



TANAPA Tourism SPLASH

ISO: 9001:2015

ISSUE: No. 3 APRIL TO JUNE 2026

THROUGH THE LENS!

Unforgettable Photography
Moments in Tanzania's
National Parks

CHASING SURVIVAL

Inside the Secret Life of
the Cheetah

ISIMILA

Tanzania's Timeless
Treasure and Hidden Stone
Kingdom of Human Origins

Sundown

A New Frontier in Luxury Safari





Big Adventures Await Discover TANAPA at **KARIBU-KILIFAIR 2026**

June 4-7, 2026 | Magereza Ground - Arusha



PLAN YOUR VISIT TO
#ArushaNationalPark
#TarangireNationalPark
#LakeManyaraNationalPark

DOWNLOAD NOW
TANAPA GO APP
FOR MORE UPDATES



Editor-in-Chief
CPA Musa N. K. Juma

Editor
Jully Bede Lyimo

Assistant Editors
Eunice Msangi
Stephen Moshy
Herman Baltazari Mtei
Evance Elias Magomba
Hilda Mikongoti
David Maige
Fred Shirima
Agnes Lwinga
Baraka Venant Serapion

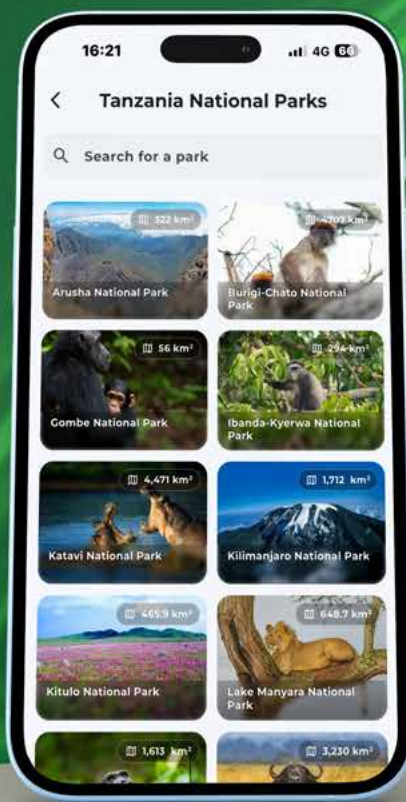
Layout & Graphics Design
Jane J. Kifaluka

Published by
Tanzania National Parks
TANAPA Building
Dodoma Road
P. O. Box 3134, Postcode 23106
Arusha - Tanzania



Published by
© Tanzania National Parks
Issue No 3, April-June 2026

Explore our National Parks Anytime, Anywhere



Plan, book, pay and access Tanzania's National
Parks seamlessly anytime, anywhere with
TANAPA GO App

CONTENTS



06

**A Message from the
Conservation
Commissioner**

07

**A Message from the
Deputy Conservation
Commissioner**

10

**Tanzania's Wild Luxury
Revolution: Inside the
New Five-Star Lodge
Rising in Mikumi
National Park**

14

**Sundown:
Tanzania National Park's
tourism luxury frontier**

17

**Through the Lens!
Unforgettable
Photography Moments
in Tanzania's National
Parks**

19

**Mount Kilimanjaro:
The Crown Jewel of
Tanzania Where Earth
Touches the Sky**

22

**Feathers, Fire and the
Fight for Survival:
The Story of the
Secretary Bird**

24

**TANAPA Launches
"Vote Now 2026"
Campaign from the
Summit of Mount Meru**

28

**Tanzania's hidden past:
The marvels of Ikuka
archaeological site in
Ruaha**

30

**Upendo Porini:
How Tanzania's National
Parks Redefined
Valentine's Day**



40

From Rivalry to Redemption:
The Remarkable Transformation of Orion in Tanzania's Wild Mountains

48

Saadani National Park:
The Only Place in Tanzania Where Safari Meets the Sea and Butterflies Fill the Air

43

Chasing Survival:
The Hidden Life of a Cheetah

51

Isimila:
Tanzania's Timeless Treasure and Hidden Stone Kingdom of Human Origins

58

Owls:
The Silent Lords of the Tanzanian Night

63

Kids at Wild:
Do or Die Story

46

Gastronomy Tourism:
Redefining the Safari Through Food and Culture in Tanzania's National Parks

54

The Untouched Majesty of Udzungwa Mountains National Park:
Tanzania's Lost World of Forests and Falls

62

Safari Quest:
Word Cross Puzzle



A Message from **Conservation Commissioner** Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA)

Dear Readers, Partners, and Stakeholders in Tourism,

Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) continues to witness remarkable progress in strengthening the quality, visibility and competitiveness of tourism experiences within our protected areas. This progress reflects our continued commitment to conservation excellence, sustainable tourism development, innovation and improved visitor experiences across Tanzania's national parks.

The increasing number of visitors choosing to explore our parks is a strong indication of the growing global appreciation for the unique wildlife, landscapes and authentic nature-based experiences found within TANAPA-managed parks. From iconic savannah ecosystems and mountain landscapes to cultural heritage sites and emerging tourism circuits, our parks continue to offer some of Africa's most extraordinary tourism experiences.

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance visitor satisfaction, TANAPA continues to invest in tourism infrastructure, product diversification, digital innovation and service improvement across our parks. Through upgraded facilities, new tourism products, enhanced accessibility and strengthened conservation initiatives, we remain focused on ensuring that every visitor enjoys safe, seamless, authentic and memorable experiences while exploring our protected areas.

This growing international recognition has recently been reflected through nominations at the World

Travel Awards Africa 2026, where several national parks secured nominations across prestigious tourism categories. In support of these recognitions, TANAPA continues to advance the Vote Now 2026 campaign aimed at mobilizing tourism stakeholders, partners, local communities and international audiences to support Tanzania's national parks on the global stage. Beyond the awards themselves, these nominations continue to strengthen the international visibility, destination branding and competitiveness of our parks within the global tourism market.

Conservation remains at the heart of everything we do. As custodians of Tanzania's natural heritage, TANAPA remains committed to protecting wildlife, ecosystems and biodiversity while ensuring tourism development continues to support environmental sustainability and community engagement for future generations.

As we look ahead, our focus remains clear: to continue protecting the extraordinary resources entrusted to us, to innovate in the way visitors experience our parks and to strengthen Tanzania National Parks as a leading destination for authentic and unforgettable nature-based tourism experiences.

Musa N. K. Juma
Conservation Commissioner





A Message from the **Deputy Conservation Commissioner** Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA)

Dear Readers,

As Tanzania enters the peak tourism season, Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) is delighted to welcome visitors from around the world to experience the extraordinary beauty, wildlife and diversity found within our national parks. This is among the most vibrant times of the year, offering exceptional opportunities for discovery and unforgettable encounters with nature.

To ensure visitors enjoy the very best of Destination Tanzania, TANAPA continues to strengthen its tourism services through improved infrastructure, upgraded visitor facilities, enhanced hospitality standards and more efficient service delivery across our parks. Our goal is to provide every guest with authentic, safe, seamless and memorable travel experiences while exploring Tanzania's unique landscapes and rich biodiversity.

Beyond traditional game viewing, visitors can now enjoy a wider range of experiences, including cultural interactions, scenic adventures, premium tourism products and opportunities to connect more deeply with nature and local heritage. As global travel preferences continue to evolve, TANAPA remains committed to

delivering tourism experiences that are engaging, world-class and aligned with the expectations of modern travelers.

At the same time, conservation remains at the heart of everything we do. Protecting wildlife, ecosystems and Tanzania's natural heritage continues to guide our efforts as we work to ensure that tourism growth remains sustainable and beneficial for future generations.

We sincerely appreciate the continued collaboration and support of tourism stakeholders, partners, investors and local communities, whose contributions play an important role in strengthening Tanzania's tourism industry.

Above all, we warmly welcome visitors from across the globe to explore, experience, and connect with the unmatched beauty of Tanzania's national parks.

Massana G. Mwishawa
Deputy Conservation Commissioner





How Tanzania Is Reinventing the African Safari Through Gastronomy

What if the soul of a safari could be tasted not just seen, but deeply felt?

In Tanzania's national parks, a new travel experience is transforming the safari into something more intimate and human. Beneath towering mountains and beside untamed wilderness, travelers are discovering that the most memorable moments are not only found on game drives, but around shared tables where culture, memory and flavor come alive.

From the foothills of Mount Meru in Arusha National Park to the culinary traditions of the Chagga community, gastronomy tourism is redefining the African safari beyond wildlife and scenery. In collaboration with renowned chef George Tumaini, Tanzania is creating immersive experiences where food, culture and nature blend seamlessly.

In Tanzania, the safari is no longer only witnessed it is savored.





A Message from **Assistant Conservation Commissioner** Business Development

Dear Readers of the *TANAPA Tourism Splash*,

Warm greetings and a heartfelt welcome to the Third Edition of *TANAPA Tourism Splash Magazine*.

With each new edition, *Tourism Splash* continues to grow as a vibrant platform that captures the spirit, diversity, and evolving story of tourism within Tanzania's national parks. More than just a magazine, it serves as a window into the landscapes, experiences, people, and conservation efforts that continue to position Tanzania among the world's most remarkable tourism destinations.

In this edition, we invite you to explore emerging tourism experiences and new frontiers shaping the future of travel across Tanzania's protected areas. Among the highlights is Sundown — a timeless safari experience that blends luxury, scenery, and wilderness in ways that redefine how visitors connect with nature. Framed by golden horizons, breathtaking landscapes, and the atmosphere of the wild, these experiences capture the tranquility, beauty, and emotion that make every Tanzanian safari unforgettable.

As tourism experiences continue to diversify, this edition also explores the growing role of gastronomy tourism within nature-based travel. By blending cuisine, culture, and conservation, gastronomy tourism offers visitors a more immersive and sensory way to experience Tanzania's destinations. From locally inspired dishes to curated bush dining experiences, these culinary offerings showcase the richness of Tanzania's cultural identity while adding a distinctive dimension to the safari experience.

Beyond tourism experiences, the magazine highlights strategic collaborations, creative campaigns, and initiatives that continue to strengthen Tanzania's position as a competitive and sustainable destination on the global

stage. From partnerships with content creators and tourism ambassadors to participation in international exhibitions, investment forums, and domestic tourism campaigns, this edition reflects the collective efforts driving tourism visibility, growth, and engagement.

Readers will also discover remarkable cultural and historical treasures, including the fascinating story of Tanzania's timeless heritage and the hidden stone kingdom linked to the origins of humankind, alongside the archaeological marvels of the Ikuka sites within Ruaha National Park. Engaging children's stories and interactive features further add a sense of adventure and discovery, making this edition enjoyable for readers of all ages.

In today's evolving digital landscape, Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) continues to enhance visitor accessibility and convenience through innovation. Visitors are encouraged to stay connected with Tanzania's national parks through the TANAPA GO App — an integrated digital platform designed to transform how travelers discover, plan, and experience all 21 national parks and five heritage sites managed by TANAPA.

As you journey through this edition, we hope these stories and experiences bring you closer to the beauty, spirit, and diversity that define Destination Tanzania. Whether you are a traveler, conservation enthusiast, investor, or simply a lover of nature and culture, may these pages inspire curiosity, connection, and a lasting appreciation for the extraordinary world within Tanzania's national parks.

Jully Bede Lyimo
Assistant Conservation Commissioner





TANZANIA'S WILD LUXURY REVOLUTION

INSIDE THE NEW FIVE-STAR LODGE RISING IN MIKUMI NATIONAL PARK

By Herman Baltazari Mtei

By the time the first rays of dawn sweep across Tanzania's Mikumi National Park, the savannah is already alive.

Elephants wander through golden grasslands. Giraffes drift slowly against a watercolor horizon. Somewhere in the distance, a lion's roar cuts through the stillness of morning.

Then comes another sound the soft clink of porcelain as a waiter places freshly brewed Tanzanian coffee onto a private terrace overlooking the plains.

For guests at the newly unveiled Mikumi Wildlife Lodge, this is not a safari excursion. It is the view from bed.



Officially launched on May 8, 2026 by Tanzania's Prime Minister, Hon. Dr. Mwigulu Nchemba, the five-star eco-lodge signals a bold new chapter in East African luxury tourism one where high-end hospitality meets untamed wilderness in the heart of one of Tanzania's most accessible national parks.

Located inside Mikumi National Park, the lodge is designed to attract both international travelers and affluent domestic tourists seeking immersive safari experiences without sacrificing comfort.

"This level of service and quality will elevate Mikumi National Park into one of Tanzania's most attractive destinations for tourists and investors," Dr. Nchemba said during the inauguration ceremony.

From City Lights to Safari Silence

The transformation begins long before guests arrive at the lodge.

On weekends, sleek SGR trains now carry families, honeymooners and business travelers away from Dar es Salaam's traffic and glass towers toward Tanzania's southern wilderness. Inside one carriage, a young couple from Zanzibar scrolls through safari photos on their phones while a group of university friends laugh excitedly about seeing lions for the first time.

A few hours later, the urban soundtrack fades into open grasslands dotted with baobab trees.

For many Tanzanians, this new accessibility is redefining what luxury travel looks like.

Thanks to Tanzania's rapidly expanding Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), travelers can now glide from the bustle of Dar es Salaam or Dodoma directly toward the serenity of the southern safari circuit. The rail link is reshaping domestic tourism patterns, making weekend wildlife escapes increasingly feasible for East Africa's growing middle and upper classes.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner Adam Malima says the shift is already visible.

"Every weekend, nearly 5,000 tourists arrive in Morogoro from Dar es Salaam, Dodoma and Zanzibar to visit Mikumi National Park," he said, citing major infrastructure improvements including the SGR and the new Kikoboga Airport in Mikumi.





For Tanzania, the strategy is clear: build luxury around connectivity and few places embody that ambition better than Mikumi Wildlife Lodge.

Luxury Without Losing the Wild

At sunset, the lodge takes on an almost cinematic glow.

Staff members carrying lanterns guide guests along elevated wooden walkways as zebras graze nearby. In the open-air restaurant, chefs prepare Swahili-inspired dishes using locally sourced spices while travelers sip South African wine and watch the sky dissolve into deep orange and violet.

One evening during the lodge's opening week, guests reportedly paused mid-dinner as a herd of elephants wandered silently past a nearby watering hole; close enough to hear branches snapping beneath their feet.

The property combines refined architecture with eco-conscious design principles intended to preserve the park's fragile ecosystem.

Spacious suites overlook sweeping plains where zebras, antelopes and buffalos roam freely. Interiors blend contemporary comfort with natural textures inspired by Tanzania's landscapes and cultures. Fine dining experiences spotlight local ingredients while elevated service standards aim to compete with some of Africa's most prestigious safari lodges.

Yet unlike many remote luxury camps requiring charter flights and complicated logistics, Mikumi offers a rare convenience: wilderness within reach.

The lodge is expected to appeal not only to traditional safari-goers but also to conference delegates, diplomatic visitors, business executives and regional travelers looking for short-stay luxury escapes.

Tanzania's Southern Circuit Gains Momentum

The opening also reflects Tanzania's wider push to reposition its Southern Circuit as a world-class tourism destination.

For years, northern icons like Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Conservation Area dominated international safari itineraries. But momentum is increasingly shifting southward, linking Mikumi with destinations such as Nyerere National Park, Udzungwa Mountains National Park and the beaches of Zanzibar.

Officials say President Samia Suluhu Hassan's tourism documentary, *The Royal Tour*, helped ignite global curiosity about Tanzania's lesser-known attractions.

Tour operators in Morogoro say some international visitors now arrive expecting only a quick stopover in Mikumi then end up extending their stays after experiencing the park's quieter, less crowded safari atmosphere.

"The connection between these destinations will increase tourist stay duration, investment, jobs and government revenue," Dr. Nchemba noted.

Tourism already contributes approximately 17 percent of Tanzania's GDP and supports more than 2.7 million jobs, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and

Tourism. Minister Dr. Ashatu Kijaji says international arrivals have now surpassed 5.9 million visitors, driven by aggressive destination marketing and investment reforms.

Inside Mikumi itself, eleven investment zones have been designated for tourism development. Six have already been secured by investors, while officials continue encouraging additional private-sector participation.

A Homegrown Investment Story

Perhaps most notably, Mikumi Wildlife Lodge is entirely Tanzanian-owned. That distinction matters deeply here.

At the launch ceremony, local residents gathered alongside government officials and tourism executives, many describing the lodge not simply as a hotel but as a symbol of Tanzanian ambition.

Speaking during the event, lodge director Gulam Ismail revealed that the company behind the project is 100 percent locally owned and currently developing 24 additional tourism projects across the country.

His message was pointed: local investors must play a leading role in shaping Tanzania's tourism future.

"Domestic investors have a responsibility to ensure that part of the profits remain in the country to help build the nation," Ismail said.

For lodge employees recruited from nearby communities, the impact is already tangible. Young hospitality graduates who once sought careers in Dar es Salaam now see opportunities emerging closer to home inside the very landscapes they grew up beside.

That vision aligns with Tanzania's broader effort to ensure tourism growth translates into local employment, entrepreneurship and long-term economic value rather than simply exporting profits abroad.



Where the Future of African Safari May Be Heading

As global luxury travel increasingly shifts toward experiential tourism, sustainability and authentic cultural connection, Mikumi Wildlife Lodge arrives at a pivotal moment.

The future of safari may no longer belong solely to ultra-remote exclusivity. It may also belong to destinations that combine accessibility, infrastructure and conservation with elevated hospitality.

And perhaps that future is best captured in a simple moment repeated each evening at Mikumi:

Guests fall silent as the sun disappears beyond the savannah. Phones lower. Conversations pause. Somewhere in the distance, a herd of elephants crosses the fading horizon.

For a few seconds, luxury gives way to something rarer awe.

And in Mikumi, Tanzania appears determined to make that feeling unforgettable.



SUNDOWN

TANZANIA NATIONAL PARK'S TOURISM LUXURY FRONTIER



By David Maige

There is a moment in Tanzania's wilderness when everything seems to pause, just briefly, before night takes over.

The heat softens. The air loosens its grip. And the vast landscapes begin to exhale the intensity of the day.

It is sundown and across the country's national parks, from the legendary plains of Serengeti National Park to the remote reaches of Katavi National Park, this daily transition is not just beautiful. It is transformative.

For seasoned safari travellers and first-time visitors alike, sundown is rarely treated as an add-on to the itinerary.

It is the moment everything else seems to revolve around a quiet ritual that defines the Tanzania's safari in its most distilled form.

As the sun begins its descent, Tanzania's landscapes shift character.

In Tarangire National Park, ancient baobab trees stand in silhouette against skies streaked with copper and fire.

Further west, in Mahale Mountains National Park, the last light dissolves into the mirrored surface of Lake Tanganyika, where forest and horizon blur into one continuous line.

On the open plains of Mikumi National Park, herds of antelope drift into shadow, reduced to moving outlines against a fading glow.

Each park tells its own version of the sunset story.

Yet the emotional effect is strikingly universal: stillness, awe and a sense of stepping outside time.

Sundown is not only a visual transition. It is a biological one.

Across the ecosystem, behaviour changes with quiet precision.



Lions emerge from shade, stretching into the first stirrings of night.

Elephants move in slow, deliberate lines toward water. Birds carve sweeping patterns across the sky, their calls echoing through cooling air.

In the forested valleys of Udzungwa Mountains National Park, the shift is heard more than seen as a rising chorus of insects and unseen movement signalling the handover from day to night.

Along the waterways of Nyerere National Park, hippos surface with heavy breaths, breaking the glassy calm of the river.

It is nature's shift change an unscripted performance that unfolds every evening without rehearsal.

And then there is the "sundowner" a tradition that has become synonymous with African safari culture.

In Tanzania, it is less about the drink itself and more about the pause it creates.

Vehicles stop. Engines fall silent. Conversations fade into half-whispers.

A glass may be raised as the sky ignites in colour, but the real luxury is attention: the scent of dry grass, the distant call of a fish eagle, the cooling wind across skin.

In an age defined by acceleration, sundown offers something increasingly rare in global travel: enforced stillness.

What makes Tanzania's sunsets particularly compelling is their diversity.

No two are ever alike. In the vast openness of Ruaha National Park, the horizon stretches endlessly, amplifying the scale of sky.

On the volcanic slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro National Park, fading light washes across Africa's highest peak in shifting gradients of gold and violet.

In the wetlands of Lake Manyara National Park, water doubles the spectacle, reflecting sky so perfectly that earth and horizon become indistinguishable.





Even within a single location, no two evenings repeat.

Clouds shift. Dust rises. Wildlife moves. Season and wind collaborate to ensure that every sundown is unrepeatable.

But what elevates the experience beyond aesthetics is its emotional weight.

Sundown invites reflection without instruction. It connects travellers not just to landscape, but to continuity to the sense that these rhythms existed long before human observation and will continue long after.

For many visitors, what remains is not a photograph but a feeling: the sense of being briefly absorbed into something larger, older and indifferent to time.

Tanzania's national parks are often defined by wildlife density, ecological range and iconic geography.

Yet it is this shared daily moment that binds them together.

Sundown becomes the invisible thread running through every itinerary, every ecosystem and every journey.

Miss a game drive and there is always another. Miss a destination and you can return.

But miss sundown and you miss the quiet centre of it all.

Because in Tanzania, the day does not simply end.

It dissolves beautifully and without ceremony into night.





THROUGH THE LENS!

UNFORGETTABLE PHOTOGRAPHY MOMENTS IN TANZANIA'S NATIONAL PARKS

By Fred Shirima

Tanzania's 21 national parks are some of the most breathtaking places on earth, each one offering unique scenes that deserve to be captured and remembered.

From wide endless savannahs and dramatic mountains to sparkling lakes and thick forests, these parks are full of photography opportunities waiting for anyone with a camera or smartphone.

Photography isn't just about taking pictures; it is about collecting memories.

Whether you are watching a herd of Buffalo walking through Mikumi, spotting Hippos in Katavi, or enjoying colorful birdlife in Rubondo Island, each moment is special and deserves to be preserved.



And when you take those beautiful photos, you are not just keeping them for yourself, you are creating something to share with friends, family or your followers on social media.

In today's world, sharing travel experiences has become part of the adventure itself.

Platform like Instagram, TikTok and Facebook allow you to post the beauty of Mkomazi's Landscapes or the sandy shores of Saadani in real time.

These shared images inspire others and help promote Tanzania's natural beauty of the world, supporting conservation and tourism in return.

You don't need to be professional to take amazing photos in the parks.

With few basic photography tips like using natural light, focusing on your subject and keeping your camera steady, you can greatly improve the quality of your pictures.

Simple things like taking photos early in the morning or late in the afternoon, can bring out the best colors and shadows.

Each of Tanzania's national parks offers something different.

Kitulo burst with wildflowers, Burigi-Chato offers beautiful lake side views and Ruaha is a haven for big game.

National Parks like Ibanda Kyerwa or Saanane Island provide unique photo experiences to visitors.

All it takes is bit of curiosity, patience, and readiness to capture the unexpected.

In the end, photography is a way of taking a piece of the park home with you.



It freezes that perfect sunset on the endless plains of the Serengeti, that curious lion's gaze or that peaceful moment by the Rufiji River in Nyerere National Park.

These images become stories, memories and inspirations, not just for you, but everyone you share with them.

So when you visit any of Tanzania's 21 national parks, don't forget your camera or smartphone and take the time to capture the beauty around you.

Because some moments are too special to forget.



MOUNT KILIMANJARO

THE CROWN JEWEL OF TANZANIA
WHERE EARTH TOUCHES THE SKY



By Hilda Mikongoti

Rising with quiet authority above the sweeping plains of East Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro stands as one of the world's most extraordinary natural landmarks.

It is not only Africa's highest peak. It is the tallest free-standing mountain on Earth.

And for travelers who journey to its slopes, it is something more than geography it is emotion, challenge and wonder rising layer by layer into the clouds.

At 5,895 meters above sea level, its snow-capped summit, Uhuru Peak, has become a symbol of achievement for adventurers across the globe.

Yet unlike many of the world's great peaks, Kilimanjaro offers something rare: it can be climbed without technical mountaineering skills, opening the door to dreamers, hikers and first-time climbers alike.

This is not just a mountain. It is a passage through worlds.

A Mountain of Many Worlds

Managed by Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Mt. Kilimanjaro is protected as part of Kilimanjaro National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site recognized for its ecological and cultural significance.

Sustainable tourism practices guide every ascent, ensuring that the mountain's fragile ecosystems remain preserved for generations to come.

Here, conservation is not background policy it is part of the experience itself.

Because Kilimanjaro is not one landscape. It is many.

Climbers begin in dense rainforest, where humidity clings to the air and colobus monkeys move through the canopy.





As the trail rises, the forest gives way to moorlands shaped by wind and time, where giant lobelias stand like living sculptures.

Higher still, the terrain becomes stark and surreal an alpine desert of rock and silence.

At the top lies the arctic zone, where ice and sky meet in a world stripped to its purest form.

Few places on Earth offer such dramatic transformation within a single journey.

Each step is a shift in planet, climate and perception.

A Climb That Welcomes the World

Kilimanjaro's greatest surprise is not its height it is its accessibility.

Unlike many of the world's highest mountains, it requires no ropes, no technical climbing equipment and

no advanced mountaineering experience.

Instead, it asks for endurance, determination and respect for altitude.

This openness has made it one of the most sought-after trekking experiences in the world.

For many visitors, the climb becomes less about reaching the summit and more about what happens along the way: the slow rhythm of walking, the silence between breaths and the growing sense that the mountain is not being conquered but understood.

Culture Rooted in the Slopes

Beyond its physical presence, Kilimanjaro carries deep cultural meaning.

For surrounding communities, particularly the Chagga people, the mountain is more than a landmark.





It is identity, heritage and spiritual connection.

Stories passed through generations speak of its power and presence, woven into daily life at its foothills.

This cultural richness extends into the visitor experience.

Travelers can explore nearby villages, engage with local traditions and experience the rhythms of life shaped by the mountain's influence.

Here, tourism is not separate from culture it is intertwined with it.

Beyond the Summit

While the climb is the centerpiece, the Kilimanjaro region offers far more than the ascent itself.

At its base, lush landscapes invite exploration. Cultural tours provide insight into local life.

Coffee plantations thrive in volcanic soil, offering some of the freshest brews in Africa.

Wildlife and nature excursions reveal the quieter beauty of the surrounding region.

For those not seeking the summit, the mountain still offers presence visible, powerful and ever-changing with the light.

Even from a distance, it dominates the horizon, reminding visitors that nature here is not background scenery.

It is the main character.

A Journey That Stays With You

To stand on Kilimanjaro is to move through time as much as space.

From rainforest to ice, from heat to freezing wind, from earth to sky—the mountain reshapes not only the landscape but the traveler's sense of self.

It is a place where effort becomes reward and silence becomes meaning.

And when the summit is finally reached, when Africa stretches endlessly below and the sun breaks over the edge of the world, the moment feels less like arrival and more like understanding.

Because Mount Kilimanjaro is not just a destination on a map.

It is a journey into possibility.

A reminder that some of the world's greatest experiences are not found at the top but in the steps taken to get there.

FEATHERS, FIRE AND THE FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL **THE STORY OF THE SECRETARY BIRD**



By Fred Shirima

With staggering diversity of 540 bird species that inhabit Serengeti, one truly stands out, the Secretary Bird.

With long legs, eagle-like eyes and a snake-stomping stride, this elegant predator captures the imagination of birders, guides and tourists alike.

Unlike its fellow raptors such as eagles, hawks and vultures that soar high in the sky, the Secretary Bird does its hunting on foot, striding gracefully across Serengeti's open grasslands.

It can walk up to 30 km a day, searching for snakes, lizards, insects, birds, small mammals and even hares and mongooses.

With its dramatic crest of feathers and fierce hunting technique, it's no wonder this bird turns heads on game drives.

Recent research confirms that Serengeti is the stronghold of the species, with over 1,500 individuals, the largest known population anywhere.



The park's vast, open savannas provide the ideal habitat, offering space for hunting and nesting in acacia and balanite trees.

But even in such a stronghold, challenges remain.

Grassland fragmentation, changes in fire regimes and drought may be impacting breeding success.

These pressures highlight the importance of protecting native grassland ecosystems, not just for Secretary Birds, but for the many other species that depend on them.

Tourists lucky enough to spot this bird often witness its fascinating behaviour, stomping its prey with lightning fast kicks, performing graceful mating displays, or tending a nest at the top of a tree.

It's an experience that blends beauty, mystery and raw nature.

The Secretary Bird is more than just a wildlife checklist item, it's a symbol of the Serengeti's unique biodiversity and the vital role of protected areas in preserving Africa's natural wonders.

The Secretary bird is the guardian of the grasslands: its presence tells the story of a world full of life.



TANAPA LAUNCHES “Vote Now/2026”

CAMPAIGN FROM THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT MERU



By Hilda Mikongoti

On April 6, 2026, the Tanzania National Parks unveiled its nationwide “Vote Now 2026” campaign from the dramatic Ash Cone of Mount Meru, rising within the breathtaking landscapes of Arusha National Park.

More than a campaign launch, the moment carried powerful symbolism.

Set against one of Tanzania’s most striking volcanic summits, it marked the country’s official call to the world to discover, celebrate and vote for its nominated destinations in the prestigious World Travel Awards Africa 2026.

At altitude, the atmosphere was both intimate and charged with national pride.





A select group of TANAPA officials, tourism stakeholders and media representatives gathered with a shared purpose: to showcase Tanzania's extraordinary natural heritage and invite global audiences to be part of its journey toward international recognition.

The choice of Mount Meru's Ash Cone was deliberate symbolizing resilience, ambition and Tanzania's continued ascent on the global tourism stage.

Surrounded by sweeping panoramic views of dense forests, rolling plains and rugged volcanic slopes, the setting itself told a compelling story of diversity and scale.

Adding a cinematic dimension to the launch, Tropic Helicopters delivered a striking aerial showcase, capturing sweeping footage of the mountain and its surrounding wilderness, amplifying the campaign's visual impact.



More Than a Campaign A National Story

The "Vote Now 2026" initiative goes beyond competition.

It is a celebration of Tanzania as one of Africa's most compelling travel destinations.

From towering peaks to vast savannahs, from pristine coastlines to rich cultural heritage, the country offers a layered and unforgettable experience.

Launching from Mount Meru underscores this diversity bold landscapes, vibrant ecosystems and rare wildlife encounters that continue to inspire travelers worldwide.





Through digital platforms, social media engagement and global outreach, TANAPA is extending an open invitation to the world to experience, appreciate and support Tanzania's story.

A Milestone Year for Tanzania Tourism

This year marks a significant achievement, with 10 national parks nominated across eight categories at the World Travel Awards Africa 2026.

The recognition reflects Tanzania's enduring commitment to conservation, sustainable tourism and world-class visitor experiences.

Iconic destinations such as Serengeti National Park, Nyerere National Park and Mount Kilimanjaro continue to stand as global symbols of the country's tourism excellence.

Every Vote Matters

Each vote cast carries weight beyond recognition.

It contributes directly to conservation efforts, strengthens wildlife protection, supports local communities and helps safeguard Tanzania's natural heritage for future generations.

In this way, participation becomes purpose. Voting is not only an endorsement it is an investment in preserving ecosystems, protecting biodiversity and advancing responsible tourism.

From the heights of Mount Meru to the vast plains and thriving ecosystems beyond, the message is clear: Tanzania's story is not only worth telling, it is worth celebrating, supporting and sharing with the world.





#TANAPA NYUMBANI KWA TUZO

SCAN TO VOTE



TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR THE *World Travel Awards - Africa 2026*

Please Vote For Us

1. **Africa's Leading National Park 2026**
Kindly select:
 - Serengeti National Park
2. **Africa's Leading Tourist Attraction 2026**
Kindly select:
 - Mount Kilimanjaro
3. **Africa's Leading Scenic National Park 2026**
Kindly select:
 - Nyerere National Park
4. **Africa's Leading Cultural National Park 2026**
Kindly select either:
 - Ruaha National Park
 - or
 - Katavi National Park
5. **Africa's Leading Honeymoon Destination 2026**
Kindly select:
 - Kitulo National Park
6. **Africa's Leading Elephant Paradise National Park 2026**
Kindly select:
 - Tarangire National Park
7. **Africa's Leading Mountain National Park 2026**
Kindly select:
 - Kilimanjaro National Park
 - or
 - Udzungwa Mountains National Park
 - or
 - Mahale Mountains National Park
 - or
 - Arusha National Park
8. **Africa's Leading Big 5 National Park 2026**
Kindly select either:
 - Serengeti National Park
 - or
 - Nyerere National Park



VOTING DATES:
30th March to
17th July 2026



**YOU CAN VOTE
NOW THROUGH
TANAPA GO APP**



TANZANIA'S HIDDEN PAST

THE MARVELS OF IKUKA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

IN RUAHA



By Nengai Nairouwa

Deep within the rugged wilderness of Ruaha National Park a destination better known for its vast elephant herds and predator-rich landscapes lies a lesser-known story.

It is not about wildlife, but about people. About time. And about a human presence that stretches back thousands of years.

The Ikuka (Lwikuka) archaeological site, tucked into this remote terrain, is emerging as one of Tanzania's most intriguing cultural frontiers an untapped layer of history beneath one of Africa's most celebrated safari destinations.

Its name, Ikuka, drawn from the Hehe language, evokes the sound of rushing water an image of movement and continuity.

It is a fitting metaphor. Because here, the story of human life has flowed uninterrupted from around 500 BC to as late as 1500 AD, leaving behind a remarkable archive etched into stone, soil and memory.

What makes Ikuka compelling is not just its age, but its depth.

Archaeological evidence reveals tools from the Early Stone Age associated with species such as *Homo erectus* and *Homo habilis* simple yet

sophisticated instruments that once shaped survival itself.

These were tools for hunting, cutting and adapting to a landscape that demanded resilience.

As time progressed, so did the technology.

Later discoveries at the site point to iron-working, pottery production and food processing markers of societies becoming more complex, more settled and more inventive.

Scattered among the terrain are massive granite boulders, or megaliths, etched with shallow bowls.

These were not decorative.

They were practical used for grinding cereals, crushing ochre, nuts, roots and even medicinal plants.

Standing among them today, one begins to sense not just activity, but rhythm. Daily life played out in cycles harvest, preparation and survival, much like the ecological rhythms still visible in Ruaha's wildlife.

Roughly 70 percent of the pottery recovered at Ikuka is made from fine clay tempered with sand, indicating that early communities sourced materials locally and mastered firing techniques that ensured durability.

It is a detail that speaks to both resourcefulness and environmental knowledge.

Elsewhere, Late Stone Age tools blades, flakes and points crafted by Homo sapiens sapiens suggest hunting strategies adapted to smaller game.

And then there are the glass beads: delicate, hand-drawn and wound, hinting at something beyond survival.

Adornment. Identity. Expression

Together, these artifacts tell a story not just of existence, but of culture.

For local communities, Ikuka is not simply an archaeological site.

It holds spiritual and ethnographic significance, linking present-day traditions to ancestral practices.

It is a place where heritage is not confined to the past it continues to resonate.

Yet despite its richness, Ikuka remains largely underexplored in the global tourism narrative.

That may be changing

As Tanzania looks to diversify its tourism offering beyond wildlife, sites like Ikuka present a compelling opportunity.

There is growing recognition that the future of travel lies in layered experiences where nature, culture and history intersect.

In this sense, Ikuka stands alongside globally recognised heritage destinations such as Olduvai Gorge, Lascaux Cave and Mesa Verde National Park places where visitors encounter not just landscapes, but the origins of human creativity and adaptation.

Integrating Ikuka into Tanzania's tourism circuit could redefine Ruaha itself not only as a wildlife haven, but as a bio-cultural landscape where

ecosystems and human history are deeply intertwined.

The potential is significant: educational tourism, research collaborations, guided heritage trails and community-led storytelling experiences that bring the past into conversation with the present.

But with opportunity comes responsibility.

Preservation is critical

Archaeological sites are fragile and their value lies not only in what is visible, but in what remains undiscovered.

Careful interpretation, sustainable access and community involvement will be key to ensuring that Ikuka's story is told without being diminished.

For now, the site remains quiet its stones holding centuries of knowledge, its artifacts whispering fragments of lives once lived.

And in a place like Ruaha, where the wild still dominates the narrative, Ikuka offers something rare: a reminder that long before the roar of lions or the migration of elephants, there were human footsteps here.

Measured. Creative. Enduring.





UPENDO PORINI

HOW TANZANIA'S NATIONAL PARKS REDEFINED VALENTINE'S DAY

By Agnes Lwinda

The first thing Kelvin Ngakuka remembers is the silence.

Not the absence of sound, but a different kind of quiet one that stretched endlessly across the plains of Serengeti National Park, settling gently between him and his partner, Jackline Kimwayi, as if the land itself were inviting them to listen.

It was just after sunrise. The air was cool, brushed with gold.

Below them, the savannah stirred awake herds shifting like slow-moving shadows, the horizon dissolving into light.

Suspended in a hot air balloon, they drifted wordlessly above it all.

"There are moments," Kelvin would later say, "when you stop trying to describe what you feel because it's simply too much."

This was one of them.

Their journey into the wild had begun weeks earlier, not in the Serengeti, but on a phone screen—through a Valentine's campaign launched by the Tanzania National Parks via the TANAPA Go App.

The campaign was called Upendo Porini "Love in the Wild."

It asked a simple question: If love could take you anywhere, where would you go?



For Kelvin and Jackline, the answer became real

Love, Reimagined

In February 2026, while much of the world leaned into familiar rituals roses, candlelight, carefully curated romance Tanzania National Parks offered something quieter and perhaps more enduring.

Upendo Porini was not designed as spectacle.

It was, at its core, an invitation to feel.

Participants shared imagined journeys into Tanzania's national parks stories shaped by longing, memory and curiosity.

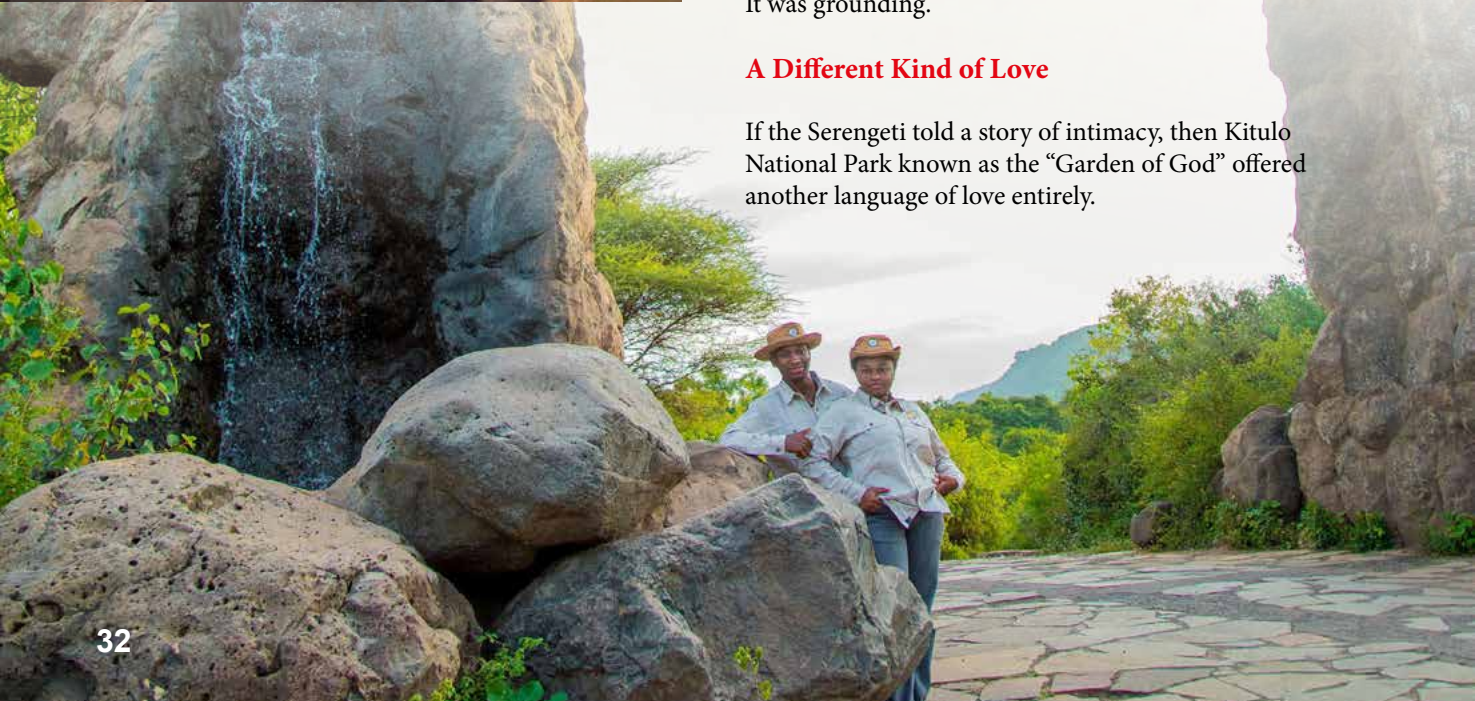
What began as a digital exercise in storytelling soon revealed something deeper: people were not just describing places. They were describing connection.

Six winners were selected.

What they received was not simply a prize, but passage.

Fully hosted journeys into some of Tanzania's most iconic landscapes experiences that replaced imagination with presence and expectation with something far less predictable.





Transformation

The Serengeti: Where Time Slows

For Kelvin and Jackline, the transformation began the moment they arrived.

At the Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge, the world they knew seemed to soften at the edges.

Conversations stretched longer. Silence felt comfortable.

Even time appeared to move differently less hurried, more deliberate.

There was an afternoon swim where laughter came easily, carried by open air.

A dinner under the sky where darkness unfolded not as absence, but as depth layered with stars, vast and unending.

And then came the morning that would stay with them forever.

The balloon rose gently, guided by wind rather than engine.

Below, the Serengeti revealed itself not as landscape, but as life in motion elephants tracing ancient paths, giraffes cutting elegant silhouettes against the horizon.

No soundtrack. No interruption.

Just breath, light and the quiet awareness of being present in something immense.

It was not simply romantic.

It was grounding.

A Different Kind of Love

If the Serengeti told a story of intimacy, then Kitulo National Park known as the “Garden of God” offered another language of love entirely.

For Immanuel Francis, the journey was not about romance, but about family



Rolling green hills stretched outward like a soft horizon.

Wildflowers moved gently with the wind, painting the land in shifting color.

Here, there were no grand gestures only shared ones.

Cycling became laughter.

Laughter became memory.

Near the Mwakipembo Waterfalls, breakfast unfolded slowly.

Mist rose from cascading water, carrying a stillness that felt almost intentional. Conversations lingered.

No one checked the time.

In Kitulo, love revealed itself in presence.

Not dramatic. Not fleeting.

But steady.

Memory, Movement, Meaning





For Yona Samwel and Foibe, love began with history

At the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial House, they walked through the preserved life of Tanzania's founding leader.

Photographs, handwritten notes and personal artifacts offered a quiet connection to a legacy that shaped a nation.

From there, their journey shifted carried by the rhythm of the Standard Gauge Railway toward Mikumi National Park.

If history grounded them, Mikumi expanded everything.

The landscape opened wide golden, unbroken.

Wildlife moved with a sense of permanence: elephants like living monuments, lions resting in the shade, zebras stitching patterns into the grasslands.

There was no separation between past and present.

Only continuity.



More Than a Destination

What Upendo Porini revealed was that love does not belong to a single form.

It is not only found in romance, though it can be.

It lives in family, in memory, in shared silence.

Through this initiative, TANAPA did more than promote travel.

It reframed how these spaces are felt.

Tanzania's national parks are often described in terms of biodiversity, scale and beauty.

All of that is true.

But what these stories suggest is something less measurable.

They are places where emotion settles differently.

Where people reconnect with each other, with themselves, with something larger.

Where moments do not rush past, but linger.

Not because of what he saw, but because of what he felt.

"It changes you," he said simply.

And perhaps that is the quiet power of the wild.

Not that it demands anything from you.

But that it gives you the space to feel everything.



Tourism Events



6th e-Government Authority (EGA) meeting
exhibition - Arusha



Kili Marathon - Moshi



Same Utalii Festival - Same



Minority Interest xorum Exhibition -
Arusha



Siku ya Wanyamapori Duniani Exhibition - Arusha

and Exhibitions



FITUR - Spain



ITB Berlin



Outbound Travel Market (OTM 2026) - Mumbai India



WTM - South Africa



Meeting Africa Exhibition 2026 - Johannesburg South Africa



Upendo Porini - Serengeti, Kitulo and Mikumi



New Life Endless Plains (Calving Season) - Serengeti



Vote Now 2026 - Arusha



Bata La Saanane na Wanawake - Mwanza



Sikukuu ya Wanawake Duniani - Saadani



Kitulo Garden Marathon - Makete



Join Us at the **Tanga Trade Fair** **Mwahako Grounds**

Get Information on Tanzania National Parks, Travel
Details and Investment Opportunities.



PLAN YOUR VISIT TO
#Saadani National Park
#Mkomazi National Park

DOWNLOAD NOW
TANAPA GO APP
FOR MORE UPDATES





FROM RIVALRY TO REDEMPTION: THE REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION OF ORION IN TANZANIA'S WILD MOUNTAINS

By Evance Elias Magomba

In the remote, emerald folds of western Tanzania, where forested peaks rise abruptly from the shores of Lake Tanganyika, something quietly extraordinary unfolded far from headlines, yet deep within the living memory of science.

At Mahale Mountains National Park, one of Africa's most important primate research sites, an aging chimpanzee once known for aggression and instability surprised even seasoned researchers with a transformation that seemed almost impossible.

His name was Orion.

And his story is rewriting how we understand compassion in the wild.

A Forest That Thinks With Us

Chimpanzee research in Mahale dates back to the mid-1960s, making it one of the longest-running field studies of its kind in Africa.

For decades, scientists have lived alongside habituated chimpanzee communities, documenting behaviors that continue to blur the boundary between instinct and intention.

Here, chimpanzees have been observed using tools, sharing meat, practicing forms of self-medication and passing down learned behaviors that resemble cultural traditions.

But even in a place where complexity is expected, Orion stood apart.

A Troubled Rise Through the Social Order

Orion was a member of the M-group (Mimikire community), one of Mahale's best-studied chimpanzee societies.

From early adulthood, his life was defined by struggle.

Around 2009–2010, he began challenging higher-ranking males in attempts to climb the social hierarchy.

The timing was poor, the alliances weak and the outcome often violent.

During the reign of the dominant alpha male Primus, Orion was frequently injured and outmaneuvered, his ambitions repeatedly collapsing under stronger opposition.

Even his partnerships failed to stabilize his position.

A brief alliance with another male, Christmas, offered little support.

Known for erratic behavior and curiosity toward human observers, Christmas was never a reliable ally in the high-stakes politics of chimpanzee life.

As years passed, Orion's behavior hardened.

He became more aggressive and unpredictable charging rivals, striking vegetation and occasionally hurling objects in displays of intimidation.

Within the group, he earned a reputation for volatility.

Among females, he struggled to gain trust or lasting bonds.

A Darker Chapter in the Forest

Like many male chimpanzees navigating unstable social standing, Orion's life included behaviors

associated with reproductive competition, including instances linked by researchers to infanticide within the community.

In chimpanzee societies, such actions—while difficult to observe—are understood within a broader ecological and evolutionary context.

Still, they further isolated Orion from stable social integration.

Over time, his physical strength declined.

His dominance never materialized.

And his presence in the group shifted from threatening to peripheral as an aging male increasingly defined by his past rather than his future.

The Moment Everything Changed

Then came July 2024.

During peak tourism and research activity, chimpanzees of the M group descended from the higher forest into lower elevations.

Among them was Orion.

What he carried stunned observers.

A tiny infant chimpanzee clung to his body.

At first, researchers feared the worst.

Given his history, the expectation was instinctive caution.

But what unfolded did not match expectation.

The infant, later named Nuru, had likely been orphaned after losing its mother.

And Orion did not abandon it.

He carried the infant carefully through the forest, adjusting his movements to protect it.

At one point, he attempted to climb a tall *Milicia excelsa* tree with the infant on his back.

When the infant slipped, he returned immediately, retrieving and continuing to care for it.

There was no aggression. Only persistence. Only protection.



A Rare Kind of Care

Infant adoption in chimpanzees is not unknown in Mahale Mountains National Park, but it is relatively rare and typically associated with females or highly tolerant males.

Researchers have documented similar cases males adopting orphans and females who raised infants despite infertility.

But Orion's case stood apart.

Not because he adopted.

But because of who he had been before.

A chimpanzee once defined by aggression, instability and social exclusion had become a consistent caregiver protecting, carrying and staying close to an orphan that was not his own.

For researchers, it was not just behavior.

It was transformation.

The Forest's Quiet Lesson

Orion's shift echoes a Swahili saying often referenced by local observers:

"Shetani akizeeka hugeuka kuwa malaika" when the devil grows old, he becomes an angel.

Whether poetic or observational, the meaning resonates deeply in Mahale.

Here, certainty is rare. Behavior is layered.

And individuals are capable of unexpected reversals that challenge simple definitions of character.

Orion's story does not erase his past.

But it expands it.

Why Mahale Matters More Than Ever

The implications of such behavior extend beyond one chimpanzee.

They speak to the emotional and social depth of a species that shares nearly 99 percent of its DNA with humans.

They also underscore the importance of protecting forests like Mahale not only as biodiversity

hotspots, but as living laboratories of behavior, memory and adaptation.

Conservation here is not abstract.

It is personal.

It is the difference between observation and disappearance.

A Different Kind of Ending

Orion remains part of the forest story-aging, moving, adapting, still observed within the shifting dynamics of the M-group.

But his legacy has changed.

Once associated with conflict, he is now also remembered for care.

And in the quiet forest of Mahale, where mist settles on ancient trees and chimpanzee calls echo through valleys older than memory, his story lingers as something rare in the wild.

Not just survival.

But change.





CHASING SURVIVAL

THE HIDDEN LIFE OF A CHEETAH

By Frank Kibamba

At first light across the open plains of Tanzania's most national parks, the savannah exhales.

A thin veil of gold stretches across the grasslands.

Herds of Thomson's gazelle stand frozen in alert silence.

In the distance, a pride of lion fades into shadow, their night of dominance complete.

Then, something unexpected breaks the stillness.

A soft, high-pitched chirp.
Not a bird.
A cheetah.

Built for speed, designed for Risk

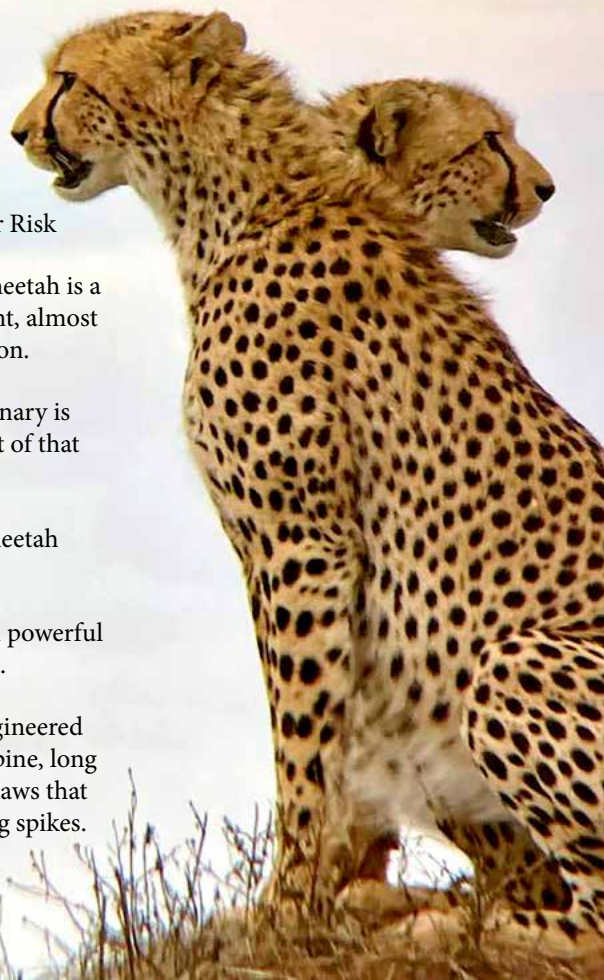
To travelers on safari, the cheetah is a bucket-list sightsleek, elegant, almost weightless against the horizon.

But what makes it extraordinary is not just its speed it's the cost of that speed.

Unlike other big cats, the cheetah does not roar.

It avoids confrontation with powerful rivals like the spotted hyena.

Every inch of its body is engineered for acceleration: a flexible spine, long limbs, enlarged lungs and claws that grip the ground like running spikes.



It can outrun almost anything.
But it cannot defend what it earns.

For visitors exploring icons like Serengeti National Park or Tarangire National Park, this reality often goes unseen.

The sprint is dramatic. The struggle that follows is quieter and far more defining.

A Mother Alone

In Tanzania's wild spaces, the life of a female cheetah is one of relentless calculation.

After roughly three months of gestation, she gives birth in secrecy hidden deep in tall grass or rocky cover.

Her cubs arrive blind, fragile and immediately at risk.

There is no pride. No partner. No protection.

Each cub carries a soft, grey mantle along its back a natural disguise that mimics the look of a honey badger, a species many predators instinctively avoid.

For a brief moment, evolution gives them an illusion of strength.

But time is unforgiving.
Within months, the disguise fades.
And the real danger begins.
The Odds No Safari Shows You

For travelers, the savannah often feels vast and peaceful.

But for a cheetah mother, it is a landscape of constant threat.

Up to 90 percent of cubs may not survive.
Predators like lions and hyenas patrol the same terrain.
Even birds of prey watch from above.

The mother cannot fight them off her survival strategy is avoidance.

She hides her cubs. Moves them often. Hunts under pressure.

Every decision is shaped by a simple truth: hesitation can mean loss.

Lessons in the Art of the Chase

For those lucky enough to witness a cheetah family in parks like Ruaha National Park or Katavi National Park, what unfolds is more than a wildlife sighting it's a masterclass in survival.



Cheetah cubs are not born hunters.
They are taught.

At first, they follow. Then they watch. And eventually, they try.

A mother will capture prey often a young gazelle and release it, giving her cubs a chance to chase.

They stumble. They miss. They fail repeatedly.

But this is the lesson.
Because a successful hunt is not just speed.

It is precision: closing the gap within meters, exploding into motion and timing the strike perfectly.

In the wild, failure is not a setback.
It is training.

The Sound of Survival

Unlike the roar of a lion echoing across the plains, the cheetah speaks softly.

Chirps. Purrs. Whistles.

The chirp so bird-like it often fools first-time visitors is a lifeline.

A mother calls to hidden cubs.
Cubs answer when lost.

In the vastness of Tanzania's open landscapes, this delicate sound becomes a thread holding a family together.

Letting Go

For travelers who return season after season, there is one moment rarely witnessed, but always present.

Separation

At around 18 months, the bond between mother and cub begins to fade.

There is no dramatic farewell. No visible conflict.

Just distance.

She responds less. Stays less. Then, one day she is gone.

Young males may remain together, forming small coalitions that increase their chances of survival.

Females step into solitude, inheriting the same path as their mother.

A Species on a Knife's Edge

Beneath the beauty of the cheetah lies a fragile genetic story.

Long ago, the species passed through a severe population bottleneck, leaving today's cheetahs with remarkably low genetic diversity.

It's an invisible vulnerability affecting health, reproduction and resilience.

And yet, they persist.
Why Tanzania Still Matters

For travelers seeking more than just sightings for those chasing understanding Tanzania remains one of the last strongholds where cheetahs can truly live as they are meant to.

Its protected landscapes Serengeti National Park, Tarangire National Park, Ruaha National Park and Katavi National Park offer something rare:
Space.

Open plains for speed.

Healthy prey populations. Room to avoid stronger predators.

These parks don't remove the cheetah's weaknesses.

They allow it to survive with them.

More Than a Safari

To see a cheetah in the wild is thrilling.

To understand it is something deeper.

It is not just the fastest land animal on Earth.

It is one of the most finely balanced predators alive a species surviving not through dominance, but through precision, adaptation and fragile resilience.

And for those who travel here, across Tanzania's endless plains, the experience becomes something more than a safari.

It becomes a glimpse into survival itself.

Because in the quiet after the sunrise, if you listen carefully You might just hear it.

That soft chirp in the grass.

Life, holding on.





GASTRONOMY TOURISM

REDEFINING THE SAFARI THROUGH FOOD AND CULTURE IN TANZANIA'S NATIONAL PARKS

By Agnes Lwinda

By blending cuisine with conservation, Tanzania National Parks is reshaping what it means to experience a safari moving beyond game drives into something far more sensory, personal and enduring.

Gastronomy, at its core, is more than what's on the plate.

It is the story of a place told through its ingredients, traditions and the people who bring them to life.

In today's evolving travel landscape, that story is becoming central to how destinations are experienced.

Travelers are no longer satisfied with simply seeing a place they want to feel it, taste it and understand it.

In Tanzania, this shift is giving rise to a compelling new frontier: gastronomy tourism within its iconic national parks.

Here, food becomes a bridge between culture and wilderness, offering travelers an immersive layer that complements the country's renowned landscapes and wildlife.

A Culinary Safari Takes Shape

This innovative approach has been brought to life in collaboration with Tanzanian culinary talent

George Tumain, popularly known as George's Kitchen.

Through carefully curated dining experiences set within protected landscapes, he is reimagining traditional Tanzanian cuisine in ways that feel both authentic and elevated.

The result is a seamless fusion of fine dining and raw nature where every dish reflects not only heritage, but also its environment.

A Taste of Chagga Culture

In Arusha National Park, gastronomy tourism finds a particularly rich expression.

Nestled at the foothills of Mount Meru and defined by dense montane forests and cascading waterfalls, the park offers an intimate and diverse setting for culinary storytelling.

Here, the experience centers on the traditions of the Chagga people.

Guests are introduced to dishes such as machalari, kiburu and kitawa recipes shaped by generations of agricultural knowledge and a deep connection to the land.

But this is not simply a meal. It is an encounter with culture.

Ingredients sourced from the surrounding environment, preparation methods rooted in heritage and the setting itself all come together to create a moment that is as meaningful as it is memorable.

In this context, the park transforms. It is no longer just a destination for hiking or wildlife viewing it becomes a living cultural landscape, where cuisine and nature exist in harmony.

Beyond the Traditional Safari

This initiative signals a broader evolution in Tanzania's tourism strategy.

By integrating gastronomy into its national parks, TANAPA is expanding the safari experience from passive observation into active participation.

It also reflects a growing recognition that food is one of the most powerful entry points into understanding a destination.

Through taste, travelers connect more deeply with people, with place and with stories that might otherwise remain untold.

Equally important is the role of storytelling beyond the park itself.

The initiative has generated compelling visual and editorial content, positioning Tanzania as a destination that offers more than iconic wildlife it offers layered, immersive experiences.

A New Chapter for Tanzania Tourism

Gastronomy tourism in Arusha is just the beginning. Plans are underway to expand these curated culinary experiences across multiple national parks, each drawing on the unique cultures and ecosystems that define their regions.

This marks a significant shift in how Tanzania presents itself to the world.

It is a move toward tourism that is not only experiential, but also rooted in authenticity and cultural pride.

By placing cuisine alongside conservation and community, Tanzania is redefining the safari for a new generation of travelers one that values connection as much as discovery.

In this reimagined journey, every bite tells a story. And every destination becomes something to truly experience not just see, but savor.





SAADANI NATIONAL PARK

THE ONLY PLACE IN TANZANIA WHERE SAFARI
MEETS THE SEA AND BUTTERFLIES FILL THE AIR

By Magesa Tumaini

Along the northern coast of Tanzania, where the rhythms of the Indian Ocean soften into the hush of inland wilderness, Saadani National Park feels like a place that never quite chooses between worlds.

Here, palm-lined beaches dissolve into savannah, elephants wander within earshot of crashing waves and lions patrol landscapes brushed by salt air.

It's a rare convergence one of East Africa's only parks where the bush meets the beach.

Yet beyond the headline acts towering giraffes, lumbering buffalo and the quiet glide of the endangered Green sea turtle there is a softer spectacle unfolding at eye level.

Look closer and Saadani reveals a more delicate drama: a living kaleidoscope of butterflies.



A Hidden World in Motion

They appear first as flickers orange, blue, yellow, black and white like petals caught in a breeze. Then, as your eyes adjust, the landscape fills with them.



Along the edges of the Zaraninge Coastal Forest, beside the winding Wami River and Mvave River and across waterlogged clearings that glisten under the sun, butterflies animate the park with quiet urgency.

More than 70 species inhabit this mosaic of habitats, each one tuned to the rhythms of the coastal climate.

Some drift lazily through sunlit clearings; others dart with purpose along riverbanks.

Together, they transform Saadani into something almost dreamlike a place where the smallest creatures carry the brightest colors.

A Tapestry of Species

Saadani's butterflies are as diverse as its landscapes.

Large, theatrical swallow tails members of the Papilionidae family glide like living kites, their elongated tails trailing behind.

Clouds of whites and yellows from the Pieridae family sweep across open spaces, often moving in loose, sunlit flocks.

In the undergrowth, the Nymphalidae brush-footed butterflies flash intricate patterns, while the tiny but iridescent members of Lycaenidae shimmer like fragments of sky.

Then there are the skippers of Hesperidae, quick and erratic, as if they're skipping through the air rather than flying.

Each depends on a precise ecological script specific host plants for their caterpillars, nectar sources for adults and the right balance of moisture and sunlight to sustain their fragile lives.



The Poetry of Transformation

Every butterfly here is the result of a quiet miracle: Complete metamorphosis.

From egg to caterpillar, from chrysalis to winged adult, their lives unfold in stages that feel almost improbable.

On warm mornings, you might see them basking wings open to catch the first heat of the day.

By midday, they drift between flowers, sipping nectar.

Along muddy riverbanks, clusters gather in a behavior known as puddling, drawing minerals from damp soil a reminder that even beauty has its practical rituals.

Small Creatures, Big Role

For all their fragility, butterflies are essential.

They pollinate flowering plants, sustaining the cycles that keep forests and grasslands alive.

They are also woven into the food chain, feeding birds, reptiles and insects.

More subtly, they act as indicators.

Because butterflies are sensitive to environmental shifts, their presence or absence offers clues about the health of Saadani's ecosystems.

Where butterflies thrive, balance often follows.

Fragile Futures

But this balance is not guaranteed.

Habitat loss, climate change, pesticide use and human disturbance threaten butterfly populations across the globe.

Even in a protected haven like Saadani, their survival depends on careful stewardship.

Conservation here is not just about protecting large mammals it's about preserving entire habitats, from forest understories to riverine corridors.

It's about ensuring that the plants butterflies depend on continue to grow and that the delicate threads connecting species remain intact.

A Quiet Reward for Travelers

For visitors, the magic of Saadani isn't only found in dramatic wildlife sightings. Sometimes, it's in the stillness standing by the Mvave freshwater point, watching dozens of butterflies gather in shifting colors, or walking through forest paths where wings flicker like living confetti.

It's a different kind of safari. Slower. More intimate. And unexpectedly moving.

A Story Written on Wings

Local guides sometimes tell a gentle story: of an African monarch butterfly setting out at sunrise in search of a mythical "Flower of Joy."

She crosses forests, grasslands and mangroves, dodging predators and riding ocean breezes, until she finds a hidden bloom glowing in a quiet clearing.

But instead of keeping the discovery to herself, she returns sharing nectar, gathering others, building a community.



Soon, the skies fill with color, a living celebration that draws animals and people alike.

It's a simple tale, but it captures something true about Saadani.

Here, even the smallest creatures can shape the atmosphere of a place.

Even a butterfly can turn a landscape into a story.

And in Saadani National Park, those stories are everywhere you just have to look closely enough to see them.





ISIMILA

TANZANIA'S TIMELESS TREASURE AND HIDDEN STONE KINGDOM OF HUMAN ORIGINS

By Neema P. Mbwana

In the southern highlands of Iringa, where the air is crisp and the landscapes roll gently toward the horizon, there is a place where time does not feel lost only layered.

The Isimila Stone Age Site is not immediately loud in its presence.

It reveals itself slowly, as though inviting visitors to look closer, to listen more carefully.

And when they do, they find something extraordinary: a meeting point between nature's quiet artistry and the earliest known chapters of human existence.

Here, the ground holds memories stretching back 200,000 to 300,000 years.

Scattered across the valley floor lie Acheulean tools hand axes, cleavers and carefully shaped stones left behind by early humans who once moved through this landscape with purpose and ingenuity.

These are not relics confined to museum glass; they remain embedded in the earth, part of the terrain itself, telling a story of survival, adaptation and awakening intelligence.

But it is the skyline that first captures the imagination.

Rising dramatically from the valley are towering sandstone pillars, carved over millennia by wind and water into slender, almost fragile forms.

They stand like silent sentinels, forming what feels like a natural cathedral vast, open and humbling.

Light shifts across their surfaces throughout the day, turning the landscape into a living canvas of shadow and color.

It is here that Isimila becomes more than an archaeological site.

It becomes an experience.

A Story That Extends Across Continents

Though deeply rooted in Tanzania, Isimila's story resonates far beyond its borders.

Similar geological formations have emerged in distant corners of the world, such as the dramatic sandstone towers of Zhangjiajie National Forest Park in China landscapes that seem sculpted by imagination as much as by nature.

Within Tanzania itself, parallels are beginning to emerge.



The recently identified Magda Pillars in Ruaha National Park hint at a broader, still-unfolding network of geological wonders shaped by similar forces.

And yet, Isimila stands apart.

Few places in the world offer such a seamless fusion of dramatic natural formations and direct evidence of early human life.

It is this rare intersection of geology and anthropology intertwined that elevates Isimila from a place of beauty to a place of global significance.

Walking Through Time

Under the stewardship of Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Isimila represents a growing vision of conservation that values both heritage and human connection.

Visitors don't simply come to see history they move through it.

Each step across the valley feels intimate, almost reverent.

The crunch of gravel underfoot echoes against the pillars and for a moment, the distance between past and present collapses.



It is not difficult to imagine early humans navigating the same terrain, shaping tools and reading the landscape for survival.

At the same time, the site contributes to local livelihoods through sustainable tourism, linking ancient history with modern community life.

It is a delicate balance preservation without isolation, access without exploitation and it is one Isimila is quietly achieving.

A Different Kind of Destination

In an era where travel is often defined by spectacle and speed, Isimila offers something rarer: authenticity.

There are no barriers separating visitors from the story. No artificial recreations.

The history here is raw, grounded and profoundly human.

This is a place where landscapes speak not loudly, but deeply.

Where time is not something you leave behind, but something you step into.

For travelers searching not just for destinations but for meaning, Isimila Stone Age Site is more than a journey across geography.

It is a journey into origin.



THE UNTOUCHED MAJESTY OF UDZUNGWA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

TANZANIA'S LOST WORLD OF FORESTS
AND FALLS



By Evance Elias Magomba

Deep within the ancient folds of Tanzania's Eastern Arc chain lies a landscape that feels suspended between worlds unchanged, unhurried and profoundly alive.

Udzungwa Mountains National Park is not the kind of place that announces itself loudly.

It does not roar with lion prides or stretch endlessly like savannah horizons.

Instead, it whispers.

Through mist-shrouded forests. Across moss-covered trails. Beside waterfalls that seem to fall from time itself.

Often described as the "Galápagos of Africa," Udzungwa is less a destination and more an immersion one of the most biologically rich and quietly extraordinary ecosystems on the continent.



A Journey Into a Different Tanzania

Located in southern Tanzania, Udzungwa is among the country's most accessible wilderness escapes, yet it feels worlds away from anything familiar.

The park lies roughly 350–360 km from Dar es Salaam, reachable by road through Morogoro and Mikumi National Park, or via the TAZARA Railway that edges through the southern corridor before descending toward Mang'ula, the main gateway.

For those seeking a slower arrival, light aircraft routes to nearby airstrips such as Mikumi and Kilombero offer a dramatic aerial introduction green folds of forest rising like waves beneath the wings.

But no matter the route, the transition is unmistakable.

The savannah gives way to forest. Heat softens into cool air. And silence deepens into something almost sacred.

A Landscape That Tells Ancient Stories

Udzungwa belongs to the Eastern Arc Mountains one of the oldest mountain chains on Earth.

Over millions of years, isolation has shaped its identity, allowing evolution to unfold in extraordinary, uninterrupted ways.

Unlike the open plains that define much of Tanzania's safari identity, Udzungwa is intimate and enclosed.

Dense tropical forests blanket rolling peaks.

Valleys hold drifting mist.

Rivers cut through green corridors carved by time and rainfall.

Walking here is not observation it is absorption.

The air is heavy with life: damp earth, crushed leaves and the faint sweetness of orchids hidden in the canopy.

Sunlight filters through towering trees in fractured beams, shifting constantly as if the forest itself is breathing.

Every step feels like discovery.

A Sanctuary of Life Found Nowhere Else

What makes Udzungwa Mountains National Park globally remarkable is not only its beauty, but its exclusivity.

This is a refuge for species found nowhere else on Earth.

Among its most iconic inhabitants are the endangered Udzungwa red colobus and the elusive Sanje mangabey.

High in the canopy, they move through branches like memory fluid, alert and perfectly adapted to a world that has remained largely undisturbed.



Birdlife here is equally extraordinary, with hundreds of species recorded, many restricted to the Eastern Arc.

Their calls layer the forest in sound echoes that rise, fall and vanish into green silence.

Even the smallest forms of life matter here.

Insects, amphibians, orchids and ferns contribute to a biodiversity so dense that new species continue to be discovered.

Science is still catching up to what Udzungwa already knows.

It is a living archive of evolution.

The Falls That Define the Forest

No journey into Udzungwa is complete without reaching its most dramatic natural landmark: the Sanje Waterfalls.

Cascading over 170 meters in three powerful tiers, the falls plunge through forest cliffs in a constant, shimmering descent.

The sound alone transforms the atmosphere deep, rhythmic, eternal.

The hike to reach them is part of the experience.

Trails wind upward through thick forest, where every turn brings movement: birds lifting from branches, monkeys calling in the distance, butterflies drifting through shafts of light.

And then, suddenly, the forest opens.

At the viewpoint above the falls, the world expands.

Below lies the Kilombero Valley vast, green and impossibly open after the enclosure of the forest.

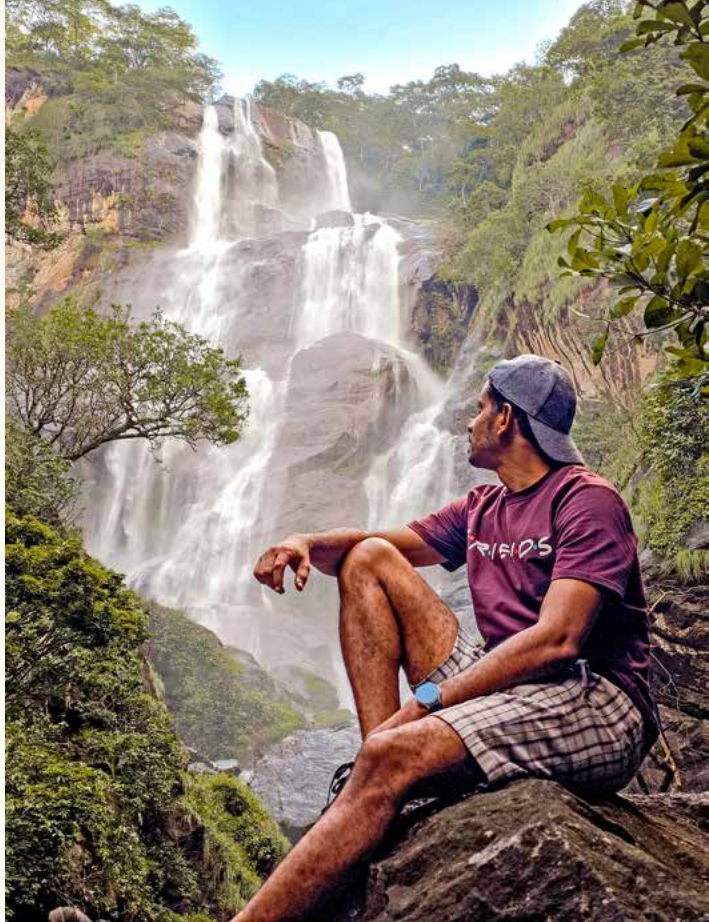
It is a moment of contrast that defines Udzungwa itself: intimacy and scale existing side by side.

A Safari on Foot, Not Wheels

Unlike most of Tanzania's famed parks, Udzungwa offers no game drives, no vehicles, no roads cutting through wilderness.

Here, the safari is walked.

Guided trekking routes lead visitors deep into forest corridors where every sound matters.



Leaves rustle with unseen movement. Bird calls shift direction.

The forest reveals itself slowly, deliberately.

It is not a fast safari.

It is a personal one.

This style of exploration creates something rare in modern travel: presence. Visitors do not pass through Udzungwa.

They enter it. And in doing so, they become part of its rhythm.

Conservation, Communities and Continuity

As part of the national conservation system managed by Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Udzungwa plays a critical ecological role far beyond tourism.

Its forests protect vital water catchments that sustain agriculture and communities across surrounding lowlands.

Rivers born in these mountains flow outward, feeding livelihoods long after they leave the park's boundaries.

This makes conservation here not abstract, but essential.

Protecting Udzungwa is not only about preserving rare species or ancient forests.

It is about safeguarding water, stability and future resilience for the people who live alongside it.

Eco-tourism, research and education form part of this balance ensuring that exploration supports preservation rather than threatens it.

Tanzania's Quiet Giant

In a country defined by global icons like the Serengeti and Mount Kilimanjaro, Udzungwa remains deliberately understated.

It does not compete for attention.

It offers something different instead.

Stillness over spectacle. Depth over distance. Intimacy over scale.

For those who venture beyond the familiar routes, Udzungwa Mountains National Park reveals a Tanzania that feels older, quieter and deeply rooted in time.

A place where forests breathe slowly. Where waterfalls fall endlessly.

And where life continues, largely unseen, exactly as it has for centuries.

In Udzungwa, nature does not perform. It simply exists.

And that, perhaps, is its greatest majesty.





OWLS

THE SILENT LORDS OF THE TANZANIAN NIGHT

By David Maige

The night in Tanzania is never truly silent.

As darkness settles over the savanna and the last glow of sunset fades behind acacia trees, a soft, haunting call drifts through the air.

It may rise from deep woodland, a quiet village edge, or even the rafters of a farmhouse.

Then, almost imperceptibly, a shadow moves wings stretched wide, gliding without a sound.

An owl is hunting.

A Land Shaped by Night Wings

Few travelers arrive in Tanzania thinking about owls.

The country's reputation is built on sweeping safaris, iconic wildlife and vast open landscapes.

But when daylight fades, another world awakens one ruled by silence, precision and extraordinary adaptation.

Tanzania is home to more than 25 owl species, spread across two families: Tytonidae and Strigidae.

Together, they occupy nearly every corner of the country's ecosystems.

Some drift ghost-like across open grasslands.

Others perch in rocky escarpments, watching with steady, unblinking eyes.



A few have quietly adapted to human presence, nesting in barns, churches and abandoned buildings living closer to people than most ever realize.

And yet, they remain largely unseen.

Owls belong to the night

Engineered for Darkness

Everything about an owl is designed for precision in near-total darkness.

Its large, forward-facing eyes gather even the faintest traces of light.

But sight alone is not what makes an owl such an effective hunter. Its greatest advantage lies in sound.

Hidden beneath soft layers of feathers, an owl's ears are often asymmetrical one positioned slightly higher than the other.

This subtle difference allows it to detect not just noise, but the exact direction and distance of a sound.

A faint rustle in dry grass or a tiny movement beneath leaves is enough.

The owl does not just hear. It pinpoints.

Its circular facial disc the halo of feathers around its face acts like a natural satellite dish, channeling sound directly to its ears.

Even in complete darkness, an owl can locate prey it cannot see.

And when it moves, it does so in near silence.

Specially adapted feathers reduce air turbulence, allowing it to fly without a whisper.

To its prey, danger arrives without warning.

The Precision of the Hunt

An owl's hunt is a study in patience.

It may wait motionless for long minutes, listening more than looking, before descending in a controlled, effortless glide.

At other times, it drifts low across the land a shadow guided entirely by sound.

Its diet is practical and essential: rodents, insects, small birds and reptiles. In Tanzania's farmlands, owls play a quiet but critical role, consuming pests that would otherwise damage crops and food stores.

But the story does not end with the catch.

Inside the owl's body, digestion becomes a process of separation.

Soft tissues are broken down in the proventriculus, while indigestible parts bones, fur, feathers are compacted in the gizzard into a small pellet.

Hours later, the owl regurgitates this pellet beneath its perch.

To most, it is an unremarkable object.

To scientists, it is a record a precise account of the night's hunt and a window into the hidden life of the surrounding landscape.

A Softer Side of the Hunter

During breeding season, these silent predators reveal a quieter, more intimate side.





Conservationists and educators are working to replace fear with understanding, sharing the science and significance of these birds.

In some rural areas, farmers are now encouraging owls to nest nearby embracing them as natural pest control.

It is a small but meaningful transformation, showing how knowledge can reshape long-held beliefs.

A Voice in the Dark

As night deepens over Tanzania, the owl continues its work unseen, unheard, yet essential.

It moves between wilderness and village, field and forest, asking for little and giving much.

Its presence is marked only by the soft echo of its call.

To understand the owl is to move beyond fear and into respect.

And perhaps, the next time that haunting sound breaks the silence of a Tanzanian night, it will no longer feel like a warning but a reminder that the wild still lives, quietly, all around us.

Owls form strong pair bonds and rely on what the environment offers for nesting tree hollows, rocky crevices, abandoned nests, or old buildings.

A female typically lays two to five eggs, while the male becomes the provider, hunting tirelessly to sustain the growing family.

When the chicks hatch, they are fragile and blind, covered in soft down.

For weeks, they depend entirely on their parents. But growth is rapid and soon the nest fills with movement, soft calls and competition.

Despite their calm demeanor, owls are fiercely protective.

Any threat to their young is met with surprising force.

Between Myth and Reality

For all their ecological importance, owls are often misunderstood.

Across parts of Africa, including communities in Tanzania, they are sometimes linked to superstition seen as omens of misfortune or symbols of the unknown.

Their nocturnal habits, haunting calls and luminous eyes have shaped stories rooted in fear.

As a result, owls are occasionally driven away or harmed.

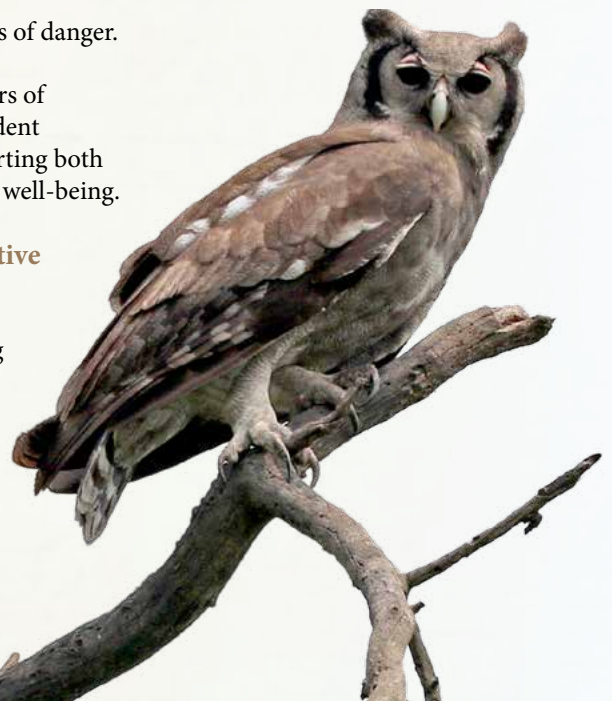
Yet the reality is far different.

Owls are not harbingers of danger.

They are quiet protectors of balance, controlling rodent populations and supporting both agriculture and human well-being.

Changing the Narrative

Across Tanzania, that perception is beginning to shift.



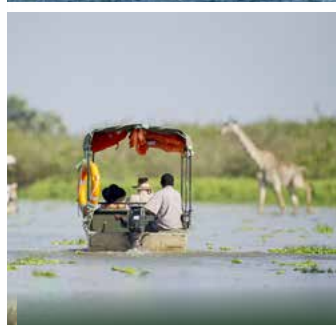


Tanzania National Parks

**EXPLORE THE AUTHENTIC
NATIONAL PARKS IN AFRICA!**

Tanzania National Parks offers unique, breath taking and natural scenic view in all their destinations that creates unforgettable memories not to be missed. You are assured of all year round spectacular activities such as mountain climbing, wildlife viewing safari, wilderness walking safaris, chimpanzee trekking, boat excursions, horseback riding, balloon safaris, sport fishing, bird watching and canopy walkway.

Journey and create your ideal holiday in the most unspoiled nature with wildlife abundance in Serengeti, Ruaha, Kilimanjaro, Tarangire, Mikumi, Arusha, Saanane Island, Rubondo Island, Mahale Mountains, Kitulo, Gombe, Mkomazi, Saadani, Lake Manyara, Katavi, Udzungwa Mountains, Nyerere, Ugalla River, Burigi-Chato, Ibanda-Kyrewa and Rumanyika-Karagwe.



**DOWNLOAD NOW
TANAPA GO APP
FOR MORE UPDATES**



Safari Quest

WORD CROSS PUZZLE

U	G	A	L	L	A	R	I	V	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	S	E	E	T	A	H
A	S	H	C	I	S	S	E	C	R	E	T	A	R	Y	B	I	R	D	A	A	N	I
S	U	D	A	J	N	I	R	N	A	D	A	A	H	H	E	E	T	A	H	E	T	A
H	E	D	E	I	C	H	E	E	T	H	I	S	A	R	Y	B	I	R	B	I	R	O
C	O	N	Z	J	G	O	W	A	L	K	A	U	G	A	L	L	A	R	I	V	E	R
O	N	I	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	E	R	E	R	E	S	A	A	P	P	A
N	H	H	E	C	N	E	Y	O	S	T	R	I	C	H	E	R	P	S	W	H	Y	J
A	S	R	Y	G	O	G	N	C	H	E	R	E	T	W	K	A	G	O	W	O	W	N
S	E	C	R	E	T	A	W	U	G	A	L	L	R	I	N	E	T	T	E	T	A	A
I	N	A	D	A	A	S	D	A	E	R	I	C	H	A	H	E	C	N	S	O	L	M
M	Y	N	S	T	R	T	H	E	M	O	U	N	T	K	I	L	I	M	D	G	K	I
A	E	O	T	O	M	R	R	Y	A	O	S	T	R	I	C	R	I	V	P	R	W	L
H	R	P	A	U	A	O	C	R	H	E	U	E	C	H	E	E	T	A	H	O	A	I
L	R	Y	N	N	H	N	A	D	L	A	S	N	H	E	C	N	R	E	O	G	Y	K
E	E	W	A	T	A	O	M	W	E	G	O	W	T	U	J	I	J	E	T	E	A	T
M	R	A	P	A	L	M	O	L	M	T	T	E	M	A	H	E	C	N	O	V	R	N
O	E	L	A	I	E	Y	U	T	O	W	L	G	O	S	I	S	T	R	G	I	B	U
U	U	K	B	U	T	C	N	A	U	O	T	O	U	H	A	N	U	G	R	R	E	O
N	G	W	R	E	T	O	T	N	N	P	A	U	N	C	U	G	S	E	A	U	G	M
T	A	A	M	O	U	N	K	A	T	Y	N	N	T	O	A	U	G	A	P	G	O	W
A	L	Y	A	O	N	E	I	P	A	W	A	T	M	N	Y	E	R	E	H	T	T	E
A	S	A	W	L	G	O	W	A	I	A	P	A	S	E	R	I	C	H	Y	S	T	R
T	E	R	F	L	T	T	E	G	N	E	R	I	C	H	R	E	T	R	H	E	C	N
R	Y	B	I	R	D	S	I	O	S	T	R	I	C	H	H	E	E	T	A	H	U	G
H	H	E	E	T	A	E	R	I	C	H	R	E	T	A	R	Y	B	I	R	A	S	D

- A. UDZUNGWA MOUNTAINS
- B. BUTTERFLY
- C. GASTRONOMY
- D. SECRETARY BIRD
- E. MOUNT KILIMANJARO
- F. PHOTOGRAPHY
- G. NYERERE
- H. OWL
- I. SAADANI
- J. TANAPA GO
- K. ASH CONE
- L. MAHALE MOUNTAINS
- M. CANOPY WALKWAY
- N. UGALLA RIVER
- O. UJJI
- P. OSTRICH
- Q. CHEETAH

1. Stands at 5,895 meters above sea level. ☐
2. "It's not only about taking pictures; it's about collecting memories." ☐
3. A grassland raptor that hunts on foot. ☐
4. Africa's Leading Scenic National Park 2026 nominee by the World Travel Awards. ☐
5. A mobile app by Tanzania National Parks. ☐
6. Home to one of the world's largest populations of wild chimpanzees. ☐
7. Its body is engineered for acceleration. ☐
8. The art and experience of food and cuisine. ☐
9. A destination that offers both safari and beach experiences. ☐

10. Volcanic debris built around an eruption point on Mount Meru. ☐
11. Often referred to as the "Galápagos of Africa." ☐
12. This nocturnal bird can rotate its neck up to 270 degrees. ☐
13. A snake-stomping stride. ☐
14. Remarkable insects known for their vibrant colors. ☐
15. A sky-high adventure through the stunning forest of Lake Manyara. ☐
16. A remote western Tanzania park named after a river system. ☐
17. Historic town on the shores of Lake Tanganyika where Stanley met Livingstone in 1871. ☐
18. The tallest bird in the world. ☐

KIDS @ wild

**“EVERY ANIMAL
HAS A STORY”**

Do or Die Story



A story by Baraka Serapion:

**Every Migration carries the same rule
written in dust blood and courage:**

Under the warm evening sky, a little boy sat beside his grandmother near the fire as the winds of the Serengeti whispered through the grass.

“Grandmother,” he asked softly, “why do wildebeests keep crossing the Mara River every year?” The old woman smiled gently and adjusted her shawl.

“My grandson,” she said, “the wild teaches lessons better than many classrooms. Listen carefully...”

Far away in the endless plains of Serengeti National Park, thousands of wildebeests once began their long migration. Dust covered the sky as they moved together searching for greener grass and water.



Among them was a young wildebeest named **Tau**.
It was his first journey.

Tau was strong, but he was also afraid. The older wildebeests had warned him about the Mara River ahead — a dangerous river filled with giant crocodiles waiting beneath the muddy water. When the herd finally reached the banks of the Mara River, fear spread everywhere. Some wildebeests stepped back Some cried out loudly, Others stood frozen

Kids at wild: Do or Die Story

Tau looked at the rushing river and his legs trembled, Then his mother spoke to him.
“If you stop here because of fear,” she said, “you will never reach the greener side.”

Suddenly one wildebeest jumped into the Mara River and thousands followed behind.
Tau closed his eyes and leaped.

The water pushed him hard, Crocodiles attacked from below, Animals struggled around him. Some gave up and disappeared beneath the water, Tau became tired, Very tired.

At one moment, a crocodile grabbed his leg and tried to pull him underwater.
Tau thought it was the end.

But then he remembered his mother’s words:
“If you stop fighting, you lose everything.”

With all the strength left inside him, Tau fought back and escaped from the crocodile’s jaws. Injured and weak, he continued walking little by little through the fierce waters of the Mara River until he finally reached the other side alive.

The grandmother paused and looked deeply into her grandson’s eyes.

“My child,” she said softly, “life is just like the Mara River.”

The boy listened quietly, “In school,” she continued, “many students fear difficult subjects the same way Tau feared the Mara River, Some become lazy, Some stop reading when lessons become hard, Others follow bad friends and waste their time, She pointed toward the darkness beyond the fire.

“But the future belongs to those who keep moving forward even when life becomes difficult.”

“If you refuse to study,” she said, “failure will catch you the same way crocodiles catch weak wildebeests in the Mara River.”

“But if you read, work hard, ask questions and never give up, you will cross your own river one day.”

The boy nodded slowly.

The grandmother smiled again.

“Remember this always, my grandson . . .”

“In the wild, only the determined survive.

And in life, only the hardworking succeed.”





Every hole is shaped by stunning
landscapes, breathtaking scenery
and pure Serengeti magic

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK GOLF COURSE



LAUNCHING SOON



Wild at your fingertips



GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store



THE CONSERVATION COMMISSIONER
TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS
P. O. Box 3134, PostCode 23106
ARUSHA - TANZANIA

T: +255 (27) 297 040, +255 (27) 297 0405

F: +255 (27) 297 0408

info@tanzaniaparks.go.tz

www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz



Sustainable Conservation for Development