



Mkingu Nature Reserve



Sanje Mangabey



Barbour forest tree frog



Kilombero Nature Reserve



# Welcome to Tanzania's Nature Reserves

## Visiting the Nature Reserves

The forests remain a truly off-the-beaten-track destination where visitors can enjoy the rare forest wildlife and a sense of wilderness. Most reserves have nature trails, viewpoints and waterfalls. Typical forest animals that visitors may see include turacos, colobus monkeys, elephant shrews, Sykes monkeys, rare duikers and bushbabies by night. For keen bird watchers, the nature reserves are home to some rarely seen species including the Uluguru bush-shrike (Uluguru), Udzungwa partridge (Kilombero). Rungwe and Kilombero are home to the Kipunji, a large monkey only described by scientists in 2005.

Camping facilities vary between reserves and visitors should consult with Conservators before visiting. Tourism facilities are most developed in Amani where there are two guesthouses within the reserve.

## Leave only footsteps, take only photographs

You can support the conservation of the Nature Reserves by:

- Respecting the forests by taking all your rubbish with you; not collecting wild plants; and avoiding starting forest fires;
- Supporting community tourism initiatives as these motivate communities to participate in the conservation of the forests;
- Telling other people about the importance, beauty and uniqueness of the nature reserves.

## Entry fees (subject to change)

Visitor fees help to protect and conserve the forests. They must be paid before entering the reserve.

### Entry fees (per person per day):

- Tanzanian nationals and residents: 3,000 TSh
- Tanzanian students: 1,000 TSh
- Non-residents: US\$ 30 (students US\$ 10)
- Children under 5: free

### Camping fees (per person per night):

- Tanzanian nationals and residents: 2,000 TSh
- Non-residents: US\$ 30

### Vehicles entry fees (on first entry only):

- Tanzanian nationals and residents: 5,000 TSh
- Non-residents: US\$ 30 (for vehicles up to 2

## More information?

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## Into the wild: Explore Tanzania's Ancient Rain Forests!





Iringa Red Colobus



Grey Faced Sengi



African Violet



Green pygmy chameleon

### About Tanzania's Nature Reserves

Since 1997 Tanzania has established or proposed 11 nature reserves to protect the unique flora and fauna of its forests and montane grasslands. From the more than 900 forest reserves in Tanzania, these 11 reserves have been designated as nature reserves due to their biodiversity values. The first nature reserve was Amani (1997), followed by Kilombero (2007), Nilo (2007), Uluguru (2008) and Rungwe (2009). Six other Nature Reserves have been proposed: Uzungwa Scarp, Mkingu, Magamba, Chome, Rondo and Minziro.

The nature reserves are managed by the Tanzania Forest Service of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism working with adjacent communities. The reserves welcome visitors and are upgrading tourist facilities including camp sites and nature trails.

### Biodiversity and water

The forests and montane grasslands of the nature reserves are important havens for Tanzania's unique forest plants and animals. There are at least 42 vertebrate animal and 184 plant species found in the nature reserves and nowhere else on earth. Eight of the reserves are found in the Eastern Arc Mountains, part of a globally important biodiversity hotspot due to its high concentrations of endemic species. The Rondo Nature Reserve is one of the most important areas of East African coastal forest with 55 plant and 2 reptile species endemic to the forest. Rungwe, a dormant volcano, at the heart of the Southern Highlands is home to the Kipunji mangabey.

The nature reserves also serve as water catchment areas for Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Morogoro and Mbeya and have important cultural values for local communities.

**Minziro Nature Reserve, Kagera,** 25,000 ha of forest. This lowland forest has many Guinea-Congolian plant and animal species.

**Chome Nature Reserve, Kilimanjaro:** 14,284 ha of forest and montane grassland in the South Pare Mountains with camping facilities, nature trails and a guesthouse close by. Highlights include rare birds such as the South Pare white-eye, the Thomson Waterfalls and views from Shengena Peak.

**Magamba Nature Reserve, Tanga:** 9,283 ha of forest in the West Usambara Mountains with camping facilities and a guest house close by. Highlights include climbing the Kwahondo Peak (2,287 m) and views of the Usambara akalat and Usambara weaver.

**Nilo Nature Reserve, Tanga:** 6,225 ha of forest in the East Usambara Mountains with camping facilities and nature trails. Highlights include climbing Lutindi Peak (1,506 m) and over 100 bird species.

**Amani Nature Reserve, Tanga:** 8,380 ha of forest in the East Usambara Mountains with camping facilities, nature trails and two guesthouses. Highlights include the Amani sunbird, African violets and views of the Sigi River.

**Mkingu Nature Reserve, Morogoro:** 23,387 ha of forest in the South Nguru Mountains. Highlights include spectacular waterfalls, dense forest and views over the Wami valley

**Uluguru Nature Reserve, Morogoro:** 24,114 ha of forest and montane grassland in the Uluguru Mountains with camping facilities and guest houses close by. Highlights include climbing to the Bondwa Peak (6.3 km from Morogoro Town) or Kimhandu Peak (2,638 m) and views of the Holulu falls.

**Kilombero Nature Reserve, Morogoro and Iringa:** 134,511 ha of forest and montane grassland with camping facilities. This wilderness is home to many rare and threatened species including the Kipunji and the Udzungwa partridge. It is also home to large mammals such as lion, elephant and buffalo.

**Rondo Nature Reserve, Lindi:** 14,000 ha of forest with camping facilities and nature trails. The plateau forest is home to 30 strictly endemic plant species.

**Rungwe Nature Reserve, Mbeya:** 13,652 ha of forest and montane grassland. Highlights include climbing Rungwe Peak (2961 ha), populations of the rare, Kipunji.

**Uzungwa Scarp Nature Reserve, Iringa:** 32,763 ha of forest above the Kilombero Valley. Highlights include spectacular waterfalls and populations of Iringa red colobus, the Sanje mangabey and the recently described grey-faced elephant shrew.

