ARUSHA
NATIONAL PARK

A rewarding hiking destination



2025/2

English



Welcome to the Park!

Welcome to this park with the second highest mountain in Tanzania that offers unforgettable experience and serves as acclimatization refuge before climbing the Majestic Mount Kilimanjaro. The park is rich in game animals that can be viewed at a very close distance a day trip with a variety of tourism activities like game drive, mountain climbing, walking safaris, canoeing, cycling and horse riding. We are happy to serve you during your visit in this beautiful park and we hope you will have a memorable experience.

Thank you!

Brief history

The park was gazetted in 1960 with an area of 322 km². During the time of establishment, the area was called Ngurdoto Crater National Park having annexed from Mt. Meru Initially the area was conserved as a ranch in 1907.



Getting there

The park can be accessed from Arusha town by road, which is about 32 Kilometers away. It is about 40km from Kilimanjaro International airport.

Climate

The Park can be visited throughout the year; however, the best time is between June to September and from December to early March. The short rainy period is from October to November and the heavy rain season is from March to May.

Attractions

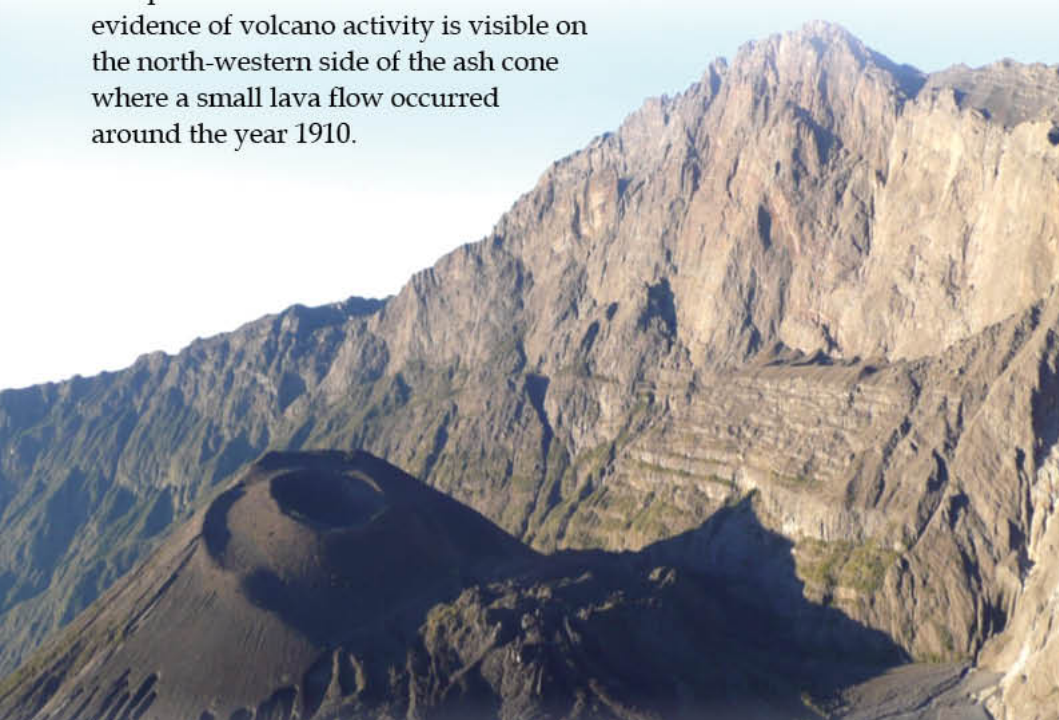
Arusha National Park is located within the Arusha-Meru Aspiring UNESCO Global Ge-opark. The geomorphology of the area showcases the geological processes that have led to the creation of remarkable features including the landscape, ecology, culture and unique habitat for wildlife. These features convey the history of the earth and provide scenic areas for visitors to enjoy.

- ### The big and little Meru

  The big Meru, also known as the "Socialist Peak" is the highest peak with an altitude of 4,566 meters above mean sea level. Little Meru is the monogenetic volcanic cone ris-ing to an elevation of 3800m above mean sea level.

- ### Ash Cone

  The ash cone is a pyramid-shaped and cinder cone rises more than 1000m above the floor of main caldera. It is the recent deposit after the eastern wall collapsed. The present shape of the ash cone is the result of repeated volcanic activities and the last known evidence of volcano activity is visible on the north-western side of the ash cone where a small lava flow occurred around the year 1910.





- **Serengeti Ndogo**

  The name which means "Little Serengeti", describes the open grassland resembling the plains of wild farmous serengeti, a place in the park where various animals in large numbers can easily be seen such as buffaloes, warthogs zebras, waterbucks, giraffes, etc.

- **Ngurdoto Crater**

  This pear-shaped volcano rising to 1853m resembles just a miniature Ngorongoro crater with a classic summit crater measuring about 3-4km in diameter and 360m deep. It is an idyllic place for tourists that comprises five viewing points of Mikindu, the Rock, Buffalo, the glade, and Leitong being the highest point. From this point, the snowy peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Momella lakes, and the lower slope can easily be seen.



- **Tululusia Hill and waterfall**

  This is a tall and beautiful waterfall that is located inside the park on the slope of mount Meru. It stands at the height of 28 metres and the water falls produce loud sound that can be heard from the distance. The waterfall provides a cool place for visitors because of the beautiful natural views and natural sounds of water and birds as well as surrounding species of wild animals.



- **The "Uwanja wa mbogo" (Buffalos Glade)**

  This open area is a natural glade consisting of marsh, bushes and Streams. It attracts animals such as Buffalos, Warthogs and Giraffes. The first two species spend their day – light grazing, resting and wallowing in the present mud-holes in order to cool their body from heat of day and expelling parasites.

- **Ngurdoto Forest**

  A dense forest surrounding Ngurdoto crater with many varieties of tree species and it's a ideal habitat for black and white colobus monkey.

- **Lake Longil and Momella lakes**

  Lake Longil is the only fresh water lake in the park. In this lake you will find tilapia fish, water birds, (water fowls), floating vegetation most notably papyrus, water lilies, papyrus mace.

  The Momella lakes are origanated from volcanic activity. They are largely fed by underground streams and because of different mineral content, they support different types of algae.

- **Fig Tree Arch**

  A striking feature of the Fig Tree Arch (Ficus thoningii) with its roots reaching the ground while leaving behind an arch enough for a car to drive through.





Tourist activities

- ## Day game viewing

The game viewing activities inside the park will give visitors opportunities to enjoy its open glades, grasslands and montane forest, the Momela lakes , wild animals , birds and other attractions.

- ## Walking safari

"Nature's on foot"; is one of the popular tourism activities within the park. Walking Safari offers unusual recreational opportunities, environmental education and sense of touch with nature and natural treasures. Currently there are six nature trails used for walking safari each with its different attractions, scenery and experiences.

- ## Canoeing safari

This activity is conducted in small Momella lakes. Canoeing Safari givehas enabled visitors to experience aspects of nature that are inaccessible during Game drive and Walking Safaris. While canoeing, one is afforded a closer watch of animals such as hippopotamus, waterbuck, occasional elephant emerging from vegetation around the lake and also a chance to explore water bird-life.

- ## Horse riding

Horse riding safaris give visitors the ultimate feeling of being in the wild and closer to the wildlife. This riding provides a unique experience that differs from other tourism activities.

- ## Mountain cycling

Mountain biking offers a thrilling outdoor sport that involve ridding the bicycles that are designed for an off-road. It is a fun and thrilling way to experience the park and its attractions. The activity is done along the designated forest trails of mount Meru from Momella gate via Miriakamba cottage to Big Meru.



- **Trail networks**

  It requires 3 - 4 days to conquer Mount Meru summit. The park recommends 4 days to allow for acclimatization and to avoid high altitude sickness visitors spend the first night at Miriakamba Accommodation Centre (2500m), the second night at saddle area and third night at Miriakamba then descending to the exit gate on the fourth day.

  Also, there are six natural trails which are used for walking safaris namely; Momella gate ltikoni, Kitoto View Point Njeku View Point, Momella gate - Tululusia Waterfall, Momella gate - Campsite no. 3 via Tululusia Waterfall, Ngurdoto Crater Rim- Laitong - Buffalo and Nagy -Trappe Forest.

Available tourist facilities

Inside the park:

Lodges and Seasonal Campsite: there are two lodges and one seasonal campsite inside the park

Cottages: Also, there are mountain cottages located at Miriakamba and Saddle for the visitors climbing Mount Meru.

Outside the park:

There are other accommodation facilities outside the park where visitors to the park can book as well.





Park rules and regulations

Please do not:

- Enter the park without a valid permit;
- Litter;
- Block other visitors access, disturb or the animals they are watching;
- Exceed the speed limit of 50k.p.h;
- Take pets, plant seeds or fire arms into the park;
- Uproot, pick, cut or damage or be in possession of any part of the plant from the park;
- Kill, harass, disturb or feed any wild animals in the park;
- Feed animals;
- Ignite wildfires;
- Mark or remove any signboard in the park;
- Enter or leave the park at points other than the official entry/exit gates stipulated in your permit;
- Push yourself to go if your body is exhausted or if you have extreme mountain sickness;
- Hike and camp at undesignated trail and campsites;
- Take children under 10 years of age above 3700m above sea level;
- Exceed 25kgs of luggage to porters (including their belongings) during the climb.

Visit and support!

Visit and experience the beauty of this amazing park. You can support the park and the surrounding communities by visiting and contribute to conservation projects.

Thank you!



For further information, please contact:

Commanding Officer
Arusha National Park
P. O. Box 3134
Arusha - Tanzania

Mobile: +255 784 711 338 / +255 689 062 363
Whatsapp: +255 689 062 363
Email: arusha@tanzaniaparks.go.tz
Instagram: arusha_nationalpark
Websites: www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz