

Welcome to



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Ecotourism in Tanzania:



Background



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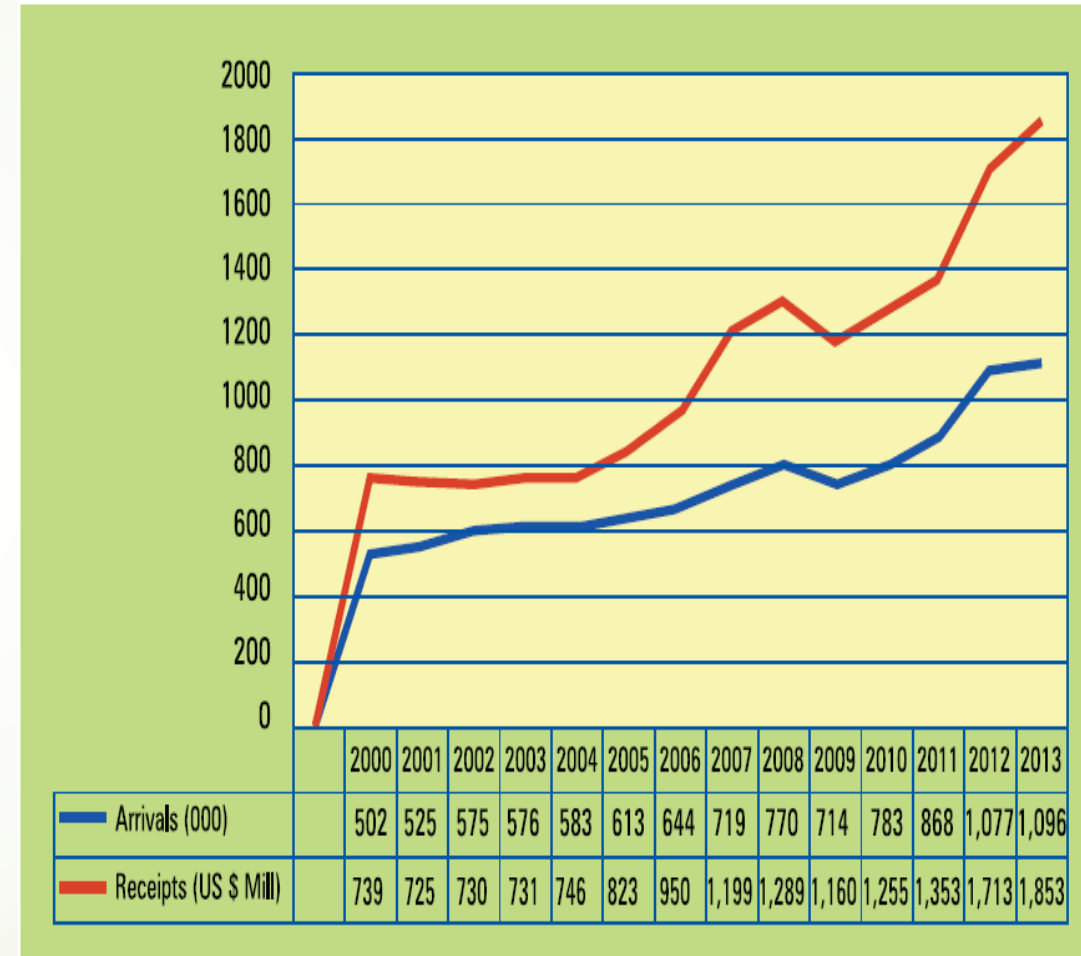


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Tourism in Tanzania: The Overview

- In recent years, Tanzania has experienced a remarkable growth in nature-based tourism following major transformations in its tourism policies (Wade, Mwasaga, & Eagles, 2001)
- Representing 17% of Tanzania's GDP
- Overall the tourism sector directly employ around 600,000 people and up to 2 million people indirectly (URT, 2015).
- By 2025, Tanzania's tourism sector is expected to grow at a rate of 6.2% per annum, against an expected world average growth of 3.7% (WTTC, 2015).



Tourism in Tanzania: The Overview

The focus of the country

- Tanzania seeks to offer a low-density, high-quality, and high-priced tourism experience, which is consistent with the principles of ecotourism (URT, 2002a).
- It is estimated that over 50% of tourism activities in the country are nature based, focusing mostly on protected areas (Anderson, 2010).

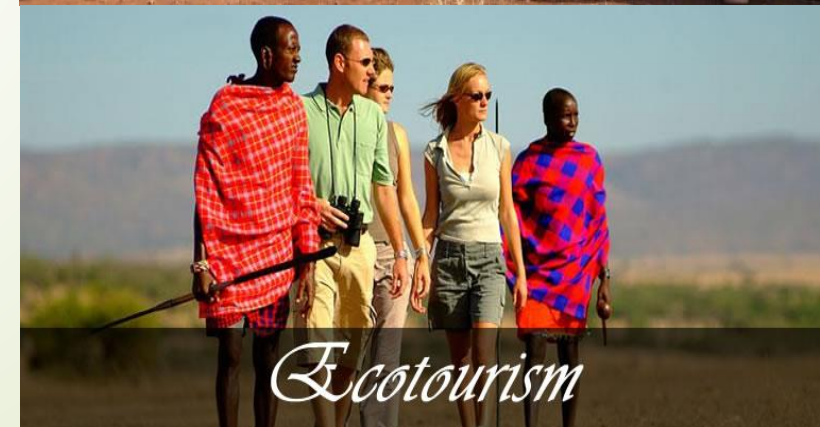


Why ecotourism???

How is ecotourism defined:


Ecotourism is defined as a 'responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people, and involves interpretation and education' (TIES, 2015).

Ecotourism is referred as a responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the natural resources and sustains the well-being of local people (Charnley, 2005; Wood, 2002).





Ecotourism principles

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- (1) minimize physical, social, behavioral, and psychological impacts,
 - (2) build environmental and cultural awareness and respect,
 - (3) provide positive experiences for both visitors and hosts,
 - (4) Provide direct financial benefits for conservation,
 - (5) generate financial benefits for both local people and private industry,
 - (6) deliver memorable interpretative experiences to visitors that help raise sensitivity to host countries' political, environmental, and social climates,
 - (7) design, construct and operate low-impact facilities,
 - (8) recognize the rights and spiritual beliefs of the indigenous people in their community and work in partnership with them to create empowerment (TIES, 2015).

What are some of the benefits of ecotourism

- Keeps some areas relatively untouched by human intervention for future generation (Close to wilderness in USA)
- fosters interaction with biotic components of the natural environments
- focuses on socially responsible travel, personal growth, and environmental sustainability.
- Ecotourism involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna, and cultural heritage are the primary attractions.
- foster a greater appreciation of our natural habitats.
- promotion of recycling, energy efficiency, water conservation, and creation of economic opportunities for local communities

What are some of the benefits of ecotourism

- it provides conservation benefits to its natural resources as well as social, cultural, and economic benefits to local communities (URT, 1999).
- It has a potential to provide more employment and business opportunities to more remote indigenous people than mass tourism (Jusko, 1994).
- Socially, ecotourism is praised because it stimulates hosts and guests education and helps local communities to revive their ancient festivals and restore their cultural landmarks (Wright, 1993).
- tends to distribute net benefits to local people thereby creating incentives to protect those natural areas that draw tourists (Shores, 1992).

What are some of the benefits of ecotourism

- ecotourists have a higher tendency to consume local goods, thereby enhancing multiplier effects as well as increasing local participation in tourism development (Weaver, 1999).
- Reduced financial leakages and create more linkages with the local people



Ecotourism vs mass tourism

- mass tourism has often resulted in overdevelopment, uneven development, environmental degradation, and invasion by culturally insensitive and economically disruptive foreigners (Honey, 1999)
- mass tourism is manipulative in nature because some governments, particularly in DC, provide subsidies in the form of tax breaks and other investment incentives that tend to favour investors over the locals (O'Neill, 2002).
- Overseas companies and investors tend to push out small, local investors or businesses who find they cannot compete (Telfer, 2003)
- mass tourism is associated with revenue leakages
- Other shortcomings of mass tourism include:
- high rates of foreign ownership, contributing to a loss of control over local resources; widely fluctuating earnings due to seasonality of tourism in some places; environmental destruction; increasing crime rates; overcrowding; overloaded infrastructures; and the perceived loss of cultural identity (Brohman, 1996).

Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Table 1. Ecotourism attractions and activities in national parks/protected areas in Tanzania.

National park/ Protected area	Visitors in 2013	Tourism activities	Comments
Serengeti	452,485	Hot air balloon safaris, walking safaris, picnicking, game drives, Maasai rock paintings and musical rocks.	Mass tourism and ecotourism
Ngorongoro	350,970	Walking safaris, picnicking, game drives, site seeing (e.g. Ngorongoro Crater, Olduvai Gorge, Ol Doinyo Lengai volcano and Lake Natron's flamingos.	Mass tourism and ecotourism
Lake Manyara	187,773	Game drives, canoeing, cultural tours, picnicking, mountain bike tours, abseiling, and forest walks.	Mostly ecotourism
Tarangire	165,949	Walking safaris, day trips to Maasai and Barabaig villages, ancient rock paintings in the vicinity of Kolo on the Dodoma road.	Mostly ecotourism
Arusha	71,930	Forest walks, bird watching, numerous picnic sites, Mt. Meru climbing.	Mostly ecotourism

Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Mt. Kilimanjaro	53,254	Mt. Kilimanjaro climbing, hiking Shira plateau, nature trails on the lower reaches, Trout fishing, visit the Chala crater lake on the mountain's southeastern slopes and bird watching	Mostly ecotourism
Mikumi	45,888	Game drives and guided walks.	Mostly ecotourism
Ruaha	21,766	Bird watching, game drives, site seeing including cultural and historical sites.	Mostly ecotourism
Saadani	14,709	Boat safari, watching green turtle breeding site, snorkelling in the caves with colourful fish and green turtles, lunch and sun bathing, walking safari on natural trails of Saadani, game drives, relax on the cleanest beach	Mostly ecotourism
Udzungwa	7131	Hiking to the waterfalls, camping safaris. Site seeing, bird watching	Mostly ecotourism
Saanane	5150	Game viewing, bird watching, rock hiking, boat cruise, walking, picnics, bush lunch, meditation photographing/filming, and sport fishing. Ideal place for wedding, engagement, team building, family day, and birthdays	Mostly ecotourism

Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Mahale	1094	Chimp tracking, hiking to the sacred peek, camping safaris, snorkelling, sports fishing, water sports activities	Mostly ecotourism
Katavi	4275	Walking, driving, and camping safaris, visiting the tamarind tree inhabited by the spirit of the legendary hunter Katabi (for whom the park is named)—offerings are still left here by locals seeking the spirit's blessing.	Mostly ecotourism
Gombe	1771	Chimpanzee trekking, hiking, bird watching, swimming, and snorkelling; Site seeing including dhow building	Mostly ecotourism
Mkomazi	1806	Game drives, camping, site seeing, bird watching, walking safari, and hiking (uphill). Learn more about conservation and rhinoceros at Mkomazi rhino sanctuary.	Mostly ecotourism
Rubondo	908	Game drives, bird watching, walking safaris.	Mostly ecotourism
Kitulo	433	Hiking, open walking across grasslands to watch birds and wildflowers, Matema beach on Lake Nyasa.	Mostly ecotourism

Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Mountains Climbing

National Parks which offer Mountain Climbing and Hiking Services

- Kilimanjaro National Park
- Arusha National Park
- Udzungwa National Park



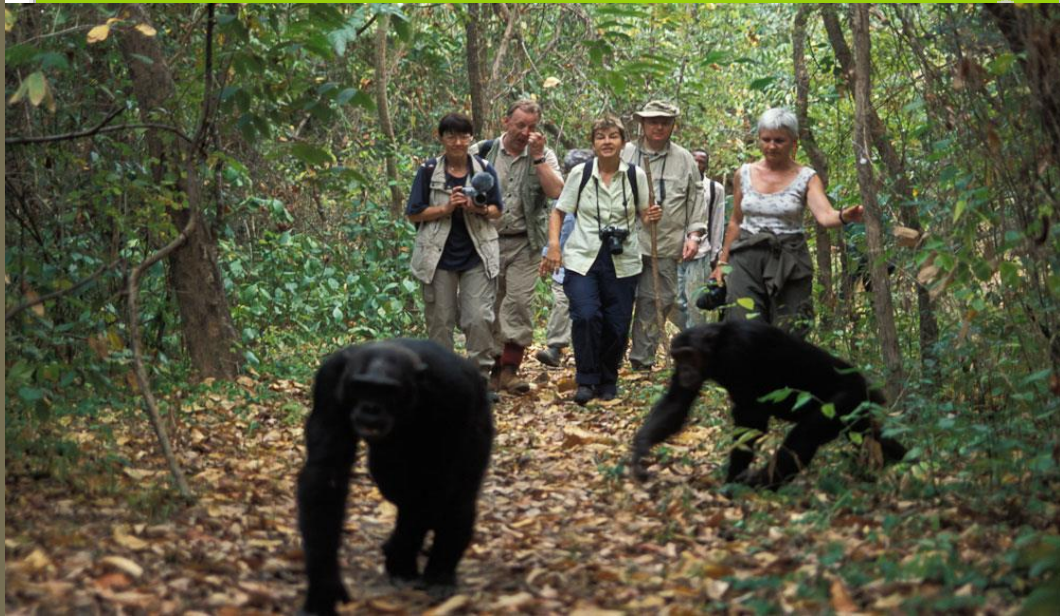
Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Chimpanzee Viewing

List of Parks with Chimpanzee



- Gombe National Park
- Mahale National Park
- Rubondo National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Waterfalls

- Udzungwa National Park
- Kitulo National Park
- Kilimanjaro National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Flowers



- Kitulo National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Sport Fishing, Swimming & Lake Viewing

- Mahale National Park
- Gombe National Park
- Saanane National Park
- Rubondo National Park
- Saadani National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

River Viewing

- Ruaha National Park
- Katavi National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Beach Sunbathing



- Saadani National Park
- Gombe National Park
- Mahale National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Night Game drives

- Manyara National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Canoeing

- Manyara National Park
- Arusha National Park



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Game Drive

All Parks except Kilimanjaro, Gombe, Mahale, Saadani and Saanane



Ecotourism attractions and activities in Tanzania

Bird Watching

- Mkomazi National Park



Some challenges of ecotourism practices in Tanzania

Tanzania has a good opportunity to further develop its ecotourism industry due to its **un-spoilt natural and cultural resources**, particularly in the **southern, eastern, and western parts** of the country where many people still live in abject poverty.

- The southern and western parts of the country have **many undeveloped and under-utilized natural and cultural resources** which can serve as magnificent ecotourism attractions
- ecotourism activities are relatively minimal due to such factors as:
 - accessibility problems to some protected areas (southern and western parts),
 - inadequate infrastructure,
 - insufficient marketing and promotional campaigns,
 - lack of access to capital,
 - lack of ecotourism certification programmes throughout the country.

Some challenges of ecotourism practices in Tanzania

- Lack of formal education and training necessary to operate ecotourism businesses
- ecotourism attractions in the country has been continuously jeopardized by other factors, such as deforestation, poaching, and human encroachment due to rapid population growth.
- over the past few years, wildlife trafficking in Tanzania has become more organised, more widespread, and more dangerous than ever before.
- Thus, elephant and rhino poaching have become both an economic and national security issue