Nestled on Tanzania’s east coast, Saadani remains a hidden treasure, combining the thrill of safari, with tranquillity of the beach, the Indian Ocean crashing against the shore. Saadani is the perfect spot for a weekend away or a safari away from the tourist trail.

Vanessa Beddoo and Dr Rolf D Baldus take you through the diverse attractions of Saadani National Park, from the hippos basking in the mud of the Wami River, to the herds of antelope and zebra that graze in the savannah. The park is a birding and botanical paradise, a delicate balance of different ecosystems in the mangroves, forest and plains.

Saadani is home to leopard, lion and spotted hyenas who stalk through the grasslands, Nile crocodiles crouched in the shallows and monitor lizards lazing in the sun. Endangered turtles hatch on the shores of the beach and shuffle their way down to the sea. Javed Jafferji’s stunning pictures show why it’s hard not to become entranced by this jewel of a national park.
About the Authors

Dr Rolf D Baldus worked for the German Government in different conservation programmes in Tanzania between 1987 and 1994 and from 1998 to 2005. Amongst others he managed programmes in the Selous and Saadani Game Reserves, was a Government Advisor and assisted with the establishment of the Selous-Niassa-Wildlife-Corridor. Presently he is Head of Division ‘Southern Caucasus and Central Asia’ in the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Vanessa Beddoe is a freelance writer based in Zanzibar. She studied journalism in New Zealand before moving to the UK where she worked in London for several years. She escaped the grey skies and rain and moved to Zanzibar in 2004, leaving again in 2006.

About the Photographer

Javed Jafferji studied photography, film and television in the UK before returning to Tanzania to publish over thirty books on East Africa. His work has been published in national and international newspapers and magazines including The Times and Newsweek. He has held exhibitions in London, Paris, Berlin and Pakistan as well as in Tanzania. Javed manages ZG Design, producing various magazines, tourism industry publications, promotional materials and websites. Javed also runs both Zanzibar Gallery, which sells gifts, clothes, books and antiques and The Gallery Bookshop, Zanzibar’s leading bookshop. He also owns a tour company, Gallery Tours, putting to use his extensive knowledge of Zanzibar and Tanzania.