

Beautiful Kenya > More tourists from Europe interested in visiting, says leader

Big thumbs-up for Kenya from Polish agents on country tour

Group marvels at beaches in Diani, wildlife, culture and monuments

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More international tourists are expected in Kenya this year following the country's endorsement by a group of Polish travel agents.

The 28 agents, who are in the country for a one-week familiarisation tour, described the country as safe and one of the best safari destinations in the world.

The agents also rated Kenya highly, owing to its beautiful beaches at the Coast and abundant wildlife in the national parks and game reserves.

They were also impressed by the warm weather, culture, monuments and friendly people.

The travel agents, who were visiting Kenya for the first time, said they were glad the country was now safe for holidays following the 2014 terrorist attacks that caused a drop in the number of Polish tourist arrivals to 1,400 last year, down from 12,000 in the peak period of 2012.

Last Saturday, the travel agents visited Sarova Salt Lick Game Lodge in Taita-Taveta County for game drives, a pres-



Sarova Taita Hills Game Lodge Manager Willie Mwangi makes a presentation to Polish travel agents in Taita-Taveta County, on Saturday.

This week, the travel agents are expected to sample tourist facilities in Kwale and Mombasa counties.

Kenya's image in Poland is now positive due to improved security, according to Mr Mateusz Maszkiewicz, the team leader. He said the negative effects of

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Mateusz Maszkiewicz,

terror attacks had waned, adding that more Polish tourists were now interested in coming to the country for holidays.

Mr Maszkiewicz, who is also the head of Product at TUI Poland, supported the Kenya Tourist Board's move to bring them in for the tour.

"The travel agents were captivated by Diani beach in Kwale County, which is one of the best beaches in the world," he said.

"They were also attracted by wild animals when they toured Tsavo West National Park for game drives," he added.

On Saturday, Mr Maszkiewicz told the *Daily Nation* that TUI Poland had received requests from five tourist groups planning to come to Kenya for holiday soon.

basa by Polish charter airline Small Planet two weeks ago, he said, would boost tourist arrivals.

"During the winter, we expect another charter airline Enterair to introduce flights from Warsaw and Katowice to Mombasa, to bring more holidaymakers to Kenya," said Mr Maszkiewicz.

Eastern Europe

TUI product manager Kamill Piedrzycki, who represents Kenya in the Polish market, said Polish tourists preferred coming to Kenya for safari, visiting the villages to interact with locals and the beaches.

Last week, the board's acting managing director Jacinta Nzioka, said they were in plans to market Kenya in Poland and

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Graft probe. p. 8



RECORD DEAL FOR KINISU FIRM RAISES EYEBROWS

A company owned by anti-graft agency boss Philip Kinisu was licensed, awarded a government tender and paid millions of shillings in record time. Esaki Limited was issued a licence by the Pest Control Products Board on March 23, 2015, a day before the Health ministry opened tenders for the supply of insecticides to the malaria control unit.

Health, p. 12

WAR ON AIDS GETS A BOOST WITH NEW INJECTABLE DRUG

Scientists have come up with the first injectable drug with the potential to prevent new HIV infections. The injectable pre-exposure prophylaxis brings relief to individuals at high risk of contracting the virus who do not like taking oral pills.

Africa, p. 28

RIEK MACHAR SACKED AS S. SUDAN VICE-PRESIDENT AS SPLITS RAGE ON

South Sudan's President Salva Kiir announced yesterday that former rebel leader Riek Machar had been replaced as vice president, confirming signs of serious divisions within the opposition.