

# THE adventures&leisure

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## Zanzibar

Tanzania's most  
popular Destination

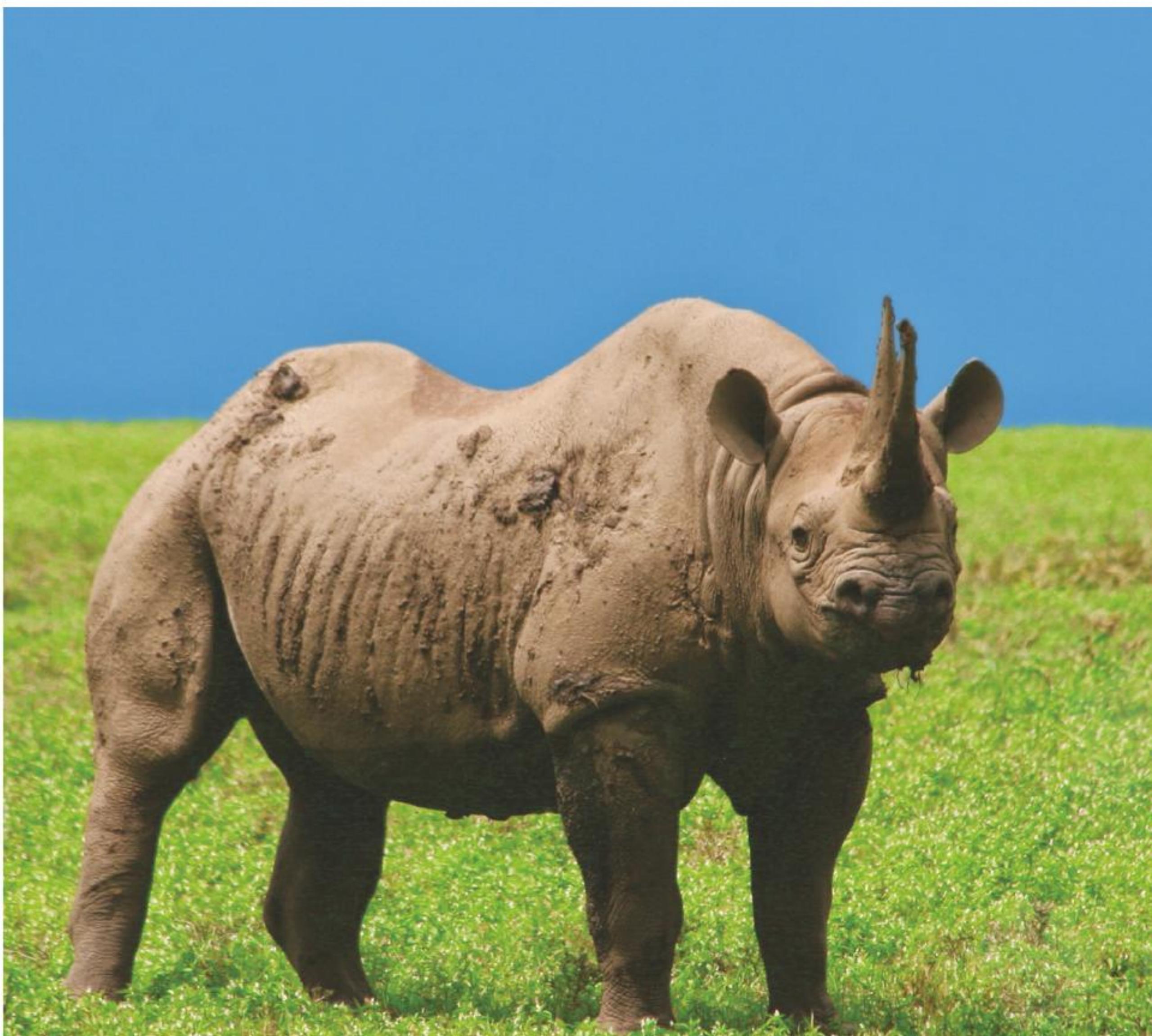


REBUILDING  
**OLDUVAI**  
GORGE SITE MUSEUM

TANZANIA'S  
**LEADING**  
**MATRIACH**  
Vicky Duncan  
Simbeye

*fausta*

AN ICON OF  
CONSERVATION



I have been lucky enough to document a film in The Ngorongoro crater, together with a crew of four camera-persons, with the aim of capturing the oldest black rhino in the crater; FAUSTA.

Ngorongoro Crater is a stunningly beautiful park. A home to an extraordinary concentration of wildlife, including the endangered species of black rhino. It is located in a collapsed volcanic caldera. During the day, black rhinos often lie down to rest and are concealed by vegetation. This makes it difficult to spot a rhino in the crater. Thanks to the park rangers, who are familiar with their habits.

We spotted the first group of rhinos lying on the grass. Unfortunately, Fausta was not among them. The group consisted of a mother and it two calves of different ages, as told by the rangers. The rhino population in the crater has been slowly growing over the years, so seeing calves in this park, made me very happy. Our cameras helped us keep the memories, when we took pictures and videos of this amazing sight. The mother became aware of us, and not knowing our purpose, she stood on her feet and snorted. So we kept our distance. She still made a few mock charges on us, and so we decided to keep our cameras and went away.



# fausta

NGORONGORO's  
OLDEST BLACK RHINO

by Sadeck Mugetta  
*Freelance Safari Guide & Chairperson at  
Tanzania Tour Guide Association*

## the queen

*With her decades  
of experience with  
tourists, she is no longer  
intimidated by humans.  
Rhinos are naturally  
short-sighted...*

We passed another group of adult rhinos. Then finally spotted the queen. The oldest rhino in the crater. Fausta was grazing alone. This was a milestone for me, and could not resist my camera. Old Fausta foraged without being bothered by our presence. With her decades of experience with tourists, she is no longer intimidated by humans. Rhinos are naturally short-sighted, but at her advanced age, Fausta has lost some of her eyesight.

### PROTECTING THE BLACK RHINO

Fausta's status as the oldest black rhino in Ngorongoro makes her an icon in the long-standing battle to protect the black rhinos in Tanzania. Its species was once abundant across

eastern and southern Africa. Its population at the beginning of the twenty-first century was estimated at about 2,400 individuals. The species recovery has been slow due to a number of factors, including predators, habitat loss, and most importantly, the continuous poaching for their horns.

The increased population along the Ngorongoro Conservation, increases the threat from poachers. It is alleged that the Maasai who live around this area, host poachers and assist them with the logistics. The Ngorongoro conservation area has a dedicated team of rangers. Although they are heavily armed and equipped with sophisticated tracking equipment, meant to save the rhinos from extinction, they also feel like



their lives are in danger, especially from the poachers.

### THE TOUR GUIDE'S ROLE

There is generally less poaching activities where tourist activities are likely to take place. The hundreds of safari vehicles in areas where black rhinos are found, provide both a restraint to poachers and a host of observers who report suspicious activities.

Everyone who goes on safari is helping to provide the funds that underpin wildlife conservation. Without tourism the whole conservation effort would simply fall apart.

A well trained and well informed tour guide can use his or her role as an ambassador to educate visitors about important conservation efforts. Every successful safari, led by an excellent guide, can also support the sustainability of conservation by encouraging more people to take a safari to Tanzania.

Guides can work cooperatively with park rangers, and support conservation efforts by adhering to the rules and regulations that preserve the park ecosystems. Ideally, protecting the black rhinos, is just as important as protecting the white house.

### FUTURE OF THE BLACK RHINO

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area reminds of Africa's long history. Many years ago, humans coexisted with domestic animals and wildlife. This fragile world is heavily stressed by the growing human population and climate change. Due to drought, The Maasai herdsmen have been forced to compete with wild animals for grassland. Impeded by these stresses and challenges,

the recovery of black rhino populations has been slow. Conservation of wildlife depends on the preservation of natural habitat, the efforts of rangers and the cooperation of the tourism industry.

This also goes hand in hand with improved living conditions and economic opportunities for Tanzania's people, in particular those who live in or near parks and conservation areas. With the above done, they will not have a reason to poach or cut down trees, thus protection of the wildlife.



## tour guide

*A well trained and well informed tour guide can use his or her role as an ambassador to educate visitors about important conservation efforts and support the sustainability of conservation by encouraging more people to take a safari to Tanzania.*



**O**n Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016, the Tanzania Tour Guide Awards & Tanzania Tour Guide Association (TTGA), launched off with the announcement of the nominees at a luncheon event. The awards are hosted by the Tanzania Tour Guide Awards Committee. Both of the short listed nominees attended the launch in their respective categories.

Chief Director of Nomination committee and founder at PROTS, Mr. Vedasto Izoba, announced welcomed the nominees present and emphasised the importance of the ambassadors roles played by these people by their category. *"The nominees were out of 757 in three categories, nine where picked for the next and final*

*process of voting. This is an opportunity for our guides, porters and cooks to be acknowledged and shine at national and international level."* he said.

Sadock Mugetta said that it is an honour for him to be able to organise this special platform for these hard working and tourism ambassadors: *"The tour guides, porters and cooks plays a big role in supporting marketing our destination and contribute greatly into Tanzania's leading foreign exchange earner industry"* he said.

The launch was also supported by **Cocacola, TANAPA, Adventure & Leisure Magazine, Kilimanjaro Filming Institute, Zenith Media**, who is a sponsor for this year's Tour Guide Awards.

The Awards will also be broadcast on TV in due course.

- The Provincial Tour Guide Awards winner will take place on **28<sup>th</sup> May 2016** at the venue to be announced.
- All voting Associations members are eligible to vote using both paper and online ballots by our website and will be open till 20 May 2016.
- Visit our website: [www.tourguideawards.org](http://www.tourguideawards.org)
- Follow us on Facebook/Twitter (maybe use symbol: **tourguideawards**)
- **BELOW** are the nominees in their respective categories

