

TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS



HORSEBACK RIDING GUIDELINES



1.0 Background

Horse riding is the act of riding a horse, for enjoyment, exercise, or in competitions. Horse-riding is often simply called riding. It is a tourism product offered by Tanzania National Parks, with the aim of diversifying visitor's experiences and satisfactions.

These guidelines shall stipulate the procedures to follow in the process of implementing the activity in the respective park.

2.0 Areas of Operation

- i. Horse riding will be operated as specified in the respective National Park GMP.
- ii. Site selection and designing of horse riding routes shall involve the Park Management and shall not pass along the existing tourism activities.

3.0 Type and Number of facility/equipment needed

3.1 Private operator requirements

- i. There shall be an agreement on areas and type of facility that will be used to keep the horses in the park.
- ii. Number of horses will be as stipulated in the agreement.

3.2 TANAPA requirements

- i. Appropriate facility and area shall be determined by the park management in collaboration with TANAPA HQ.
- ii. Number of horses will align to the GMP of the respective National Park.

4.0 Permit and License requirements

4.1 Private operator requirements

The operator shall have:-

- i. A valid TALA license.
- ii. A clean business record.
- iii. Certified from recognized and reputable horse riding institution with experience of at least 3 years.
- iv. Agreement with TANAPA before commencing the activity.

5.0 Type of Competence and Number of staff required for the activity

- i. The operator must have well trained and certified professional guides.
- ii. The operator shall have a reliable communication system and emergence evacuation programme.

6.0 Environmental and social consideration issues

- i. Operator shall be responsible to the environment.
- ii. Trash in trash out (TITO) rule applies.

7.0 Safety, security and health consideration issues

- i. Briefing will be conducted by guide prior to departure on safety procedures, expected horse riding experience and duration of the activity.
- ii. The operator shall provide a first aid kit for the horse and visitors’.
- iii. Visitors shall use recommended horse riding gears (boots, trouser, shirt and helmet/hat etc).
- iv. Visitors shall keep two horse distances apart to avoid kicking.
- v. The operator must have rescue/emergence response plan and use an efficient technology such as cell phones, walkie talkie and GPS in case of emergency.
- vi. Operator shall have knowledge of local wildlife available in the site.
- vii. Horse Rider shall ride with the reasonable speed to avoid accidents.
- viii. Visitors must ride on the approved designated trails/routes.
- ix. Horses shall be hooked/tied close by the rider at the established resting points
- x. Distance from the wild animal shall be at least 50m away.
- xi. Operator must ensure the activity is conducted in a professional, safe, quality and in orderly manner that comply with GMP.
- xii. Operator should adhere with park rules and regulations.

8.0 Duration of the activity and maximum number of visitors.

- i. Time of horse riding shall be between 700hours and 1700hours

- ii. Duration of activity shall be a maximum of 3 hours (short route) and more than 3 hours (long route).
- iii. Operation of horse riding shall be two rounds per route per day per operator.
- iv. Minimum group size shall be 2 riders and maximum is 6 riders accompanied by two guides.
- v. Minimum age allowed in the activities shall be 12 years.

9.0 Payment modalities

- i. Visitors shall pay applicable fee using Government electronic payment gateway (GePG-MoF), online, bank and mobile or any other approved means of payments.
Guests/Visitors may reserve and make all the payment online through online TANAPA Portal available on website **www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz/onlineportal**.
- ii. Fees for the activity shall be in accordance to TANAPA fee structure as may be reviewed from time to time.

10.0 Indemnity forms

Visitors must fill and sign indemnity forms before riding.

11.0 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Activity

Regular monitoring shall be carried out to see if the activity complies with the operating agreement and TANAPA legislations. Annual evaluation will also be carried out to assess the impact of the activity and recommend effective mitigation measures or suspension of the activity

**Conservation Commissioner
Tanzania National Parks**