



Pictus Safaris Trip Report – Mozambique & Malawi, 2022

Abstract

Pictus Safaris welcomed three guests to Mozambique and Malawi in August 2022 on a tour taking in some of our favourite areas in both countries. This tour was to focus on both the wildlife in these areas, but also the culture, art and architecture in these destinations, so we believe a more targeted tour would result in an extended mammal list for future visitors, not least as bats and rodents were largely ignored throughout. This being said, the itinerary taking in Gorongosa, Bazaruto and Majete was a real success, recording some excellent species.

Gorongosa was the highlight, offering stunning scenery and the ever-remarkable sight of thousands of waterbuck on the Urema floodplains. Bushpig, Mozambique dwarf galago and the newly-released spotted hyena were easily seen here. Bazaruto was in superb form despite very high winds during our visit, with boat trips recording a lone dugong, as well as Indian Ocean humpback dolphin and Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphin. Majete was surprisingly productive, with sightings of Meller's mongoose, cheetah and African wild dog. The only major misses when it came to target species were black rhino and leopard, but it was overall a productive few weeks which showcase just how rapidly Malawi and Mozambique are becoming leading safari destinations.

At a Glance

Dates	August 9 th – August 26 th , 2022
Number of Clients	3
Countries Visited	Mozambique, Malawi
Key Target(s)	'Big Five', Dugong, African Wild Dog, Cheetah
Total Mammal Species Recorded	46



Pictus Safaris

Itinerary

Day	Destination	Accommodation
August 9 th – August 10 th , 2022	Maputo, Mozambique	Hotel Cardoso
August 11 th – August 14 th , 2022	Gorongosa NP, Mozambique	Gorongosa Wild Camp
August 15 th – August 18 th , 2022	Bazaruto Archipelago, Mozambique	Eden Bay EcoLodge
August 19 th , 2022	Maputo, Mozambique	Hotel Cardoso
August 20 th , 2022	Zomba Plateau, Malawi	Zomba Forest Lodge
August 21 st – August 23 rd , 2022	Majete WR, Malawi	Thawale Lodge
August 24 th – August 25 th , 2022	Lilongwe, Malawi	Woodlands Lodge
August 26 th , 2022	Tour End	N/A

Mammal List – 46 species

Species	Scientific Name	Location(s)*
Carnivora – 12 species		
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	MWR
African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	GNP, MWR
Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	GNP, MWR
Miombo Genet	<i>Genetta angolensis</i>	MWR
Large-Spotted Genet	<i>Genetta maculata</i>	GNP
Common Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	MWR
White-Tailed Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>	GNP
Side-Striped Jackal	<i>Lupelella adusta</i>	MWR
African Wild Dog	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>	MWR
Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	MWR
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	GNP, MWR
Meller's Mongoose	<i>Rhynchogale melleri</i>	MWR
Cetartiodactyla – 22 species		
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	GNP, MWR
Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>	GNP, MWR
Common Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	GNP
Southern Giraffe	<i>Giraffa giraffa</i>	MWR
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	GNP, MWR
Sable Antelope	<i>Hippotragus niger</i>	GNP, MWR
Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	GNP, MWR
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	BA
Suni	<i>Nesotragus moschatus</i>	MWR
Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>	GNP
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	GNP, MWR
Bushpig	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>	GNP
Sharpe's Grysbok	<i>Raphicerus sharpei</i>	MWR
Southern Reedbuck	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	GNP
Indian Ocean Humpback Dolphin	<i>Sousa plumbea</i>	BA
Spinner Dolphin	<i>Stenella longirostris</i>	BA
African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	GNP, MWR



Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>	GNP, MWR
Common Eland	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>	GNP
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	GNP, MWR
Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	GNP, MWR
Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>	BA
Lagomorpha – 1 species		
African Savanna Hare	<i>Lepus victoriae</i>	GNP
Macroscelidae – 1 species		
Four-Toed Sengi	<i>Petrodromus tetradactylus</i>	MWR
Perissodactyla – 1 species		
Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	GNP, MWR
Primates – 5 species		
Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	GNP, MWR
Southern Lesser Galago	<i>Galago moholi</i>	MWR
Yellow Baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>	MWR
Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	GNP
Mozambique Dwarf Galago	<i>Paragalago granti</i>	GNP
Proboscidea – 1 species		
African Bush Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	GNP, MWR
Rodentia – 2 species		
Cape Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>	GNP
Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	GNP
Sirenia – 1 species		
Dugong	<i>Dugong dugon</i>	BA

*GNP – Gorongosa NP, BA – Bazaruto Archipelago, MWR – Majete Wildlife Reserve

Contact Details

Pictus Safaris can be contacted by email at contact@pictus-safaris.com or via our website at www.pictus-safaris.com. We are a tour operator specialising in small-group and private departures across Africa, with a focus on rare and elusive wildlife.

Our destinations in the remainder of 2022, and 2023, include Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal and South Africa. Spaces remain on small group tours to several of these destinations, and we are able to offer private wildlife-focussed tours to over thirty African countries.