

# KICHAKA Wild

Ruaha National Park, Tanzania



May 01 - October 31

Kichaka Wild, a 7 night expedition into the outer fringes of Ruaha National Park, is the most unique way to discover the beauty and diversity of this truly wild eco-system. Known for its immense wilderness and vast diversity Ruaha has endless opportunities to explore remote areas that even some park rangers have yet to venture into.

Personally led by Andrew Molinaro, Kichaka Wild provides the perfect opportunity for adventure enthusiasts who want to experience what it feels like to be a modern day explorer. From climbing the gigantic Kopjes of Mpululu to roaming through the tranquil forests of Kilola Star you will be uncovering Ruaha's hidden gems in some of the last true wildernesses left on this planet.

Typically set up along the banks of rivers or nestled into the nearby forests, the camp consists of 3 dome tents each with its own bucket shower and short-drop loo for privacy. Activities will mainly be centred around walking safaris, however game drives, and night drives will be on offer to help you enjoy these new areas to their fullest.

Each expedition is booked on a private basis and is customised to the clients specific interests. Kichaka Wild offers 4 remote locations guests can chose from.

# RUAHA NATIONAL PARK

A trip to the Ruaha National Park in Tanzania is an exhilarating adventure into the unknown. Very few other wildernesses in Africa can convey the sheer isolation and expanse of this land that epitomises the Africa of 'old' that was felt in times gone by. Far far away from the 'madding' crowds which haunt the famous Northern Circuits, Ruaha lies in an untouched and incredibly remote area of Southern Tanzania, and is visited by relatively few tourists making it one of Africa's wildest Parks for the safari enthusiast.



## WILDLIFE

Ruaha's stunning, variable landscapes and habitats have ensured that a wealth of diversity occurs at all levels in its flora and fauna. Its tremendous size which encompasses entire ecosystems also contributes to the wonderful abundance of life that Ruaha possesses.

Many creatures are of specialist habitats and unlike the more common generalists which scatter all of Africa's National Parks, Ruaha boasts many near endemic, and uncommon species not seen in many other areas. This Park also contains one of the highest concentrations of Elephants in the world and during the dry season vast numbers of these pachyderms can be encountered making Ruaha one Africa's greatest Elephant parks.

### DRY SEASON

JUNE-NOVEMBER

Without doubt the prime months for game viewing in Ruaha. Water becomes scarce as the rivers and pans begin to dry up forcing the game closer to the more permanent water sources offering great viewing opportunities. Game sightings improve as the grass dies out and all the leaves fall of the trees as they commence their 'hibernation', enabling us to see much deeper into the vegetation. Brown, yellow and barren defines the landscape, a different beauty to that of the rains. Bitter nights can occur, especially in a tent, which have their effects thwarted by roaring fires in the camp and hot water bottles in the beds.

### WET SEASON

DECEMBER-MARCH

When it rains it pours!! Ruaha in the rains can receive considerable amounts of water which turns the land into pure paradise. Grass emerges from ground so cracked and bare that you wonder if anything could ever recover from this. But recover it does into every shade of Green imaginable over an incredibly short time. Rivers are flowing, flowers emerging and there is a sense of peace with the animals in the Park. A myriad of numerous little creatures, unseen over the dry periods come to life in this period, as well as a huge influx of birds arriving from pastures far far away, some as far as Russia!

### GREEN SEASON

APRIL-MAY

The big rains are over however the land is still lush and green and many of the seasonal rivers still flow, there is a chance of some scattered showers. The Park roads have dried up and are passable over most their range allowing us to push further into the Park. The grass slowly begins to yellow and many of the migrant birds begin to leave and make their way back to the Northern hemisphere. Water is still abundant so the game is scattered over much of the park. It is possible to see the beauty of the land in a state of paradise without the actual heavy rain itself.

# UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- Off the beaten track where very few have ventured before
- Discover the unique habitats of Ruaha's diverse eco-system
- Adventure packed days full of the exploration and bush walks
- Private Camp & Activities
- Personally guided by Andrew Molinaro



Suitable for children  
16 and above



## Tent Facilities

3 Dome style tents each  
with own short drop loo &  
bucket shower



## Power

Solar Powered Charging  
available for phones,  
cameras, & laptops.



## Activities

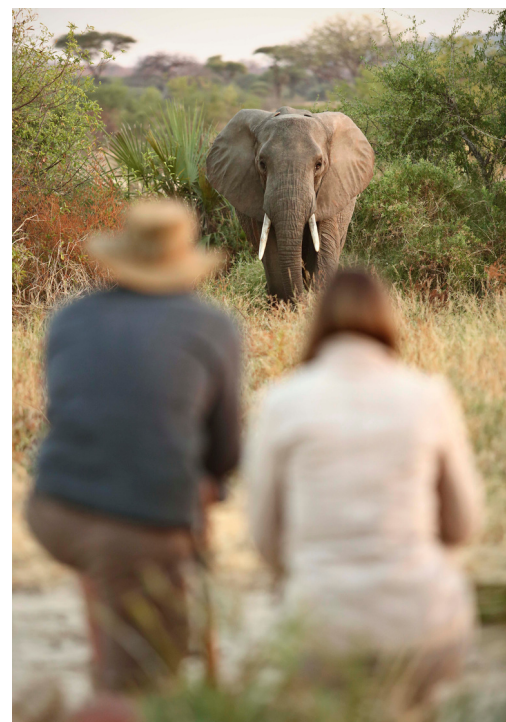
Walking Safaris,  
Afternoon & Night  
GameDrives, & Bird  
Watching

## LOCATIONS

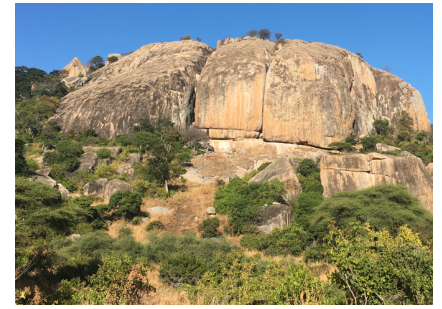
- Mpululu - Northern Boundary
- Usangu - South West Ruaha
- Kilola Star - Western Ruaha
- Ruaha River - Central Ruaha

## ACCESS

1 hour 40 minute flight from Dar es  
Salaam to Ruaha National Park.  
Arriving into **Jongomero Airstrip** or  
**Msembe Airstrip** depending on location..



## MPULULU: June-October

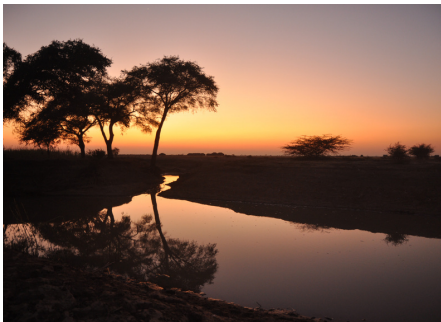


Mpululu was the name of mighty chief from days gone by from which the area gets its name, and this extremely wild and remote section of Park is essentially as far away from civilisation as the crow flies as the mighty Ruaha/Rungwa ecosystem is able to provide.

Huge rock Kopjes, inselbergs and monoliths dominate this almost prehistoric landscape, you would almost expect a dinosaur to appear at any moment.

Loose yourself in complete wilderness along the banks of the Mzombe River, strewn with lava flows and rocky pools providing plentiful water deep in the dry season and supporting a vast portion of the Ecosystems Hippos.

## USANGU: June-October



The Usangu area was essentially a gigantic Game Reserve in the past which housed the Ihefu Marsh, a mighty swamp spanning several hundred square kilometres and the source of the Great Ruaha River itself.

Only accessible later in the dry season, the Usangu wetlands could be likened to a mini Okavango delta and supports vast quantities of Hippos, Elephants and large herds of unique Antelopes for Ruaha such as Topi, Roan and Hartebeest.

The swamp itself provides vistas and views of water and life as far as the eye can see, and with only a 180 degree turn an entirely different world will greet you with open grassland and floodplain to essentially infinity.

The Usangu reserve joined the Ruaha as National Park 2 decades ago doubling our size making us at the time the largest park in all of Tanzania.

## KILOLA STAR: August-October



Kilola Star is the highest altitude point in all the Ruaha at around 1800M and therefore the most starkly “different” area to the rest of the Park.

Ruaha is famous for its “Miombo Woodland” habitat zone however even though it is the dominant vegetation over most the Park it is the least visited due to its inaccessible nature.

Kilola-Star, the junction of 4 mountain streams sits high on top of the Isunkaviola plateau deep within the most prime example of mature Miombo woodland perhaps in all Tanzania. This plateau is perhaps the most “inaccessible” section of “accessible” Ruaha and a mission to reach, however once there you will be met with an entirely different set of Birds, Weather, Temperatures, Vegetation and of course therefore animals as well.

A journey here is truly like rediscovering completely “lost worlds” largely void of any past human impact.

## RUAHA RIVER: May-October



Ruaha is considered one of the most variable parks in all Africa, it is the undulating topography which contributes to this, 1800M above sea level in the West dropping to just 700M in the East. Every 20 minutes you drive in Ruaha the scenery totally changes, this variety is what gives us over 700 species of Birds and more species of Antelope than any other Park in East Africa. What better way to get acquainted with this diversity then by walking a vast transect of the main geographical feature and umbilical cord to the ecosystem - The Great Ruaha River itself!!

7 days of trekking this wonderful game rich resource, through pleasant Acacia forests, Palm groves, and over gentle rolling hills and intersecting sand rivers which give the Ruaha Park its fame and greatness. From Jongomero in the West to Lunda in the East we will pass through the prime viewing sections of Ruaha.

\*Insider tip...if you book during May it will be AFTER the Ruaha rainy season, but when all other camps are still shut so we get essentially an entire National Park just to ourselves.