our Lodge; there is no pontoon or bridge but you can park your car safely at our car park at the harbour (therefore it is not possible to use this route if you are coming to our private camp-site with a roof top tent and lots of camping equipment). Please use our solar powered radio in the carpark to call through to the Lodge, and someone will be there to pick you up within 10 minutes.*

*Before taking this route kindly contact us with an estimated time of arrival so our kitchen knows whether to include you for lunch.*

*Your ETA must **not be after 5pm** as boating in the dark is not advisable or even possible.*

*Kindly note that in the interim you will not find the Spinal Road on most maps and only on the latest version of 'Tracks 4 Africa'.*

- Make sure to refuel before you leave Lusaka, there are possibilities to re-fuel are at Nangoma Mission or Mumbwa.
- From Lumumba Road in the Lusaka CBD, take the Great West Road towards Mongu – this is the "Mumbwa Road" (M9).
- 151km from Lusaka, you reach the Mumbwa turn-off. If necessary refuel at the junction or go into the town to refuel, otherwise bypass it and continue on the M9. A further 30km on you will pass through the Nalusanga Gate at the entrance of the Kafue National Park.
- 220km from Lusaka, you go past the Itezhi Tezhi turnoff, a further 60km, go past Mukambi Lodge and over the Hook Bridge, which crosses over the Kafue River.
- Continue 6.3km on from this bridge to the second turnoff to Chunga, which is signposted as "Chunga 21km". Here there is an entrance gate where you can pay your national park entry fees, or explain you are going to Kaingu Lodge and are going to be paying park fees at the lodge.
- Turn left at this turnoff towards Chunga and travel on the gravel road for 14.3km to a major turnoff. Here you will see a large green sign marked "Spinal Road, Ngoma 166km, Musa Gate 170km".
- Take the road to the right marked as above (Ngoma & Musa) to proceed south into the Park. If you find yourself at Chunga (ZAWA Scout Post), turn around and head back the way you came and turn left at the turnoff.
- Travel 32.7km down this road (known as the Spinal Road) to the Kaingu sign on the left (GPS: S15°16'30.8" E25°58'37.9"). Turn left off the road at the sign for Kaingu Safari Lodge and drive along the track for 700m to the carpark where you will see our game drive vehicles. If you arrive ahead of time there is a solar powered radio in the carpark and, if you call through to the Lodge, someone will be there to pick you up within 10 minutes. If you do not want to be on a deadline and perhaps want to stop while going through the park then please tell us and that way we will wait for your radio call and not have someone waiting for you.
- The boat trip across to the lodge takes 10-15 minutes and is free of charge.

**Please note: the speed limit in the National Park is 40km/hr, the road is not well signposted and there are sudden bends and drifts that can catch the unwary or those travelling too fast. There have already been a accidents (including one fatality) on this road due to people getting caught out by sudden bends or animals on the road.**

**For a few days in the raining season, the Shishamba and Luansanza bridges that you have to cross when on the Spinal road could suddenly be flooded. Do NOT cross bridges when the small bollards on the sides of the bridges are not visible!**

## **B) Directions from Lusaka via the Itezhi Tezhi Road:**

Travelling time about 5 ½ to 6 hours

- Make sure to refuel before you leave Lusaka, there are possibilities to re-fuel are at Nangoma Mission or Mumbwa.
- From Lumumba Road in the Lusaka CBD, take the Great West Road towards Mongu – this is the “Mumbwa Road” (M9).
- 151km from Lusaka, you reach the Mumbwa turn-off. If necessary, refuel at the junction or go into the town to refuel otherwise bypass it and continue on the M9. A further 30km on you will pass through the Nalusanga Gate at the entrance of the Kafue National Park.
- At the 220km mark of the M9 (GPS: S14°58'16.4" E26°27'04.4") turn left (south) onto the Itezhi-Tezhi road. *(Do not continue on M9 to turn left later on as recommended by google maps!)*
- After ±50km on this road, you reach the ZAWA Mweengwa Wildlife Check Point (GPS: S15°16'32.3" E26°14'56.7"). 3km further on from this point (GPS: S15°17'56.0" E26°14'09.2") turn right (West) at the KaingU Lodge sign.
- It is recommended not to travel faster than 30-35km per hour on the following bush tracks due to rocks and stumps in places close to the edge of the road.
- Travel 25km along a bush track to the next KaingU Lodge sign (GPS: S15°12'02.1" E026°04'18.6") and turn left (South). Continue on for ±18km, crossing the Mweengwa Pole Bridge and follow the signs into the KaingU Lodge camp.
- At the tsetse control point stop for 5 minutes. Tsetse flies will leave your vehicle since you have stopped moving and are standing in an open area. Then continue slowly the last few hundred meters into camp.

## **C) Self-drive directions from Livingstone**

Travelling time about 7-8 hours

(depending on current road conditions; make a break at Nanzhila, Choma or Itezhi Tezhi)

*Do not attempt without lots of fuel, a high clearance 4x4 with low range and a sense of adventure and humour! Be aware that before June the route through the park might be impassable or very very challenging.*

- From Livingstone, take the T1 towards Lusaka.
- At Kalomo town (124km) (GPS: S17°01'45.6" E026°29'24.7") turn northwards towards the Dundumwense entrance gate of the Kafue National Park. This is ±70km from Kalomo.  
Note!! Re-fuel at Kalomo as this is the last reliable fuel stop!
- From Dundumwenzi, take the new two lane gravel road heading north towards Itezhi Tezhi. You will travel along the edge of the National park and the Nanzhila Plains to Musa entrance gate. Ask for information on specific directions and conditions at the entrance gate to the Park.
- **From here there are three Options:**
  - **C 1) from Musa entrance gate via Itezhi-Tezhi road:**
    - At the junction of the new road onto 'Lakeside Drive' head east (right) and exit the park through

Musa gate, drive to Itezhi-Tezhi, passing the Musungwa and New Kalala Lodges en-route (±22km).

- From Itezhi-Tezhi (*do not follow recommended route by google!*) travel north, another two options:
  - a) May to November only: for ±40km to the “Old Palm Lodge” sign and turn left (west) onto the bush track. Proceed 23.1km to the T-junction (onto the ‘River Road’) and turn right (north). Continue for 11.5km to junction and the “KaingU Lodge” and “Kantunta” signs. Turn left and continue for ±5km to KaingU Lodge.
  - b) for ±60km to the Kaingu Safari Lodge sign (GPS: S15°17’56.0” E26°14’09.2”) and turn left (west) onto the bush track. Proceed to the next KaingU Lodge sign ±25km further on (GPS: S15°12’02.1” E026°04’18.6”) and turn left (south). Continue on for ±18km, crossing the Mweengwa Pole Bridge and follow the signs into the KaingU Safari Lodge camp.

### ➤ **C 2) from Musa entrance gate via Itezhi-Tezhi and the River Road**

*For 4x4’s only and only in the dry season (May to November) is this an alternative route through the villages and bush leading directly to the KaingU Lodge camp.*

- At the junction of the new road onto ‘Lakeside Drive’ head east (right) and exit the park through Musa gate, drive to Itezhi-Tezhi, passing the Musungwa and New Kalala Lodges en-route (±22km).
- From Itezhi-Tezhi (*do not follow recommended route by google!*) travel ±10km to Kanzwa; a village comprising a couple of shops on the roadside.
- ±3km past Kanzwa, turn left (West) at the Bushinga School/KaingU Lodge signs (GPS: S15°36’00.3” E26°05’11.2”).
- Follow the most well used track and the KaingU Lodge signs for ±45km to KaingU Safari Lodge, asking for directions en-route. Note: tracks slightly change over the season, do not attempt this route without ‘Tracks 4 Africa’ (GPS map) to which you can refer to. Have fun!!

**NB: If you use Tracks4Africa, then it will try to route you off the D769 well before the junction described above (31km from Itezhi). Do not take this route as it is a very bad road and people get stuck on it even in the dry season!**

### ➤ **C 3) from just before Musa entrance gate via the Spinal Road to KaingU harbour in the Kafue National Park**

*Attention: You will arrive about 500 meter north and on the **opposite** side of the river to our Lodge; there is no pontoon but you can park your car safely at our car park at the harbour (therefore it is not possible to use this route if you are coming to our private camp-site with a roof top tent and lots of camping equipment). Please use our solar powered radio in the carpark to call through to the Lodge, and someone will be there to pick you up within 10 minutes.*

*The boat trip across to the lodge takes 10-15 minutes and is free of charge.*

*Before taking this route kindly contact us with an estimated time of arrival so our kitchen knows whether to include you for lunch.*

*Your ETA must **not be after 5pm** as boating in the dark is not advisable.*

*Kindly note that in the interim you will not find the Spinal Road on most maps and only on the latest version of ‘Tracks 4 Africa’.*

- At the junction of the new road onto ‘Lakeside Drive’ head west (left) and follow the road heading west, passing the sign for Hippo Camp and Konkamoya.
- From the lake it is about 130km to our turn off (GPS 15°16’30.8”S ; 25°58’37.9”E).
- Follow the ‘spinal road’ heading north all the way around the lake and then following the river until you have reached our turn off on your right; there is a little sign for Kaingu;
- Turn right and follow the bushtrack for 700 meter to our carpark & harbour (GPS 15°16’31.05”S ; 25°58’37.23”E) where you will meet our guide and cross to the lodge by boat

## **D) Self-drive directions from Choma through Namwala**

*Attention: For 4x4s with high clearance only and only in the dry season (June-October); do not attempt this route without ‘Tracks 4 Africa’ (GPS map); involves a pontoon crossing;*

- follow the road signs from Choma to Namwala; this road is tarred and in good condition
- after this you have to cover a heavily washed out track to the pontoon (±10km; about 1hour drive);

- from the pontoon use the most used track heading West to Itezhi Tezhi town
- continue to Kaingu via the Itezhi Tezhi Road or the River Road or via the Spinal Road (details under “C1 to C3”)

## **Map Kafue National Park**

