

## **Tsavo Battlefield Itineraries**

### **OPTION 1**

#### **5 day 4 night Tsavo Battlefield Tour – ex Mombasa**

##### **Lodges**

Severine Safari Camp  
Ngulia Lodge  
Grogans Castle  
Voyager Ziواني Camp

**Day 1** – Depart early morning with picnic lunch from coast hotel

Visit Samburu railway Station  
Voi CWGC Cemetery  
Tsavo Railway Station  
Mzima Springs

Overnight Severine Safari Camp

**Day 2** - After early breakfast depart with picnic lunch from Severin

Visit Fort Mzima  
Crater Fort  
Kichwa Tembo Fort

Overnight Ngulia Lodge

**Day 3** – After early breakfast depart with picnic lunch from Ngulia

Visit Maktau CWGC Indian Memorial  
Mbuyuni  
Salaita Hill  
The Snipers Baobab

Overnight at Grogans Castle

##### **Day 4**

Morning game drive to Lake Jipe

Lunch at Grogans

Visit Mahoo

Taveta CWGC European Cemetery  
Indian Cemetery

Former Taveta Police Station

Overnight at Voyager Ziواني Camp

**Day 5** After early breakfast depart with picnic lunch from Voyager Ziواني Camp visit

Serengeti  
Mbuyuni  
Maktau CWGC Indian Memorial  
Mashoti Fort

Safari Terminates in Mombasa

Overnight Mombasa Hotel



**Voi War Cemetery was set aside for the burial of soldiers who died during the First World War**



**British Gun Encampments can still be seen on the site on the Maktau hill. This was a very strategic point for the British army during**

Tariffs,

Group size	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons
In USD	6,315	8,080	9,945	11,760	13,575	15,390

N/B; one person USD 6,315,

Two persons USD 8,075 =4,040 each.

Three persons USD 9,945=3,315 each

Four persons USD 11,760=2,940 each

Five persons USD 13,575=2,715 each

Six persons USD 15,390=2,565 each

These includes;

1. Transfer to and from airport
2. Accommodation
3. All park entrance fees
4. Lunch packets
5. Guiding fee
6. Game drive



## Tsavo Battlefield Itinerary No 2

### OPTION 2

**6 nights 7days Tsavo Battlefield Tour – ex Mombasa**

#### Hotels/Lodges

Royal Castle Hotel

Sai Rock Hotel

Ngulia Lodge

Severin safari Camp

Voyager Ziwani Camp

Grogans Castle

Sarova Salt Lick Lodge

**Day 1** – After breakfast depart with picnic lunch from coast hotel

Visit Voi Commonwealth War Graves Commission  
WW1 Cemetery

Tsavo Railway Station

Overnight at Ngulia Lodge

**Day 2** – Depart early morning with picnic lunch from Ngulia

Visit Kichwa Tembo Fort

Crater Fort

Fort Mzima

Overnight Severin Safari Camp

#### Day 3

Morning Game Drive visiting Mzima Springs, Poachers Look out

After lunch transfer to overnight at Voyager Safari Camp

Lunch at Severine

**Day 4** - Lunch at Grogans

Visit Snipers Baobab tree

Salaia Hill

Afternoon Game Drive Lake Jipe

**Day 5** – Depart with packed Lunch from Grogan Castle.

Visit Mahoo

Taveta CWGC European Cemetery

Former Taveta Police Station

#### Grogan Castle

Built by Colonel Ewart Grogan in  
Taveta



#### Njoro Kubwa Canal

A canal opposite Lumi River in  
Taveta built by Grogan to irrigate  
his farms that produced food for  
the WWI soldiers.

Taveta CWGC Indian Cemetery  
 Latema/Reata Ridge  
 Overnight at Grogans Castle

**Day 6** – packed lunch from Grogans  
 Pass Salaita stopping at  
 Serengeti  
 Mbuyuni  
 Maktau CWGC Indian Memorial  
 Mashoti Fort  
 Overnight at Sarova Salt Lick Lodge

**Day 7** - Pack lunch from Salt Lick



From Mwatate drive via Mt Kasigau join Mombasa Road at Mackinnon Road  
 Visit Samburu Railway Station  
 Safari terminates in Mombasa  
 Overnight in Mombasa Hotel

#### Tariffs

Group size	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons
In USD	8,335	10,810	13,275	15,760	18,225	20,700

N/B; one person USD 8,335

Two persons USD 10,810=5,405 each  
 Three persons USD 13,275=4,425 each  
 Four persons USD 15,760 =3,940 each  
 Five persons USD 18,225 =3,645 each  
 Six persons USD 20,700 =3,450 each

**Mwakitaui Railway Bridge:**  
 It was the target of attacks by the German raiding parties due to its strategic point as a conduit for the British Military supply in the region

These include:

1. Transfer to and from airport.
2. Accommodation
3. All park entrance fees
4. Lunch packets
5. Guiding fee
6. Game drive

#### Additional notes.

- 1/ On the first evening on safari a multimedia presentation 45minues will be made before dinner at 7pm.
- 2/ Every following evening discussions on the days events will be encouraged with an explanation on the following days activities.
- 3/ I would prefer the group to sit together so that we can discuss activities etc
- 4/ There is every possibility to view and photograph wild life not only from the vehicles but also whilst walking to the various sites, an armed Kenya Wild Life Dept Ranger will accompany us where possible.
- 5/ Stout walking shoes or good runners/trainers are necessary  
 Most of the lodges have swimming pools to cool off after a hot day of travelling.
- 6/ Some pre travel reading is necessary in order to get a better feel for the campaign as it unfolded. These are the most recent books on the campaign; some are out of print already.



## **Brief explanation about the sites to be visited**

### **Voi Commonwealth War Graves Commission WW1 Cemetery**

A consolidated cemetery with graves recovered from scattered burial places, mostly after the war and re-interred here. Lt Dartnell VC is buried here. On a Battlefield Tour I like to place a ceremonial wreath on the Cross of Sacrifice.

### **Tsavo Railway Station**

The Main entrance to Tsavo station that virtually unchanged since it was built in the late 1890s. The nearby Tsavo River Bridge was a target that the Germans were continually trying to get to, to blow it up. It was too heavily defended.

### **Kichwa Tembo Fort**

One of the first LoC dry stone wall forts built in September 1914 to prevent the Germans having access to water and therefore not allowing them to use the river route to approach the Uganda Railway. Built on a knoll now fairly well overgrown with wait-a-bit thorn trees and often inhabited by sleeping hippo and buffalo. Is accessible by a rough walk up hill for about 150 meters.

### **Crater Fort**

Built in 1915 inside the crater of an extinct volcanic cinder cone. Difficult to climb as ground is loose cinders on a steep hill with lots of prickly bush, but great views over the Tsavo River Valley, Mt Kilimanjaro and of the Ngulia Mountain range. Lions are fond of catching the breeze and the view their next meal from here. A nice shady picnic lunch point on the Rhodesian Bridge across the Tsavo River.

### **Fort Mzima**

Built whilst under attack by the Germans on a knoll overlooking a bend in the Tsavo River. Extensive impressive trenches and barbed wire entanglements still in place. Relatively easy to approach following a game trail 75 meters off the road through low bush crossing several trenches. Buffalo and hippo like the area.

### **Mzima Springs,**

An amazing fresh water spring in the desert of Tsavo West National Park. Provides water to Mombasa.

### **Poachers Look out**

As the name suggests an easy drive to the summit with extensive views over the Tsavo River and plains. Often used as an observation post alternatively by the British and the Germans.

### **Snipers Baobab tree**

Legend has it that a German woman was holed up in this magnificent Baobab Tree, sniping at British Empire troops as they tried to attack Salaita Hill.

### **Salaita Hill**

The cork in the bottle that had to be taken out before the contents of German East Africa were revealed. Strategically located between the Pare Mountains in the South and Mt Kilimanjaro in the West Salaita was quickly occupied and made into a strong defensive position by the Germans in 1914. attacked three times by the British who were beaten off with heavy loss each time.

### **Mahoo**

Actually a Church Missionary Society mission post that was occupied by the Germans in September 1914 and subsequently fortified by them. Several well preserved trenches can still be seen here,

### **Taveta CWGC European WW1 Cemetery**

Mainly holds the dead from the various attacks made on Salaita and the surrounding area and also from the battle at Latema and Reata Ridges. Also has German war dead. On a Battlefield Tour I like to place a ceremonial wreath on the Cross of Sacrifice.

### **Former Taveta Police Station**

Now on its last legs and desperately in need of restoration. It was from this building that the first shots of the land campaign were fired from signaling the start of the East African Campaign.

### **Taveta CWGC Indian WW1 Cemetery**

A memorial to several Indian soldiers killed during the campaign and buried here.

### **Latema/Reata Ridge**

The last intense fight that took place on British colonial soil as the Germans were pushed back into German East Africa. First major fight for the South African Forces under Gen Smuts. Fro here Smuts removed and replaced most of the British commanders and replaced them with his own from South Africa..

### **Serengeti**

A dummy fort built by the Germans to deceive the British that they were holding the area in force. Became a staging post for the British when attacking Salaita Hill.

### **Mbuyuni**

Started off as a British motor cyclists observation post, taken by the German and well fortified the area with trenches. Attacked by the British and repulsed and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final attack some months later saw the start of a slow German withdrawal from occupied British Territory. Became a vast British camp with hospital, post office theatre etc..

### **Maktau CWGC Indian WW1 Memorial**

CWGC Memorial to several Indian soldiers who were killed when General Malleeson was ambushed by the Germans. Was originally a British cemetery, dead were re interred at Voi.

**Mashoti Fort**

Built by the Loyal North Lancashire Regt in late 1915, trenches and typical regulation design British fort laid out according to the 'book'. Well eroded today but clearly visible and easily accessible.

**Mt Kasigau**

Scene of two big skirmishes between the British and Germans. Germans held the held for several months during which they had easy access to the Uganda Railway

**Samburu Railway Station**

HeadQuarters of the railway Protection Unit under the command of Field Marshal Kitchener's brother who was deployed here after falling out of favour with the British military hierarchy in Nairobi.

**Reference;**

'Guerrillas of Tsavo' by James G Willson, 2012, Self published  
Isbn 978 9966 7570 1 2

'Tip and Run' by Edward Paice 2007, Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
Isbn 13: 9 780297 847090 and 10: 0 297 847090

'The Battle for the Bundu' by Charles Miller, 1974 Macdonald and Jane's  
Isbn 0 356 04915 9

'The Forgotten Front' by Ross Anderson, 2004, Tempus Publishing  
Isbn 0 7524 2344 4

'The battle of Tanga' by Ross Anderson, 2002 Tempus Publishing  
Isbn 0 7524 2349 5

