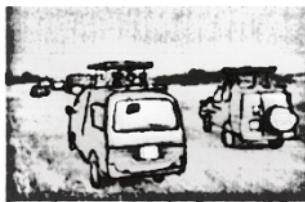


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*Welcome to Safari Drives  
&  
Wildlife Nature Walks!*

# *Preface*



Everyone needs some time away to rest, relax and reenergise. vacation or 'staycation'? Your choice, but taking time away from your normal routine helps you to have better concentration, improve your memory, become productive, refocus, refresh, connect with family, reduce stress, etc.

If you are adventurous, welcome to safari drives and wildlife nature walks in the African savannah. This zine will give you ideas on where to go and what you need to make your drive exciting!

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# But what is a Safari Drive?

'Safari' is a Kiswahili word, which means 'journey'. The Cambridge dictionary defines safari as an organised

journey to look at, or sometimes hunt wild animals. Other sources define it as a wildlife viewing adventure in the jungle!



**Note:** Kiswahili (or Swahili) is a language spoken in many East African countries. Estimated # of speakers: Over 50 million.



A nature walk involves getting out and enjoying sights and sounds that our environment has to offer.

## *12 popular National Parks in Africa (Sorted by size)*

- Etosha National Park (Namibia)  
<https://www.tripsavvy.com/etosha-national-park-in-namibia-4103187>
- Kruger National Park (South Africa and Mozambique border)  
<https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/>
- Serengeti National Park (Tanzania) <http://serengeti.org>, [Adjacent to Masai Mara National Reserve. Great migration of animals between July and October crossing the Mara River from Serengeti to Masai Mara. Was listed in the Guinness Book of records and mentioned as one of the Seven Wonders of the World]
- Hwange National Park (Zimbabwe)  
<https://www.tripsavvy.com/zimbabwes-hwange-national-park-sights-4127281>
- Chobe National Park (Botswana)  
<http://www.chobenationalpark.com>
- South Luangwa National Park (Zambia)  
<http://www.zambiatourism.com/destinations/national-parks/south-luangwa-national-park>
- Ngorogoro Conservation Area (Tanzania)  
<https://www.tripsavvy.com/etosha-national-park-in-namibia-4103187>

- Murchison Falls National Park (Uganda)  
<http://www.murchisonfallsnationalpark.com>
- Queen Elizabeth National Park (Uganda)  
<http://www.queenelizabethnationalpark.com>
- Masai Mara National Reserve (Kenya) -  
<http://www.maasaimara.com>
- Okavango Delta (Botswana)  
<https://www.tripsavvy.com/guide-to-okavango-delta-in-botswana-1454194>
- Amboseli National Park (Kenya)  
<http://www.amboselinationalpark.co.ke/>

## Quick Tips

- ⇒ Plan, Plan, Plan! Even if you can just show up to your safari drive, planning helps you make the most of your trip, save costs and compare different options and pick the best!
- ⇒ Get in touch with a trained tour guide before hand. Agree on costs, times, etc. Carry/buy a map and a GPS even if your tour guide will be with you most times.
- ⇒ Keep your camera or phone close. Some animals are rare and will appear on random occasions. Your tour guide usually knows where many of the animals reside. Sometimes, they have contacts for other guides and can always communicate when they see animals you may not have seen. A typical example is lions, which like to hide in the vegetation.
- ⇒ If possible, carry binoculars to see animals that may be hiding in the savannah vegetation or in trees.



- ⇒ Carry sunglasses and hat/cap. Also use your sunscreen.
- ⇒ Keep time! The best time to see the animals is early morning (starting from 6:00am) or late evening.
- ⇒ Do not throw objects at the animals. They could get angry and harm you.
- ⇒ Please note that in some locations, your cellular network may not be available.
- ⇒ Costs may vary between national parks. Check with specific locations. Costs include: park entrance fees, car hire, tour guide charges, boat rides, meals. You may also buy souvenirs.



*Handmade African crafts*

## What to expect...

Many national parks are far away from the city. You may drive many kilometres to your destination. There are beautiful sights to catch along the way.....

*The Equator*



Closer to park, you may see some animals like elephants, water bucks and monkeys.....



And in the park, you will see many more animals like zebras, lions, leopards, giraffes, waterbucks, warthogs, antelopes, tortoises.....



You may even get to feed some animals or take photos/selfies with them....



## Transportation



Pick a car that gives you a good view of the park. Open roof is recommended but please note that it may rain. Some people use motorbikes (You have to be brave to ride through the park). The roads in the park are dusty. You don't want to end up pushing your car when it gets stuck in the mud.



## What to wear

## Accommodation & Meals



Different hotels/lodges offer different options - from hotel rooms to cottages, huts or tents and from single rooms to dorm rooms. Some places will allow you to carry your own tent and find you space to pitch it. Solar power is mainly used.

Being tourist destinations, international cuisines are catered for. Some locations offer additional African meals. Please check with the host before traveling.



Wear comfortable clothing. If possible, get trekking shoes to help you during the nature walk in the jungle or climb mountains, hills or rocks. On some occasions like the rainy season, you may need gumboots and a jacket.



## Other Activities

Apart from the safari drive, you can choose to take the nature walk or hike. Boat rides are also available as some animals like elephants, buffalos, crocodiles and birds are easily found around water bodies (lakes or rivers). Don't forget to wear your life jacket during the boat ride. You may also see some waterfalls.



**★ Bonus tip:** Travel light. Carry essentials. If using a private car, you may carry whatever you require.

## *Afterword*

From experience, just one safari drive  
will interest you enough to want a  
second and third, fourth and fifth drive!

**CONNECT WITH NATURE!**



**Interested?  
Let's plan our next safari drive or  
wildlife nature walk...**

## Images edited/printed from:

- ⇒ Photography by Racheal Yiba
- ⇒ Other photos from author's collection from trips (Uganda - Murchison Falls National Park, Sipi Falls, the Equator, Queen Elizabeth National Park, Lake Mburo National Park, Kazinga Channel, Entebbe, Munyonyo, Jinja, Ggaba, Nyero Rocks; and Kenya - Nairobi Animal Orphanage, Haller Park (Mombasa), Nairobi Giraffe Centre), Stellenbosch (South Africa), some random pictures on trips for different purposes and pictures of African craft pieces at home collected from different sources.

## Credits:

- ✚ Stolen Sharpie Revolution - A DIY resource for Zines and Zine Culture. 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. ISBN 978-0-9817941-1-2
- ✚ Safari Drive <http://safaridrive.com>
- ✚ Matthew & Innocent - Tour Guides at Queen Elizabeth National Park
- ✚ My 'tour crew'. Thank you for making all the trips interesting!

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