

SHIWA NG'ANDU ESTATE

EST.1914 - ZAMBIA

“This corner of the Earth smiles upon me above all others.”



"In a remote corner of Africa stands a magnificent three story pink bricked mansion, with a tower in the center, a red tiled roof, and a line of elegant arches supporting a first floor terrace from which a Union Jack fluttered... Part Tuscan Manor, part English Ancestral Home... Something one might find in Surrey or Hampshire belonging to a Duke or a Lord"

'The Africa House'
by Christina Lamb



Welcome to Shiwa Ngandu

An aristocratic English Army Officer, Sir Stewart Gore-Browne, founded Shiwa Ngandu in the early 1900's.

A testament to one man's dream, dedication and tenacity he created a haven in the middle of the African Bush, a place he could truly call home. He returned home to England just at the outbreak of World War One, and saw active service while in Belgium before being stationed for the remainder of the war in Cologne. In 1921 he came back to Africa and his beloved Shiwa.

As building supply routes to Shiwa were via a three month journey from Ndola, Gore- Browne used Encyclopaedia Britannica and learnt how to hand mould and fire the 13 million bricks he needed to build his dream house. It was finally finished in 1945 and as a superb diarist and photographer, Gore-Browne faithfully recorded each step. His albums and diaries today remain as a testament not only to the progress of Shiwa, but also to the frustration and hardships of his life and those of the African People living here.

In 1927 he met and married 19 year old Lorna Grace Goldman. Taking her back to her African roots, she helped him found and instil community spirit among the local people. Together they built schools, a hospital and provided employment , an ethos that has been passed through generations and whose descendants still fully support today. However, Sir Stewart's political influence on the creation of modern day Zambia is without doubt comparable to the legacy of the estate he left behind.

Shiwa Ngandu and Gore-Browne hold a unique place in Zambia's history and was as such recognized by his long time friend and prodigy Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, Independent Zambia's first President who awarded Sir Stewart the medal of Grand Companion of Freedom and on his death in August 1967 he was honoured with a full state funeral. To this day he remains the only white man in Africa to have been recognised in this way





Shiwa Manor House

Sir Stewart's eldest daughter Lorna and her husband John Harvey took over and ran the ailing estate in 1955 until their untimely death in 1992. Lack of funding and difficult country economics saw Shiwa fall almost beyond repair until 1999 when Sir Stewart's eldest grandson, Charlie his wife Jo and two children Tom & Emma took it over and lovingly restored the farm and house to original grandeur. Today, the house, the library , estate and incredible archives are open for guests to visit.

Shiwa has four comfortable en-suite guest rooms, furnished with most of the original pieces from Gore-Browne's era creating a feeling of by gone times. Simple hardwood fittings with unique paintings and photographs decorate the walls and each one provides a story and memory to be recounted to inquisitive guests during afternoon tea or sundowners on the lake shore.

Meal times are an opportunity to sample the delicious farm produce and sit at the original dining room table that Gore-Browne frequented in full dress

whilst entertaining various dignitaries, from Zambian President's, European Royalty and friends from around the world.

At Shiwa House you are guaranteed a warm welcome from the Harvey's who pride themselves on imparting their knowledge of history and stories surrounding Shiwa and Zambia.







Impandala Farm House

Nestled in a heady grove of tall trees, 10 minutes drive from the main house, is Impandala House. This is the most beautiful of farm houses with dramatic views and originally built to house a pair of Scottish missionaries translating the bible from English to Bemba.

The house has four spacious and light bedrooms – two en-suite , a warm, hospitable lounge and dining room opening on to a typically colonial all round veranda that offers spectacular views down to the lake. Despite being a smaller version of the main house it commands its own impressive history and lays claim to being the location for Dr. Kenneth Kaunda's incarceration and the final signings of the Declaration of Independence of Zambia back in 1964.

The surroundings and gardens are regularly visited by game, making it a peaceful haven for bird spotters and is often referred to as a 'writers paradise' and those who wish to escape the stress of modern day living.







Activities on & around the Estate

Steeped in African history, exclusive Game & Bird walks and drives, community interaction, a visit to an iron age archaeological site, boating or fishing on the lake, a day trip to see the working farm, early morning climbs in to the Swamp Hides to see the rare and elusive papyrus dwelling Sitatunga antelope and forest walks to see the little Blue Duiker, there is plenty to do and see.

The guides are experienced and knowledgeable and a diverse variety of some 22 other mammal species inhabit the area. The bird life is prolific with over 375 different species of birds and enthusiastic guiding from either Jo & Charlie Harvey makes this a rare treat for guests. A good mornings hike and climb up Nachipala Hill is always a challenge for the most ardent walkers wanting to take in David Livingstone's Memorial.

Shiwa Horse Safaris, formerly from South Africa Horseback Safaris Steven and Lucy are now Shiwa based and have opened up their stables of exceptionally well produced and schooled horses for experienced riders who want to encounter

the African Bush from a truly different viewpoint. They have a long and extremely good reputation for the quality of their rides and can offer a wide variety of horses for the discerning equestrian. www.zambiahorsesafaris.com for more information.

Sir Stewart's legendary Kapishya Hot Springs are a short drive away and what could be a better way to soak away the enjoyment of horse riding or a busy day than sitting in the springs with a drink and convivial companions recounting the days events and the African Adventures to come.







General Visiting Information

Shiwa is approx 800 km from Lusaka, but has its own airstrip so can be easily reached via charter flights from either Mfuwe, Ndola or Lusaka. The roads from Lusaka are generally in good condition so it is possible to self drive and experience the beautiful Zambian countryside on the way to your destination. Although both houses only have four guest rooms, it is possible to make arrangements for larger family groups.

The little, beautiful and ornate chapel at the main house has often been made available for select weddings with a truly unique atmosphere for those special occasions.

The estate is open all year round to guests, although day visitors wishing to have a guided tour of the main house are only accommodated between the hours of 9-11am every day, after which they are invited to self drive in the game areas.

Shiwa has a mild climate and is considered a fairly low risk malaria area making it perfect for family groups.

Please send all enquiries to :
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