

# Selous River Camp

Preparing for Safari can be an adventure in itself! Here is our guide on what to expect and how to best prepare for your stay.

## **Your Stay in Camp:**

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As the camp is situated in the bush, we generate our own electricity to provide lighting at night and to charge batteries. Electrical plug outlets are not available in the Mudhuts or tents so it is not possible to use appliances such as hairdryers or electric shavers. There are charging points available at the bar to charge your camera batteries in the evenings when the generator is running between 6pm and 10pm. Our Mudhuts and Tents also have solar systems to power lighting (and fans in Mudhuts) during the night.

Towels and bedding are provided in all the tents and Mudhuts. We also provide a torch/flashlight per hut or tent although we suggest bringing extras so that each person has their own. We also provide bottled drinking water which we recommend you use for brushing teeth (bottled drinking water is free of charge during your stay with us and is supplied in your room and also kept in the fridge at the bar).

Meals are all served in our central dining area. If you have a special dietary request (i.e. vegetarian/allergies) please let us know at the earliest opportunity so we can best cater for you. Breakfasts are served at a time to fit with your activities for the morning, so will vary from day to day. We usually serve a small buffet of fresh fruits and sweet treats and eggs and toast are available from the kitchen. Lunches in camp are usually served at 1pm and is a basic main course with fresh fruit for dessert. Dinner is three courses and is served at 7.30pm but can be arranged for earlier if you are staying with children.

Guests are required to sign a Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk form at check in. We only ask that one guest per booking group fills and signs the form on behalf of all in the group. It is a condition of your stay with us and guests who do not sign the form will not be accommodated at Selous River Camp. If you would like to see a copy of this form before arrival in camp please let us know and we will send it to you.

Drinks can be purchased in camp from our river bank bar. We have a variety of soft drinks, beers, spirits and wines which will be noted down during your stay and paid for at check out. Please note we can accept cash (USD, EUR, TSH) or credit card as payment in camp (+5% surcharge). Soft drinks are included in our game drive and full day boat trip prices.

A laundry service is offered in camp and is charged at a flat rate of Tsh1,000/= per item. All the income we receive from our laundry service goes directly to our housekeeping staff.

## **What to wear:**

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The atmosphere in camp is very relaxed and casual so there's no need to worry about bringing formal evening wear! Whilst in camp, clothes that are light and comfortable are usually best - try to avoid synthetic materials. For the evening some longer items of clothing would help guard against the few mosquitoes which we have in camp. Although we don't require that guests wear full "Out of Africa" style whilst out on safari, if you can, it is a good idea to wear the classic safari colours (khaki, stone, tan etc.) to remain neutral with the environment. Avoid wearing blue and black whilst out of

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camp as Tsetse flies (which bite!) are attracted to both colours. Also avoid white as it stands out against the muted browns and green tones of the bush and will show dust and dirt. Temperatures in the Selous never get too cold (our winter is around 18°C/64°F) so packing heavy jumpers would only take up space in your luggage. During the summer months (November-February) temperatures can be very hot (as high as 40°C/104°F on some days) so you will feel most comfortable in shorts and t-shirts.

Hats are very important and we suggest bringing a wide brimmed hat that will also help protect the back of your neck from the sun. As an added bonus, if you leave your hat with our barman to hang above the bar as a reminder that you stayed in camp you receive a free drink!

Shoes that are light and comfy are ideal in camp and out on Safari – sandals or flip flops which are easy to slip off will allow your feet to breathe. If you're going out on a bush walk, we suggest something a bit more rugged that should be able to provide enough protection against thorns, stones and dust. Trainers, walking shoes/boots are ideal.

## **What to pack – the ideas checklist:**

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Packing for Safari can be a challenge when you bear in mind the weight restrictions which some airlines have in place. Shops locally are very basic and not easily accessible. This is by no means a comprehensive checklist or a list of 'vital' items but instead some suggested items which we think would make a difference to your stay:

- Binoculars
- Camera (we suggest 200mm lens or longer) and/or video camera, memory cards, extra batteries and charger.
- Torch/flashlight and spare batteries
- Travel alarm clock (we can also arrange wake up calls for you)
- Ziplock/Waterproof bags – helps protect against dust as well as water (to pack cameras/electronics, toiletries etc)
- Books for reading during leisure time – we also have a book swap library at the bar.
- Deck of cards
- A diary to record the wildlife you see and experiences you have.
- Toiletries such as shampoo, toothbrush etc.
- Sunglasses with polarized lenses.
- Mosquito/bug repellent – we recommend the roll on/lotion types as spray can be difficult to apply in a moving open vehicle
- Suntan lotion/sunblock – the sun is very strong and we recommend a high SPF.
- Personal medicines and malaria tablets
- Lipbalm with SPF
- Small denomination currency, especially US Dollars (please note that USD notes older than the year 2000 are not accepted anywhere in Tanzania, including Selous River Camp!)

We hope this guide has been useful in helping you to prepare for your trip. If you have further questions please don't hesitate to contact us!