



## Tanzania

Southern Safaris Connoisseur



# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



**DO SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY...**

Photos by Tom Clode

## ITINERARY

## Tanzania • Southern Safari Connoisseur

**10 DAYS • 9 NIGHTS**

**Dar Es Salaam – Mikumi National Park – Ruaha National Park –  
Udzungwa Mountains – Sanje Waterfalls**

**Optional: Beach Extension at Mafia Island - £1,250**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Full Board on Safari
- Visit 4 National & Marine Parks
- Experience the splendor of tented fly camps
- Trek to Sanje Waterfall
- Stunning game viewing

## TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Style	Safari Expedition
Tour Start	Dar Es Salaam
Tour End	Dar Es Salaam
Accommodation	Hotel, Lodge, Camp
Included Meals	9 Breakfasts, 9 lunches, 8 Dinners
Difficulty Level	Medium

## SOUTHERN SAFARI CONNOISSEUR



A superb private trip combining the best that Southern Tanzania has to offer. A true connoisseur's safari. Exploring both Ruaha and Mikumi National Parks on foot and by car, you will also be able to enjoy the nature of the isolated mountain ranges of Udzungwa

This is a tailor-made safari, so we can include additional areas and customize to suit your particular preferences



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# TANZANIA, *an overview*

This journey explores some Africa's most remote and unspoiled wilderness areas. Southern Tanzania is coveted by safari aficionados as you can get a real bush experience without the tourist minibuses.

Fly camping in this region allows you to experience great game viewing and offers you the opportunity of starry skies and miles of wilderness – a true highlight of this area.

You will get the opportunity to explore Mikumi National park, the 4<sup>th</sup> largest in Tanzania and a great spot for big game viewing as well as bird watching. From here you will head to Ruaha National Park which derives its name from the Great Ruaha River that flows through the Rift Valley on the eastern part of the Park creating spectacular gorges. Here you will sleep in a luxury camp surrounded by elephants! Our final destination before heading to the beach is Udzungwa Mountains National park - one of Tanzania's most outstanding, pristine and unique wilderness mountains. This forest is home to primates as well as a great range of other animals and plants and is a "World Biodiversity Hotspot"

At the end of the trip you have an option to extend your stay at Mafia Islands which is home to (one of two) marine parks and offers deserted white-sand beaches, shoals of colourful fish and amazing coral formations - a perfect place to reflect on a truly stunning journey.

## WHY PIONEER EXPEDITIONS?

We really are one of the few specialists that really "do" off the beaten track and unique adventures in TANZANIA. We are driven by a passion for adventure travel and wildlife. We know it inside-out, and continuously collaborate with our local partners and tour guides to ensure that you have the best experiences on your dream Tanzania adventure – this focus is reflected in our uniquely wonderful itineraries. Our experts are on hand whether you are looking for a small group trip or a bespoke holiday.

Even better, our small group tours have a maximum of 8 people, making it a much more personal experience. Furthermore, we don't expect you to pay a single supplement, perfect for solo travellers! (\*nb. no ss charged as long as you are happy to share a room)

Pioneer work in some of the world's most spectacular, remote and extraordinary places worldwide.

## ITINERARY



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## DAY 1: ARRIVE IN DAR ES SALAAM

You will be met at Dar Es Salaam International Airport and transferred to the Mediterraneo Hotel. Here you will stay on a B&B basis giving you the choice of the excellent hotel restaurant or the nearby pub for dinner.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**N/A**



Distance:  
**Approx. 1hr transfer**



Activities:  
**Travelling**

Overnight - Mediterraneo Hotel

## DAY 2: DAR ES SALAAM TO MIKUMI NATIONAL PARK

Depart Dar early and transfer to Mikumi National Park. Mikumi is Tanzania's 4th largest national park and is excellent for big game viewing and bird watching. It is an important bird area and has numerous birds of prey. After lunch you will settle into Tanswiss Hotel. Afternoon game drive, dinner.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Approx. 6hr drive**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Tanswiss Hotel

## DAY 3: MIKUMI NATIONAL PARK



Today we have a full day of exploring Mikumi National Park. Visit the different waterholes and look for predators in the midst of spectacular scenery. Lunch will be a picnic lunch in the park.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Varies**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Tanswiss Hotel

## DAY 4: TRANSFER TO RUAHA VIA IRINGA

Depart in the morning after breakfast for Ruaha National Park. Drive past the Udzungwa Mountains up the escarpment through Iringa town and into the park with packed lunch en-route. Settling at Tandala Tented Camp. This is a beautiful tented camp in a private conservancy bordering the park. Elephants walk between the tents (which are on stilts) often drinking from the swimming pool and lions are frequently seen around camp.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Approx. 3-4hr drive**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Tandala Tented Camp





## DAY 5: RUAHA NATIONAL PARK

Full day Game driving in Ruaha National Park, one of Tanzania's best kept secrets. A large variety of game is seen including hippo, crocodile, waterbuck, lion, leopard, hyena, wild dog, greater and lesser Kudu. Ruaha is the country's biggest elephant sanctuary and also home to over 370 species of Birds. Picnic lunch in the park.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Varies**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Tandala Tented Camp

## DAY 6: RUAHA NATIONAL PARK



There will still be plenty for you to see in this large, visually stunning park. Look for wild dogs, cheetah, leopard and super prides of up to 20 lions. Picnic lunch in the park.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Varies**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Tandala Tented Camp

## DAY 7: RUAHA NATIONAL PARK

A final day to explore this beautiful National Park, with its hilly scenery full of rocky kopjes and ancient baobab trees. Keep an eye out for elephant, lion, buffalo, cheetah, wild dog and leopard as you go, in addition to the myriad smaller creatures and amazing birds that make each safari unique.

\*Walking safari in the morning, game drive in the evening or vice versa



Photo credits to T.Clode



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Varies**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Tandala Tented Camp



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## DAY 8: TRANSFER TO UDZUNGWA MOUNTAINS

You will have breakfast before driving to Udzungwa Mountains National park. You will stop for lunch en-route. This evening you can rest at the Hondo Hondo Tent Lodge. This comfortable lodge is on the edge of the forest and numerous rare primates and birds may be seen from the dining area.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Approx. 5hr drive**



Activities:  
**Wildlife**

Overnight Hondo Hondo Lux Tents

## DAY 9: HIKE TO SANJE WATERFALL

Breakfast then drive to Udzungwa Mountain National Park gate for the hike up to the top of the 180m Sanje Waterfalls. The trail is relatively short (max 2hrs) but is quite steep in places. On the way keep a look out for the endemic Iringa Red Colobus and Sanje Manjebv. Once at Sanje there will be time to explore the forest and waterfalls (endemic African Violets -St. Paulia – grow in the spray zones) whilst your cook prepares a special hot lunch. You can even go for a swim in one of the plunge pools before descending down to join your car and transfer back to Hondo Hondo.



Tripadvisor



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Varies**



Activities:  
**Trekking**

Overnight Hondo Hondo Lux Tents

## DAY 10: TRANSFER BACK TO DAR, FLIGHT TO MAFIA OR ZANZIBAR

Depart after breakfast to Dar es Salaam with packed lunch en route. Drop off at the Dar Es Salaam Airport you're your Flight home or why not extend your stay?



Overnight:  
**N/A**



Meals:  
**B, L**



Distance:  
**Approx. 8hr transfer**



Activities:  
**Travelling**

## OPTIONAL BEACH EXTENSION AT MAFIA ISLAND - £1,250



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## DAY 11, 12, 13 & 14: BEACH RELAXATION



Butiama Beach Lodge (Mafia) Days at leisure – activities can be arranged with the hotel.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activities:  
**Relaxation**

Overnight Butiama Beach Lodge

## DAY 15: FLIGHT TO DAR ES SALAAM

Transfer to airport for flight to Dar Es Salaam. Day room at Slipway will be booked according to your flight times.



Overnight:  
**N/A**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activities:  
**Travelling**





# ACCOMMODATION *at a glance*

**Dar Es Salaam**  
*Mediterraneo Hotel*  
**Night 1**

<https://www.mediterraneotanzania.com/>



**Mikumi**  
*Tanswiss Hotel*  
**Nights 2 and 3**

<https://www.tan-swiss.com/en-us>



**Iringa**  
*Tandala Tented Camp*  
**Nights 4, 5, 6 and 7**

<https://www.tandalacamp.com/>



**Udzungwa Mountains**  
*Hondo Hondo Lux Tent*  
**Nights 8 and 9**

<https://www.udzungwaforestcamp.com/accommodation/>



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# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## INCLUDED

- Park fees, Conservation and Community Development fees
- Standard/Midrange lodge and tented camp accommodation as stipulated
- Meals as stipulated (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Emergency Evacuation Cover
- Landing fees
- All transfers
- All activities as mentioned above
- Internal flights mentioned
- Day room use at Slipway
- All airport transfers

## NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Drinks & Bar Bills
- Tips & Personal items
- Basic laundry at Mikumi/Ruaha/Udzungwa and Mafia or ZNZ

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITY DURATION	2 – 5 hours per day
SEASON	This region is best explored between June and December
BEST TIME TO GO	June through November
GROUP SIZE	This is a tailor-made itinerary and is priced based on 2 people travelling.
GROUP DEPARTURE	This trip is run as a private departure, so can be run for a couple, family or group of friends looking for a safari with a difference. We arrange private departures to suit and can tailor the itinerary.
DIFFICULTY LEVEL	Our grades have been designated based on our perception of the degree of physical activity you are likely to require to enjoy the adventure. These are only a guideline. This itinerary has a 'Medium' level (2 – 5 hours of activities per day). This means that you will need an average level of fitness.

