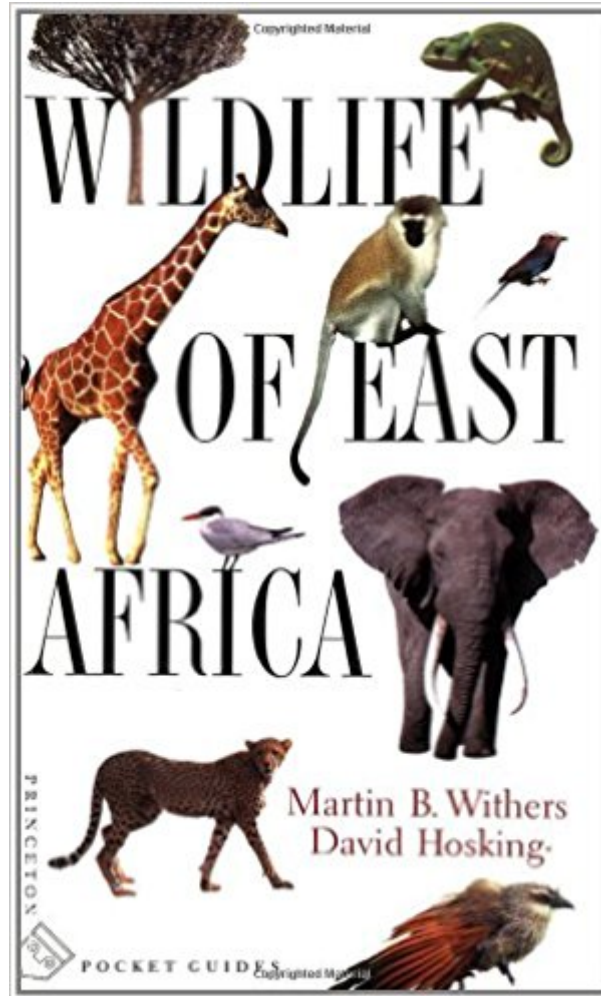


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Wildlife Of East Africa (Princeton Pocket Guides)



Synopsis

Those looking for a concise yet informative, visually breathtaking yet affordable East African safari need look no further than this spectacular field guide. Featuring full-color photos of 475 common species of bird, mammal, snake, lizard, insect, tree, and flower, *Wildlife of East Africa* takes us on an exquisite one-volume tour through the living splendor of the main national parks and game reserves of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Many of the species included--from pelicans to plovers, ostriches to elephants, from the daintiest of antelopes to cattlelike giants, from leopards to lions, baboons to gorillas, chameleons to crocodiles, acacias to aloes--also inhabit neighboring countries. The selection was based on the personal experiences of the authors, wildlife experts who have been leading safaris in the region for more than twenty years. Each species is illustrated with a photo and a detailed entry on the facing page; the text is commendably rich for such a compact guide. This information enables the particular animal or plant to be identified by such traits as size, plumage or pelage, color, and shape. An opening section on wildlife photography provides helpful tips on the best type of camera, film, and lenses to use, techniques, and codes of conduct. *Wildlife of East Africa* is a must for anyone considering a first-hand look at, or simply daydreaming of, the elegant, enormous, or exotic wildlife of East Africa. Covers the main parks and reserves of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, plus surrounding countries 475 common species of bird, mammal, snake, lizard, insect, tree, and flower--from ostriches to elephants, leopards to lions, baboons to gorillas, chameleons to crocodiles, acacias to aloes Full-color photographs and detailed entries describing each species Written and illustrated by wildlife experts who have been leading safaris in East Africa for more than 20 years Tips on wildlife photography, techniques, and codes of conduct

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Customer Reviews

I've just returned from safari in Tanzania, where this guide proved extremely helpful. It's small and lightweight -- check out its dimensions and weight in comparison to others. Yet it seems indestructable after several weeks of heavy use, high humidity and occasional rains. Nearly everything I wanted to identify could be found here: mammals and birds, not to mention reptiles, turtles and some trees. The index was simple for a novice to use (omitting most of the Latin names). The pictures and descriptions then helped make identifications fairly easy. There are many guides available. Those who saw my Withers and Hosking, however, were quick to approve of its ease of use.

I took this book, the National Audubon Society Field Guide to African Wildlife by Alden, and the Pocket Guide to Mammals of East Africa by Stuart on our recent six-day safari in Tanzania. The Audobon Society Field Guide includes the most comprehensive information, but I found the Wildlife of East Africa was my "go to" book while on safari and I used the Audobon Society Field Guide only as a supplement. If I were doing it over again, I'd still get both books, but if you're short on space, I'd only get Wildlife of East Africa and skip the Field Guide. The Pocket Guide to Mammals was largely redudant of both of the other books and if I were doing it over again I'd skip that book. The book is laid out like a typical field guide with animals grouped by family. If you think you saw a jackal, you can easily look up "jackal" in the index and see a listing of all the different types of jackals and flip to that page to read about the different types of jackals and see their pictures. If it turns out it wasn't a jackal, just look a few pages over and you'll find animals similar to the jackal, like foxes and hyenas. I found it very easy to use and the index was very helpful. It might take a little getting used to if you're not super familiar with field guides and how birds and animals are grouped, but it's not too hard to do. Most of the pictures were beautiful and clear (although there was a least one incredibly pixalated bird picture). The information is helpful and interesting, but this won't serve as an indepth guide for learning all about the animal. I found the information included was all I needed though. While on safari, I preferred to identify the animals and then spend time watching them or looking at the scenery or looking for other animals, rather than reading indepth information about the habits and behaviors of the animals.

The Wildlife of East Africa was a most valuable asset to me while on Safari in Northern Tanzania. I was able to easily locate, identify, and review the bird and animal sightings and identify by name those that were not familiar to me. I was the envy of the rest of my group. No one else had a handbook that was quite as handy in information and size.

I bought this book because I was on a safari in Tanzania, and wanted to identify animals in my photographs. The guide on my safari had a book, "Animals Of East Africa," by the same authors. I could not find it, so bought this one with a similar title. I'm disappointed due to several factors: No table of contents, so it's difficult to locate an animal by species or general category. There is an index, but that's no substitute of a table of contents. Subjects are organized in four groups: Birds, approximately 136 pages; Mammals, approximately 70 pages; reptiles, approximately 16 pages; and flora, approximately 8 pages. As you see, birds take up most of the book. If you're not interested in birds then most of the book is a waste. The print is very small and difficult to read. Within each group, there is no obvious organization, at least to me, a non-zoologist, non-botanist. I would like to have seen at least alphabetical listings within groups. Listings are in first name - last name order. For example "Lesser Kudu" instead of "Kudu, Lesser." Makes it difficult to locate an animal if you don't know the specific type. Descriptions of animals do not include sizes such as length, height, and weight. Photographs are limited, and sometimes do not adequately illustrate an animal, making a comparison with my photos difficult. Had I known all this, I would not have bought this book.

We just returned from our trip and loved having this book with us. The binding is weak but it was still very usable. We checked off the birds and animals we saw and added those that are not in this book. We took both this one and the National Audobon Society African Wildlife. This one is easier to look up in but the other is more complete. Loved having both books with us! Enjoy your trip!

I am a travel agent, and have made 5 trips (and counting) to Africa. This book is the best portable field guide I have found, and I have bought about 5 or 6 different guides. I chose this one to give to each of my clients on the last trip I escorted to Kenya and Tanzania. It is quite complete and includes the birds as well as the animals we all love to see. Of course, it is not as complete in describing animal mating and social behaviour as The Safari Companion but the latter is a book usually in the Safari Vehicles with the guides. You can easily slip it in with your camera or large pocket along with a highlighter to check off your sightings. Update: 3/2013 I have just placed an order

for another 6 of these books...they are great gift for my clients. I noticed on my last trip this was also the book being used by the guide...although I thought he should have had a more complete book, such as Safari Companion in addition. This is perfect for average safari goer. Mine has lasted me through about 8 trips to Africa. Binding is sturdy and has not disintegrated yet! I will buy another for myself if it gives out!

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