

AFRICANMECCA DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

INTEGRITY IN AFRICAN TOURS & ADVENTURES

AfricanMecca Newsletter - October 2005 - Update from Americas, European and Africa Offices

News

AfricanMecca Unveils Its Superb Destination Planner

News Overview

To request a traditional printed copy or to download an electronic copy of our superb 20 page **Destination Planner**, [click here](#).

If you prefer AfricanMecca's full color Destination Planner in traditional paper format, you will be required to provide travel details which will assist us in recommending and/or tailor making a highly specialized program just for you. You will receive your program and Destination Planner via postal mail.

As a natively owned Destination Management Organization committed to the conservation of East Africa's natural resources and at the forefront of promoting our homeland, we are obligated to live up to our conservation efforts. We are requesting a USD 3.00 conservation and postage fee: USD 1.00 will be used for planting brand new seedlings/tree nurseries, which will be donated to Kenya's Green Belt Movement (<http://www.greenbeltmovement.org>) led by Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Wangari Maathai and USD 2.00 towards postage & administration of the project. Please visit Dr Maathai's website at: <http://www.wangarimaathai.or.ke>

AfricanMecca's full color Destination Planner is also available in electronic format (PDF Document) at no charge. The PDF is quick, easy and optimized for fast download. [Click here](#) to review the Destination Planner.

Safari Destination Guide

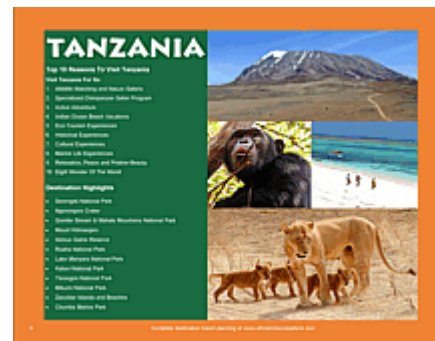
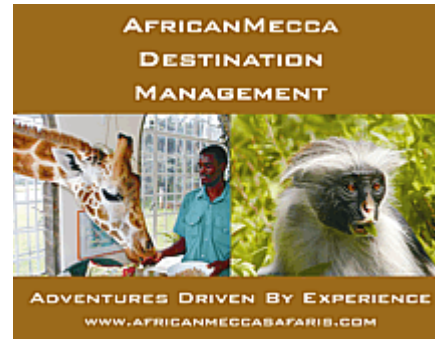
Ngorongoro Crater & Conservation Area

Introducing Ngorongoro Crater & Conservation Area

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area boasts the finest blend of landscapes, wildlife, people and archaeological sites in Africa. Often called African Eden and the eighth wonder of the natural world, it is also a pioneering experiment in multiple land use. For Ngorongoro Conservation Area, the idea of multiple land use means the idea of allowing the coexistence of mankind and wildlife in a natural setting. Traditional African pastoralists cooperate with Tanzania's government bodies in preserving the natural resources of the area and help to ensure a fantastic experience for tourists.

Ngorongoro Crater & Conservations Area's Nature & Wildlife Safari Experience

The first view of the Ngorongoro Crater takes the breath away. Ngorongoro is a huge caldera, or collapsed volcano, 250 square



kilometers in size and 600 meters deep. Its spectacular setting and abundance of wildlife combine to make it one of the wonders of the natural world. The crater alone has over 20,000 large animals including some of Tanzania's last remaining black rhino. The rhino emerge from the forests in the mists of early morning and their prehistoric figures make a striking impression, surrounded by the ancient crater walls. No fences or boundaries border the Ngorongoro crater walls - animals are free to enter or leave the crater but many of them stay for the plentiful water and grazing available on the crater floor throughout the year. The most commonly seen animals are lions, elephants, wildebeests, zebras, eland, bushbuck, cheetah, jackals, buffalos, grants gazelles, Thompsons gazelle and the black rhino.



Open grassland covers most of the crater floor, turning yellow with wild flowers in June. The soda Lake Makat is a great attraction for flamingos and other water birds, while predators hide in the marsh to ambush animals that come to drink from the river that feeds the lake. Also on the crater floor are swamps providing water and habitat for elephant and hippo as well as numerous smaller creatures such as frogs, snakes and serval cats. Game viewing around Lake Makat is especially rewarding - large antelope like zebra and gazelle come to drink, while herds of hippos sun themselves in the thick lakeshore mud. The Lerai forest on the crater floor gets its name from the Maasai word for the elegant yellow-barked acacia tree.



[Click here](#) for a complete guide to Ngorongoro Crater including VIDEOS.

Plantation Lodge - Near Ngorongoro Crater

AfricanMecca Tier 2 Accommodation. [Click here](#) for details on Safari Tier™

Coffee plantations and the famous green hills of Karatu surround the Plantation Lodge, located in the suburbs of Ngorongoro Crater. Inspired with charm and designed to provide comfort, the Plantation Lodge is tucked away in the heart of the African bush.



From your verandah at Plantation Lodge, guests enjoy soothing views of the greenery; experience the walk underneath the avocado and eucalyptus trees and listen to the sounds of over 40 different birds. Get fascinated by the snuggling geckos doing their mating dance or the cackling geese on their way to the morning bath.

[Click here](#) for complete information on Plantation Lodge

Indian Ocean Beach Destination Guide

Chumbe Island Coral Park- Near Zanzibar

The Chumbe Island Coral Park is a unique privately managed nature island reserve. It is a rare example of a still pristine coral island ecosystem. The reserve includes a reef sanctuary, which has become the first gazetted marine park in Tanzania, and a forest reserve. Chumbe Island Coral Park is a perfect destination for an eco-beach holiday and getaway.

Lots of activities are waiting you on and around Chumbe Island. The whole of Chumbe Island is a nature reserve, and you may explore its beauties either under the competent guidance of island park rangers

or at your leisure. Guests can snorkel through the unique shallow water Reef Sanctuary or explore the Forest Reserve and historical monuments. Take an excursion like scuba diving on the nearby reefs, or perhaps just allow yourself a lazy day watching dhows and outrigger boats go by.

Snorkeling and Scuba Diving

Since the island park was gazetted, having been recognized for its immense beauty and bio-diversity, there has been no fishing or unauthorized anchoring in the Chumbe Reef Sanctuary. The reef remains in a pristine state, which nowadays is rare in the world.

The reef crest, encompassing a spectacular array of hard corals, is shallow (between 1-3 meters according to tides). Therefore, snorkels can see all those wonder of the underwater world normally only accessible to divers. If you swim up to the reef ridge, the view opens up a world of breathtaking sites. Shoals of barracuda taking advantage of the abundant prey living on the reef glide by, and if you are lucky you may get a chance to see the playful dolphins cruising in and out of the abyss. Each snorkeling excursion provides new discoveries for guests.

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

Beach Eco - Accommodation Feature

Tell Us More About Chumbe Island Lodge - Chumbe Island Coral Park

AfricanMecca 5 Star Experience. [Click here](#) for details on AfricanMecca Rating

- The eco-bungalows are so brilliantly designed that they provide both privacy and a sense of freedom of living in the open.
- Many of the guests find these bungalows exceptionally romantic (honeymooners love them), but any individual with a passion for natural beauty will find these bungalows captivating beyond measure.
- All bungalows overlook the sea and it takes just 30 seconds to stroll from the comforts of your bungalow hammock to feeling the warm tropical ocean lapping at your feet. All bungalows are equipped with: double or twin beds in the sleeping area under the palm thatched roof, self-contained bathrooms with hot & cold shower, large living rooms, equipped with handmade furniture and decorated with African art and colorful fabrics.
- Since there are only seven bungalows, the island never gets crowded.

Dining takes place under the impressive roof of Chumbe's Park's visitors center, which overlooks the sea between Zanzibar and mainland Tanzania. Chumbe's chefs provide an abundant supply of mouth-watering dishes that are a mixture of Zanzibarian, Arabic, Indian and African tastes and satisfy both vegetarians and non-vegetarians. Prices include everything except alcoholic drinks.



**Click here for complete details on Chumbe Island Lodges
Including VIDEOS.**

Recommended Chumbe Eco Program

Overnight Prices

5 Star Experience - Chumbe Island Lodge - Chumbe Island: From US \$150 or GBP 91 per person sharing - Full Board Meal Terms

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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