



Northern Tanzania

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Best for Culture

- ➡ Experience cultural tourism programs (p160)
- ➡ Hunt with the Hadzabe at Lake Eyasi (p180)
- ➡ Take a coffee tour (p199)
- ➡ Visit a Maasai village (p160)

Best for Nature

- ➡ Serengeti National Park (p189)
- ➡ Mt Kilimanjaro National Park (p205)
- ➡ Ngorongoro Crater (p180)
- ➡ Ol Doinyo Lengai (p185)
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Why Go?

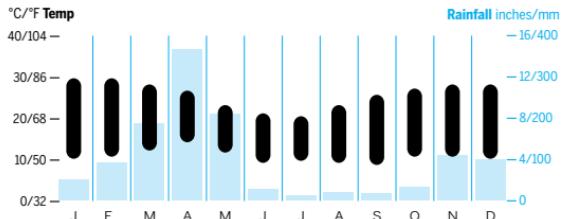
To paraphrase that well-known quote about Africa, we envy those who've never been to northern Tanzania because they have so much to look forward to.

This is a land of superlatives, from Africa's highest mountain to arguably the greatest wildlife spectacle on the planet. But Mt Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti plains are merely starting points to so many journeys of a lifetime. Mt Meru is Kilimanjaro's rival in both its beauty and the challenge of climbing it, while the Crater Highlands rank among Africa's most haunting landscapes. When it comes to wildlife, there's Tarangire's elephant kingdom, Lake Manyara's tree-climbing lions and the massed flamingos of Lake Natron. It all converges in Ngorongoro: venturing into its crater can feel like returning to earth's first morning.

But this, too, is a journey among the Maasai and the Hadzabe whose presence here makes this one of Africa's most stirring and soulful destinations.

When to Go

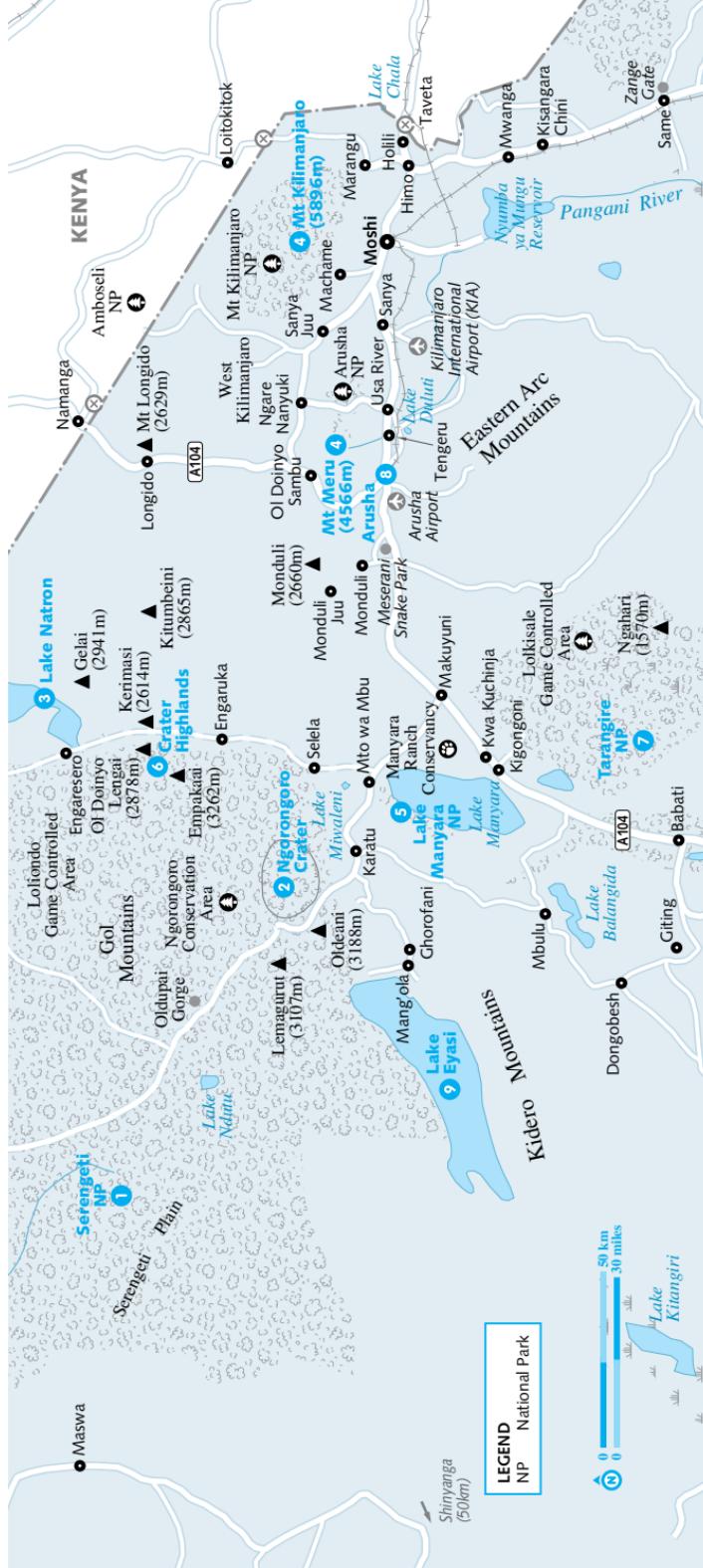
Arusha



Jan–Mar The wildebeest migration is in the southern Serengeti.

Apr–May Rain turns roads muddy making travel mostly miserable.

Sep–Oct The best time to travel. Animals gather around the last of the water.



Northern Tanzania Highlights

- Being amazed at just how much wildlife roams the **Serengeti** (p189).
- Descending into the ethereal blue-green vistas of **Ngorongoro Crater** (p180).
- Driving through stunning Rift Valley vistas on the way to **Lake Natron** (p187).
- Standing on the top of Africa at the summit of **Mt Kilimanjaro** (p205) or almost at the top of Africa at **Mt Meru** (p188).
- Looking for tree-climbing lions on a walking safari at **Lake Manyara National Park** (p175).
- Striking out on foot through the dramatic **Crater Highlands** (p183).
- Watching elephants amid the baobabs of **Tarangire National Park** (p179).
- Learning about local life on a Cultural Tourism Program tour around **Arusha** (p160).
- Visiting nomadic bushmen at **Lake Eyasi** (p179).