



10 DAYS

TANZANIA · WILDLIFE SAFARI

10-Day Southern Tanzania Safari: Mikumi, Udzungwa, Ruaha & Nyerere

The full southern circuit from Dar es Salaam: open plains in Mikumi, a rainforest waterfall hike in Udzungwa, Ruaha's lions and boat safaris in Nyerere.

DURATION

10 days

DESTINATIONS

6

ROUTE

Dar Es Salaam › Dar Es Salaam

AT A GLANCE

The journey

Southern Tanzania gets a fraction of the visitors of the north, and its parks are larger, wilder and more varied. This itinerary covers four of them in ten days, each offering something the others do not.

Mikumi, five hours by road from Dar es Salaam, is open floodplain where game is easy to find. The Udzungwa Mountains, an hour away, are explored on foot: a half-day hike through rainforest to the 170-metre Sanje Waterfall, with monkeys found nowhere else. Ruaha, further west, is rugged baobab country with large lion prides, greater and lesser kudu, and sable and roan antelope. Last comes Nyerere, reached by light aircraft, where you take a boat out among hippos and crocodiles on the Rufiji River.

Good for: travellers who have already seen the northern parks, and anyone who prefers wilderness and space to big herds and crowds. June to October is the best time; some camps close in April and May.

DURATION

10 days

DESTINATION

Tanzania

TRIP STYLE

Wildlife Safari

DESTINATIONS

Dar Es Salaam · Mikumi National Park ·
Udzungwa Mountains · Ruaha National Park ·
Nyerere National Park

Highlights

- Four very different southern parks in one trip
- Ruaha's large lion prides and rare antelope
- Very few other vehicles
- Rainforest hike to Sanje Waterfall in the Udzungwa Mountains
- Boat safari on the Rufiji River in Nyerere
- Starts and ends in Dar es Salaam



TANZANIA

Your route

Where the journey takes you, from the first day to the last.



Dar Es Salaam Days 1–2 ➤ Mikumi National Park Days 3–4 ➤ Udzungwa Mountains Day 5 ➤ Ruaha National Park Days 6–7 ➤

Nyerere National Park Days 8–9 ➤ Dar Es Salaam Day 10



S Dar Es Salaam

DAYS 1–2 • START

Overnight: Southern Sun Dar es Salaam



1 Mikumi National Park

DAYS 3–4 • ARRIVE BY ROAD

Overnight: Mikumi Wildlife Camp



2 Udzungwa Mountains

DAY 5 • ARRIVE BY ROAD

Overnight: Hondo Hondo Udzungwa Forest Camp



3 Ruaha National Park

DAYS 6–7 • ARRIVE BY ROAD

Overnight: Ruaha River Lodge



4 Nyerere National Park

DAYS 8–9 • ARRIVE BY FLIGHT

Overnight: Rufiji River Camp



5 Dar Es Salaam

DAY 10 • ARRIVE BY FLIGHT

10 DAYS

Day by day

Your journey through Tanzania, one day at a time.



DAY 01

Arrive in Dar es Salaam

You are met at Julius Nyerere International Airport and driven to your hotel on the Msasani Peninsula. Evening briefing with your guide.

DESTINATION Dar Es Salaam

OVERNIGHT Southern Sun Dar es Salaam



DAY 02

Dar es Salaam

A free day to recover from the flight, with the option of the fish market at dawn, the National Museum or a boat to Bongoyo Island for a swim.

DESTINATION Dar Es Salaam

OVERNIGHT Southern Sun Dar es Salaam



DAY 03

Dar es Salaam to Mikumi National Park

An early start for the five-hour drive west through Morogoro and the foothills of the Uluguru Mountains. Afternoon game drive on the Mkata floodplain.

DESTINATION Mikumi National Park

OVERNIGHT Mikumi Wildlife Camp



DAY 04

Full day in Mikumi

Game drives across the floodplain and to the hippo pools, looking for elephant, buffalo, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest and lion.

DESTINATION Mikumi National Park

OVERNIGHT Mikumi Wildlife Camp



DAY 05

Udzungwa Mountains: Sanje Waterfall hike

A one-hour drive to the park, then a hike of about four hours with a ranger through rainforest to Sanje Waterfall, watching for the Iringa red colobus and the Sanje crested mangabey. Swim in the pools at the top.

DESTINATION Udzungwa Mountains

OVERNIGHT Hondo Hondo Udzungwa Forest Camp



DAY 06

Transfer to Ruaha National Park

A long drive west via Iringa to Ruaha, arriving at your camp above the Great Ruaha River in the late afternoon.

DESTINATION Ruaha National Park

OVERNIGHT Ruaha River Lodge



DAY 07

Full day in Ruaha

Game drives along the river and into the baobab hills, for lion, leopard, elephant, kudu and, with luck, wild dog or sable antelope.

DESTINATION Ruaha National Park

OVERNIGHT Ruaha River Lodge



DAY 08

Fly to Nyerere National Park

A light-aircraft flight from Ruaha to Nyerere, then a transfer to your camp on the Rufiji River. Afternoon game drive or boat trip.

DESTINATION Nyerere National Park

OVERNIGHT Rufiji River Camp



DAY 09

Boat safari and game drives in Nyerere

A boat trip on the Rufiji and its lakes among hippos, crocodiles and waterbirds, and a game drive looking for wild dogs and lion.

DESTINATION Nyerere National Park

OVERNIGHT Rufiji River Camp



DAY 10

Fly to Dar es Salaam and depart

A final early activity, then the 45-minute flight back to Dar es Salaam for your international departure.

DESTINATION Dar Es Salaam

AFRICAN QUEEN ADVENTURES

Where you stay

Lodges and camps chosen for their setting, comfort and service. (or similar, depending on availability)



Southern Sun Dar es Salaam

DAY 1-2 · HOTEL · MID-RANGE

A comfortable, modern hotel next to the botanical gardens in central Dar es Salaam. A reliable overnight before or after the southern parks, with a pool and easy transfers to the a...

Restaurant · Bar · Swimming pool · Wi-Fi in public areas · Private bathroom



Mikumi Wildlife Camp

DAY 3-4 · SAFARI LODGE · MID-RANGE

Simple, comfortable bandas facing the open Mkata floodplain in Mikumi National Park, where zebra, buffalo and elephants graze in view of the camp. A relaxed stop on the road betwee...

Restaurant · Bar · Private bathroom · Panoramic views



Hondo Hondo Udzungwa Forest Camp

DAY 5 · TENTED CAMP · MID-RANGE

A small, eco-minded camp at the foot of the Udzungwa Mountains, near the park entrance. A base for forest hikes to the Sanje waterfalls and for spotting rare primates, with home-co...

Restaurant · Gardens · Evening campfire · Guided walks



Ruaha River Lodge

DAY 6-7 · SAFARI LODGE · MID-RANGE

Stone cottages built among the rocks beside the Great Ruaha River, inside Ruaha National Park. Elephants and hippos are regular visitors, and the river views from the rooms and din...

Restaurant · Bar · Private bathroom · Panoramic views · Evening campfire



Rufiji River Camp

DAY 8-9 • TENTED CAMP • MID-RANGE

A tented camp on the banks of the Rufiji River in Nyerere National Park, the former Selous. Boat safaris on the river, game drives and walks with an armed ranger, and hippos callin...

Restaurant • Bar • Private bathroom • Panoramic views



10-DAY SOUTHERN TANZANIA SAFARI: MIKUMI, UDZUNGWA, RUHA & NYERERE

Make this journey yours

Every itinerary can be changed: dates, pace, lodges and the parks you visit. Tell us how you like to travel and we will shape this trip around you.

PLAN MY SAFARI

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