THITAKA
RIVER LODGE

BY
NEWMARK





THITAKA RIVER LODGE

Thitaka River Lodge is a luxury tented camp, set along the Kwando River in Namibia's Bwabwata National Park, in the Zambezi Region, known for the nearby elephant migration corridor and rich wildlife experiences.

Deep in the Bwabwata National Park, set in Namibia's vast and strikingly beautiful east, you will discover a place where the untamed environment evokes the thrill of adventure, where your curiosity is rewarded by the wonders of the wild and your senses are met with awe. This is where you will find Thitaka River Lodge—a luxury tented camp set along the Kwando River in the Zambezi Region.

Although remote, the setting is alive with wildlife, including four of the Big Five, and enriched by abundant water flow. Famously, large herds of elephants move along a nearby natural migration corridor, connecting vital habitats in Namibia, Botswana and Angola.

Set against seemingly endless skies, this unique African destination, where few have wandered, evokes a rare sense of both thrill and serenity. A rewarding, restorative journey into quiet remoteness awaits.





ACCOMMODATION

Set on elevated decks within the unfenced Bwabwatwa National Park, Thitaka River Lodges' luxury tented villas invite you to embrace refined living without leaving the wild. The crisp morning air, earthy aromas and distant wildlife calls set the scene as days unfold unhurriedly. Open-air living allows you to take in unforgettable moments of calm, from slow sunrise coffees as you scan the horizon to refreshing showers beneath the sky and afternoon naps cooled by the river breeze. Evenings are characterised by brilliant, starlit skies, providing a mesmerising backdrop for heartfelt conversation or quiet reflection.

LUXURY TENTED VILLA

The six Luxury Tented Villas are privately positioned along the banks of the Kwando River, nestled within the natural bush to offer complete tranquillity and uninterrupted views of the surrounding wilderness. Designed for comfort, each tent features elegant, nature-inspired finishes that blend seamlessly with its surroundings. A private deck invites guests to relax, soak up the serenity, and enjoy an intimate connection with the landscape and passing wildlife.

Each tent is 51 m² and accommodates two guests.



The Luxury Tented Villas feature:

- Private deck
- Minibar
- Coffee and tea station
- King-size bed or twin beds
- Air-conditioning
- Indoor and outdoor shower
- Hairdryer
- Safe



The Luxury Bush Tents feature:

- Private deck
- Kitchen (private chef catering is available)
- Minibar
- Coffee and tea station
- Lounge
- King-size bed or twin beds
- Air-conditioning
- Indoor and outdoor shower
- Outdoor bath
- Hairdryer
- Safe

LUXURY BUSH TENTED VILLA

Set deep within the bush for complete privacy, the Luxury Bush Tented Villa offers an immersive safari escape surrounded by nature. Featuring two separate en-suite bedrooms, it is ideal for families or small groups seeking space and seclusion. A private lounge, outdoor dining area, and multiple private decks create effortless indoor-outdoor living, while the peaceful setting allows guests to relax in the heart of the wilderness.

Each tent is 149 m², accommodates four guests, and is ideally suited to families and groups.









LUXURY PRIVATE VILLA TENTS

Characterised by spaciousness and exclusivity, the three Luxury Private Villa Tents overlook the Kwando River from a secluded position in the bush. Designed for unhurried safari living, each villa features a lounge, private dining area, plunge pool, and expansive outdoor decks, creating an intimate retreat where guests can enjoy exceptional wildlife viewing.

Each tent is 101 m² and accommodates two guests.









The Private Villa Tents feature:

- Private deck
- Private pool
- Minibar
- Coffee and tea station
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Air-conditioning
- King-size bed or twin beds
- Indoor
- Outdoor bath or shower
- Hairdryer
- Safe





The Family Tents feature:

- Private deck
- Minibar
- Coffee and tea station
- Airconditioning
- King-size bed or twin beds
- Indoor and outdoor shower
- Outdoor bath
- Hairdryers
- Safe

FAMILY TENTED VILLAS

Set along the elephant corridor, the three Family Tented Villas combine generous living spaces with the privacy of two separate en-suite bedrooms. A spacious shared lounge and private outdoor decks for each bedroom create a relaxed retreat, where families can reconnect while immersed in the beauty of the surrounding bush.

Each tent is 131 m² and accommodates four guests.





SERVICES & FACILITIES

- **Wi-Fi |** Throughout the lodge.
- **Welcome refreshment |** At the lodge, on arrival.
- **Large swimming pool |** Set in the shared leisure area.
- **Restaurant and bar |** Located in the shared leisure area.
- **Boma |** For special dining occasions.
- **Laundry |** At an additional cost.
- **Transfers |** At an additional cost.
- **Housekeeping |** Offered twice daily.
- **Curio shop |** Curios and safari apparel.
- **Generator |** Power backup at the lodge.



DINING AT THITAKA LODGE

Bwabwata National Park, Kongola, Zambezi Region, Namibia

Dining at Thitaka River Lodge invites you deeper into the setting, presenting local, farm-to-table ingredients in an understated manner, allowing quality, flavour and authenticity to lead.





DINING AT THITAKA RIVER LODGE

Stays at Thitaka River Lodge are inclusive of daily breakfasts, high teas and dinners.

Nature sets the cadence, and meals are not defined by routine but by the experience itself.

All ingredients are homegrown or locally sourced, ensuring freshness, nourishment, flavour and sustainability, as well as community support. At Thitaka River Lodge, the emphasis is on foods that comfort, surprise and bring people together. Warm hospitality is celebrated over formality.

Dining takes place in various locations, allowing you to enjoy the unique facets of your surroundings, from in-room meals for slow mornings to fire-side dinners, under the stars.

There is a significant focus on sharing-style dining experiences, making you feel at home.

Restaurant and bar

Local flavours are generously prepared and presented, ensuring that every meal leaves lingering memories.

Start the day with cold buffets or à la carte breakfast options, then gather for family-style platter lunches and dinners that typically feature roasts, salads, breads and grain salads, as well as a selection of plated desserts.

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Weather permitting, dinners are served in the boma.

Boma dinners

As night falls, the boma becomes the setting for special dinners, with a crackling fire and a truly memorable atmosphere.

Gather around under the starlit skies to enjoy fire-cooked meals, using the region's iconic braai wood. Dinners feature a range of meals using only local produce, free-range local beef and venison from the farm and surrounding area, as well as other memorable menu options.

Pool-deck dining

In the warmth of the day or on balmy evenings, pool-deck dining creates a relaxed, outdoor dining experience that can be enjoyed at lunch or dinner time.

At lunchtime, you are invited to select your favourites from a tapas-style menu, including classics like the Caesar salad and roasted camembert, as well as lighter, refreshing bites, such as popsicles and fruit salads.

For dinner, savour meals served from the restaurant as you unwind at the poolside.

In-room dining

Enjoy any of the breakfast, lunch or dinner options, including selections from the poolside menu, delivered straight to your room.

Safari-style sundowners

As the sun dips toward the horizon, the bar serves sundowners, featuring local ingredients and spirits, and carefully selected regional wines—a signature sunset experience overlooking the river or at the pool.





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SPA
AT THITAKA RIVER LODGE

Feel completely at ease as you embrace revitalisation at Thitaka River Lodge through soothing spa treatments.

SPA FACILITIES AT THITAKA RIVER LODGE

Indulge in every relaxing touchpoint at our spa—from the natural surroundings that evoke a sense of calm to our selection of herbal teas on arrival and every carefully considered detail of your treatment—and take in the serenity that weaves its way through our facilities.



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SUSTAINABILITY AT THITAKA RIVER LODGE

Thitaka River Lodge proves that luxury lies not in excess but in the balance between remoteness, refinement and reward.

By delivering world-class comfort amid the raw, untouched African wilderness, the lodge offers a guest experience of unmatched depth and distinction; the ultimate indulgence in the greater Zambezi Region.

Luxury in harmony with nature

Deep in Namibia's Zambezi Region, a wilderness characterised by silence, untouched landscapes and endless skies allows you to indulge in a luxurious experience while leaving a minimal impact on the land.

Here, you are invited to sit on your deck and take in the lush greenery and vast plains, with nothing other than nature itself surrounding you.

As night falls, the absence of air pollution reveals a sky dense with stars, offering unforgettable stargazing opportunities.

As a guest, you are intimately connected to the surrounding ecosystem, offering a firsthand glimpse into how every part of this environment has a place and a purpose.

At Thitaka River Lodge, remoteness transforms into reward.

Purpose-driven design and operational philosophies

The lodge has been thoughtfully integrated into the landscape, with every design element aligning with the lodge's principles and priorities, including:

- Elevated decks that protect vegetation and minimise the impact on the environment
- Sustainable water and energy systems
- A celebration of and respect for the region's fauna and flora
- A commitment to preserving local wildlife, ensuring it is not impacted by the presence of Thitaka River Lodge or guest visits
- Respect for and fair use of skills from local ethnic communities in the Zambezi Region
- Cuisine elements that reflect the lodge's farm-to-table principles and the use of local suppliers

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EXPERIENCES AT THITAKA RIVER LODGE

Create lasting memories during your visit, exploring the wild at ThitakaRiver Lodge.

Morning and evening game drives

Venture into Namibia's untouched wilderness with a sense of curiosity and expectancy.

What to expect:

Explore the vast wonders of eastern Namibia's natural landscapes, where riverine forests and a significant elephant corridor linking Botswana and Angola set the scene for twice-daily game drives. Here, four of the Big Five—namely elephant, buffalo, lion and leopard—along with other wildlife and a variety of bird species reveal themselves in an extraordinary wetland environment, inviting you to meaningful moments close to nature.

Daily schedule for summer (October - March):

05:00 Wake-up call | 05:30 Tea and coffee | 06:00 Safari drive departs | 09:00 Brunch | 14:30 Guided talk
15:00 Lunch | 16:00 Safari drive departs | 19:30 Safari drive returns | 20:00 Pre-dinner drinks | 20:30 Dinner

Daily schedule for winter (April - September):

05:45 Wake-up call | 06:00 Tea and coffee | 06:30 Safari drive departs | 09:30 Brunch | 14:00 Guided talk
14:30 Lunch | 15:30 Safari drive departs | 19:00 Safari drive returns | 19:30 Pre-dinner drinks | 20:00 Dinner

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Additional information:

Game drives are led by qualified guides.

Note: The daily schedule is adjusted seasonally according to lodge management's discretion and depending on weather-related changes. The months noted per season are merely an indication and may change without prior notice.

When the weather, water conditions and other factors allow, the morning game drive may be replaced with a river safari.

For more information on your Namibian safari, please speak to the friendly Thitaka River Lodge reception team or Newmark's reservations team.

River safaris

Meander along the Kwando River in quiet thrill and anticipation.

What to expect:

Drift along in an unhurried exploration of Namibia's lush natural setting along the Kwando River that winds through riverine forests, reed-lined banks and seasonal floodplains, all rich in wildlife and birdlife. This gentle adventure allows you to absorb even the smallest wonders at a serene cadence, leading to moments of admiration and reflection.

Daily schedule:

River safaris only take place in the mornings in the place of a game drive when weather, water conditions and other factors allow.

The daily schedule is adjusted according to lodge management's discretion and depending on seasonal and weather-related changes, among other factors. This may change without prior notice.

Additional information:

River safaris are led by qualified guides.

For more information on the river safaris, please speak to the friendly Thitaka River Lodge reception team or Newmark's reservations team.

Walking safaris

Set within the wooded landscapes and ravines of Bwabwata National Park, this region offers a very different experience to the open plains typically associated with safari. It forms part of the vast Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area, spanning Namibia, Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, where wildlife moves freely across borders.

Morning walks begin at sunrise, usually around 06:00, and last between two to three hours. Led by an expert guide and accompanied by an armed ranger, these walks offer a more intimate way to experience the bush.

The focus is on the finer details often missed from a vehicle; reading animal tracks, observing birdlife, and learning about local plant species and their traditional uses.

While sightings of big game such as elephant and buffalo are possible, they are never guaranteed. Antelope species including impala, lechwe, kudu, sable, and roan may also be encountered in the floodplains and wooded areas.

The pace is unhurried. Walks are quiet and immersive, with frequent stops to listen, observe, and fully take in the surroundings rather than moving quickly from one point to the next.

What sets this experience apart is its sense of space and authenticity; a true bush encounter, far from crowds, vehicles, and the presence of other lodges in this part of the park.



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The journey to Thitaka River Lodge carries you further from the familiar and closer to the untouched.

As this unforgettable sojourn unfolds, you will be drawn into the depths of the wild, stirring a sense of wonder, while meeting you with refined hospitality and restorative comfort.

CHECK IN: 14:00 | CHECK OUT: 11:00



ADDRESS

Thitaka River Lodge, Bwabwata East, Bwabwata National Park,
Zambezi Region, Namibia

GPS: 17°45'41.3"S 23°20'52.3"E
PHONE: +27 21 427 5901
EMAIL: reservations@newmarkhotels.com

FAQs

What is Thitaka River Lodge's child policy?

• Regrettably, children under the age of 12 are not permitted at Thitaka River Lodge due to safety regulations.
• Guests must be 12 years or older to participate in game drives or river safaris.

What routes can I take to get to Thitaka River Lodge?

Botswana Route, from Kasane International Airport

• Airport: Kasane International Airport • Airline: Airlink
• Distance from airport to lodge: Approximately 230 km, including a 3 km drive from the main turnoff to the lodge
• Travel time from airport to lodge: Approximately three hours, including border crossing and a five- to seven-minute drive from the main turnoff to the lodge
• Border crossing: Botswana into Namibia
• Road condition: Well maintained, all tarred up to the main, signposted turnoff to the lodge where there is a short gravel road (no four-wheel drive vehicle required)
• Key highlight: Drive through Chobe National Park

Namibia Route, from Katima Mulilo Airport

• Airport: Katima Mulilo Airport (direct flights from Windhoek) • Airline: Airlink
• Distance from airport to lodge: 90 km, including a 3 km drive from the main turnoff to the lodge
• Travel time from airport to lodge: Approximately one hour, including a five- to seven-minute drive from the main turnoff to the lodge
• Road condition: Well maintained, all tarred up to the main, signposted turnoff to the lodge where there is a short gravel road (no four-wheel drive vehicle required)

Is Thitaka River Lodge easily accessible by car?

• Yes, the roads are well maintained. There is no need for a four-wheel drive vehicle.

Does Thitaka River Lodge provide airport transfers?

• Yes, from either Kasane International Airport or Katima Mulilo Airport, by prior arrangement and at an additional cost. Please contact **reservations@newmarkhotels.com.**

Are game drives and river safaris included in the accommodation rate?

Yes, stays at Thitaka River Lodge include two game excursions per day with a knowledgeable field guide and expert tracker. These outings will either be by safari vehicle or boat, depending on the day and circumstances, including river conditions and weather. Please note that river safaris only take place in the mornings, when conditions are suitable. Times may vary by season.

Are park entry fees applicable for access to Bwabwata National Park?

As per regulations set out by Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, park fees are charged per person, per park, and are valid for a 24-hour period from the time of entry. Fees apply to each day of entry for both visitors and vehicles, with a minimum charge of one 24-hour period and subsequent charges calculated in additional 24-hour units. All park fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Fees (*subject to change*):

- Local residents: R30 per person, per day
- SADC nationals: R70 per person, per day
- International visitors: R100 per person, per day
- Vehicles: R50 per vehicle, per day

What should I pack for my stay at Thitaka River Lodge?

To ensure that you have a comfortable and memorable safari experience, we recommend that you include the following items when packing:

- Light-weight clothing
- Swimwear
- Warm clothing, including items such as a jacket, scarf and beanie (seasonal dependent)
- Waterproof jacket
- Hat
- Sunblock
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Small flashlight
- Binoculars
- Camera

Don't hesitate to reach out to us if you need further info.

Should I take precautions against malaria?

Thitaka River Lodge falls in a malaria zone, though the climate and season should be taken into account. Summer season travellers might need to be more wary, therefore, consult your local medical practitioner for their professional advice.

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