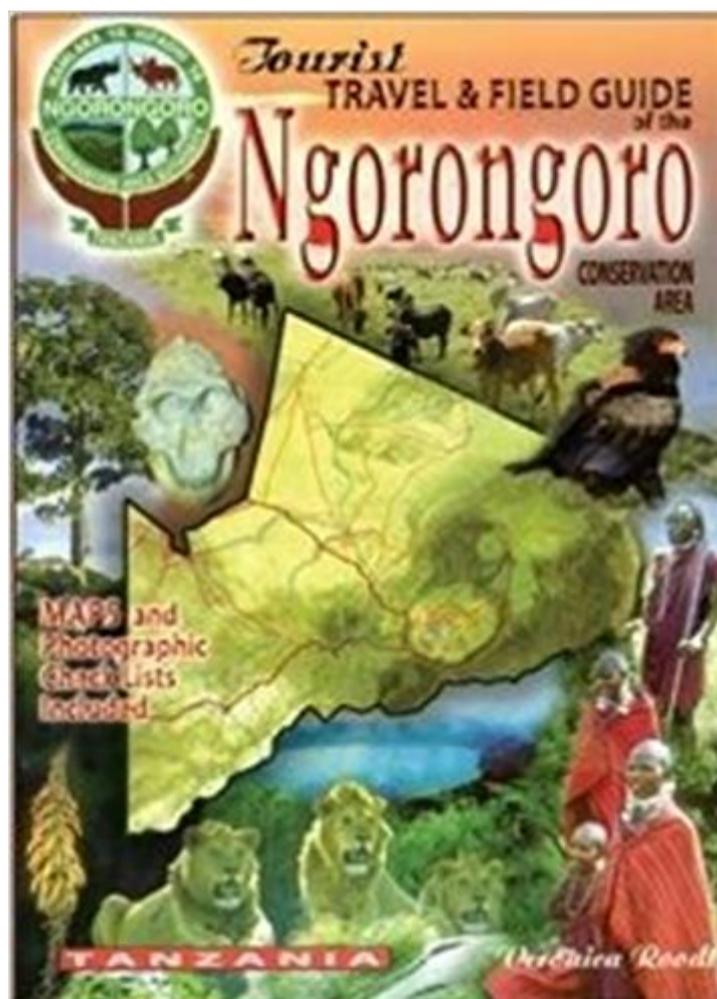


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The Tourist Travel & Field Guide Of The Ngorongoro: Conservation Area



Synopsis

This is a comprehensive guide to visiting the Ngorongoro region. The guide's first section consists of a travel guide; how to get there, where to stay, road conditions, best season to visit, and climate. It also contains detailed maps and background information on the history, people, topography, geology, and archaeology. The second section consists of a field guide that includes check lists and over 500 photographs of the plants, animals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects one is most likely to see. The text provides information on the nutritional value and medicinal uses of plants, habitat preferences of large mammals as well as interesting animal and bird behavior.

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Customer Reviews

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Excellent overview of one of the best parks in Africa. This is an excellent guide, not only to Ngorongoro Crater, but can also serve as a safari guide to most of the other Tanzanian and Kenyan National Parks. It has scientific glossary, background information, and colour pictures of the

mammals, birds, insects, vegetation, and reptiles in the crater (both common and rare), as well as chapters on archaeological digs and sites, geology, ecology, hydrology and human history, not only of Ngorongoro, but also the surrounding areas such as Olduvai, Lake Natron, the active volcano Oldoinyo Lengai, Empakaai, Olmoti, Serengeti area, and others. Box texts on hominid finds, extinct/threatened animals, conservation stories, and so on are also included. Road maps, walking trails, and places to stay are included, but these might have aged a bit, but the rest of the scientific and other information is pretty reliable. Ngorongoro is a special place, right up there with Yellowstone or Uluru, one of the best parks/conservation areas I have ever visited. It's actually not a national park, but a 'conservation area', as locals still shepherd their animals within the crater; seeing lions a few hundred metres away from shepherds is a somewhat strange sight, although both lions and shepherds have learnt to live with/avoid each other in a somewhat unusual arrangement. In fact many parks in Africa are a bit like this, you see townships and villages right next to roaming wild animals relatively often, both people and animals have found ways to avoid each other and more or less co exist, although not always without some friction or conflict. (This is likely why there is no African wild dogs in the crater anymore, also discussed in this guide, they are too good at killing and stealing cows and goats, so get hounded off or killed by protective farmers from time to time. Same thing sometimes occurs in places like Yellowstone with the wolves there). There are beautiful illustrations, including full colour topographical maps, roads, camping sites, you name it- it's probably got it. This guide is quite comprehensive and might be all you need for a safari trip in Tanzania/Kenya. Local guides also use it, and it's also available in Tanzanian parks for sale for about \$50 US, so it's cheaper to pick up a copy before you go, or when you get home, as I did. You can fit it in your backpack as well. You can also get the Serengeti guide in the same series, but I preferred the Ngorongoro Crater on my trip, so I got this one. There are a few other national parks in the area such as Manyara and Tarangire which aren't included, but it has just about everything else. Highly recommended. Attached is a few photos of my trip to Ngorongoro. And by the way, it's at 2400m on the crater rim and was 14 degrees C the day I was there, so take a jacket.

When we were game driving in Tanzania our guide used this book as backup for all the information he told us and all the animals he showed us. It was very nice to be able to purchase it and use it afterwards at home to enlighten the many pictures we took! All the stories came back to us (my notes were taken in the back of the jeep and not always too elaborate!) Not only for Ngorongoro NP but also for Tarangire NP, Lake Manyara NP and Serengeti NP. Great book, easy to use!

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