

Gibbs Farm Ngorongoro Crater

This is an old 1930s coffee plantation with terraced gardens on the outer slopes of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area was established around it. The coffee plantation was sold after James Gibb died in 1977, leaving enough land for extensive flower and vegetable gardens and a dairy, which supply the lodge with fresh organic produce. The lodge itself is a series of bungalow rooms and farm cottages under trailing flower-laden eaves set around the old colonial farmhouse. The surrounding gardens are pristine, awash with flowers that are especially good between October and January. Rooms 1 to 7 have the best views, but the larger rooms around the back are generally more comfortable, with some cosy fireplaces inside the newer rooms.

Although Margaret Gibb no longer runs the Lodge, staff still ensure that the home fires blaze whilst the comfortable sitting room and dining room keep the character of a private farmhouse. Gibbs Farm is a good spot to stop for a wholesome buffet lunch of savoury pies and salads, although it must be booked in advance. Otherwise its views and gardens make it an elegant spot for morning or afternoon tea, and it is well-situated halfway between Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The lodge has a bird list of 165 local species to date. Otherwise walk to the Rift edge for sundowners with a view, or to the small town of Karatu 4km from the farm, to see local women preparing fast food for travellers and selling a range of goods from their roadside stalls.



- Located in the Ngorongoro Highlands.
- 6 en-suite bungalows and 14 en suite cottages.
- Traditional Masai treatment room.
- Guided walks and mountain biking available.

Our View

Gibbs Farm is located in a beautiful area which is surrounded by rolling hills and the lodge's own coffee plantation. Although some may argue that the Lodge is located too far away from the Crater, in reality its location places it within a 30 minute drive from both the Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara meaning that it is an excellent base for safaris to both regions.

The new management are slowly revamping Gibbs Farm; a big improvement has already been noticed with the upgrade from the Old Bungalows to the new Farm Cottages and yet the Lodge still maintains its wonderfully relaxing English feel.

