



P.O. BOX 1215 Arusha Tanzania

## **Tanzanian Birding Safari – Tanzania’s Eastern Arc and Tarangire Ecosystem**

Tanzania’s eastern arc mountains have attracted a lot of attention recently amongst birding enthusiasts from all over the world. The seldom visited Udzungwa, Uluguru and Usambara mountains have a number of endemic species which makes this area a birders paradise. Combined with a walking safari in the Tarangire ecosystem, with over 350 identified species, plus some of the best game viewing in northern Tanzania, this safari

Areas visited: Udzungwa Mountains National Park, Uluguru Mountains, Usambara Mountains, Tarangire National Park and Conservation Area and Ruaha National Park.

Safari type: 22 days combination of camping and lodging, fully guided in 4WD Landrovers with support crew.

### **Day 1:**

Clients are met in Dar es Salaam and are transferred to the hotel for briefing and overnight.

### **Day 2:**

After an early morning breakfast we transfer to the airport for the bush flight to Ruaha National Park, where we are met by our guides, and drive to Ruaha River Lodge for lunch. After lunch we explore the park which apart from having the largest population of elephants in East Africa, also has over 400 species of birds.

### **Day 3:**

Full day gameviewing in Ruaha National Park. Dinner and overnight at Ruaha River Lodge.

### **Day 4:**

After breakfast depart for the Udzungwa Mountains National Park with picnic lunch. Early evening bird walk around the camp. Dinner and overnight is at campsite.



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Days 5 till 7:

These days are spent in the Udzungwa Mountains, Udzungwa Forest Reserve, Ifakara , Kibasira swamp and Mwanihana Forest Reserve. Overnights are spent at the camp in in the Udzungwa Mountains.

Species that inhabit and are endemic to the area include Rufous winged sunbird, Kilombero weaver, Melodious cisticola, Kilombero cisticola, Iringa akalat, Dappled throated mountain robin and Udzungwa forest partridge. In the montane forest we also find the endangered and rare Iringa red colobus monkey, of which only 450 survive.

Day 8:

After an early morning breakfast we depart for Mikumi National Park with a picnic lunch for gameviewing. Tonight we will stay at the base of the Uluguru Mountains at the Kolo Hills Motel.

Days 9 till 11:

These days are spent exploring the Uluguru Mountains on foot and by vehicle. Weather permitting we will fly camp in the Uluguru Mountains on Monday night. Sunday and Tuesday nights will be at the Kolo Hills Motel. Bird species in the Uluguru Mountains that we may see include the Uluguru bush shrike, Loveridge's sunbird, Mrs Moreau's warbler, Moustached green tinkerbird, Chaplins apalis and Bertam's weaver amongst others.

Day 12:

After breakfast we depart for the Eastern Usambaras in north eastern Tanzania. Dinner and overnight is at the Amani Guesthouse.

Days 13 till 14:

These two days are spent exploring the Amani Forest Reserve, Amani Botanical Gardens and Monga Tea estates. Dinners and overnights will be at the Amani Guesthouse. Possible sightings here include the Banded green sunbird, Amani sunbird, Moreaus tailor bird and Long billed apalis.

Day 15:

After breakfast we depart for the western Usambaras and the Lushoto area. Accommodation will be at Grants lodge or similar.



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**Day 16 and 17:**

Two full days are spent in the Lushoto area exploring by foot and by vehicle the sawmill trail and weather permitting the Mazumbai Forest reserve. Species possible include African tailor birds, Evergreen forest warblers, and Eastern mountain greenbill.

**Day 18:**

After breakfast we depart for the Tarangire Conservation Area, arriving late afternoon at Naitolia Camp for dinner and overnight.

**Day 19 and 20:**

These two days are spent exploring the Tarangire Conservation Area and Tarangire National Park both on foot and by vehicle. After dinner night drives are also available giving the opportunity to spot Spotted eagle owls, Two-banded coursers and Montane nightjars as well as African wildcats, serval cats and a number of other nocturnal animals. We will also take the opportunity to visit one of the local Masai bomas. Dinners and overnights are at Naitolia Camp.

Species to note include Hildebrandts Starling, the endemic Ashy starling, Yellow collared lovebird and Orange bellied parrot. Also seen around the camp are Brown parrots, Von der Deckens Hornbill, Northern pied babbler, Northern white crowned shrike, white bellied go away bird, plus a variety of rollers, woodpeckers and other species.

**Day 21:**

This morning is spent walking around the camp or game viewing. After lunch we return to Arusha for dinner and overnight at the Mountain Village Lodge or similar.

**Day 22:**

Early morning transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport for flights.

**Included:**

All transfers, tours, game drives in 4WD landrovers, walking safaris, all accommodation as indicated, all park fees, conservation area fees, all meals as indicated, camping equipment, English speaking driver guides, cooks and camping equipment. In each vehicle will be copies of Zimmermans *Birds of Kenya and Northern Tanzania* as well as numerous other identification guides

**Not Included:**

Visas, insurance, tips, items of a personal nature, soft and alcoholic drinks, departures taxes or airfares.