

News and Updates

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TANZANIA May 2025

GENERAL UPDATES

Ngorongoro Lodge, a proud member of The Meliá Collection, has officially joined the prestigious Leading Hotels of the World. This recognition places the lodge among the finest luxury hotels globally, reaffirming their commitment to offering unparalleled experiences in one of the world's most breath-taking destinations.

Serengeti Balloon Safaris offers hot air balloon flights in 5 different wildlife areas across Tanzania. Each park offers something totally unique from the different landscape to the wildlife on show.

The areas of operation and seasons are:

- Central Serengeti Year-round
- Western Serengeti Year-round, and minimum 6 passengers*
- Northern Serengeti 15 June to 15 January
- Southern Serengeti / NCAA 20 December to 31 March
- Grumeti Reserve Year-round, booked only through Singita
- Tarangire National Park Year-round excluding April/May
- Ruaha National Park June to October

*For Western Serengeti bookings it is possible to book for a minimum of 2 passengers depending on operational flexibility. Confirmation will depend on guests' flexibility on the day for flying and can only be advised one week prior to the activity based on co-ordination of other booking requests in the area to make up a minimum of 6 passengers. Guests will be advised with as much advance notice as possible and should be aware that the date of the activity may change at late notice – considering that arrangements will be handled on the ground.

Gibbs Farm have made some updates and changes to policies regarding their offering.

- The minimum 2-night stay requirement has been removed effective immediately and the property will now accept single-night bookings.
- Going forward the lodge will only offer Full Board (FB) rates, as Half Board (HB) rates have been discontinued. All existing bookings made on HB rates will be honoured. FB rates have been enhanced and now also include afternoon tea, sundowner drinks with entertainment, and a personalised farm tour for all bookings in 2025 and 2026.
- The third adult sharing rate is no longer available. All rates are now per person, meaning a third adult will be charged at the standard per person rate.
- The Stay 4-Pay 3 Special Offers for 2025 and 2026 have been discontinued. Any bookings quoted with
 the Stay-Pay offer will be honoured. The only ongoing specials are a Honeymoon Offer to celebrate
 honeymooners staying for 3 nights, who will receive a complimentary spa treatment, a romantic dinner,
 a welcome fruit platter with a bottle of wine, and homemade chocolates on arrival for both 2025 and
 2026 and the complimentary transfers from Lake Manyara Airstrip to Gibb's Farm when on a minimum
 3-night stay.



SPECIALS

Zuri Zanzibar is offering two new limited-time specials for June and November 2025, ideal for pre- and post-peak season travel.

- During June 2025, guests staying **four or more nights** will receive an additional 20% discount.
- From 01 November to 10 December 2025, a Stay 4, Pay 3 promotion is available.
- These offers are valid for new bookings only and do not apply to stays in the Three-Bedroom Ocean Front Villa.
- The specials cannot be combined with any other existing offers.

Xanadu Villas has released two exciting new offers for 2025, available exclusively for new bookings, but not combinable with any other promotions:

Stay 3, Pay 2

- Valid for travel in April & May 2025, and again from 01 September 2025 to 15 June 2026
- Excludes Villa Umande
- Non-cumulative and travel dates must fall entirely within the eligible period Long Stay Offer Pay 6, Stay
 7
- Valid year-round, except August 2025 and festive season (21 December 2025 to 10 January 2026)

Auric Air flight bookings including 3 or more flight sectors in one booking (one PNR), are eligible for an exclusive Multi-Leg Discount of an additional 5% discount. This is a great offer when combining safari circuits and island getaways.

Elewana Serengeti Explorer is offering 15% off for all new bookings in 2025.

- Exclusively available for new bookings only and is subject to availability
- Booking confirmation window: 01 April through to 30 June 2025
- Travel window: 01 April to 31 December 2025
- Valid for the tailored Game Package and Full Board experiences
- This offer stands independently and cannot be combined with other special offers
- Regrettably, this offer is not applicable to East African Resident Rates
- Terms and conditions apply

Kichakani Last Minute Special:

- Book a 3-night stay at Kichakani Camp within 60 days from travel date and receive all nights at the discounted 4–6-night rate and a free return flight from Manyara or Arusha to Lamai
- The offer is valid until the end of the year 31 December 2025
- The flights are booked with either Air Excel, Auric or Regional which are all approved suppliers
- This booking can only be booked 60 days within travel



FIRST-HAND FEEDBACK

Destination:	Rivertrees Country Inn – Arusha, Tanzania
Participants:	Nick Beal, Michelle Milias, Elizabeth Gicheha, Mercy Kariri, Jo-Ann Larkan, Susan Thomas
Suits which type of traveller:	Couples, families, solo travellers, nature lovers, adventure seekers
Recommended activities:	 Wayo activity centre – bikes to rent (image below) At an additional cost – game drive, walking safaris, cultural tours in Arusha. On-site spa facilities Bird-watching, river walk, swimming pool On-site gift shop
Cuisine:	 Bar offering a range of cocktails and drinks Restaurant on site – a la carte menu Local Tanzanian dishes on the menu – Ugali, Sukuma Wiki and Nyama Choma
Highlights during visit/stay:	 Peaceful atmosphere in a natural setting – surrounded by lush garden and forest as well as along the Usa River Comfortable accommodations ranging between luxury rooms, cottages and family options Friendly staff





Destination:	Kuro Safari Camp – Tarangire, Tanzania (Nomad)
Participants:	Nick Beal, Michelle Milias, Elizabeth Gicheha, Mercy Kariri, Jo-Ann Larkan, Susan
	Thomas
Suits which type of	
traveller:	Couples, families, solo travellers, nature lovers, birders, adventure seekers
Recommended activities:	Bush walks
	Bird watching
	Morning and afternoon game drives
	Bush dinner under the stars
	Night game drive
	Cultural visits
	Star gazing
Cuisine:	Snacks and drinks are offered throughout the day.
	Full breakfast is offered (fruits, cereal, pastries, coffee, tea Juice & eggs
	which are prepared to order.
	 For lunch, depending on guests' schedule, picnic or light meals are served.
	Dinner is set under the stars – weather permitting and can be set menu
	or a la carte.
Highlights during	George, our guide. Gold star for him!
visit/stay:	Located in southern Tarangire, the camp is famous for its large elephant
	herds and beautiful landscape which includes savanna, mature baobab
	trees and a wide river cutting through the park.
	Tucked in a Fever Tree Forest, one is immersed in nature. Elephants can
	be seen right from the main area and from the comfort of the tents
	especially during the dry season.
	Cosy mess area overlooking the riverside bush.
	Comfortable tents, woven in sisal, thatch and canvas, all en suite with
	private verandas, and inside and outside bucket showers plus a loo with
	a view 🐵
	Raymond, the Camp Manager is a great host. He stood out!



Destination:	Crater's Edge, Ngorongoro Crater, Tanzania (Wilderness Collection)
Participants:	Nick Beal, Michelle Milias, Elizabeth Gicheha, Mercy Kariri, Jo-Ann Larkan, Susan Thomas
Suits which type of traveller:	Couples, family with older kids, solo travellers, adventure seekers
Recommended activities:	 Guided nature walks (flora and fauna within the lodge) Ngorongoro Crater game drives Cultural experience in the nearby Maasai villages Sundowner Private dining Spa
Cuisine:	 Bar offering a range of cocktails and drinks Dining: Lunch, breakfast – a la carte menu; breakfast can be packed or an English breakfast served in the dining area, depending on guest plans for the day. Lunches are also flexible, served as a picnic or in the dining room, while dinners are from an a la carte menu with two options for every meal, including the starter, which is salad. A curated selection of wines is available to accompany the meal
Highlights during visit/stay:	 Seeing the beautiful sunsets from the room and the private terrace Each room has a telescope for viewing the Crater A gas-fuelled fireplace warms up the room Game drives to the crater, which is about 10 minutes away. The crater has an abundance of wildlife including lions, elephants, hyenas, wildebeest, and rhinos Bird watching Sundowner cocktails on the lodge viewing deck around a campfire Private dining; intimate dining experiences under the stars, either on your suite's private terrace or at a secluded spot within the lodge's grounds A small library to relax and enjoy a drink in the evening or read a book The food was great Wi-Fi available in all areas Wireless charger for all types of phones in the room Dyson hairdryers



