

SOUTHERN WILDERNESS ADVENTURE



Introduction:

This superb safari visits three of Africa's most extensive and pristine wilderness and conservation areas, Selous Game Reserve and the Katavi and Ruaha National Parks. All of the huge and varied Parks and reserves featured have rugged and beautiful scenery and spectacular wildlife. These areas receive only a tiny fraction of the visitors to Tanzania's justifiably famous Northern parks and provide a glimpse of Africa as it was when the first explorers set foot on African soil.

A short flight from Dar Es Salaam takes us to the Selous Game Reserve a protected area covering most of South East Tanzania and, as in all the parks on this safari you can expect superb game viewing and few other tourists. The big attraction of the Selous is the possibility of fly camping, guided walks and game viewing by boat on the magnificent Rufiji River and the permanent lakes home to countless crocodiles and hippos. Activities which are not possible in most of Tanzania's other parks.

The second part of our journeys takes us to Ruaha National Park, now Tanzania's biggest park following its recent extension. This truly vast area contains a large cross section of Tanzania's wildlife with both Northern and Southern species found here in healthy numbers. Despite its size there are presently only a few small camps and lodges, ensuring exclusive game viewing

in most areas of the park.

The third stage of our spectacular safari visits the third largest and least visited of all Tanzania's Parks. Katavi National Park has remained totally wild due to the difficulty of access and is an untamed wilderness, where, in the late dry season game can be spotted in vast numbers.

The Southern Wilderness safari stays in mix small, comfortable, unfenced, tented camps and mid sized lodges in some of the best game areas in these parks, ensuring an authentic and thrilling wildlife experience.

This safari is provided in conjunction with our highly experienced local partners Messrs Foxes Safari Camps.

Day 1

You will be met from your flight into Dar es Salaam and assisted to the domestic terminal where you will board your scheduled charter flight to Selous Game Reserve.

You will be staying for the next three nights at Rufiji River Camp an excellent camp in a superb location on the banks of the Rufiji River.

View at <http://www.rufijirivercamp.com/>

The Selous Game Reserve, Africa's largest area of unspoilt wilderness is a World Heritage Site and named after Frederick Courteney Selous who died in the reserve.

The lifeblood of the Reserve is the huge and very beautiful Rufiji River. The river is a myriad of wide open water, lakes and channels and Selous is the only reserve in Tanzania that offers boating safaris in addition to the more classic vehicle and walking safaris.

Selous has the highest concentration of elephant of any park in Tanzania and is estimated to have one third of all Tanzania's African Wild Dog and as such, is possibly the best place on the continent to see these highly endangered animals. The landscape is predominantly flat and covered with miombo woodland. Lions and leopards are the other prevalent predators in the reserve and there is a good variety of prey animals from wildebeest and buffalo to smaller animals like warthog and impala. The river supports a rich and varied bird life, the banks providing a nesting bank for the bee eaters and fishing grounds for Kingfishers.

Day 4

Today you will transfer to the airstrip on a short game drive transfer where you will board your flight to Ruaha national Park. You will be met on arrival and transferred to Ruaha River Lodge where you will be staying for the next three nights in a cottage.

View at <http://www.tanzaniasafaris.info/ruaha/intro.htm>

Ruaha National Park is the largest Park in Tanzania and lies in the centre of the country. This beautiful park has an abundance of wildlife in an array of landscapes which gives it a

character all of its own. The Great Ruaha River is the lifeline of the park as it is the only permanent water source in the park. A full day game drive along the river takes you over rocky kopjes, home to the Greater kudu, Roan antelope and elephant, and winds down along the river bank through open plains, perfect for cheetah and lion, herds of buffalo, warthogs, jackals and bat eared foxes. The river banks are rich with birdlife, hippos and crocs. For the more adventurous, above the escarpment lives the more elusive Sable Antelope. Ruaha has a well developed road network, so there are plenty of different routes to explore on twice daily game drives. A few hours spent at the lodge watching the wildlife coming to drink at the river from the bar or veranda of your tent can also be enjoyable. An afternoon drive to the hippo pool to catch the sunset makes a perfect end to a day.



Day 7

Transfer to the airstrip for your early morning flight to Katavi National Park at 0700 hrs. You will be staying for the next three nights at Foxes Katavi Wildlife Camp.

Katavi Foxes Camp has arguably the most outstanding location within the park with spectacular views across the Katisunga Plains. This is a wild and remote camp and it is not uncommon for elephant or even the occasional lion to walk through the camp.

Each of the six tents are comfortably furnished and spread out amongst the trees that line the floodplain. They are imaginatively designed and offer en suite facilities with solar powered showers. In the evenings you will sit around the campfire before retiring to the main area of the lodge for some tasty food.

<http://www.tanzaniasafaris.info/katavi/intro.htm>

Katavi is a true wilderness, isolated, untrammelled and seldom visited, rewarding the few intrepid souls who make it here with a thrilling taste of Africa as it must have been a century ago.

Tanzania's third largest national park lies in the remote southwest of the country, within a truncated arm of the Rift Valley that terminates in the shallow, expanse of Lake Rukwa.

The bulk of Katavi is covered with woodland, home to substantial but elusive populations of

the localised eland, sable and roan antelopes. The main focus for game viewing within the park is the Katuma River and associated floodplains such as the seasonal Lakes Katavi and Chada. During the rainy season, these lush, marshy lakes are a haven for myriad waterbirds, and they also support Tanzania's densest concentrations of hippo and crocodile.

It is during the dry season, when the floodwaters retreat, that Katavi truly comes into its own. The Katuma, reduced to a shallow, muddy trickle, forms the only source of drinking water for miles around, and the flanking floodplains support game concentrations that defy belief. An estimated 4,000 elephants might converge on the area, together with several herds of 1,000-plus buffalo, while an abundance of giraffe, zebra, impala and reedbuck provide easy pickings for the numerous lion prides and spotted hyena clans whose territories converge on the floodplains.

Katavi's most singular wildlife spectacle is provided by its hippos. Towards the end of the dry season, up to 200 individuals might flop together in any riverine pool of sufficient depth. And as more hippos gather in one place, so does male rivalry heat up – bloody territorial fights are an everyday occurrence, with the vanquished male forced to lurk hapless on the open plains until it gathers sufficient confidence to mount another challenge.

Today we will transfer to the airstrip for our flight to Dar Es Salaam or Zanzibar.

Day 10

Return to the airstrip for your flight to Dar Es Salaam or onward to Zanzibar.

TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON SHARING ON A DAR ES SALAAM TO DAR ES SALAAM BASIS

5 th Jan 2012 to 31 st March 2012 and 1 st Nov 2012 to 22 nd Dec 2012 US\$4968 (£3312)

1 st June 2012 to 31 st Oct 2012 and 23 rd Dec 2012 to 31 st Dec 2012 US\$5312 (£3541)

What's included:

All transfers to and from the International Airports and local airstrips

Internal Flights

Full board accommodation at all properties

Game drives, guided walks and boat rides in Selous

Twice Daily Game activities at Ruaha and Katavi

Laundry at all properties

All Park and Conservation fees (may be subject to increase by park authorities)

What's not included:

Visa fees

Tips and gratuities for guides and camp staff

Purchases of a personal nature

Drinks, Laundry and local airport departure taxes

International Flights

Insurance and Medical Cover

Wildlife Sightings

Africa's wildlife is free ranging and moves according to seasonal availability of food and water therefore no sighting is guaranteed. The following species can be found in the areas

visited on this safari and guests can expect to see many of them.

Elephant, Giraffe, Black Rhino, Lion, Leopard, Wild Dog, Spotted Hyena, Jackal, African Wildcat, Serval, Caracal, Civet, baboon, Vervet Monkey, Bush Baby, Genet, Mongoose, Porcupine, Aardvark, Pangolin, Wart Hog, Bush Pig, Cape Buffalo, Zebra, Wildebeest, Impala, Bushbuck, Eland, Duiker, Roan Antelope, Sable, Waterbuck, Greater and Lesser Kudu, Hippopotamus, Crocodile, Monitor Lizard, Ostrich, Bat Eared Fox. Also many bird and reptile species.

When to go:

The best game viewing is during the dry season months from June to November. Also possible from December to March but will be hot.

Who should go:

A great introduction to Southern Tanzania for first safari or first time visitors to Tanzania and also for clients looking for a more intimate experience in areas where there are few tourists. This safari is also an excellent choice for clients who have previously visited other parts of Africa and who would like to see something different.

We Say:

“Southern Wilderness Adventure” is a really good value safari with good accommodation at a great price. The combination of these three excellent wildlife areas ensures both spectacular and very varied wildlife viewing and scenery with a wide range of differing safari activities.

These mid range safari camps and lodges are generally a bit bigger and a bit less luxurious than some of the other options in these parks but are none the less very comfortable with a good level of guiding. This combination of camps and lodges provides the best value high quality safari option for clients keen to visit Tanzania’s remote Southern and Western Game Parks.

Why not enhance your safari holiday with a few days on the beach on Tanzania’s undeveloped coast or in exotic Zanzibar.

SAFARI CLUB PROMISE:

Our consultants are dedicated to providing you, our clients, with the safari holiday of your dreams, we will always endeavour to offer you the best value safari and beach holiday in line with the time available and budget guidelines you have supplied.

The camps, lodges and hotels included in our trips are regularly vetted by our consultants to ensure the highest standards are maintained and that every safari and associated beach stay is a unique and authentic African experience.

Safari Club will never compromise the quality of our safaris by offering a knowingly inferior product in the interests of price.

“Our Air Travel Organisers Licence, (ATOL 9991), is issued by the Civil Aviation Authority in the United Kingdom and provides you with the guarantee that your money is safe with us. We are fully bonded to give you the financial security you are entitled to.”



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