

LAKE VICTORIA TOURISM ASSOCIATION KENYA

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SHORT SAFARIS AND EXCURSIONS

#### FOR DELEGATES ATTENDING THE HOMABAY INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

Valid: Pre conference, During the Conference & after the Conference.

# 1. RUMA NATIONAL PARK & LAKE SIMBI COMBINED

#### Christened "Dramatic Valley of the Roan Antelope and Oribi"

A mosaic of landscapes, ranging from riverine woodland and rolling savannah to magnificent escarpments and towering cliffs, Ruma National Park promises undiscovered wildlife treasures and undisturbed peace. It is also Kenya's last remaining sanctuary for the endangered roan antelope. Ruma lies on the flat floor of the seasonally watered Lambwe River Valley bordered by the Kanyamwa Escarpment to the South-East, and by the volcanic plugs of the Ruri Hills to the north. Ruma's birdlife is exceptional. The park is also the only protected area in Kenya where the globally threatened blue swallow, a scarce intra-African migrant, is regularly recorded. Blue swallows, which depend upon moist grassland for both feeding and roosting, arrive in Kenya from their breeding grounds in Southern Tanzania around April and depart again in September.

#### Climate

The Park has a humid climate, the long rains falling April-June and the short rains falling October-December

# Attractions

The Last Refuge of the Roan Antelope

One of Africas' rarest antelopes and the third largest of Kenya's antelopes, the roan (or Korongo as it is known in Swahili) is a large, grey rufous antelope with a distinctive black and white face, not unlike a tribal mask. Roans live in herds of up to 20 members, led by a bull.

# The Oribi Antelope

The small and graceful oribi antelope (known as Taya in Swahili) has a conspicuous bare black glandular patch below the ears, a short black-tipped tail and black knee tufts. Living in strongly bonded pairs or small groups, oribi inhabit grassland and dense undergrowth.

#### Realm of rare birds

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# b). LAKE SIMBI NATIONAL SANCTUARY

# "For the Bird Lovers"

Located close to Kendu Bay town, Lake Simbi is a tiny Crater Lake measuring about one kilometer in radius. Both Lake Simbi and adjacent Odango sites support a substantial bird population that includes flamingos, little grebes, little egrets and Egyptian geese, making it a haven for bird watchers.

# Transport to and from the destination:

Pick up / Drop off	Land Cruiser	Mini Van	Maximum No
Homabay / Migori / Kisumu			08 Pax

All Rates are negotiable\*\*\*

# **Ruma National Park entry Fees**

Citizen Resident		Non Resident			
Adults	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
Ksh	Ksh	Ksh	Ksh	USD	USD
300	125	300	125	22	13

\* Pay for your entry to any of our Parks or Reserves via E-citizen government platform

# 2. HOT SPRINGS & HOMA HILLS COMBINED

ABUNDU HOT SPRINGS are located in Homa Hills within Homa Bay County. It's just one kilometers from the shores of Lake Victoria. It's a beautiful place with super-heated salty water. When visiting this site remember to carry eggs that you can boil in the hot spring.

Homa Hills is an affordable and rewarding experience within Homabay County with breathtaking views of the Lake Victoria. While atop these hills, the breeze is refreshing. The shrub and bush is thick but filled with birds. It is a quiet and serene little town with a sparse population but beautiful and memorable terrain.

# Transport to and from the destination:

Pick up / Drop off	Land Cruiser	Mini Van	Maximum No
Homabay / Migori / Kisumu			08 Pax

All rates are negotiable\*\*\*

# Rusinga Island"

Located within Homabay County, Rusinga is a small island on Lake Victoria, accessed by Road Bridge from Mbita on the main land. The island is approximately 16km long by 5km wide and is a great place to chill out and experience the laid back local life.

With stunning views, spectacular sites to behold, glaring sunsets and shimmering waters, and the Rusinga Island offers all that and more making it the perfect destination for holidaying and winding down.

Located in Lake Victoria, which is in the southwestern part of Kenya, the island is about 16 km long.

By visiting the island, revelers get the rare chance to be away from the hustle and bustle of urban life and enjoy the serenity and splendid views.

The area is largely dominated by the Luo and Abasuba communities, which are subgroups of the river lake nilotes who settled in the area from Uganda.

Visiting the isle will give you the chance to interact with their epic culture, which is quite intriguing, to say the least.

However, travelling by road will give you the chance to sightsee along the way, especially if you make stopovers.

For the history fanatics, this is just the perfect stop for you. The Tom Mboya Mausoleum was erected to celebrate one of the most outstanding and prominent figures in the history of Kenya.

Tom Mboya's works before and after colonialism are greatly recognized, and this monument was set up as a remembrance.

Guards who are well versed in history will take you through segments of his life from birth in 1930, through his various achievements up to his death in 1969.

Still on that historic note, the island is largely a historic site, seeing that fossils of early man were discovered there.

Remains dating back thousands of years have been discovered by Mary and Louis Leaky, among other archaeologists. Tourists come from far and wide to get acquainted with these historical facts.

#### Transport to and from the destination:

Pick up / Drop off	Land Cruiser	Mini Van	Maximum No
Homabay / Migori / Kisumu			08 Pax

All Rates are Negotiable\*\*\*

While at Mbita Point or Rusinga Island, there is high possibility of extending the visit to the two small and attractive islands of Takawiri and Mfangano which can both be accessed by use of public passenger transport in form of water bus or private motor boats.

# **TAKAWIRI ISLAND**

Takawiri is a unique island on Lake Victoria, approximately 15 kilometers from the mainland. The white sandy beach is beyond compare. The Resort has been refurbished and is now operational. Mosquitos don't breed at Takawiri Island. Takawiri pride themselves in one of the best stocked bars in Western Kenya along with an innovative kitchen that prepares delicious dishes from the fresh catch of the day to classic continental, Indian

and local kitchen. Whether all you want to do is enjoy the sun, chill with a cocktail on the beach, swim or take a walk to the fishing village - Takawiri staff will be there for you, and a perfect ending for a perfect day is to enjoy a stunning sunset accompanied with chilled sundowners

# **MFANGANO ISLAND**

The Island lies in the eastern part of Lake Victoria, at the mouth of the Winam Gulf. Part of Kenya, it lies west of Rusinga Island. The island is 65 km2 in area and rises to 1,694 m at Mount Kwitutu. It had a population of 16,282 at the 1999 census. Administratively, Mfangano is part of Homa Bay County.

The island is home to the largest population of Olusuba or Suba people language speakers in Kenya. Olusuba is becoming rarer, in part because of intermarriage between Suba men and Luo women from the mainland, as it is traditional for children to learn the "mother tongue", that is, the language of their mother. Other languages spoken on the island include Luo, Swahili, and English. Members of the Luo tribe are concentrated on the eastern side of the island, most of whom are fishermen and subsistence farmers. Some of the inhabitants of Mfangano are believed to be descendants of emigrants from the Buganda kingdom in Uganda who arrived after the controversial early nineteenth century killing of the kabaka juju.

Reservations and bookings can be done through the Associations Secretariat as the central communication point for prompt coordination and allocation of safari vehicles through the following contact details:

Email Address:

- 1. info@lvtakenya.org with a copy to ceo@lvtakenya.org
- 2. Tel: + 254 723 423 129 / + 254 726 774 304