



Camp FlyCastaway - Lake Nyerere

Photos and video:

- Exploratory video clips: <https://tinyurl.com/5xfdrzz>
- Scenic & fishing images: <https://tinyurl.com/me8ecxuf>
- Site & infrastructure images: <https://tinyurl.com/yknsjuzw>

Discover Africa's Newest Fly Fishing Frontier

Hidden deep within the untamed wilderness of southern Tanzania, a completely new fly fishing destination is about to emerge. Surrounded by one of Africa's largest protected wilderness areas, this mouth watering Tigerfish destination combines world class angling within a true African safari experience.

Preparations are well underway to launch our initial season starting July 2027, where guests will have the rare opportunity to experience a fishery that remains completely unspoilt. Operating from an upmarket east African style tented camp on the lake's northwestern shoreline, just a few kilometres from where the Great Ruaha River enters the lake, this is far more than a fishing trip — it's an invitation to be among the first to discover the extraordinary potential of Africa's newest wilderness fisheries.

The History of Lake Nyerere

Lake Nyerere is one of Africa's newest freshwater lakes, formed following the completion of the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project in 2024. Created by the impoundment of the Rufiji River downstream of its confluence with the Great Ruaha River, the reservoir now stretches across approximately 1,200 km² of southern Tanzania. Fed primarily by the Great Ruaha and Rufiji rivers, the lake has transformed the surrounding landscape, creating an extensive network of new aquatic habitats within one of Africa's largest protected wilderness areas.

Initial Fishing Exploration

Before our first exploratory visit, all the signs suggested that Lake Nyerere had the potential to become something truly special. Having now experienced the fishery first-hand, we are more convinced than ever that it is destined to become one of the world's premier freshwater fly-fishing destinations.

Despite our pre-tour skepticism given the number of disappointing exploratories our team has experienced over the years, the results exceeded even our highest expectations. We landed remarkable numbers of Tigerfish weighing between 6 and 16.5 lb, while regularly encountering and seeing fish in the

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20 lbs range. Throughout the trip we witnessed spectacular feeding frenzies as tigerfish drove shoals of baitfish to the surface, fish repeatedly attacked our boat propellers, and it was not uncommon to see larger tigerfish feeding on smaller members of their own species. The sheer abundance of life and the lack of fear from the fish towards anything manmade was extraordinary.

In many ways, the experience transported us back to our very first exploratory trips to the remote Outer Atolls of the Seychelles in the early 2000s. There was the same feeling of venturing into an untouched wilderness, where nature continues to operate exactly as it has done for centuries before. Every day on the water revealed something new and exciting, leaving us with aching arms, sore hands, broad smiles and a burning desire to stay longer—the unmistakable signs of a resource which offers exceptional fly fishing.

A massive plus on top of an unpressured fishery was the water clarity. Traditionally, many of Africa's renowned tigerfish rivers carry significant amounts of suspended sand and sediment, often limiting visibility even during the driest months. Lake Nyerere is different. As the Great Ruaha and Rufiji Rivers enter the vast reservoir, the flow slows dramatically, allowing much of this suspended sediment to settle before reaching the main body of the lake.

For the fly angler, the implications are enormous. The clear water provides confidence that fish can locate and track a fly far more effectively, while also creating thrilling opportunities to sight-fish actively hunting tigerfish and watch explosive takes unfold right before your eyes. It is an experience unlike any other tigerfish destination we have encountered and one that we believe will redefine freshwater fly fishing in Africa.

The Fish

The Tanzanian tigerfish (*Hydrocynus tanzaniae*) is one of Africa's most exhilarating freshwater game fish and a formidable opponent on fly tackle. Renowned for its large size, blistering acceleration, explosive strikes and powerful, line-stripping runs, it tests both skill and tackle from the moment the fly is eaten. Armed with razor-sharp teeth and an aggressive predatory instinct, every encounter is unpredictable and unforgettable. It's for these reasons that they are considered the ultimate freshwater game fish.

Style of Fishing

Although the fishery and the most successful tactics are still certainly in their infancy, casting Type 3 to 300grain sinking lines with large streamers on 9wt outfits from boats whilst prospecting timber and rocky shelves provided the most consistent results. We did however also experience some jaw dropping surface action where a second 9wt outfit loaded with floating lines and surface flies came into its own. A comprehensive and non biased tackle and gear list, along with an order form will be sent to guests once their booking is confirmed.

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The Boats

The lodge will run a fleet of six x 18 ft aluminum boats, fitted with 70hp horsepower four-stroke outboards.

Expected Fishing Day

Tigerfish are particularly active hunters during low light conditions. As such early mornings are a norm, with guests typically up around 6am to enjoy some coffee and light snack, before heading out for the morning session. Depending on the area of the lake the guide wants to cover, lunch will either be enjoyed back at the lodge or out on the water. The afternoon sessions are typically productive as well, with guests typically back at the lodge by 6pm depending on the light.

The Camp

Construction of an East African style tented safari camp is currently underway and will be completed well in time before 1 July 2027. Guests will enjoy single accommodation in ten up market canvas tents built on raised timber decks, each featuring an en-suite bathroom with a flush toilet and hot-water shower. Designed to blend seamlessly into the surrounding wilderness, the camp will provide guests with comfortable, well-appointed accommodation while retaining the authentic atmosphere of a classic African safari experience. In addition there will be one extra spacious and luxurious presidential tent for those looking to spoil themselves.

- 10 x Standard Tents: Classical style safari tent units, a very spacious 8 m × 4.5 m interior opens onto a 2.4 × 5 m private deck overlooking the lake. All units feature en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin, while the sleeping area offers a luxurious king-size bed that can be converted into two single beds. A side table and chair, dressing table, and spacious cupboard.
- 1 x Presidential Unit: The Presidential Unit offers an 8.2 m × 4 m interior set on a spacious 8.2 m × 8.2 m deck. Designed as a permanent structure rather than a canvas tent, it features elegant finishes, raised deck, insulated walls with air conditioning. Double-glazed windows and sliding doors provide enhanced thermal insulation and help reduce external noise for a quieter, more comfortable stay. The en-suite bathroom includes a bath, shower, toilet and basin, complemented by a private outdoor shower. The unit is furnished with a king-size bed that can be converted into two single beds, as well as a side table and chair, a dressing table, and a cupboard with a hanging rail for convenient storage of clothing and luggage.

At the heart of the camp will be a spacious and luxuriously appointed central tent, housing an inviting lounge, fully stocked bar and elegant dining area. Overlooking the waters of Lake Nyerere, this welcoming communal space will provide the perfect setting to relax with a drink after a day on the

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water, share stories around the table over good quality meals, or simply unwind while taking in the sights and sounds of the African bush.

Wilderness & Wildlife

Set within the vast wilderness of **Julius Nyerere National Park**, one of Africa's largest protected wilderness areas, Lake Nyerere offers far more than exceptional fly fishing. Each day on the water unfolds against a backdrop of unspoilt African bush, where game wanders the shoreline in the less densely vegetated areas, hippos and crocodiles inhabit the lake's margins, and Fish Eagles call overhead. The surrounding ecosystem supports an extraordinary diversity of wildlife, including lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo, zebra, sable and the elusive African wild dog. Whether casting to Tigerfish or enjoying a sunset over one of Africa's most iconic national parks, every moment is immersed in one of Africa's last great wilderness landscapes. Although not currently set up for a full on safari experience at this stage, guests will have the opportunity to enjoy a game drive or two should they be willing to miss a fishing session. Although the necessary safety precautions are in place, it is important for guests to note the camp is not fenced and four of Africa's Big Five are present.

Getting There/Travel

Guests are requested to fly into Dar es Salaam, Tanzania the day prior the start date of the trip. We can personally recommend two hotel options for your pre and any post trip stays. The Blue Sapphire Hotel is where we stayed personally. Nothing fancy but affordable, it is situated very close to the airport and has an onsite restaurant with decent meals and plenty of cold beers. For something more upmarket, guests can look at staying at the Sea Cliff Hotel further away from the airport. It does however require quite a drive and the traffic in Dar es Salaam is often fairly intense. The following morning our group will be transferred from the Blue Sapphire back to the Julius Nyerere International Airport (DAR) to catch a +/-1 hour charter flight onboard a Cessna 2028 Caravan to a well maintained dirt landing strip situated 13km from the lodge. Once on the ground, the group will be transferred by road to the camp, the drive typically taking 30-45 mins through some of Africa's most pristine wilderness. Once in camp guests will settle into the lodge, enjoy some lunch and then receive a briefing and tackle set up by our team of highly experienced FlyCastaway guides. The rest of the day will be spent relaxing in camp.

Itinerary:

- Tues: Arrive at the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar Es Salaam (DAR) and overnight at your preferred hotel (hotel and transfers not included in package price)
- Wed (Start date of the trip): Group needs to meet at the Julius Nyerere International Airport, followed by +/-1 hour charter flight onboard Cessna 208 Caravan, followed by a 45min road to transfer to camp (13km).
- Thurs: Fishing Day 1

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- Fri: Fishing Day 2
- Sat: Fishing Day 3
- Sun: Fishing Day 4
- Mon: Fishing Day 5
- Tues: Fishing Day 6
- Wed (End date of the trip): An early morning road transfer back to the landing strip, followed by charter flight back to Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam (DAR) and then road transfer back to the Blu Sapphire Hotel (any post trip accommodation in Dar is not included)

Rates 2027:

- USD\$10 000 pps ex Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (single tent and shared fishing)
- USD\$15 000 pps ex Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (single tent and single fishing)
- USD\$16 000 pps ex Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (single presidential tent and shared fishing - only one presidential tent available)
- USD\$21 000 pps ex Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (single presidential tent and single fishing - only one tent available)

Includes:

- Return charter flights & road transfers into and out of camp
- 7 nights single room accommodation
- All meals, soft drinks & local beers
- 6 fishing days (2 guests to 1 guide & boat)
- Game drives are available should guests wish to forfeit a fishing session and rather experience the wildlife
- Tanzania National Parks fees of USD\$1270pp
- Global Rescue Medivac Insurance Cover

Exclusions

- International flights to and from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Meals and accommodation in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Ground transfers in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Gratuities for guides and lodge staff (although gratuities are purely discretionary, standard sharing guests can expect to pay USD\$700 - \$1000 each for guides and USD\$300 - \$500 for lodge staff)
- Medical Insurance & Travel insurance
- Tackle & flies
- Spirits and wine

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Having travelled and fished all over the world, the opportunity to set up a new operation on a completely unspoilt fishery which is completely protected seems almost dreamlike. In truth we did not believe something like this still existed, but we can assure you Lake Nyerere is the real deal and we cannot wait to share it with the greater fly fishing community!

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