



# Southern Kenya

## Includes »

South of Nairobi.....	91
Lake Magadi & Around.....	91
Amboseli NP.....	92
Chyulu Hills NP.....	96
Tsavo West NP.....	97
Tsavo East NP.....	102
Voi.....	105
Taita Hills Wildlife Sanctuary.....	106
Lumo Community Wildlife Sanctuary.....	106

## Best of Nature

- » Tsavo West National Park (p97)
- » Tsavo East National Park (p102)
- » Amboseli National Park (p92)
- » Taita Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (p106)
- » Chyulu Hills National Park (p96)

## Best of Culture

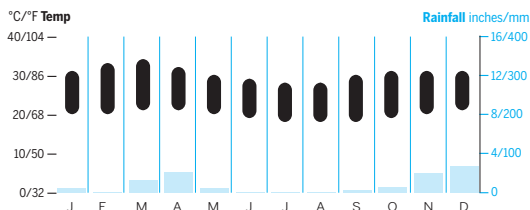
- » Lion Guardians (see the boxed text, p95)
- » Kimana Community Wildlife Sanctuary (p96)
- » Lumo Community Wildlife Sanctuary (p106)

## Why Go?

Southern Kenya is one of the great wildlife-watching destinations in Africa. Here you find a triumvirate of epic Kenyan parks – Amboseli, Tsavo West and Tsavo East – that are home to the Big Five and so much more. Big cats roam in relative abundance and large-tusked elephants pass by close enough to touch, set against the backdrop of Africa's highest mountain, Mt Kilimanjaro, and a soulful back-story of wildlife surviving against the odds. Despite the parks' popularity, large tracts of wilderness dominate the two Tsavos in particular and it's possible to spend hours without seeing another safari vehicle. Perhaps best of all, the Maasai roam the areas just beyond park boundaries – the chances to get to know these fascinating people on equal terms, especially through community-run ranches and wildlife sanctuaries, are higher here than perhaps anywhere else in Kenya. In short, this is Kenya at its wildest and yet most accessible.

## When to Go

### Voi



**Jul–Oct** Far from the Masai Mara, this is prime time for watching wildlife in southern Kenyan parks.

**Nov–Feb** Good for bird- and wildlife-watching; November rains are a minor inconvenience.

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



## Southern Kenya Highlights

**1** Snapping an unforgettable photo of elephants framed by Mt Kilimanjaro at **Amboseli National Park** (p92).

**2** Roaming the wilderness of **Tsavo West National Park** (p97), scanning the tree branches for leopards.

**3** Braving the country's lions and red elephants in the

back country of **Tsavo East National Park** (p102).

**4** Joining the Maasai **Lion Guardians** (p95) as they become best friends with lions.

**5** Catching a rare glimpse of some of Kenya's last black rhinos at the **Ngulia Rhino Sanctuary** (p97) in Tsavo West National Park.

**6** Spotting hippos, crocs and giant kingfishers in the pristine oasis of **Mzima Springs** (p97) at Tsavo West National Park.

**7** Spelunking in **Leviathan** (p96), the world's second-longest lava tube in the Chyulu Hills National Park.