



THE INFINITE HORIZON

Safari Consultants Tanzania

SAFARI NEWS

Newsletter

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Summitting Mount Meru



Black Rhino Conservation
at Mkomazi - Alan Feldstein



The Wildebeest Migration in
the Southern Serengeti

This season has seen us undertake some interesting safari requests, which is good as it keeps us on our toes and helps provide new ideas.

Possibly the most interesting was when thirty high school students and staff came across from Australia on an educational field trip to do community work by helping a village rebuild their school. They then carried on to the Ngorongoro and Tarangire National Parks for a more conventional safari before climbing the 5300 metre Mount Meru volcano (with a 90 % success rate!).

Another high point for me was kayaking from the mainland coast to the coral fringed island of Maziwi many miles offshore. We were the first to do this as far as I can tell and the local fishermen were very impressed as the story spread up and down the coast overnight. Thanks for inspiring that first Alan. May it be the first of many firsts!

This season has seen Tanzania as venue for many TV series and we have been lucky enough to provide support for some of them including a BBC UK comedy filmed in Arusha and a History Channel documentary on the Life of Stanley. We probably won't get to see them here but look out for them when they air.

CONSERVATION

Having recently returned from the newly gazetted Mkomazi National Park it was good to see the authorities finally take control of the place and implement more protection measures against the less benign influences on wildlife. The Black Rhino sanctuary started by Tony Fitzjohn also goes from strength to strength with a second baby rhino having been born this year and all the rhinos being less shy (great for viewers but also a sign that they are feeling more settled and more ready to breed).

There are also many new initiatives to involve the local population such as tours for local schools, a special viewing bus and a classroom for pupils, all of which should help the long term survival of this now rare species. As a company we are looking for funding to help translate and print booklets for local schools to take back with them after their visit.

PLANNING AHEAD

It still isn't too late to book for the after Christmas period, when the dry season will be halfway through. Animals will be attracted to the waterholes but the landscape is still tinged with green and at its most attractive. The wildebeest migration should be massing at the most accessible southern end of the Serengeti, allowing some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities.