

# TOP 10 TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS & RESERVES (THE ULTIMATE TANZANIA SAFARI)

## SELOUS GAME RESERVE

The Selous Game Reserve is located in southern Tanzania, far from the **mass tourism** of the Serengeti or the Ngorongoro Crater.

The Selous reserve encompasses 54,600 square kilometers, making it Africa's largest game reserve (and even bigger than some countries). The Rufiji River serves as the heart of the park and is a major water source for all the amazing wildlife in the Selous.

I loved our four-day safari here because there are not many lodges in or around the reserve. Compared to the national parks on Tanzania's northern safari circuit, the reserve remains relatively unheard of. Which means you may never see any other people while you're there!

The main thing to do here, of course, is go on safari game drives. But you can also fish, enjoy a river cruise, or go on a walking safari. The wildlife in the reserve is unreal, with nearly 120,000 buffalo, 40,000 hippos, and around 4,000 lions.

The population of lions is likely the largest in the world, and you also stand a strong chance of seeing the elusive leopard and the endangered African wild dog. The only animal you won't see much of in the Selous reserve is the African elephant: Sadly they were nearly poached to extinction in the past.

The best time to visit Selous is from June to October, which is also the high season. There is little to no rain then, which means there is a higher chance of seeing wildlife around the watering holes. For a luxurious (and expensive) stay, **Nomad Tanzania's Sand River lodge** can't be beat! **–Natasha Alden of *The World Pursuit***