



Congo Content

Recommended reads &
riveting documentaries

AFRICAN
RAINFOREST
EXPERIENCES



Articles



TIME - WORLD'S GREATEST PLACES

Excerpt: "Kamba sponsors the work of primatologist Magdalena Bermejo, who came to the Congo roughly 30 years ago and now lives on-site at Ngaga Lodge, one of Kamba's three safari camps. Here she's habituated multiple families of the western lowland gorillas and has become the world authority on this type of great ape; what Jane Goodall did for chimps in Tanzania, Bermejo has done for this species of gorilla in the Congo. For about three decades, what she learned about the gorillas came from firsthand observation. It involved hours a day spent in the park, taking tedious notes about the gorilla's personal behaviors and how they interacted in a group setting. Now she's able to study the primates at a much faster clip, without being in the forest, thanks to video footage and AI."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

Title: Kamba African Rainforest Experiences | Author: Bailey Berg | Featured in: TIME MAGAZINE, AUG 2024



THIS OVERLOOKED CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNTRY IS THE CONTINENT'S MOST THRILLING SAFARI DESTINATION

Excerpt: "'You're going where?'" The look on my mom's face when I told her I was about to board a flight to Brazzaville in the Republic of Congo was one that had, in the lead-up to my trip, become familiar. [...] "Central Africa has always been an empty patch on the map," says Kristina Plattner, managing director of Congo-based ecotourism operator Kamba African Rainforest Experiences. "There's this deep fear of it. [...] People know more about Antarctica or the moon than they know about this part of the world."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

Title: This Overlooked Central African Country Is the Continent's Most Thrilling Safari Destination

Author: Chris Schalkx | Featured in: VOGUE, SEPT 2024



KING OF THE JUNGLE - DESTINATIONS OF THE WORLD NEWS

Excerpt: "Deep in the Congo rainforest, Odzala-Kokoua National Park awaits, a wild Eden which gorillas, hippos and forest elephants all call home." "Odzala pushes your imagination. A wild Eden which opens your eyes to the true power of nature. An unscripted expedition to experience up close the magnificent beasts that call the jungle home. A journey of a lifetime."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

Title: King of the Jungle | Author: Harriet Compston | Featured in: Destinations of the World News, JAN 2024

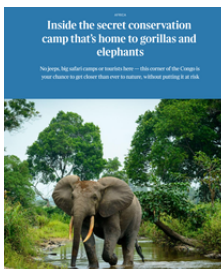


THE LAND OF GIANTS - CONDÉ NAST UK 2023 GOLD LIST

Excerpt: "We entered the forests on trails made by the great apes. Padding silently through the trees, the trackers made clicking noises, to locate one another in the dense foliage and to reassure the gorillas about our approach. After half an hour's trek, we suddenly came upon the group. In a dappled glen, the young were playing like gymnasts. They chased one another, skittering up and down tree trunks. They swung from vines. They wrestled, rolling about in a tangle of limbs, with a combination of affection and competition, invariably ending in long forgiving embraces. All the while the mothers picnicked on tasty leaves."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

Title: The Land of Giants | Author: Stanley Stewart | Featured in: Condé Nast Traveller UK, JAN/FEB 2023



INSIDE THE SECRET CONSERVATION CAMP THAT'S HOME TO GORILLAS AND ELEPHANTS - THE TIMES UK

Excerpt: "No jeeps, big safari camps or tourists here — this corner of the Congo is your chance to get closer than ever to nature, without putting it at risk". Excerpt: "Only 285 tourists visited Odzala last year (compared to one million plus for South Africa's Kruger National Park). It was this sense of discovery and untouched wilderness that drew me to the park. This wouldn't be a typical safari — it would be an unscripted expedition into a wild Eden."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

Title: Inside the Secret Conservation Camp that's Home to Gorillas and Elephants

Author: Harriet Compston | Featured in: The Sunday Times, SEPT 2023



MORE TO ENJOY:

TITLE: JUNGLELAND | AUTHOR: HEATHER RICHARDSON

FEATURED IN: TRAVEL AFRICA, OCT-DEC 2021 [READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

TITLE: BIODIVERSITY BONANZA, ODZALA-KOKOUA NATIONAL PARK | AUTHOR: TEAM AFRICA GEOGRAPHIC

FEATURED IN: AFRICA GEOGRAPHIC, 25 AUGUST 2021 [READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

TITLE: THIS AFRICA-BASED ORGANIZATION IS CHANGING THE WORLD OF SAFARIS

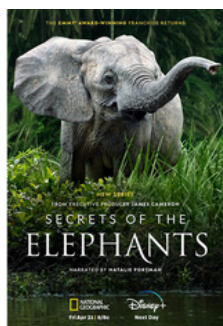
AUTHOR: HEATHER RICHARDSON | FEATURED IN: DEPARTURES, AUG 2019 [READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)



INTO THE CONGO WITH BEN FOGLE - UK CHANNEL 5

Ben Fogle has described his trip to the Republic of the Congo for a new Channel 5 series as fulfilling a “lifelong ambition that was more than I could have imagined”. The TV adventurer, Ben Fogle, will explore the “beating heart of Africa” for a three-part documentary series to better understand the area which is still “steeped in great myth and misconception”, the broadcaster said. Watch as Ben heads deeper into the Congo wilderness to fulfill his dream of seeing wild gorillas. He also heads to NGAGA LODGE in one of Africa’s oldest national parks. The 60-minute episodes will see the Congo as the home to the second largest rainforest in the world – after the Amazon – while the Congo Basin has become one of the top destinations in the world for explorers. Ben shares, “I have wanted to explore the Congo since I was a child, when I first read about the mighty Congo river, so the trip was a lifelong ambition that was more than I could have imagined.” “It surprised me, it moved me, and it inspired me.”

[WATCH THE SERIES HERE](#)



SECRETS OF THE ELEPHANTS - NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Executive produced by Academy Award®-winning filmmaker and National Geographic Explorer-at-Large James Cameron and narrated by Academy Award®-winning actress Natalie Portman, the SECRETS OF THE ELEPHANTS Earth Day premiere begins Friday, in April 2023 on National Geographic. All episodes stream on Disney+. The series travels the world – from the Savannas of Africa to the urban landscapes of Asia – to discover the strategic thinking, complex emotions and sophisticated language of elephants, shaping a unique and dynamic culture. Featuring renowned National Geographic Explorer and elephant expert Dr. Paula Kahumbu, the four-part series not only reveals the extraordinary lives of different families of elephants but also highlights how similar they are to us. SECRETS OF THE ELEPHANTS will change everything you thought you knew about elephants forever.

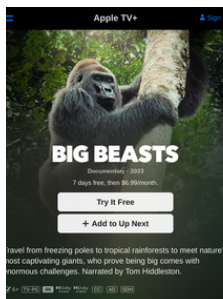
[FULL DETAILS HERE](#)



OUR PLANET | JUNGLES - NETFLIX

Experience our planet’s natural beauty and examine how climate change impacts all living creatures in this ambitious documentary of spectacular scope. In this episode: Jungles and rainforests are home to an incredible variety of species like preening birds, intelligent orangutans and remarkably ambitious ants. A myriad of micro-worlds, our jungles contain a bewildering diversity of life, all intricately linked. Life here has evolved to fit every niche, but due to deforestation they’re disappearing faster than anywhere on earth. And once we lose any part of our jungles, we may lose species forever. We don’t need to clear any more of our jungles, so we need to manage and protect what’s left.

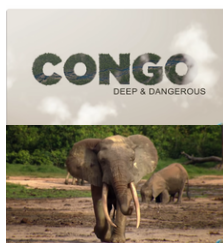
[WATCH THE FULL EPISODE HERE](#)



BIG BEASTS (S1 E4) THE GORILLA - APPLE TV

Narrated by Tom Hiddleston, Big Beasts was filmed over two years, and it takes us from freezing poles to tropical rainforests to meet nature’s most stunning giants, as the series captures rare and first-ever footage using specialized equipment and next-generation filming techniques. This documentary is an Apple TV Plus original title, and this means you will be able to stream Big Beasts on Apple TV Plus by subscribing to the service in countries where Apple’s streaming service has launched, including the US, Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and India. S1 E4 The Gorilla - Makumba is one of the best studied gorillas in the world. Now past his prime, he must find new ways to maintain his status as king of the jungle.

[WATCH THE FULL EPISODE HERE](#)



SPECTACULAR WILDLIFE ON THE CONGO RIVER

The river that swallows all rivers - this is what the natives call it. In reality, the Congo, when considering its water masses, is the second largest and the deepest river in the world. At its source in the north of Zambia, it starts out as a mere trickle, but on its journey westwards it grows and grows, becoming ever mightier and with it, the animals, too: the shoebill stork hides in the dense papyrus. Metre-long pythons hunt for their prey in trees and huge hippos fight for power and respect in the water. To survive in the Congo, animals have to adapt to extreme conditions. Here, evolution has spawned unique creatures: fish with lungs, wings and those that go hunting on land.

[WATCH THE FULL EPISODE HERE](#)

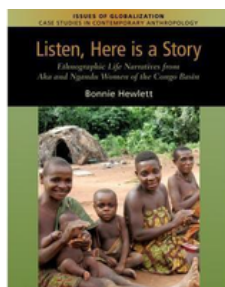
Books



CONGO TALES: TOLD BY THE PEOPLE OF MBOMO

In this stunning photographic series, Pieter Henket presents images of the children of Odzala-Kokoua telling the oral history of the Congo in enchanting and creative ways. Shot over the course of a month, Henket documented the children of this remote region as they designed, planned, created costumes for, and acted out a series of myths--about their tribes, their landscape, and the animals and plants that they live among. Their stories will educate others unfamiliar with a way of life that is so completely in harmony with nature. Filled with vibrant images that highlight the area's magnificent flora and fauna, this photographic project, which was three years in the planning and execution, offers an exciting opportunity to learn about nature and the environment and it delivers an optimistic message about trust, cooperation, and conservation for the next generation of policy makers.

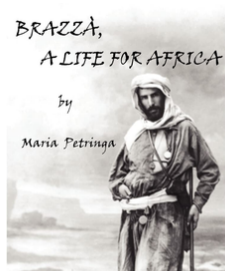
Stefanie Plattner (Editor), Pieter Henket (Photographer) | Title: Congo Tales: Told by the People of Mbomo



CULTURAL STORIES

Based on author Bonnie L. Hewlett's ten years of field experience in the Central African Republic, Listen, Here Is a Story: Ethnographic Life Narratives from Aka and Ngandu Women of the Congo Basin offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of contemporary African women in their own words. Rendered here are the experiences of four women who Hewlett depicts in their homes, fields, and the forest. The women vividly recall memories, childhood games, dances, folk tales, songs, and drawings from throughout their lives and provide insights and anecdotes from their experiences as children, adolescents, mothers, wives, and providers.

Author: Bonnie L. Hewlett | Title: Listen, Here is a Story: Ethnographic Life Narratives from Aka and Ngandu Women of the Congo Basin



THE MAN BEHIND THE NAME BRAZZAVILLE

This fascinating true-life adventure takes the reader on a journey from Papal Rome, to Belle-Epoque Paris, to French Colonial Africa. Brazza, A Life for Africa tells the story of Pierre Savorgnan de Brazza, a European explorer, colonial governor, and human rights investigator. He gave his life trying to expose the abuse and torture of enslaved African workers in the rubber-producing regions of Congo, Gabon, and elsewhere in equatorial Africa. From Brazza's early explorations, his diplomatic encounters with African tribal chiefs, and his studies of the daily life, flora, and fauna of central Africa, to his courageous investigation of human rights abuses, Brazza, A Life for Africa contains numerous parallels to today's events.

Author: Maria Petringa | Title: Brazza, A Life for Africa



SAPEURS: LADIES & GENTLEMEN OF THE CONGO

British photographer Tariq Zaidi presents a fashion subculture of Kinshasa & Brazzaville: La Sape, Société des Ambianceurs et des Personnes Élégantes ("Society of Ambiance-Makers and Elegant People"). Its followers are known as »Sapeurs« (»Sapeuses« for women). Most have ordinary day jobs as taxi-drivers, tailors and gardeners, but as soon as they clock off they transform themselves into debonair dandies. Sashaying through the streets they are treated like rock stars - turning heads, bringing 'joie de vivre' to their communities and defying their circumstances. Traditionally passed down through the male line, many Congolese women and their children have recently begun donning designer suits. As Papa Wemba (1949-2016, Congolese singer and fashion icon who popularized Sape) once said: »White people invented the clothes, but we make an art of it.«

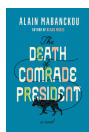
Author: Tariq Zaidi | Title: Sapeurs: Ladies & Gentlemen of the Congo



LOCAL AUTHOR - ALAIN MABANCKOU

Alain Mabanckou was born in 1966 in Congo-Brazzaville (French Congo). He currently resides in Los Angeles, where he teaches literature at UCLA, having previously spent four years at the University of Michigan. Mabanckou will be a Fellow in the Humanities Council at Princeton University in 2007-2008. One of Francophone Africa's most prolific contemporary writers, he is the author of six volumes of poetry and six novels. He received the Sub-Saharan Africa Literary Prize in 1999 for his first novel, Blue-White-Red, the Prize of the Five Francophone Continents for Broken Glass, and the Prix Renaudot in 2006 for Memoirs of a Porcupine. He was selected by the French publishing trade journal Lire as one of the fifty writers to watch out for in the coming century.

Author: Alain Mabanckou | Titles: Lights of Pointe-Noire; Black Moses; Broken Glass; The Death of Comrade President



Accounts to follow



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