



PRIVATE JOURNEYS

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South Tanzania

East Africa Off the Beaten Track

Duration: **14 days**

Best time to travel: **June through mid-October**

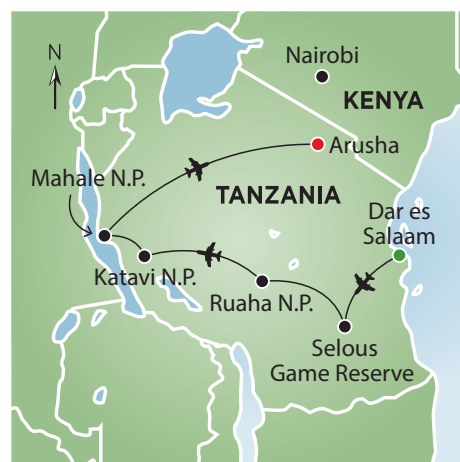
For those who have fallen in love with Africa, South Tanzania represents a new frontier. Spanning the coastal plateau by the Indian Ocean to the Albertine Rift, the region is well-endowed with national parks and reserves and you can experience the diversity and impact of this region and its wildlife as you visit four of Africa's finest reserves.

You'll start at Selous Game Reserve, the second-largest reserve in Africa and representative of the coastal plateau region of Tanzania.

Here you'll enjoy a variety of explorations from our lodge based along the Rufiji River, and the standard for future observations is set as the quantities and variety of wildlife here are awe-inspiring. After this introduction move onwards to Ruaha National Park, which flanks its namesake river and is Tanzania's largest national park. Its particularly remote location means it is also little-visited and the high hills and plateaus here form a fine backdrop for more discoveries!

You continue our explorations at Katavi to the west. This reserve is even less-visited than others you will already have explored. Complete your journey on the shores of mighty Lake Tanganyika. From our award-winning secluded lodge on the lakeshore, you'll enjoy forays into the roadless Mahale National Park, home to a flourishing Chimpanzee population where you can enjoy close encounters with these fascinating primates.

Our suggested accommodations are all situated in distinctive locales with designs that facilitate your appreciation of wild Africa. So remote are these locations that they are most readily accessible by small plane. Flights between the reserves help you to see more. Discerning travellers will enjoy this tailored and immersive experience where opportunities abound to observe a full range of African wildlife and connect with the pulse of the wilderness. This itinerary is for all Africa connoisseurs and would-be connoisseurs!





How is a Private Journey created?

With a Worldwide Quest Private Journey you have the perfect match of safety, security and organization with the flexibility and freedom that suits your timeframe, budget and interests. We bring the same passion and expertise of our small group tours to creating Private Journeys for friends and family, typically to destinations that reward dedicated advance planning. We can adapt many of our small group trips for you or plan a completely hand tailored itinerary to suit your exact specifications. Our Travel Planners will work with you to create incomparable experiences wherever you would like to go.

1

Consulting

It starts with consultation with one of our team of in-house travellers. From this, we'll send you one of our Private Journey tour brochures, like this one. Our conversation continues as we ask you about what kind of travel experience you're looking for, how active you like to be, whether it's about fabulous hotels or fabulous food or awe-inspiring sights or creative experiences or all of the above. Next we tweak the itinerary and work with you to get the balance just right. Once we've agreed an itinerary and budget, you approve the next stage with your deposit.

2

Designing

We hone in on developing the perfect itinerary designed to meet your unique requirements. We review the nuts and bolts from flight arrangements to accommodation that's just right to transportation by car, camel or rickshaw. We work with our guides to make sure each day delivers what you want, whether that's an early morning game drive to observe the wildebeest migration or time to discuss life with a priest by the Ganges in Varanasi.

3

Delivering

Once the itinerary has been finalized, we require a second payment to secure your accommodations and services. A final balance of payment is required 90 days prior to your departure. A Private Journey is a totally customized and personalized journey designed to your own (and our own) exacting standards. And once you're on the road with us, you won't notice it, but we'll be with you every step of the way. Our local hosts will be your discreet fixers, making it all unfold effortlessly so that you have the luxury of making the most of every moment.

Suggested Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive at Dar es Salaam

Upon arrival at Dar es Salaam (or simply “Dar”), you’ll pass through immigration formalities and then be met by our local representative. You will enjoy dinner at the hotel after check-in.

Overnight: Southern Sun

Meals: Dinner

Day 2: Fly to Selous Game Reserve

Covering over 50,000 km², Selous is the second largest game reserve in Africa and has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site owing to its vastness and importance in protecting biodiversity. No human habitation is permitted within its confines. Visitors therefore find an astounding volume of large mammals here – according to some sources, over 1 million large mammals – and over 350 bird species have been recorded here as well! The reserve is bisected by the important Rufiji River, and our exquisite lodge is fittingly situated at a favourable location overlooking the river! It will serve as the base for our forays nearby. You’ll arrive by air into the reserve. Lodge staff will meet you at the airstrip and accompany you to the lodge in time for lunch. After some time to settle in and scope out the facilities, you’ll set off on your first game drive accompanied by knowledgeable safari guides. Later, enjoy dinner and then settle in to your first night in the bush with the wonderful sounds of the African bush in the background.

Overnight: Sand Rivers Selous

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Days 3 - 4: Selous Game Reserve

Over these two days you’ll have wonderful excursions in the surroundings. Game drives and boat rides are just two options available to you. You can even enjoy bush breakfast on a morning walk!

Overnight: Sand Rivers Selous

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 5: Fly to Ruaha National Park

This morning after breakfast your guide will take you to the airport for the flight to Ruaha National Park, located halfway between the Indian Ocean and Tanzania’s western border. You’ll be met on arrival and driven to Kigelia Camp. Named for the genus of trees called ‘sausage trees’ (*Kigelia* sp.), this camp occupies an auspicious site overlooking the Ifuguru Sand River, which may be resting in a dry state at the height of the dry season. The stylish and well-appointed tented accommodations here provide a most wonderful experience of ‘rustic luxury’ in the African bush! An estimated 10,000 elephants can be found in Ruaha, perhaps the highest concentration in East Africa. Many other large game species can be found, including the resplendent Sable and Roan antelopes. Over 570 bird species have been recorded here as well. The sense of peace and quiet at the camp will be most welcome.

Overnight: Kigelia Ruaha

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Ruaha National Park

Select from a variety of activities here including full-day game drives, or walks.

Overnight: Kigelia Ruaha

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Fly to Katavi National Park*

Today after an early breakfast your guide will drive you to the airstrip to board the two-hour flight to Katavi National Park. Created in 1974, Katavi is the most remote site on this trip and will provide an even greater feeling of seclusion and wilderness. Named for the Lake Katavi, which has extensive floodplains, the park presents even more (and perhaps better?) opportunities to sense the mightiness of elephants, hippos, and other large mammals in addition to many other smaller wildlife species. With luck, you may see some of the thousands of Cape Buffalo crossing the floodplain at once! Because of Katavi’s location, you can enjoy a tremendous sense of personal discovery here. The opportunity is yours!

Overnight: Kigelia Ruaha

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Giraffes at Katavi National Park



Days 8 – 10: Katavi National Park

Over these days enjoy a combination of rides and walks. Overnight fly camping (pictured above) is also available here if you'd like to give it a try.

Overnight: Chada Katavi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11: Fly to Mahale National Park

Today you'll take a mid-day flight towards Lake Tanganyika. Upon arrival you'll transfer with your guide by boat south towards your Greystoke Mahale. Inaccessible by road and located in a remote and idyllic location on the great lake, the lodge was voted Africa's Leading Safari Lodge 2018 by the World Travel Awards. You'll arrive for a late lunch and have a chance to settle in here with much anticipation for the days ahead!

Overnight: Greystoke Mahale

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Days 12 – 13: Mahale National Park

With an estimated 1,000 Chimpanzees* in the park, our time here will naturally focus on seeing these enigmas. You'll enjoy one chimp tracking walk daily, with forays taking you onto ridges clad in semi-deciduous montane rainforests. You can spend the balance of our time snorkelling in Lake Tanganyika, sailing by dhow, exploring by dugout canoe, birding the surroundings or simply relaxing in this fine setting.

Overnight: Greystoke Mahale

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Whereas chimps live year-round in the park, June is traditionally the most challenging for chimp viewing as the primates tend to be higher up in the hills in search of fruit.*

Day 14: Fly to Arusha, depart

Today you'll depart mid-morning by boat transfer accompanied by your guide to the airport, where you'll take our shared charter flight to Arusha, whence you'll be transferred by our representative to Kilimanjaro Airport for our flights onwards.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

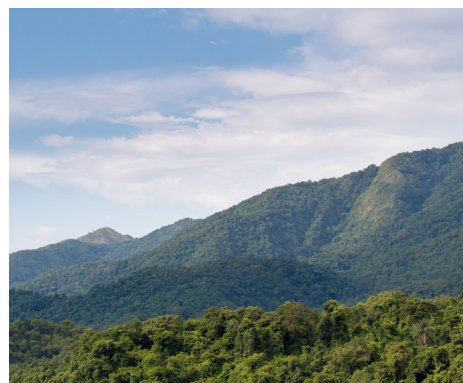
Note: The itinerary and accommodation described in these notes are provided as suggestions. Your Private Journey may be modified to reflect your interests, budget and time available. The approximate price is a guideline only.



Secretary-bird



Chimpanzee



Jungle Mountains in Mahale



Cape Buffalo at Ruaha National Park

Tour Details

Private Journey Cost (per person):

From US\$10,500

Single Supplement: From US\$3500. This will be collected at 90 days prior to departure.

What's Included:

- Accommodations in double occupancy in lodges/camps listed
- All meals as described in the itinerary
- Shared activities by foot or in 4x4 vehicle as described in the itinerary
- House brand alcoholic beverages at the 4 camps
- Airport transfers, if travelling as per the group flight itinerary
- Park entrance fees
- Services of expert local guides/drivers
- Domestic flights from the start of the tour until Arusha

Not Included:

- Roundtrip airfare from your home
- Airport and departure taxes
- Private guiding services or vehicles at the lodges
- Fuel surcharges, if any
- Gratuities
- Tanzania visa fees
- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature: laundry, drinks, telephone calls, etc.
- Meals and services not listed
- Premium alcoholic beverages at the camps or bar expenses in Dar es Salaam
- Phone calls and items of a personal nature
- Additional arrangements required due to emergency or other situations
- Any extra accommodations in Tanzania

Payment Details:

A deposit of US\$500 per person is required to reserve your space on this Private Journey. A payment of US\$1000 is due six months prior to departure. The balance is due 90 days prior to departure.

What to Expect

Level of Difficulty: Easy to moderate

You will be doing much of our wildlife viewing from the comfort of our open safari vehicles. There will be options for walks as well. At Mahale, there is no driving whatsoever; all discoveries are made on foot. There is much opportunity on this Private Journey to select activities based on your energy levels. Note that roads may be bumpy and dusty, and you should be prepared for this. However, driving excursions for wildlife viewing are generally relaxed affairs.

Accommodation

You will be staying in a range of very comfortable and stylish lodges with private facilities.

Transportation

We use 4-wheel drive open safari vehicles for game drives at the camps, in addition to small open boats on occasion. We will have shared charter and scheduled flights.

Travel Documents

You will require a passport for your trip to Tanzania. Please make sure it is valid for six months after the date of your return home. Canadian and U.S. passport holders require a visa to visit Tanzania. This visa can be obtained on arrival at an additional cost. Other nationalities should reconfirm their own requirements. Further information will be provided at 90 days prior to departure.

Flights

Roundtrip international flights are not included in the cost of your Private Journey and must be arranged separately. Worldwide Quest would be pleased to arrange your flights. Please contact our office for suggested routing and a quote on airfare. If you are making your own flight arrangements, please verify your schedule with your consultant to ensure that your schedule fits the program prior to confirming your arrangements.

Additional Info

Terms and Conditions

For additional information about our terms and conditions, please refer to your booking form, the current brochure or our website. All participants booking with Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario - License # 2667946). See full details [here](#).

Cancellation Policy

All payments are non-refundable, however you may transfer your initial deposit for any land tour to another tour 90 days or more prior to your scheduled departure date. Initial deposits for cruises are non-refundable and non-transferable. Your second payment and your final payment are non-refundable and non-transferable. If you cancel within 90 days prior to trip departure, all associated trip costs are non-refundable. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing. See full details [here](#).

Travel Insurance

We urge you to ensure that you have adequate cancellation and medical insurance in place, should an unexpected event cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip or should the tour not be operable per our terms and conditions. We will offer you Manulife insurance coverage. Medical insurance including emergency medical evacuation coverage is mandatory on all our tours.

Worldwide Explorers Club

Travel twice with us and you become a member of the Worldwide Explorers Club. Earn 5% off all your subsequent eligible group tours. Look for the WEC icon to find your next tour. The bonus is non-transferable and cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount or credit. Note that some exceptions may apply. Members also get access to special offers and exploratory tours.



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