

TANZANIA

SAFARIS
&
EXPEDITIONS

THE BEAST RETREAT

Western Tanzania: Katavi & Mahale Mountains
8 Days / 7 Nights



7 Nights Western Tanzania - The Beast Retreat

Katavi National Park - Lake Tanganyika

8 Days / 7 Nights

Group Size: 2/12 (min/max)



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

A hard to beat 7 night flying safari visiting Tanzania's most remote parks in search of true wilderness far from the crowds.

Enjoy being pampered at these two small camps set amongst the big game in Katavi and back-to-our-roots tropical forests of Mahale Mountains on the shores of the worlds deepest lake.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Chada Katavi	Katavi National Park	FB+	4 Nights
Greystoke Mahale	Lake Tanganyika	FB+	3 Nights

Key

FB+: Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities Daily

Price

Variable depending on group size and time of year

Included

Hotel in Arusha on the 1st night prior to departure for Katavi and airport transfer

Drop off at Kilimanjaro International Airport at the end of your trip

Internal flights

Accommodation

Laundry Services

Guiding and transport

Drinks and meals

All activities

Park fees

Airport taxes

Emergency evacuation with flying doctors

Excluded

International flights, visa fees for Tanzania (\$50 or \$100 per person), insurance, gratuities, transfers, activities and accommodation before and after the outlined itinerary.



Day 1-4: Chada Katavi, Katavi National Park

Katavi National Park in the far west of Tanzania is somewhere that, even today, few people have been lucky enough to visit. Perhaps because of this, it feels untouched, almost like traveling back in time. The park centers on a series of wide flood plains, blond with waist high grass in the early dry season, green and flooded like a mini Okavango Delta after the rains. Connecting the main flood plains – Ngolema, Katisunga, Katavi and Chada - is a network of fragile seasonal rivers. It is these rivers that form the focus of the game viewing for which Katavi is renowned during the dry season.

Water rapidly becomes a limited resource in Katavi during the dry so animals of all kinds are drawn to the Katuma, Kavu and Kapapa Rivers. Hippo in their thousands cram the remaining pools, crocodiles retire to caves in the mud walls of the river banks, buffalo and elephant are drawn to the rivers to drink. The lion, hyenas and other predators know this. In the late dry season, there are few places that offer such a raw and wild experience as Katavi.

The rains usually come mid November and go through until early June. Katavi then undergoes a complete transformation. Almost as soon as the first rains hit the ground, everything goes green; long green and lush grasses sprout from what was just dry and cracked earth. The rivers flow again, the pools overflow and there is space for all. It's a birders paradise as all the migratory birds flock back. Grass as high as an elephant's eye, but there is still so much to see.



Day Itinerary

Arrival - self booked vehicle into Arusha airport

Shared Charter Flight Arusha to Katavi (0800/1200) - Return Fare

Transfer by Chada Katavi to camp

Chada Katavi for 4 nights - shared GP - arrive for lunch

Overnight: Chada Katavi [View iBrochure](#)

Little has changed at Chada Katavi since the Nomad Tanzania founders arrived 20 years ago. From the air you have to look carefully to spot it, you'll find your eyes are immediately drawn to such wide open spaces. That's the promise of Katavi; total absorption into the natural world. Chada Katavi is much the same camp that it was when it began - designed to be a stylishly simple bush-camp, small and intimate with just six East African safari tents. Each of them, spacious and comfortable with wide-open fronts giving you panoramic views of the plain and animal life that constantly comes and goes. In fact, you often don't have to leave your tent veranda to see game of all kinds. Elephant are frequent visitors, attracted to the same shady fruit trees as our guests, and vast herds of buffalo graze on the flood plain in front of camp. Katavi is known for unbelievable game, with vast herds of buffalo roaming the plains; also elephant, lion, leopard, crocodiles and hippo. Chada Katavi offers game drives in open 4WD vehicles, night drives, fly camping under the stars, outstanding birding and viewing of big mammals, daily walking safaris.

Basis

Full Board and Activities

Drinks (Local Brands) Included



Included

Includes - all meals, house drinks, laundry and shared activities (4x4 game drives and short walks)

Excluded

Excludes - non-house drinks; private guide/vehicle (available at a supplement, subject to availability, must be pre-booked). Night drive - TANAPA fees apply

Day 5-7: Greystoke Mahale, Lake Tanganyika

Situated in Tanzania, within the Albertine Rift, Lake Tanganyika is the second oldest freshwater lake in the world as well as the second most voluminous freshwater lake on the planet. Tanganyika's crystal clear waters are said to be among the world's cleanest and provide a haven for a myriad of fish, including many colorful cichlid species. The lake is almost entirely surrounded by the mountains of the Great Rift Valley and bordered by two stunningly scenic nature reserves: the Mahale Mountains National Park and the Gombe Stream National Park, famous for its chimpanzees.

Day Itinerary

Transfer by Chada Katavi to Katavi airstrip

Shared Charter Flight Katavi to Mahale (12h20/13h20)

Boat transfer by Greystoke Mahale to camp (around 90 mins with snacks on board)

Greystoke Mahale for 3 nights - shared GP - arrive for late lunch

Activities

Overnight: Greystoke Mahale [View iBrochure](#)

It's no exaggeration to say there is nowhere in the world like Greystoke Mahale. Greystoke Mahale sits on a pristine, white sandy beach overlooking the turquoise water of Lake Tanganyika, with the forested slopes of the 8000 ft Mahale Mountains rising behind.

Greystoke affects people in a way that no other place does; perhaps it's because of its remoteness, and because of the mountains rising from the beach at your backs, the wide lake with its many different moods and the feeling that you are the only ones here. With just six wood and thatch Bandas set on the edge of the forest line at the base of the mountains your days can start there, eating breakfast whilst waiting to hear news of the chimps and deciding what to do with your day. Evenings end with sundowners on the rocks of the headland, where drinks are served around the lamp-lit bar whilst



the mountains, rising behind camp, disappear into the darkness.

Basis

Full Board and Activities

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Includes - all meals and house drinks, laundry, 1 x chimp trek per full day, snorkeling, forest walks, boat trips

Excluded

Excludes - non-house drinks, fishing (\$50 pp per trip - one fishing trip will be costed into the quotation unless requested otherwise)

Day 8: End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Boat transfer by Greystoke Mahale to Mahale airstrip

Shared Charter Flight Mahale to Arusha (13h30/17h20)

Departure - self booked vehicle from Arusha airport



Travel Information

We strongly recommend you review the current travel advice to be found at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html> before booking and ensure you remain up to date with this advice before traveling.