

# SERENA MIVUMO RIVER LODGE FACT SHEET



Standing high on the banks of the slow, brown Rufiji River, with glorious views down to the plunging torrents of Stiegler's Gorge, the Serena Mivumo River Lodge offers just twelve luxurious rooms.

## Location

The spectacular Selous Reserve, a World Heritage Site and the largest expanse of game reserve in Africa, covers a massive 55,000 square kilometres of rolling savannah. About four times the size of Serengeti and larger than Switzerland, it is home to the largest concentration of elephants in the world. Located in south-east Tanzania in a remote and little-visited part of the country, the Selous Game Reserve covers more than 5% of Tanzania's total area. One of the last untouched gems of the nation's parks, it offers the visitor a unique opportunity to see Africa the way the early explorers found it - pristine, alive with game, empty of tourists and utterly awe inspiring.

## Accommodation

This exclusive river lodge offers only 12 exclusive rooms. Widely spaced amongst the indigenous forest, each is accommodated in its own wildwood chalet, whose brushwood thatched roof is high vaulted to allow maximum play of light and breeze. Slightly raised on sprung wooden floors, each room features a charming mix of Edwardian classic safari antiques and subtly understated modern leather and rattan furniture. The spacious country-house-inspired bathrooms also feature an exterior shower with wilderness views. Each room has its own extensive private sun-deck, loungers, plunge-pool and river views.

## Room Amenities

- Air conditioning
- A well-stocked soft drinks mini bar
- An electronic safe
- Tea and coffee making facilities
- Hairdryer, telephone, torch and free standing fan
- Gowns & slippers
- Bottled water
- 3 pin plug points
- Elemis bathroom products

## Guest Services & Facilities

- Lounge and bar
- Library
- Dining room
- Spacious decks
- Swimming Pool
- Laundry, valet and shoeshine services
- Snacks and drinks room service
- 24-hour medical service
- Children's meals, beds, babysitting

## Activities

- Morning and evening game drives
- All day game drives with a visit to the hot springs
- Guided nature walks
- Game viewing boat cruises
- Sundowner cruises
- Bush and sand bank picnics
- Bird watching excursions
- Beauty treatment and massage services
- Cultural dancing and heritage displays
- We can also arrange for culturally-interactive trips to local villages and/or schools

## Climate

Tanzania's climate is predominately tropical. Coastal areas are usually hot and humid, but on the beaches a sea breeze cools the air considerably. The average day temperature is 30°C. Tanzania has two rainy seasons - the long rains from late March to June and the short rains from November to January. The long rains fall in heavy downpours, often accompanied by violent storms, but the short rains tend to be much less severe. The hottest time of the year is from December to March, before the long rains begin. The coolest months are June, July and August, when the weather is often overcast.

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## Highlights of a Stay

All day game drives that give you the opportunity to view the diverse ecosystems and wildlife that make up the Selous Game Reserve.

## Dining

Slightly raised on timber decks above the famous Rufiji River, the open-sided dining room offers a selection of exclusive seating areas. All overlook the river with uninterrupted views of the hippos, elephants and crocodiles that congregate on its banks.

Breakfast and lunch are presented in buffet-style and feature a wide range of international choices. In typical safari style, we offer a 'full English Breakfast' as well as European options while our lunch menus will typically include meat, poultry, fish and vegetarian options.

Our table d'hôte dinner menus feature a salad buffet, soup, entrée, pudding, cheese and biscuits and tea or coffee. Vegetarian options are always available. The majority of our meat and dairy products, as well as our fruits and vegetables are sourced from the communities that surround the reserve.

Our wine list offers a broad selection of old- and new-world wines, and local and imported beers and spirits. We also offer a wide range of soft drinks including an array of freshly-made local fruit juices. We serve only the finest Tanzanian coffee and tea; we also offer a wide range of fruit and herbal infusions.

## Child Policy

We encourage visits by families, however, children under 7 years are not allowed at the camp. Children 7 to 17 years occupying their own room are charged 75% of the adult per person rate.

## Contact Details

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## Access

- 45 minute flight to/from Dar-es-Salaam to Stiegler's airstrip
- 65 minute flight to/from Zanzibar
- From Stiegler's Airstrip, a pleasant 45 minute game drive to the camp

## Camp Closure Dates

The camp is closed between 1st April and 31st May during the rainy season.

## Health Requirements

Malaria area – guests are advised to take precautions. Please consult your doctor or a Travel Clinic for advice.

## Social & Environmental

We host a number of eco-programmes, all of which are designed to support and sustain the natural and human community of which we are a part. Such programmes vary according to need, but presently they are as follows:

- We offer subsidized medical care to the local community.
- We work with Selous Game Reserve in maintaining and up-grading the roads in the park to keep the erosive practice of 'off-road' driving to a minimum.
- We create jobs for the local community. We also offer training and work-exposure programmes for school leavers.
- We encourage interface between our guests and the local villages - hosting tours and promoting the sale of handicraft items.

In terms of its own ecological 'foot' print, the lodge abides by a code of responsible practice in relation to: energy conservation, waste recycling, sewage disposal, air emissions, non-CFC use, pesticide-use, noise reduction and visual pollution. Wherever possible, local produce is featured on the menus.