

Savanna Safari Guide

YOUR ULTIMATE TRAVEL GUIDE TO
EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

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EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



BY LOVEMORE NCUBE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

I grew up and I started my career as a business consultant to small and medium sized businesses including safari lodges and tour operators in Zimbabwe before moving to the United States. I was inspired by community eco-tourism projects developed under the CAMPFIRE (Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources) program. The program encouraged responsible tourism by rewarding community efforts in natural resource conservation. I like going on safaris and each time I have gone, there is always something new to discover and enjoy.

My inspiration to write the book

There are two main reasons I decided to write a book about

African Safaris

1. While in Business Graduate School in the USA a few years ago, I met and made friends with students from different parts of the world. A number of them were curious about visiting Africa and going on an African safari some day but had very limited knowledge about Africa at best and sometimes outright misconceptions about what they would experience if they visited Africa. I decided to write a book that would help people like my friends, people who are curious but are not sure about how it would be like to go on an African safari.
2. I believe in sustainable development, that we should enjoy our natural resources and preserve them for future generations. Going on an African safari you will see how eco-tourism as a sustainable development model is transforming whole communities in Africa, by deriving benefit from the resources, yet preserving them for future generations, as it has been for thousands of years.

I hope this book will not only inspire you to go out and discover Africa, but that you will find the insights in the book helpful as you plan your safari, and also help you stay safe while on a safari.

For more information about the book and the author, please visit:

www.savannasafariguide.com

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SAFARI GUIDE OUTLINE

The following few paragraphs provide a quick snap shot of the major sections of the guide, from planning for a safari trip, different safari options in east and southern Africa and what to expect on a typical African safari.

Part 1 – Overview of an African Safari

Part one of the book provides an overview of factors to be taken into consideration when planning an African safari. An African Safari is a way of connecting with Africa. While animal viewing is an important highlight of any African Safari, a safari tour gives the visitor an opportunity to learn about the people of Africa and their experience. It is an opportunity to engage people and get to hear the African story by Africans themselves. An African safari is a time to enjoy the beauty of natural, cultural and historical resources that Africa is endowed with. The prime safari destinations are in east and southern Africa where most of the African savanna climate is found.

The importance of planning in advance is highlighted in this section of the book. It is important to plan your trip well in advance to allow time for shopping around for what suits your interests. When planning a Safari, the starting point is to think about the time of year you wish to travel; the anticipated duration of your trip; the type of accommodation you prefer; your budget and any special interests you wish to pursue. The more you are clear about your aspirations for the trip the easier the planning.

Part 2 – Top Safari Destinations by country

Part 2 of the book provides a detailed review of safari destinations in east and southern Africa, covering South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania. Destinations include natural wonders and places of historical significance.

Major natural wonders including the Victoria Falls on the border between Zimbabwe and Zambia and the Great wildebeest migration of the Serengeti

and Masai Mara in Tanzania and Kenya, are discussed. Premier cultural tours including the visits to the battle fields of KwaZulu Natal are discussed. Roben Island, Mandela's prison home of over 25 years, in South Africa, and lately Kogelo Village in Kenya, the home of Barack Obama Sr, the father of the 44th Unites States President are recent additions to cultural tour itineraries. The cultures and traditions of people at different locations are discussed, to enable visitors to understand and connect with local people. A review of the local culture helps to understand how communities managed to maintain sustainable symbiotic relationships with their environments for centuries. Challenges brought by modern development to these natural resources and conservation efforts to protect them are covered.

Part 3 – African Savanna Wildlife

This section provides an overview of the main animals that can be encountered on a typical safari. The guide provides brief descriptions of the main animals and birds giving the visitor an idea of the animal's likely behavior in its habitat and when it sees human beings.

Wild animals are a fascinating part of the African natural resources landscape and they are fun to view. However serious precautions need to be taken when one encounters wild animals on a safari. Always listen to the advice of a tour guide and keep a safe distance from the wild animals, even if the temptation to get close for that clear picture shot is high.

Part 4 – Information about world cup 2010 and safari opportunities

The FIFA World cup 2010 tournament offers an opportunity for soccer fans to discover more about Africa, in addition to cheering their teams to victory. It is fitting therefore, that in a book about African safaris, that an outline is made of this historical event, and how it offers opportunities for visitors to learn and experience the vibrancy of African cultural and natural resources. Part 4 of the book provides an overview of safari opportunities during the world cup, both in South Africa and in neighboring countries.

Part 5 – Reference information

The reference section provides a listing of tour operators and other safari service providers with brief description of service and contact information.

Part 6 – Index

The index provides a quick reference of major expressions and words used in the book

