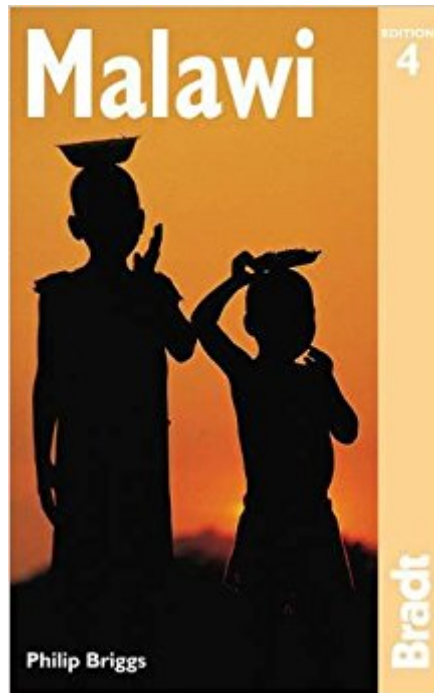




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Malawi, 4th: The Bradt Travel Guide



Synopsis

This is an invaluable guide for visitors to this most explorable, affordable, and tranquil of African countries, whether discovering little-visited mountains, forests and game reserves, or relaxing by the main attraction of Lake Malawi. Philip Briggs and his updater, Mary-Anne Bartlett, provide readers with advice on planning their itinerary, wildlife and bird species identification, conservation areas, national parks, and a detailed history of the country.Â Features include:Â *The best wildlife-viewing opportunities*Local travel networks, maps, and town plans*Focus on independent travelers' needs, including health and safety and local language*Exploring on and around Lake Malawi

Book Information

Series: Bradt Travel Guide

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Bradt Travel Guides; 4th edition (December 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1841621706

ISBN-13: 978-1841621708

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 5.4 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,679,283 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 inÂ Books > Travel > Africa > Malawi #3589 inÂ Books > Travel > Africa > General #24757 inÂ Books > Travel > Reference

Customer Reviews

"Briggs's information is up to date and reliable, and he comes across as an intelligent, courteous traveller who clearly enjoys the country." Times Literary Supplement

Malawi--"the land of the lake"--is a dream destination for any traveler. Lush vegetation spreads out from the calm shores of Lake Malawi, developing into rolling plateaux and massifs that are ripe for exploration. Nature lovers have no fewer than five national parks and four game reserves to explore, while adventurers can kayak off Cape Maclear, hike up Mount Mulanje and cross the wildlife-rich Nyika Plateau on horseback.Â From breathtaking sunsets over the lakes to the stunning birdlife and grunting hippos of Liwonde National Park, the hidden treasures of this English-speaking republic are revealed by Briggs and Bartlett. Prepare to be charmed by a country that lends itself perfectly to easy, independent travel.Â *Take a boat trip on Lake MalawiÂ *Sample fried caterpillars and sleep

in lake lodgesÂ *Check out Malawi's dynamic music sceneÂ *Explore Dedza, Elephant Marsh and other remote gemsÂ *Move from mazungu to bwenzi using the Chichewa language section

I was between voting 3 and 4 stars on this and have chosen 4 because it's still useful regardless of its faults. We spent over a month all over southern Malawi and consulted this regularly. The problem is that the phone numbers are out of date and some of the info is inaccurate but that's not the fault of the author since the area keeps changing so often. If you're going to Malawi you should definitely get these guides but make sure you purchase the newest version to get the most accurate info you can get. This is already outdated. While the info can be outdated, phone numbers incorrect, business hours incorrect, etc. The maps and suggestions are invaluable. I'd suggest getting ideas from this and then doing research in the area to make sure the hours or phone numbers are right. In other words, don't completely trust the business hours, phone numbers, or addresses but definitely trust this as a source of suggestions for attractions as well as travel tips. The businesses there change so often that you can't blame a book for inaccurate addresses, hours and numbers. While we were there in the course of a month two businesses moved locations, four changed hours, and many had canceled their phones or changed their numbers.

I lived in Blantyre for three months and relied heavily on this book. It has a wealth of information on day and week-long excursions, restaurants, city highlights, transportation, and even health concerns. Yes, many phone numbers are out of date, but you'll find that Malawians change their phone numbers pretty often, so it's not the book's fault. I admired the writer's tone and condensed writing style. Lastly, if you're looking at this page, you're probably planning a trip to Malawi. It's a welcoming, gorgeous, transformative place. Eat all the avocados and mandazi balls you can find!!

Our family actually has two of these. One resides in Malawi with a family member living there. He uses it constantly and it is an invaluable resource for the traveling ex-pat. We bought a second one to prepare for and take with us on a visit this year. We, too, used it constantly, and made continual use of the directions and recommendations. I think our journey would have been much less successful without it. We did not find anything that was out of date or inconsistent with the local reality, which is extremely important when traveling in a country with limited resources and infrastructure. We also loved the sections on history, culture, and wildlife. These are a real plus in this book. Our trip was somewhat off the beaten path and we learned an enormous amount about what we were seeing and doing from this book. I highly recommend it to anyone thinking about a trip

to Malawi. One additional feature is the online updates available at the Bradt website. We found these equally helpful and good companion material for the book.

There is a ton of good information in this book. If you are going to travel to Malawi it's a must have.

The book was for those people going into the tourist areas not the less traveled areas.

I think the book is mostly accurate. I think this was a good purchase....

Malawi is a small country by African standards, and has no high-profile star attractions. Few tourists visit more places than some beach resorts along the shores of its huge lake. Considering the above, the wealth of info on potential destinations included in this book is stunning. Not only is pretty much every sizeable town described, so are plenty of rural areas, notably obscure forest reserves, marshes and small lakes. The info on the country's wildlife and national parks is truly in-depth and very interesting. So is the background information on culture and history. Very good list of books recommended for further reading at the back. Also, all the practical details (with prices) on accommodation and transport options you might find in better-known series like Lonely Planet (which no longer publishes a separate Malawi guide). In fact, the only disadvantage of this book might just be that with all the recommendations, it might make you spend much longer in Malawi than you had originally planned! ;-)

We are lucky to have been travelling in 4 African countries covered by Bradt guidebooks from author Philip Briggs. As with his other guidebooks, Philip Briggs is a very dedicated writer, and we believe these guidebooks are excellent. The Malawi guide was adequate, and also covers some off the beaten track destinations in the country. We loved beautiful Malawi, its mountains, and of course the lake. Take this guide when travelling to Malawi!

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