

# Arrival & Directions



## KAINGU SAFARI LODGE:

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

## 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

*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 or Intercity-bus from Lusaka to the lodge can be organized by Kaingu.

- a) Transfers by car: Pick up from any location in Lusaka to our carpark in the Kafue National Park, boat across the Kafue River (see rates on our Rate sheet).  
Transfer time car from Lusaka to Kaingu carpark: 4 ½ hours, than boat across the Kafue River: 10 minutes; Total travelling time about 4 ¾ hours.
- b) Transfers by Intercity-bus (coach e.g. 'Shalom' or 'Mazhandu Family Bus Service') from Lusaka Intercity bus terminus; direction Mongu; exit at Hook Bridge; 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, than transfer from Hook Bridge to Kaingu carpark: 1 ½ hours, than boat across the Kafue River: 10 minutes;  
Total travelling time about 4 ¾ hours.

## 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.

## Overview of arrival options for Selfdrivers (amongst others):

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### A. Directions from Lusaka via the new Spinal Road:

Travelling time: about 4 ½ hours.

*This is smoothest option but remember your car is on the other side of the river so you cannot use this route with a roof tent!*

*With the opening of the Spinal Road in the NP guests can also take this route and leave their vehicle in our car park in the Park and be transferred across the river by boat to the Lodge.*

***This option needs to be co-ordinated with the Lodge, and Park fees will apply on entrance and exit (currently payable at the lodge).***

*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, as the only possibilities to re-fuel are at Nangoma Mission or Mumbwa. And even then fuel availability is not always guaranteed.
- 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”
- 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” (and the sign for “Mufungata”).
- Take the road to the right marked as above (Ngoma & Musa / Mufungata) 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 (and animals) that can catch the unwary or those travelling too fast. There have already been a few minor accidents 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, as the only possibilities to re-fuel are at Nangoma Mission or Mumbwa. And even then fuel availability is not always guaranteed.
- 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, 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.
- 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/Puku Pans/Mufungata signs.
- 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 9-12 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, reasonable 4x4 driving skills 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 road to Ngoma, the southern HQ of the Kafue National Park. You will travel through the Nanzhila Plains along the “Cordon Road” (further west) or the Kalenje Road (eastern track) depending on the season and road conditions. Ask for information on specific directions and conditions at the entrance gate to the Park.
- **From here there are three Options:**

➤ **C.1. from Ngoma via Itezhi-Tezhi road**

- From Ngoma, proceed to Itezhi-Tezhi, passing the Musungwa and New Kalala Lodges en-route (±22km).
- From Itezhi-Tezhi, travel north 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 Ngoma 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.*

- From Ngoma, proceed to Itezhi-Tezhi, passing the Musungwa and New Kalala Lodges en-route (±22km).
- From Itezhi-Tezhi town centre (i.e. the new bus station and market) travel 31km up the Itezhi road (D769). At km31 turn left onto a track signed “HRH Chief Kaingu”.
- Follow this track for 10km to the village of Itumbi (Chief Kaingu's village). You will see the short cellular tower at the chief's palace. Continue straight through the village heading west for 900m until you reach a small complex of two large block built shops. Turn right, continue past the shops and take the main track heading due North.
- Follow the most well used track and the Kaingu Lodge signs for 27.5km to Kaingu Safari Lodge, asking for directions en-route. This section of track is in Tracks4Africa, but the myriad small tracks and junctions make navigation quite tricky.

**NB: If you follow Tracks4Africa from Itezhi Tezhi it will try to navigate you to the river road well before the Kaingu turn-off. Please do not take this road as it is very poor and has led to people being stuck even in the dry season. Follow the above directions and only resume relying on T4A when you reach Itumbi village.**

➤ **C.3. from Ngoma 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'.

- From Ngoma it is about 130km to our turn off (GPS 15°16'30.8"S ; 25°58'37.9"E) and car park
- From Ngoma, proceed North towards Lake Itezhi Tezhi
- Follow the road heading West around the lake, passing the sign for Hippo Camp,
- 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 "C.1. to C.3.")

## Map



