

BOOKING@BAKERSAFARI.CO

BAKER & SONS SAFARI CO. LTD
RUFJI RIVER COTTAGES, SELOUS GAME RESERVE



RATES

LODGING – open June to February, 9 months *inquire for off-season availability

<https://www.bakersafari.co/safari-lodging-rates/>

Double Cottage Rooms, sleeps 2 – \$75/night

Large Open Cabin, sleeps 4-5 – \$100/night

***all rates in \$USD**, subject to 18% sales tax, lodging rates are priced by room, not per person

SPECIAL OFFER: Stay 3 or more nights and get the resident lodging rate applied to all nights

Tanzania Resident Rates

Double Cottage Rooms – \$60/night (\$15 nightly savings)

Large Open Cabin – \$80/night (\$20 savings)



MEALS – self-catering & full board service

<https://www.bakersafari.co/safari-meals/>

1. **Self-Catering Stone Guest Safari Kitchen – the only self-catering option in the Selous!**
Guests staying in lodges: complimentary use of kitchen, storage space in fridge, etc.
Campers: \$15/day full use of kitchen and all appliances (groups up to 6 people)

*quality meat available for sale in freezer (skewers, chicken, steaks, sausage)
\$12/half-kilogram portion, vegetables available in local village market



2. Baker Safari Meal Plans, prepared & served

Breakfast/Lunch/Supper, including pack-lunch on safari game drive

Individual – \$75 full board/day

Couple (2 guests) – \$150/day

For 3 guests or more, add \$50/guest

Children w/parents add \$25/day (ages 17-5 yrs.), under 5 *free*

CAMPING – primitive & maintained

We have both primitive and maintained camping sites available, including beautifully built stone bathrooms and showers for campers

Each Site: \$20/night

Tent Rental: \$5/night

*campers use of self-catering kitchen \$15/day/group





ACTIVITY RATES

organized by Baker & Sons
<https://www.bakersafari.co/safari-activities/>

FULL-DAY SAFARI GAME DRIVE

Selous Game Reserve, Mtemere Gate, leaving from Baker & Sons Lodge (15 minutes from gate), rates include vehicle with experienced driver/guide, all Selous entrance fees

# of Guests	Cost Per Guest	Total Group Cost
1 guest	\$600	\$600
2 guests	\$400	\$800
3 guests	\$350	\$1050
4 guests	\$325	\$1300
5 guests	\$310	\$1550
6 guests	\$300	\$1800

*all costs in \$USD, subject to 18% sales tax

*w/parent ages 17-11 subtract \$100/child, ages 10-5 subtract \$150/child, under 5 are *free*

*drinking water included, pack-lunch *not included* in Safari Game Drive activity rates, purchased separately in Meal Plans *or* prepared and brought by guests using self-catering lodge kitchen

*maximum 6 guests per vehicle (inquire for larger vehicles), includes exclusive use of vehicle/guide

RUFIJI RIVER BOAT CRUISE

2.5-hour evening sunset cruise up the ancient Rufiji, 4pm launch from Baker & Sons river bank

River Boat Cruise: \$50/guest

w/parents ages 11-17 – \$25, 10 and under *free*

GUIDED WALKING SAFARI

Works in conjunction with a Full-Day Safari Game Drive – morning after take advantage of your 24-hour Selous pass and walk, on-foot, in the game reserve with an armed park ranger, 2 hours

Walking Safari: \$125/ guest

minimum of 2 guests or equiv. payment

w/parents ages 11-17 – \$50, 10 and under *free*

*6am departure, Selous Game Reserve will refuse entry to guests unable to walk without assistance, this includes the elderly and very young children; IF NOT COMBINED with Safari Game Drive Activity beforehand, add \$100/person to total cost for Selous entry pass

EXTRA Activities

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FISHING – There are fishing poles/tackle at the lodge, rental \$15/day

- a. River Bank Fishing – try your hand fishing off Baker & Sons river bank, at the flood plain down below the cottages. Staff might help rustle some live bait (worms, small fish), and if you're happy with their effort you can tip the staff at the end of your stay with us.
- b. River Boat Fishing – you can rent a boat/driver at a rate of \$250/day or \$150/half day. Fish in the Rufiji River include species of large cats and the East African trophy, the Tiger Fish.

HIKING – On Baker & Sons 5-acre property are cut a series of trails, daytime hiking only, shoes or boots ideal. Be mindful that every type of animal found in the Selous Reserve has at one time passed through our property. More commonly viewed are the rare Black & White Colobus Monkey in the canopy, troops of Baboon cutting through the bush, up to 40 members large and small, skittish ungulates, elephant shrews and large football size droppings left by the shrew's namesake. Other sights along the paths include baobab and acacia trees, a local village burial ground, the Rufiji River at the one end, and the Rufiji Lighthouse on the other – an English school and centre built by Baker & Sons for the neighbouring village.

THE RUFJI LIGHTHOUSE – In 2016, Baker & Sons Safari Co constructed a building on the village side of our 5-acre property to serve as an English school for the neighbouring villagers of Mloka. In certain months, the school is active and serves the community, young and old, with volunteer teachers coming as far away as Canada. Guests of Baker & Sons staying on the lodge/river side of our property are welcome to visit our school, sit in on a class and even participate, introduce yourself to the students through our staff interpreters. The common language of the village is called Kiswahili, we'll teach you a few words to take home.

VOLLEYBALL/FOOTBALL – Beside the Rufiji Lighthouse School there is setup a volleyball sand court/net and also a small football pitch with goals on either ends. We have balls for both sports. Ask the staff and they'd be happy to lend you one, they might even want to join in for a game.

VILLAGE TOURS – Our neighbouring village of Mloka is a quintessential East African village, isolated in part from the progresses of time and outside involvement by a thick 80km band of bush – the 'buffer zone' between the wild beasts of Selous Game Reserve and the cities and civilized of Tanzania. The only access for the village is a single safari bush road in/out and the Rufiji River draining into the Indian Ocean. Our staff at Baker & Sons are happy to guide our guests into the village, roughly a fifteen-minute walk from the cottages, whether it's through the market to buy some local produce for use back in our self-catering stone kitchen, or just to view and take photos of a different way of life. At Baker & Sons we offer these tours, led by our staff, *free of charge*. We only ask that you remember our staff with a small gesture of your appreciation before you leave.



TRANSFERS to Baker & Sons Safari Lodge Rufiji River, Great Selous, TZ

<https://www.bakersafari.co/transfers-reviews/>

BY ROAD – There are two options by road, to travel in with your own vehicle or have us chauffeur you in. From Dar Es Salaam the total trip takes roughly 5 hours.

- a. **CHAUFFEUR SERVICE:** Pickup from Dar Es Salaam to Baker & Sons Safari Lodge, and return, round trip service. Other pickup locations, inquire w/booking@bakersafari.co

Rates From DAR: **\$600/Per Vehicle Round-Trip (max 6 guests, 5hrs)**

Discounts: **\$400/Round-Trip when combined with Game Drive**
 \$300/RT w/Game Drive and Walking Safari

- b. **OWN VEHICLE:** Make sure you have a reliable vehicle, 4-wheel drive is ideal. In the bush, we typically use Toyota Landcruisers and Landrovers. Especially if you arrive during the ‘short rains season’ in Tanzania (October-December), or on the tail end of the ‘long rains season’ (March-May). The bush road is an unmaintained mixture of sand/dirt, and the rains transform the roads dramatically.

- **DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM DAR (~5hrs)**, Follow the Dar/Lindi Hwy SOUTH until reaching a city called KIBITI (about a 2-hour drive from outskirts of Dar)
- shortly after arriving in Kibiti (just past the police post, opposite the bus station) there's a well-marked option to turn RIGHT off the HWY towards ‘Utete/Mloka/Mkongo’, take that Right Turn
- the road you've turned onto quickly becomes a bush road, from tarmac to red clay/sand, this is the second portion of your journey
- follow the bush road from Kibiti, up through many villages and hill viewpoints, roughly 45 minutes until you reach a definite T-JUNCTION (just after you pass a large valley/newly constructed bridge)
- at the T-JUNCTION, turn RIGHT towards ‘MLOKA/SELOUS’ (DO NOT turn left towards Utete), there will be many signs for safari camps at the junction, all pointing in the right direction
- after turning RIGHT, the bush road continues through many villages, at the first village the road takes a sharp curve, follow for at least another hour and a half (if you maintain an average 60 kms/hr) until reaching the final village, MLOKA (most villages don't have signs with name, hard to spot if they do)
- MLOKA is much larger and more populated than the other villages, the main road opens up and you will see bus companies on your left and a bigger market on either side of the road, STAY STRAIGHT
- Drive Straight through the village of Mloka, past a collection of safari camp signs and through to the other side of the village
- at the far end of Mloka village is an old white water tower where the road naturally curves right, there is also a smaller path that stays straight past the water tower, STAY STRAIGHT (if you turn right with the road you will head



towards the Selous Game Reserve boundary, not to worry if you make that mistake, it's only a 15-minute turnaround back to the village of Mloka)
- Stay Straight past the Water Tower, the road narrows and the bush closes in, about 300 m look to your left, first you will see 'Baker & Sons – The Rufiji Lighthouse' (an English school we have built for the village), next you will see our large white sign, "BAKER & SONS SAFARI COMPANY". Temporarily park by that sign, a staff member will meet you and guide you to the camp entrance further down the road and open the guest gate for your vehicle. This narrow road has a dead-end at the Rufiji River, our lodge is on the left-hand side when facing the river.
- should you get lost, you can ask anyone in the village of Mloka about 'Baker & Sons Safari Lodge', and they will direct you

BY AIR – The other way to travel to Baker & Sons Safari Lodge and the Selous Game Reserve is by airplane. There is an airstrip at the main entrance gate of the Selous, called 'Mtemere Gate', from there a 15-minute drive to our lodge. A handful of flying safari companies make the trip daily to the Selous Mtemere airstrip, of note Coastal Aviation and Auric Air. These smaller bush planes fly out of the Julius Nyerere International Airport, local flights terminal in Dar Es Salaam, and a trip one-way costs roughly \$200 for a 45-minute flight. For this route, there is also an airstrip levy for passengers arriving at the Mtemere airstrip, payable to the Selous Game Reserve of \$11.80/passenger. If booking the flight on your own, remember the destination 'Selous Mtemere', sometimes called 'Selous Lower Mtemere'. Also remember the levy of \$11.80 which is a separate charge. The levy must be paid IN ADVANCE in Dar Es Salaam, with proof of payment receipt given to the Selous park rangers' office on arrival. It cannot be paid in cash on arrival at Selous. Baker & Sons can take care of this levy for guests arriving by air, and include on the total invoice. Pickup from the Selous Mtemere airstrip is \$30/guest to Baker & Sons Safari Co, includes airstrip levy, pickup/dropoff.





BOOKING/PAYMENT METHOD/TAXES

All rates are subject to 18% sales taxes. Payment can be made in cash or by credit card online at no additional charge. If paying by cash on arrival, advance deposit is required to reserve booking. <https://www.bakersafari.co/booking/>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION INSURANCE

Baker & Sons Safari Co. offers emergency evacuation insurance, provided through AMREF FLYING DOCTORS (<https://flydoc.org>). **For \$25/guest we purchase insurance on your behalf and in case of emergency.** Coverage includes air ambulance services, dispatched from Nairobi airport to Selous Mtemere airstrip, a fifteen-minute drive from our lodge. Paramedics are on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year. First-aid attention is given to the patient and coverage extends up until arrival at a hospital in Dar Es Salaam or Nairobi, at which time your own international medical insurance takes over for further care.

LODGE DESCRIPTION/AMENITIES/SECURITY

Baker & Sons Safari Lodge combines rustic charm and location with comfort, conveniences, and safety. Each room has an en-suite private bathroom, including shower with hot water. The rooms are equipped with power sockets for charging cameras and laptops (230V), as well as powering fans for the warmer evenings. All of our power and hot water is solar generated. We have a borehole well and a water tower with a 5000L tank feeding all the cottages and guest kitchen by gravity. We are the only safari operation in the Selous to offer the 'self-catering' food option to guests. Our various dining and sitting areas leverage the stunning views and sunsets of our best feature on the property, the Rufiji River. At Baker & Sons we take guest security very seriously. We have Maasai guards working throughout the night for your safety. We are so sure of our security measures, that our owner – a Canadian and his wife, live part of the year at the lodge with their young children. We are a family friendly, family operated safari business. We believe in reducing costs for families where we can, and inspiring young eyes with God's mighty creation so clearly evident in our African backyard. We invite you to join us, and discover a land that we too discovered and put our name behind it. ***For our family to yours, welcome to Baker & Sons Safari, along the mighty Rufiji at the Great Selous, Tanzania, East Africa.***

CONTACT US AT BOOKING@BAKERSAFARI.CO TO PLAN YOUR SAFARI WITH US.

BAKER & SONS SAFARI COMPANY
GREAT SELOUS, TANZANIA, EAST AFRICA
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