

TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS



GUIDELINES FOR BOATING SAFARIS



1.0 BACKGROUND

Boating is one of the most exciting visitor's activities which provide an opportunity for visitors to feel and see the beauty of the shoreline, important gulfs, beaches and aesthetic value of our parks. It is an environmental friendly activity that diversifies visitor experience in the national parks.

2.0 Areas where the activity can take place in the park

2.1 General area as determined by GMP

2.2 Actual site of the activity

As specified in the GMP

3.0 Type and number of facility/equipment needed.

A maximum of 5 boats shall operate in a day.

4.0 Permit and license requirements

The boat for the activity must be Tanzanian registered and must have a valid license.

5.0 Type of competence and number of staff required for the activity

- i. All Boats must be operated by a competent boat driver (s) who can assist tourists at all situations. **A competent boat operator** is the one who is authorized by SUMMATRA or relevant authority to operate marine devices after completing the mandatory courses and certified by relevant authorities. (Note that the water dynamics impedes successful boating exercise)
- ii. Each boat shall have 2 staff; boat operator and the assistant/park ranger.

6.0 Environmental consideration issues

- i. The boat in operation shall have a dust bin.
- ii. Smoking is strictly prohibited.

7.0 Safety, security and health consideration issues

- i. All passengers on board must wear life saving devices/ jacket.
- ii. Pre- briefing of tourists before boating is important as part of safety regulations
- iii. A device/boat must be inspected and authorized by the relevant authority e.g. SUMMATRA.
- iv. The boat must have all safety gears including life jackets, ring buoys, first aid kit and firefighting equipment.
- v. Communication devices such as radio calls must be on board.
- vi. All boats must be off the lake at Sunset.

8.0 Duration of the activity and maximum number of visitors

- i. The maximum number of visitors in a boat shall be as specified in the vessel.

- ii. Operational time shall be from 0600hrs in the morning and end at 1800hrs in accordance to TANAPA rules and regulations

9.0 Payment modalities

- i. Boating fee shall be paid using Government electronic payment gateway (GePG-MoF), online, bank and mobile or any other approved means of payments. The client may reserve and make all the payment online through online TANAPA Portal available on website **www.tanzaniaparks.go.tz/onlineportal** before the commencement of the activity.
- ii. Payment may be effected at the point of entry in the park through MasterCard or Visa cards.
- iii. Fees for the activity shall be in accordance to TANAPA fee structure as may be reviewed from time to time.

10.0 Indemnity forms

All visitors must fill and sign **indemnity form** before commencing the activity.

11.0 Boat Operations

- i. Parents/guardians shall fill and sign indemnity forms on behalf of children/ persons between the age of 0-16 years.
- ii. Fees once paid are not refundable.
- iii. Authorized officer shall specify areas to which boating is to be conducted.
- iv. The Tour Operator shall notify the respective park at least 12 hours before commencing the boating exercise.
- v. Foreign registered boats will be allowed to operate only if they have clearance from relevant authorities.
- vi. Authorized Local boats will only be permitted to operate after fulfilling the required park regulations.
- vii. For investors or other operators, they should comply with all regulations as described thence granted a permit to conduct boating in respective parks.

12.0 Monitoring and evaluation of the activity

Regular monitoring shall be carried out to see if the activity complies with the operating agreement and TANAPA legislations. Annual evaluation will also be carried out to assess the impact of the activity and recommend effective mitigation measures or suspension of the activity

**Conservation Commissioner
Tanzania National Parks**