

AFRICANMECCA DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

INTEGRITY IN AFRICAN TOURS & ADVENTURES

AfricanMecca Newsletter - Spring 2006 - Update from Americas, European and Africa Offices

In This Edition:

- [AfricanMecca Beach Tier™ Ratings](#)
- [Samburu National Reserve](#)
- [Larsens Tented Camp](#)
- [Pemba Island - Near Zanzibar](#)
- [Manta Reef Lodge](#)
- [Indian Ocean Beach & Cultural Program Prices & Proposals](#)
- [Another Perfect AfricanMecca Customer Experience](#)

AfricanMecca News

What are AfricanMecca Beach Tier™ Ratings?

Beach Tier™ Ratings are AfricanMecca's proprietary and innovative five tier beach vacation experience designed in complete harmony with our accommodation gauging standards, the first in the East African tourism industry designed from a guest's perspective that allows the guest to accurately and intellectually judge the quality of the accommodations and related services proposed to them.

The common hurdle that a traveler to East Africa has to overcome is the reliance of information from one or few source of references about a particular beach vacationing experience, most commonly extracted from outdated guide books or "post your own reviews" internet websites provided by the travels and experiences of a single individual (or sometimes group) on a particular beach destination for a one or limited time, sometimes with important factors not mentioned during the recommendations such as budget and circumstances leading to the selection of a particular beach holiday experience. Such an approach is one that most often catches travelers with "surprise" upon their arrival to find their experiences inconsistent with their requirements and needs. AfricanMecca has solved this dilemma with our Beach Tier™ Ratings!

AfricanMecca's Beach Tier™ Ratings are accurate because:

- It gauging processes are unbiased.
- It gauges the experiences based on a broad spectrum of accommodations considering different experiences and factors, over decades in the industry - and not from a limited or one time experience.
- They come from an experienced professional perspective.

[Click here for a complete guide to AfricanMecca's Beach Tier™ Ratings](#)

Safari Destination Guide

Samburu National Reserve

Samburu National Reserve lies 325 kilometers north of Nairobi in the hot and arid fringes of the arid northern region of Kenya. The Reserve is within the lands of the colorful Samburu people, close relatives of the Maasai, and harbors a number of wildlife species rarely found elsewhere in any numbers. These include Grevy zebra, the reticulated giraffe and the Beisa oryx all species found only north of the equator. The long-necked gerenuk is a

graceful antelope, which spends much of its time in a bi-pedal stance seeking succulence among the withered scrub, which dots this harsh terrain. Other animals commonly seen are elephants, lions, cheetahs, gerenuks, buffalos, grants gazelles, dikdiks and waterbucks. There are over 350 varieties of birds. These include the famous Somali Ostriches (distinguished by their unique purple/blue legs during mating season), kingfishers, humming birds, eagles, guinea fowls and vultures.

[Click here](#) for a complete guide to Samburu



Larsens Tented Camp - Samburu

AfricanMecca Tier 1 Accommodation. [Click here](#) for details on Safari Tier™

Larsens Tented Camp was opened in 1987, and is set in lush lawns on the bank of the Uaso Nyiro, a river in Samburu National Reserve, 320 km north of Nairobi, Kenya, on the border of the old Northern Frontier Province. Tranquility and nature embrace you the minute you enter Larsens with the river being the perfect stage for an endless pageant of wildlife - elephants rolling and trumpeting in the shallows, timid impala nervously drinking, baboons and vervet monkeys swinging through the canopy of trees. The only man made noise is that of the young Samburu flutist as he slowly makes his way along the river front. He unobtrusively doubles as a palm nut thrower when the monkeys become too bold.



[Click here](#) for complete information on Larsens Camp

Indian Ocean Beach Destination Guide

Pemba Island - Indian Ocean's Serene & Romantic Destination

Pemba Island, the sister of Unguja and the true "Clove Island" is virgin, green and remote. The most reliable access to the island is by air charter but if one prefers to go by sea, the MV Sepideh and other ferries ply between the two islands several days a week.

The beautiful bat, known as the Pemba Flying Fox (*Pteropus seychellensis comoroensis*), is endemic in the dense Ngezi Equatorial Forest Reserve of Pemba. There are many different kinds of shrubs and trees that harbor the bats, who are insectivorous, nocturnal and rarely seen by visitors. The bats are exceptionally large, much more so than the common East African bat species, with a wingspan of up to 1.7 meters. Although as a destination, Pemba is remote, historically it is one of the oldest areas in East Africa. Ruins of ancient mosques, tombs and palaces in Mkamandume, Wambaa and Msuka manifest this.



[Click here](#) for more information on Pemba Island

Manta Reef Lodge - Pemba Island

AfricanMecca Tier 4 Experience. [Click here](#) for details on AfricanMecca Rating

Manta Reef Lodge is set in a pristine location that will appeal to sea safari fans, divers, honeymooners, fisherman, and beach lovers alike. The

property and rooms are located directly overlooking the beach, with the original tropical forest on the high tide limit, home to birds, monkeys and bush babyies. The white soft sandy beach captures the brilliant sunsets day after day, and closes every day with new and sensational experiences.

Manta Reef Lodge is located on the Ras Kigomasha peninsula, just north of the Ngezi Forest, and is reached from either Chake Chake Airport or Mkoani Port by road, which takes approximately one to one-half hours. The island is also accessible via the mainland by boats from Tanga in Tanzania and Shimoni in Kenya through the port of Wete.



[Click here for complete details on Manta Reef Lodge](#)

Recommended Indian Ocean Beach & Cultural Program

Overnight Prices:

- **Manta Reef Lodge:** From US \$98 or GBP 61 per person sharing. **Programs Inclusions:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner and all taxes.

[Click here for more Pemba Beach Holiday & Cultural Programs Prices.](#)

Another Perfect AfricanMecca Customer Experience

Amboseli Porini & Governors' Camp Experience With AfricanMecca

Jambo Raza, I'm sending you the photos from our stay at Porini Camp and Governor's Camp. We were extremely fortunate to be the only guests at Porini Camp. This led to an experience I don't believe many people have. The dark photos around the campfire are of my girlfriend and I dancing to Reggae music (we brought an iPod) with the Maasai who worked at the camp. We'll never forget it. Governor's camp is probably one of the most well known camps, and once we got over the shock of the size and the regimented schedule, we really enjoyed it. The advantage to Governor's is that the animals are used to vehicles so you can get very close. Raza, you chose two very different camps for us and they provided the perfect perspective of animals in the wild. Both had wonderful accommodations and were exactly what we were looking for. It was a pleasure working with you in the US and working with the local staff in Kenya. This was an unforgettable experience in every way.

Yvonne Schellerup

United States



AfricanMecca Reservation Inquiry

We ask that all destination travel requests such as yours be submitted through our reservation inquiry services page, where we can generate a request number and have a specialist who can quote you accordingly. We have several confirmations we are working with and want to make sure we can serve you in the best manner possible and at the same time create a quality follow through of your request.

Please visit and submit all your details at: <http://www.africanmeccasafaris.com/reservationrequest.asp>

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