

Ikuka Safari
Camp

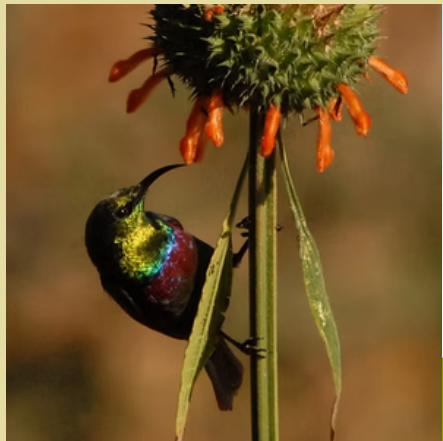


RUAHA BIRDING SAFARIS 2025 / 2026

The birdlife in Ruaha NP is good year-round with over **574 bird species** recognised in the Park. Birding is however at its best from November to April (Green Season) when **Palaearctic** and **intra-African** migrants are present. During this time, many resident bird species are nesting and are in breeding plumage. Not to mention the blooms of butterflies and wild flowers that fill the landscape!



CARDINAL QUELEA



SCARLET CHEST SUNBIRD



VIOLET BACKED STARLING



RUAHA HORNBILL

At Ikuka we can offer 2 types of birding trips, exclusive use set departure group birding safaris or privately guided bespoke birding trips for couples or families. Our guides are expertly training on the birds of Ruaha and all have a real passion for them. We also work with an excellent local guide based in Iringa called **Mlawila Leons** (Instagram [HERE](#)) who has grown up alongside Ruaha NP and is considered to be the very best birding expert in the region.

Our vehicles are perfectly designed to welcome photographers on safari with plenty of space. We have a range of vehicle sizes to accommodate different sizes of groups allowing for space for cameras etc. We also provide beanbags and all the usual safari comforts to ensure you get the most from your safari.

During our Green Season (Jan-March) we can offer special rates and a 3 for 2 or 4 for 3 offer which makes a stay at Ikuka even more affordable.

RUAHA RED BILLED HORNBILL

In 1997 artists and long term Ruaha experts **Robert Glen** and **Sue Stolberger** discovered a new species of hornbill which was endemic to Ruaha. The Ruaha hornbill or Red Billed hornbill is recognisable particularly due to its small size, bold plumage and striking orange/yellow eyes. We always enjoy spotting them and so we decided to use it as our logo at Ikuka!





Our Guides

The owner of Ikuka, Mark Sheridan-Johnson, is himself a highly regarded safari guide and as such Ikuka recognise the importance of how the right expert can transform a safari experience. At Ikuka we have 3 expert in-house birding guides and we bring in local specialist birder Mlawila Leons from Iringa. Mlawila has studied the birds of Ruaha since he was a child. He also trains safari guides within Ruaha NP and contributes to important research projects.

Birding Specials—Treats for Avid Birders

(E) endemic = only lives in Tanzania

- Amur falcon
- Ashy starling (E)
- Brown parrot
- Buff-crested bustard
- Collared palm-thrush
- Dusky turtle dove
- D'Arnaud's barbet
- Emerald-spotted wood dove
- Goliath heron
- Long-crested eagle
- Ruaha chat
- Southern ground hornbill
- Tanzanian red-billed hornbill (E)
- White-bellied bustard
- White-bellied go-away bird
- Yellow-collared lovebird
- Verreaux's eagle

