

Eden House  
59 Fulham High Street  
London SW6 3JJ



Tel +44 (0) 20 7471 8780  
Fax +44 (0) 20 7384 9549  
info@tanzaniaodyssey.com  
www.tanzaniaodyssey.com

## **On Safari in the Southern national parks**

### **The Southern Parks**

Although more central than strictly southern, these parks and reserves have earned their name as an alternative to the more renowned 'Northern Circuit'. The popularity and resultant press coverage of the northern parks has had a dramatic effect in overshadowing the attractions of southern Tanzania. These are the less-explored gems of the Tanzanian wildlife reserves, often overlooked despite their vast size and ecological diversity and the high standards of guiding available. There are also a good range of alternatives for fine quality accommodation in small, often owner-run camps and lodges.

Unlike the night by night mobile circuits available in the North, the south is better suited to a lodge-based safari that relies on the guiding expertise of each camp. It is then possible to develop an itinerary that combines different aspects of the southern parks with a small number of lodges linked by internal flights or possibly driving.

### ***Getting there***

The southern parks have a growing network of internal flights that provide various options for combining a selection of lodges. Coastal Travels run a daily scheduled flight service to each of the six airstrips in the Selous from Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam for , and continue into Ruaha from Selous on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays

### ***Getting Around***

The parks mentioned in this chapter comprise a vast expanse of Southern Tanzania, and time constraints over such distances often motivate fly-in safaris that rely on lodge transport. As most of the lodges operate all-inclusive packages for game viewing, it is generally worth joining their resident guides, even if you arrive with your own transport. Apart from benefiting from their local knowledge, you will also have the opportunity to explore on foot with armed rangers in the Udzungwas, Selous, and Ruaha, by boat along the waterways of the Selous and by open-sided vehicle everywhere but the Udzungwas, where foot-power is the only option.