

Tengo Camp - Tanzania Trophy Tiger Safari



Destinations: Tengo and Samaki Camps – Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers, Tanzania

Season: July – late November 2014

Duration: 7 nights – 6 Days fishing

Accommodation: Safari Tented Camp and Fly Camp

Background and Introduction

Over the past 5 years the fisheries of the Mnyera and Ruhudji River in South Western Tanzania have fast built a reputation as one of the finest fresh water fisheries available to the discerning travelling angler. The trophy tiger fish that call these rivers home provide unparalleled tiger fishing opportunities. The Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers are widely regarded as THE destination to target tiger fish in the 10 – 25lb range.

The continued success of the fisheries can be attributed to the cutting edge concession and fishery management, and strict guiding protocols implemented by Kilombero North Safaris and Tourette Fishing. Since 2008 when the international guests were first introduced to the fishery, growth and development has been in a controlled and scientifically based manner. Comprehensive data collection, recording each and every fish caught and released, combined with leading academic research and advice, has allowed us to manage the fishery and grow the product in a sustainable and responsible manner. This combined with the intense anti poaching measures implemented over the past 5 years has ensured the fishery is as productive as ever.



Company Profiles:

Kilombero North Safaris are leading players in the Tanzania Safari industry. Owing, managing and operating successful safari operations in 13 of the finest concessions in Tanzania, they pride themselves in offering all guests who visit their concessions an authentic Tanzania safari experience, be it in the photographic, fishing or hunting fields. Their commitment to the environment and protecting Tanzania's natural resources for generations to come is their priority.

Kilombero North Safaris own, run, and manage the fishing camps on the Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers and take care of all catering, ground transfers, charter flights, camp vehicles, boats and camp accommodation. They employ a full time team of camp staff who service the fishing camp, in conjunction with their hunting camp in the same concession.

Tourette Fishing, founded in 2003 is a professional guiding outfit and Africa sport fishing destination specialist. Running world class guiding teams in Africa's most remote and pristine fisheries from Tanzania to Gabon and Lesotho to Sudan, our team of international guides make sure all guests visiting Tengo Camp experience world class guiding by true international experts. Our commitment to sustainable and responsible fishery management is respected worldwide and ensures all guests experience the best that the fisheries of the Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers have to offer.

Tourette Fishing staff and guides are responsible for beat management on the Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers, all catch records, professional guiding of all fishing guests, tackle set up, and your pre trip planning.

Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers, Tanzania

In the past, trophy tiger fish have been classified as fish above 10 lbs. This bench mark has been shattered with the average fish in this system coming home at just under 8lbs. Here fisherman have a real opportunity of landing tiger fish of over 20lb's, with shots at trophy fish on a daily basis. In fresh water this is almost unheard of. Now combine this fact with the speed, strength, aerial antics and aggressive nature of the tiger fish, and dump it all in two rivers flowing through one of the worlds last true wilderness areas, home to big game, and then you may begin to get an idea of just how unique the twin fisheries of the Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers really are.



Mnyera River

Guests have access to 40km of fishable waters on the Mnyera River. The Mnyera River changes character quickly over its fishable length. From rapids and pools in heavily wooded riverine forests on the upper reaches, the structure rich mid sections courtesy of centuries of erosion and fallen trees, to the deep "outside bends" and clay banks of the lower reaches. The Mnyera, with its incredibly diverse river structure is a veritable tigerfish haven and one that all guests visiting this amazing river will appreciate. Kilombero North Safari's Tingo Camp is your base when fishing the Mnyera River.

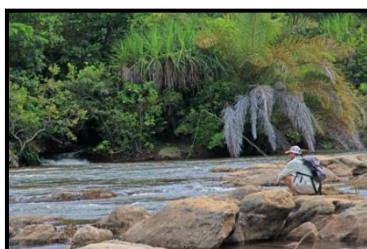
Ruhudji River

Situated in the neighbouring catchment (one valley south of the Mnyera) is this remote river with a charm and attraction that is hard to explain. Guests fishing the Ruhudji River have access to 80km of fishable water. The river is quite different from the Mnyera. It is a shallower river, with long sections of sand banks followed by deep outside bends and pools in the lower reaches. The river changes in its upper reaches to a narrow deep river, bordered by steep banks and heavily wooded forests as it enters the "gorge area". Kilombero North Safari's Samaki Camp is your base when fishing the Ruhudji River

Angling (species): Tiger fish (*H.tanzaniae*) ranging in size from 1 to 28lbs are the main quarry. Yellowfish species, Catfish, Bream and Gundu are also available for the species aficionados. Over 30 different species of fish were identified by the guides in conjunction with leading ichthyologists since 2008. Catfish are generally caught as by-catch when targeting tiger fish. Yellowfish and the impressive Gundu can be targeted specifically. The guides team are pioneers in targeting tiger fish on fly, and are widely regarded as industry leaders. Over the past 4 years guiding and managing this fishery they have developed an in depth understanding of the fishery, the tiger fish, their habits, as well as tackle and tactics to successfully target these amazing fish.

Note on fishing rules: All catching is strictly "catch and release" with single debarbed hooks. No beat is fished twice in a week; areas where fish are spawning are strictly no go areas, and there is no re-drifting of beats allowed. This ensures you arrive at a fishery that is well rested and productive. Your understanding of these rules is appreciated, as I am sure you will appreciate this from the groups that have fished before you.

Yellow Fish: Over the course of the 2010 season Leonard Flemming, Guide and Fishery research expert, found and deciphered the feeding habits of 3 species of yellow fish – the largest weighing in at 8lbs. Targeting yellowfish feeding on sand banks and in the rapids offers some truly unique fly fishing. Up stream nymphing is the preferred method, with short and delicate casts needed. All guides are experts in the field, and will put you onto the fish when conditions dictate.



The Fishing Safari Experience

Tengo Camp (on the Mnyera River) and Samaki Camp (on the Ruhudji River) offer the adventurous fly fisherman a unique African fly fishing safari. Tented bush camps erected on each river ensure that the African safari experience is as much a part of this trip as the trophy tigers you can expect to encounter. Camps are not luxury, and due to the seasonal floods are built from scratch each season, they are practical and comfortable and allow guests and guides access to these amazing rivers.

The Fishing Methods:

The majority of the fishing is done off the drift. Here our attentions are focused on the river structure which comprises fallen timber, long sand banks, steep drop-off's and rocky outcrops. When conditions dictate we also make use of sand anchors and tying up to structure mid stream to focus our attention on a specific stretch of water. All fishing is done off 18ft aluminium boats.

This river has received very little fishing pressure over the centuries, and with the controlled fly fishing venture will continue to do so. The system is also extremely rich in bait fish (predominantly red finned barb). The combination of these factors has resulted in this population of tiger fish obtaining otherwise unheard of sizes. Trophy fish in this system are measured above 15lbs. Be prepared to have your tiger fishing paradigms shifted!

Camp Details:

Tengo Camp (Mnyera River): This tented camp is the base for your stay on the Mnyera River. The camp consists of 4 tents with twin or double configurations. All tents have a view overlooking the river. All tents are en suite, offering a shower and toilet. Tents are set up with twin configuration. Fall asleep to the sound of a rasping leopard, and wake up with the rising sun and splashes of feeding tiger fish, all in the privacy of your safari tent.



Meals are enjoyed in the main central camp area under thatched roof overlooking the river. A covered lounge, dining room and living area completes the main camp. This area contains a small library, lounges, and electric points for charging cameras and laptops, and a comprehensive fly tying station.

Samaki Camp (Ruhudji River): This rustic bush camp is your base on the Ruhudji River. It too is erected each season and is the smaller sister of Tengo Camp. Its location on the banks of the Ruhudji River allows access to these productive waters. Samaki camp comprises of traditional Safari tents, all en suite, with twin or double configurations. The mess area is situated in the shade of the river side forest, although most meals are enjoyed alfresco, under the stars on a beautiful sandbank in front of the camp. Samaki camp has no electricity.

Meals:

All meals are prepared by the camp chef. Fresh produce is flown into camp each week with the group. Due to the close relationship with the nearby hunting camp, guests can enjoy fresh venison during their stay. Breakfast is normally an early affair with tea, coffee, toast, cereal and fruit taken before getting onto the boat. We break for a mid morning snack on the river banks at around 10am. Lunch is taken on the river banks in a shaded spot selected by your guides. Dinners are served in the mess area, or alfresco under the African night sky. Food is wholesome camp cuisine, all prepared in a bush kitchen.



Boats:

We use 18ft 'Go Devil' aluminium boats. These boats have been chosen for their application and are ideal for fishing the Mnyera and Ruhudji Rivers. All boats are fitted with 25 hp motors. Each boat caters for two anglers and their professional guide, as well as a coxswain. Boats have ample storage areas and seating for three people. All boats are equipped with first aid equipment.

Wild Life

Buffalo, lion, leopard and elephant are common in the area, as well as a host of plains game species including puku, warthog, hartebeest, zebra, eland and bushbuck amongst many.

The bird life is exceptional with many rare and endemic species found in the area. Pels Fishing Owl, along with Palmnut Vultures, Narina Trogons, Broad Billed Roller, African Fin Foot and white backed night heron all make this riverine environment their home. Twitches bring your binoculars and guide books.

Pick up and drop off point: Dares Salaam, Tanzania

Two Camps, Two Rivers, 7 Night Itinerary (6.5days fishing):

- Sat - Day 1: Charter to camp (1 group transfer to Ruhudji Camp and 1 group stay on the Mnyera River – Mnyera rods fish afternoon).
- Day 2: Fish Mnyera/Ruhudji
- Day 3: Fish Mnyera/Ruhudji
- Day 4: Fish Mnyera/Ruhudji (Camp swap – guests will move between camps this evening)
- Day 5: Fish Mnyera/Ruhudji
- Day 6: Fish Mnyera/Ruhudji
- Day 7: Fish Mnyera/Ruhudji
- Sat - Day 8: Mnyera Rods fish morning session. Charter flight to Dares Salaam

2014 Price:

Fishing Rates/person sharing: USD 7,955.00

Observer Rates/person sharing: USD 4610.00

Observer Day Activities/person sharing* USD 125.00

Observer Day Activities/person single* USD 250.00

*Activities include game drives and river trips arranged prior to safari

Price Includes:

- Transfer from airport to from Seacliff on arrival. Transfer from Seacliff to charter flight on morning of departure. Transfer charter terminal to airport or Seacliff on arrival back in Dar
- Return charter flight to Camp – 1hr45min in a Cessna Caravan (20kg luggage limit per person)
- 7 nights in camp – 6 days fishing on the Mnyera and Ruhudji rivers. Fishing times sunrise to sunset.
- Access to 120km of waters
- Professional guiding
- All meals, accommodation, water, soft drinks and limited beer.
- Boats and fuel
- Fishing licences and concession fees
- Tanzania Government Conservation Levy

Price Excludes:

- Flights to Dares Salaam – please request details on international flight schedules to Dares Salaam
- Visas USD 50 per person obtainable on arrival (at time of publishing)
- Any hotel accommodation and Meals in Dares Salaam before or after tour
- Wine, spirits – guests advised to bring their own wine and spirits from duty free.
- Beers over allocated amount in camp
- Guide and Staff Gratuities

Deposits

A 50% deposit is required to secure your place with the balance to be paid 12 weeks prior to tour dates.

Terms and Conditions:

Tourette Fishing and Kilombero North Safaris terms and conditions apply, please request a copy if you did not receive them. It is compulsory for clients to take out comprehensive medical/travel insurance prior to travel.