

TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS



GUIDELINES FOR PARAGLIDING



OCTOBER, 2015

1.0 BACKGROUND

Paragliding is the recreational and competitive adventure sport of flying a paraglide. A paraglide is lightweight, free – flying, foot launched glider aircraft with no rigid primary structure. It is an appropriate recreational activity in the Mountainous areas under specific conditions. Similar activities include **wing suit flying, wing pack and hang gliding, powered paragliding, powered wing pack, parachuting and speed riding.**

Paragliding is limited to particular locations due to the fact that they require specific parameters. It also requires cleared take off and landing sites. It is also considered as a high risky recreational activity and thus, these guidelines are developed to ensure smooth operations of the activity as well as to enhance visitor experience.

2.0 AREAS OF THE ACTIVITY

Paragliding will be operated in the areas as stipulated by the General Management Plan (GMP) of the respective park. Mount Kilimanjaro will be a pilot area for this activity.

3.0 PERMITS REQUIREMENTS

The activity shall be organized by a tour operator with:

- i. Valid TTLB(Tanzania Tourism License Board) license
- ii. Clean business record
- iii. Sufficient proven experience and knowledge of paragliding at high altitudes.
- iv. The paraglider /operator will be required to comply with requirements stipulated by the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) including any relevant permit(s).

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- i. Paraglide shall be done in an environmental manner that minimizes negative impacts (on the integrity of the park while simultaneously giving respect to other park users.
- ii. Trash in trash out (TITO) system shall apply.
- iii. Pilots must ensure that there is no digging, removing or moving rocks and uprooting plants on the launching zone.

5.0 SAFETY, SECURITY AND HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

- i. Paragliding pilots must have sufficient paragliding experience at high altitude. In addition a minimum of 200 logged flights and cross country experience is recommended.
- ii. Weather conditions are paramount to safe paragliding. Pilots/operators must have access to and have experience interpreting weather forecasts and reports.
- iii. Paragliding in weather conditions not conducive to safe paragliding is forbidden. (Excessively strong wind, rain, thick cloud etc.)
- iv. The operator shall be responsible to ensure that each pilot has all necessary safety equipment including but not limited to, GPS, first aid kit, reliable communication equipment, helmet and reserve parachute.
- v. Medical insurance for each pilot is required.
- vi. Pilots should be familiar with approved launching and landing sites.
- vii. There should be intervals between launching
- viii. Tour operator shall be responsible with the landing site outside the park
- ix. Acrobatics are not permitted
- x. Pilots are expected to fold their canopies immediately after landing and clear the landing site.
- xi. Emergency landing should be immediately reported to the park authority
- xii. Always seek advice from experienced pilot about various aspects like launching of, navigating, steering, landing and other safety issues.
- xiii. All other park rules and regulations must be adhered to.

6.0 TIMING OF THE ACTIVITY

Paragliding shall be carried out only during the day between sunrise and sunset. It shall only be conducted in conditions consistent with VFR (Visual Flight Rules). Paragliding in thick cloud or rain is not permitted.

7.0 PAYMENT MODALITIES

- i. Payment shall be made by Master/ Visa cards and TANAPA prepaid cards at designated point of sales.
- ii. Fees will be charged according to TANAPA tariff structure as may be reviewed from time to time.

8.0 INDEMNITY FORMS

Paragliders will be required to fill and sign indemnity forms upon arrival at the gate.

9.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Regular monitoring shall be carried out by park management to see if the activity complies with the operating guidelines and TANAPA legislations. The park management shall also conduct annual evaluation to assess the impact of the activity and recommend effective mitigation measures.

Review of the guideline shall be done regularly as may be deemed necessary

10. CODES OF CONDUCT

1. Do not leave anything on the launching and landing sites. Picking up litter from other users is always appreciated
2. Never scare animals. All animals are startled by an unannounced approach, a sudden movement, or a loud noise
3. Do not uproot plants or break branches
4. Do not acquire souvenirs in the park such as stones, feathers, seeds, bones or other archeological artifacts.
5. Be extremely careful with fires -do not start any fire

Issued by,

The Director General

Tanzania National Parks