

# ELYON TOURS TANZANIA



BROCHURE  
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# *Introduction to* **ELYON TOURS TANZANIA**



## **OUR MISSION:**

*Our mission is, to ensuring a magnificently pleasant life time experience during your tour, while experience Tanzanian hospitality, cultures and spectacular scenery with exceptional climate.*



Elyon Tours is proud to be 100% Tanzanian! Having worked as guides for many years with a very reputable company, we decided to set up our own safari tours in order to give you a tantalizingly Tanzanian safari! We have purposely kept our company small to reduce managerial costs and to give you our undivided attention. Here is a bit more information about us.

Our level of service increases with each passing year and now we organize tours in to all East Africa countries, United Republic of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

With our well qualified and experience team, we Tailormade safaris to meet your interest and budget whether you decide for Mountain trekking, Gorilla and Chimpanzee tracking, Adventure Camping Safari, Cultural tours, or Beach holidays in Zanzibar and Mombasa, Our vehicles have been customized to suit our clients travel needs and comfort thus improving the overall quality of the tour.

We are committed to protect our environment for the benefit of the present and future generation and helping making the world a better place for all living organisms.



# IMPORTANT TRAVEL TIPS

## Visas

Check current requirements with the nearest Tanzanian High Commission, embassy or consulate, or your travel agent. Visas, if required, can be bought on arrival at all international airports and overland borders.

## Language

The national language is Kiswahili but English is widely spoken and is the language of the tourist trade and other international businesses

English is widely spoken but a few words of Swahili can be useful and will be appreciated greatly by locals.

## Health

No vaccinations are currently required for entry into Tanzania when arrival is directly from North America or Europe. Visitors originating from or transiting through countries endemic with yellow fever (such as Kenya, Sudan, or Uganda), are required to produce valid yellow fever vaccination certificates at entry points. Visitors are advised to take anti-malaria tablets and make use of mosquito nets and insect sprays where provided. Malaria is endemic but is preventable: use insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and take anti-malaria prophylactics as advised by your doctor. Bring prescription medicines, spare glasses, contact lenses and solution as well as sunscreen, a first aid kit, cream for bites/stings and diarrhea remedy. HIV/Aids is widespread, especially in the main tourist areas.

## Travel with Children

Tanzanians love children and are especially helpful to mothers. However, canned baby foods, powdered milk and disposable nappies may not be

available outside major towns.

## Climate

Generally dry and hot with cool nights/mornings June-October; short rains November to mid-December; long rains March-May but the seasons can vary.

The coastal strip is hot and humid all year round. Temperatures on Mount Kilimanjaro and Meru drop to below freezing.

## Clothes

Pack lightweight tropical clothes, washable clothes plus a sweater for early morning game drives, as well as a sun hat, sunglasses cotton slacks, shirts, skirts, sunscreen. Long sleeves and trousers in light-colored fabrics help discourage insect bites. You can buy clothes in Dar es Salaam and Arusha or any other region. Shorts for women are acceptable (but not too short!). Women should carry a wrap to cover legs in the villages and towns as revealing clothes can cause offence, especially in Zanzibar and Moslem areas.

For climbing on Kilimanjaro or Meru, take thermal underwear, light layers, sweater, rain jacket, good socks and sturdy boots.

## Insurance

Visitors are advised to obtain travel insurance that would cover medical expenses among many other things. Take out travel insurance to cover loss of baggage or valuables, personal accident and medical expenses. Before departing from your country make sure that you are sufficiently covered.

## Money

The unit of currency is the Tanzania Shilling which is divided into 100 cents. Major foreign currencies - particularly US\$ - and travelers cheques are accepted and are convertible at commercial banks and bureaux de changes in the main towns and tourist areas.

Credit cards are accepted may carry poor exchange rates. Some banks in Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Moshi offer ATM facilities against international credit cards. Pls don't change money in the street.

## Security

Tanzania is a generally safe country, but don't invite temptation. Keep an eye on your belongings. Don't walk in the towns or cities at night - take a taxi.

Don't carry cameras or large amounts of cash; beware of pickpockets. Use hotel safety deposit boxes to safeguard valuables and obtain a receipt. Leave valuable jewellery at home.

## Photography

Bring film (especially slide film) and batteries for your camera with you. Protect your cameras from dust and keep equipment and film cool. It is courteous to ask permission before photographing local people. If you intend to take a lot of people pictures, be sure to bring an instant camera with you so that you can leave a picture with the people you photograph.

## Shopping

The tourist areas and hotels sell a wide range of souvenirs, jewellery and trinkets. Don't be afraid to haggle at roadside curio stalls.

## Gifts

Don't indiscriminately hand out pens, money and sweets like a wealthy Western Santa Claus - it just encourages begging. As anywhere, gifts should be given as a true expression of friendship, appreciation or thanks.

## Tipping

Not obligatory, but a tip for exceptional service (max 10%) will be appreciated, \$10 - \$15 per day for driver or tour guide. An excessive tip can make it difficult for the next customer

## Time

3 hrs + GMT

## Electricity

215 - 230 Volts, 50 Cycles AC same as the UK and in South Africa, but power failures, surges and troughs are common. Bring a universal adaptor and a torch (flashlight) or headlamp.

## Air Travel

Several international airlines operate in and out of Tanzania through Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro and Zanzibar International Airports. Travel within the country is by the national airline Air Tanzania, and by Precision Air, Regional Air, Air Excel, Coastal Aviation, Zan Air, FastJet and Tropical Air.

## What is the Best Season for a Safari?

Just about any time of year. However, the most popular seasons are mid December to mid March and August to mid the end of October. This is because of the demand for Christmas and winter holidays and the summer school breaks. An increasing number of visitors are realising that June and November are ideal, benefiting from lower visitor numbers.

Elyon Tours offers some safaris with greatly reduced or no single supplements in the months of April and May. Also, we may well be able to offer some good discounts for larger groups during this period - please contact us for details.

## When and Where can i see the Great Migration?

The millions of wildebeest and zebras are always somewhere, but they are not always in large herds and on the move. Their location is largely dependent on the weather, which can vary considerably from year to year. In general the herds begin to cross into Masai Mara in July and continue through August. They remain in the region until the beginning of December when they follow the rains southward back into Serengeti National Park.

They can move in enormously long single file lines or in huge herds.



## Can I have my own Itinerary?

If you are arranging an exclusive vehicle (custom) safari, then you are free to arrange whatever itinerary you choose, within logistical constraints. Elyon Tours Safaris presents a small selection of proven itinerary favourites in this website. We can arrange any required itinerary subject to practical and logistical considerations and will be pleased to discuss and quote for your special requirements.

### **Should I take a Camping Safari?**

We do not operate a camping safari in Tanzania. However, we can arrange a safari using a number of tented camps providing a great holiday experience under canvas.

### **Can I take a Safari as a Single Traveller?**

Because of the size of its organisation and volume of customers, we can easily include single travellers on most set date safari departures, subject to there being at least one other booking on the date chosen. There is a supplement to cover the additional cost of single accommodation. However, there is no single supplement (or a greatly reduced one) on most safaris in the low season months of April & May.

### **Are Safaris suitable for children?**

A safari is a wonderful trip for any child old enough to enjoy and appreciate the experience. On most safaris there are quite long trips on rough roads, and these cannot really be recommended for babies and very young children. Children under 12 will benefit from reduced fares on scheduled airlines, and many lodges will provide an additional bed for a child sharing a room with parents at a reduced cost. Some luxury small capacity tented camps do not allow children younger than 12 years old.





## TOP **DESTINATIONS**



### SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 14,763 square kilometers or 5700 sq Miles, this is Tanzania's largest park, a symbol of African wildlife and primeval beauty; it contains a million and a half plains' game, the greatest and most spectacular concentration of animals anywhere in the world. It is not unusual to see 40 or more lions in a day's game viewing. The bulk of the area consists of vast open plains with lofty rocky outcrops. Also found are acacia and savannah woodland and scrub; forested and mature treed rivers; an occasional swamp and small lake. The Reserve ranges in altitude from 910 meters up to 1,820 meters. Unrivalled photographic opportunities exist when the great animal migration is on. There is a wealth of bird life in the area where the larger species of birds of prey, game birds and water fowl are well represented. Here also a unique historical find revealed a settlement site of people dating from 1000 to 100 B.C.



## TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 2600 square kilometers, this is a most spectacular park during the dry season when several thousands of animals migrate to the Tarangire River. A special feature of the park is the Greater Kudu but it is also good for rhino, elephant, buffalo, lion and a host of other species. The reserve has nine distinct vegetation areas and generally covers arid acacia/thorn bush country.



## LAKE MANYARA NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With 325 square kilometers nestling under the wall of the Great Rift Valley, this enchanting park consists of five distinct vegetation zones- a ground water forest with towering mahogany and fig trees; extensive marshland and reeds; plain of open grassland on the precipitous face of the Rift wall. The park is famous for its numerous buffalo, elephant and in particular the lions which have the unusual habit of lying upon the branches of some of the trees. Leopard and rhino are seen in most areas of the park. Manyara is noted for its wealth of birdlife which often include thousands of lesser flamingos.





## *NGORONGORO CRATER*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 265 square kilometers, being the largest crater in existence and having a diameter of 20 kilometers, it is the home for 40,000 animals, including the big five. The caldera also contains perennial swamps which are an important migratory point for flamingos, and contains two patches of dense acacia woodlands called Lerai and Laindi forests. In the area, natural phenomena contain the deep water lakes of Embagi, waterfalls of Munge, the active volcano of Ol Donyo Lengai, and the shifting sands. Some of the earliest archeological finds containing Neolithic graves and rock workings have been aptly described as one of the wonders of the world. Among the exceptional bird life can be found Lammergeyer, Vereaux eagle, Egyptian vulture, rosy breasted long claw, golden winged sunbird, eastern double collared sunbird and Abyssinian night jay.



## SELOUS GAME RESERVE

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With 45,000 square kilometers, this is not only Africa's biggest game reserve but it is the oldest. It is also the least accessible and the least known. Consisting of woodlands with grassy flood plains and dense forest patches, it provides a home for large herds of elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion, leopard and hippo, where in fact the elephant herds are the largest in Africa.

Containing some of the area is accentuated by the Rufiji river system which flows through its centre making effective communication impossible.







## *KILIMANJARO NATIONAL PARK*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 1872 square kilometers of reserve, Africa's highest mountain (5895 meters) dominates the area of mountain rain forest, scrub, alpine moorlands, and ice fields. Kibo, the highest peak, is basically one which can be reached by a strenuous walk carried out by fit climbers, and is popular for many visitors where a minimum of five days is required. A fantastic view of Africa can be had from the top on a fine day. Inevitably the area below the snow line is shrouded in cloud. Although a few animals such as elephant, buffalo, leopard and eland may be found, the rare Abbots duiker is the prime attraction. Among the birds of special interest, those of note are Lammergeyer, scarlet-tufted malachite sunbirds and the mountain chat.





## ARUSHA NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With 212 square miles or 552 Sq Kms, the Arusha Park is an extremely interesting area being located on the side of Mount Meru which, while having thick forested slopes rises dramatically into the sky representing a classical extinct volcanic cone.

The Park is famous for its unique crater, the thick highland rain forest sections, acacia woodland and string of seven crater lakes of Momella. However, the miniature crater has been set aside as a reserve within a reserve. Down inside is a wealth of wildlife buffalo, elephant, rhino and many other animals, but no lions. This 2.4 kilometer wide crater is closed to man and is a sanctuary for wildlife only.

The beautiful Marinas trogon is found in the forests, as is the crowned hawk eagle, the African broad bill and the broad ringed white eye.



## MAHALE NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Mahale Mountains is home to some of Africa's last remaining wild chimpanzees: a population of over 1000 Chimpanzees in Mahale. The 'Mimikere' community of about 70 individuals live in a territory including our camp. This group has been studied by members of Kyoto University of Japan since 1965 and as a result the Chimpanzees are accustomed to the presence of humans. Tracking the chimps of Mahale is a magical experience. The guide's eyes pick out last night's nests - shadowy clumps high in a gallery of trees crowding the sky. Scraps of half-eaten fruit and fresh dung become valuable clues, leading deeper into the forest. Butterflies flit in the dappled sunlight.

Mahale, in wilderness terms, has it all: a unique combination of forests, mountains and lakes supports an amazingly diverse range of fauna. Leopard, warthog, giant squirrel, brush tailed porcupines along with at least nine species of primates are just some of the larger mammals found here. The abundant birdlife includes the Crowned Eagle, Scaly Francolin, Crested Guinea Fowl, Ross' Turaco and the globally threatened, endemic Nkungwe Apalis. Commercial fishing is prohibited along the park's shoreline, affording protection to some 350 known fish species of the lake. Mahale National Park lies 120 km south of Kigoma and is 1,613 sq km in size.







## *RUAHA NATIONAL PARK*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This is one of the areas to visit when staying at the Tanzanian coast – Dar es Salaam or Zanzibar. The area is easily accessible by daily scheduled air from Dar es Salaam and is serviced by permanent camps and lodges.

This is a huge park, of which just a small part has been developed for visitors. It is probably Africa's largest sanctuary for Elephants. The park is watered by the Ruaha river which also affords visitors unequalled game viewing opportunity. Activities here centre around boat rides on river Rufiji and escorted game walks.





## MASAI MARA GAME RESERVE

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With 1520 square kilometers of pristine Africa wilderness, the reserve is world famous for its vast assemblage of plains' game together with their assorted predators. It is perhaps the only area remaining in Kenya where one may see wildlife in the same super abundance as existed years ago, or for that matter, to witness one of the wonders of the world-the annual migration of million of wildebeest and zebra. It provides breath-taking vistas, a panorama of vast rolling plains and hills of groves of acacia woodlands and thickets of scrub. Also present are the largest population of lions to be found in Kenya, as well as huge herds of Topi and the rare Roan antelope not seen elsewhere int his country. The area is bisected by the Mara River which every now and then comes into tumultuous flood, and which is boarded by a section of luxurious riverine forest. Hippo laze in its waters, while drowsy looking crocodiles sunbathe on the banks, mouths agape. Despite the marvels of the annual migration, the Mara is rich in resident wildlife and avifauna. The bird life being profuse with over 400 species readily identified.





## *AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 392 square kilometers, it is justly famous for both its big game scenic beauty. It consists of five basic wildlife habitats covering open plains areas of yellow barbed acacia woodland, rocky, lava stream, thorn bush country swamps and marshes and some mountains massifs. Majestically dominating the area, rising above a saucer of clouds, is the snow capped mountain of Kilimanjaro (5895 meters), the highest in Africa. Here the pastoral and proud Masai people herding their cattle have lived in harmony with the wildlife since days of yore. This was the local beloved of Earnest Hemmingway and Robert Ruark, where the sparkling white snows of Kilimanjaro have been a picturesque backdrop to one of Kenya's most spectacular displays of wildlife – lion, elephant, leopard, cheetah, buffalo and hosts of plain game-making a perfect photographer's paradise. Swamps and springs fed by underground rivers from the melting snows of the mountain, provide permanent watering places for the game while a dried up lake bed nearby produces a shimmering image in the heat.



## *SAMBURU + BUFFALO SPRINGS*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 165 square kilometers, the Samburu area is the most accessible of the North Eastern sanctuaries. Lying within the lands of the colorful samburu pastoralists, relatives of the famed Maasai, it contains the rare Grevy Zebra and the shy long-necked Gerenuk. The latter spends most of its time standing on two legs nibbling at the upper section of withered thorn trees.

Relief from the harsh equatorial sun is provided by wide swathe of the Ewaso Nyiro river which is at its best in the reserve where it is broad, often sluggish, with a large population of crocodile and hippo. Elephant roam the nearby hills and scrubland, coming in to drink the shallow waters of the river where their herds can often be seen. Over 100 species of colorful birdlife can easily be encountered in a days viewing.

At the nearby Buffalo Springs Game Reserve, with its pools and streams of fresh water, literally thousands of sand grouse and doves together with a galaxy of smaller birds can be seen. The name is taken from an oasis of liquid crystal clear water.

The adjacent Shaba National Reserve is where the late Joy Adamson wrote her books on the rehabilitation of a leopard. The reserve's northern border is marked by the wide sauntering flow of the Ewaso Nyiro on its way to disappear in the Lorian swamp. This trio is a worthy introduction indeed to this most colorful part of Kenya.



## LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With 576 square kilometers, the lake is probably internationally famous for its vast concentrations of greater and lesser flamingos, its population being in excess of a million. Their delicate pink plumage decorates certain sections of its shores to form 'the most fabulous bird spectacle in the world'. Now with the translocation of Rothschild giraffe and rhino it is beginning to develop a new reputation although some lion, leopard and quite a few buffalo are found therein there are no elephant, however. Lesser game are in residence as are a herd of hippo which live in the north-east corner.





## LEWA CONSERVANCY

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

One of Kenya's early pioneer ranches, Lewa Downs, has been home to the Craig family since they moved from Scotland and began raising cattle in 1924. Now the 65,000-acre Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, situated on the Northern foothills of Mount Kenya, is one of very few private ranches in the world where you can see such a remarkable variety of wildlife and their interaction with each other in a natural habitat. While you are here, you may see a wonderful variety of wildlife: from Elephant and Rhino to the smallest antelope, the Dik-dik. The largest antelope, Eland, are plentiful along with Hartebeest, Warthog, Impala, Grant's Gazelle, Cape Buffalo and Bushbuck. There are two species of Zebra: Burchell's and Grevy, the latter a north Kenya species, along with reticulated giraffe and gerenuk which are also only found in the north. Less commonly Lion, Leopard and Cheetah may be sighted as well as the elusive and magnificent Greater Kudu.

To see and photograph the animals you have the option to walk, ride horses or take a safari with camels, as well as day and night game drives. As Lewa is a private ranch the whole experience is much less regulated than inside the National Parks. Our guides know all the best areas for spotting game and enjoy sharing their knowledge with guests. The horses are well trained and patient, so even novice riders may experience close encounters with the wildlife: sometimes you can almost touch a giraffe! A key feature of Lewa's conservation efforts is the Anna Merz's Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary for endangered Black Rhinos which encompasses a total of 61,000 acres - all of the ranch plus the neighbouring forest reserve.

The conservancy regularly supplies Rhino for re-stocking the KWS owned and run National Parks once secure sanctuaries have been set up within these areas. For the archaeologists or those interested in ancient history, Lewa Downs also has a 500,000-year old Acheulian hand axe site that is open to guests.







## *OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Ol Pejeta Conservancy sits on a 90,000 acres -wildlife conservancy situated between the foothills of Mount Kenya and the Aberdares and its game-to-area ratio tops the Kenyan park and reserve league. Ol Pejeta has over 10000 large mammals and it is the only park where the big 5 and chimpanzees can be seen. It is also where the fastest growing population of rhino in Africa can be found. There are southern white rhino, about 80 endangered black rhino and in a special sanctuary there are four of the world's last seven remaining northern white rhino.

Conservation is often about innovation, and nowhere is this philosophy more apparent than at Ol Pejeta. For example, the controversial but highly successful integration of wildlife and livestock means that the traditional conflict between the two interests is avoided and innovative ways to meet the needs of both wildlife and livestock can be met and maintained.

## ABERDARES NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With 766 square kilometers, the park is a mixture of forest and moorland, with many cascading waterfalls, thick bamboo forest and sub-alpine plants. The major part lies at an altitude of 3,500 meters.

Deep ravines slice forested inclines, through which flow hidden streams which icy waterfalls tumble down rock faces. Above the thick forest area are reaches of alpine type moorlands usually hidden in mists. The park is a fairyland, awesome in its majesty and beauty, being rich in wildlife—elephant, rhino, the pig family, antelope, lion, leopard and buffalo, with monkeys of all types including the spectacular black and white Columbus. Birdlife is abundant and varied, the most conspicuous groups being the sunbirds, while game birds abound in plenty, as do birds of prey.







## *NAIROBI NATIONAL PARK*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Only 10 km from the bustle of the city, Nairobi national park, covering an area of close to 100 sq km is an ecosystem of grassland, forests and rivers. It is home to all the Big Five except Elephants which had to re-locate to larger reserves with enough food for them. Plains game found here include Giraffe, Gazelle, Zebra, Impala and the Heartbeest. It is also possible to observe Cheetah, Jackal, Hyena and Serval cats while birds such as the Masai Ostrich, Hadada Ibis, Sacred Ibis, Kingfishers and lilac breasted Rollers among many other species, are resident here. The rivers are home to crocodiles and turtles are a usual citing.

Much of the area has a predominance of open plains with scattered acacia bush, while there is a permanent river, the Athi, with accompanying riverine range forest of the famous 'fewer trees'. There is a section of highland forest, and stretches of broken bush country with deep rocky valleys and gorges, as well as thorn and long grass.

A few black rhino can be seen, while the main attraction is lion, cheetah, with hippo in the river. There are no elephant. Although more birds have been recorded that in the British Isle, many are seasonal.



## MERU NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Meru is a savanna National Park, 35km east of Maua town in the north eastern lowlands below the Nyambeni hills. Meru is part of a complex of protected areas along the Tana river that includes the adjacent Bisanadi and Mwingi National Reserves (to the east and south respectively), Kora national park and Rahole national reserve. The wetter North Western sector is hilly, with rich volcanic soils. The land flattens towards the East, where grey alluvial volcanic soils appear.

The area is crossed by numerous permanent streams, draining from the Nyambenes and flowing in parallel between tongues of lava, south eastwards towards the Tana River. As well as the many streams that cross it, the park is bounded by three large rivers: the Tana to the South, the Ura to the South West and the Rojeweru to the East. There are several prominent inselbergs of basement rock, notably Mughwango and Leopard rock.

A section of the park has been designated as a wilderness area in which are no roads. The park is part of the domain made famous by the writings of Joy Adamson.

#### Location:

East-north-east of Mount Kenya in Meru District of Eastern Province, covering 870km<sup>2</sup>.

#### Climate:

Rainfall is 635-762mm in the west and 305-356mm in the east.

#### MAJOR ATTRACTIONS

- Former home of Joy and George Adamson and Elsa the lioness,
- Views of Mt Kenya,
- Rivers and riverine habitats,
- Tana river and
- Adamson's Falls.





## *TSAVO NATIONAL PARK*

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 20,700 square kilometers, this park, divided by the Mombasa-Nairobi highway into two blocks - East and West, is one of the world's largest wildlife sanctuaries. While considerable portions of the park have been opened and developed for tourism, a great tract to the north is still inaccessible and closed to ordinary tourist traffic.

Tsavo is an interesting mixture of extensive plains, steep rocky hills rising abruptly, a few river valleys with their fringes of tall green acacia and palm trees. Altitudes range from 300 meters in the Eastern section to 1,800 meters in the highest peaks of the Ngulia Hills.

The Mzima springs is an interesting feature in Tsavo west. Its crystal clear fresh waters are a sanctuary to crocodiles, hippo and fish. There is an underground glass observatory where visitors get up-close to the hippos with out the dangers of an encounter. It is fed by numerous rivers, some underground, which flow out of the lava from different directions, forming an oasis in the middle of this otherwise dry scrubby landscape.

Practically most of Kenya's wildlife is represented in the two blocks of Tsavo, but the dominant one is elephant. Over 20,000 of these giants roam the area, which also happens to be a black rhino stronghold. The park is famous for its lions, descendants of the dreaded Man eaters during the construction of the Mombasa-Kampala railway at the end of the last century.

There is network of over 800kms of game viewing roads. Bird life is legion in the park and new species are often discovered. Sunbirds, hornbills, parrot, weavers, starlings, bustards and birds of prey are present in great numbers among the many species









## *MOUNT KENYA NATIONAL PARK*

# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

With 117 square kilometers, in areas above the 3,500 metres contour, this mountain symbol of Kenya-Batian of 5199 metres-rises dramatically to dominate the surrounding countryside.

Here there are sections of high forest-bamboo, alpine moorlands, glaciers, tams and glacial moraines. Often seen are enormous weirdly shaped bushes covered with moss and liche, open moorland with tussock grass studded with many species of giant lobelia and groundsel which often reach to a height of 3-5 metres. The ground has a rich profusion of everlasting helichrysums, alchemillas, and is interspersed with gladioli, delphiniums and 'red-hot pokers.

The peaks are remnants of a central core of an ancient volcanic crater, the rim of which has long since erode away to form a complicated system of rock faces and ridges which offer a great variety of climbing routes, calling for high mountaineering skill and experience by those familiar with rock, ice and snow technique. The thick verdant forests below the moorlands contain an abundance of game animals which include elephant, rhino, buffalo, leopard, bongo, bushbuck, duiker, giant forest hog, and several species of monkey. Lions inhabit the moorlands, although not common, while leopard and wild dog are seen in the lower zone.





# TOP DESTINATIONS

## MURCHISON FALLS NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Murchison Falls national park is the largest park in Uganda covering an area of over 3,840 sq kms, Murchison Falls park is also one of the most famous for its scenic beauty, magnificent falls and high concentration of game. It is situated approximately 350 kms north west of Kampala. The mighty Nile river divides the park into the north and south sections with the spectacular Murchison Falls dropping some 40 meters through a narrow crevice. The river attracts large numbers of game, and a boat ride up the river provides the perfect opportunity to see and photograph the animals. Wildlife viewed in this park includes elephant, giraffe, hippo, lion, leopard, buffalo, Nile crocodile, monkeys, and over 450 species of birds, including the magnificent shoebill stork. There are plenty of activities in the park including river trips, game drives, forest walks, fishing and bird watching. The park has two light aircraft airstrips operating air charter services from Kampala.







## BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Located in the south west of the country, 414 kms from Kampala, on the border with The Congo, the park covers an area of over 330 sq kms. As the name dictates -Bwindi Impenetrable Forest is a real African jungle , with dense undergrowth, vines and a wide variety of flowers and aphrodisiac plants. Most visitors come to Bwindi Forest to catch a glimpse of the Mountain Gorillas, but the park is home to over 120 species of mammals, including chimpanzees, black & white colobus, blue monkey, bushpig, duiker, leopard, jackal and elephants in the south east of the park. There are also over 350 species of bird , 202 species of butterflies and over 200 species of trees found within the park A 4 wheel drive vehicle is recommended to get around the park. Gorilla tracking is limited to small groups and it's advisable to book well in advance of your intended visit. Bookings can be made through most tour operators or directly with the Uganda Wildlife Authority.



## KIBALE FOREST NATIONAL PARK

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Located in western Uganda, covering an area of over 760 sq kms, Kibale Forest National Park lies 35 kms south of Fort Portal and adjoins with Queen Elizabeth National Park.

Kibale Forest is the perfect place to experience the the true diversity of wildlife and flora found in a tropical rainforest. The park contains the largest population of forest elephants found in Uganda but they are rarely sighted. Rich in wildlife and particularly noted for is primate population, of 11 different species, including the red-tailed monkey, blue monkey, olive baboon, chimpanzee, black, white and red colobus and white cheeked mangabey. Other mammals found are bushbuck, red and blue duiker, Uganda kob, Scaly-tailed flying squirrel, tree pangolin, buffalo, waterbuck and hippo as well as a large number of birds.

