

PLACES TO STAY

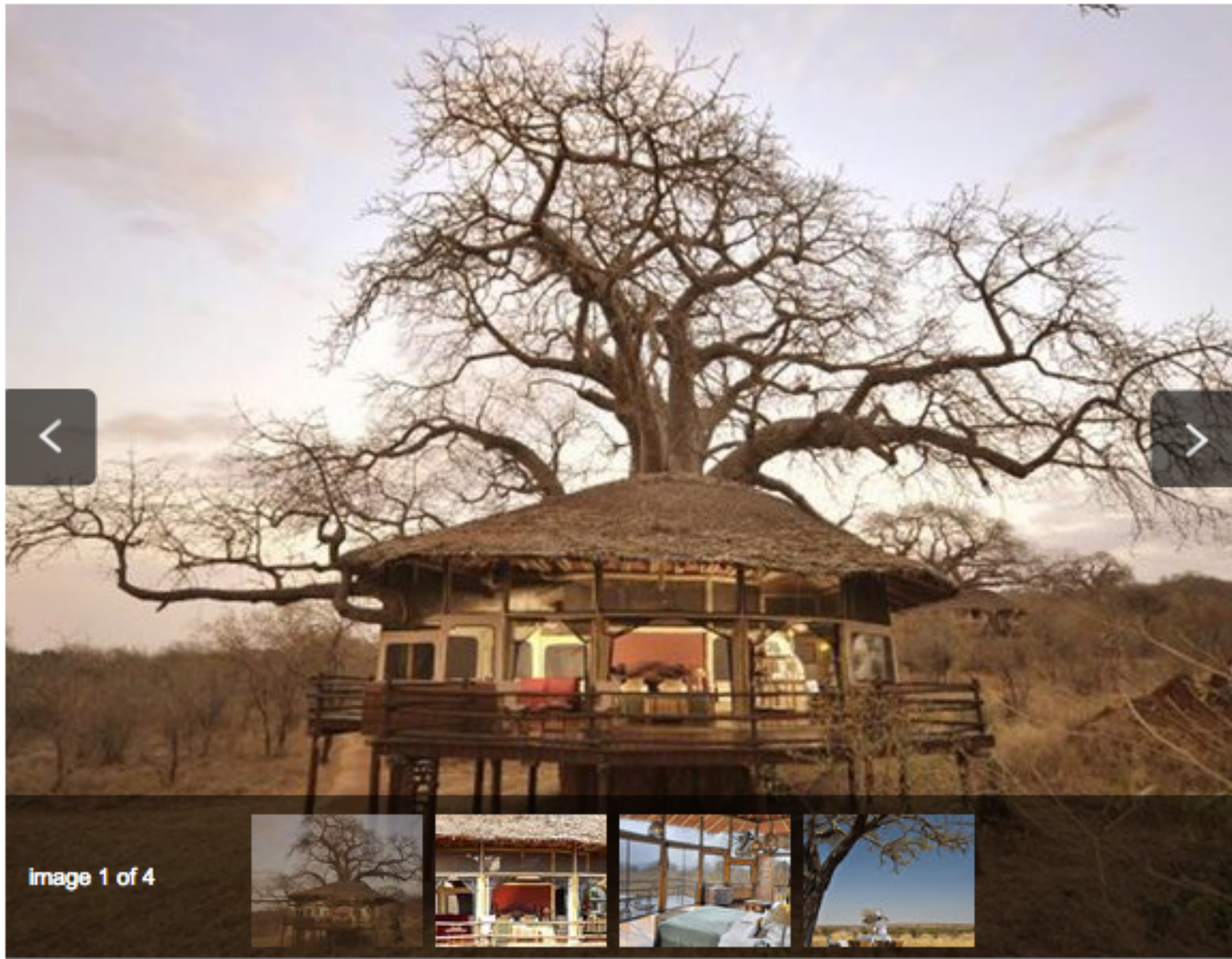
Tarangire Treetops Lodge

Tarangire National Park, Northern Tanzania, videar@elewana.com, | Tanzania, United Republic Of

From **£400** per room per night

By Rowena Carr-Allinson | Posted: Wednesday 14 December 2011

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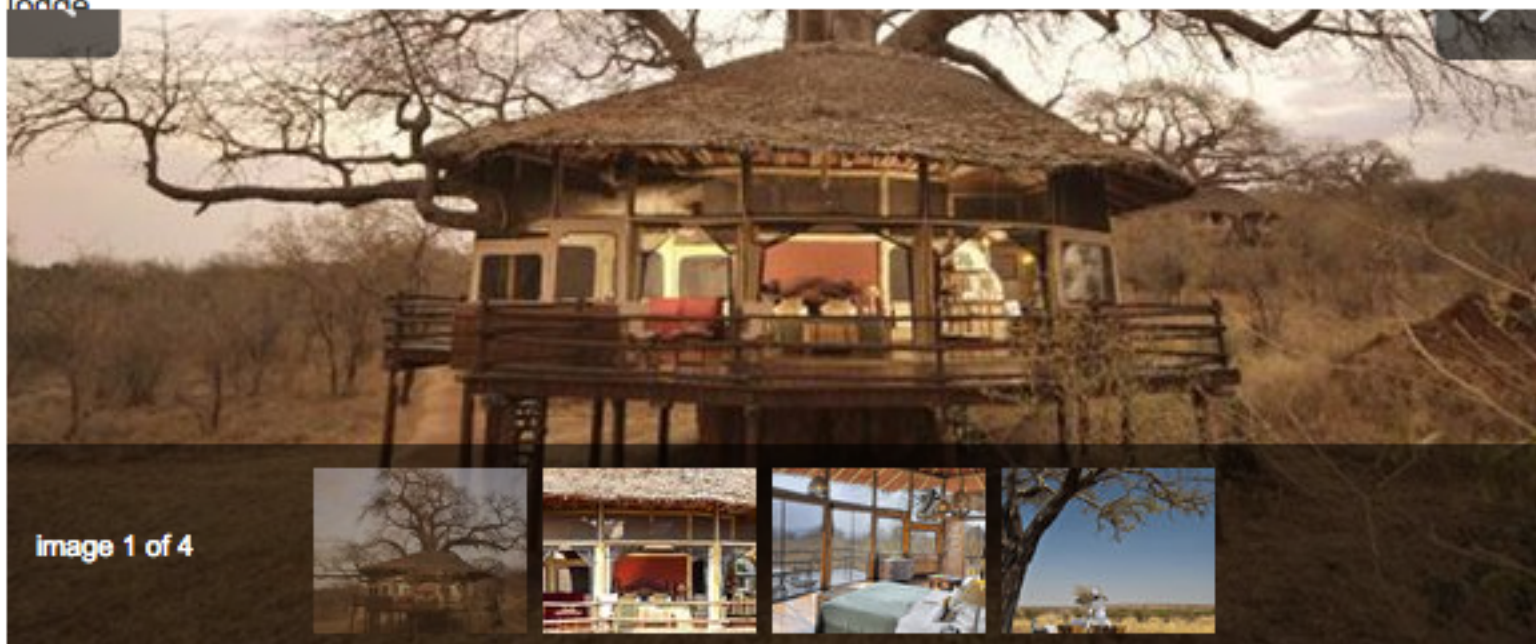


Tarangire Treetops Lodge is far from your average safari lodge. While the location, on the edge of Tarangire National Park and surrounded by endless savannah, is undeniably pretty special, as the name suggests it's the 'treetop' nature of the structures themselves that makes for a truly unusual place to stay.

The heart of the place, the main thatched lodge, is built around an 800-year-old Baobab tree. Decorated with local artefacts, it has a pleasingly louche, colonial vibe, and you can start a day of game-spotting with a breakfast of pancakes and views across the golden valley, before returning in the evening to a glass of Safari beer as night sets in and the bats start to swoop.

And it's not just the main lodge that's set within a tree either. Each of the 20 rooms is wedged above the ground on stilts against a Marula tree, which when combined with the wooden floorboards, decking and rustic beams, and the twin wooden washbasin stands and coffee tables, really make you feel like you're sleeping in a tree-house. The walls are all canvas, with mosquito netting and tented zip-able flaps so no air-conditioning is necessary, while in the corner of each of the rooms are full bathroom suites with rain showers (with warm water from a fire-heated tank outside).

On-site activities range from game drives to visiting the local Masai village, having sundown cocktails out on a hilltop or taking an early morning walking safari around the property. Tarangire may have the reputation as *the* place to see elephants, but as the park has the greatest concentration of wildlife outside the Serengeti ecosystem, they're far from your only neighbours, and lions, giraffes, zebra, giant ostriches and plenty of other animals can also be spotted around the lodge.



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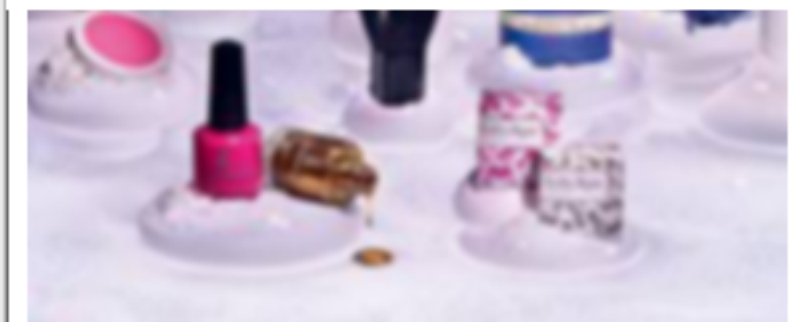
The ELLE Edit

Best room: A west-facing one for perfect sunset views

Best dish: The breakfast pancakes

Fashion/design credentials: Think African adventure meets tree-house chic

Who stays here? Anyone looking for a truly once-in-a-lifetime place to stay surrounded by the wildlife of Tanzania



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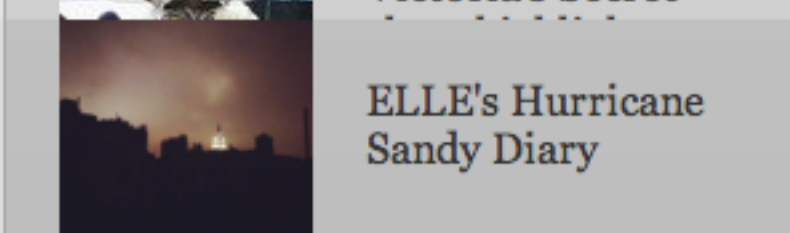
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