

# Tanzania Journey with Safari Extension

Friendship Force of  
Sacramento to  
Friendship Force of  
Iringa, Tanzania

May 2024

Journey # 24217

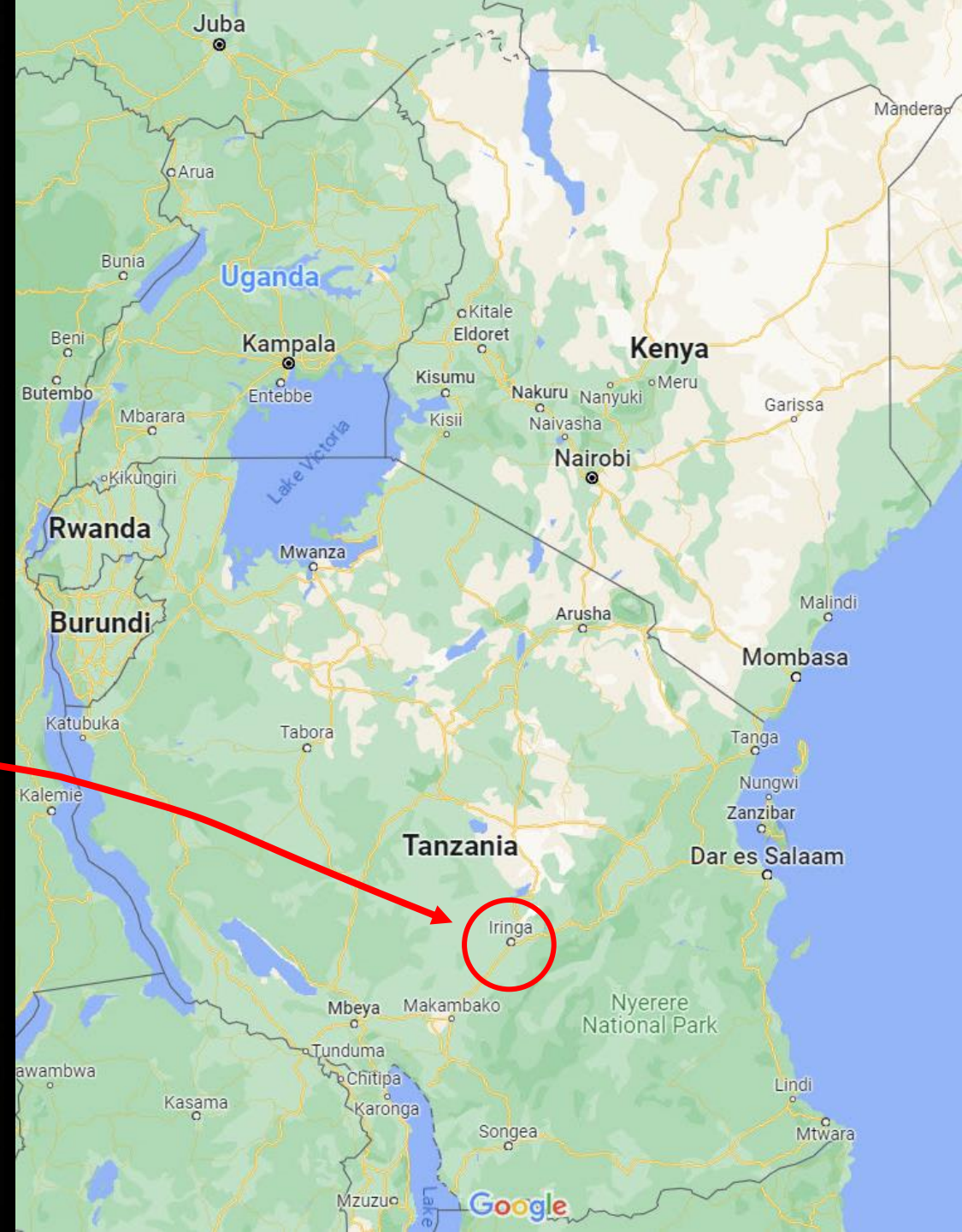
October 16, 2023 Update

Image: <https://www.tarangirenationalparks.com/mountain-kilimanjaro-national-park/>





Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image Landsat / Copernicus  
Image IBCAO



# Overview

## Central Tanzania:

- 5-day homestay with FF Iringa
- 2-day safari to Ruaha National Park

## Northern Tier game parks:

- Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Manyara, Tarangire
- Olduvai Gorge – brief stop to see your ancestors (1.9 MYBP)

➤ Fly from US to Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) – major airport

# Key Stops

- Iringa
- Ruaha NP
- Tarangire NP
- Lake Manyara NP
- Serengeti NP
- Ngorongoro Crater



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## FF Atlanta's 'Epic' 2017 Trip

- 27 ambassadors
- 23 days
- ~2000 miles of bus rides (not including safari outings)
- \$3000 in donations
- Bonnie Evans coordinated the trip
- Jodi Vicario was one of the ambassadors.



Safari Pictures from Allison  
Lindsay

# Comments on 'Epic' 2017 Trip

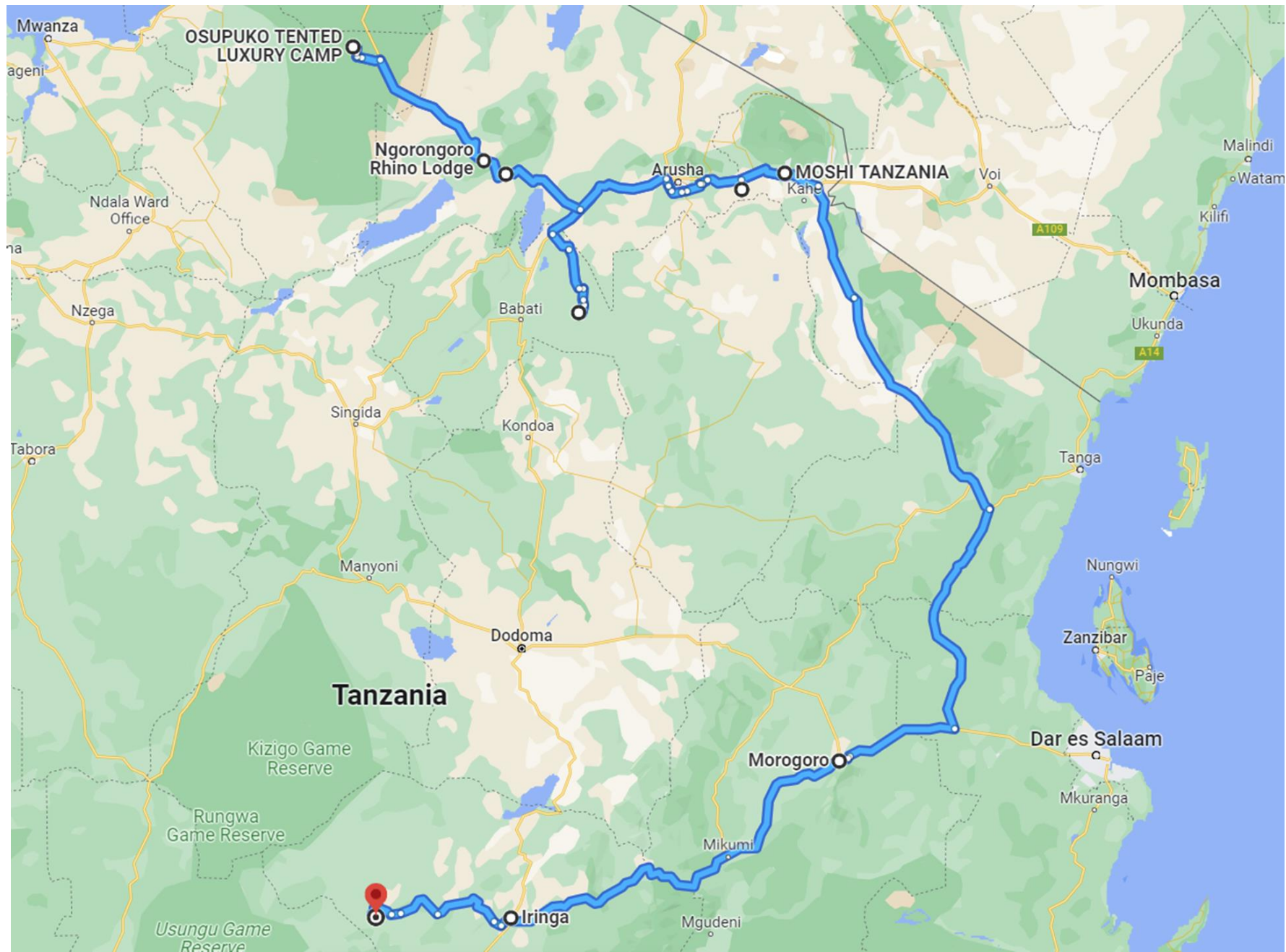
- Bonnie Evans: It took me a year to put this journey together because it was more challenging being a third world country with no public transportation. I had 27 ambassadors across the globe in the group and nearly all said it was truly epic and a journey of a lifetime. Many fell in love with Africa like I did.
- Jodi Vicario: Are you staying with the club in Iringa?? If so, it's VERY difficult to get to...long overnight drive is required. We did a cool safari in that area after our week with the club - elephants came right up to our cabanas. If you're down there, I'd say that's a must do.  
So I absolutely loved Tanzania!! Beautiful country and people and all of the safaris were awesome. I'd highly recommend to get in as many safaris either before or after the journey, if possible.
- Jodi: The trip is not easy; long flight to get there, crazy visa process at the airport, rough roads, bugs, heat, dust, but I'd highly recommend it for those in good shape!!!

# More Comments

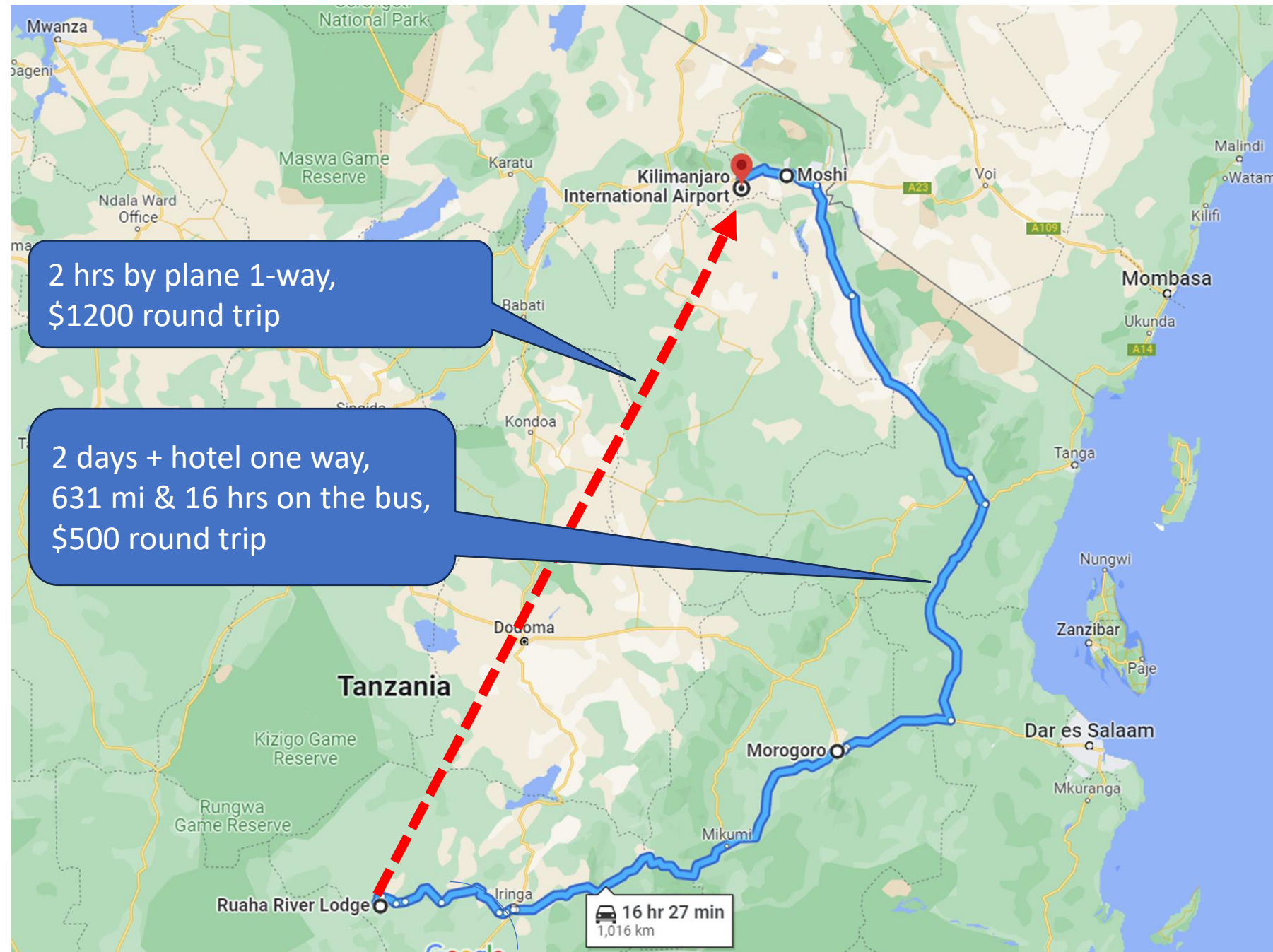
- Made donations to orphanage in Moshi. “A very moving experience for all of us”.
- Safari tour operator was ok/great. Some negatives:
  - Radiator hose leak ..
  - Drove through a recent brush fire
  - LONG bus ride to Iringa
- Iringa – big speed bumps, squat toilets, money requests
- Jodi: worth \$\$ to fly from Kilimanjaro airport to Iringa, to avoid the long bus drive down and back.

# 2017 Itinerary

- Kilimanjaro International Airport, Kilimanjaro
- MOSHI TANZANIA, M89C+XGR, Tanzania
- Tarangire National Park, Tanzania
- Bougainvilla Lodge, Karatu, Tanzania
- OSUPUKO TENTED LUXURY CAMP Tanzania
- Ngorongoro Rhino Lodge, B144 Ngorongoro
- MOSHI TANZANIA, M89C+XGR, Tanzania
- Morogoro, Tanzania
- Iringa, Tanzania
- Ruaha River Lodge, Ruaha National Park

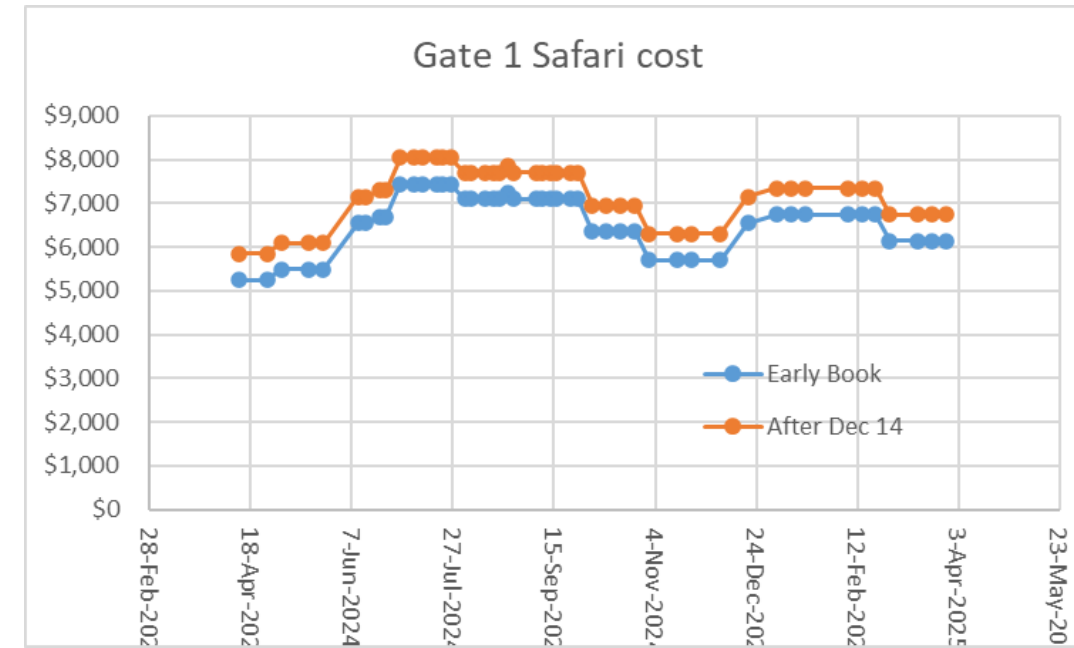


# 2017 Itinerary (return, bus vs. air)



# Safari Company selection

- Several recommended Gate 1 Travel
- Gate 1 has LOTS of Northern Tier safaris, but does not customize. (Ruaha, Iringa on our own)
- Migration & Kili is responsive and flexible

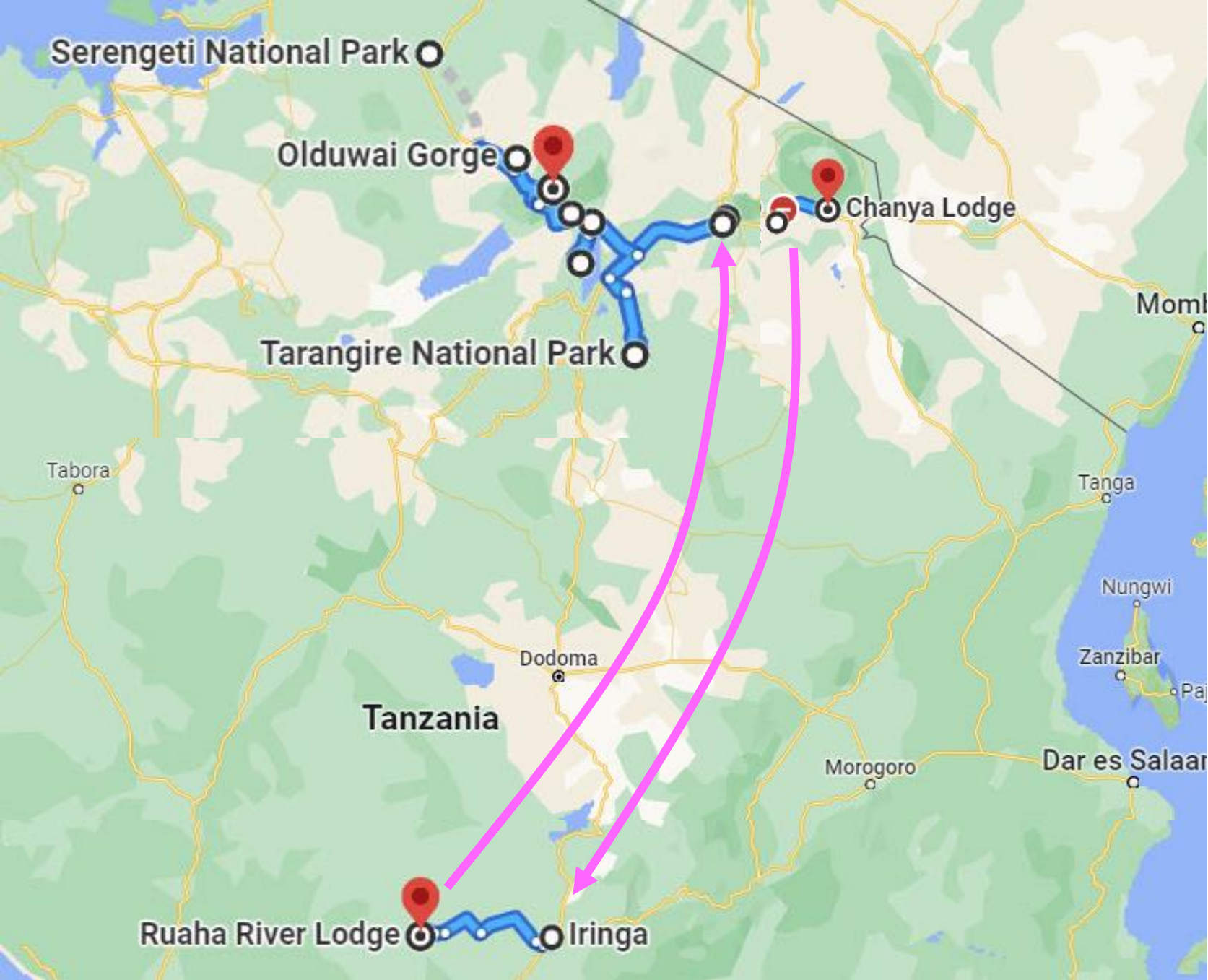


Comparison of Safaris for Northern Tier Parks					Nights in each park					
Company	Safari Name	Tour Days	Tour Nights	Price	Serengeti	Lake Manyara	Ngorongoro	Tarangire	Oduvai Gorge	Masai Boma
Migration & Kili Expeditions	Our custom itinerary	18	19	4,155	2	1	1	1	Yes	Yes
Gate 1	11 Day The Serengeti & Beyond			6,099	3	1	1	2		
Tauck		13	12	8,590	3	1	1	X	X	X
Taya Adventures	Tanzania Discovery	7	5	5,190	3	1	1	0	Yes	X
Taya Adventures	Iconic Tanzania	10	8	11,990	4	1	1	2	Yes	Yes
National Geographic	Tanzania Safari Experience	7	4	4,399	1	1	2	0	Yes	X
National Geographic	Tanzania Family Journey	8	5	4,999	3	0	2	0	Yes	X
National Geographic	On Safari: Tanzania's Great Migration	9	7	10,495	3	2	2	0	Yes	X

75 Northern Tier safaris in our time range – avg costs			
Company	Hotel/Camp Rating		
	3	4	5
G Adventure	2,199	4,349	
Globus		6,501	
Intrepid		7,070	
Tauck			8,590

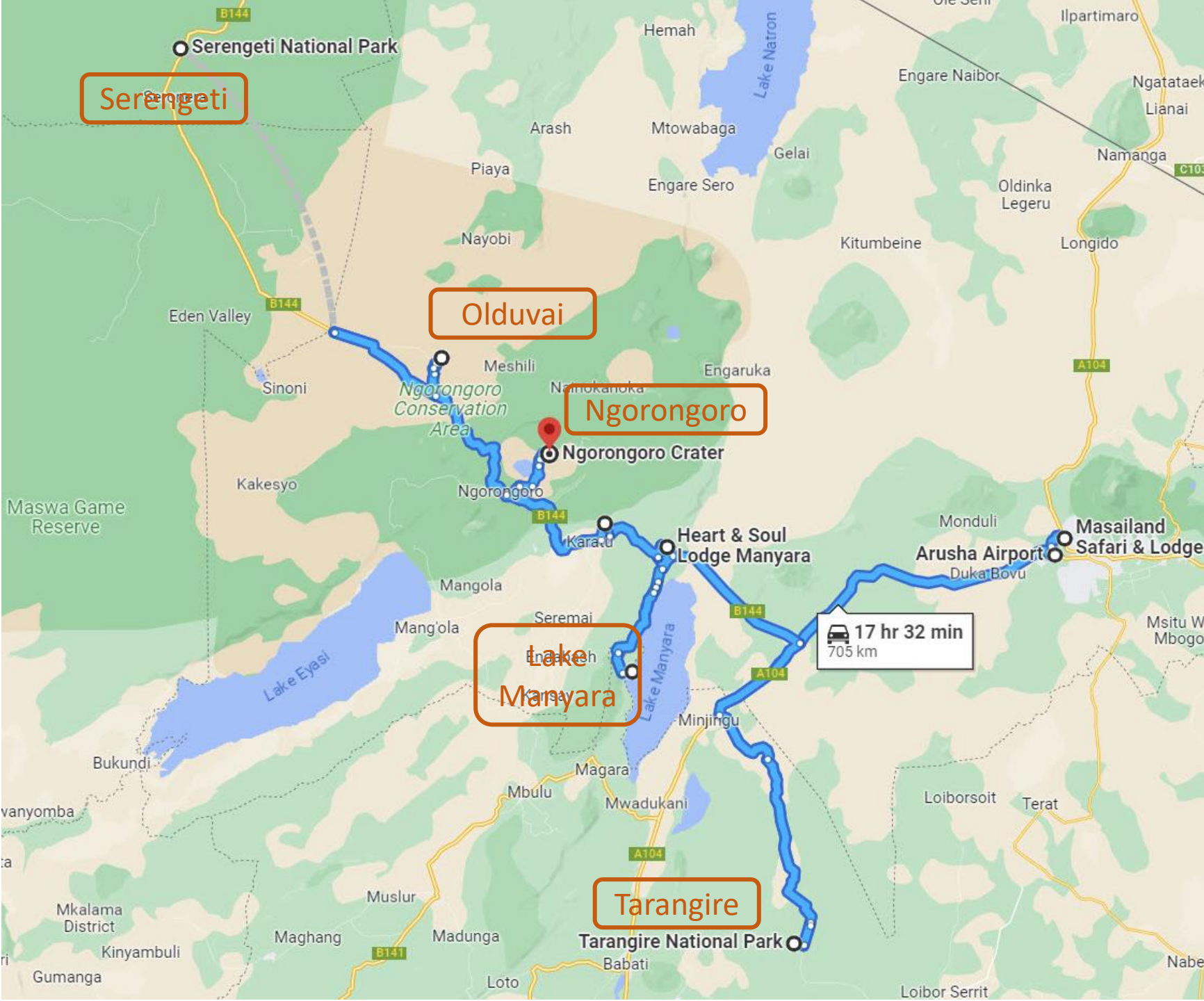
# 2024 Itinerary

- Kilimanjaro International Airport, Kilimanj
- MOSHI TANZANIA, M89C+XGR, Tanzania
- Kilimanjaro International Airport, Kilimanj
- Iringa, Tanzania
- 📍 Ruaha River Lodge, Ruaha National Park
- Arusha Airport, JJJF+QXJ, Arusha, Tanza
- Masailand Safari & Lodge, Arumeru Arusi
- Tarangire National Park, Tanzania
- Heart & Soul Lodge Manyara, Manyara, K
- Lake Manyara National Park, Tanzania
- Heart & Soul Lodge Manyara, Manyara, K
- Olduwai Gorge, Tanzania
- Serengeti National Park, Tanzania
- Ngorongoro Forest Tented Lodge, 10116
- 📍 Ngorongoro Crater, Tanzania



# 2024 Itinerary (Northern Tier detail)

- Arusha Airport, JJJF+QXJ, Arusha, Tanza
- Masailand Safari & Lodge, Arumeru Arusi
- Tarangire National Park, Tanzania
- Heart & Soul Lodge Manyara, Manyara, K
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# Which National Parks ?

- Ruaha NP – Tanzania's largest elephant population. See them from your cabana balcony! Hippos, wild dogs, . . . too
- Tarangire NP – Epic stands of baobabs, elephants dot the plains like cattle
- Lake Manyara NP – millions of flamingos during the rainy season. Home to a famous population of tree-climbing lions. Highest biomass park!
- Serengeti NP – “one of the greatest wildlife-watching destinations on earth”, migration of wildebeest and zebra; cheetahs, lions, leopards ...
- Ngorongoro CA – natural caldera with 1500' walls – perfect backdrop to rhinos, cape buffalo, lions – life unfolding as you watch

If you have any energy left afterwards, sign up for a trekking tour to climb Mt Kilimanjaro (19,341 ft, 6 days)

# Weather, Elevation

- Arusha Elevation: 4259 ft
- Iringa elevation: 5090 ft
  - May averages:
  - High 75 F
  - Low 57 F
  - Rainfall 0.5 inches

Best game viewing months:

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/best-time-to-visit-tanzania>

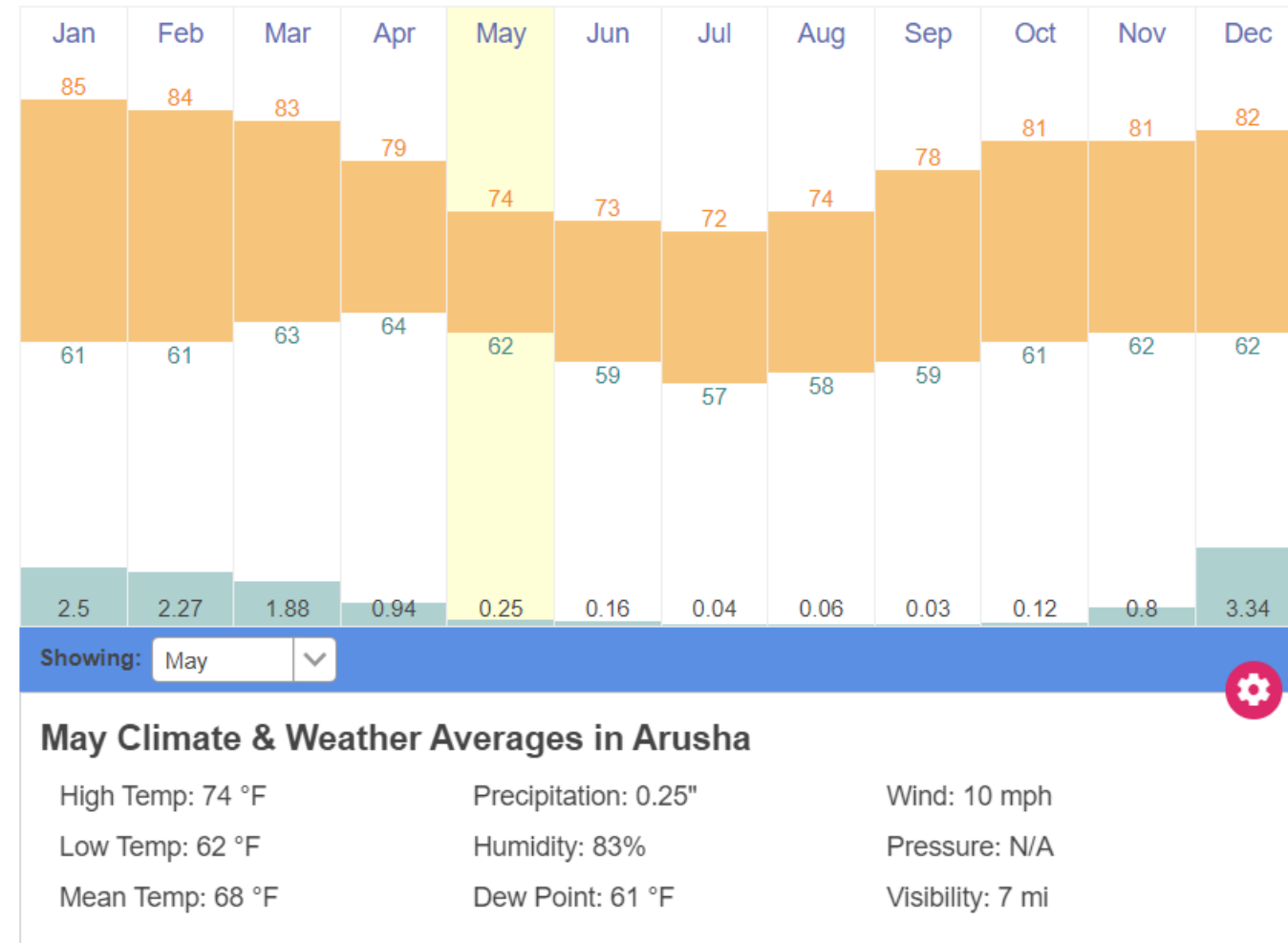
Weather – Iringa: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iringa>

Weather – Arusha: <https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/@159072/climate>

## Annual Weather Averages Near Arusha

Averages are for Arusha Airport, which is 6 miles from Arusha.

Based on weather reports collected during 2005–2015.



# Health, Safety

- Vaccination recommendations: check CDC website  
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/clinician/none/tanzania>
- US Dept of State travel advisories:  
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/tanzania-travel-advisory.html>
- US Dept of State Country information:  
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Tanzania.html>
- FF Sacramento Health Policy (revised Aug 21):  
<https://www.ffi-sacramento.org/resources/Documents/Journey%20Documents/FFSac%20Health%20Policy%20-%202023-08-21.pdf>
- Trip insurance required. FFI policy, Travel Guard, Squaremouth or etc... -- look for covid & medical evacuation coverages
- Malaria is a concern. Ask your doctor for Rx
- Food poisoning is possible so ask your doctor for an antibiotic to take with you

# Resources

- “The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency” – light-hearted detective novel series by Alexander McCall Smith (Author). Set in Botswana, but it gives you the charm and the spirit you will find in Tanzania.  
(also 1 season of episodes on HBO Max)
- Lonely Planet “Africa”
- DuoLingo Swahili
- Wikipedia – Tanzania <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanzania>

. . . To be continued . . .

# Donations by prior Journeys

- 2014: 10 suitcases of school supplies + \$1000 tuition
  - Musical instruments (flutes, xylophone, guitar strings), sports equipment (tennis balls, badminton set, skipping ropes, soccer balls, volleyballs, card games), teaching materials (notebooks, compasses, rulers, calculators, pencils, pens, erasers). For teachers, we bring dictionaries, world maps, colored chalk, a stapler, didactic DVDs (physics, chemistry, biology, English, mathematics and music), and a laptop.
  - In addition, during the year, friends and members of the club contributed on various occasions the sum of \$1,000, which will make it possible to offer a part of upper secondary education to four young girls!
- 2017: \$3000 (\$100\*27 ambassadors + gifts from other FF members)
  - How used: \$500 used to purchase food for Moshi orphanage, \$2000 to help fund Iringa water well, 200 school uniforms ...



2017: Students waiting for donated uniforms and supplies

# FF Iringa's 2024 Wish List

- Textbooks
- School fees (scholarships)
- Science classroom equipment
- Agricultural equipment and fertilizer (food insecurity for small farmers)

Details forthcoming ....

# Cost Estimate

• Airfare SMF-JRO	\$1800 ? round trip (Delta, KLM, ...) 30+ hrs
• Safaris	\$5200 (fly JRO-Iringa-Arusha, 12 pax)
• Iringa Homestay	\$200 ?
• FFI Fee	\$125
• FF Sac fee	\$25
• JC Fee	\$100 ?
• Contingency	\$200 ?
• TOTAL incl airfare	\$7650 ?

Dates: May 11 – May 30  
(20 days. (18 nights safaris + homestay))

Number of Ambassadors that Iringa  
can host: 15 or less

# Next Steps . . .

- Sign up!

- ✓ \$100 deposit payable to Friendship Force of Sacramento

- Write on your check: Iringa, Tanzania Journey

- Please send to:

- Dan Ortiz

- 9445 EMERALD COVE LN

- ELK GROVE, CA 95758

- ✓ Complete and submit [Ambassador Application Agreement](#)

- Everyone who participates in a Friendship Force Journey must be a Friendship Force member and have a Member ID Number. You get your member ID number by registering your free member account at [my.friendshipforce.org](http://my.friendshipforce.org)

- Future pre-trip meetings

- Topics: Safari options, Tanzanian culture, Swahili, what to expect, what to pack, ZOOM with Iringa . . .

- Dates? Nov 28, Jan 10, Mar 14, Apr 20

[illegible]

# Iringa – Ruaha NP segment



# JRO – Moshi segment

