



nomad

LIFE ENHANCED

Ruaha

YOUR GUIDE TO THE SEASONS

MONTH	RAIN FALL	HI TEMP	WILDLIFE & PARK INFO
JAN	200mm	32°C (89.6°F)	From mid-January we see the start of the best season for birds, flowers and migratory birds – a spectacular display of vibrant colour which is a true pleasure to see after the dusty, dry months. The baobabs are covered in new leaves and flowers and the rivers are in spate. The elephant tend to move to higher ground during this time and disperse, however there is still a good chance of seeing many resident species, with the benefit of a magnificent backdrop! There's the chance of heavy rain but between showers the days are sunny and warm. Walking may be limited during these months due to high grass.
FEB	200mm	32°C (89.6°F)	The rainy season continues into February and the wildlife experience is much like January. While the larger herds of elephant and buffalo disperse, sightings of cheetah go up during these months and there's still plenty of resident game around. The park undergoes a metamorphosis during this time; trees bursting into flower and colourful birds in breeding plumage everywhere, plus migrants from both the south and Europe. Walking may be limited during these months due to high grass. It tends to be temperate with humid afternoons.
MAR	250mm	30°C (86°F)	See January & February. Roads may become more challenging later in the month and our camp closes mid-March until June. Walking may be limited during these months due to high grass.
APR	250mm	30°C (86.0°F)	Camp closed. Heavy rainfall in April. Many roads become impassable.
MAY	75mm	29°C (84.2°F)	Camp closed. Rain begins to ease and the roads begin to dry up.
JUN	25mm	29°C (84.2°F)	The rains have come to an end by now but the vegetation usually remains green and beautiful for a short while before leaves start to fall in July. As the bush starts to thin, we see the big herds beginning to form as the buffalo move south and the elephants come down from the highlands. In pursuit of the buffalo come the lion...this is the richest time of year for wildlife viewing. Walking may be limited during early June due to high grass.
JUL	0mm	28°C (82.4°F)	The dry season begins in earnest now and the wildlife congregates along the river lines where the vegetation remains green. Herds of 400-500 buffalo and several hundred elephant are not uncommon, nor are sightings of leopard, lion and cheetah. The walking is easier as the grass dies back and the dry river beds often make suitable pathways through the bush.
AUG	0mm	29°C (84.2°F)	More fabulous game viewing and the weather remains cool in the mornings and evenings and warm during the day. The trees have now mostly shed their leaves. This is when the roan and sable venture down from the highlands so these next two months present the best opportunity to see these rare antelope. Walking is fantastic as the grass has died back.

MONTH	RAIN FALL	HI TEMP	WILDLIFE & PARK INFO
SEP	25mm	30°C (86°F)	The weather starts to warm up now and the landscape has assumed its dry mantel. While the Ruaha River flows year round, it's at its lowest in Sept/Oct and the hippo pods may be more concentrated now. This is still a great month for Ruaha's speciality: elephant, plus herds of buffalo and growing prides of lion. Walking is brilliant.
OCT	25mm	31°C (87.8°F)	This is the hottest month in Ruaha, but also possibly the most intense for wildlife. The diminishing water and green vegetation encourage game to congregate along the still green river lines and the birding is also excellent.
NOV	100mm	32°C (89.6°F)	The rains return this month, normally early in the mornings, and it can be humid in the afternoons. The bush will not green up for a while so it's a great month to view wildlife and birds alike.
DEC	150mm	32°C (89.6°F)	The weather remains humid with rains in the mornings, but we don't let a few drops spoil our explorations. There is still plenty to see and migratory bird species begin to arrives, and with lots of youngsters being born there is often lots of predator action. Walking is usually still possible as the grass is still short, despite the green flush that may be evident, but this varies with the years.