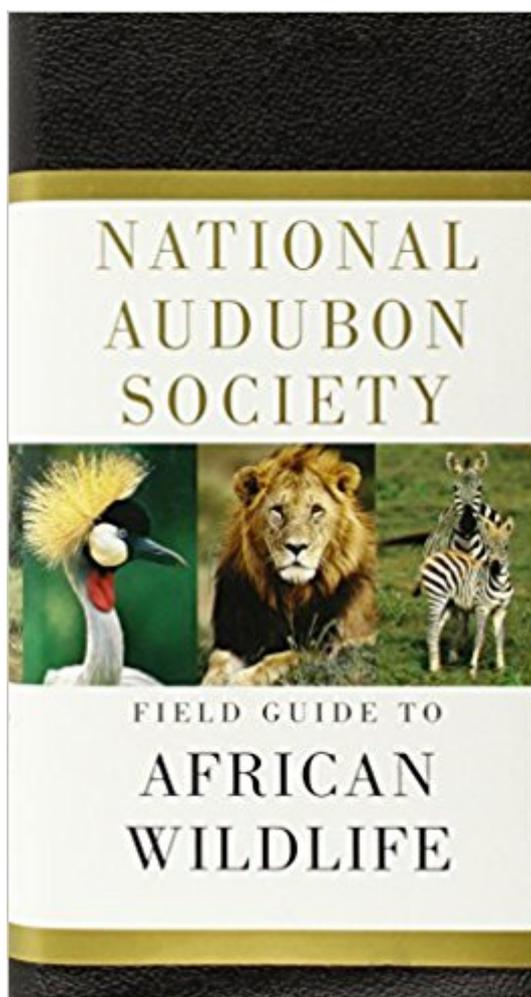


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# National Audubon Society Field Guide To African Wildlife



## Synopsis

The birds, mammals, reptiles and insects of Africa--a continent unparalleled in its ecological richness--are brought to life in this authoritative, compact field guide, an essential companion for safari-goers and armchair travelers alike. This guide is packed with nearly 600 stunning color photographs of African habitats and animals, and provides a wealth of information on more than 850 species compiled by veteran safari leaders and experts in African wildlife. The parks and reserves for which the continent is famous are described in thorough detail, taking the reader on an unforgettable virtual safari.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The first and only field guide to offer comprehensive coverage of the African continent, this guide sends the reader on a virtual safari. All the birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects are brought to life, and the parks and reserves for which the continent is famous are described in thorough detail. This guide is packed with 577 stunning color photographs of African habitats and animals, and provides a wealth of information on more than 850 species compiled by veteran safari leaders and experts in African wildlife.

The most comprehensive field guide to the wildlife of Africa - a continent unparalleled in its ecological richness. All 577 stunning photographs are in full color, featuring 50 habitats, 200 mammals, 300 birds, and many reptiles and insects. The text covers 850 species, with 470 species

range maps. A separate section provides in-depth descriptions and detailed maps for 58 countries and island groups. This field guide will long outlive its use on safari to serve as a definitive resource on African wildlife. The National Audubon Society Field Guides are the first to be organized with a visual key. Taxonomically arranged photographs, keyed with helpful thumb-tab silhouettes, make identification quick and easy.

I bought three South Africa wildlife books at the same time. What I like about *Wildlife of Southern Africa* is its size - it easily fits in a pants pocket and will be great in the field. Secondly, it includes both birds and mammals, plus a variety of other animals. I am sure it is not comprehensive, but may be good enough for a few weeks in South Africa. It includes good color photographs which is not my preference, at least for birds as I find drawings much more informative. What I don't like is its tight binding which makes it spring shut too easily. I find *Birds of Southern Africa* to be a much better bird book, nicely illustrated (my preference over photos), great range maps, and plenty of identification details. It is definitely my choice as a bird reference book, though I may not carry it in the field unless I put it in a backpack. It will be a good reference book for identifying my photos when I have time away from the field. I also purchased *National Audubon Society Field Guide to African Wildlife* for two reasons: 1. I always like the NAS book series and already own almost the complete set, and 2. I know one of the authors. An advantage or a disadvantage depending on your point of view is that it covers all of Africa. If I only visit South Africa, the book contains too many species that I will not see. On the other hand, it is a good reference for the whole continent. I like the flexible binding on the NAS books, photos are good, but again my preference is for drawings when it comes to birds. The book covers 850 species which I'm sure is far short of being comprehensive. Since I'm always concerned about baggage weight limits when traveling by air, this one of the three is the most likely I'll keep at home.

I just went on a Tanzania safari trip and this book was one of the most useful things I brought with me. The safari was 6 days and we saw around 100 different species of animals (admittedly, over half were birds), and between the guide and this book we were able to identify 90+. We put post-it tabs on each animal we saw and this was a fantastic way to remember all the diverse wildlife safari had to offer. This is my second safari trip; the first time I went, I didn't take any notes and could only recount a generic "We saw lions, elephants, zebras, antelopes, ...". With the help of this book, I can name and identify a dozen different antelopes that I saw this time! Not to mention it made it all the

more exciting when we come across a new animal and we get to add a new stickie tab. It made the safari trip feel like a game of "Wildlife Go" (À la PokÃ©mon Go). :)

This book is what I will probably take on our upcoming Southern African safari. It has relatively short sections on the countries in Southern and Eastern Africa where most wildlife viewing is done with comments on the parks and types of animals most often viewed in each. It then has sections on the major mammals but also the birds and even reptiles and insects. I am sure it is not all inclusive, but as advertised, it is a field guide to help you identify what you are seeing and learn something about it. I love the Insight Guides, but this weighs about half as much and is easier to look things up in.

Great pictures helped us identify items while we were on safari. A good complement to Wildlife of Southern Africa (Princeton Pocket Guide). Each sometimes had different birds illustrated.

Loved the book overall. It is just difficult to still find animals without the picture when you really aren't quite sure what exactly you saw.

Very nice photos, I bought twice as my safari guide in Tanzania liked so much I gave him my first one. I took off the paler cover as it seemed in way.

We received the Field Guide the day before we departed for a photo safari to Tanzania and Kenya. It proved to be an invaluable quick reference guide to wildlife we saw during the day, as well as an encyclopedic work on each species, including countries where they're found, coloration, mating habits, foods, and myriad other details. You can take a cursory view of an animal or a deep dive into each one. I recommend spending a little time learning the cross-referencing system to get the most out of the book. Don't wait to buy it in Africa, as it costs 3x as much there!

I purchased the National Audubon Society Field Guide to African Wildlife to help me better identify the animals of Tanzania. I enjoyed two safaris (in the Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti) with a very knowledgeable guide. However, my guide spoke with a thick accent which made it difficult to always know the words that he was using. We can all identify the elephant and lion, but what about the eland and topi? Can you distinguish between Grant's gazelles and Thompson's gazelles? When I returned home, I've made even greater use of Peter C. Alden's guide in the process of properly identifying all the exotic creatures that I photographed and filmed. This book is suitable to set next to

your African souvenirs on display.

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