

# Amara Selous

## 'Bush Times'

### Bush News

- Our pack of dogs are back
- Tell tale signs of the elusive rhino
- Our lioness is mating again
- Fabulous birding experiences
- The rains arrived albeit not enough received yet



### Amara Updates

- Attending ITB Berlin this year, on the Tanzania Stand
- Have taken on a Representative overseas for marketing purposes and to ease communications
- Rates for 2011 released with special offers
- Intense in-house guide training and refresher course completed
- Great Trip Advisor reviews updated
- Valentines Special Offer



Travel saying  
'A good traveler is one who does not know where he is going to, and a perfect traveler does not know where he came from.'

Lin Yutang

Drum Beat No 2

January, 2011

### Amara Selous

Happy new year to everyone and wishing you a year filled with success, fun, happiness, good health and safe travels.

The new year has come so quickly for us all having enjoyed a fabulous Christmas in the Selous. Lots of new friends made whilst sipping cocktails and sundowners along the river's edge and thrilling encounters with mating lions and wild dogs—moments that will live with our guests and our guides for months to come.

It was very sad to say 'Kwaheri ya kuonana' to our friends over Christmas and New Year but as the swahilli translations means 'bye till we meet again' we in turn await their return to our Selous.

With that said, January has come and gone and we are already into February with just 2 months to go before we close down for the rainy season. There is lots to do in the coming months and the season ahead is looking great so we look forward to making yet more friends and welcoming them to the Amara Family.

Whilst the season goes on work never stops as we are always looking to improve not only the property, but our understanding of the wildlife activities in the area in a effort to be able to provide our guests with the wilderness experience that is typified by the Selous. We have recently re-done our front entrance and as you can see from

the pictures below it has already been given a seal of approval by 'George'. Our lounge area has received some beautiful pieces to admire and some great coffee table books to enjoy. For those that want to relax and enjoy some games have been added so one can test the mind.

Our communications systems has been fully revamped thus ensuring that whether you are on the boat, in our vehicles, on a walk or in your rooms we can always be in contact and ensure that memorable game viewing opportunities are never missed. Our vehicles have fridges and charging facilities ensuring that you never have to worry about flat batteries !!



### GUIDES SHORT DIARY



Isaiah

\*Game drive with lovely guests. Saw a variety of birds and wildlife including a martial eagle, a bateleur, saddle bill stork, herons, king fishers, bee eaters etc as well as impala, wart-hog, giraffe and ended with a lioness and crocodiles at sun-downer.

\*Early game drive, went up the ridge we call small Serengeti, on the way we watched birds, some getting their early b'fast and others perching and singing. Before we got there we spotted a herd of kudu, 2 males with big trophies and 3 females and 1 young one. As we sat there with the engine switched off, watching - all of a sudden we were all startled with a close range hyena call just

a few meters from us , they were 2 of them trying their luck going after the kudus.

\*Walking safari: we took off slowly with a guided nature walk learning stuff that's normally not experienced during drives e.g.. footprints, identifying animal dung's, trees identification and their myths plus medicinal properties etc. After the walk we had picnic b'fast then decided to do

## Recent Guest Comments

What a fantastic time we had thanks to Anita, Peter, Phillip, the staff and of course the leopard which joined Santiago for morning coffee. Thanks to your extensive knowledge and generous hospitality, we have now been officially 'bitten' by the safari bug. Thank you for this incredible experience.

*Inez & Santiago Nov 2010*

Dear Amara team, thank you so much for your warmth, hospitality and unending generosity while we were at the camp. We had such a relaxing time and wished we weren't going back to the cold weather. We also enjoyed the many conversations we had with you! One of our favorite parts of our stay was the dinner with the hippos and crocs!! whilst enjoying a wonderful meal under the African sky!! What a memorable dinner that was. We will always carry fond memories in our hearts when we think of this trip and our stay at Amara. Thanks you!!

*Leigh & Zahra - Dec 2010*

Thank you for such a wonderful stay! We enjoyed every moment of it and thank you for the generosity and understanding you showed to 'hop along Cassidy'. We had a fabulous time. The bush dinner and the lions were a fabulous end to our stay. Thank you so much to you all, you were all so kind, helpful and welcoming.

*The Leitner family - Dubai*

Thank you very much for a wonderful 5 days, truly an amazing destination and if i would transfer your pool to London I would!! Sadly back to London & winter. I will miss Amara and dream of the day I can visit again. Many thanks for making me feel @ home. A truly great team.

*John - Jan 2011*

It is like a paradise here, African paradise in a lovely property with lovely people and managers; congratulations

*Philipe Jan 2011*



The Amara Collection  
P.O. Box 2763, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
E:- info@amara-tanzania.com  
W:- www.amara-tanzania.com  
M:- +255784747265  
Facebook:- Amara Selous  
Twitter:- AmaraCollection  
Skype:- veronicaotter

## Amara Selous

*'endless dreams that awaken your soul'*

another game drive on our way back. That's when unexpected adventures began, under a shrub we spotted lions (a male and female) and we later saw them mating. After a while we enjoyed zebras and gnus. Two kilometers from camp we were greeted by a pack of wild dogs, 11 in number, enjoying their mud bath, after a few minutes we found out the alpha pair were mating—what a walk that was.

Philip (Zimbabwe guide) - came back from an afternoon drive having enjoyed mating dogs and hungry elephants. Dropped off guests and headed to guide camp. On way, dusk breaking heard the lions calling so went in search. Found 3 lions by the roadside near staff camp so radioed camp to get the guests out of the pool and into the game drive vehicle with Isaiiah. Enjoyed over an hour with them lazing by the road. What an amazing experience.

Our guides update their books regularly and we are delighted to offer the option of contacting them directly at Amara Selous for updates and information should you so require. Their contact email is selous@amara-tanzania.com—not to mention that we welcome agents and guests alike to speak directly with our managers on Skype via manager-selous-Simbazi.

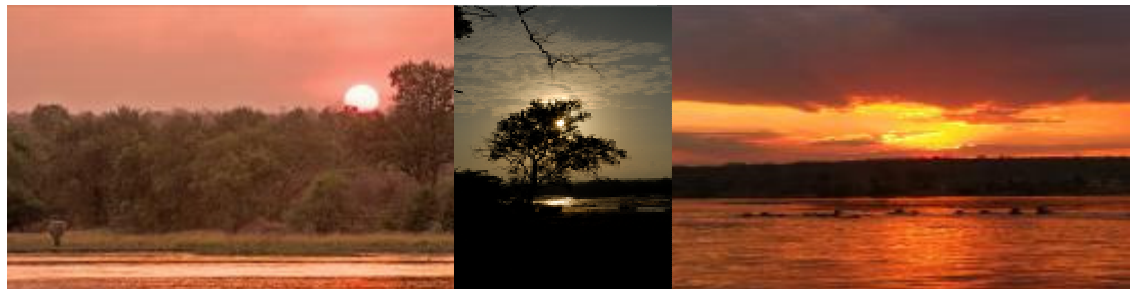
Peter and Anita over the last few months have perfected our bush dinners offering our guests a memorable experience of dining under the stars. Whilst we still offer a variety of locations for meals, the riverside dinners and our bush dinners remain very much in our recent guests top experiences. So any of you that are planning on joining us in the near future you can look forward

to this and so much more. Our waste water treatment plant, solar showers and power continues to leave minimal impact on the envi-



ronment—something we are most proud of. Although we offer power 24hrs a day, with our state of art inverter system, we still continue to minimize our use of our generators to charge the batteries. The system works exceedingly well and its amazing just how much our guests appreciate this investment.

For the beginning of the new season in June, we shall receive a new vehicle to add to our existing fleet so as to further the personalized service for which we have become so well known for.



**Breaking news**—We are delighted to have joined hands with Theresa of highlife marketing—[www.highlifemarketing.com](http://www.highlifemarketing.com) to represent us overseas in our promotion of Amara Selous. We are confident that this will give our guests and our agents fantastic,

hands on & affordable options to promote sales to the Selous. Although the reservations will remain in Tanzania and the option to communicate directly to us is there, we hope that this will increase the personalized service that you presently enjoy with us.

Well it looks like I am running out of space so let me leave you with a few recent guest pictures and if you have any from your stay please send them through to me and I would be delighted to add them to our website and in our next newsletter.



Well that's it from us all at Amara, here's wishing you all a great 2011 and to working with you this season and catching up at the trade fairs and better still, at Amara Selous itself

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