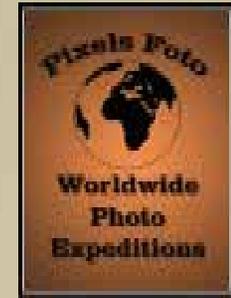


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Rwandan Gorilla and Monkey Trek & Tanzania Wildlife Safari



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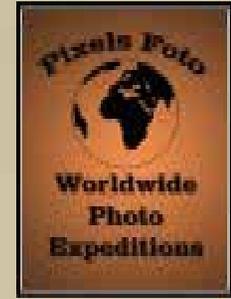


DAY	DATE	ACCOMMODATION / LOCATION	ACTIVITIES / TRAVEL
1	06/20,21	Depart US Serena Hotel / Kigali	Leave the US on June 20th and arrive in the evening of the 21st on KLM airlines into Kigali International Airport, Rwanda. Meet and greet by our guides and transfer to the beautiful Serena Hotel for dinner and overnight.
2	06/22	Five Volcanoes Lodge at Volcanoes National Park	City tour of Kigali and transfer to Parc National des Volcans. Arrive at the Five Volcanoes Lodge. http://fivevolcanoesrwanda.com/
3	06/23	Five Volcanoes Lodge at Volcanoes National Park	Today is our first trek. We'll start off our adventure with a trek to see the Golden Monkeys. After an early breakfast, we will head to the park headquarters to be briefed about what to expect on our trek. After our trek, it's back to the lodge for lunch and a casual afternoon with maybe a visit to the twin lakes.
4	06/24	Five Volcanoes Lodge at Volcanoes National Park	Today is our gorilla trek. After our early breakfast we're off to the park headquarters. We'll meet our guides and have a thorough orientation. Then it's off to the Volcanoes National Park, for this once in a lifetime experience. In the evening, we may go for cultural walk to Iby'wachu. Or some other planned excursion.

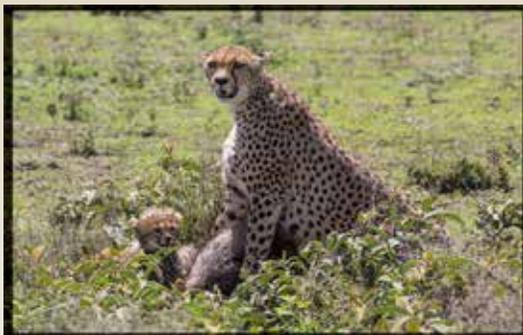
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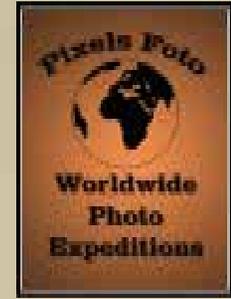


DAY	DATE	ACCOMMODATION / LOCATION	ACTIVITIES / TRAVEL
5	06/25	River Camp / Serengeti Tanzania	Today we'll drive back to Kigali and catch our flight that takes us into the Serengeti in Tanzania. This short flight stops at Migori where we will get our visas, then fly on to Kogatene air strip. Our drive/guides will meet us, we'll load the vehicles and start our Serengeti safari.
6	06/26	River Camp / Serengeti Tanzania	The river camp in the Serengeti is on the Mara river. The herds of migrating wildebeest and zebra are often not up this far north yet, so our days will be filled with game drives across the Savannah. We'll keep our eyes open for lions, cheetah, leopard, hyena, giraffe, elephant, antelope, gazelle, wildebeest, zebra, and a lot more. http://kilifair.ceba.co.tz/index.php/river-camp/
7	06/27	Sametu Tent Camp / Serengeti Tanzania	Today we leave the northern Serengeti and drive to our camp in the central Serengeti. Sametu is a beautiful private tent camp located on the eastern edge of central Serengeti. While driving to Sametu, we might encounter part of the "Great Migration". These herds are the leading edge of 1.5 million animals that are constantly on migration, following the rains and green grass they seek for grazing.

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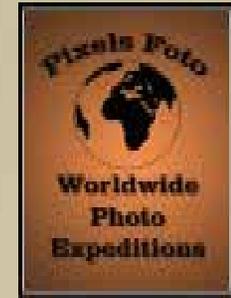
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DAY	DATE	ACCOMMODATION / LOCATION	ACTIVITIES / TRAVEL	
	8	06/28	Sametu Tent Camp / Serengeti Tanzania	A typical day while on safari will usually have 2 game drives. Our first drive will start before sunrise and last from 3 to 5 hours. Our afternoon drive usually starts at mid-afternoon and goes until sunset. The cooler mornings and late afternoons are our best chance to see the animals more active.
	9	06/29	Sametu Tent Camp / Serengeti Tanzania	Our camp in the central Serengeti allows us to make game drives to quite a few different spots throughout this beautiful region. Our drives to the different kjopes is always an exciting adventure and we never know what we might see. kjopes are rocky hills jutting out of the Serengeti Savannah.

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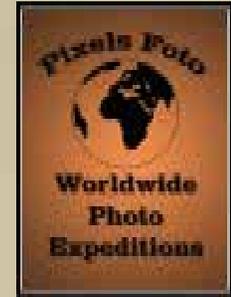
DAY	DATE	ACCOMMODATION / LOCATION	ACTIVITIES / TRAVEL
10	06/30	Lions Paw Camp - Ngorongoro Crater	<p>The newly renovated Lions Paw camp is on the eastern ridge of the famous Ngorongoro Crater. This secluded camp gives us immediate access to the crater. Because the camp is at 8000 foot elevation, the nights can be very cool, offering a nice escape from the heat of the day. In 1979 Ngorongoro was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and it is one of Africa's Seven Wonders.</p> <p>http://karibucamps.com/index.php/lions-paw-camp-2/</p>
11	07/01	Maramboi permanent tent camp - Tarangiri	<p>This morning we will have one final drive through the crater before we drive on to Tarangiri National Wildlife Park. We will stay at Maramboi, a permanent camp just a few miles outside the park. Tarangiri is home to the largest herds of elephants in Tanzania, and the only place on our tour where we might see large rock pythons down by the swamp. Tarangiri is home to over 500 species of birds.</p> <p>http://twctanzania.com/en/accommodation/maramboi-tented-lodge/</p>



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DAY	DATE	ACCOMMODATION / LOCATION	ACTIVITIES / TRAVEL	
	12	07/02	Maramboi permanent tent camp - Tarangiri	The Tarangiri river is a year round source for water. It's common to see large herds of elephants bathing and drinking in the river. We might also spot large monitor lizards, fringe-eared oryx and peculiar long-necked gerenuk.
	13	07/03	Maramboi permanent tent camp - Tarangiri	Tarangiri is one of the few spots in Tanzania where if we are VERY lucky we will spot the famous African wild dogs. This park has the largest concentration of animals outside of the Serengeti ecosystem.
	14	07/04	Arusha, flight home	Today we leave Tarangiri and drive to Arusha, where a day room will be provided for you to clean up, relax and get ready to fly home. Around late afternoon, we will be taken to the Kilimanjaro International Airport for our flight home.

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About Our Destinations.



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Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda

The “Parc National de Volcans” (or PNV as it’s known by locals) lies along the Virunga Mountains, with eight ancient volcanoes, which are shared by Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Five of the eight volcanoes of the Virunga Mountains are in Rwanda, which are covered in rain forest and bamboo. Just a short two hour drive from Rwanda’s capital of Kigali. Volcanoes National Park lies in northwestern Rwanda and borders Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in Uganda. The national park is known as a haven for the mountain gorilla. The park was the base for the zoologist Dian Fossey. The Volcanoes National Park became a battlefield during the Rwandan Civil War, with the park headquarters being attacked in 1992. The research center was abandoned, and all tourist activities (including visiting the gorillas) were stopped. They did not resume again until 1999 when the area was deemed to be safe and under control. There are ten groups/families of habituated gorillas in Volcanoes National Park. Gorillas do not stay in the same spot hence the need to do some tracking before you spend your magical one hour with them. They usually climb higher up the mountain in the dry season, and descend in the wet season, so your tour guide might have a general idea of where the group you are tracking might be during a particular season, but there are no guarantees that you will find them where you expect them to be.

Serengeti National Park

Serengeti National Park recognized as a World Heritage Site, is one of the most famous wildlife areas in the world and is considered the world’s oldest protected eco-system. Serengeti National Park, as we know it today, was gazetted in 1951, but a smaller area first received protection between 1921-29 by the British to prevent decimation of the lion population from hunting. The park itself is 5,700 square miles, but the more extensive Serengeti eco-system is over 9,600 square miles of protected land from Ngorongoro all the way to Loliondo and Kenya (the smaller Maasai Mara) and including the Maswa Game Reserve on the southern boundary of the park. The Serengeti is the largest national park in Tanzania, with a staggering animal population of almost four million and 523 recorded species of birds! It is the largest wildlife sanctuary in the world and the site of one of the most breathtaking events in animal kingdom, the migration of more than 1.5 million wildebeest and another 400,000 zebra. The area consists of treeless central plain, savanna dotted with acacia and granite outcroppings called kopjes, and riverine bush and forest in the north. The park’s name is derived from the Maasai language “SIRINGET” which means endless plains. The famous “Migration” that people dream to experience, is actually a dynamic process taking a full year to complete. There are different ‘events’ that happen during the year and in different locations in this park. There are two primary “seasons” in the Serengeti. They are the green season and the dry season. During the green season (November-June), there are short periods of rain usually at night and in the late afternoon. During this time, the wildebeest and zebra herds leave the northern part of the Serengeti and travel east and south into the short grass plain of the central, southern and eastern Serengeti .

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Serengeti National Park

The herd traditionally splits into two distinct migratory routes, with pregnant females and dominant males moving directly south, through the Seronera area and onward to the short-grass plains of the southern Serengeti. The bachelor males move easterly around the Gol Mountains and then south through the Gol Pass, the Gol Kopjes and onto the southern plains. The female wildebeest need to be in this area to begin the calving, as they rely on this particular kind of grass for calving and milk production, that is high in calcium, potassium and magnesium. Wildebeest calving can begin any time between January-March. More than 750,000 females will drop their calves within a 3-week period of time, so predator prey activity is at a peak. The short grass plains also offer some of the best protection against predators, as they are more visible to the herd animals. Herd animals will remain in this area as long as there is decent rain that continues in the following months, although they only need short bursts of rain to be happy. The wildebeest rut, or re-breeding of the herd, usually begins near the full moon in April and lasts through the month of May and into June depending upon when the rut began. At this time the herd usually begins to move to the Central Serengeti but will travel large distances still following the best grazing and water. These are some of the most amazing herd sightings, as the male and females herd reunite for breeding. The herd movement continues both west and north between May usually to the end of July. At this point, the herd disperses a bit and males without females may migrate directly north to the Mara and some may move to the famous Western Corridor and remain year round in the Serengeti. During the dry season (July-Oct), I recommend significant time in the northern Serengeti to have the opportunity to witness river crossings.

Serengeti National Park

The majority of the wildebeest and zebra herds (65%) remain in the Serengeti all year round and often are seen in the areas of Lobo Valley, Bologonja and Kogatende, where grazing remains excellent. Herds now cross over the Mara River multiple times during the dry season and remain in the area until the short rains signal it is time to move onward. The area of the central Serengeti is a location to be enjoyed all year round, because of the large cat populations. Cats do not migrate with the herds, so during the dry season they are actually more actively searching for dwindling food sources. The Serengeti has the largest population of lions (3,200) in all of Africa, primarily due to the abundance of food. I always recommend spending time in at least two locations in the Serengeti to maximize your wildlife viewing in this huge and spectacular park.

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About Our Destinations.



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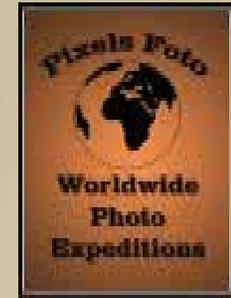
Tarangiri National Park

Tarangiri National Park is often referred to as the “Baobab Capital of the World”. The park is 75 miles from Arusha, which is approximately a 2-hour drive on a tarmac road and is one of Tanzania’s larger parks with over 1,100 square miles in size. Tarangiri is renowned for its wild landscapes and diverse habitats. The Tarangiri River, from which the park derives its name, is the only permanent water source within 1,600 square miles of protected wildlife area. In addition to numerous animals, the park has over 550 recorded species of birds and has the highest recorded number of breeding bird species of any habitat in the world. Tarangiri is most famous for its elephants. There are 3,000 resident elephants in the park during the green season (Nov-May) and another 3,500 individuals migrate into the park during the dry season (July-Oct). Elephants can begin to migrate into Tarangiri as early as May and June as they follow the long rains and love the tall swamp grass found in Tarangiri National Park and especially in the swamps. Elephant watching is excellent in Tarangiri all year round as is bird watching as well. During the dry season, herd animals of all kinds (elephants, wildebeest, zebra, gazelles and antelopes) migrate from the surrounding areas for the water found inside the park. Tarangiri is home to the greatest concentration of wild-life outside of the Serengeti eco-System. During the dry season, giant rock pythons leave the swamp areas to avoid being stepped on by herd animals and live in the trees on the edge of the swamp. These are amazing creatures and some of the most unusual wildlife viewing is of rock pythons killing large animals of all kinds! Tarangiri is also home to the last remaining pack of wild dogs in northern Tanzania. They remain an extremely elusive find, but in the last few years one pack has been breeding successfully and has been seen in the Silale and Gursi Swamp areas of the park.

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About Our Guides



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Gorilla Trekking in Rwanda



Gorilla Trek Africa

Gorilla Trek Africa is a family owned business established in 1999. They specialize in custom trips throughout Rwanda, Uganda and Congo. I used Gorilla Trek Africa as my guide for my 2013 trip to Rwanda and Uganda, and I couldn't have been more pleased. After our second trek in Uganda as we emerged from the jungle, I was met and escorted to our lodge by the owner, William and his wife, who had driven all the way from Entebbe, just to meet me, say hello and make sure everything was going well. This was not a short drive and goes to show how much this company goes out of the way to ensure their guests are having a great time.

<http://www.gorillatrekafrica.com>

Game drives in the Serengeti, Ngorongoro and Tarangiri, Tanzania

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Unique Safaris

I was lucky to be introduced to Unique Safaris on my very first trip to Tanzania in 1999. Since then I have used Unique for all of my subsequent trips. They are professional, well educated, thoughtful and extremely helpful. The staff are top rate, and the food and accommodations that they provide are superb. I couldn't be happier with their service and wouldn't consider using anyone else while in Tanzania. Unique Safaris was established in 1990.