

CHOSI LOOP



GRADING: INTERMEDIATE

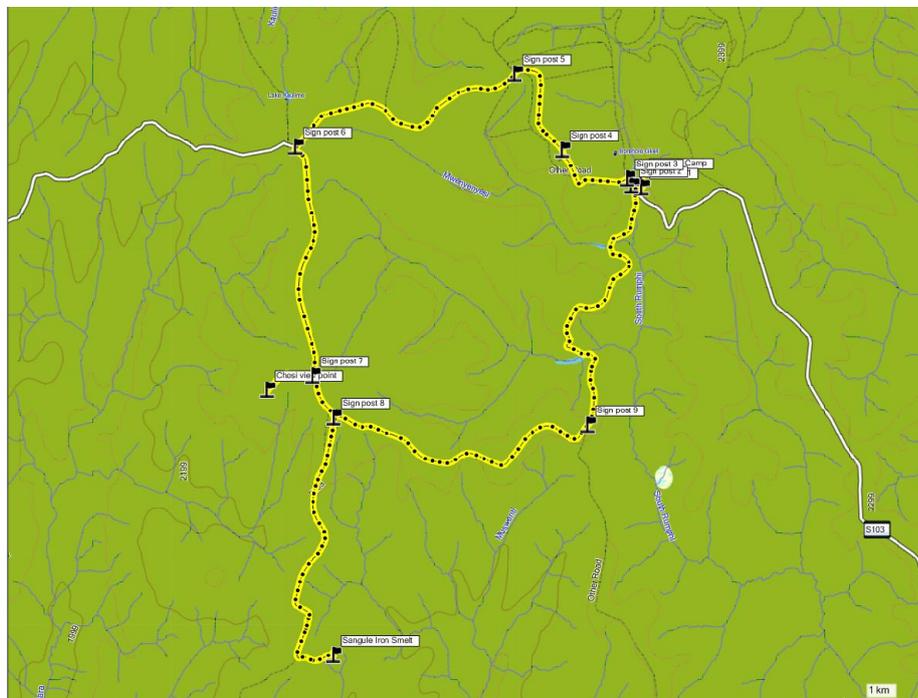
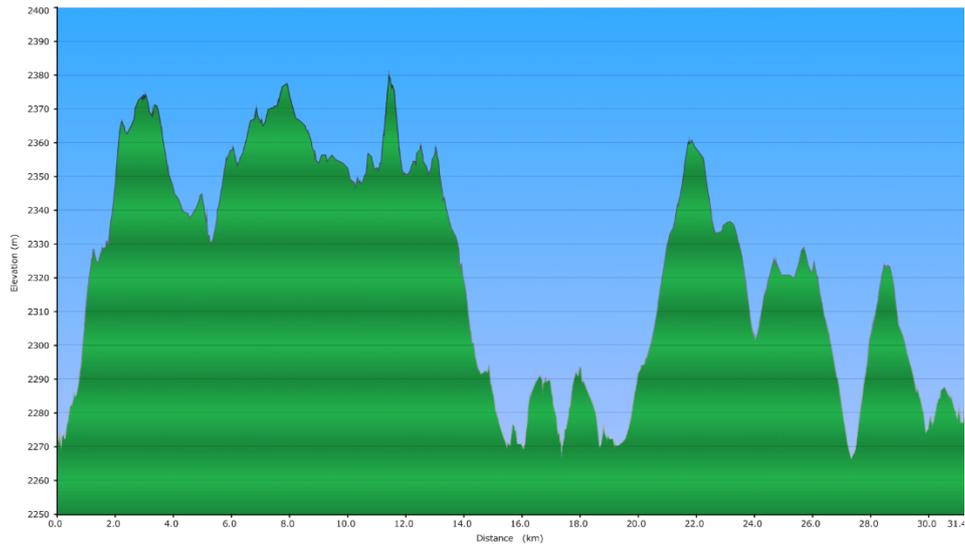
DISTANCE: 31.4 KM ESTIMATED DURATION: 3 HOURS

This is one of the most exciting of the mountain bike trails. It can be undertaken by either experienced cyclists or beginners who have the passion for cycling. As this is the most productive area in terms of game activity, the chances of seeing more game are very high. In most cases we find Roan antelope feeding in the water on the dams, a very special behavior only witnessed on the Nyika. It's amazing to see these animals dipping their heads and holding their breath for up to thirty seconds while searching for weeds in the water, coming up with a mouth full. They do this all year round even in the cooler months of the year. We recommend starting with the main road as there are not many hills up to Chosi view point. After the air strip turn off, there is a lot of game activity as well as a salt lick on the left side across a small valley. Here you are likely to find zebras, roan, reedbuck, bushbuck and common duiker. Take break at the view point as this gives a very wide view of the plateau. After the break you can take a detour to Sangule iron smelting kiln and then come back on the road towards the dams. Just before the dams you will notice a very beautiful valley on the right side, stop here and investigate as this is the best place to see bush pigs and side-striped jackal.

The route:

As you cycle away from camp you will turn right at the first sign post crossing the dam wall. On the other side continue past signpost 2 but turn left at sign post 3. The Nyika/Vwaza trust offices will be on your right. Once you've climbed the first hill you will pass the sign for the campsite and turn left at sign post 4. It's up another hill again but then it flattens out quite nicely. Make sure to keep left at sign post 5. This will take you away from the plantations and into the rolling hills. Notice on your left a bare patch of ground which is actually a salt lick which animals frequent to get their mineral supplements. At sign post 6 make a left turn and cycle up to sign post 7 where you can choose to go see the view at Chosi view point. Continue further and

you'll get to sign post 8 where again it is up to you whether you want to cycle the extra 8.8km to see the historical Sangule iron smelting kiln. Once back from Sangule continue mostly downhill keeping left at sign post 9. The road then take you down to Dam 3 leaving one last hill to climb. After Dam 2 you get back to sign post 2 with the camp welcoming you back with promise of a refreshing drink.



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