

Swimming in it

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Chapter 1

Tanzania, retirement, and a conquered mountain

A few things happened in 2005, my mother retired, I finished up a Masters program, and a small group of mostly related Canadian women went to Tanzania. My mom has become a world traveller in the second half of her life – she climbed Machu Picchu, slept on a hammock on a beach in Belize, spent time backpacking through Scandinavia, and many, many more adventures. Sadly, I was not able to join her on those trips, but finally, I could join in on her retirement celebration trip, to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro!

I kept a journal while in East Africa and moved my experiences to a blog when I got home. We spent almost two months in Tanzania – we climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, went on safari, and swam in the Indian Ocean. It really was the trip of a lifetime. Dip in and see for yourself.

Chapter 2

On the road

Baboons, we saw baboons first, they were almost everywhere we went. Most especially on the roof of whatever lodge we were staying at, they would bound back and forth across the roof, thud, thud, kathump. It was very cool to have baboons play above your head, but we were warned **not** to leave our windows/veranda doors open or they would get into the room and wreak havoc.

```
url <- "https://photos.app.goo.gl/iZ2QnEiuu2hTy8Rd9" knitr::include_graphics(url,
dpi = 600)
```

We also saw Vervet Monkeys and were quite excited by our first elephant. She was very, very old, missing part of a tusk and oh, so very wrinkled. But she had a certain majesty about her.

We went on Safari at the end of the dry season in October, it was very dry and dusty, with isolated patches of lush greenness. I would love to go back at the end of the wet season when the babies are new, the Serengeti is green, and the migration is full bore.