# EAST AFRICAN WILDLIFE



This is a great book for learning about our wildlife in East Africa. It's a bit large to carry around with you – but certainly worth purchasing.

Jonathan and Angie Scott are award-winning authors and internationally renowned wildlife photographers. They have written and illustrated 26 books and are the only couple to have individually won the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition

\*There are also a variety of pocket guides available as well. Of course, any of none are required – just more for your interest. Your guides are all professional – certified guides that can share with you everything you always wanted to know or ask.

## Common Safari Terminology and basic guidelines

#### "Big Five"

In Africa the "Big Five" refer to the lion, leopard, rhino, elephant and buffalo. The term comes from back when hunting was allowed – and refers to the five most difficult animals in Africa to hunt on foot and the degree of danger involve rather than their size.

#### "KWS"

Kenya Wildlife Services- they maintain are parks, manage and administrate them, and their rangers are out patrolling to make sure everyone is kept safe.

#### "Game Drive"

It's when you are driving slowly through the park with the roof hatch open looking for animals, taking pictures. They usually are done in the early morning before breakfast and/or after breakfast for a couple of hours then again mid afternoon till around 6pm. Then there is half day or all-day game drives when you take your meal packed and have it picnic style in the park. Every company does it a little differently. Some have set times and only take you during those times – what we offer is whatever YOU wish – within the time frames of the parks open schedule.

#### No "off roading"

Most if not all parks and reserves have guidelines/rules that one must follow. These are put in place for conservation reasons, for your safety and for the safety of the animals. We abide strictly by the rules as we want you to be safe and we want the animals to not be harassed in anyway. "Off roading" means not driving where there is no road – and that includes NOT following the driver in front of you when he goes of road. We do our best to share and educate our clients before going out on game drives. You will most likely see other drivers doing it – and it will tempt you to want us to do the same, but keep in mind by following the guidelines set up by each park you are helping to ensure out wildlife, flora and fauna will be around for a very long time.

#### Poaching

Poaching is way to common in many areas. It might be wise to check carefully items you purchase while here. Remember besides the big things like ivory, rhino horns – you maybe not take shells, feathers, plants or other smaller items with you when you leave. We want to keep what is supposed to be in East Africa here – so others can continue to come and visit.

#### "Wild"

Keep in mind that all the animals are WILD. We cannot promise you that you will see a leopard, rhino, giraffe or anything else. We DO do our best to locate as many animals/birds etc as possible for you to see – that is what we CAN promise. We always tell people if they want to see a specific animal for SURE maybe they should visit a zoo back home 3 Your guide will work hard to find what you want to see and get you in the best possible location to get good pictures. Be appreciative – they work hard and desire to show you EVERYTHING you ever dreamed of.

## "Getting out of the vehicle"

Once again remember the animals are wild – you cannot just get out of the vehicle whenever you would like. There are designated picnic sites, camp sites and areas to get out for viewing. At times it is necessary to use the toilet and there might not be anything except a bush. Please use the washrooms before going out on game drives and just know that if it is necessary to stop while in the park you guide will do his best to let you get out in a safe area for that purpose. Please always listen to your driver/guide and follow his directions – asking questions if necessary AFTER following his directions.

#### "No Harassing Animals"

This is basically common sense. You are not allowed to do anything that would frighten or disturb the animals – which includes talking loudly or making noise to try to get them to move or look up at you. It also includes driving off road, having too many vehicles around an animal and/or staying in one area looking at the animal(s) for over the specified time in the guidelines of the park.

## OPTIONAL IDEA FOR A 10 DAY SAFARI

## DAY 01 ARRIVE IN NAIROBI

## DAY 02

## NAIROBI-AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK

Following breakfast, you will be picked by your driver /guide and travel to Amboseli National Park. Arriving in time for lunch at the lodge. There will be a little time for relaxation after lunch and then you will be off on your mid-to late afternoon game drive. The park is famous for its large elephant herds and being in the big shadow of Mt Kilimanjaro - the tallest free-standing mountain in the world. Arid looking as Amboseli is, it has historically supported both game and the Maasai that kept their herds of cattle here. Thanks to the waters that run off the mountain the park is able to support its wildlife. Meals and overnight at the lodge (FB)

## DAY 03

## **AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK**

Early morning is usually the best time to view the snowcapped Mt. Kilimanjaro. You will have the entire day with unlimited game drives to enjoy the park. Meals and overnight at the lodge (FB)

## DAY 04 AMBOSELI-TSAVO WEST NATIONAL PARK

Following breakfast, we will travel to Tsavo West National Park – with its vast expanse of savanna and shrub land stretching from Mtito Andei, along the Mombasa-Nairobi road and south to the Tanzanian border. The park's habitats include open plains alternating with Savannah bush and semi desert scrub, acacia woodlands, rocky ridges and outcrops and extensive ranges There are numerous rocky outcrops and ridges and part of the park, towards the Chyulu Hills volcanic origin with lava flows and ash cones including the Shetani lava flow. In the far south western corner on the Kenva Tanzania border is Lake Jipe, part of which is in the park. This very attractive lake is fed by runoff from Mt. Kilimanjaro and the North Pare mountains. At Mzima Springs, in the North of the park, water that has filtered underground from the Chyulu Hills gushes from below a lava ridge into a series of clear pools. Meals and overnight at the lodge (FB)

## DAY 05

## **TSAVO WEST NATIONAL PARK**

Spend the next full day in Tsavo with unlimited game drives. You will have a good chance of seeing different wildlife species and birds. You can opt for a full day drive and enjoy a picnic lunch out in the bush or return to lodge for lunch. Meals and overnight at the lodge (FB)

## DAY 06 TSAVO WEST NATIONAL PARK-TAITA HILLS

With an early morning game drive before breakfast maybe we will have a bit of luck and see the big cats. After breakfast you will travel to the Taita Hills to Salt Lick Game Lodge. Fantastically beautiful the oval shaped rooms overlooking a waterhole attracts an array of wildlife especially elephants. After lunch, we will go on a game drive. In the evening you can enjoy a magnificent view over a waterhole which with its flood lights and possibly observe the nocturnal animal visitors. Meals and overnight at Salt Lick Game Lodge (FB)

#### DAY 07

#### TAITA HILLS

Enjoy full day at Taita Hills with packed breakfast and lunches if you like. Unlimited game drives to explore the area. Meals and overnight at Salt Lick Game Lodge (FB)

#### DAY 08

## TAITA HILLS-TSAVO EAST NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast we will drive to Tsavo East National Park. It is the largest national park in Kenya and is dominated by grass, bush savannah and semi-desert steppes. Arriving at our lodge in time for lunch. In the afternoon you will have a game drive where you cross the Galana River. You will be able to see beautiful landscapes of Kenya. Meals and overnight at a lodge or camp (FB)

## DAY 09 TSAVO EAST NATIONAL PARK

Full day at Tsavo East with unlimited game drives. Make a visit to the Lugard Falls, where you can leave your vehicle and descend down by the rapids – perfect for a picnic lunch. The Tsavo East National Park is also known for its large prides of lions. Meals and overnight at your lodge/camp (FB)

#### DAY 10

## TSAVO EAST NATIONAL PARK-NAIROBI

Last morning game drive in this park. After breakfast we will drive back to Nairobi or you might want to take an optional beach extension to the coast.

Keep in mind prices vary according to the number of people and the time of year.

We can put together ANY variety of parks and reserves you would like. It's all about what you want to see and do while here.