



CLASSIC PORTFOLIO

Nomad Tanzania: Kigelia

Ruaha National Park | Tanzania

Created: July 2025





GENERAL INFORMATION

CLASSIFICATION	<i>CLASSIC</i> : 1 camp. Open: June – February Privately owned and operated by Nomad Tanzania.
LAND RELATIONSHIP	Situated in the remote eastern reaches of Ruaha National Park, Kigelia is set within a prime wildlife area under a special concession from Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).
OVERVIEW	Kigelia is a small, classic bush camp in Ruaha’s prime game area, set among baobabs and sausage trees on the Ifuguru River. With just a handful of tents, it offers Nomad’s signature blend of simplicity, comfort, and close-up wildlife encounters—including elephant, lion, and kudu—while remaining a peaceful refuge in the heart of the wild.
IMPACT OF YOUR STAY	LOW MEDIUM HIGH <i>VERY HIGH</i> Nomad Tanzania actively supports local communities and conservation, which provides finance, logistics, and advice to trusted grassroots partners. With this support, initiatives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lifelong Learning: Apprenticeships, scholarships, and school support, including a meal-a-day programme reaching over 1 000 children across 12 schools.• Health & Well-being: Mobile medical and dental clinics hosted at Nomad camps.• Conservation & Environment: Assistance with anti-poaching patrols, environmental clean-ups, and conservation logistics.• Guests may also Pack for a Purpose, bringing useful supplies that benefit community projects during their visit.
ACCESS	Access via Msembe Airstrip, followed by a 45-60 min game viewer transfer to camp. Daily flights connect Ruaha with Nyerere, Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar, Mafia, and Arusha (for onward travel to Serengeti and Manyara). Twice-weekly flights on Mondays and Thursdays link Ruaha with Katavi and Mahale.
CAMP	5 classic tents + 1 family tent. Per person rate.
CHILDREN	8+ years Only children 12+ years are allowed to take part in walking safaris.
HEALTH	Malaria protection is advised. Yellow fever certificate required if arriving from risk areas. Remote location with basic medical kit; medical rescue included in trip cost.

WEATHER

A semi-arid region, meaning hot days, cool nights, and distinct wet and dry seasons.

JANUARY – MARCH

18 – 32°C | 64 – 90°F

Wet season with storms and lush greenery. Wildlife scatters, but birding is superb with migrants.

APRIL – JUNE

17 – 30°C | 63 – 86°F

Rains ease by April; May–June brings thinner bush and better game viewing — pack warm layers.

JULY – SEPTEMBER

14 – 29°C | 57 – 84°F

Dry season prime: clear skies, sparse vegetation, and wildlife concentrated along the Ruaha River.

OCTOBER – DECEMBER

18 – 34°C | 64 – 93°F

Heat rises with short rains later. Early viewing remains strong, with dramatic skies and occasional showers.

NEED TO KNOW

ELECTRICITY	Solar-powered and generator backup.
WIFI & MOBILE SIGNAL	WiFi available in communal area (limited bandwidth). Limited mobile phone coverage.
CHECK-IN / OUT	13:00 / 10:00
CREDIT CARDS	Yes.
SECURITY	Unfenced. Askari escorts.
MAKE AN IMPACT	Kigelia supports lion conservation, community education, and local outreach programs, offering guests the opportunity to learn about and engage with these initiatives during their stay.
GYM / KEEP FIT	No.
SPA & WELLNESS	No.
FOOD & WINE	Fully inclusive: all meals, & drinks. No Halaal / Kosher.
GUIDE ROOM	Yes.
OTHER FACILITIES	Each tent has private star bed.
ACTIVITIES	Game drives in open 4WD vehicles, walking safaris, night drives, sundowners and bush picnics.

Kigelia			
6 TENTS – CHILDREN 8+			
# TENTS	5 tents + 1 family tent	POOL	X
EXTRA BEDS	✓ All	IN-ROOM WIFI	✓ limited
TWIN BEDS	✓ All	MINI BAR	X
BATHROOM	En-suite	AIR CON	X
SHOWER	✓ Bucket shower	FAN	✓
BATH	X	MOZZIE NET	X mesh tent
HAIRDRYER	✓	LAUNDRY	✓ Included
ROOM SAFE	✓ lockable bag or box	DISABLED	X
TENT DESCRIPTION:			
TENTS X 5	Spacious safari tents with riverbed views, wide verandahs, and thatch roofs. En-suite bathrooms feature flush toilets and outdoor bucket showers under the stars, with hot/cold water on request. Each has a private star bed for stargazing.		
FAMILY TENT X 1	Designed for families or friends traveling together. One large family tent with two en-suite tented bedrooms under one thatch roof. Perfect for parents with older children, or two couples wanting to stay close.		



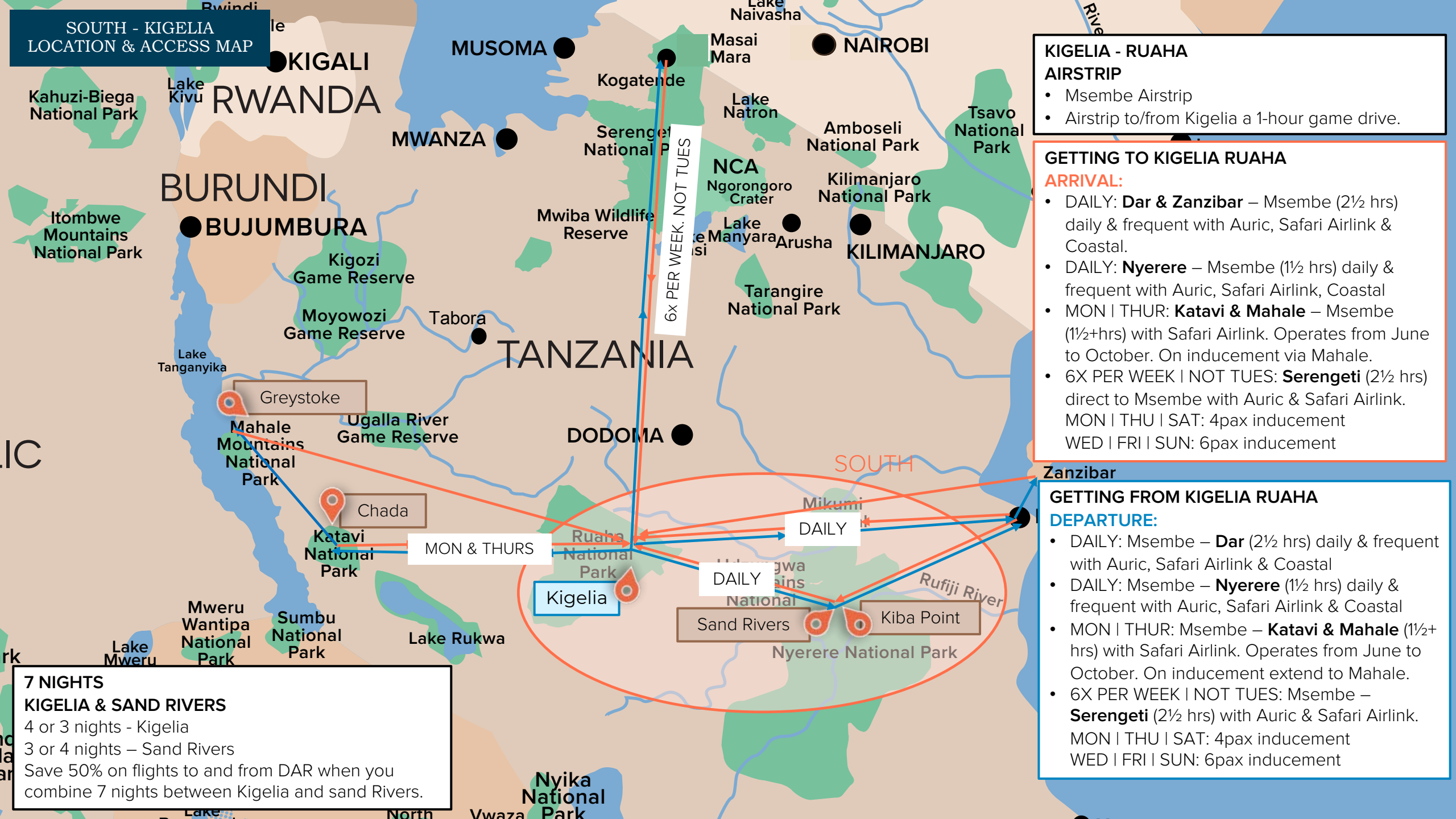
ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCES

GAME DRIVES	Morning, afternoon, and evening. Open-sided vehicle Max 6 per vehicle Professional safari guides.
GAME DRIVE VEHICLE FEATURES	Three pin plug sockets & USB charging points.
WALKING SAFARIS	Get closer to the ground and observe smaller details of the bush. 1 armed Nomad scout and 1 armed ranger. Max 6 guests per walk. Guests 12+ years.
BIRDWATCHING	The camp is an excellent location for birding, with over 570 species found along the nearby river confluence.
SLEEPOUT	Each tent has a private star bed to enjoy a night star-gazing and experiencing the untamed Ruaha wilderness.
HOT AIR BALLOON	Consider a scenic hot air balloon ride for breathtaking views of the Ruaha landscape. Book in advance, extra cost.
SPECIAL MEALS	Enjoy classic safari treats like breakfast or sundowners in scenic locations within the bush.



WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	DOES NOT OCCUR HERE
LION	✓			
LEOPARD	✓			
CHEETAH			✓	
ELEPHANT	✓			
RHINO – WHITE & BLACK				X
BUFFALO	✓			
GIRAFFE	✓			
ZEBRA	✓			
HIPPO	✓			
CROCODILE	✓			
WILD DOG		✓		
HYENA - STRIPED	✓			
AARDVARK				X
MIGRATION				X
GENERAL ANTELOPE SPECIES	✓			
VARIETY OF BIRD LIFE	✓			
SPECIAL SIGHTING FOR THIS AREA	Large lion prides, wild dogs, rare antelope species, and over 570 bird species, including Ruaha endemics.			
OTHER	Remote wilderness, few crowds, and a raw, untamed atmosphere make Ruaha one of East Africa's best-kept safari secrets.			

**SOUTH - KIGELIA
LOCATION & ACCESS MAP**



**KIGELIA - RUAHA
AIRSTRIP**

- Msembe Airstrip
- Airstrip to/from Kigelia a 1-hour game drive.

GETTING TO KIGELIA RUAHA

ARRIVAL:

- **DAILY: Dar & Zanzibar** – Msembe (2½ hrs) daily & frequent with Auric, Safari Airlink & Coastal.
- **DAILY: Nyerere** – Msembe (1½ hrs) daily & frequent with Auric, Safari Airlink, Coastal
- **MON | THUR: Katavi & Mahale** – Msembe (1½+hrs) with Safari Airlink. Operates from June to October. On inducement via Mahale.
- **6X PER WEEK | NOT TUES: Serengeti** (2½ hrs) direct to Msembe with Auric & Safari Airlink.
MON | THU | SAT: 4pax inducement
WED | FRI | SUN: 6pax inducement

GETTING FROM KIGELIA RUAHA

DEPARTURE:

- **DAILY: Msembe – Dar** (2½ hrs) daily & frequent with Auric, Safari Airlink & Coastal
- **DAILY: Msembe – Nyerere** (1½ hrs) daily & frequent with Auric, Safari Airlink & Coastal
- **MON | THUR: Msembe – Katavi & Mahale** (1½+ hrs) with Safari Airlink. Operates from June to October. On inducement extend to Mahale.
- **6X PER WEEK | NOT TUES: Msembe – Serengeti** (2½ hrs) with Auric & Safari Airlink.
MON | THU | SAT: 4pax inducement
WED | FRI | SUN: 6pax inducement

**7 NIGHTS
KIGELIA & SAND RIVERS**
4 or 3 nights - Kigelia
3 or 4 nights – Sand Rivers
Save 50% on flights to and from DAR when you combine 7 nights between Kigelia and sand Rivers.

6x PER WEEK. NOT TUES

MON & THURS

DAILY

DAILY



TENT INTERIOR



WILDLIFE



SPECIAL MEALS



TENT INTERIOR



VIEW FROM TENT



GAME DRIVES

NOMAD TANZANIA RUAHA NATIONAL PARK	KIGELIA
CLASSICS CLASSIFICATION	CLASSIC
IMPACT OF EACH GUEST STAY	VERY HIGH
CHILDREN (MINIMUM AGE)	8+
FAMILY ROOMS	✓
EXCLUSIVE CAMP / VILLAS	✓
HONEYMOON OFFER	X
LAND SAFARI	✓
WATER SAFARI	X
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	NIGHT WALKS / DRIVES, HOT AIR BALLOONING, STAR BED
GET INVOLVED – CONSERVATION	✓
GET INVOLVED – COMMUNITIES	✓
EXPEDITION TRIPS	X
WELLNESS & MASSAGE	X

CLASSIC CLASSIFICATIONS:

P – Premier: These camps/lodges feature luxurious amenities and are priced at a higher tier.

C – Classic: These camps/lodges offer a more down-to-earth experience and are priced at a mid-level rate.

E – Expedition: These experiences are best suited for small groups or trips led by private guides.

IMPACT OF EACH GUEST STAY:

L – Low

M – Medium

H – High

VH – Very High

Based on the following 4 considerations we look at the positive impact that each guest is making by staying here:

- Transferability: What percentage of the daily rates is allocated to conservation and community initiatives?
- Removability: What impact would arise if the property were absent? Are there alternative lodges in the vicinity that continue to make positive contributions?
- Responsibility: To what extent does the property handle management privately, and how much is overseen as a concession under a collaborative arrangement?
- Fragility: How vulnerable is the surrounding environment and community?

WWW.NOMAD-TANZANIA.COM

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WWW.CLASSIC-PORTFOLIO.COM

The Classics website has more detailed information, images, live availability and rates, together with our comprehensive Crib Sheet.

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