



# MAHALE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

*English*



***“Chimps trekking Paradise”***



## *Welcome to Mahale Mountains National Park!*

**O**n the shores of Lake Tanganyika, the oldest and deepest lake in the world lies a pristine and remote park; the Mahale Mountains National Park. This park holds and protect the largest known population of chimpanzees, the jungle and the mountains. Visiting the park is a gratifying experience as you have a chance to carry chimp-trekking, hiking, snorkeling, sport fishing, boat ride, fly camping and bird watching.

## **Brief History of the Park**

The area was gazetted as a National park in 1985 with an area of 1,613 km<sup>2</sup> (1,517 km<sup>2</sup> terrestrial & 96km<sup>2</sup> aquatic). The protection of this area was a reflection of the government commitment to preserve the last remaining wild chimpanzees in Africa. Also it was a result of series of research conducted by Japanese from 1961 to 1965 where they begun habituating chimpanzees in 1966.





## Getting there

**By road:** Distance from Kigoma town to Mahale Mountains National Parks is 220 km

**By water:** From Kigoma town can be reached by ship (Liemba) or boat via Lake Tanganyika to Lagosa point and then by using boat with 30 minutes cruise to the

park. Also transport at Rukoma or Mgambo village is available where you can hire a local boat or arrange with park for boat pick up

**By air :** Using chartered flight (Zantas air, Coastal aviation, Air Excel and safari air link) to mahale airstrip which is 05km to the park headquarters.



## Climate

There are two rainy seasons, the short rains (October-November) and heavy rains (March to May) with an annual range of 1,500 - 2,500mm. The best time for forest walks is during the dry season where chimpanzees are likely to be seen in big groups and one may enjoy observing their various behaviours such as hunting of other primates or mammals. The maximum mean temperature of 31°C and humidity.







## Attractions

The park is renowned with the variety of attractions varying from terrestrial, jungle to the beaches of lake Tanganyika.

- **The chimps**

The chimps are always seen in the forest jumping from one branch to another, from one tree to another and other times on the ground playing, grooming and eating.

- **Lake Tanganyika**

This longest and deepest lake in the world with magnificent views of the shores provides a unique visitors' experience especially when conducting snorkeling or resting on the shores while watching aquatic birds.





- **Mahale Mountain**

The mountain provides an experience of physical challenge when attempting to summit the peak. It takes about 9 hours to reach the top and during the hike one can spot different wildlife which makes your journey unforgettable.

## **Tourism Activities**

- **Chimp trekking**

The chimp trekking takes visitors on a wild adventure through the hazy forest. Sitting in the forest, watching chimpanzees getting on with their daily lives is a truly unforgettable experience.



- **Walking safari**

Mahale is not just about chimpanzee-trekking; it also offers the perfect balance of wildlife viewing where animals like Bush Pigs, Bush bucks, Red Colobus Monkeys, Red Tailed Monkey, Blue Monkey and Red Duiker are easily seen. The park offers short and long walks in the network of strategically positioned natural trails which provide a wide range of choice to visitors.

- **Boat cruising**

This activity enables a visitor to get a chance to view a spectacular beauty of the lake and its shore full of beautiful water birds, crocodiles, hippos, otters and different plant species.

- **Sport fishing**

Enjoy the sport fishing in Mahale where a visitor has a chance of getting a big catch. This thrilling and exciting recreational activity will make your safari a memorable one. This activity is done under capture and release fishing method to ensure park resource remain natural and unaltered condition.





- **Mountain hiking**

Kungwe with an elevation of 2462m a.s.l is the highest peak which provide visitors with a unique sense of physical challenge when climbing to the peak. It takes about 7–9 hours to the peak.

Other tourism activities offered by the park includes camping safaris, (wilderness and fly camping along the beaches), snorkeling, diving, kayaking and bird watching.

## Available Tourism Facilities

### Park owned facilities

There are self-contained tourist bandas and public/ private camping sites.

### Private owned facilities

There are two operating luxury tented camp namely, GREYSTOKE CAMP with a capacity of 14 beds and is the oldest camp in the Park, owned by Nomad Tanzania Limited and KUNGWE BEACH PERMANENT CAMP with a capacity of 20 beds owned by Kigoma Hilltop Lodges and Safaris.

**NB:** Prior booking is required





# TARIFFS

	East Africa TShs.	Non Resident US\$	Expatriate US\$
<b>A. Conservation fees per person</b>			
i. Age 16 and above	5,000	80	40
ii. Age between 5 and 15	2,000	20	10
iii. Age below 5 years	Free	Free	Free
<b>B. Camping Fee - Public Campsite</b>			
i. Age 16 and above	5,000	30	30
ii. Age between 5 and 15	2,500	5	5
iii. Age below 5 years	Free	Free	Free
<b>C. Camping Fee - Special Campsite</b>			
i. Of or above age of 16 years	10,000	50	50
ii. Between the age of 5 and 15 years	5,000	10	10
iii. Children below the age of 5 years	Free	Free	Free
<b>D. Camping Fees - Seasonal Campsite</b>			
i. Of or above age of 16 years	15,000	50	50
ii. Between the age of 5 and 15 years	7,500	10	10
iii. Children below the age of 5 years	Free	Free	Free
<b>E. Camping Fee - Flying Campsite</b>			
i. Of or above age of 16 years	5,000	50	50
ii. Between the age of 5 and 15 years	2,500	10	10
iii. Children below the age of 5 years	Free	Free	Free
<b>F. Accommodation fee</b>			
Bandas	40,000	40	40
<b>G. Sport Fishing</b>			
i. Age 16 and above	10,000	25	25
ii. Age between 5 and 15	5,000	10	10
iii. Hiring of fishing rod (per rod) per day	10,000	20	20

#### H. Walking Safaris

i. Short walks (1 to 4 hours) for adults	5,000	20	20
ii. Short walks for children of or above 12 years	2,500	10	10
iii. Long walks (above 4 hours) for adults	10,000	25	25
iv. Long walks for children of or above 12 years	5,000	15	15

#### I. Guide/Ranger per group

Guide fee	5,000	20	20
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#### J. Filming Fees

The following filming fees are applicable to each person per day and covers entrance, camping and filming. This applies to all Nationalities US \$ 180

#### K. Filming Fees Crew Fee (Tanzanians)

this includes Conservation fee (Tshs 1,000)  
and Camping fee (Tshs 2,000) Tshs 3,000

#### L. Hotel Concession Fees

i. Of or above age of 16 years	20,000	30	30
ii. Between the age of 5 and 15 years	5,000	10	10

#### M. Video shooting per group of 2-20 pax

This is for recording own art (music or movies)

i. Inside the Park (payable on top of conservation fees per day)	100,000	100	100
ii. HQ and Park office ground	100,000	50	50

N. Bushmeal	5,000	5	5
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O. Boat safari fee	10,000	20	20
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#### P. Snorkeling

All National Parks where applicable

for 3 Hrs	10,000	10	10
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**Q. Annual Directors' Pass Fee**

US \$ 100

*Requires prior authorization from the Conservation Commissioner***R. Landing Fees**

	Foreign Aircrafts (US \$)		Local Aircrafts (TShs)	
	Private	Commercial	Private	Commercial
a) Up to 4 seaters	50	120	10,000	15,000
b) 5 - 12 seaters	120	170	15,000	20,000
c) 13 - 20 seaters	170	320	20,000	35,000
d) Over 20 seaters	NA	NA	50,000	60,000

**S. Students Fee for Orgniazed Groups or Individuals**

- i. Conservation fee for Primary, Secondary and High School students TShs 2,000
- ii. Conservation fee for Colleges and Universities Students TShs 5,000
- iii. Camping fees for Primary, Secondary and High school students TShs 2,000
- iv. Camping fee for College and University students TShs 3,000
- v. Huts and hostel for the students TShs 5,000

**T. Multiple entry in the park**

There shall be two multiple entries in the Park where entry fees shall apply

- i. Day-trip permit, which is valid for twelve daylight hours and allows multiple entries within such validity period.
- ii. A sleep-over permit which is valid for twenty-four hours and allows multiple entries within such validity period.

**U. Tourism Investment Site Allocation Fee and Annual Land Base Rent Fee**

Non-Refundable Tourism Investment Site Allocation and Annual Land Base Rent fees for new investors in National Parks.

- i. Non-Refundable Tourism Investment Site Allocation fee US\$ 1,000

ii. Annual Land Base Rent fee:

a) Seasonal campsites	US\$ 100
b) Permanent Tented Camps	US\$ 1,000
c) Lodges	US\$ 5,000

**NOTE:**

- Conservation and Vehicle fees are for multiple entry
- Fee once paid is non- refundable
- Proof of identification is mandatory at entry gate
- All tariffs are VAT (18%) exclusive
- Expatriates/residents and their dependents living in Tanzania must have either of the following documents: residents permit Class A,B or C; exemption certificate; temporary pass attached with
- Government receipt plus acknowledgement letter; and Diplomatic passport or ID
- EAC citizen refers to the nationals of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda and South Sudan
- Nationals of other EAC member states must produce their passport at entry gate
- EAC private vehicles are strictly prohibited to conduct any tourism business in the park
- For video shooting consult Park Management for guidance

## Visit and support

*Visit the park and experience the real side of an Africa culture where locals can share their traditions and cultural values where you can contribute by improving their livelihood in this ever changing world! Thank you!*



# Park Rules and Regulations

## Please do not

- Litter
- Kill, harass, disturb or feed any wild animals in the Park
- Enter the park without a valid permit
- Push yourself to go if your body is exhausted or if you have extreme mountain sickness
- Ignite wildfires
- Erect, mark or remove any signboard in the Park
- Enter or leave the Park at points other than the official entry/exit gates stipulated in your permit
- Hike and camp at the designated trail and campsites only

## Chimp viewing regulations

Chimpanzees are man's closest living relatives and we share 98% of our genes this making chimps more susceptible to most human infectious disease. To help us protect mahale's precious chimp.

Please;-

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



For more information please contact  
Commanding Officer  
Mahale Mountain National Park  
P.O. Box 1374  
Kigoma, Tanzania

Tel: +255-27-2756602 | Fax: +255-27-2756606  
E-mail: [sokwe@tanzaniaparks.go.tz](mailto:sokwe@tanzaniaparks.go.tz)  
Web: [www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz](http://www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz)