RUBONDO ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

The green pearl in blue water



English



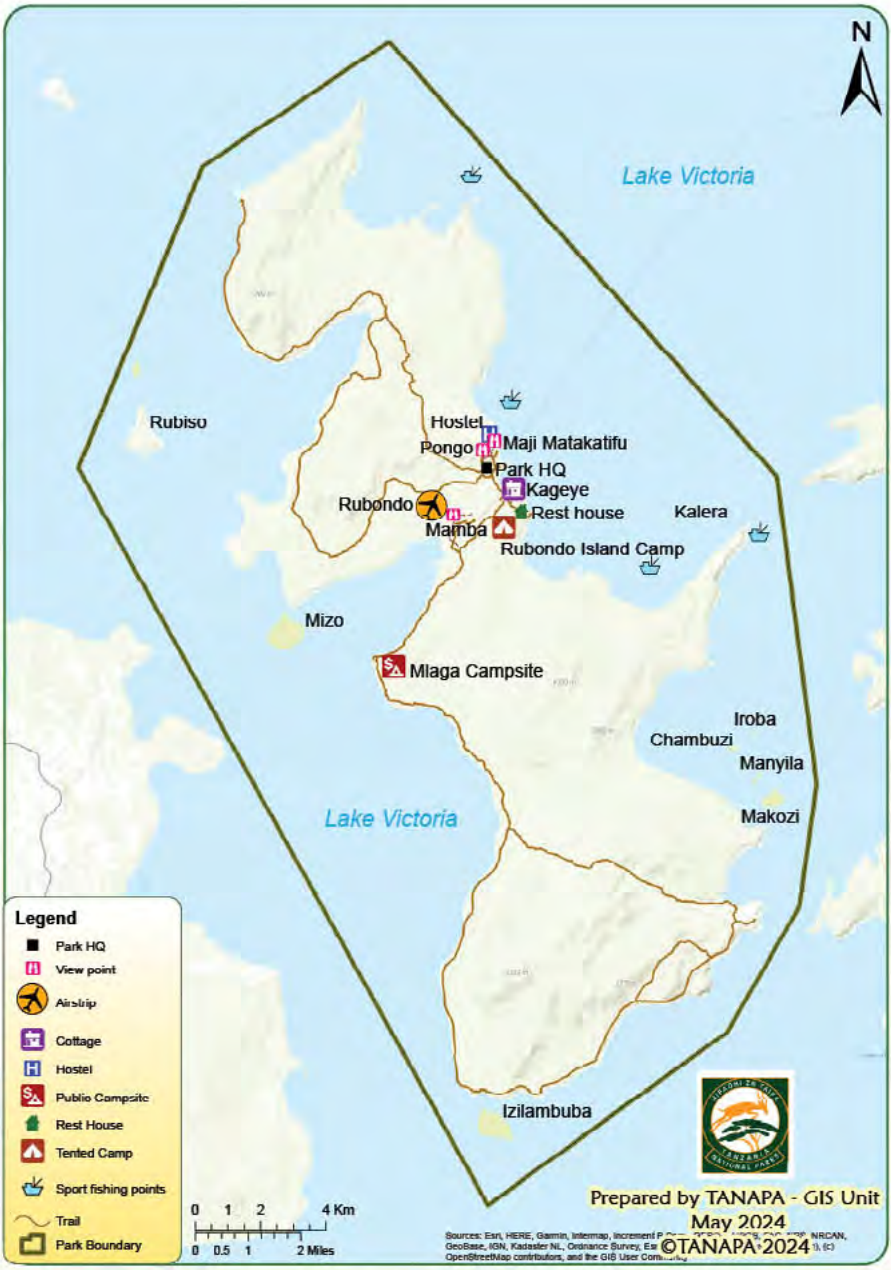
Welcome to the Park!

This beautiful park is the largest island national park in Africa and is situated in southern part of Lake Victoria. The park offers an incredibly unique adventure experience in a pristine ecosystem where animals roam wild. Here you will be able to see the rare sitatunga antelope that are in a dense forest and Chimpanzee which are seen in few national parks. Visitors can enjoy the beautiful beaches on the shore of the lake while observing wild animals and birds.

You can explore the park through walking safaris, game viewing, bird watching, canoeing and sport fishing. Our skilled and customer-oriented staff are commited at providing you with the best service. We promise that your visit to this park will make your mind refreshed and become in touch with nature!

Thank you!





Brief History

Rubondo Island National Park was initially gazetted as a Game Reserve in 1965 where its main function was to provide a sanctuary for wild animals. In 1977, Rubondo was gazetted as a National Park covering an area of 456.8 km².



Getting there

By Boat: By using own boat from Mwanza to Kageye park headquarters.

By Road: From Mwanza to Muganza 270km.

By Air: Scheduled and chattered flights from Arusha, Bukoba, Kilimanjaro, Dar-es-salaam Mwanza and other major cities to the park.

Climate

There is a bimodal rainfall with short rains from October to December and long rains from March to May. The average temperature is 22°C all year around (25-32°C daytime, 15-20°C night time).

Attractions

- **Wildlife**

  Known as the jewel of Victoria, the park boasts a unique diversity of flora and fauna including the endemic sitatunga. Other animals you are likely to spot in the park include hippos, otters, bushbucks, mongoose, elephants, suni antelope and a variety of primates that even been known to include the parks' resident chimpanzee population.





- **Birdlife**

  The park housed a variety of water birds, the eurasian migrants, introduced african grey parrots and high density of african fish eagles which are distinctly seen.

- **Lake Victoria**

  The lake forms a spectacular sight for visitors with its deepest point (Irumo gulf) being the part of the park.

- **The remnants of Congolese dense forest**

  The representatives of evergreen dense primary lowland forest with a unique habitat mosaic in the midst of high biodiversity value provides a magnificent view of one of the last raining Congolese forests in western Tanzania.

- **Beautiful beaches**

  Beautiful and attractive beaches such as fly catcher, mchangani and michicoco provides a unique look of this fresh water lake.

- **The deepest part of the lake – Irumo gulf**

  Irumo is the deepest part of lakeVictoria. This gulf provides a good and clear sighting of both sunrise and sunset making the sky beautiful.

- **Altare and Solo Cultural Sites**

  "Ntungamirwe" or "Maji Matakatifu" or "ALTARE" and Solo are cultural sites found inside the park which explain the life of natives who once stayed in the park.



Tourism Activities

- **Game drive**

  The park offers an exceptional game viewing experience while inside the dense forest dotted with open woodlands. During the game drive encountering a number of the indigenous species such as hippos, bushbuck, velvet monkey, sitatunga, crocodiles, elephants, chimpanzee, giraffe, black and white colobus monkeys, suni antelope, grey parrot, buffalos, bush pig, hyrax, warthog and large spotted genet cat makes your visit memorable.

- **Spot Fishing**

  Rubondo Island is equipped with a variety of fishing techniques including trolling, spinning live, dead bait and fly fishing. Anglers from around the world travel to this island for the opportunity to reel in a nile perch, one of Africa's biggest and most sought- after water fish. The spot fishing practice is catch and release policy. Don't ever miss out this chance by planning your trip to Rubondo.





- **Bird Watching**

  The island has an abundance of herons, storks, ibises, egrets, cormorants, kingfishers and birds of prey. You will be amazed by the high density of fish eagles that not found anywhere else. Please plan trip to come and visit this precious Park.

- **Boating and Canoeing Safari**

  Guided canoe trips offer a different perspective of the island and across the quite inlets as well as covers places that can't be reached on foot. Paddle yourself or be paddled by a guide as you trace the coast-spotted wildlife both aquatic and terrestrial. However, explore the different channels of the second largest lake in Africa.

- **Chimpanzee trekking**

  Chimp trekking in the dense forests is a magical experience where you can walk and experience nature with all your senses. Sharing of more than 98% of our genes Chimpanzees are as individually unique as humans.





- **Filming**

  The Park makes the best place for professional filming and photographing. The area provides the best place due to its spectacular attractions of the lakes.

Available tourism facilities

The Park has a variety of accommodation facilities including tented lodge, cottages, public and special campsites.



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;
- Camp at the designated campsites only.

Chimps viewing regulations

- Maintain a distance of at least 10 meters from the chimps at all times;
- Always wear a mask (provided by your guide) over your nose and mouth when you are close (50m) to a chimp;
- Do not eat or drink, while you are near the chimpanzees;
- Do not leave personal belongings on the ground;
- If you feel the urge to cough or sneeze –when you're near the chimps, please cover your nose and mouth to reduce the spread of germs;
- Try not to go to use bush toilet in the forest;
- You're not allowed to visit the chimps if you are sick or have an infectious disease;
- No person under the age of 12 is permitted to visit the chimps;
- No more than 6 visitors (plus one guide) are permitted close to the chimps at any one time;
- Maximum viewing time is one hour.

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 more information, please contact

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