KATAVI
NATIONAL PARK

The true wilderness of Africa



2025/2

English



Welcome to the Park!

Katavi National Park expresses its gratitude for your visit and we are here to make sure that your expectation is met. We hope your stay with us will be a memorable one given the fact that our staffs are dedicated to serving your every need.

This pristine wilderness paradise is home to the largest herds of buffaloes on the planet. It boasts a wonderful array of habitats which range from flood plains of thick reeds and dense waterways that teem with hippos and crocodiles to woodlands, open grasslands, forest and pristine seasonal lakes.

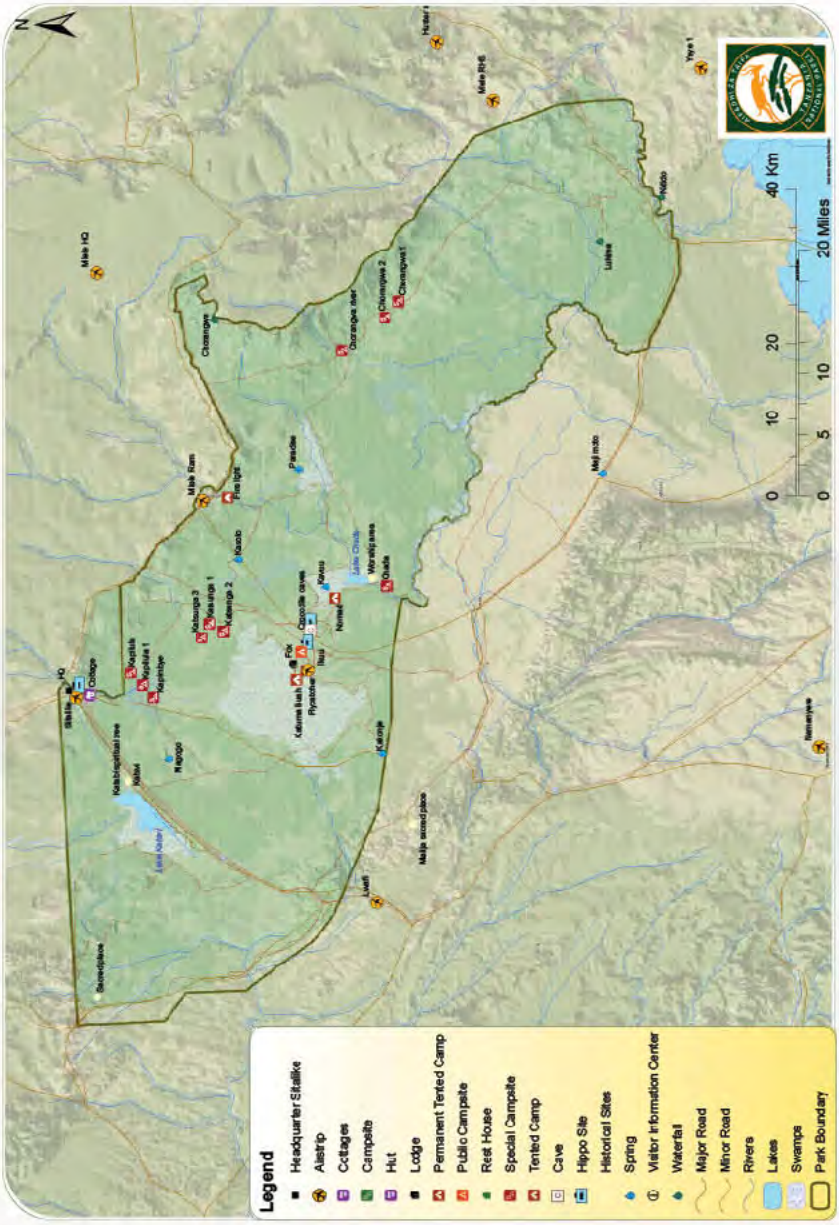
Explore the magnificent landscapes in search of wildlife in a safari vehicle or set off on foot to discover the finer details of the bush. Opt to spend a night out beneath the stars and listen to tales of the legendary huntsman, katabi who the park is named after as you relax around a blazing bonfire.

With great enthusiasm, we are genuinely thrilled to be part of your holiday and we wish you a pleasant stay.

Thank you!

Brief history

The park is named after the Wabende spirit, Katabi, who according to local legend lives in a tamarind tree near lake Katavi. Locals looking for his blessings from his spirit still leave offerings at the foot of the tree. The was gazetted in 1974, covering an area of 4,471km^2.



Getting there

By air: Private flight that land to either Mpanda airport, Sitalike airstrip or Ikuu airstrip inside the park. Also there is a public flight three times a week from Dar es salaam

By road: From either Dar es Salaam via Mbeya (1513km), Dar es Salaam via Tabora (1392km), Arusha via Tabora (1015.7km) or Mwanza via Tabora-Inyonga (741km)



By rail: It is also possible to reach Mpanda by train from Dar es salaam via Tabora then catch a public transport to Sitalike, where a game drive can be arranged. From Mpanda to Sitalike gate is only 38kms.

Climate

The park has one rainfall season which begin in November to May. The dry season is June-October, therefore it is the best time to visit the park. The average temperature is 22-26°C, 24-30°C during the day and 16-18°C during the night.

Attractions

The volume of game in Katavi is amazing as there are huge herds of hippos, crocos, buffaloes and lion prides.





Katavi's dramatic scenery is as varied as it is pristine. Flood plains of thick reeds and dense waterways are home to a huge population of hippo and variety of birds. This park is also home to the rare roan and sable antelope species and it's a must see for the visitors intending to explore the wilds of Africa.

Buffalo, elephant and zebra are the most abundant. Each population boasts thousands and thousands of individuals, herds of buffalo often triple the size one would find in the Serengeti.

- **Hippos**

  The big concentration of hippos in Katavi that happily live together in the puddles especially during the dry season is a never miss chance. One is able to see the male fights something that is truly a hair –raising watch.

- **Birds**

  The rivers in Katavi harbor a large concentration of water birds. The most common one's herons, plovers, spoonbills, African open bills and group of storks including the yellow billed and saddle billed stork. Raptors are well represented with the fish eagle, bateleur and white backed vulture being very common. Over 400 species have been recorded and migratory birds present from November to April.



- **Visit the tamarind tree**

  Please visit the tamarind tree which locals believe the famous hunter Katabi whom the park is named after lives and always used to take offerings at the foot of this tree to gain favor for hunting.

  The sheer number of animals on show is mindmobling in quantity and variety. Please plan your trip!

Tourist activities

- **Game Drive**

  Venture into the pristine wilderness of the Katavi in a 4*4 safari vehicle hosted by experts. The Park is hailed for its vast herds of buffalo which roam the magnificent plains as well as for its flourishing elephants, lions , leopards , crocodiles and hippo populations. One will also be able to see series of wide flood plains, blond with waist high grass.

  Plan your trip to come see the Ngolema, Katisunga, Katavi and Chada rivers that form the focus on the game viewing for which the Park is renowned during the dry season. If you want to immerse in the wild and intrepid adventure, then Katavi is for you.

  Swarming with an abundance of zebra, topi, impala, hartebeest, giraffe and Defassa waterbuck is simply a magnificent sight to remember. Spotted hyena with the elusive leopard emerging on the woodland fringes are frequently seen here. Wild dogs do as well prowl her but prefer to stick to the escarpment.





- **Walking Safari**

  Revel the unforgettable opportunity of getting close with the prized wilderness of the Katavi National Park. The Parks endless plains and vast open skies will leave you mesmerized and feeling completely at one with nature. This exceptional game viewing adventure is a wonderful alternative to traditional game drive. Walking safari in this park is an opportunity no to be missed!! Plan Your Trip!

- **Birding**

  Katavi is one of the best destinations for bird enthuasts in Tanzania as it is gifted with over 400 bird species, some of the birds seen are African fish eagle, lilac breasted rollers, paradise flycatchers, bateleurs and saddle billed stork. Please Go Visit the Park before others Discover it.





Available tourist facilities

Inside the park: There are cottages with shower block, toilets and cooking/dining area located at park headquarters. Also there is Public and special campsites and prior booking is advisable.

Outside the park: There are private owned facilities (lodge, camps and hotels) at Sitalike gate and Mpanda town.





Park Rules and Regulations

Please do not:

- Litter;
- Take any sorvenior from the park
- Bring any animal (pet) in to the park
- Kill, harass, disturb or feed any wild animals in the park;
- Enter the park without a valid permit;
- Ignite wildfires;
- Erect, 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.

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:

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