SERONERA WILDLIFE LODGE

Size

14,763 sq km.

Location

335km from Arusha, stretching north to Kenya where it meets the Maasai Mara and bordering Lake Victoria to the west. Most of the Serengeti is vast open plains with lofty rocky outcrops or kopjes giving character to the landscape. There is also acacia woodland and scrub, forested and well-treed rivers and the occasional swamp and small lake.

In altitude, the Serengeti varies between 3,000 and 6,000 feet. The oldest, largest and best known of Tanzania's National Parks, this world-famous wildlife sanctuary offers the most scintillating game-viewing in Africa and probably the world: herds of buffalo, elephant and giraffe, and thousands of eland, topi, kongoni, impala and Grant's gazelle. The Serengeti is most famous however as the natural ampitheatre for the annual wildebeest migration. During May and June, a million wildebeest, joined by 200,000 zebra and 300,000 Thompsons gazelle, move westward in a three-week frenzied trek in search of new grazing. Long columns lunge through crocodile-infested waters and carnivores follow the herds ready to hunt the weaker stragglers.

The spectacle of predator versus prey dominates Tanzania's greatest park. Superbly maned lions feast on the abundance of plain grazers and solitary leopards watch from the acacia trees lining the Seronera River. Almost uniquely, all three African jackal species are found here, alongside the spotted hyena and a host of more elusive small predators, ranging from the insectivorous aardwolf to the beautiful serval cat.

Even the casual ornithologist cannot fail to notice the wealth of bird life in the Serengeti. 500 species ranging from the outsized ostrich and bizarre secretary bird of the open grassland, to the black eagles that soar effortlessly above the Lobo Hills. Colourful rollers, bee-eaters, kingfshers and sunbirds are also common.

- 330 km from Arusha (4 hour drive)
- One hour flight from Kilimanjaro International Airport
- The lodge is 5 minutes from the airstrip
- 145 km from Ngorongoro Wildlife Lodge (2 hour drive)
- 205 km from Lake Manyara Wildlife Lodge (21/2 hour drive)

- 80 km from Lobo Wildlife Lodge(1 hour drive)
- Weather: Nov-June: hot, humid; July-Oct: cool, especially at night
- 160 beds including two Presidential suites and one Junior suite
- In-room facilities: 220/240V for shavers, safe, mini bar, telephone, tea/coffee-making facilities, hair dryer
- Beautiful swimming pool overlooking the park, fully-equipped gymnasium, massage, Internet café, library, satellite TV lounge
- Boutique, laundry, currency exchange
- On-site nurse
- Full generator power back-up
- Activities include: game drives, ornithological safaris, specialized migration safaris, photographic safaris and cultural visits
- Hot air balloon trips and picnics in the park can also be organised (5 minutes from the lodge)
- Nearby Hippo Pools only 10 minutes from the lodge