

Southeastern Kenya

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Best of Nature

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- Mbulia Conservancy (p195)

Best Places to Stay

- OI Donyo (p186)
- Campi ya Kanzi (p187)
- Tortilis Camp (p184)
- Rhino Valley Lodge (p193)
- → Sarova Salt Lick Safari Lodge (p200)

Why Go?

Southern Kenya is one of the great wildlife-watching destinations in Africa. Here you'll find the triumvirate of epic Kenyan parks – Amboseli, Tsavo West and Tsavo East – that are home to the Big Five (lions, elephants, rhinos, leopards and buffaloes) and so much more. Big cats roam in relative abundance and large-tusked elephants pass by close enough to touch. It's all set against the backdrop of Africa's highest mountain, Mt Kilimanjaro, and a stirring backstory of wildlife surviving against the odds.

The region is also the scene for so many exciting initiatives that combine conservation with community engagement, and many of these ensure that the chances to get to know the Maasai – the soulful human inhabitants of this land – on equal terms are higher here than perhaps anywhere else in Kenya. In short, this is Kenya at its wildest and yet most accessible.

When to Go

Jul-Oct Far from the Masai Mara, this is prime time for watching wildlife in southern Kenyan parks. **Nov-Feb** Good for wildlife and birdwatching; November rains are a minor inconvenience.

Mar-May Rains here can make roads impassable and wildlife strays beyond Amboseli.



Southeastern Kenya Highlights

- 1 Snapping photos of elephants framed by Mt Kilimanjaro at **Amboseli National Park** (p183)
- 2 Roaming the wilderness in search of leopards in **Tsavo West National Park** (p189)
- 3 Braving lions and red elephants in the back country of Tsavo East National Park (p196)
- 4 Catching a glimpse of Kenya's black rhinos at the **Ngulia Rhino Sanctuary** (p189)
- 5 Getting your hands dirty while saving the forests at Kasigau Base Camp (p198)
- 6 Contemplating Maasailand's vast sweep from the heights of luxury at **OI Donyo** (p186)
- **7** Learning about the region's WWI past at **Taita Hills Wildlife Sanctuary** (p199)
- Spotting hippos, crocs and giant kingfishers at pristineMzima Springs (p189)
- Walking up into the Chyulu Hills in the company of a Maasai warrior at Campi ya Kanzi (p187)