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## PARAKUYO TOURS & SAFARIS CO.LTD

PARAKUYO<sup>®</sup>  
SAFARI

### PREPARATION PACKAGE

On behalf of the Parakuyo Tours & Safari team, I would like to extend our warm welcome. You are about to embark on an amazing and unforgettable journey to Tanzania - a land that is full of life, energy, beauty, and exceptional adventures. It is important that you carefully read through this guide to ensure you are fully prepared or aware for your journey in Tanzania. Thank you for choosing Parakuyo Safaris and I sincerely hope you enjoy this adventure.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

While on safari or mountain climb with Parakuyo Safaris, expect a wonderful and memorable adventure, a lifetime experience, far from your normal life and perhaps more rewarding adventurous life experience you ever had. There will be probably dust, rain or mud! New sightseeing's and experiences for you, stories friendly people! Get ready for great experience!

## **TANZANIA VISA INFORMATION, APPLICATION AND PAYMENT.**

A passport and visa are required when traveling to Tanzania. Please ensure your passport be valid for at least six months past your arrival date. Additionally, please make sure that you have a minimum 2 blank pages in your passport. In case you have plan to extend your tour to Kenya, please make sure you have a minimum of 4 blank pages.

We suggest you read carefully the information about VISA to Tanzania. With time and efforts, you will be able to navigate through below links to get more information.

For **detailed information** about VISA to Tanzania, please visit this site <https://immigration.go.tz/index.php/en/services/visa-information>

On this section, you will see also Yellow fever requirement in Tanzania <http://moh.go.tz/en/yellow-fever-entry>

For VISA **application** Please visit this site (VISA Application System) <https://eservices.immigration.go.tz/visa/>

Please make sure to select the right type of VISA, American Nationals should apply for MULTIPLE ENTRY VISA, see more and detailed information on the link, <https://immigration.go.tz/index.php/en/services/visa-information>

Feedback from past clients says, it takes time to fill/file for application, so make sure you have enough time making application. Therefore, when making application, if you're not through, save and you can continue again when you have time (All the information are on the immigration site)

## **CULTURE**

Tanzanian people by nature are extremely friendly and warm but bear in mind that crime does exist, as in all cities and towns around the world. Your guide will brief you fully on arrival or during the safari or mountain climb regarding personal safety. Please do not hesitate to ask as many questions as you need for you to be able to have a good understanding.

Please talk to your guide about taking photos, customs and actions that may offend while in country.

I.e. it is prohibited taking pictures of government workers/officials, buildings, settlements, structures e.g. Police officers, Military, Police stations, Military camps etc.

With African, European, Arabic and Indian traces influencing Tanzanian culture, it is no surprise that it is home to over 120 ethnic groups. The people of Tanzania are welcoming and especially friendly to foreigners. A handshake is a very important form of greeting in their social etiquette, and provided in the section below are a few basic Swahili greetings you can learn before your trip! As they place courtesy, respect and modesty in high-esteem, indecent and threadbare clothing are not encouraged especially in Zanzibar when you are off from your accommodation.

It is advisable to act as respectfully as possible.

## **LANGUAGE**

The official language in Tanzania is Swahili which also has hundreds of other local dialects. As English is the second official language, you will find that the majority of the people you will encounter are fairly fluent in English. Here are some fun phrases to practice your Swahili:

Jambo – “Hello” widely used with foreigners to locals and vice versa – and reply is “Jambo” as well

Habari – “Hello/Good morning” (commonly used when speaking with older people)

Asante – “Thank you”

Asante sana – “Thank you very much”

Pole – “Sorry”

Karibu – interchangeably used as “Welcome” or “You’re Welcome”

## **PRIVATE SAFARIS VS. GROUP TOURS**

Most safari operators arrange pre-prepackaged “group tours”. These tours are generally a pre-planned itinerary according to a specific calendar dates and a block of rooms are booked at particular tented camps and lodges on those dates. Then, various people can “sign up” for these tours until the spaces are filled. In these “group tours”, strangers are shuffled together and must follow the group’s decisions despite any individual interests they may have. This almost always leads to compromise and disappointments sometimes.

OR: A group of friends, colleagues, families organize themselves and embark on a tour is considered as a private tour.

OR: Individual, organizes a tour for co-workers, friends, charity, colleagues, families, friends is considered a private tour.

This is a private tour, therefore you have plenty of freedom and flexibility.

## **YOUR TYPICAL DAY ON SAFARI**

This is your safari trip, your adventure! You decide how you want to spend your time on this vacation. If you would like to spend a full day on safari, you are definitely welcomed to do so. Parakuyo Safaris does not restrict your mileage, fuel or how much time you want to be on safari. While some days you may decide set out by sunrise, other days you can have a more slow paced breakfast before start your daily exploration. Simply sit down with your guide to plan your day and meals the night before. Your guide will have plenty of suggestions, but of course the decision is yours.

## **MAASAI VILLAGES**

The 'Maasai Village visit' is an optional activity that enriches the guests' cultural knowledge and appreciation one of the many tribes encountered on safari. You will find several villages between the stunning landscape before Lake Manyara National Park and Ngorongoro. However, due to its growing popularity, feedback from returning guests' suggests the Maasai Village have become a bit commercialized and fell short on expectations. With a large influx of tourists willing to pay money for local jewellerys and accessories, many Maasai residents have started soliciting guests for such transactions. Although completely harmless, such behavior can make visitors uncomfortable. With such behavior, Parakuyo Safaris would like to bring to your attention that, you should also expect to be approached by at least some residents selling their wares (This might include other places you will make stops along the roads for some reasons) and asking you to donate to their school or any kind of project they will say. If you are uncomfortable with such behavior, we recommend skipping the optional Maasai village. Please do not hesitate to discuss with your safari driver-guide if you have any additional questions or concerns about this optional activity or people asking you to donate for the schools and projects.

SAFARIS . PHOTOGRAPHY . CLIMBING

## **GAME DRIVES**

The game drives in the National Parks and Conservation area are all to be conducted in the safari vehicle, and you should remain inside for safety reasons. Please be aware that a large portion of your time on safari will be spent in a vehicle doing game drives and wildlife viewing. If you have any potential problems with long durations in a vehicle (i.e. back problems or past surgeries), please alert your driver/guide of the situation in order to minimize negative impact. Do not sit on top/roof of the vehicle, while it's moving or stationed, it's against park rules and for your safety as well. If the car is stationed for any reason i.e. watching

something and the guide decide to make a move/drive abruptly might cause injury and we would not like that to happen or penalized with park officials.

Do not alert the animals! By attempting to attract an animal's attention, do not imitate animal sounds, clap your hands, pound the vehicle or throw objects out of the vehicle so they can look your direction in order to take good pictures, try avoiding noisy near the animals.

Do not feed, attempt to feed wild animals and birds or approach any wild animal.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

The right camera – to capture memories and encounters to treasure, and a digital chip is important, as this will determine the quality of your photos on the trip. For wildlife and bird photography a good digital camera with a telephoto lens is important. A 35mm single reflex camera with telephoto lens of 200mm or 300mm is recommended, otherwise just bring a camera you are sure will be good enough to capture those great memories. Professional cameras with large lenses, can be brought for the best quality photos, Parakuyo Safaris is an outfit for professional photographers.

An ultraviolet filter, water and dustproof covers, spare memory cards chips and spare batteries are essential on hand or a laptop/iPad/Tablet to download the pictures if necessary.

A pair of good quality binoculars is essential for animals viewing.

\*There are incidences some of our past clients did not bring cameras and depend only their smartphone to take pictures, the distance is a barrier for smartphones in some cases and this really disappoints the clients, the guide and us to some point! We would like you to capture any thrilling or great sightseeing of animals, actions, scenery etc. unless you will be bringing modern gadgets to mount on your smartphone for you to be able to capture great memories at considerable distance. Same to binoculars, bring a pair good enough, recommended every individual to have his/her own.

Please bring a plentiful supply (or amount you are sure is enough) of Memory Cards, Batteries-normal, and films as these will be difficult to obtain, higher in price or poor quality than in your home country or time to shop for it.

If you have a camera you are used to, that's fine and great, if you are planning buying a new one for your upcoming safari or borrow, make sure you learn how to operate it efficiently, knowing how to operate it very well before arriving for your safari or climbing, there wouldn't be time to learn it during safari or climb and this to some point will frustrate you! – this applies to the binocular or other appliances as well.

## **BUSH BATHROOMS**

Throughout your safari, there are various areas with public bathroom facilities such as ranger stations, entry gates, museums, visitor centers, camps, lodges and picnic sites. Since you will be on a private safari, there will be opportunities where no other vehicles are in sight. At any time, your driver-guide can find a safe and private area where you may simply exit to the rear of the vehicle. Two large spare tires at the back of the vehicle, blocking the view from anyone else within the vehicle. Most guests are a bit reluctant at first, but gradually adapt and become with comfortable to the convenient bush bathrooms. (Note, this is in case someone is so tight) So make sure you have a small bag to or anything to put used toilet papers so we don't litter the pack.

Others prefer proper bathroom facilities. Don't worry, our driver-guides are sympathetic to bathroom dilemmas and will ensure you are comfortable and accommodated to your needs.

## **DUST**

Dust is no stranger in Tanzania. Dusty conditions get significantly worse during dry season from June to the end of October. Even in green season (December to May), dust can be aggravating during game drives. Please be prepared for dusty roads when traveling in Tanzania, especially between Ngorongoro and Serengeti.

Please be aware that electronics such as photography and video equipment may be particularly prone to dust conditions. Keep a few soft photo soft cloths on hand to wipe down dust from the lenses. Be sure to bring a small bag to store your equipment that can be opened and easily accessed. It is important to note that dust may affect contact lens wearers, as a result, be sure to plan accordingly and bring sufficient supply of lens lubricant.

### **BUMPY ROADS**

You will experience bumpy roads when traveling throughout the region and during game drives. This may pose a problem for some individuals with back problems. Please inform us in advance and we can plan accordingly. While our vehicles are customized and equipped for rough roads, we still recommend our guests to always fasten their seat belts at all times, and hold on when standing on their seat to enjoy the view through the popped up roof. Bumpy roads-the reason we advise sports bras for wearing on rough terrain for the ladies.

Please also make sure that your cameras and other electronic equipment are safely stored at all times in case of any damages due to bumpy road or dust.

### **SAFARI ANNOYANCES.**

When you are on safari, you may encounter tsetse fly in woodlands of Tarangire and some regions of the Serengeti, some more concentrated than others. Tsetse fly resemble larger flies with a stinger, and while most have no adverse reaction to the bites, some may experience swelling and itchiness. A recommended



medication for this would be “Benadryl Itch Relief stick”. As tse tse flies are attracted to dark blue and black colors. Light natural colors such as khaki, brown, olive, beige and green are recommended and should be worn during the day. Tsetse fly are most active during the day, and become inactive during the night. You can always ask the guide how you should dress the following day

## **SNAKES & OTHER INSECTS**

Snakes are common throughout Africa, but they are seldom encountered on safaris. In bushy or wooded areas, wear boots closed-toe shoes or boots and long trousers to avoid insect bites and minimize risk. If you are staying in a mobile or canvas camp, please make sure that the canvas flap is zipped all the way down (when you’re in or out of the tent) in order to prevent insects from entering your tent. The staff at each accommodation will spray your room while you are out for dinner and it should be as “bug-free” as possible upon your return.

## **No 24-HOUR ELECTRICITY**

Please be aware that, most tented camps and lodges in Tanzania do not operate 24- hour electricity as they rely on solar power or diesel generator. Many properties turn off their generators in the late evening until dawn the next day. Power outages in Tanzania are quite frequent, and even properties who offer overnight electricity may encounter issues. As a result, your tent or room may be pitch black in the middle of the night. While most tented camps and lodges provide flashlights in the rooms, we recommend all guests to bring their own flashlight. Be sure to keep it accessible in the middle of the night to avoid tripping or other accidents.

Remember to recharge your camera batteries, Smartphones, iPads, Tablets, and Laptops etc. Every day evening at camp or lodge.

## **CHARTER FLIGHTS & LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS**

Most charter flights within East Africa have a luggage restriction of 15kg per person in soft or duffel bags. The 15kg per person includes all hand luggage and bags. Excess luggage may be subjected to 2\$-3\$ per kg if it can be accommodated. It is important to note that during high peak season the pilot may refuse to carry extra weight. Please carry-on all valuables and do NOT check-in any luggage containing expensive items such as camera equipment, laptops, iPads etc. to avoid theft.

## **LUGGAGE RECOMMENDATION**

Many guests prefer bringing a light weight, rolling duffel bag due to its capacity and the bag itself doesn't weigh much. As you may recall, for small planes flights i.e. to the Serengeti, Zanzibar there is a 15kg per person in soft or duffel bags, including hand luggage.

## **PICNIC BOXES (Lunch Boxes)**

Your private safari will allow the flexibility of how you choose to spend your time. A daily decision to be made is whether to have breakfast and lunch at the tented camp/ lodge or a picnic box in the bush. While early morning game drives with the sunrise can be breathtaking, there will be likely occasions where you desire to stay in the bush and continue your adventure without returning to the tented camp/lodge. Picnic boxes for breakfast and lunch are prepared on a daily basis at each respective accommodation according to your itinerary. The typical breakfast box may consists of combination of bread, pastries, juice, a banana, apple, hardboiled-egg, bacon or sausages.

Your driver/guide will also provide Instant coffee to get your morning started. The typical lunch boxes consists of various items such as a piece of chicken, bread,

sandwiches, banana, apple, juice, muffin and chocolate. If you have any special dietary requirements please let us know and we will plan accordingly.

Feedback from returning clients suggests the quality of these picnic boxes can sometime be a hit or miss. General complaints include lack of variety of food choices, poor food quality and redundancy. Despite our efforts to get camps and lodges to improve the quality of their picnic boxes, unfortunately, we have little control over the food quality they provide. A hot meal at the camp or lodge will likely provide a more satisfactory culinary experience, but in exchange, you may miss out the early morning wildlife activity. That being said, sit down with your guide and discuss the appropriate plans you wish to pursue.

### **ROAMING WILDLIFE**

Please note that there will be wildlife roaming in the area as the properties are not fenced. There will be guards who will be on the site during day and night. They will also be escorting you to your room and back. It is especially important for parents with small children to take note, and keep their children under supervision at all times when walking outside of their rooms and/or tents.

Please, in any case or situations do not feed animals or birds, it is forbidden and the penalties are harsh for the clients and for the guide, who can be burn to enter national park for a certain duration or can be extended to the company if there is previously record of their clients committing this offence, we are happy our past clients understood this very well.

### **PARK FEES**

All park fees and conservation fees have a 24 hours limit with single entry and your itinerary is planned according to the park permits paid. Your driver-guide will

brief you the night before regarding your schedule. As the parks and conservation areas are strictly monitored, there will be a penalty fee, if you overstay inside the park or conservation area. Any penalty fee resulting from extending the stay will be at the clients expense, please keep in mind we would not like for you to fell on this.

### **SOLAR PROTECTION**

Tanzania resides just south of the equator, where the sun will hang near its zenith for most of the day. The intensity of the equatorial sun can quickly lead to sunburn and sun poisoning. The solution is simple, use high-factor sun block, lip balm, wear a hat and stay hydrated. Don't forget your eyes also need protection, so be sure to wear sunglasses.

### **ACTIVITIES IN ARUSHA**

There are general sightseeing tours available such as cultural tours, day-trek to Mount Kilimanjaro. If you enjoy shopping, we will suggest the places for you in Arusha which has a large supply of woodcarvings, paintings, tribal masks, artifacts, jewelry. Tanzanite is a rare gem stone only found near Mount Kilimanjaro, making it a special souvenir. If you are interested in buying Tanzanite, we will recommend the places. Some guests expressed interest in visiting orphanage centers or school and donating school supplies. These type of experience can certainly be arranged at the beginning, end of your safari or during the safari.

### **ELECTRICITY CHARGING STATION**

Tanzania electrical sockets are identical to those found in the United Kingdom. The 3 rectangular pin UK adapter is required to use electronic appliances. The

electrical voltage used in Tanzania is 220V whereas the electrical voltage in the United States is 120V. Please make sure your device is capable of operating safely with either 120V or 220V.

Please be aware that many tented camps and lodges do not provide 24-hours electricity. Most properties are solar-powered, or running on generators and turn off their generators after dinner until dawn. Please inquire upon arrival at each accommodation as policies differ widely. If you have a health concern that requires you to charge your medical equipment at all times, please kindly advise us beforehand and we can plan accordingly.

### **SAFARI HELTH AND CONCERN**

Although there is no high level of physical exertion required while traveling on safari, an overall good health is essential. Health concerns or dietary restrictions should be made apparent before leaving for safari. As noted above, any safari participants must be in good conditions; therefore it is crucial to ask your physician for medical advice or visit a travel clinic before going on your safari. It is likely that you will be prescribed antimalarial drugs (such as Malaria), and we endorse these preventative measures, as Malaria is one of the more serious potential health risks in Tanzania.

That being said, regardless of whether or not you are taking antimalarial medicine, protecting yourself from mosquito bites altogether with various counteractive means is especially important. Such means include using insect repellent, having sufficient wear before dusk and wearing long sleeved shirts, trousers, ankle-length socks (mosquitoes tend to hover near this area) and closed-toe shoes in the evenings.

### **YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION**

If you are transiting from a Yellow Fever-Endemic Zone (such as Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Nairobi-Kenya), you will be required to present proof of yellow fever vaccination. If you are flying directly from Amsterdam or other non-yellow fever endemic countries, you will not be required to take this shot. If for any health

reasons, you cannot take this shot, you can ask for an exemption letter written and signed by your doctor from home to show the border officers.

### **ANTI-MALARIA PILLS**

There are several types of anti-malarial pills available, please consult with your family doctor to select the right one for you.

### **OTHER VACCINATIONS**

Aside from Malaria and Yellow Fever, there may be other vaccination and medications to take prior to your trip to Tanzania. Please consult with your family doctor, and visit a travel clinic in your area to receive specific medical consultation before your trip. Please note that all shots and medications are recommended to be taken/prescribed at least 3-4 weeks prior to travel. Please discuss the following vaccination recommendations with your doctor or travel clinic:

- Hepatitis A, B
- Yellow Fever
- Booster doses for Tetanus-diphtheria and polio vaccine
- Antimalarial drugs
- Various antibiotics such as Cipro
- Diarrhea medicine

### **STOMACH UPSETS**

Similar to traveling to any foreign country, stomach upsets may be common and unavoidable. Depending on the individual's sensitivity, these may range from mild aches to diarrhea. Causes for such digestive problems can be attributed to simple

things like changes in water (e.g. different mineral content), food or even climate. Your doctor may prescribe you an oral vaccine (e.g. Dukoral) to give you protection against traveler's diarrhea. However, if an upset stomach still occurs, you can stop it with an over-the-counter drug called Imodium or simply let it naturally pass by staying extra hydrated and staying on a plain diet. That being said, it is encouraged to first consult your doctor on whether or not a diarrhea medicine is necessary for your case.

### **DIABETICS ON SAFARI**

Should you have a diabetic condition; there are no grave situations you should be concerned about while traveling on safari. A great deal of the meals provided to you on safari will likely be very similar to what you habitually eat at home (e.g. Marinated chicken, beef, salad, fruits, etc.). However, be mindful that some packed lunches supplied by the lodges or tented camps may include foods high in carbs such as bread, fruit and juice boxes, as well as other foods high in protein. With regards to essential diabetic medications and supplies, make sure to carry a letter from your doctor stating said supplies you will be bringing with you and a copy of the actual prescription is also recommended. In addition, carry hard candy or glucose tablets with you on game drives or other safari activities. Insulin-dependent individuals are encouraged to pack more than one bottle of insulin and extra pump supplies, as they are not available to purchase in Tanzania. You are welcome to discuss with the guide and the manager or chef of the lodge or camp what would you like most on your diet and can provide if there is a possibility.

### **CPAP BREATHING MACHINE**

If you are traveling with a CPAP Breathing Machine and/or Portable Oxygen Concentrators devices, it is mandatory that you bring a rechargeable battery pack (equipped with a minimum runtime of 8 hours) that is of universal voltage (120V –

240V). The majority of the lodges and camps you will be staying at do not run on 24-hour electricity, and turn off their generators for the night until daylight. While out on safari activities, guests are advised to charge their CPAP battery throughout the day so that they can be used overnight when power may not be available at their accommodations.

## **USING TRAVELERS CHEQUES AND CREDIT CARD IN TANZANIA**

Many places does not accept travelers' cheque now days, including for tipping.

We encourage guests to avoid using much on credit cards to make purchases for security reasons, even at lodges and gift shops. We advise all our guests to take extra precaution when using their credit cards in Tanzania, like in any other country or at home as there may be a risk of the credit card numbers and fraudulent charges will be made.

- Try and avoid using credit cards in Tanzania whenever possible. Plan to use US cash for all your purchases
- Prior to your departure, please call and inform your credit card company about your travel details such as dates, locations, and layovers. Further, authorize charges only within those travel dates and set a maximum transaction limit.
- Monitor your current and future credit card statement upon returning home.
- Otherwise, Master Card and VISA cards are widely used in the country, for payments and to withdraw local currency at ATM machines.

## **WHAT TO BRING ON SAFARI**

Your safari wardrobe does not require any "Special Purchase" for the outfit cloths, unless you want to! On the other hand do not bring your best cloths for safari, it's not necessary



Safaris are casual vacations! Dress comfortably and pack lightly. As you will be spending most of your safari viewing in the vehicle, loose-fitting and light colored clothing are recommended. Avoid dark colors (i.e. black, dark blue, blue) as they tend to attract unwanted attention from insects such as the tsetse fly.

## **SAFARI CLOTHING**

These are some of the clothing we recommend

- One pair of comfortable walking shoes (i.e. sneakers, hiking shoes)
- One pair of sandals or flip-flops
- Casual, loose-fitting clothing
- 1-Bandanna (optional)
- Swimsuit
- One warm fleece or sweater
- Extra Cotton socks and underwear
- Wet wipes
- Sports bras for wearing on rough terrain for the ladies
- Raincoats or waterproof ponchos preferably small and easy to pack
- Shade Hat with wide brim or baseball cap
- Lightweight jacket or windbreaker.

\*These are Items description guidance, not necessary to be exactly.

## **Other items**

- Passport, plane tickets
- Money belt, to put your money, credit cards, important documents, passport, etc.

- U.S. Dollars (both large and small denominations) notes **must be** more recent than 2009 and credit cards
- Sunglasses
- Flash lights or head lamps with spare batteries
- 1-Small knife, with scissors will be great – a Swiss knife type is just fine
- 1-Duffle bag
- 1-Padlock to lock your duffle
- 1-Day pack, to pack your day use stuffs, i.e. Sunscreens, spare batteries, lip balm, your pocket knife, power bank, memory cards for your camera etc.
- Contact Lens Solution, extra contact lenses and spare glasses.
- If you wear contact lenses, be sure to bring a pair of glasses in case of eye irritation from the dust
- Sunscreen (SPF 50 or higher)
- Lip balm (SPF 45)
- Insect repellent (DEET 30%)
- Anti-bacterial hand sanitizer
- Camera, extra batteries, memory cards
- UK plug adapter, the right charging cables for your appliances
- Journal for recording daily observations and encounters
- Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate, if applicable
- Small Personal Medical Kit including aspirin, anti-malarial pills, cold and allergy medicine, cream of itches (i.e. Benadryl itch relief), stomachache medicine (i.e. Pepto-Bismol), antibiotic ointment (i.e. Neosporin), prescription antibiotic effective against a broad range of bacteria including travelers diarrhea (i.e. Ciprofloxacin or also known as Cipro) Eye drops medication for allergies and dry eyes. Please discuss with your Doctor for above recommendations.
- Binoculars, Cameras, Chargers, power bank, we advise you to carry spare batteries for your cameras and enough memory cards, they are expensive here in case you forget!
- \*Do not bring Candy, Sweets, and Chocolates to give the kids! Many kids has been spoiled with tourists giving them these kind of stuffs, including leftovers from lunch boxes (If you're bringing those stuffs for yourselves that's fine) On the other hand, in case you would want to bring something

for the kids you meet, then, you may bring things like, exercise books, pens, pencils, rulers, small school bags or old clothes your kids don't need anymore!

- **Patience and a Sense of humor - Essential for Africa!**

## **WILD ANIMALS**

It is important to never assume that any of the animals encountered on your game drive are tame. Though attacks by wild animals are unusual, nothing in the African wilderness is predictable. While you are staying in your safari lodges and camps, it is important to be especially cautious and aware of your surroundings as many of these areas are not fenced and contain wildlife roaming freely. If you have children with you, keep them in sight and do not let them wander alone. At tented lodges & camps, you will always be escorted to and from your tent for dinner or during the night. Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to raise them to the staff or your guide.

## **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

An extensive travel insurance effective for the entire duration of your trip is highly advised. This should ensure coverage for any unforeseen circumstances that may occur such as trip cancellation or postponement, lost or delayed baggage, emergency or accident, illness and evacuation and a need for 24-hour medical assistance.

## **TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN**

A safari trip to the African wilderness can easily be deemed as one of the most rewarding and unforgettable family vacation experiences. Left and right, children actively encounter sights that prompt many opportunities for new knowledge. It is undoubtedly a stimulating environment for curious young minds. That being said, their safety should be given extra regard and care when out in the wilderness. As noted above, several safari lodges and camps are not fenced and have wildlife wandering their grounds. We stress that you should always keep children in sight, and never, under any circumstance, let them wander alone. Escorts should always be present when you are out at night.☺

## **ITINERARY CHANGES & FLIGHTS DELAY**

If a client requests last minute change to the safari itinerary including accommodations, flights, services, etc. the client is responsible for any additional expenses as a result of that change.

Parakuyo Tours & Safaris is not responsible for any airline changes or costs incurred as a result of those changes, including airline schedules, fares, cancellations, over-bookings or damage to or loss of baggage and property. Any and all claims for any loss or injury suffered on any airline must be made directly with the airline involved. Air schedule changes may necessitate additional nights being added to your safari. Again, these schedule changes are beyond the control of Parakuyo Tours & Safaris and any additional costs resulting from such changes are the responsibility of the client. Parakuyo Tours & Safaris shall not be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running according to schedule.

## GUIDES

For the duration of your safari trip, you will have the same driver-guide. At the end of the day, the quality of your guide is the single most important factor in determining the success of your safari. At Parakuyo Safaris, we hire the ones who have ability to make your safari a wonderful experience and once within our team, we treat them like family. Our guides are all local Tanzanians with extensive experience in the field, let be a safari or mountain climbs, they are on this carrier before even the establishment of this outfit!

Your safari drive-guide will be responsible for helping plan your everyday schedule, giving you suggestions, although, it is ultimately the decisions are up to you. His most obvious aspect of his job is that he is also responsible for finding animals! Thus, he must understand intimately the wildlife's habitat and cognitive behaviors. A great guide will be able to read and predict animals' behavior and movement, optimizing your safari with spectacular encounters and thrilling hunts. It is also important for your guide to be well experienced so that he is not afraid of venturing off the beaten path for fear of getting lost, otherwise, you may never make it far off from the main road!

Please respect your guides' judgement when it comes to the proximity to the animals. Do not insist that they take you closer so that you can get a better photograph. A vehicle driven too close can hinder a hunt or cause an animal to abandon a hard earned meal.

Not only should he be informative, but also engaging and enthusiastic along with a genuine personality. After all, you will be with him the entire trip!

## **WILDLIFE VIEWING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Tanzania's temperate climate creates amazing wildlife viewing opportunities that are not only limited in the mornings, but throughout the entire day. However, as with all situations in life, good things come to those who wait. It is important to remember that nothing in the wilderness is foreseen, and oftentimes remaining patient and sticking close to one particular animal might be more valuable than rushing off to each new animal sighting or places. When you linger close to a specific animal for a longer period of time, you are more likely to learn more about their tendencies and behaviors in an insightful way, and sometimes even be rewarded with a spectacle you don't see every day—like a cheetah sprinting to catch its prey! And on top of that you can be able to compose and take great memorable pictures.

All these you will discuss with your driver/guide and will depend on the program of the following day and time frame.

## **GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINE**

While Tanzania has a relatively low crime rate, we still advise our guests to carry out some precautionary measures:

- Make copies of important documentations (passport, air itinerary, etc.) and keep them separate from the originals
- Do not bring along any-very expensive jewelry or watches
- Keep your valuables (passport, credit cards, money, important documents, wallet, etc.) in a money belt that you can wear under your clothes and make sure is with you all the time.
- Carry some spending money in an accessible pocket separate from your money belt so that you don't have to continuously retrieve from your money belt

- Town Safety - When exploring Arusha, Dar es Salaam or Stone Town in Zanzibar, please use common sense and take safety precautions as you would when travelling in any foreign city/town or country.
- Be aware of your surroundings and keep an eye on your belonging especially in crowded areas such as bus stations and local markets
- Do not wear jewelry and expensive watches and do not carry your cell phone or wallet in your pocket
- Please follow National Park Rules and instructions of your safari guide. National Park rules are designed to keep you and the animals safe.

### **General Healthy Safety**

- Prevent sunburn & sunstroke - Please use sunscreen liberally, wear a wide-brimmed hat, long sleeves and wear sunglasses to protect yourself from sunburn. Due to the high elevation of the Northern Parks, you may not feel overly hot but the equatorial sun's rays are intense.
- Take precautions against malaria - Although the likelihood of contracting malaria is low, it makes sense to follow simple precautions by wearing long sleeves shirts, long pants and socks after dark and using insect repellent containing DEET to prevent mosquito bites. Anti-malarial medication is also recommended. If you feel unwell at any time during your safari, please advise your safari guide.
- Please drink only bottled water provided in your safari vehicle and at the lodges and camps. Do not drink tap water. Use only bottled water to clean your toothbrush and rinse mouth and be careful not to swallow the water when you are showering. At Seasons Lodge, there are stations where you can fetch clean and safe drinking water, make sure you bring a container.  
*\*Although there is a campaign to ban plastic water bottles into the parks, but not yet enforced, in case it's enforced before your arrival, we will make sure you get safe and clean drinking water.*

## MAKE SMART PREPARATION FOR YOUR TRAVEL/FLIGHT TO TANZANIA

- There are rare cases whereby checked in luggage in planes can be delayed or lost, you should prepare yourself for this. Below are some recommendation/guideline to help you prepare for this.
- We recommend, you should wear the complete essential cloths while bordering your flight to Tanzania.
- In your carryon luggage, you should bring your day pack, medications, toiletries, all your important travelling documents, cameras, binoculars, chargers, memory cards, spare batteries, etc. 1-2 pcs of important clothes if possible.
- You will not be allowed to take in your pocket knife or any sharp objects i.e. scissors, so this will go into your check in luggage together with similar objects.
- Drones are not allowed to fly in Tanzania, unless you have the license to do so in Tanzania and are strictly prohibited to use in all National Parks, so don't bother bringing those.
- Avoid packing/carrying your things in plastic bags, from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019, the Government has ban plastic bags in the country. We would like you to be aware of this, so you don't encounter any unpleasant situation at the airport or while in country.
- Below is the announcement from the Government to help you understand better:



## **NOTICE TO TRAVELERS PLANNING TO VISIT TANZANIA**

The Government of Tanzania wishes to make an official note to travelers planning to visit Tanzania that from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 all plastic carrier bags, regardless of their thickness will be prohibited from being imported, exported, manufactured, sold, stored, supplied and used in Mainland Tanzania.

However, plastic or plastic packaging for medical services, industrial products, construction industry, agricultural sector, foodstuff, sanitary and waste management are not prohibited.

Visitors to Tanzania are advised to avoid carrying plastic carrier bags or packing plastic carrier bags or items in plastic carrier bags in the suitcase or hand luggage before embarking on visit to Tanzania. Special desk will be designated at all entry points for surrender of plastics carrier bags that visitors may be bringing into Tanzania.

Plastics carrier items known as “ziploc bags” that are specifically used to carry toiletries will be permitted as they are expected to remain in the permanent possession of visitors and are not expected to be disposed in the country.

The Government does not intend for visitors to Tanzania to find their stay unpleasant as we enforce the ban. However, the Government expects that, in appreciation of the imperative to protect the environment and keep our country clean and beautiful, our visitors will accept minor inconveniences resulting from the plastic bags ban.

For further inquiries please contact [ps@vpo.go.tz](mailto:ps@vpo.go.tz), [www.vpo.go.tz](http://www.vpo.go.tz), Ofisi ya  
Makamu wa Rais Tanzania, @vpotanzania, @VPOTanzania, +255 685 333  
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Issued by

**Government Communication Unit**

## **PREPARATION PACKAGE**

Is a guide to help you in preparation for your visit to Tanzania and on safari, we want you to be aware of several things while you are here and on your preparations. Remember you will be accompanied with the guide and feel free to ask him anything you think you will need to know and he will be of help whenever possible.

We wish you a good preparation for your travel to Tanzania and on safari.

In case you have any query please feel free to ask us anytime.

**MELECK JOHN.**  
**FOUNDER AND GUIDE**  
**PARAKUYO TOURS & SAFARIS CO. LTD**

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