

WRITING SAMPLE: Slideshow

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Gorgeous African National Parks to Visit

Africa's biodiversity is legendary, and luckily for the planet, many nations on the continent have taken steps to protect the natural beauty and open it up to visitors from around the world. Visiting these parks through sanctioned channels aids in conservation and creates sustainable economic opportunities for local communities.

Swipe through to discover the national parks in Africa that should be on your bucket list.



Maasai Mara National Reserve

Located in southwestern Kenya, along the Tanzanian border, the Maasai Mara National Reserve stuns with its lovely grassy plains and rolling hills; the Mara and Talek rivers flow through its borders. Numerous animals range its wilderness, including elephants, cheetahs, giraffes, lions, hippos and zebras. Consider timing your visit to see the mighty migration of wildebeest.

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Serengeti National Park

Featuring a wide diversity of ecosystems, Tanzania's Serengeti is among the most well-known natural areas on the African continent. Visitors are eager to see the Great Migration, which finds not only wildebeest, but zebras and gazelles, on the move. The nearly 6000-square mile park is also home to lions, leopards, cheetahs and about 500 bird species.



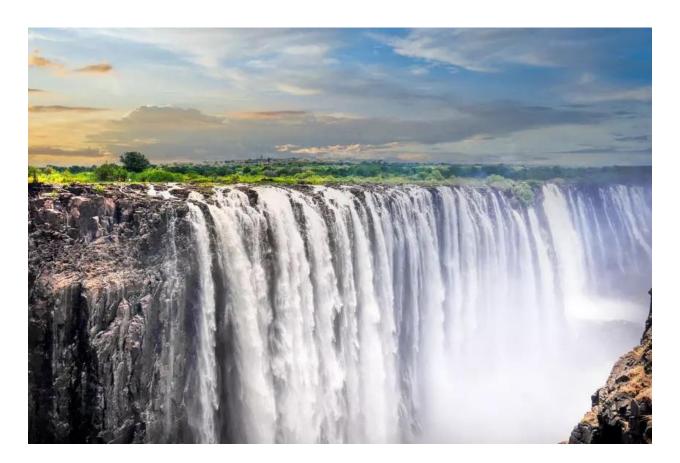
Chobe National Park

Consider a stay in a lovely, luxurious lodge at Botswana's breathtaking Chobe National Park. As your guide takes you along the Chobe River waterfront, you might have to pause to allow a family of elephants to wander across the road—one of many species of wildlife you're likely to encounter in Chobe.



Kruger National Park

Located in South Africa, Kruger National Park encompasses 7,576 square miles of spectacular biodiversity. Lions, leopards, rhinos, crocodiles, impalas, birds and reptiles are among the many species that call the area home



Victoria Falls National Park

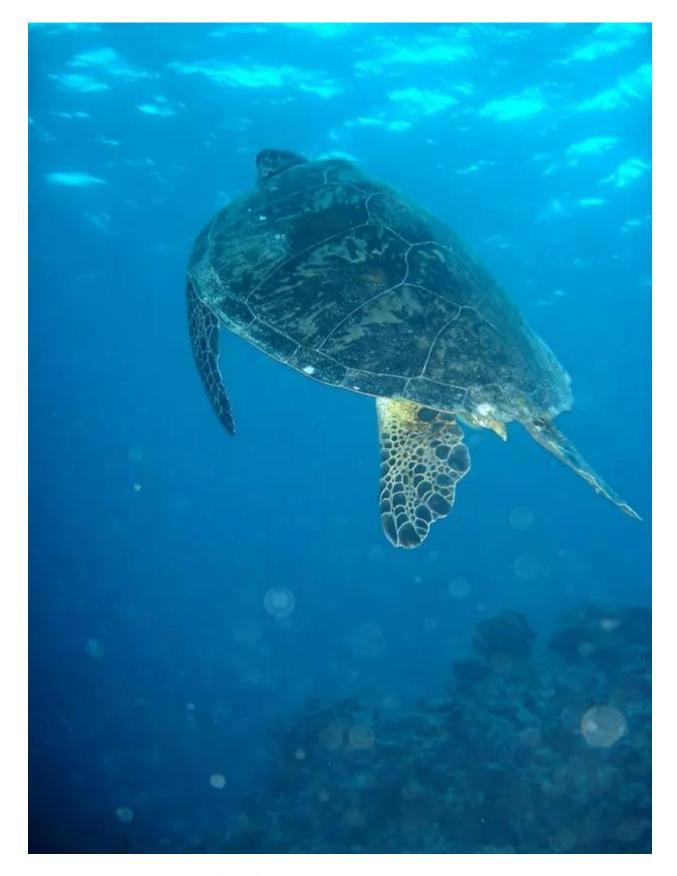
The largest waterfall in the world and UNESCO World Heritage site, the spectacular Victoria Falls are protected by two parks: Victoria Falls National Park in Zimbabwe and Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park in Zambia. Visit either park to see the spectacular falls, incredible wildlife and huge balboa trees.



Ranamafana National Park

Located on the island of Madagascar off the coast of Mozambique, the rainforest-covered mountains of Ranomafana are home to numerous species of mammals, including 20 types of lemurs. You'll also find lizards, butterflies, snakes, and many birds that are endemic to the park. Enjoy a guided hike of the park to witness the beauty of the landscape and the animals.

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Watamu Marine National Park

In the many marine and tidal habitats in this Kenyan park, visitors will encounter dozens of species of sea animals, including the area's famous green turtle. The white sandy beaches are a

spectacular backdrop to any of a number of water activities, including snorkeling, windsurfing, waterskiing and glass-bottomed boat tours.
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